

2026 Guidelines: DECEASED FARM ANIMAL REMOVAL (DAR)



*The following guidelines are for the implementation of the **Deceased Farm Animal Removal Program (DAR)** to aid in the coordination of environmentally sound and cost effective disposal of deceased livestock for county producers.*

Questions concerning these guidelines should be directed to the Kentucky Office of Agricultural Policy at (502) 573-0282 or KOAP@ky.gov. Applications to administer this program must be directed through the local County Agricultural Development Council.

1. Eligible applicants shall be a county government, conservation district, extension council, or other similar entity. A local governmental agency or other eligible applicant must be qualified and willing to fully administer the program on a county-wide, multi-producer service basis.
 2. Only one application per county per program year will be approved. **KADF funding cannot be used to run two programs concurrently.** It is the responsibility of the local entity/applicant to be certain that the appropriate stakeholders have been involved in the development of the program.
 3. Any requests for funds through this program shall be submitted to the local County Agricultural Development Council(s) and must receive the county designation of "High Priority" to be considered by the state board for final approval.
 4. An acceptable disposal program may consist of:
 - a. A contract with a licensed entity for disposal of deceased farm animals
 - b. A county-operated animal disposal program
 - c. Incineration; Composting
 - d. Necropsy at diagnostic lab
 - e. Other methods that meet KRS 257.160 requirements for disposal of deceased farm animals
 5. If the proposal involves the purchase, upkeep, or use of a vehicle to transport deceased animals, provide proof that the appropriate disposal requirements have been met per KRS Chapter 263.
 6. County agricultural development funding is limited to the lesser of:
 - a. 25 percent of the project's annual budgeted **expenditures for the program** period;
 - b. \$15,000; or
 - c. The county's current available Agricultural Development Fund balance.
 7. Producer monetary contribution for pick-up service is encouraged but is not mandatory.
 8. Funded participants shall adhere to all local, state, and federal rules and regulations.
The state level rules can be found in the Kentucky Revised Statutes.
KRS 257.160 pertains to the disposition of carcasses and can be found at
<https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/statutes/chapter.aspx?id=38470>.
- KRS Chapter 263.00 pertains to the transportation and processing of deceased animals and can be found at <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/statutes/chapter.aspx?id=38505>. The files making up this Internet version of the Kentucky Revised Statutes do not constitute official text of the statutes but can be used to become familiar with the necessary practices. You are responsible for determining that all necessary practices are in place, even if provided through a subcontractor.*
9. Standard Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund reporting requirements apply but shall also include programmatic information relating to number and type of animals disposed and a complete, itemized accounting of expenditures.