36-14-19. Disposition of carcass of animal dying from contagious or infectious disease.

Any animal which is found dead must be presumed to have died from a contagious or infectious disease until the contrary is shown unless another cause of death is apparent. The owner or person in charge of any domestic animal or nontraditional livestock which dies within this state from or on account of any contagious or infectious disease shall dispose of the carcass of such animal as follows:

1. If the animal died of anthrax, as determined by a licensed veterinarian, the carcass must be completely burned at the place where it died if possible. If the carcass must be moved, it may not be dragged over the ground but must be moved only on a suitable conveyor and all body openings in the carcass must be plugged with cotton saturated with a strong antiseptic solution.

2. If the carcass is of a hog which died from hog cholera or swine erysipelas, the same, with hide intact, must be burned within thirty-six hours or given to a licensed rendering plant within such time.

3. If the carcass is of an animal which has died of a disease other than is specified in subsections 1 and 2, or from any other cause, it must be burned, buried, composted, or given to a licensed rendering plant within thirty-six hours, or must be disposed of by a method approved by the state veterinarian. If the carcass is buried, it must be buried not less than four feet [1.22 meters] below the surface of the ground and covered with dirt to that depth. No carcass may be disposed of along any public highway or along any stream, lake, or river nor buried near or adjoining any such place.

The State Veterinarian and the Board of Animal Health can be contacted at 701-328-2655