Dead Animals

The Dead Animal Problem

Dead animals can be a nuisance if not properly removed. Not only are they an eyesore, but they can have public health implications. For example, dead crows can be a sign of West Nile Virus in an area. Contact your local health department office to determine if the animal needs to be investigated by an Environmental Health Specialist. You can dispose of the animal in outdoor trash receptacle. Do so safely by following these steps:

Step 1
Apply insect repellant containing DEET.

Step 2
Wear gloves and use a long handled shovel to pick up the animal.

Step 3
Double bag the animal, tie the bags in a knot, and dispose of the bag in an outdoor trash can with a lid.

Step 4
Disinfect the shovel with a 10% bleach solution (10 parts water, 1 part bleach). Follow all label instructions.

Step 5
Wash your hands with hot water and soap for at least 20 seconds.

Dead Livestock

To properly dispose of dead livestock, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has issued guidance and can be found on our website at http://www.tchd.org/271/Animal-Zoonotic-Diseases.

For more information, visit http://www.tchd.org/387/Animals-Bugs-Pests or if you have any questions, please call your local Tri-County Health Department office.