

Proper Disposal of Dead Animals Worksheet

A boxed risk level indicates the level required for environmental assurance verification.

Bold print indicates a violation of state or federal regulation.

Risk Question	Low Risk – 3 Recommended	Medium Risk – 2 Potential Hazard	Your Risk
All Methods of Disposal of Dead Animal and Veterinarian and Medical Wastes			
1) Are all animals disposed of within 24 hours of death?	All dead animals are disposed of within 24 hours of death or are secured in a temporary cold storage @ 40° F for a maximum of 7 days or @ 0° F for a maximum of 30 days.	All dead animals are not disposed of within 72 hours of death or are not secured in a temporary cold storage @ 40° F for a maximum of 7 days or @ 0° F for a maximum of 30 days.	
2) Are increases in mortality reported to the MDA?	Increases in mortality are reported to MDA.	Increases in mortality are not reported to MDA.	
Burial – Individual Graves			
1) Are all dead animals buried in a timely manner?	All dead animals are buried within 24 hours of death or are secured in a temporary cold storage @ 40° F for a maximum of 7 days or @ 0° F for a maximum of 30 days and then buried.	All dead animals are not buried within 24 hours of death or are not secured in a temporary cold storage @ 40° F for a maximum of 7 days or @ 0° F for a maximum of 30 days and then buried.	
2) Are individual grave sites at least 200 feet from any well.	Individual gravesites are at least 200 feet from any well.	Individual gravesites are <u>not</u> at least 200 feet from any well.	
3) Are individual graves closed within 24 hours?	Individual graves are closed within 24 hours.	Individual graves are not closed within 24 hours.	
4) Are individual graves closed with 2 feet cover and 2 feet beneath the natural surface?	Individual graves are closed with 2 feet of cover and 2 feet beneath the natural surface.	Individual graves are not closed with 2 feet of cover and 2 feet beneath the natural surface.	
5) Does the number of individual graves exceed the 100 graves maximum per site?	The number of individual graves does not exceed the 100 grave maximum per site.	The number of individual graves exceeds the 100 grave maximum per site.	
6) Does the volume of dead animals in individual graves exceed the 5 ton maximum per acre?	The volume of dead animals in individual grave does not exceed the 5 ton maximum per acre?	The volume of dead animals in individual graves exceeds the 5 ton maximum per acre?	
Burial – Common Graves			
1) Are all dead animals buried in a timely manner?	All dead animals are buried within 24 hours of death or are secured in a temporary cold storage @ 40° F for a maximum of 7 days or @ 0° F for a maximum of 30 days and then buried.	All dead animals are not buried within 24 hours of death or are not secured in a temporary cold storage @ 40° F for a maximum of 7 days or @ 0° F for a maximum of 30 days and then buried.	
2) Are common grave sites at least 200 feet from any well.	Common grave sites are at least 200 feet from any well.	Common grave sites are <u>not</u> at least 200 feet from any well.	
3) Do entire common graves have a final cover of at least 2 feet of soil and remain open no longer than 30 days?	Entire common grave has a final cover of at least 2 feet of soil and remains open no longer than 30 days.	Entire common grave does not have a final cover of at least 2 feet of soil or remains open longer than 30 days.	
4) Are common graves closed with 2 feet beneath the natural surface?	Common graves are closed with 2 feet of cover and 2 feet beneath the natural surface.	Common graves are not closed with 2 feet of cover and 2 feet beneath the natural surface.	
5) Does the volume of dead animals in common graves exceed the 2.5 ton maximum per acre?	The weight of dead animals in common graves does not exceed the 2.5 ton maximum per acre.	The weight of dead animals in common grave exceeds the 2.5 ton maximum per acre.	
6) Are common graves separated by the minimum 100 feet between grave sites?	Common graves separated by the minimum 100 feet between grave sites.	Common graves are not separated by the minimum 100 feet between graves sites.	
7) Are carcasses in common graves covered with 1 foot of soil at the end of each day?	Individual carcasses in common graves are covered with 1 foot cover after each day's additions.	Individual carcasses in common graves are not covered with 1 foot of soil or not on the day when added.	

Risk Question	Low Risk – 3 Recommended	Medium Risk – 2 Potential Hazard	Your Risk
Incineration			
1) Are all dead animals are incinerated or properly stored in a timely manner?	All dead animals are incinerated within 24 hours of death or are secured in a temporary cold storage @ 40° F for a maximum of 7 days or @ 0° F for a maximum of 30 days before then being incinerated.	All dead animals are not incinerated within 24 hours of death or are not secured in a temporary cold storage @ 40° F for a maximum of 7 days or @ 0° F for a maximum of 30 days before then being incinerated.	
2) Is incinerator properly permitted by the Air Quality Division of MI DEQ as a source of air pollution?	The Air Quality Division of MI DEQ permit for the incinerator has been obtained.	The Air Quality Division of MI DEQ permit for the incinerator has not been obtained.	
Rendering			
1) Are all dead animals picked up by a licensed rendering service in a timely manner?	All dead animals are picked up by a licensed rendering service within 24 hours of death or are secured in a temporary cold storage @ 40° F for a maximum of 7 days or @ 0° F for a maximum of 30 days before being picked up by a licensed rendering service.	All dead animals are not picked up by licensed rendering service within 24 hours of death or are not secured in a temporary cold storage @ 40° F for a maximum of 7 days or @ 0° F for a maximum of 30 days before being picked up by licensed rendering service.	
Landfills			
1) Are all dead animal materials hauled to licensed landfills in a timely manner?	All dead animals are hauled to licensed landfills within 24 hours of death or are secured in a temporary cold storage @ 40° F for a maximum of 7 days or @ 0° F for a maximum of 30 days before being hauled to a licensed landfill.	All dead animals are not hauled to licensed landfills within 24 hours of death or are not secured in a temporary cold storage @ 40° F for a maximum of 7 days or @ 0° F for a maximum of 30 days before being hauled to licensed landfill.	
Composting			
1) Are all dead animal materials placed in a compost system in a timely manner?	All dead animals are placed in a compost system within 24 hours of death or are secured in a temporary cold storage @ 40° F for a maximum of 7 days or @ 0° F for a maximum of 30 days before being composted.	All dead animals are not placed in a compost system within 24 hours of death or are not secured in a temporary cold storage @ 40° F for a maximum of 7 days or @ 0° F for a maximum of 30 days before being composted.	
2) Are all dead animals composted at the site intrinsic to an operation under common ownership or management? Are specifications of law for transport of dead animals followed when traveling between sites?	All dead animals are composted at a site associated with an operation under common ownership or management. Dead animals transported between sites are secured and covered with no fluid losses.	Dead animals from farms under different ownership or management are being composted together. Dead animal materials transported between sites are not secured and covered or have fluid losses.	
4) If greater than 20,000 pounds of tissue is composted annually is the composting facility properly constructed?	The composting facility is properly constructed on an impermeable surface and designed to do one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return effluent into the compost pile • Transport effluent to a permanent storage facility meeting the NRCS 313 Waste Storage Facility Conservation Practice 2003 • Divert effluent to a treatment system meeting the NRCS 635 Wastewater Treatment Strip Conservation Practice Standard • Disposed of effluent by a licensed septic waste hauler or by another method which has been as approved by MDA Director. 	The composting facility is not properly constructed on an impermeable surface and designed to do one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return effluent into the compost pile • Transport effluent to a permanent storage facility meeting the NRCS 313 Waste Storage Facility Conservation Practice 2003 • Divert effluent to a treatment system meeting the NRCS 635 Wastewater Treatment Strip Conservation Practice Standard • Disposed of effluent by a licensed septic waste hauler or by another method which has been approved by MDA Director. 	

Risk Question	Low Risk – 3 Recommended	Medium Risk – 2 Potential Hazard	Your Risk
5) If less than 20,000 pounds of animal tissue is composted annually, utilizing in-field static piles, is the composting site properly selected?	<p>The composting site is constructed and selected with the following features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only sited on land used for crop production • Dry, well drained soils • Site shall not be located above subsurface drains • Minimum 200 ft from surface water • Minimum 200 ft from wells • Minimum 200 ft from residences • Minimum 2 ft above high water table • Clean water is diverted from site • Clear of overhead utilities • Prevailing winds considered • All weather access • Aesthetics/landscaping considered 	<p>The composting site is not constructed and selected with some or all of the following features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only sited on land used for crop production • Dry, well drained soils • Site shall not be located above subsurface drains • Minimum 200 ft from surface water • Minimum 200 ft from wells • Minimum 200 ft from residences • Minimum 2 ft above high water table • Clean water is diverted from site • Clear of overhead utilities • Prevailing winds considered • All weather access • Aesthetics/landscaping considered 	
6) For production operations with less than 20,000 pounds of animal tissue being composted annually, is open static pile composting is being done properly?	<p>The following conditions are always met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New site selected annually • Mortality added for no longer than 12 months before closure • Finished compost removed within 12 months after closure • Site is not reused for a minimum of 10 years 	<p>One or more of the following conditions are not always met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New site selected annually • Mortality added for no longer than 12 months • Finished compost removed within 12 months after closure • Site is not reused for a minimum of 10 years 	
7) Are only feedstocks approved as bulking agents under B.O.D.A. or by the MDA Director used in the composting process?	<p>Only the following feedstocks are utilized as bulking agents in the composting process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sawdust • Chopped straw • Spelt hulls • Bean pods • Grass clippings • Leaves • Shredded cardboard or newspaper • Chopped cornstalks • Finished compost • Fresh manure • Manure with bedding • Wasted feed (ground corn, silage, haylage) • Legumes (peas, beans, soybeans) • Hay • Fresh horse manure • Horse manure with bedding • Shrub and tree trimmings • Cornhusks, cobs • Wood chips • Other as approved by MDA Director 	<p>Feedstocks other than the following are utilized as bulking agents in the composting process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sawdust • Chopped straw • Spelt hulls • Bean pods • Grass clippings • Leaves • Shredded cardboard or newspaper • Chopped cornstalks • Finished compost • Fresh manure • Manure with bedding • Wasted feed (ground corn, silage, haylage) • Legumes (peas, beans, soybeans) • Hay • Fresh horse manure • Horse manure with bedding • Shrub and tree trimmings • Cornhusks, cobs • Wood chips • Other as approved by MDA Director 	

Risk Question	Low Risk – 3 Recommended	Medium Risk – 2 Potential Hazard	Your Risk
8) Are approved systems for active composting always followed?	<p>Active composting of mortality is always done with one of the following methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passively aerated static individual piles, overlapping piles, or windrows • Mechanically or forced aerated static individual piles, overlapping piles, or windrows • Contained or in-vessel composting 	<p>Active composting of mortality is not being done with one of the following approved methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passively aerated static individual piles, overlapping piles, or windrows • Mechanically or forced aerated static individual piles, overlapping piles, or windrows • Contained or in-vessel composting 	
9) Are flies, rodents, pests, vermin and other scavengers or predators must be controlled so as not to disrupt the compost piles in the composting structure or constitute a risk or health hazard to human or animal populations?	<p>A biofilter, or of layer of fresh bulking agent is placed over a pile after each addition or each aeration to reduce odors and discourage pests. Carbon-rich materials such as chopped bean stover, chopped corn stover, chopped straw, dried grass, grain hulls, chopped dried hay, and sawdust or shavings are used as biofilter materials. Nitrogen-rich materials such as animal manure solids, partially-decomposed feedstocks, green grass clippings, fresh hay, green leaves, and litter cake are less effective in controlling odors, insects, and vermin and are not used.</p>	<p>A biofilter, or of layer of fresh bulking agent is not placed over a pile after each addition or each aeration to reduce odors and discourage pests. Carbon-rich materials such as chopped bean stover, chopped corn stover, chopped straw, dried grass, grain hulls, chopped dried hay, and sawdust or shavings are not used as biofilter materials. Nitrogen-rich materials such as animal manure solids, partially-decomposed feedstocks, green grass clippings, fresh hay, green leaves, and litter cake are less effective in controlling odors, insects, and vermin and are used.</p>	
10) Is temperature within the compost is monitored consistently and used to manage the composting process?	<p>Temperature deep within the compost is monitored and recorded once weekly for each batch. Each batch has undergone a minimum of three heat cycles to over 130° F using proper aeration and the maintenance of 40 to 60% moisture content in the compost for reactivation.</p>	<p>Temperature deep within the compost is not monitored and recorded once weekly for each batch. Each batch has not undergone a minimum of three heat cycles to over 130° F using proper aeration and the maintenance of 40 to 60% moisture content in the compost for reactivation.</p>	
11) Are records for the dead animal composting process kept?	<p>Records containing all of the following information are being kept by the owner or operator of the composting facility for a minimum of 5 years and made available to the Director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture immediately upon request.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The start date of each compost batch. • The quantity of dead animals' or afterbirth added each time an addition is made and the dates the tissue is added to new compost batches. Animal tissue additions to a new pile should be concluded in two months or less to facilitate proper management of the compost batches. • The internal temperature of each actively composting batch measured weekly, except twice per week for a rotating drum, continuous flow, in-vessel system. The internal temperature of curing material measured once each week. • The date compost material is aerated if done with loader or turning equipment. • The final disposition of finished compost, including the method, location, date, and volume for the batch. 	<p>Records containing all of the following information are being kept by the owner or operator of the composting facility for a minimum of 5 years and made available to the Director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture immediately upon request.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The start date of each compost batch. • The quantity of dead animals' or afterbirth added each time an addition is made and the dates the tissue is added to new compost batches. Animal tissue additions to a new pile should be concluded in two months or less to facilitate proper management of the compost batches. • The internal temperature of each actively composting batch measured weekly, except twice per week for a rotating drum, continuous flow, in-vessel system. The internal temperature of curing material measured once each week. • The date compost material is aerated if done with loader or turning equipment. • The final disposition of finished compost, including the method, location, date, and volume for the batch. 	

A boxed risk level indicates the level required for environmental assurance verification.

Bold print indicates a violation of state or federal regulation.