AI Impacted Waste Disposal

A guide for Marlborough farmers when disposing of culled chicken and related waste impacted by avian influenza (AI).

August 2025

Introduction

This guide has been prepared for you by the Poultry Industry Association of New Zealand, Egg Producers Federation and Harrison Grierson.

Inside this guide you'll find information on:

- Disposal Options for your region
- General advice and recommendations
- Who to talk to if you have questions
- Rules to consider

Recommendations

1. Composting of carcasses and biological waste – likely need consent.
2. Offsite disposal (landfills) of remaining, non biological waste

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 35m^3 Broiler = 64t and 72m^3

Onsite Disposal

Disposal of waste in an offal pit in Marlborough is not a permitted activity due to the shallow groundwater in the region. Offal pit disposal would need a resource consent; this may not be granted however, due to the potential groundwater effects. We do not recommend farmers in Marlborough seek to dispose of AI waste in offal pits.

Composting

Composting will likely require resource consent; farmers should check with Council first. We recommend you start the application process as soon as practical. Some associated material may need to be taken to landfill.

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 Council for large scale composting activities such as this.
- 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

We recommend disposal at landfill be sought as a supplementary disposal option to composting.
Not all landfills will accept culled chickens or bird flu-impacted waste. Below are two options that may be able to accept some AI impacted waste.
Landfills are responsible for obtaining their own appropriate approvals and consents.

Eves Valley Landfill

Although this landfill is currently closed, Council have advised it can be reopened under urgency

P: 0220125973, 03 546 0200

E: landfill@ncc.govt.nz and David.Stephenson@tasman.govt.nz

A: 214 Eves Valley Road

Kate Valley Landfill

May be able to accept biological waste.

P: 02108243882.

E: hleach@wm.nz

A: 554 Mt Cass Road, Teviotdale

York Valley Landfill

P: 0220125973, 03 546 0200

E: landfill@ncc.govt.nz, David.Stephenson@tasman.govt.nz

A: 102 Market Road, Nelson

Landfill Disposal Key Steps

1. Contact landfill operators

- Contact the landfill operator as soon as possible.
- Landfill operators will need to comply with the MPI Landfill Guide.

2. Estimate

- The volume and weight of waste needs to be estimated and supplied to truck and landfill operators.

3. Organize transport

- Trucks must be sealed and/or double lined, no leakage must be able to occur.
- Transporters will need to comply with the MPI transport guide

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.

General Advice

- If you want to dispose of waste in a different way, not described in this guide, please talk to a planner. Contact details are provided in the attachments.
- Resource consents – disposing of culled chickens is time-sensitive. We recommend disposal options that do not need a resource consent.
- In the event that consent is needed, we recommend you start the application process as soon as practical.
- Advice and recommendations may change – make sure this is the most recent version of this guide before taking action.

Useful Contacts

Person / Council	Role	Number	Email
Marlborough District Council	Planning	03 520 7400	dutyplanner@marlborough.govt.nz
Hali Hoskin (author)	Environmental Consultant	+64 9 2126468	h.hoskin@harrisongrierson.com
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