

TRANSPORT OF AI-POSITIVE FLOCKS OR AI-INFECTED MATERIALS FOR OFF-SITE DISPOSAL

The following procedures must be followed to be in compliance with requirements for the transport of infected materials (birds, litter and etc.) to off-site locations. Refer to the protocol [Disposal](#) (6-9-AI-P37 in the DEM ERP). If litter is not sent off-site, it must be properly composted on-site. This process must be conducted under the supervision of a representative of the State Veterinarian.

Note: Only sites approved by the State Veterinarian may be used for disposal.

1. If possible, the driver of the vehicle should remain in the vehicle with the windows closed. If the driver exits the vehicle they must meet the biosecurity standards for clothing and shoes.
2. Birds must be euthanized prior to transport.
3. The truck/container used for transport must be first lined with tough (minimum 6-mil thickness) disposable polyethylene plastic sheeting large enough to cover the carcasses and be sealed at the top. If leak-proof trucks with good seals are used, only one layer of plastic is required. If, in the judgment of the RI DEM Division of Agriculture (DAG) or USDA inspector on site, there is any reason to doubt the quality of the seals or ability to prevent leaks, two layers of plastic will be required. Rather than a full double-lining of plastic, an extra layer of plastic on the floor is adequate. The sheets may be secured to the sides of the container with double-sided tape to facilitate loading.
4. The first layer inside the plastic sheet(s) should be at least one (1) foot of absorbent material (sawdust, straw, hay or litter) to absorb fluids.
5. Materials should be loaded into the container carefully to avoid tearing the plastic liner. The handling of carcasses should be kept to a minimum.
6. At least one (1) foot of headspace should be left at the top of the container to allow for expansion of materials during transport.
7. When the container is properly filled, the plastic liner should be closed over the top and sealed (taped), then sprayed with disinfectant.
8. The top of the truck/container must be covered in such a way as to prevent material from blowing out at highway speeds. The material used to cover the top must be capable of being cleaned and disinfected.
9. All personnel involved in the load-out must observe strict biosecurity including disinfection of all clothing, footwear, vehicles and equipment that leave the farm.
10. After loading is complete, vehicles – including tires, wheel wells and undercarriages – and equipment must be first cleaned to remove organic material and then thoroughly sprayed with disinfectant, of vehicles.

11. Trucks transporting this material are required to travel via a route approved by the RI State Veterinarian and must drive from the farm to the landfill without making stops in between.
12. Upon reaching the landfill to off-load, drivers should remain in the vehicle with the windows closed.
13. All vehicles and containers that transport infected materials to landfills must be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected at the landfill after dumping the materials.
14. Any problems or breaks in these biosecurity procedures are to be reported immediately to the Office of the State Veterinarian or his/her representative.

Note: Any deviations from this protocol require the approval of the RI State Veterinarian or his/her representative.

The RI DEM Division of Agriculture reserves the right to amend the above mentioned requirements for Avian Influenza with the goal of any changes still being to prevent, contain and eliminate the disease. Changes to the general guidelines of the protocol may result from information including, but not limited to, virus strain, pathogenicity, morbidity and mortality, movement of birds and products, and additional epidemiological information obtained as a result of avian influenza investigations.