



Department for Environmental Protection Regulations and Permitting Requirements for Animal Cremation Facilities

The following factsheet lists environmental regulations pertaining to proper operation of animal incinerator facilities (crematoriums) with the intent of cremating animal remains for return of ashes to an owner, beneficial reuse by land application, or disposal as solid waste as regulated by the Department for Environmental Protection (DEP).

Air Quality Regulations

Kentucky regulations do not specifically refer to animal carcass incineration. However, animal carcasses are classified as municipal solid waste for purposes of incineration and emission calculations.

- Owners and operators of municipal solid waste incinerators must comply with [401 KAR 59:021](#).
- Owners and operators of animal crematoriums must take the utmost care and consideration to not allow the emission of potentially hazardous matter or toxic substances to be emitted under [401 KAR 63:020](#).
- Owners and operators are required to practice good air pollution control practice for minimizing emissions per [401 KAR 50:055, Section 2\(5\)](#).
- Owners and operators must meet particulate matter emission limits in [401 KAR 59:010 New Process Operations](#).
- Owners and operators must submit the forms DEP7007C, DEP7007AI, DEP7007N to the Division for Air Quality (DAQ) per [401 KAR 52:070 Designated Sources](#). These forms can be downloaded from the [DEP Forms Library](#).

Solid Waste Regulations

Animal cremation facilities are classified as a solid waste disposal facility and may need to apply for a solid waste permit per [401 KAR 70:80](#). Contact the [Solid Waste Branch](#) of the Division of Waste Management for more details.

Ash remains from incinerated carcasses are to be disposed of as solid waste or may be beneficially reused. Permission may be obtained prior to beneficial use of ash remains by submitting the form [DEP7098 Permit-by-Rule Beneficial Reuse](#) to the Kentucky Division of Waste Management.

Construction and Operation Prohibition

Ensure compliance with Kentucky's regulations prior to the purchase of an incinerator. Prior to construction or installation of an incinerator, a permit or registration application must be submitted to the Division for Air Quality and Division of Waste Management for approval.

Animal Cremation Facilities

Best Management Practices

- Animal cremation incinerators shall not be used to combust materials other than deceased animals without proper permission from the Division for Air Quality and Division of Waste Management. Incinerating other materials could subject the unit to other regulatory requirements.
- The operator and owner of the animal incinerator facility must comply with the regulations set forth in [401 KAR 59:020](#) for new incinerators.
- Incinerator units should be equipped with an auxiliary fuel source.
- The unit should be equipped and operate with either a dual chamber combustion or an afterburner with a minimum operating temperature of 1000°F.
- Incinerators should have a residence time for combustion gas, in the secondary chamber or afterburner, of at least one second.
- The incinerator should evenly distribute the heat to ensure complete waste destruction.
- The incinerator should be able to monitor temperatures of the combustion chamber (s).
- The incinerator should be operated in a manner as to not create emissions that cause 10% opacity or greater, unless during periods of startup or shutdown.
- The incinerator shall be operated in a manner as to not produce emissions that cause objectionable odors or exceed air quality standards outlined in [401 KAR 53:010](#).
- The operator of the incinerator should be trained on proper operating procedures.

Siting and Purchase Considerations for Incinerators

1. **Sturdiness:** Choose a unit that is able to operate under heavy loading conditions and withstand high operating temperatures.
2. **Capacity:** Estimate the expected daily input rate and consider animal size when calculating the required incinerator's capacity. The incinerator's rated capacity will be taken into consideration when applying for environmental permits.
3. **Placement:** Choose a location that allows for convenient use. Avoid potential problems:
 - a. Locate operations downwind from neighbors.
 - b. Support the unit on a concrete slab.
 - c. Maintain clearance between the stack and flammable structures/sources.

Department for Environmental Protection Contacts

Division for Air Quality

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Division of Waste Management

Website: eec.ky.gov/Environmental-Protection/waste

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Environmental Compliance Assistance Program

Website: eec.ky.gov/ECAP

Phone: (502) 782-6189

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The information in this document is offered only as general guidance. It is not a substitute for reading and understanding Kentucky's statutes and regulations governing the applicability and issuance of environmental permits. Specific requirements may vary with location. ECAP is not authorized to relieve any person from any requirement of federal regulations or Kentucky law through this document.

