

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

EcoNewsWire

Environmental Services

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Manure clean-up underway in tributary of North Raccoon River

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COOPER (Greene County) - The DNR has identified the source of the manure release in an unnamed tributary of the North Raccoon River to the Crosman Land and Livestock confinement facility, located north of the town of Cooper in Greene County.

First reported to the DNR on August 21st, an unknown amount of manure from the confinement's earthen manure storage basin was found to be flowing through a county drain tile in Drainage District 37B. Excavation around the facility has identified an abandoned clay tile line. The facility has hired an engineer to identify how the manure was able to enter the abandoned line and to permanently fix the problem.

Crews have pumped, and land applied approximately 450,000 gallons of manure-laden water from the tributary. A large berm was placed upgradient of the pumping activities, and water has been used to flush the county drain tile. Residents have allowed access onto their property to enable the flushing of tile lines and collecting of water. After the creek and tile lines are cleaned out, the applicators will pump out and land apply manure from the basin.

Ammonia concentrations are decreasing in the tile lines and the stream. Berms have been put in place to prevent manure from reaching the North Racoon River. The DNR will continue to monitor clean-up efforts and consider appropriate enforcement action.

DNR enforcement actions

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DES MOINES – DNR staff work with individuals, businesses and communities to help them protect our natural resources by complying with state and federal laws. This approach is very effective. In the few cases where compliance cannot be achieved, the DNR issues enforcement actions. The following list summarizes recent enforcement actions. Find the entire, original orders on DNR's website at www.iowadnr.gov/EnforcementActions

Consent Orders A consent order is issued as an alternative to issuing an administrative order. A consent order indicates that the DNR has voluntarily entered into a legally enforceable agreement with the other party.

Appanoose County

Indian Hills Community College Development Corporation, Inc.

Comply with all conditions of its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit, including the stormwater pollution prevention plan; cease all illegal discharges into waters of the state; and pay a \$4,000 administrative penalty.

Administrative Orders

Responsible parties have 60 days to appeal the order or 60 days to pay the penalty.