

The Florida Agricultural Handbook of Solid and Hazardous Waste Regulation: Biological and Animal Waste Disposal¹

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How may I dispose of biological wastes?

Biological waste is defined in the Resource Recovery and Management Act (RRMA) as including, but not limited to, biomedical waste, diseased or dead animals, and other waste capable of transmitting pathogens to humans or animals. Biological wastes are subject to lower standards of disposal than most other solid wastes. In Florida, special rules apply to dead animals and poultry wastes.

How may I dispose of the carcasses of dead animals?

The carcasses of dead domestic animals may be disposed of as follows:

- burned, if DACS (Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services) determined a need to burn that type of animal, and if in compliance with the general burning statutes
 - buried at least two feet deep
 - disposed of by licensed rendering companies
- Carcasses may *not* be disposed of as follows:
- dumped on any public road or right-of-way
 - left where they may be consumed by animals

The statute defines domestic animals as including horses, cattle, goats, sheep, swine, dogs, cats, poultry, or other domesticated beasts or birds.

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How may I properly dispose of poultry wastes?

Poultry wastes and residues may be disposed of as follows:

- burned
- rendered by an approved renderer
- fed to swine (after adequate heat treatment)
- buried in sanitary pits
- composted
- placed in a designated landfill

If waste must be transported to a disposal site, it must be placed in sealed containers to prevent spillage. Animal feed that reuses poultry waste as an ingredient may not be fed to ruminant animals due to disease concerns.