Unpermitted Cattle Feeding Network in the St Joseph River Watershed

From Northwest Ohio and Northeast Indiana to Lake Erie





In 2022, the proposed siting of an 8000 head cattle feeding operation in NE IN (Steuben County) revealed a connection between a family operation in northwest OH, Schmucker Family Farms, and JBS, a global corporation. JBS is one of four major meat companies in the U.S.—Cargill, Tyson Foods, JBS, and National Beef Packing, that control 55% to 85% of the hog, cattle, and chicken markets. Schmucker Family Farms (Edon, Ohio) raises 150,000 beef cattle annually to supply JBS. The cattle raised by Schmucker Family Farms are a beef on dairy cross, using NuEra Genetics from ABS. ABS, a global bovine genetics business, sells dairy and beef bull semen, to farmers to breed their cows through artificial insemination.



•Where: Northwest Ohio, NE Indiana, and S Central Michigan; located over the Michindoh Aquifer, the only source of water for almost 400,000 people.

•What: Source of manure runoff into streams and rivers and into Lake Erie

• Who: Unpermitted Cattle Feeding Network in the St. Joseph Watershed



10 Unpermitted Cattle Feeding Operations in Ohio and 12 Operations in Indiana, identified as of early 2023.



This is just a sampling of the rapid development of these feeding operations. New barns are being added at an alarming rate.

Stream flow from Edon, Ohio to Toledo, Ohio 353 km, 219 mile, total distance.





This illustrates the flow from Fish Creek to the St. Joseph River to Fort Wayne, Indiana. The flow is from top to bottom of this slide.



This is the flow from the St. Joseph River at Fort Wayne, Indiana to the Maumee River into Lake Erie at Toledo, Ohio.



USE THIS LINK FOR GRAPHICAL ILLUSTRATION OF DRAINAGE FROM THE ST. JOSEPH RIVER WATERSHED TO LAKE ERIE copy/paste into your internet browser

https://river-runner.samlearner.com/?lng=-84.79465070999241&lat =41.674786702137254

Parcel Splitting to avoid being permitted by the state regulatory agencies?



This is a new construction along the St. Joseph River, split in such a way to have two owners at basically one location. The two barns on the left are one owner and the two barns on the right are of a second owner to avoid CAFO census limits?





The area is dominated by SCHMUCKER FARMS of Edon, Williams County, Ohio

Schmucker Family Farms has developed over 300,000 Beef InFocus calves since 2014. These beef calves are of a very specific trademarked genetic strain.

Schmucker Family Farms is receiving over 3000 calves per week to feed to 600 pounds per head. They ship out over 3000 beef cross feeder cattle to network feedlots each week. There is a very detailed business relationship between Schmucker Farms along with other factory farms and one of the largest beef producers in the world, JBS. This is a \$12.5 billion dollar business plan that poses dire consequences for surface water, ground water and air quality for the Michindoh Aquifer and Lake Erie



Each barn houses hundreds of head of beef cattle







CAFO's of our watershed in Gallons of Liquid Manure per year. These figures do not include the Unpermitted facilities. This is a lot of manure!

CAFO	TOWN	LIQUID MANURE/YR GALLONS
		45,000,000
BRIDGEWATER DAIRY BROWN SWINE	MONTPELIER BRYAN	1,092,084
DEL ROD SWINE	PIONEER	1,200,000
GOEBEL SWINE	STRYKER	1.929,000
GRAND REPUBLIC SOW	EDGERTON	12,678,750
HERITAGE FAMILY SWINE	PIONEER	1,430,000
PLANSON SWINE	STRYKER	1,171,200
DE VRIES/SPRINGFIELD	BRYAN	24,900,000
TOTAL		87,472,034

These are just samplings of the Unpermitted Cattle Feeding Operations in the St. Joseph River Watershed. Thousands head dairy farms, swine and chicken facilities also contribute to the surface and ground water and air challenges.

