

COMMUNITY SERVICES - ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

DISPOSAL OF LIVESTOCK CARCASSES

These notes are for guidance only and should not be taken as a full legal interpretation of legislation.

To minimise risks all animal by-products must be covered/ contained whilst awaiting collection/ disposal to prevent animals/ birds gaining access. Apart from risking prosecution for causing water pollution, there is a risk of spreading disease to stock on that holding or other farms as well as a public health risk.

Sudden death of any animal

Any sudden unexplained animal death should be considered as a suspect Anthrax and should be reported immediately to an authorised Veterinary Inspector of the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) – Tel: 03000 600709.

Deaths of cattle

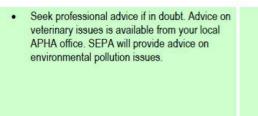
The owner or keeper of ALL cattle over 48 months which die or are killed (other than for control of notifiable diseases) must make arrangements for them to be taken to an approved BSE sampling site. For information on sites approved to test for TSEs contact APHA.

All other livestock deaths

The Animal By-Products (Enforcement)(Scotland) Regulations 2013 (& Regulation EC No 1069/2009 & EU 142/2011) stipulates that disposal should be by either incineration, rendering or other approved means (if appropriate). Only in designated remote areas¹ & where no other accepted means of disposal are available should burial be considered. If advice is required relating to the selection of burial sites or how to prevent and control pollution from potential on-farm burial sites, please contact SEPA. In all circumstances, the following guidance should be adhered to:

DOs	DON'Ts
 Report all sudden deaths and seek veterinary advice. Comply with the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 and attempt to use an approved incinerator or approved rendering plant before considering burial on farm. Bury animal carcasses with at least 1 metre of covering soil to prevent dogs, foxes or vermin getting access. Keep a Location Plan of all burials and a record of type of animal buried & date Consult SEPA for confirmation that the proposed site is suitable for carcass burial. Incineration only to be carried out using an approved ABP incinerator 	 Do not leave carcasses unburied or in a manner where an animal or bird could have access. Add lime to a lined disposal pit. Dump carcasses in remote areas. Operate an animal carcass incinerator without prior approval from APHA and consultation with SEPA.
RECOMENDED	DON'T
Choose sites where there is at least 1 metre of subsoil at the bottom of the burial pit.	 Bury carcasses any closer than 250m from any drinking water supply; 50m from any

¹ ie Highland Council area but excluding parishes of Abernethy & Kincardine(438), Alvie(439), Ardclach(605), Ardersier (445), Auldearn(606), Boleskin & Abertaff(433), Cawdor(607), Cromdale Inverallan & Advie(586), Croy(446), Croy & Dalcross (608), Daviot & Dunlichity(447), Dores(448), Duthill & Rothiemurchus(440), Inverness & Bona(449), Kingussie & Insh(441), Kirkhill(436), Moy & Dalarossie(450), Naim(609) & Petty(451)



watercourse or 10m from any field drain.

- Locate burial pits in areas prone to water logging or at risk of flooding or that are underlain by sandy or gravelly soil.
- Bury carcasses in polythene bags or other impervious material.
- Bury carcasses on archaeological sites or on sites designated for their nature conservation interest.

Records must be kept for 2 years as follows

- (a) Where transporting or consigning to Renderer/ Incinerator/ knackery etc
 - date material moved (consignor & transporter only)
 - description of material (including ear ID if applicable), and category
 - quantity of material (volume, weight or no.)
 - place of origin (transporter only)
 - name and address of carrier (consignor only)
 - name and address of receiver and approval number (consignor, if knows, & transporter)
 - if appropriate approval number of plant of origin
- (b) Where on-site burial or incineration
 - quantity, category & species of animal by-product
 - date & place of burial/ incineration

For further information contact:

Highland Council Community Services – Environmental Health Animal Health & Welfare Section

Tel: 01349 886603 Email: envhealth@highland.gov.uk

Other Useful Contacts:

Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA)

Longman House 28 Longman Road Inverness, IV1 1SF Tel: 03000 600709 Fax: 01463 711495 Scottish Environment Protection (SEPA) Graesser House Fodderty Way Dingwall, IV15 9XB Tel: 0800 80 70 60

Email: <u>APHA.Scotland@apha.gov.uk</u>

www.sepa.org.uk

Fax: 01349 863987