

Bird Flu Impacted Waste Disposal

A guide for Waikato 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

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

Recommendations

1. Onsite - **offal pits** for offal and **farm dump** for non-offal (if consent is not required)
2. Off-site disposal (**landfills**) for any remaining waste that exceeds offal pit limits
3. Disposal requiring consent – offal pits that contravene a rule or **composting**.

Onsite Disposal

Step 1 – Offal pit or farm dump?

Offal pit or farm dump?

- Disposal of offal in an onsite offal pit and non offal in an onsite farm dump, may not need consent.
- If the Regional Rules can be followed, **we recommend this be the first choice** for disposal in the Waikato Region.

What can go in an offal pit?

- ✓ Carcasses and animal material including eggs
- ✓ Compost bulking agent (manure)
- × No other bird flu impacted waste such as litter, shed material, feed, bedding

General Considerations

- All waste being disposed of onsite must be from the same land holding – no offsite waste is permitted.
- Depending on the waste, it will either be an offal pit or an onsite landfill. Slightly different rules apply. See the attachment for a breakdown of the relevant regional rules.
- You can have both an offal pit and an onsite landfill on one farm.

What can go in a farm dump?

- ✓ Waste from the farm (including litter, shed material, bedding)
- × Dairy sludge or septic tank sludge, hazardous substances such as explosives or electronics
- × Offal or animal parts

Step 2 – Select a site

For onsite disposal

- ✓ Ensure appropriate buffers (described below) are met
- ✓ 1m above the groundwater table
- ✓ Surface water - choose elevated ground where surface water can easily be diverted away from the pit.
- × Discharge into any surface waterbody or its bed or artificial watercourse
- × Offensive or objectionable odour or dust beyond the property boundary
- × Soils containing gravel and limestone.

Step 3 – Buffer distances

Buffers for Farm Dump and Offal Pits	m
Any water supply bore or water body	100
Best practice buffer distances according to Regional Plan Guide	
Cave entrance or stream sink	10
Significant geothermal feature	20
Property boundary	50
Area identified by a district plan as being a significant habitat of indigenous flora and fauna. Sand dune system or Coastal Marine Area	100
Marae, Residential Zone, hall or a public reserve	300

Step 4 – Check your district's earthworks rules and limits

Some Districts have earthworks volume limits that therefore limit the size of offal pits:

District	Volume (cubic meters)
Hauraki	4,000
Matamata-Piako	1,000
Waikato District	1,000
Waipa	1,000

Step 5 – Digging the pit

- Ensure earthworks do not discharge sediment or sediment laden water to water. Install erosion and sediment controls as needed.
- Dispose of waste as quickly as possible.
- Cover carcasses with at least 1m soil to avoid odour and prevent vermin or temporarily cover with plastic and soil, until the pit is full and can be capped. Then re-grass.
- Don't use lime as this can restrict the decomposition process.

Off-Site Disposal

Landfill disposal is the only appropriate off-site disposal method. Not all landfills will accept this waste. Below are landfills that have indicated that they may be able to accept this waste.

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

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

Farmers should also consider transport costs.

Redvale Landfill

P: 021 953 755

E: GJujnovich@wm.nz

A: Landfill Access Road, Dairy Flat

Whitford Landfill

P: 021 953 755 (Mike Winterbottom)

E: mwinterbottom@wm.nz

A: 301 Whitford-Maraetai Road, Auckland

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 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 will 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.

Composting

Considerations

- Composting will require resource consent. Obtaining consent may take many months. **Because of this we recommend ofal pit and landfill disposal be sought first. Alternatively, we recommend you start your application process as soon as possible.**
- Indoor composting should be sought, as 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.