

NEWS RELEASE

Commonwealth of Kentucky  
Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy

For Immediate Release

Contacts:

Sandra Gardner  
(502) 564-4627 x. 223

Michael Judge  
(502) 564-4627 x. 241

Funds Available for Dead Animal Removal  
Up to \$7,500 available to aid county disposal programs

FRANKFORT, Ky. (April 13, 2009) – The Kentucky Agricultural Development Board, chaired by Gov. Steve Beshear, announces the availability of an assistance program to help counties implement a plan for the removal of deceased farm animals within the county.

Utilizing County Agricultural Development Funds, counties may now apply for the Deceased Farm Animal Disposal Assistance Program. This program will serve as an interim measure to facilitate the coordination of environmentally sound and cost effective disposal of deceased livestock for Kentucky's producers. This program will cover expenditures incurred between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010 related to an acceptable disposal program.

"This program represents a necessary stop-gap measure to give counties time to develop longer term plans in dealing with the disposal of dead animals," said Roger Thomas, Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy. "We will continue to work with state, local, and federal officials to find a reasonable long-term solution to address this issue."

This program has been developed in partnership with the Kentucky Division of Conservation, as well as local and state stakeholders. KDOC is also offering a cost-share program to assist counties with related expenditures by utilizing a portion of their Environmental Stewardship Fund, which receives an annual appropriation from the Agricultural Development Fund.

"Assisting agriculture producers in properly dealing with fallen animals is important not only for human and animal health, but also to our environment," said Steve Coleman, Director of the Kentucky Division of Conservation.

“Conservation District Environmental Grants to assist with funding county level dead animal disposal programs will continue to be provided through the division’s Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share Program.”

Guidelines for the Deceased Farm Animal Removal program are available at [agpolicy.ky.gov](http://agpolicy.ky.gov) <<http://agpolicy.ky.gov/>> or by calling the Governor’s Office of Agricultural Policy at (502) 564-4627. For information on the conservation program, contact your local conservation district office.

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Governor Beshear and the General Assembly continue to make great strides toward lessening Kentucky’s dependence on tobacco production while revitalizing the farm economy by investing 50 percent of Kentucky’s Master Settlement Agreement into the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund.