

**Confirmed Violations/Discharges to Surface Water  
of Bean/Tiffin/Maumee Watershed and River Raisin Watershed  
from Confined Animal Feed Operations (CAFOs)**

**Hudson, MI Area, 2000-2002 (details from DEQ files)**

**10 of the 10 Hudson area dairy CAFOs have violated Michigan's  
Natural Resources & Environmental Protection Act since February  
2000. Several CAFOs have multiple violations. Michigan has levied  
no fines, no penalties – none – for any of these violations.**

1—February, 2000 – **New Flevo Farms** on Forrister Road illegally discharges 20,000 lbs. of milk into drain leading to Wallace Creek and Hazen Creek.  
(MDA Notice Letter, Feb. 15, 2000)

2—March, 2000 – **Hartland Farms** on Hughes Highway discharges 400,000 gal. of manure into Henning Drain and Bear Creek; after a delay of 3 wks, negotiating on the clean-up, a heavy rain washes manure and 12 million gal. of polluted water into Lake Hudson, a State Park.  
(DEQ Notice Letter, March 10, 2000)

3—September, 2000 – **Hartland Farms** cited by Region 5 EPA for multiple discharge violations, including discharge of milkhouse wastes through floor drain to Rooney Drain.  
(EPA Administrative Order, Sept. 11, 2000)

4—September, 2000 – **Bruinsma Farms** on Mulberry Road discharges silage leachate through tile, onto property of Morenci Sportsmen's Club and into Silver Creek.  
(DEQ Notice Letter, Nov. 27, 2000)

5—February, 2001 – **Stoutcrest Farms** on Plank Road discharges manure after application to frozen ground, with runoff into Hazen Creek.  
(DEQ Notice Letter, March 19, 2001)

6—February, 2001 – **Jelsma Farms** on Camden Road spray-irrigates manure onto hedgerow, trees, and frozen ground; manure enters Bennett Drain and Lime Creek. DEQ water samples show **E.coli counts of 130,000/100 ml** at US-127.  
(DEQ Notice Letter, March 19, 2001)

7—May, 2001 – **Hartland Farms** discharges manure through field tiles into intermittent stream, which flows into South Branch of River Raisin. The ditch is dammed in 3 locations. Manure is pumped from the ditch for 6 days.  
(DEQ Letter, June 29, 2001)

8—June, 2001 – **Vanderhoff Haley Dairy** on Haley Road discharges manure into Rice Lake County Drain adjacent to lagoon, leading to Bear Creek. The Drain is dammed to halt flow and to pump out manure.  
(DEQ Notice Letter, June 29, 2001)

9—July, 2001 – **Vanderhoff Haley Dairy** is cited by DEQ for several ongoing discharges and other health violations, including back-flush from water filters discharging to floor drain leading to Rice Lake Drain; silage runoff and calf hutch runoff discharging to Rice Lake Drain; septic system bypassed with human waste discharging to manure pit.  
(DEQ Notice Letter, August 3, 2001)

10—July, 2001 – **Vreba-Hoff I Dairy** on Dillon Hwy spray-irrigates manure on standing corn and discharges manure into Medina Drain, leading to Bean Creek. The Drain is dammed at Ingall Hwy, with orders to pump polluted water.

(DEQ Notice Letter, August 3, 2001)

11—November, 2001 – **Hartland Farms** discharges manure into Childs Drain at M-34 east of Hudson, leading to Bean Creek near Lawrence Road. DEQ water samples showed the highest E. coli counts seen so far in discharges: **570,000/100 ml** – 570 times the Michigan Water Standard for partial body contact. After multiple discharges from Hartland Farms, DEQ District Office sends Notice of NonCompliance Letter stating Hartland Farms violations “are being reviewed for possible escalated enforcement.”

(DEQ Notice of NonCompliance Letter, December 17, 2001)

12—November, 2001 – **Jelsma Farms** discharges manure, runoff from hayfield, into Oats drain leading to Toad Creek, which enters Lime Creek, then Bean Creek. After multiple discharges, Jelsma Farms notified the case has been referred to Enforcement Unit.

(DEQ Notice Letter, January 16, 2002)

13—February, 2002 – **Vreba-Hoff I** discharges manure, runoff from manure through field tile, entering Medina Drain and Bean Creek. After multiple discharges, Vreba-Hoff case has been referred to Enforcement Unit of DEQ.

(DEQ Notice Letter, February 28, 2002)

14—March, 2002 – **Bleich Dairy** on US-127 is cited with multiple violations of Inland Lakes and Streams, and Wetlands Protection parts of Michigan’s Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, after dredging a natural stream, placing dredge spoils into regulated wetlands, and dredging ditches “apparently to drain the wetlands.”

(DEG Notice Letter, March 22, 2002)

15—April, 2002 – **Vreba-Hoff II** on US-127 discharges silage leachate into Lime Lake Inlet East.

(DEQ Notice Letter, April 15, 2002)

16/17—April, 2002 – **Vreba-Hoff I** on Dillon Hwy discharges silage laden storm water to a pond draining to a wetland draining to Durfee Creek, a tributary of Lime and Bean Creeks. Inspection by DEQ also finds large piles of “**waste feed and several cow composting piles**” with seepage to a wetland leading to Durfee Creek. Vreba-Hoff cited for 2 illegal discharges.

(DEQ Notice Letter, April 30, 2002)

18—May, 2002 – **Vreba-Hoff II** on US-127 applies liquid manure to a field, causing manure discharge through field tiles to a tributary of Bean Creek.

(DEQ Notice Letter, June 5, 2002)

19—May, 2002 – **Vreba-Hoff I** on Dillon Hwy discharges manure to Medina Drain after dragline breakage in a field on Ingall Hwy.

(DEQ Certified Letter, June 5, 2002)

20—September, 2002 – **Hartland Farms** discharges manure to Henning Drain and Bear Creek, the inlet to Lake Hudson, Lake Hudson State Recreation Area.

(DEQ Notice Letter forthcoming)

21 – November, 2002 – **Bakerlads Dairy** on Morey Hwy discharges manure through field tiles to South Branch of the River Raisin. Dissolved Oxygen level reaches 0.5 mg/L (3 mg/L or less can be fatal to aquatic species).

(DEQ Notice Letter forthcoming)

22 – November, 2002 – **Vreba-Hoff II** discharges milk and milkhouse wastes into drain leading to Fisher Lake in the Bean/Tiffin Watershed.

(DEQ Notice Letter forthcoming)