

## **DISPOSAL OF POULTRY CARCASSES: Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza**

*All poultry carcasses must be composted for one turn in the barn unless exempted by State Veterinarian*

### **1. INDOOR COMPOSTING – Directed by regulatory staff**

- The date of setting the compost pile will be determined by regulatory staff.
- Compost pile must meet all Board standards for routine composting including two heat cycles.
- Composted materials will be monitored daily for leachate and temperature and recorded.
- Process requirements:
  - The compost pile temperature must reach a minimum of 130°F, or a temperature deemed sufficient by regulatory staff.
  - When temperature plateau is reached and begins to fall by at least 2°F from peak, or the pile has been set for 11-14 days, the pile is ready to be turned inside. Only after 14 days, the pile may be moved outside.
    - The pile may be turned in the barn, allowed to return to 130°F for virus kill for at least 2 days, then turned again for another complete cycle in the barn or outside, or
    - The pile may be taken outside for a complete cycle for further composting purposes, or
    - The pile may be taken outside for burial.
  - After 28 days, the composted material can be released for off-site for land application, stockpiling, or incineration with approval from the Incident Commander (IC).

### **2. OUTDOOR COMPOSTING (not able to compost indoors)– Directed by regulatory staff**

- The date of setting the compost pile will be determined by regulatory staff.
- Compost pile must meet all Board standards for routine composting including two heat cycles.
- Composted materials will be monitored daily for leachate and temperature and recorded.
- Site selection:
  - Site must be 200 ft. or more from any public road or right of way
  - Site must be 300 ft. from any open water, seasonal drainage, wetland, wellhead or property line
  - Soil type and surface must be reviewed and approved by Board of Animal Health staff
- Process requirements:
  - Composted material must be covered with material approved by the Board OR capped with adequate fine textured carbon material (ie sawdust)
  - After 28 days, the composted material can be released for off-site for land application, stockpiling, or incineration with approval from the Incident Commander (IC)

### **3. BURIAL PROTOCOL AFTER ONE COMPOSTING HEAT CYCLE**

- All burial must be approved by Board of Animal Health staff prior to, during and post burial.
- Site Selection:
  - Site must be accessible in all climate conditions
  - Site must not be within 1,000 ft. of surface water, private well or potable water
  - Site must not lie within a floodplain or wetland
  - Site must be in excess of 200 ft. from any roadway or property line
  - Soil type and subsurface must be reviewed and approved by Board of Animal Health staff
- Process requirements:
  - Test holes in excess of five feet must be drilled in the base of the proposed pit to determine if proper (five ft.) separation from ground water. Multiple test holes may be required. Test holes are backfilled.
  - Carcasses/compost must be covered with a minimum of five feet of cover or four feet of cover with a one foot deep berm, no water may collect in any depression left by the burial.
  - Location must be recorded by lat/long, and distance to a permanent landmark such as a building.

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