

DISPOSAL POLICY

1. It is important that dead birds and parts thereof are disposed of in a responsible way.
2. Many of these birds (certainly those native to the UK) are protected by law therefore it is important to ensure that the bird was in your possession legally. Unless the bird has an Article 10 certificate and/or a Schedule 4 certificate from Animal Health then it is illegal to sell the carcass to anyone, including taxidermists.
3. **Raptor Rescue** does not sanction the sale of any part of a carcass of any wild or captive bred birds and individuals must not associate the Charity with any such transaction. **Raptor Rescue** will not knowingly accept any financial benefit arising from the sale of such.
4. **Raptor Rescue** rehabilitators may choose to send specimens to reputable scientific organisations. A number of research centres are prepared to carry out a post mortem on dead raptors to aid their study. Details should be recorded on the admission / treatment forms and the secretary of the charity advised of the organisation.
5. All **Raptor Rescue** accredited wildlife hospitals that also hold a zoo license must dispose of any dead specimens in accordance with their license. This may require the carcasses to be collected by a specialist licensed waste management service and appropriate records kept.
6. Other recommended methods are:
 - a. Since the Avian Flu situation reference should be made to your local council and Defra web pages for up to date information regarding disposal.
 - b. Disposal via your local veterinary practice.
 - c. Cremation or burial.
7. If the bird was being treated for poisoning, shot, trapped etc. then please notify your local Police Wildlife Crime Officer. It is possible that the carcass will need to be retained for evidential reasons.
8. Notify Animal Health of unusual mortality or "die off "of wild birds. They have a monitoring scheme.
9. It is worth considering the implications of the Animal By-Products Regulations (ABP) when disposing of birds as wild animals. When suspected of being infected with diseases communicable to humans or animals they fall within Category 1 of the ABP Regulations and would have to be disposed of in line with these regulations.

History

2009 – Initial issue