



## Natural Resources Conservation Service



### Emergency Animal Mortality Management FAQs

1. Q: If there are multiple owners of hogs on one site, are they required to dig a separate hole/site for each owner?

A: No - If more than one pit/trench is required, separate the pits/trenches by a minimum of three feet of undisturbed or compacted soil.
2. Q: Do hog producers need to own the land where the hogs will be buried?

A: An EQIP program participant must have control of the land where the practice is applied. The word “control” means possession of the land by ownership, lease, or other agreement. Applicants self-certify control of the land unit and relationship (owner, operator, or both), and, if leased or through other agreement, on [Form NRCS-CPA-1200](#) at the time of application. When available, NRCS will use FSA records, such as the Producer Farm Data Report, to verify the participant’s interest in the land (owner, operator, or other tenant). In the absence of FSA records, NRCS may use other reliable documentation such as a lease, survey maps, tax parcel data, official land use maps, etc., to verify control of land. Prior to obligation, tenants must obtain and provide to NRCS written concurrence from the landowner to apply a structural or vegetative conservation practice or activity.
3. Q: When burying hogs, is layering/stacking of mortalities allowed?

A: NRCS criteria does not prohibit the layering or stacking of buried mortalities, however NRCS does have technical criteria that must be complied with to meet both technical standards and programmatic requirements. The NRCS Planner will work with the individual producer, based upon their specific site situations, to ensure these criteria are met.
4. Q: Do producers need 3<sup>rd</sup> party verification of animal euthanasia/disposal? Other states are requiring it.

A: No – There is no requirement in Nebraska for livestock euthanasia. A certification from a veterinarian isn’t required. If rendering/landfill, producers will need a weight slip from the rendering plant/landfill.



5. Q: Do producers need NRCS approval of site for burial/composting in addition to Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy's approval?

A: Yes. NRCS Field Office employees are still required to run Web Soil Survey on the site to ensure the EQIP application is evaluated correctly and in compliance with our NEPA responsibilities.

*NOTE: These FAQs are from the perspective of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and its policy requirements. This information only applies to situations where NRCS funding is being approved for emergency animal mortality management due to COVID19. This information does not usurp or necessarily pertain to other state and federal agency policy requirements or recommendations. Interested participants are encouraged to contact their [local NRCS field office](#) for site-specific assistance that will best suit each individual's operation and circumstances.*

