

# Emergency Animal Mortality Management

Funding available to help with safe disposal of carcasses



## Assistance Available

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is offering financial and technical assistance to livestock producers for animal mortality disposal, resulting from impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Assistance for the Emergency Animal Mortality Management practice is available in certain states. Learn more at [farmers.gov/coronavirus](https://farmers.gov/coronavirus).

## How to Apply

Producers facing livestock depopulation are encouraged to file an Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) application (Form NRCS-CPA-1200) with their local [NRCS field office](#). Applications are being accepted now.

Through EQIP, a producer can apply for a practice called Emergency Animal Mortality Management. In Michigan, this practice includes six options that NRCS is offering for the proper disposal of animal carcasses:

Option	Payment Unit	Payment Rate	
		Traditional	*HU
Burial	**AU	\$74.28	\$89.14
Forced Air Incineration	AU	\$219.88	\$263.86
Disposal at Landfill or Render	Pounds	\$.05	\$.06
In-House Composting	AU	\$76.88	\$92.25
Shallow Burial of Hooved Animals	AU (limited to 50 AU)	Information being developed	
Outside Windrow Composting	AU	\$552.05	\$662.46

Conversion Factor: 1,000 lbs. = Animal Unit (AU)

The producer is responsible for the proper disposal of animal mortality by following requirements specific to each option. All Federal, State and Local laws must be followed and are the responsibility of the producer to secure any necessary permits.

## Eligibility

Agricultural producers and owners of non-industrial private forestland and Tribes are eligible to apply for EQIP. Eligible land includes cropland, rangeland, pastureland, non-industrial private forestland and other farm or ranch lands.

To receive assistance, **both** an application and early start waiver must be filed with the local NRCS field office prior to disposal of animal carcasses.

### Other program information:

- Producers must have farm records established with the Farm Service Agency (FSA), meet all eligibility requirements, and have application filed at the local NRCS.
- Producers must follow an NRCS-approved design for the site and provide any certifying documentation and signatures prior to payment.
- There are payment limitations. Contact your local NRCS field office for more details.

*\*Historically Underserved (HU) producers, including socially disadvantaged, beginning and limited resource farmers, Indian tribes and beginning farmers/veterans, are eligible for an increased payment rate.*

*\*\*Typically, One Animal Unit = 80 Weaning Pigs  
3.5 Market Hogs  
2 Sows  
250 Broilers  
58 Turkey (toms)*

## Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

Through EQIP, NRCS provides financial and technical assistance to farmers and ranchers to plan and implement conservation practices that improve soil, water, plant, animal, air and energy usage on agricultural land and non-industrial private forestland. Financial assistance is limited and not all applications will be funded.

While not designed to be an emergency response program, EQIP can play a vital role in assisting producers recovering from disasters.

For more information about carcass disposal, see Emergency Animal Mortality Management NRCS Practice Standard Code 368 located in the [Field Office Technical Guide](#) for Michigan Section IV.

