



## Right to Farm Complaint Response

**PROGRAM MANAGER:** Michael Wozniak | 517-284-5618 | [wozniakm1@michigan.gov](mailto:wozniakm1@michigan.gov)

The Right to Farm program responds to nuisance complaints involving farms. Program staff evaluate farm activities to decide whether a farm is following the Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices (GAAMPs). GAAMPs are guidelines for good farm management that also help promote a positive image of Michigan agriculture.

### **IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:**

Right to Farm Complaint Response assists in resolving nuisance issues related to farming operations. This promotes environmental protection, improved quality of life for non-farm rural residents, and a strong and stable agricultural industry.

### **2020 ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- Conducted 250 new complaint response investigations.
- Developed new communication materials to help involved parties understand the complaint response process.
- Maintained an average response rate of five business days amidst a pandemic.

## MEASURING SUCCESS:

Metric	2017	2018	2019	2020
New complaints received	107	176	193	136
Initial inspections conducted within 7 business days	85%	90%	86%	81%
On-farm investigations	168	251	227	250
Complaint cases closed	88	250	173	127

## 2021 PROGRAM GOALS:

- Assess customer service through the deployment of surveys.
- Improve customer service and communication through outreach.
- Implement a new inspection data handling system.
- Reduce average complaint response time to three days or less.
- Work with all stakeholders to understand the Right to Farm Act.
- Work with Michigan farmers to promote GAAMP implementation.



## KEY STAKEHOLDERS:

- Michigan farmers
- Non-farm rural residents
- Local governments
- Commodity organizations
- State and federal conservation and environmental agencies

## LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- Michigan Right to Farm Act, Public Act 93 of 1981, as amended