

**ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
STATE PERMITS BRANCH  
WATER DIVISION**

**WASTE STORAGE POND CLOSURE GUIDELINES**

1. Permitted facilities are required to notify the Department at least **sixty (60) days** prior of any planned removal, closure or abandonment of any waste storage or treatment structure containing waste or residuals from confined animal facilities, municipal water or wastewater treatment facilities, processing plants or other specified wastes.
2. A closure plan must be submitted to the Department for approval prior to closure of the structure. The closure plan must be developed by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), an Arkansas Soil and Water Conservation District water quality technician or a professional engineer registered in the State of Arkansas.
3. A closure plan must contain the following information:
  - A. Permittee name, type of permit and permit number.
  - B. Facility location, type of facility and county.
  - C. Type and size of waste storage structure to be closed (pond, concrete tank, etc.)
  - D. Quality and quantity of waste contained in waste storage structure.
  - E. Method of waste disposal.
  - F. Final status of waste storage structure (i.e. destroyed, removed, remain in place, convert to fresh water pond, etc.).
4. For earthen ponds and lagoons converted to fresh water ponds, a minimum of six (6) inches of soil must be removed from the bottom and inside levees of the pond. The disposal of this waste must be addressed in the closure plan.
5. If remaining waste will be land applied, the following additional information is required:
  - A. Legal description and identification of proposed waste application site.
  - B. Permit status of proposed waste application site (i.e. is it included in the current permit?).
  - C. Solids content (%) of waste.
  - D. Plant Available Nitrogen (PAN) of waste.
  - E. Waste application rate.
  - F. Cover crop at waste application site and the corresponding nutrient uptake rate.
  - G. Total number of acres required for disposal of remaining waste.
6. Any waste disposal methods other than land application must be described in sufficient detail and include the final destination of the waste.