

State of Wyoming

Water Quality Division

Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) Guidance for Animal Mortality Disposal



Method of disposal must be identified in the CAFO facility Nutrient Management Plan.

- Rendering plant:
 - Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) must identify the rendering facility (name and location) and
 - Provide a schedule for mortality collection (frequency).

- Scavenger disposal:
 - Area of disposal must be a minimum ½ mile from any occupied dwelling,
 - Area of disposal must be a minimum ¼ mile from any surface water,
 - This method of disposal may not be acceptable for numerous carcasses, and
 - Suitable areas intended for scavenger disposal will be identified in facility NMP.

- Landfill:
 - The landfill must be an authorized solid waste disposal facility permitted by Wyoming DEQ to accept animal mortalities.

- Incineration:
 - Incineration facility must be an approved solid waste incinerator.
 - * Check with Wyoming DEQ Air Quality and Solid and Hazardous Waste Divisions to insure that the incineration facility is fully authorized to process mortalities.

- Burial:
 - Excavation of disposal area must not encounter ground water,
 - A minimum of 4 feet of cover soil must be deposited over the carcasses,
 - Disposal site must be located a minimum 500 feet and down gradient from any well or surface water, and
 - Area of disposal must be identified in CAFO facility NMP.

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- Composting

- Site plan:

- * The composting area must be identified on the NMP photo or map,
 - * The facility must be located on property owned by the operator of the feeding operation,
 - * Facility locations shall not be in conflict with local zoning ordinances or land use plans that have been adopted by a county commission or municipality,
 - * Facilities shall not be located in an area where the administrator, after investigation by the applicant, finds there is a reasonable probability the composting facility will have a detrimental effect on surface water or groundwater quality,
 - * Facilities shall not be located within the boundaries of a 100-year floodplain.
 - * Facilities shall not be located in an area where there is a potential, as determined by the administrator, for the facility to present a dust or odor problem, or public nuisance, unless the facility operating plans specifically address appropriate control of the potential problems,
 - * Facilities shall not be located within 1,000 feet of any well,
 - * Facilities shall not be located within 1,000 feet of any occupied dwelling house, school or hospital, and
 - * Facilities shall not be located within 1,000 feet of any interstate or primary highway right-of-way, unless the facility is screened from view by natural objects, plantings, fences or other appropriate means.

- Distance to surface waters:

- * Facilities shall not be located within 1,000 feet of any perennial lake or pond which is either naturally occurring, or which contains water used for any purpose not directly related to an industrial process,
 - * Facilities shall not be located within 300 feet of any industrial process water or storm water management pond, and
 - * Facilities shall not be located within 500 feet of any perennial river or stream.

- Site evaluation:

- * Detailed information describing the site's hydrogeology is required if composting is not conducted within a roofed facility; including depth to groundwater, soil characteristics, and geologic features and

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- * An evaluation of the facilities potential to impact surface and ground water quality, based on the facility design and the site hydrogeologic setting.

- Construction plan:
 - * Provide a detailed description of the measures to be implemented to protect surface and ground water,
 - * Identify the need for and type of liner based on the site assessment and provide construction details for the liner, and
 - * Describe runoff and run on (clean water) diversion and or containment structures and construction details.

- Operating procedures:
 - * Identify the mortality operating/management practices that will be implemented to successfully decompose the animal mortalities to a state where storage, handling, and land application can occur, while protecting surface and ground water from pollution, reducing or eliminating the risk of spreading disease, eliminating nuisances such as odors, vectors, vermin, and scavenging animals, and maintaining air quality,
 - * Provide the total (number by class/pounds) of mortalities to be processed annually,
 - * Provide facility type (bin/windrow) and design capacity based on expected mortality volume + 50%,
 - * Identify temperature and moisture monitoring schedules and procedures, and
 - * Provide a plan for odor, vector, and scavenger control.

- Closure plan:
 - * Identify a closure and reclamation plan of the composting facility to be initiated when usage has permanently ceased.