

**Township of Ramara Standard Operating Procedures Manual**

<b>Revised:</b> November 18/08	<b>Description</b> <b>DEAD ANIMALS</b>	<b>Policy # R SOP</b> <b># 33</b>
<b>Supersedes:</b>	<b>Scope</b> <b>MUNICIPAL WORKS</b>	<b>Page 1 of 1</b>
<b>Date Issued:</b>	<b>Approval</b> <b>Joint Health &amp; Safety</b> <b>Committee</b>	<b>Effective Date:</b> <b>December 12/08</b>

**PURPOSE:**

To develop guidelines to ensure an environmentally safe method of disposing of dead animals.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:**

1. The supervisor is responsible for insuring that all employees are trained in proper handling of dead animals.
2. The employee is responsible for following proper procedures and wearing the recommended Personal Protective Equipment.

**PROCEDURES:**

The following is a guideline to follow when required to handle dead animals.

- A. The employee shall avoid any bare skin contact while overtaking the animal.
- B. Using a shovel, the worker shall pick up the animal and place it where it will not be in contact with anyone until disposed of.
- C. After completion, the shovel and gloves, if necessary, should be washed and disinfected.
- D. Animals originating from road kill can be taken to the landfill site and disposed of in a normal manner.
- E. Animal carcasses, which are identified by a veterinarian to have communicable disease of some form, must be handled as biomedical waste and incinerated.

**SAFETY PROCEDURES:**

- A. Personal protective equipment shall be worn. This includes long sleeve shirts, pants and rubber gloves.

## **GUIDELINE FOR DISPOSAL OF DEAD ANIMALS ON HIGHWAYS**

In all cases, dead animals should be moved clear of the traveled portion of the road. Depending on the type of animal, the following minimal action should be taken.

1. **GAME ANIMALS** (moose, deer, etc.) Contact the appropriate office of the Ministry of Natural Resources and they will arrange for disposal.
2. **OTHER WILD ANIMALS** (foxes, skunks, etc.) Dispose of them in the most convenient way available. Burying of small animals on the right-of-way is acceptable, except in built-up areas.
3. **LARGE DOMESTIC ANIMALS** Large animals such as cows and horses may have some commercial value. They will also have inflicted some damage on the striking vehicle and the local police should be notified. Further action will then depend on the results of this investigation.
4. **SMALL DOMESTIC ANIMALS** In the case of smaller animals such as dogs and cats, check the animal to see if it carries identification. If so, the incident should at least be reported to the Licence Issuing Office.

It would be good public relations to report to the local police, or find out the name and telephone number of the owner at the same time, and the Patrol person might then contact the owner directly to inform them. This personal contact is not mandatory and the Patrol person's decision in this regard should be based on the owner's home location, ease of contact, the Patrol person's workload, etc. The Foreman/Supervisor should be notified of such incidents so they can be recorded in the event an inquiry is received at the municipal office.

If the animal's owner cannot be readily identified, no reporting is necessary and disposal should be as described in #2 above.

**All staff should be reminded of the hazard in handling animals that are susceptible to rabies. Proper gloves should always be worn when engaged in this type of activity.**