Carolina Recycling Association

Resilient Communities in a Changing Environment

Mike Mayes

North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services

Overview

- Animal Agriculture in North Carolina
 - → Current state of animal agriculture industries
 - → Methods of Disposal
- Impacts of Natural Disasters
 - → Potential Environmental and Public Health Issues
- Helping communities recover after a disaster

Animal Agriculture in NC

• Beef Cattle ~ 375,000 #27 in US

• Dairy Cattle ~ 45,000 #28 in US

• Hogs & Pigs ~ 9,000,000 #2 in US

Poultry ~ 820,000,000 #2 in US

Methods of Disposal

Why disposal?

Example: 1 hog farm of 4800 hogs x .09

If avg weight is 140lbs......

 $4800 \times .09 = 432 \text{ hogs.....or } 60,480 \text{ lbs}$

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Now do the math: ~9,000,000 x normal mortality rate

500k - 800k

Methods of Disposal

Why disposal?

The better question is:

Are we prepared for disposal in an ever changing climate?

Methods of Disposal

- Composting
- Rendering
- Landfill
- Incineration
- Burial / Alkaline Hydrolysis

Composting

What is composting?

From an agricultural perspective, composting is...

Al Outbreak of 2015

Rendering

• What is rendering?

Rendering is a process....

Landfill

Why are landfills a method of disposal?

Incineration

• What is incineration?

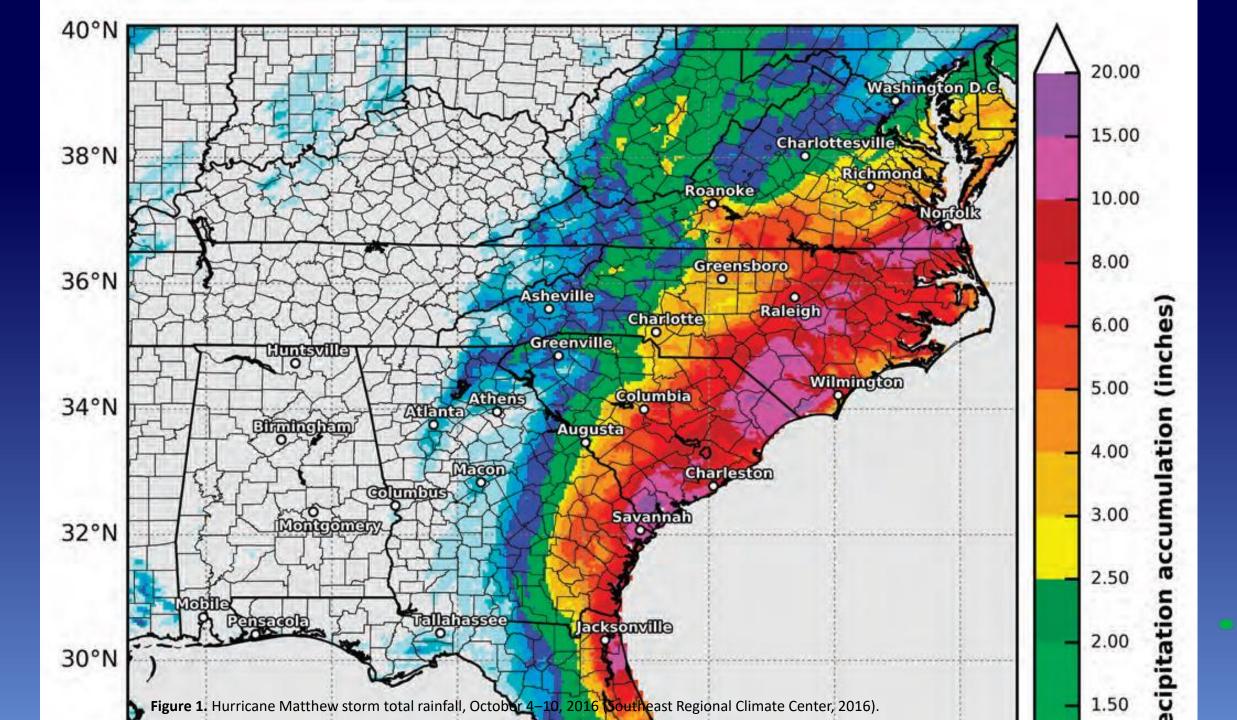
Incineration is not a primary method....

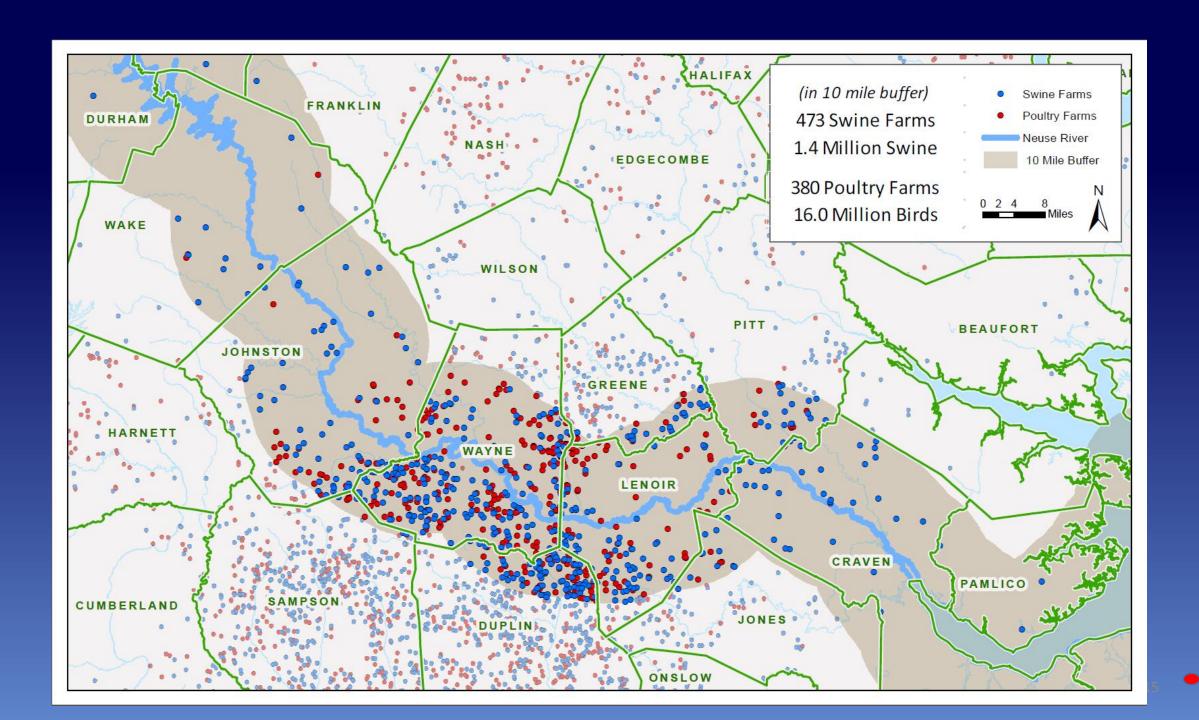
Burial / Alkaline Hydrolysis

• Why is this even here?

Impacts of Natural Disasters

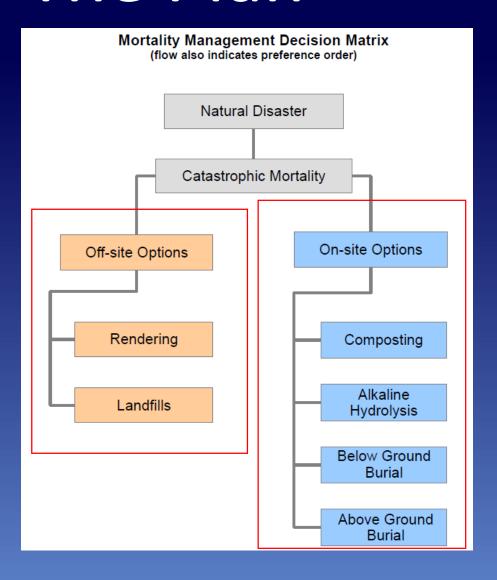
- Hurricanes / Floods
- Snow / Ice Storms
- Tornadoes / Extreme Thunderstorms







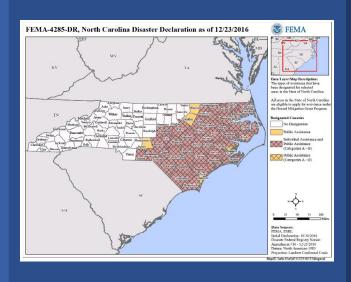
The Plan

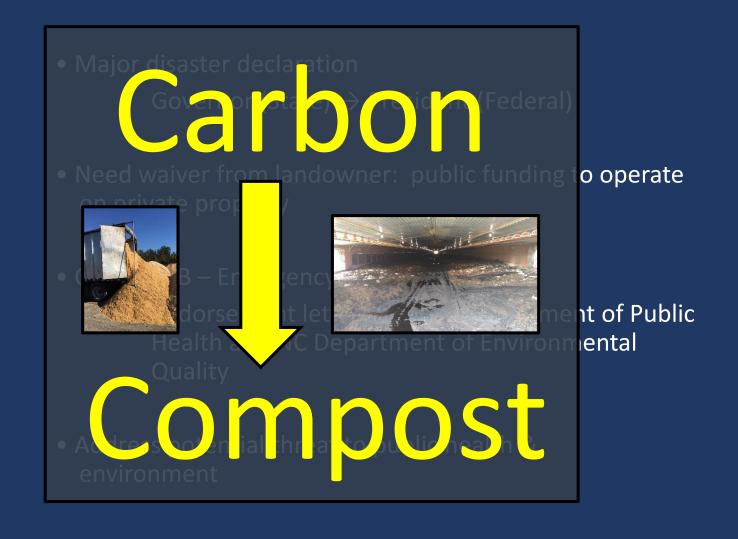


The Event

- Composting cost of carbon materials, trucking and crews with equipment
- Landfill proximity and trucking costs important; rules
- Rendering very time-limited
- Burial not recommended in the coastal plain

FEMA Ag Disaster Recovery Assistance



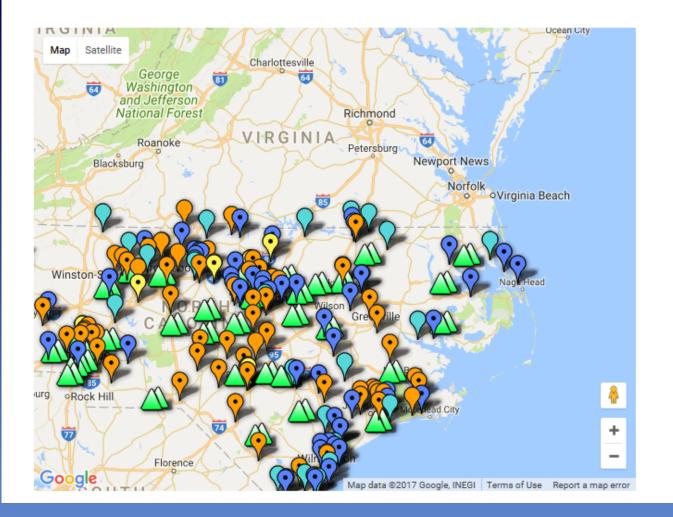


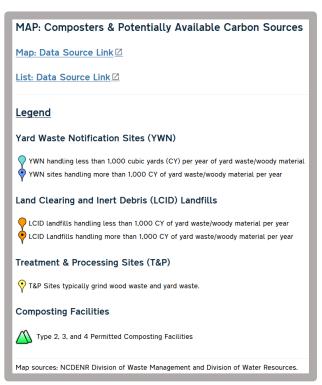


Carbon/Woody Material (Map) Environmental Quality



This map shows some of the sites that may have available woody material (carbon) that could potentially be used to aid in the composting process.







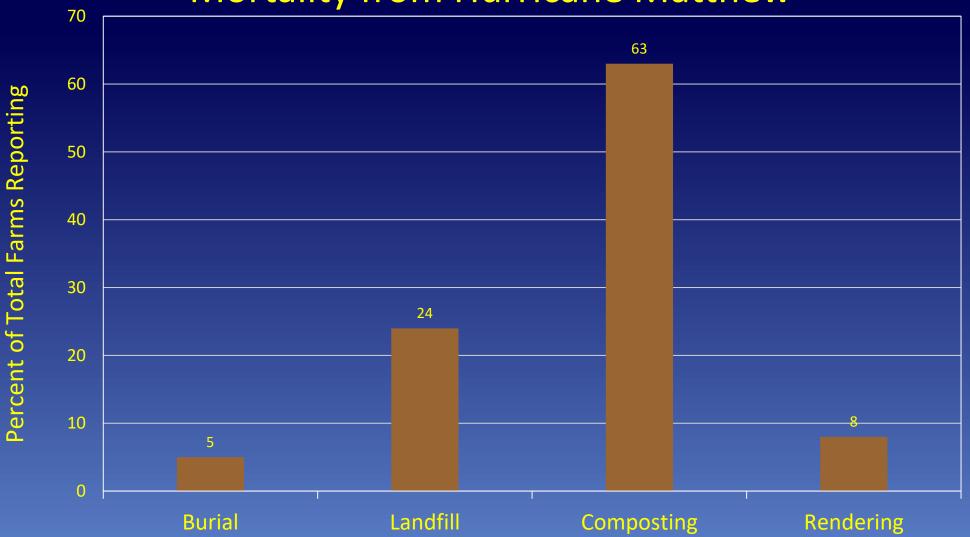


Protecting the environment by intercepting any leachate with dry, absorbent carbon material.





Disposal Choices of Poultry Farms Reporting Mortality from Hurricane Matthew



Composting disposal response:

- Carbon materials/Compost SME assistance to 49 poultry farms
- 16 carbon material vendors
- 999 loads delivered (load≈72-100yd³)
 >86,897 yd³ of carbon material delivered
- 14 Compost 'SMEs'





Main Take-Aways

- Continue to focus efforts that advance the commissioner's point to maintain the environment
- Continue to work to develop the best disposal methods for mass mortality
- Hurricane Matthew had an impact on animal agriculture, it could have been a lot worse

 Thank you for our partnerships with other state, county, and local agencies proved invaluable



North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services

Mike Mayes michael.mayes@ncagr.gov