Do you have livestock?

The Site Selection & Odor Control for New/Expanding Livestock Facilities GAAMP applies only to facilities that house livestock.

*Note: Bees are not considered livestock and are not included in the Site Selection & Odor Control for New/Expanding Livestock Facilities GAAMP.

Is there a conflict?

The Right to Farm Act was put in place to assist commercial farmers if a conflict reaches the courtroom. The Site Selection GAAMP establishes criteria for the siting of livestock facilities that, when followed, reduce the likelihood of conflict.

Are you a commercial farmer?

The Right to Farm Act provides only commercial farms, regardless of size, an affirmative defense to a nuisance claim brought in court when the farm is operating in conformance with the GAAMPs.

Are you zoned to allow for agriculture?

New and Expanding livestock facilities constructed in areas where local zoning allows for agricultural uses are less likely to cause nuisance conditions for their neighbors and are likely acceptable locations for the siting of livestock facilities.

Are there less than 13 homes within 1/4 mile of the site?

This site is classified as Category 1 or 2.
Owners of land where agricultural activities are allowed will continue to enjoy the same affirmative defense to nuisance lawsuits as they always have, provided they conduct their agricultural activities in conformance with the GAAMPs.

Are there more than 13 homes within 1/8 mile of the site?

This site is classified as Category 3.
Owners of these sites with less than 50 animal units will be able to use Right to Farm as an affirmative defense to nuisance lawsuits, provided they conduct their agricultural activities in conformance with the GAAMPs.

Are there a non-farm residence within 250 feet of the livestock facility?

This site is classified as Category 4.
These sites are not considered appropriate for livestock under the GAAMPs. Nothing in the GAAMPs or Right to Farm Act prohibit the possession of livestock in the state. MDARD continues to work with municipalities to draft ordinances to permit the keeping of livestock.

**In general, Category 3 sites are suitable for livestock facilities with 50 animal units or less, but there may be other environmental factors that impact the suitability of the site for livestock that will be considered by MDARD when determining conformance with the site selection GAAMP. These factors can be found on pages 10 and 11 of the Site Selection GAAMP.

***This flow chart is aimed at assisting those individuals that have 50 animal units or less. If you possess more than 50 animal units, please consult the site selection GAAMP for additional information applicable to your operation.

For more information on Right to Farm, visit www.michigan.gov/righttofarm