

Anhydrous Ammonia Fertilizer

Anhydrous ammonia is a valuable, low cost form of nitrogen fertilizer used in Michigan agriculture. It is stored as a liquid in high-pressure tanks at agricultural retailers and on farms. Unintended releases, whether from theft or farm operations can be dangerous to human health. By maintaining compliance with state and federal regulations, anhydrous ammonia can be used safely and securely by the agricultural community.

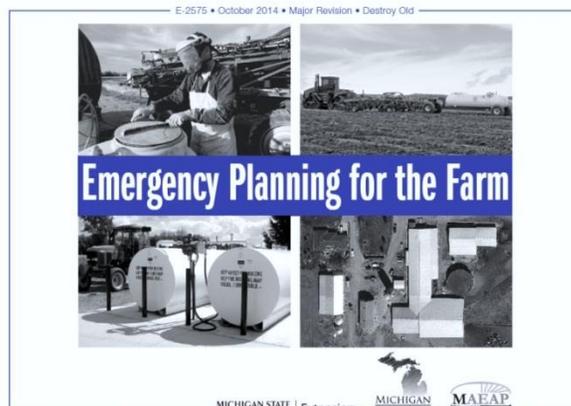
How much do you store?

If you Store:	You NEED:
500 lbs (about 91 gallons)	to notify your Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) & the MI SARA Title III Program
500 gallons	an air permit
	an emergency response plan to comply with MIOSHA safety standards
10,000 lbs (about 1,820 gallons)	a risk management plan
	to comply with federal chemical facility security standards

Notifying your LEPC & the MI SARA Title III Program

Your LEPC and the Michigan SARA Title III Program must be notified if you have *500 pounds* or more of anhydrous ammonia on site, even if the anhydrous ammonia is on site only during applications. Your LEPC is required to write an offsite emergency response plan for your facility or farm. Contact your LEPC or the Michigan SARA Title III Program at 517-292-7272 for more information.

Notification cards are available on the back of the Michigan State University Extension bulletin E-2575, "Emergency Planning for the Farm."



This bulletin is available from your county extension office and can also be found at: www.maeap.org/uploads/files/Farmstead/E2575_Emergency_Plan_on_the_Farm.pdf. The emergency farm plan in this bulletin is used by the LEPC to fulfill their planning responsibilities for farms.

Getting an Air Permit

If you have a stationary anhydrous ammonia tank that holds *500 gallons* or more you must have an **air permit**.

You may apply for a *General Permit* (www.deq.state.mi.us/aps/generalpermits.shtml) if your tank capacity does not exceed 30,000 gallons. If your tank capacity is greater than 30,000 gallons, you must apply for an individual air Permit to Install (www.deq.state.mi.us/aps). For assistance with your permit application or if you have questions, call the Environmental Assistance Center (EAC) at 800-662-9278.

Emergency Response and Risk Management Plans

If you are required to have an air permit, you are also required to have an onsite **emergency response plan**. The emergency response plan must be approved by your local fire department or county emergency response agency.

Farms are encouraged to use the plan template in "*Emergency Planning for the Farm*." For assistance with this plan, contact your LEPC or call 888-678-3464 to contact your county extension office.

A **risk management plan** (RMP) is required by federal regulation if you are distributing anhydrous ammonia and store more than *10,000 pounds* on site in one or more tanks. Information about RMPs is available at www.michigan.gov/michiganprepares.

MIOSHA Safety Standards

The air permit conditions require that you comply with the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Act (MIOSHA) **safety standards**, Part 78 - Storage and Handling of Anhydrous Ammonia. These standards address tank specifications including safety relief valves and restrictions on the tank location.

Your air permit also requires that you have an inspection and maintenance program that assures ongoing compliance with the MIOSHA safety standards. Most importantly, safety relief valves must be manufactured or recertified within the past 5 years. Inspections must be conducted at least twice per year, prior to spring and fall application seasons.

For statewide safety and health assistance to employers, visit www.michigan.gov/miosha or call 517-322-1809.

Secure your Tanks

Anhydrous ammonia is a key ingredient in the illegal production of methamphetamine, making farms a target for anhydrous ammonia theft. Tank security is important!

To report suspicious activities related to anhydrous ammonia security and theft, contact the **Michigan Meth Hotline**:

- **866-METH-TIP** (866-638-4847); or
- Your local police department



In 2007, the **Anhydrous Ammonia Safety and Security Practices (AASSPs)** were developed. These are recommendations addressing the storage and handling practices for the agricultural use of anhydrous ammonia. Sellers and end users implementing the AASSPs are granted immunity from personal injury and property damage claims caused by anhydrous ammonia theft or unlawful use. The AASSPs can be found at www.michigan.gov/mda-fertilizer.

The adoption of the AASSPs helps ensure that farmers can continue to use anhydrous ammonia fertilizer by preventing its theft for drug production. If you have any questions, call 800-292-3939.

In addition, if you store *10,000 pounds* or more of anhydrous ammonia you must comply with the **federal chemical facility security standards**. Complete a preliminary online assessment at www.dhs.gov/chemicalsecurity to determine the level of risk associated with your facility or farm. For more information, call 866-323-2957.

Report all chemical releases!

A release of **19 gallons** (100 lbs.) or more must be **reported immediately** (within 15 minutes) to all of the following:

Local Authorities	911
State Authorities	Agriculture Pollution Emergency Hotline (Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development) 800-405-0101 or Pollution Emergency Alerting System (PEAS) 800-292-4706
Federal Authorities	National Response Center (United States Coast Guard) 800-424-8802
For Spill and Release information	www.michigan.gov/chemrelease or call the Michigan SARA Title III Program at 517-284-7272

Because it is difficult to determine the amount of a release quickly, it is recommended that every release be reported.

There is no penalty for over reporting!

Are You In Compliance?



ANHYDROUS AMMONIA FERTILIZER

Air Permit
Emergency and/or Risk Management Plan
Notifications
Safety Standards
Tank Security