

STAHL BROTHERS DAIRY LLC



Stahl Brothers Dairy LLC
N7518 Tonet Road
Luxemburg, Wisconsin 54217

Owner(s) / Operator(s): Lary M. Stahl, Stephen J. Stahl, Tom Stahl

Federal USDA Subsidies 2002-2012: Stahl Brothers Dairy LLC - \$ 202,200

Federal USDA Subsidies 1995-2012: Lary M. Stahl - \$ 952,829

State Assistance 1999-2004: Stahl Brothers Dairy LLC - \$ 241,000

Facility Description: Industrial dairy complex permitted to confine approximately 1,700 animals (1,400 milking and dry cows, 300 heifers) under Wisconsin Permit WI-0061999 (last issued 8/28/2012). Liquefied manure and dairy wastewater are currently stored in two earthen waste pits permitted to contain approximately 20 million gallons.

Sources: Compliance data is compiled from file excerpts of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). Federal subsidy data is from USDA records assembled by the Environmental Working Group. State assistance data is from records assembled by the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign. Aerial image is from Google Earth ©.

On or About	<p style="text-align: center;">Description</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Stahl Brothers Dairy LLC</p>
04.24.12	<p>Correspondence from WDNR Agricultural Runoff Management Specialist Jay Shiefelbein to Larry [sic] Stahl, Subject: Permit re-issuance status and compliance inspection summary: “On March 30, 2012, the Department of Natural Resources (Department) inspected Stahl Brother’s [sic] Dairy LLC (Stahl Brother’s) [sic] to determine compliance with WPDES permit no. WI-0061999-02-0. At this time, Stahl Brother’s is in substantial compliance with permit requirements and is eligible for permit reissuance.</p> <p>At the time of inspection, most of the feed was stored in bunkers on a concrete pad which drains to a manhole. A manhole brings the feed leachate and runoff to an earthen storage pit that holds the liquids which are manually pumped to Pit 1. Liquids from Pit 1 are used to flush the barns at the Home Farm. The floor and bunker walls appear to be in good condition; however, leachate was noticed outside the southern bunker wall. The manhole that collects the leachate from the feed storage area appears to have been clogged as runoff and leachate was ponded in this area. Haylage is currently stacked south of the existing feed storage area; the feed was placed on plastic and is covered with additional plastic. This practice is not normally employed and was described as a one time occurrence.</p> <p>During the inspection the topic of burning was also discussed. Mr. Larry [sic] Stahl indicated that material would no longer be burned and would be either recycled or placed in the dumpster that is already on site.</p> <p>During the inspection it was indicated that permanent markers were in place at this basin, however, the markers were not observed.</p> <p>There was substantial gully erosion noted in a concentrated flow channel that is at least partially fed by the drainage ditch... the erosion is significant and this area is in need of repair. Based on the significance of the erosion, this area must be repaired and maintained as a permanent grassed waterway.</p> <p>A monitoring and inspection program was due to the Department 90 days (July 2007) after the effective date of the permit. The monitoring program was not present in the file.”</p>
09.21.11	<p>State of Wisconsin v. Stahl Brothers Dairy, LLC, STIPULATION AND ORDER FOR JUDGMENT: “Stahl Brothers Dairy, LLC, shall pay a judgment in the amount of \$55,412.32, comprising forfeitures of \$10,000 for the violations described in the complaint, [and including] \$15,000 as restitution... and reimbursement to the Department of Natural Resources of \$24,584.82 in response costs...”</p>
09.21.11	<p>State of Wisconsin v. Stahl Brothers Dairy, LLC, COMPLAINT:</p> <p>“5. In April 2009, at least 100,000 gallons of manure discharged through a tile line in the sidewall of Stahl Brothers Dairy’s manure storage pit into the Kewaunee River,</p> <p>(continued on the next page)</p>

On or About

Description
Stahl Brothers Dairy LLC

(continued from the previous page)

adversely affecting the river at least 12.9 miles downstream from the discharge point and requiring emergency response action to clean up the spill.

6. Stahl Brothers Dairy violated its permit and state law when manure discharged into the environment in April 2009, by failing to construct manure storage pits according to plans and specifications and by failing to submit as-built documentation of construction completed in 2002.

24. The Department of Natural Resources received and investigated a complaint of liquid manure in a wetland north of the facility on April 10, 2009, and in the ensuing investigation it was determined that the discharge was through an old tile line that had been in place before the manure storage pit was constructed and that had not been discovered during construction.

25. The discharge point for the tile line was near the edge of the wetland referred to in the previous paragraph, which is also the headwaters of the Kewaunee River, which is a navigable waterway.

26. On information and belief, the agitator used in the manure storage pit slowly eroded the clay-lined side wall, eventually exposing the tile line and allowing at least 100,000 gallons of manure to escape from the manure storage pit into a navigable water.

27. The discharged manure was visible 12.9 miles downstream, degrading water quality 12.9 miles downstream and beyond, reducing oxygen levels at least 7.9 miles downstream, causing elevated levels of ammonia, E. coli bacteria and total phosphorus, killing fish and other organisms that reside in the river, and damaging the fishery and aquatic life in the Kewaunee River.

31. Stahl Brothers Dairy did not properly operate and maintain the manure storage facilities, and failed to take adequate corrective action as a result of inspections, so as to prevent the discharge of manure on April 10, 2009

40. Water samples and water quality field measurements taken on April 14, 2009, indicated that manure contamination continued to damage the Kewaunee River.

41. The slug of manure had moved downstream and was dispersing from the wetland into the main river channel, and was not being adequately contained or removed by the clean-up efforts.

43. Stahl Brothers Dairy did not have the proper equipment and was unable to handle the clean-up, and was unable to adequately address the manure discharge to protect the environment.

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On or About	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Description</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">Stahl Brothers Dairy LLC</p>
	<p>(continued from the previous page)</p> <p>44. The Department invoked the state emergency response zone contract to address the need to restore the environment in response to the April 10, 2009, discharge of manure from Stahl Brothers Dairy to the Kewaunee River.</p> <p>45. Clean-up efforts continued on April 16, 2009: The Department hired Veolia Services to pump from Rendezvous Road and Lowell Road beginning April 16, 2009, Veolia also installed containment booms downstream of Lowell Road, and Stahl Brothers Dairy hired contractors to install metal dams at Thiry Daems Road and Tonet Road to try to prevent manure that had accumulated in the wetland from continuing to move downstream.</p> <p>46. Dissolved oxygen field measurements taken on April 16, 2009, indicated that manure contamination was still adversely affecting the Kewaunee River.</p> <p>48. Pumping was halted April 19-26, 2009, due to rain events, and Stahl Brothers Dairy monitored the dams.</p> <p>50. The Kewaunee River overtopped its banks on April 27, 2009, dispersing dead fish along the river banks, and water chemistry samples and dissolved oxygen measurements showed that ammonia and other pollutants remained high in the river.</p> <p>51. The booms that had been installed as part of the clean-up process were removed on May 7, 2009.</p> <p>53. On July 14, 2009, manure remained only in the southern portions of the wetland along Tonet Road.</p> <p>59. Stahl Brothers Dairy failed to install a ramp and agitation pad on each of the two manure storage ponds that were constructed, as shown in the approved plans and specifications, in violation of Condition #1 of the 2002 Plan Approval.</p> <p>60. Stahl Brothers Dairy failed to submit as-built documentation upon completion of construction of the three storage ponds, in violation since 2003 of Condition #10 of the 2002 Plan Approval.</p> <p>62. The Stahl Brothers Dairy discharge of manure in April 2009 resulted in low dissolved concentrations and high ammonia concentrations for at least 17 days after the discharge, likely killing all aquatic organisms at least 7.9 miles downstream from the discharge point in the Kewaunee River.</p> <p>63. The Stahl Brothers Dairy manure discharge impaired fish spawning in the Kewaunee River, caused the loss of a large section of the invertebrate community that</p> <p>(continued on the next page)</p>

On or About	Description Stahl Brothers Dairy LLC
	<p>(continued from the previous page)</p> <p>comprises food for the fish which resulted in reduced fitness of the remaining fish and affected survival rates, and threatened the Lake Michigan fishery.</p> <p>64. The Stahl Brothers Dairy manure discharge occurred shortly after the annual stocking of many thousands of trout and salmon in the Kewaunee River and before imprinting (in which the fish learns cues that lead them back to the river for spawning) ended, resulting in fewer fish returning to the river, potentially adversely affecting the propagation of future generations of fish critical to maintaining the Lake Michigan fishery, and also requiring the Department to stock Steelhead in other rivers thereby reducing fishing opportunities for Kewaunee River anglers.</p> <p>65. The long-term effects of the 2009 discharge of manure from Stahl Brothers Dairy are presently unknown, but likely include increased nutrient levels in the sediment which may lead to increased algal production and larger more frequent swings in dissolved oxygen, loss if [sic] interstitial spaces in sediment bottoms used by invertebrates, and fewer fish.”</p>
10.28.09	<p>Correspondence from WDNR Environmental Enforcement Specialist Anne Van Grinsven to Thomas Stahl, Registered Agent Stahl Brothers Dairy, LLC, Subject: Notice of Violation: “..Stahl Dairy has been identified as the person responsible for the release of 100,000-400,000 gallons of manure into the Kewaunee River causing adverse environmental impacts. In order to adequately address the clean-up in a timely fashion, the Department invoked the state contract to assist with activities being performed by Stahl Dairy. The Department paid \$23,209.67 for this expense. The Department also contracted with the Kewaunee County Highway Department to provide and place adequate road signs. The Department paid \$1,375.15 for this expense.”</p>
10.14.09	<p>Correspondence from WDNR Agricultural Runoff Management Specialist Amy Callis to Lary Stahl, Subject: Notice of Noncompliance – Spreading near a Direct Conduit to Groundwater: “The Department received a complaint on October 5, 2009 through the Kewaunee County Land and Water Conservation Department (LWCD) regarding land-spreading on Field 30... in the Town of Red River, Kewaunee County.</p> <p>Based on information provided to the Department, the feature in Field 30 identified on the attached map is considered a sinkhole. In addition, a sinkhole has also been identified in Field 27... in the Town of Red River, Kewaunee County. These restricted features are not identified on the spreading restriction maps in the nutrient management plan on file with the Department. Under NR 243.14(2)(b)8, manure or process wastewater may not be applied within 100 feet of a direct conduit to groundwater under NR 243.03 (20).”</p>

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03.27.08	<p>Email from WDNR Agricultural Runoff Management Specialist Amy Callis to WDNR Conservation Warden Darren Kuhn, Subject: Stahl Brothers Farm – Disposal of Carcasses: “I received a complaint from [complainant] regarding the Stahl Brothers Farm on N7518 Tonet Road. She said that there have been some dead steers on occasion (over the years) dumped in the ravine behind the barn between her property and Stahl’s property. Currently, there is one back there and her dogs are bringing parts home.</p> <p>I contacted Larry [sic] today and asked him about it. He said that dead animals go to the mink farm. He said that one of his newer guys may not have known that and dumped it back there.”</p>
01.18.90	<p>Correspondence/Memorandum from WDNR Conservation Warden Thomas Hansen to WDNR Environmental Specialist Tom Tews [sic], Subject: Disposition – Lary M. Stahl – Animal Waste Case: “Attached are the copies of the final disposition reports on the case involving Lary M. Stahl. . . On 1/9/90) [sic], Lary M Stahl plead guilty to two criminal violations of 29/29 (3) (c) for permitting [sic] the deposit of a deleterious substance (animal waste/manure) into state waters. The court ordered him to pay fines plus costs of \$138.00 on each count. The court also ordered Mr [sic] Lary Stahl to follow the Animal Waste Management Plan prepared for his farm operation by Kewaunee County.”</p>
01.05.90	<p>Correspondence from WDNR Environmental Specialist Tom Tewes to Lary Stahl, RE: Notice of Discharge & Animal Waste Investigation Report: “This Notice of Discharge is being issued as the result of investigations conducted by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). During the course of those investigations, information was gathered which lead to the conclusion that animal waste from your Town of Red River farm has contributed to the discharge of pollutants to the waters of the state.</p> <p>Normally the Department of Natural Resources allows a minimum of 60 days for necessary corrective measures to be implemented. In this case, the Department must insist on immediate correction because you have an existing Waste Management System Operation & Maintenance Plan. The most recent plan was provided to you during the month of December of 1988 by the Kewaunee County</p> <p>Land Conservation Department. Since the two incidents of animal waste discharge appear to be in noncompliance with the Waste Management Plan and that plan has been in your possession for more than 60 days, the Department of Natural Resources has elected to require immediate compliance with all provision and conditions of your Waste Management Plan.</p> <p>The first incident occurred on Sept. 26, 1989, when the DNR collected samples of highly polluted water from the marsh area of the Kewaunee River in Section 32 of the Town of Red River. The pollutant was later identified as the animal waste which</p> <p>(continued on the next page)</p>

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	<p>(continued from the previous page)</p> <p>originated as overflow from the reception and storage manure pits on the Lary Stahl Farm.</p> <p>The second incident occurred on Oct. 23, 1989, when the DNR collected samples of highly polluted water from the Kewaunee River in Sections 32 and 33 of the Town of Red River. The source of the pollution was traced back to animal waste running-off [sic] from a field owned and farmed by Lary Stahl in Section 32 of the Town of Red River.”</p>
11.04.89	<p>WDNR Case Activity Report by WDNR Conservation Warden Thomas Hansen, Title: Lary M. Stahl – Manure Discharge: “Warden HANSEN [sic] also received a copy of the ‘Waste Management System Operation & Maintenance Plan for Lary Stahl Farm’ dated 1/23/87 and an updated ‘Waste Management System Operation & Maintenance Plan for Lary Stahl Farm’ dated Dec. 1988. LARY STAHL [sic] had copies of these plans.</p> <p>The plans directed that no more than ½ inch of slurry manure should be applied to the fields which would be the equivalent of 50 ton [sic] per acre. During the inspection of 10/26/89, [Kewaunee County Conservationist] DENNIS FRITZ [sic] observed that LARY STAHL [sic] had emptied the two manure pits on the farm and spread the manure on 53.3 acres. DENNIS FRITZ [sic] advised Warden HANSEN [sic] that to meet the directions in the plan and dispose of the manure, it should have been spread on a minimum of 140 acres.</p> <p>Furthermore, the plans directed LARY STAHL not to spread the manure in any waterway and to incorporate the material into the soil with in [sic] 72 hours of application. Conservation Warden THOMAS WILDA [sic] observed that manure had been spread in waterways on 10/21/89 which discharged into the Kewaunee River wetlands. Aerial photos taken by Warden WILDA [sic] show the application of manure in violation of STAHL’S [sic] plan. Inspection of the STAHL property on 10/26/89 by Warden WILDA [sic] and DENNIS FRITZ [sic] revealed that the manure still had not been worked into the soil as required.”</p>
11.03.89	<p>WDNR Investigative Report by WDNR Conservation Warden Thomas Hansen, Title: Manure Discharge to the Kewaunee River – Lary M. Stahl: “On Sept. 25, 1989, Warden Wilda received a citizen’s complaint of manure being discharged into the Kewaunee River system by LARY STAHL [sic]. Investigation into the situation by Warden Wilda on 09/25/89 and by Thomas Tews [sic] on 09/26/89 revealed a manure discharge into the wetlands of the Kewaunee River from the LARY STAHL [sic] property.</p> <p>On Oct. 2, 1989, Conservation Warden Thomas Hansen, Warden Wilda, Thomas Tews [sic] and Kewaunee County Conservationist Dennis Fritz continued the</p> <p>(continued on the next page)</p>

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	<p>(continued from the previous page)</p> <p>investigation into the discharge which occurred on September 24, 1989. The investigation revealed that the manure discharge originated from the farm buildings on the LARY M STAHL [sic] farm located in E1/2, Sec. 32, town of Red River, Kewaunee County. The manure had been allowed to flow into the marshes which form the headwaters of the Kewaunee River. On 10/2/89, Warden Hansen took a signed statement from an adjoining neighbor of LARY STAHL [sic] named [complainant]. [Complainant] stated that he had observed the manure discharging into the wetland area and onto his lawn. [Complainant] had called LARY STAHL [sic] on the phone and complained about the discharge. LARY STAHL [sic] had responded that the manure 'should not be going onto yours, it should be going into the swamp.'"</p>
11.02.89	<p>WDNR Case Activity Report by WDNR Conservation Warden Thomas Hansen, Title: Manure Discharge – Lary M. Stahl: "On Oct. 2, 1989, at approximately 1:42 p.m., Conservation Warden Thomas R. Hansen interviewed [complainant] reference [sic] the manure discharge on the Lary M. Stahl property. [Complainant] provided the following statement which he signed.</p> <p>'On Sept. 24, 1989 my kids came into the house and told me that there was manure running into our yard. I went down toward the creek and observed that there was a stream of liquid manure running through Lary Stahl's corn field. Some of it had flowed onto my property. None of the manure appeared to have gone into the swamp yet. So I immediately called Lary Stahl on the telephone (Time: about 3:00 p.m.) and told him that he had shit running into my grass. Lary Stahl responded that 'it should not be going onto yours, it should be going into the swamp'. [sic] He then asked if it was still running. I advised him that 'yes, it still is'. [sic]</p> <p>Lary Stahl responded 'Maybe there is a hole in the wall somewhere because it is pretty full'. [sic] He advised that he was going to go look at it. I then left at about 4:00 p.m. on 9/24/89 to go up north. On Tuesday morning I walked back to the swamp and could not believe how much manure had run into the swamp. It looked like the manure must have been pumped Sunday and all day Monday for the amount there.</p> <p>There was a similar problem during Spring 1988. I noticed manure running across the field behind my house. The manure was following the grass waterway down into the swamp. I followed the grass waterway back to where I could see the manure was coming from Lary Stahl's manure pit. I observed that there was a sump pump set up that was pumping the manure over the wall of the storage pit. It appeared that the manure was being discharged out of a 4-inch pipe.</p> <p>(continued on the next page)</p>

On or About	Description Stahl Brothers Dairy LLC
	<p>(continued from the previous page)</p> <p>I drove over and confronted Lary Stahl with my observation. I asked Lary ‘Do you understand that you have shit running down the creek behind the house and you can’t do that?’</p> <p>Lary responded that he was having problems with his equipment. I told him if it did not stop, I would have someone come out and stop him.</p> <p>He did stop pumping later in the day after several more thousand gallons went into the swamp. The area where the manure collected in the swamp died. The vegetation is still dead in that area.</p> <p>I am very concerned about this discharge affecting my well water. The manure collects only about 75 yards from my well.”</p>
11.02.89	<p>WDNR Case Activity Report by WDNR Conservation Warden Thomas Hansen, Title: Manure Discharge – Lary M. Stahl: “On Oct. 11, 1989, at approximately 2:55 p.m., Conservation Warden Thomas R. Hansen interviewed [complainant 2] reference [sic] the manure discharge on the Lary M. Stahl property... [Complainant 2] provided the following statement which he signed.</p> <p>‘On Sunday, Sept. 24, 1989, during the afternoon, [complainant 1] called me and advised that there was manure running on his lawn. I went over and looked at [his] lawn. I observed an area about the size of a pickup truck covered with a dark liquid that looked and smelled like liquid manure. It was coming from the grassy waterway running down Lary Stahl’s field. [Complainant 1] told me that he had called Stahl about the situation.</p> <p>I went back home and called Russ Roden (spelling unknown), the Kewaunee County deputy sheriff, who called Warden Tom Wilda. I called this in to the authorities because I was concerned about this manure getting into the marsh and river where it could kill the fish, ducks and other animals using the water. Also, I was upset over this manure because this has happened in past years (practically every year). The grass and trees are dead in the marsh from a manure spill last year from Lary Stahl and I want to see this stopped.</p> <p>Two years ago, Lary Stahl spread manure on fields southwest of my house. He spread it across waterways (drainage areas) on his property so that it washed down when the rains came. It came down the ditch so thick that it plugged the roadway culverts that drained the area to the creek. I called Lary Stahl on the phone and complained about this manure getting to the creek. Lary Stahl called me ‘a liar’ and he hung up.</p> <p>(continued on the next page)</p>

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	<p>(continued from the previous page)</p> <p>The last spring I had rented 27 acres adjacent to Lary Stahl's farm. He had spread manure on his fields so thick that it ran onto this 27 acres and caused the ground to soften up so I cut ruts up to 1 foot deep in the ground. The hay did not grow very well and my cows would not eat it because it stunk so much.</p> <p>I would like to see this spreading of the liquid manure controlled so it does not get into the creek, adjoining wetlands or on my property.”</p>
11.02.89	<p>WDNR Case Activity Report by WDNR Conservation Warden Thomas Hansen, Title: Manure Discharge – Lary M. Stahl: “On Oct. 11, 1989 at approximately 1:45p.m. Conservation Warden THOMAS R. HANSEN [sic], Conservation Warden THOMAS P. WILDA [sic], DNR Water Management Investigator MIKE RUSSO [sic], and Kewaunee County Conservationist Dennis Fritz contracted LARY M. STAHL [sic] at his farm in the E1/2, sec. 32, town of Red River, Kewaunee County.</p> <p>Warden HANSEN [sic] advised LARY M. STAHL [sic] that they were investigating the discharge of liquid manure that had originated from his (STAHL'S) [sic] buildings and flowed into the waters of the Kewaunee River. LARY STAHL [sic] stated that a relay switch had broken which prevented the manure from being pumped from the receiving pit in the barn into the manure pits. This resulted in the receiving pit overflowing which permitted the manure slurry to flow down the grassy waterway into the wetlands of the Kewaunee River.</p> <p>Warden HANSEN [sic] advised LARY STAHL [sic] that this was a serious matter, because the manure was going to get into the Kewaunee River. Warden HANSEN [sic] informed LARY M. STAHL [sic] that he (STAHL) [sic] would be receiving a citation for allowing the discharge or spill to get into the marsh which is part of the Kewaunee River. Warden HANSEN [sic] pointed out to LARY STAHL [sic] that he had ample opportunity to block the waterway after the spill occurred and stop the flow into the wetland, but STAHL [sic] had not attempt [sic] anything in the way of preventing the manure from getting to the river.”</p>
10.20.89	<p>WDNR Complaint or Information Record by WDNR Environmental Specialist Tom Tews [sic], Violation: Manure running into the Kewaunee River: “Complainant [sic] stated that manure is going directly into the Kewaunee River again from the Lary Stahl Farm. Complainant [sic] again showed me where the manure was running on his property [sic]. There were puddles of it. It was as bad or worst [sic] than on 9/25/89. Lary Stahl was in the process of pumping the manure on his property to the North of his farm buildings. You could see from the road that the manure was being applied so thick that it was running down the hill in a stream of liquid manure and it was running into the Kewaunee River watershed. I took several pictures.”</p>

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10.19.89	<p>WDNR Exhibits, Incident Report of contacts by Kewaunee County Conservationist Dennis Fritz: “Stopped at farm 8:30a.m. First went to machine shed to talk with Lary. From partly across the shed I saw Lary. His look at me and his walking gestures sent a message to me I best not try to talk with Lary. Two other people I did not know were also working with Lary. I did not confront Lary. I backed out of the shed. The manure pits were pumped down to 3 ft. below the dike tops. I left the farm right after I checked the pits. Talked with Harold Reckelburg – updated the situation with Lary to Harold. Expressed my concern about harm to our staff or myself. Harold said not to go out there and get myself hurt.”</p>
10.13.89	<p>WDNR Exhibits, Incident Report of contacts by Kewaunee County Conservationist Dennis Fritz: “9:00 a.m Lary was agitating the ponds, this could be a day or so long so all solids are mixed into a slurry. Agitation is essential for proper pit management. Saturday he would start spreading waste on the chisel plowed fields. I cautioned Lary on proper waste application rates and the needs [sic] to work the waste into soil. His comment ‘I know more about spreading waste than all of you will ever know!’ Again I cautioned on proper waste utilization.”</p>
10.02.89 to 10.15.89	<p>WDNR Investigative Report by WDNR Conservation Warden Thomas Hansen, Title: Lary M. Stahl – Illegal Dredging (Without a Permit): “On Oct. 2, 1989, Conservation Wardens THOMAS R. HANSEN [sic] and THOMAS P. WILDA [sic] located a pond dredged or dug below the ordinary high water mark of the Kewaunee River. This pond was located on property belonging to LARY M. STAHL [sic] in the E1/2, Sec. 32, town of Red River, Kewaunee County, Wisconsin. Portions of the dredge spoils had been deposited below the ordinary high water mark in a cattail wetland which is part of the Kewaunee River. On Oct. 11, 1989, Wardens HANSEN [sic] and WILDA [sic] inspected the pond area with DNR Water Management Investigator MIKE RUSSO [sic] and with LARY STAHL [sic]. MIKE RUSSO [sic] determined that the pond and portions of the spoil were below the ordinary high water mark of the Kewaunee River and no permit had been issued. MIKE RUSSO [sic] advised that the Kewaunee River is a navigable waterway of the State of Wisconsin and a permit would have been required under sec. 30.19 to dig the pond and another permit would have been required under sec. 30.12 Wisconsin Statutes to place the spoils below the ordinary high water mark. Citation # J30415 was issued to LARY M. STAHL [sic] for illegal dredging contrary to sec. 30.19 WI Statutes and he was ordered to remove the spoil material from the wetland before Jan. 15, 1989 [sic].”</p>
10.02.89	<p>Correspondence from Kewaunee County Conservationist Dennis Fritz to WDNR Conservation Warden Thomas Hansen: “On Oct. 2, 1989, we visited the Lary Stahl farm with [WDNR Environmental Specialist] Tom Tewes and Tom Wilde. This letter is a report of our visit. The reason for our visit was to find the source of animal manure which was entering a nearby wetland. The animal waste handling system at Lary Stahl’s dairy barn was determined to be the source of the manure.</p> <p>(continued on the next page)</p>

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	<p>(continued from the previous page)</p> <p>The reception pit was about half full of manure. This manure did not have much water mixed with it. We saw evidence of manure which had overflowed from the reception pit and run out over the land. This is one of the sources of manure that is flowing over the fiels [sic] and into the wetlands and across a neighbor's yard about a half mile away.</p> <p>Both manure storage ponds were filled to the top of the earth dikes, when they should have been at most three to four feet below the top. The manure in both storage ponds looked dry, as though the water had been pumped out and not returned to the ponds. Also there was a small repair to the western-most dike on the smaller pond. There was evidence of manure that on an earilier [sic] date ran over the top of the dike."</p>
09.26.89	<p>WDNR Facility Contact Form by WDNR Environmental Specialist Tom Tewes, Larry [sic] Stahl Farm: "I followed the manure trail from the [complainant's] lawn into the marshy area that is the Kewaunee River headwaters. Because of the drought, there is little water in the marsh but I did find standing water. I also found pools of manure/water. I also noted large areas of dead vegetation, possibly from previous discharges. Collected samples and took photos. Met with [WDNR Assistant District Director] Dave Hildreth in the p.m.</p> <p>I told Dave that I believe this may have been a deliberate discharge and requested L.E. [law enforcement] assistance for possible issuance of a 29.29 citation. Dave gave permission to continue investigation with a wardens [sic] assistance."</p>
05.08.89	<p>WDNR Complaint or Information Record by WDNR Environmental Specialist Tom Tewes [sic]: "I talked to a [sic] area farmer and a person living in the area. They showed me where the manure runs into the waterway. It was very thick and you can still see the manure from last Spring. I took several pictures and gave them my card and advised them to call right away if they see it happening again this year. They state that Stahl does not give a dam [sic] and will do it again. They state that the water is polluted from all the manure and that the ducks and birds and northern pike use the waterway. 'NOTE' Stahl can be a very nasty person from what I have been told.' [sic]"</p>
05.08.89	<p>WDNR Case Activity Report by WDNR Conservation Warden Thomas Hansen, Title: Manure Discharge – Lary Stahl: "According to DNR Complaint or Information Record # E04835, Conservation Warden THOMAS P. WILDA [sic] received a complaint on 05/08/89 at approximately 9:30 am which read: "That last year in the spring he (LARY STAHL) [sic] pipes the manure onto the field in sec 32 and lets it run for hours. It hen [sic] goes into a waterway which runs into the Kewaunee River."</p> <p>(continued on the next page)</p>

On or About	<p style="text-align: center;">Description</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Stahl Brothers Dairy LLC</p>
	<p>(continued from the previous page)</p> <p>This discharge of manure into the Kewaunee River originates from the LARY STAHL [sic] farm in sec. 32, T25N – R23E, town of Red River, Kewaunee County.</p> <p>According to Record # E04836, Warden WILDA [sic] talked to an area farmer and other person living in the area. They showed him an area where thick manure could see be seen [sic] from last spring (1988).”</p>



When manure piles are left uncovered, they can leach manure into neighboring waterways and threaten drinking water sources.
Photo Credit: Kewaunee CARES