



United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service

North Carolina

LIVESTOCK OWNERS

Have you suffered livestock losses from Hurricane Florence and need help with carcass disposal?

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS) is working with landowners to properly dispose of livestock carcasses in the aftermath of Hurricane Florence.

Affected livestock owners may apply for Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) assistance to properly dispose of carcasses through the agency's Emergency Animal Mortality Management conservation practice.

Burial of dead livestock, especially in mass mortality situations, is not generally recommended by NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (NCDA & CS) experts nor NRCS due to potential groundwater quality impacts because of saturated and highwater table soils. Preferred mortality management options include offsite disposal, outside windrow composting and in-house composting. Upon contract obligation and conservation practice implementation, a payment will be made on a set animal unit or number of head basis. NRCS will require sufficient documentation of livestock losses and mortality management practices to support an EQIP contracted practice payment. Documentation may be images of loss of livestock and disposal, receipt and landfill tickets, or other evidence-providing documentation. If seeking NRCS assistance for an animal mass mortality event, as defined by the NCDA & CS Veterinary Division (> 20% facility mortality or 10+ head cattle/equine), producers are required to immediately notify the NCDA & CS State Veterinary Division and/or NCDA & CS Emergency Services by calling 919-707-3250 prior to filing an EQIP application.

Livestock owners in need of carcass disposal assistance should contact their local NRCS Office. For more information, call 919.873.2107, visit us on the web at www.nc.nrcs.usda.gov, or contact your local NRCS office.

Local NRCS contact information can be found online at www.nc.nrcs.usda.gov under the Contact Us tab.

The USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.