

Bird Flu Impacted Waste Disposal

A guide for Southland farmers when disposing of culled chicken 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

Onsite Disposal

1. What can go in an offal pit?

- ✓ Carcasses and animal material including eggs
- ✓ Compost bulking agent
- ✓ Waste from the farm (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:
- Southern District = 1000m³ in total volume and 5m deep
- Invercargill City District = 2000m³ in total volume
- Gore City Council = no limits on volume

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

Recommendations

1. Onsite offal pits (**burial**) if consent is not required.
2. Offsite disposal (**landfills**) for any remaining waste that exceeds offal pit limits or cannot be composted
3. **Compost** – if you cannot take to landfill or bury.

3. Select and appropriate site

- ✓ Elevated ground where surface water can be diverted away from the hole.
- ✓ Ensure appropriate buffers (described over the page) are met
- ✓ **At least 3m between the water table and the base of the hole.**
- × Poorly drained areas or areas prone to flooding or ponding during high rainfall.
- × Areas containing high value soils
- × Soils containing gravel and limestone

4. Digging your pit

- ✓ Dispose of waste as quickly as possible.
- ✓ Install erosion and sediment controls as needed.
- ✓ Restore the surface to a similar state as the surrounding land.
- ✓ **Cover carcasses with at least 1m of soil or temporarily cover with plastic and soil, until the hole is full and can be capped. Slightly mound ground after backfilling, then re-grass**

Offal Pit Buffer Distances

Buffer	50m	100m	150m	200m	250m
Waterway/waterbody – lake, river, artificial watercourse, modified watercourse, natural wetland or the coastal marine area	X				
Water abstraction point, dwelling, place of assembly, property boundary	X				
Waterway or waterbody with loose gravel	X				
Water abstraction point (loose gravel)	X				
Drinking water abstraction point	X				

Composting

Considerations

- Composting will likely require resource consent. Obtaining consent may take many months. **Because of this we recommend offal pit and landfill disposal be sought first.**
- 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
- Minimum 30 days to complete – this will increase the time until farmers can return to normal operation.
- Consider how you will dispose of or use the final product before you decide to compost – off-site use may be limited due to perception
- Specialised equipment and extra staff may be required.
- The Composting Work Instructions must be followed.

Offsite Disposal

Not all landfills will accept culled chickens or bird flu-impacted waste. The green boxed landfills below have may be able to accept this waste (with adequate preparation).

Landfills will be responsible for obtaining their own appropriate consents or authorisations.

Disposal of this material at a landfill will incur additional costs on top of routine landfill costs.

Farmers should also consider transport costs.

AB Lime - Southland Regional Landfill

P: 02041132212 (Ansley Adams)
E: wastenet@icc.govt.nz
A: 10 Bend Road, Browns 9782

Kate Valley Landfill

P: 02108243882.
E: hleach@wm.nz
A: 554 Mt Cass Road, Teviotdale

Landfill Disposal Key Steps

1. Contact landfill operators

- Contact the landfill operator as soon as possible.
- Southern Regional Landfill requests at least two days' notice.
- Landfill operators will need to comply with the Landfill Work Instructions.

2. Estimate

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

The estimates provided offer a useful starting point, but farmers should calculate more precise figures based on the age and specific conditions of their population

3. Organize transport

- Trucks must be sealed and lined. Skips are sealed and won't need lining - just lidding.
- No leakage must be able to occur during transportation.
- Transporters need to comply with the Biosecure Transport Work Instructions.

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

- If you want to dispose of waste in a way not described in this guide, please talk to a planner first. Contact details are provided below. All bird flu waste disposal 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.
- If your disposal method will require consent, start this application process as soon as practical.
- Disposal recommendations and advice may change – make sure that this is the most recent version before taking action

Council Contacts

Council	Stream	Contact #	Email
Environment Southland	General	0800 76 88 45	service@es.govt.nz
Southland District Council	Planning	0800 727 059	sdcc@southlanddc.govt.nz
Gore District Council	Planning	03 209 0330	planning@goredc.govt.nz
Invercargill District Council	Planning	03 211 1777	duty.planner@icc.govt.nz

Planning and Environmental Advice

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