

SWINE DISPOSAL CHECKLIST

1. Determine source(s) of funding to operate the disposal site for equipment, staff, etc.
2. Before deciding on methods of disposal, consult with herd veterinarian(s) and state veterinarian.
 - a. Review all local, county and state regulations on animal carcass disposal (DNR, EPA, etc.)
 - i. [USDA Emergency Carcass Management Guide](#)
 - ii. [Swine Mortality Resource and Regulation Guide](#)
 - b. Determine if [NRCS or FEMA approval](#) is needed for the site and planned disposal method(s).
 - c. Locate disposal site near the depopulation site, if possible.
 - d. If using a composting method for disposal, also consider a location near a carbon source.
3. Appoint a Disposal Group Supervisor. Also, appoint a Safety Officer or make clear to the Disposal Group Supervisor that this is part of their job duties. Then, develop safety protocols.
 - a. [USDA Disposal Guidelines \(read section 2\)](#)
 - b. [USDA National Animal Health Emergency Management System Tactics](#)
4. Appoint a Public Information Officer (PIO).
 - a. Referrals of all media requests or information inquiries should be direct to the PIO.
 - b. Have talking points and background information ready for PIO.
5. Establish the operational period for depopulation and/or disposal, if not already completed.
6. Develop an operational plan and assignment list.
 - a. [USDA Standard Operating Procedures – Disposal](#)
 - b. [FEMA: Operational Planning Worksheet \(Form 215\)](#)
 - c. [FEMA: Assignment List \(Form 204\)](#)
7. Determine the method that pigs/sites will be given priority access to the centralized disposal site.
8. Estimate the number of head to be depopulated over the operational period.
 - a. [USDA: Carcass Management Tools and Resources](#)
9. Estimate the carcass mass to be generated over the operational period.
 - a. Determine backup disposal method or plan in case the depopulation procedures produce more carcasses than what the centralized disposal site can handle.
10. Determine the disposal method(s) available.
[USDA: Disposal Options & Considerations](#)
[USDA: Locator Map \(rendering, landfill, incineration\)](#)
 - a. Rendering ([National Renderers Association Members](#))
 - i. Determine capacity available.
 - ii. Determine who transports carcasses to the rendering facility (picked up vs. delivered).
 1. Be sure to cover any transport vehicles/conveyances.
 - iii. Negotiate costs.
 - iv. Affirm that depopulation method allows for rendering afterwards.
 - b. Landfill
 - i. Determine capacity available and affirm that landfill accepts animal carcasses.
 1. Check state and local requirements.
 - ii. Determine who transports carcasses to the landfill (picked up vs. delivered).
 - iii. Negotiate costs.
 - iv. Affirm that depopulation method allows for landfill use afterwards.
 - c. Burial
 - i. Check federal, state, and local requirements. [Swine Mortality Resources & Regulations](#)
 - ii. Determine total amount of land needed for carcass mass.
 - iii. Confirm that landowner understands the plan and is in complete agreement with the work to be done on their land.

- iv. Determine equipment needs:
 - 1. Backhoes
 - 2. Loaders and skid loaders
 - 3. Dump trucks
- v. Determine if liner or lime is needed in the hole.
- d. Traditional Compost
 - i. [USDA Guidance for Composting](#)
 - ii. Check federal, state, and local requirements.
 - iii. Determine equipment needs:
 - 1. Loaders and skid loaders
 - 2. Dump trucks
 - iv. Determine amount of carbon needed and [locate carbon source](#).
 - 1. Determine transport logistics for carbon source to disposal site.
 - 2. Account for transport time to disposal site.
 - v. Account for an area to stage resources needed for composting.
 - vi. Determine total amount of land needed for windrows.
- e. Grind and Compost
 - i. [Centralized Composting Scenario](#)
 - ii. Check federal, state, and local requirements.
 - iii. Determine equipment needs:
 - 1. [Grinder Manufacturers](#)
 - iv. [USDA Grinder SOP](#)
 - 1. Grinders with trained grinder operators
 - a. Try to have a backup grinder in case of equipment breakdown.
 - b. Have grinder maintenance personnel on site or on call.
 - 2. Loaders and skid loaders
 - 3. Dump trucks
 - v. Determine the amount of carbon needed and locate its [supplier source](#).
 - 1. Determine transport logistics from carbon source to disposal site.
 - 2. Account for transport time to disposal site.
 - vi. Account for an area to stage resources needed for composting.
 - vii. Determine total amount of land needed for windrows.
- f. Above-Ground Burial
 - i. [Above-Ground Burial SOP](#)
 - ii. Check federal, state, and local requirements.
 - iii. Determine equipment needs:
 - 1. Backhoes
 - 2. Loaders and skid loaders
 - 3. Dump trucks
 - iv. Determine amount of carbon needed and locate its [supplier source](#).
 - 1. Determine transport logistics for carbon source to disposal site.
 - 2. Account for transport time to disposal site.
 - v. Account for an area to stage resources needed for composting.
 - vi. Determine total amount of land needed.
- g. Incineration
 - i. Check federal, state, and local requirements. This method for mass disposal is likely to not be allowed.
 - ii. Determine equipment needs:
 - 1. Commercial incinerators?
 - 2. Loaders and skid loaders
 - 3. Dump trucks
 - iii. Determine fuel source and total amount of fuel needed for burn.
 - iv. Check with local fire department for emergency standby.

11. Confirm that depopulation method(s) used for the swine is compatible with the chosen disposal method(s).
 - a. Some chemical depopulation methods can disqualify the use of rendering, landfill or burial.
12. If method chosen dictates, estimate the landmass needed to dispose of carcass mass.
 - a. Determine the length of time the landmass would be out of normal use for each method and be sure all landowners agree to that time estimate.
13. Estimate the gross tonnage for conveyances carrying carcasses to the disposal site.
 - a. [Carcass Routing Map Tool](#)
 - b. Check weight limits for all roads and bridges leading to the disposal site.
 - c. Determine state and federal requirements for transporting carcasses.
14. Locate available landmass with the following considerations:
 - a. Determine zoning of potential location.
 - b. Adequate infrastructure to get conveyances/equipment to and from the disposal site. For example, hard-top or gravel road access, adequate bridges/roads for weight of conveyances.
 - i. Need a site that has multiple access points to allow for both entrance and exit routes for trucks.
 - ii. If needed, develop preferred routing for traffic to and from the facility (i.e. avoid town roads or degraded roads).
 - c. Have an adequate area and surface (e.g. concrete, gravel, blacktop) for staging conveyances and disposal equipment and materials.
 - d. Affirm that the state's agency of environmental protection has approved landmass for selected disposal method.
 - e. Seek site with adequate drainage to avoid issues with rain and mud as trucks move carcasses.
 - f. Seek site with adequate privacy from public. State Pork Associations, Public Information Officers, County Sheriff, County Emergency Manager or State Highway Patrol can be helpful with this.
 - i. Consider requesting additional patrols or site security.
 - g. Alert all local officials to the existence of the site and the work to take place there:
 - i. County Sheriff and Law Enforcement in the nearest town
 - ii. Township Trustees
 - iii. Soil and Water Conservation District
 - iv. Farm Service Agency
 - v. Nearby businesses and farms
 - h. Seek legal counsel on nuisance protection, liability, etc.
15. Determine ownership of site.
 - a. Privately owned - work with landowner to determine lease/compensation for the duration the land mass is out of use.
 - b. Publicly owned – work out a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for the use of the facility.
16. Determine the people, materials, supplies and equipment needed for each disposal method and approved site.
 - a. If applicable, work with County Emergency Manager (or equivalent) and State Veterinarian to acquire needed resources.
 - b. Determine if the labor will be hired, transferred from other work areas, or contracted.
 - c. Determine work assigned for all labor and make sure all are trained to perform their job(s).
 - d. Determine work protocols and post them in multiple locations. Update them as often as the situation dictates.
 - e. Determine the work timeline and break schedule.
 - i. Match work rate with expected rate of carcass delivery and be sure to account for carcass unloading time.
 - f. Provide water, food, portable toilets and safety equipment to all laborers.
17. Keep records and submit daily reports as directed by the State Veterinarian or the Disposal Group Supervisor.
18. Need "back-up" plan. What is the plan if it rains, or other type of circumstance that can't be controlled.

Assumptions:

- State Animal Health Official (SAHO), the state's agency of environmental protection, department of natural resources, and/or county oversight will coordinate on establishing depopulation group(s) and disposal group(s).
 - [National Animal Health Emergency Management System Disposal Guidelines](#)
- If operating both central depopulation and central disposal sites in the state, then Disposal Group Supervisor and Depopulation Group Supervisor will communicate daily.