

# 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 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 depopulation are encouraged to file the attached Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) application (Form CCC-1200) with their local [NRCS field office](#). Offices in certain states are now accepting applications.

The Emergency Animal Mortality Management practice includes five 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
Carcass Disposal Other Than Burial	AU	\$111.53	\$191.20
Incineration	AU	\$219.88	\$263.86
Disposal at Landfill or Render	Pounds	\$.05	\$.06
In-House Composting	AU	\$76.88	\$92.25

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, an application, plan and approved 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.
- Prior to payment, a mortality certification should be done by a veterinarian or agency staff in consultation with the producer.
- There are payment limitations. Contact your local NRCS field office for more details.
- Payment cap is \$25,000 per contract item.

*\*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.*

## 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 Code 368](#)).

Wisconsin

Natural  
Resources  
Conservation  
Service

