

Citizen Resolution # 230114
(For Hearing Officer completion)



Manure storage/application rules and their enforcement

Each year the Conservation Congress accepts written resolutions from the public, in each county throughout the state regarding natural resource issues of statewide concern. These resolutions are introduced by the public in attendance during the Conservation Congress county meeting that is held annually in conjunction with the DNR Spring Fish and Wildlife Hearings in April.

In order for a resolution to be accepted for further consideration by the Conservation Congress and for public vote at the annual Conservation Congress county meeting, all resolutions introduced must meet the following requirements:

1. The concern must be of statewide impact.
2. The concern must be practical, achievable and reasonable.
3. The resolution must have a clear title.
4. The resolution must clearly define the concern.
5. Current state statutes and laws must be considered, with reasonable cause for change being presented.
6. The resolution must clearly suggest a solution to the concern and a description of further action desired.

Water is one of the most valuable natural resources in the State of Wisconsin. Clean water is necessary to sustain people, natural ecosystems including our abundant fish and wildlife, industry and agriculture. A byproduct of agricultural production systems is manure. If handled, stored, and applied appropriately, the risk posed by manure to our water systems can be minimized. Unfortunately, situations have occurred where inappropriate storage and/or application of manure adjacent to water has compromised water quality and ecosystem health. Additionally, existing manure storage/application regulations may not be uniformly and adequately enforced. Due to the invaluable nature of Wisconsin water, it is appropriate that current rules and enforcement efforts regarding the storage, handling and application of manure undergo a comprehensive review by the Wisconsin Conservation Congress (WCC) and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). As appropriate and necessary, the WCC and DNR should seek expert guidance from members of the Wisconsin academic community.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Department of Natural Resources, with the assistance of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress, reevaluate current regulations and enforcement efforts regarding storage and application of manure to assure (1) that Wisconsin waters and waterways are receiving appropriate protection, and (2) that current regulations are being uniformly and appropriately enforced.

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Introduced in (county): Green

Signature: 

Please print your resolution on 8 ½ X 11 white paper (one-sided) and provide the WCC County Chair with TWO COPIES at the spring hearing. Only the individual author or designated representative may present the resolution. The author or designated representative must be present at the time the resolution is introduced. No more than two resolutions may be introduced by any person during the Congress portion of the spring hearings.