

Bird Flu Impacted Waste Disposal



A guide for Bay of Plenty farmers when disposing of culled chickens and related waste impacted by bird flu.

Introduction

This guide has been prepared for you by the Poultry Industry Association of New Zealand, Egg Producers Federation of New Zealand and Harrison Grierson.

Inside this guide you'll find information on:

- Disposal Options for your region
- **Best practice tips – what we recommend**
- General advice and recommendations
- Who to talk to if you have questions
- Regional and District Plan rules to consider

Estimates

We estimate the following volumes and weight for carcasses + litter + manure for 10,000 birds. This is important to consider when assessing disposal options.

Layer = 29t and 35m³ Broiler = 64t and 72m³

Onsite Disposal

Disposal of waste in an on-site offal pit may be a permitted activity and not need consent. If no rules are contravened, **we recommend offal pit disposal be the first choice for disposal**. Check with a planner first. Contact details are provided overleaf. Offal pits are only suitable for offal – other waste must go to landfill. The on-farm Burial Work Instruction for managing bird flu are required to be complied with.

Recommendations

1. Onsite **offal pits** for all or most waste (if consent is not required)
2. Offsite disposal (**landfills**) for any remaining waste that exceeds offal pit limits
3. Disposal requiring consent – offal pits that contravene a rule or **composting**.

1. What can go in an offal pit?

- ✓ Carcasses and animal material including eggs
- ✓ Only waste from the same farm holding or land with the same owner
- × Other waste (including litter, shed material, bedding)
- × Dairy sludge or septic tank sludge
- × Hazardous substances such as explosives or electronics

2. Estimate the volume

- Offal pit sizes are limited by District earthworks rules:
- Rotorua Lakes = 1,000m³ and 5m deep.
- Other Districts = no limits

If you have a volume of waste that exceeds these limits, you will need to dispose of excess at an offsite landfill or consider another method of disposal.

3. Select an appropriate site

- ✓ Ensure appropriate buffers (described over the page) are met
- ✓ **Above the groundwater table.**
- ✓ **Elevated ground where surface water can be diverted away from the hole.**
- × No high value soils or soils containing gravel or limestone
- × **Poorly drained areas or areas prone to flooding or ponding during high rainfall.**

4. Digging your pit

- ✓ Dispose of waste as quickly as possible.
- ✓ Install erosion, sediment and dust controls as needed.
- ✓ Restore the surface to a similar state as the surrounding land.
- ✓ Securely cover – at least 0.3m. No stormwater infiltration.
- ✓ **Don't use lime as this can restrict the decomposition process.**

Offal Pit Buffer Distances

Buffer	50m	100m
Groundwater bore, stream, river, lake or wetland. Geothermal surface feature. Coastal Marine Area.	X	
Property Boundary	X	

Composting

Composting will require resource consent. Obtaining consent may take many months, therefore **we recommend farmers first seek offal pit disposal and offsite disposal first.**

Pros

- Leachate can be managed better for indoor composting
- May be more affordable than landfill disposal
- Provides another option where offal pit requirements can't be met.

Cons

- Increased health and safety risk due to ongoing exposure.
- Minimum 30 days to complete – this will increase the time until farmers can return to normal operation.
- Takes time to obtain a consent.

Consenting

- Will require a resource consent from the Regional Council for large-scale composting activities such as this.
- If you choose composting as your disposal option, start applying for your consent ASAP.
- We recommend you contact a planner, details are provided overleaf.

Considerations

- Indoor composting should be sought – outdoor composting may be impacted by rain and cold temperatures.
- The composting material must reach temperatures of 55 degrees Celsius
- Odour and leachate must be contained.
- Specialised equipment and extra staff may be required.

Offsite disposal

Not all landfills will accept culled chickens or bird flu-impacted waste. **These landfills have indicated that they may be able to accept this waste.** Landfills are responsible for obtaining their own consent.

We recommend off-site disposal as the second option, as this may be more costly than on-site disposal.

Whitford Landfill

P: 021 953 755 (Mike Winterbottom)

E: mwinterbottom@wm.nz

A: 301 Whitford-Maraetai Road, Auckland

Redvale Landfill

P: 021 953 755 (Glen Jujnovich)

E: GJujnovich@wm.nz

A: 1627 East Coast Road, Redvale

Omarunui Landfill – Hawke's Bay

Contact via online form

Geoff Roberts (Hutt City Council)

A: Taylor Pass Road, Blenheim

Landfill disposal key steps

1. Contact landfill operators

- Contact the landfill operator as soon as possible.
- Landfill operators will need to comply with the Landfill Work Instruction.

2. Estimate

- The volume and weight of waste needs to be estimated and supplied to truck and landfill operators.

3. Organize transport

- Trucks must be sealed and/or double lined, no leakage must be able to occur.
- Transporters will need to comply with the Biosecure Transport Work Instruction.

4. Submit Permitted Waste Application

- Applications to landfill facilities need to be made and approved prior to disposing of special waste. These cost from \$80+.
- Approval of applications depends on the level of detail provided up front.

General Advice

- Advice and recommendations may change – make sure this is the most up to date version of this guide before taking action (check the date on page 1)
- If you want to dispose of waste in different way, not described in this guide, please talk to a planner. Contact details are provided below. All handling of bird flu waste must comply with Guidelines and Work Instructions.
- Resource consents – disposing of culled chickens is time-sensitive. **We recommend disposal options that do not need a resource consent.**

➡ Offal pits – may or may not need consent.

➡ Check with a planner and or Regional Council first.

➡ Landfill – does not need resource consent.

➡ Composting – will require consent

Council contacts

Council	Stream	Contact #	Email
BOP Regional Council	General	0800 884 880	Online inquiry form
Rotorua Lakes Council	General	07 348 4199	info@rotorualc.nz
Western BOP District Council	Planning	0800 926 732	csplanner@westernbay.govt.nz
Whakatane District Council	General	07 306 0500	info@whakatane.govt.nz

Planning and environmental advice

Name	Role	Contact #	Email
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