

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**  
**Animal Mortality Facility (316) Refrigeration**  
**Tennessee**

Landowner/Operator: \_\_\_\_\_

Practice Location: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_ Farm/Tract Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Prepared By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Inspections and maintenance are required to achieve the intended function, benefits, and life of the practice. The landowner/operator is responsible to establish and implement an inspection and maintenance program. Items to inspect and maintain during the 15-year design life of the practice include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Catastrophic losses shall be handled immediately in an environmentally safe manner. Catastrophic losses will be handled as instructed by your integrator and/or in compliance with State law. Refer to NRCS-TN publication TN316 Emergency Disposal of Dead Animals. Name and contact information for catastrophic losses.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

2. If catastrophic death due to a disease occurs, the State Veterinarian shall be contacted immediately.
3. Provide method and procedures of mortality disposal for normal and catastrophic losses.
4. Dead animals associated with your operation shall be removed daily, so that unacceptable decay does not occur.
5. Records of date, average weight, and number of deaths should be maintained.
6. Promptly repair or replace damaged or inoperable components.
7. Perform routine maintenance of all mechanical components in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.
8. Prior to retrofitting any electrically powered equipment, electrical service must be disconnected and the absence of stray electrical current verified.
9. Inspect the refrigeration unit periodically to ensure that all components are operating as planned and in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.
10. Carcasses shall be periodically removed from the refrigeration units and shall be removed prior to the refrigeration units becoming over loaded. The actual schedule for removing carcasses is based on your animal mortality, refrigeration unit capacity, and vendor schedule. A record of carcass removal shall be kept.
11. Catastrophic losses shall be handled immediately in an environmentally safe manner. Catastrophic losses will be handled by the vendor listed above or as instructed by your integrator.

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13. A highly visible waterproof warning sign, shall be posted to identify that the contents of the refrigeration unit are "INEDIBLE", and the refrigeration unit should remain locked (child safety lock), unless being filled or empty, to prevent vandalism or children from entering the structure.
14. Maintain areas adjacent to the refrigeration units in vegetation.
15. Refrigeration units shall be loaded according to manufacturer's recommendations and shall not exceed design capacity.
16. Refrigeration unit shall only be used for the freezing of dead animals associated with your operation.
17. Check refrigeration units to ensure the maximum loading capacity is not being exceeded.
18. Check refrigeration unit-operating temperature to ensure it is operating within the required temperature range.
19. Check access roads to refrigeration unit to ensure they remain open and accessible to equipment used to remove carcasses from the refrigeration units.
20. Check areas adjacent to the refrigeration units to ensure the areas remain vegetated.

Additional Information:

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