

Tips offered at March 14 workshop

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

A Manure and Dead Animal Management workshop will be held Thursday, March 14 at First Presbyterian Church, on the corner of Birch and 4th streets in Wray from 1-3:30 p.m. No registration is required.

There are two very certain facts about raising animals. They all excrete manure and there will be some death loss.

A person can use a little manure in the family garden, but getting rid of the rest can be challenging. There are several regulations about transporting manure, particularly if it goes to cropland that does not belong to you.

Dealing with the carcasses is a little more difficult. Increasing regulations and costs have virtually eliminated the traditional 'dead animal trucks.' Leaving the carcass to decay and be eaten by scavengers is not a good management method either.

Another year of drought and livestock feeding in confined areas will certainly add to the manure supply for livestock owners.

Colorado State University professor Jessica Davis will share information that livestock operators should know about manure storage and transportation regulations. She will then share ideas about what operators can do with the manure supply they have on hand and answer questions.

Livestock Mortality Composting for Large and Small Operations in the Semi-arid West was a multi-state, multi-agency project to help livestock operators deal with dead animals. The resulting booklet has a step-by-step guide to composting dead animals with clear illustrations and pictures.

CSU Extension personnel Michael Fisher and John Deering were part of the project. They will walk attendees through the composting process and answer any questions. A limited supply of booklets and DVDs will be available.

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For more information, contact the Yuma County Conservation District at 970-332-3173, ext. 3.

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