

Bird Flu Impacted Waste Disposal



A guide for Wellington 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. On-site **offal pits** (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.

Offal Pit Disposal

Disposal of waste in an on-site offal pit may be a permitted activity and not need consent. Check with a planner first, contact details are provided overleaf. Excess waste may need to go to landfill. The on-farm Burial Work Instructions for managing bird flu are required to be complied with.

If consent is not required for offal pit disposal, ensure that the location is GPS recorded and provided to Council upon request.

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
- × Dairy sludge or septic tank sludge
- × Hazardous substances such as explosives or electronics

2. Estimate the volume

- Offal pit size may be limited by permitted earthworks - upto an area of 3,000 meters squared may not need consent.
- Offal pit sizes may be further limited by District earthworks rules e.g. Porirua District = 1,000m³ and 5m deep. See the rules in the attached document.
- If you have a volume of waste that exceeds these limits, you will need to dispose of excess at an offsite landfill or consider obtaining consent

3. Select an appropriate site

- ✓ Ensure appropriate buffers (described over the page) are met
- ✓ At least 0.6m above the groundwater table.
- ✓ Elevated ground where surface water can be diverted away from the hole.
- ✓ **In silty or clay soils,**
- × 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 – should be constructed in soil with an infiltration rate of less than 150 mm/hour.
- ✓ **Don't use lime as this can restrict the decomposition process.**

Offal Pit Buffer distances

Buffer	20m	50m	100m
Bore or well or surface water body		X	
Property Boundary			X

Composting

Composting will require resource consent; therefore, the Regional Council needs to be contacted as early as possible, ideally before any culling occurs. Some associated material may need to be taken to landfill.

The Composting Work Instructions for managing bird flu are required to be complied with.

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.
- 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.

Consenting

- Will require a resource consent from Regional Council.
- 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 bird flu-impacted waste. **Below are landfills that may be able to accept bird carcasses or associated waste.**

Landfills are responsible for obtaining their own appropriate consents or authorisations.

Silverstream Landfill – Wellington

May accept biological waste

P: 546 0200 E: - landfill@ncc.govt.nz

A: Reynolds Bach Drive, Stokes Valley, Lower Hutt 5019 .

Central Hawke's Bay Landfill

May accept biological waste

P: 06 857 8060

E: landfill@chbdc.govt.nz

A: 806 Farm Road, Waipukurau 4284.

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

Farmers should also consider transport costs.

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 following numbers are generally expected for 10,000 carcasses + litter + associated waste:
- 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. Organise 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 before disposing of special waste. These cost from \$80+.
- Approval of applications depends on the level of detail provided upfront.

Summary

- Wellington Regional Council recommends offal pit disposal as the first option as consent is likely not required. However, remember to check if earthworks consent is needed from your District Council.
- In the event that consent is needed, we recommend you start the consent application process as soon as practical.
- If you want to dispose of waste in a different way, not described in this guide, please talk to a planner and Biosecurity New Zealand. Contact details are provided below.
- Advice and recommendations may change – make sure this is the most recent version of this guide before taking action.

Useful Contacts

Name	Role	Contact Number	Email address
Greater Wellington Regional Council	Planner	021 574 829	notifications@gw.govt.nz
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