



Animal Facility SOP 13.2

Dead Animals and Carcass Disposal

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I. Purpose

These SOPs detail the policies and procedures related to dead animals and their disposal within the MSU System facility.

II. Scope

This compilation (SOPs) is a reference for investigators, their personnel and facility staff.

1. If animal facility staff finds a dead animal.

- If an animal is found dead during cage inspections, the animal is removed and bagged as indicated below.
- A dead animal card is placed on the cage, and **reported in the incident log** (found at the end of this document). The log includes the time/date the animal is found, the person who found it, and the animal identifier on the cage.
- Dead animals found during cage inspections should be bagged, labeled with a dead animal card (appendix B), and placed in the refrigerator in room 116D. Small red bags are available in the supply storage room (116X) for this purpose .
- The report is copied and sent to the Facility Director.
- An attempt should be made to contact the PI in case they would like to perform a necropsy or collect tissues (if possible, depending on how long the animal has been dead).

2. Disposal of Dead Animals or Tissues

- Dead animals found by animal facility staff are kept in the refrigerator for 3 days for investigator use. After 3 days, animal facility staff will remove the carcasses from the refrigerator and place them in the freezer.
- Carcasses that have been kept for 3 days, and any carcasses not needed by investigators or laboratory staff should be placed in the larger leak proof biohazard waste bags in the freezer. These bags are filled until the bag is 75% full (or just full enough to tie the bag closed).
- Prior to disposal, animal facility staff place the biohazard bags in biohazard boxes with the weight of the boxes not to exceed 50 pounds. The facility director is responsible for scheduling pickup of biohazardous waste before freezer space is exhausted. Biohazard boxes are to be placed in the dirty side (116D) until pick up

- day-then they will be placed in the vestibule at the service entrance (entrance by the elevators). SOP D
- Freezers must be kept closed at all times except when in use, and checked daily for appropriate temperature. Discrepancies should be reported immediately to the Facility director immediately for correction or repair.

Animal Incident Form

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Q9c8KZEbE-wVPVvcyPlilagFvpbuh7dfR_YBmop4szc/edit?usp=sharing

Dead Animal Card Information

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oleRdt38Y2BreAKI6vzjPkpdw6seaFcxJiSClue-ip0/edit?usp=sharing>

Dead Animal Report

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/125Qj4L4OXRE6kM7Pei-r51H8CH0twLq6iX6WbUsHAT4/edit?usp=sharing>