

**Definition**

A means or method to manage animal carcasses from catastrophic mortality events.

# Emergency Animal Mortality Management (368)

**Conditions:**

This practice applies to catastrophic events that give rise to the need to handle animal carcasses.

This practice does not apply to routine animal mortality. For routine animal mortality management, use conservation practice "Animal Mortality Facility" - Code 316



**Practice Information**

Emergency Animal Mortality Management is used to reduce the impacts to surface and groundwater resources, reduce odors, and decrease the spread of pathogens associated with animal mortality.

On-farm methods for emergency disposal of catastrophic animal mortality are burial, composting, incineration/gasification and open-air burning. Emergency mortality can also be rendered off-site or disposed of in a sanitary landfill regulated by Territorial authorities. The carcasses can be kept refrigerated before their final disposal.



Because of the large number of dead animals normally encountered in a catastrophic mortality situation, if refrigeration is used, it is likely that multiple units will be needed.

Design information for this practice includes site location, size, soil and foundation assessments, and safety / biosecurity recommendations.

## Associated Practices

Emergency Animal Mortality Management (368) is commonly applied with practices such as Diversion (362), and Critical Area Planting (342). Disposal of composted materials must be performed according to Nutrient Management (590) specifications.

## For More Information

For more information, contact your local USDA-NRCS Field Office:

<b>Arecibo</b>	:	(787) 817-2473
<b>Caguas</b>	:	(787) 743-2743
<b>Corozal</b>	:	(787) 859-2880
<b>Juana Díaz</b>	:	(787) 837-4450
<b>Mayagüez</b>	:	(787) 831-3454
<b>San Sebastián</b>	:	(787) 896-3565
<b>Utuado</b>	:	(787) 894-1480
<b>U.S. Virgin Islands</b>	:	(340) 692-9632

Or visit the NRCS Caribbean Area website: <https://www.pr.nrcs.usda.gov/>

**Conservation Practice Standard  
Code 368 - Emergency Animal  
Mortality Management- USDA-NRCS**

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Agriculture



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