The Missouri Department of Natural Resources has issued a Class IB Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) no-discharge Missouri State Operating Permit to Valley Oaks Real Estate LLC. The no-discharge requirement is the most restrictive effluent limitation the department can require of a permitted facility and is protective of water quality.

Valley Oaks Real Estate LLC operates an animal feeding operation located at 1921 W. Highway 50, Lone Jack. The Class IB permit allows the company to house up to 6,999 beef cattle at its facility. However, the operation is currently subject to a court order requiring fewer than 999 animals on-site and cannot expand at this time. The court order does not affect the department's statutory duties or permitting authority.

The department reviewed the application for completeness and compliance with the Missouri Clean Water Law. Issuance of this permit was based on the facility components, operational plans, storage capacity and other detailed information provided with the application.

Any parties adversely affected or aggrieved by the department's decision to approve the permit request and issue the final permit may appeal to the Administrative Hearing Commission by filing a written petition within 30 days from issuance (April 15, 2019).

Facility Description
Valley Oaks will have six buildings to house up to 6,999 beef cattle on 400.7 acres in Johnson County. The covered buildings will have concrete floors with solid confinement pen walls. Facility plans prevent water from leaving the production area and minimize stormwater into production areas. Valley Oaks also proposes to build three stack sheds as additional storage for composting manure. Valley Oaks plans to apply the manure and bedding to agricultural fields as a substitute for commercial fertilizer and sell the manure commercially. Manure must be stored under roof and not be exposed to precipitation or stormwater runoff. Valley Oaks must sample the manure for nitrogen and phosphorus content so that it is applied at agronomic rates to prevent excess runoff of nutrients. All mortalities will be rendered off-site.

For More Information
For information about the Valley Oaks Feeders LLC application, visit dnr.mo.gov/env/wpp/cafo or call 573-522-4502. Comments may be submitted in writing by mail to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City, MO 65102 or by email to cafo@dnr.mo.gov.
Aerial Map

The facility layout for the proposed operation at Valley Oaks Feeders LLC in Johnson County at 1921 W. 50 Highway, Lone Jack, is below.