

ANIMAL CREMATORIES **INFORMATIONAL HANDOUT**



❖ What is the Purpose of the Air General Permit Registration Program?

- The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has established an Air General Permit (AGP) under paragraph 62-210.310(5)(d), Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), for Animal Crematories. By simply registering to “use” the AGP, the owner or operator of an eligible facility is allowed to construct and operate the facility under the terms and conditions of the AGP rule. There is no need for the owner or operator to incur the additional time and expense of applying for an individual air construction or air operation permit.

❖ Who is Eligible to use an Animal Crematory AGP?

- Any animal crematory unit(s) that have a capacity of 500 pounds per hour cremated or less.
- If there are other commercial activities that produce air emissions at the registered AGP facility, it is recommended to contact the Department to determine eligibility.

❖ How Do I Register or Re-register for an Animal Crematory AGP?

- To register, the owner/operator of an existing or new animal crematory may:
 - Use the Department’s online Air General Permit Electronic Registration System (AGPERS) found at <https://floridadep.gov/air/permitting-compliance/content/air-general-permits>; or
 - Download and complete the animal crematory registration worksheet found at <https://floridadep.gov/air/permitting-compliance/content/animal-crematories> and mail it to the Department at the address indicated in the worksheet instructions along with a \$100 registration processing fee.
- The registration and associated processing fee must be submitted to the Department at least thirty (30) days prior to the expiration date of an existing facility’s authorization.

- For a new facility, the registration must be submitted at least thirty (30) days before intending to use the AGP rule authority.
- If certain changes occur at an existing animal crematory facility, the owner/operator must re-register for use of the AGP. Re-registration of the AGP is required for the following changes:
 - Change of ownership
 - The new owner/operator must submit a registration along with a fee of \$100.00, at least thirty (30) days before intending to use the AGP rule authority.
 - The current owner operator is encouraged to notify the Department prior to the sale of the facility.
 - Physical change in location
 - Proposed new construction
 - Modifications to equipment (installation of new process or air pollution equipment; alteration of existing process or control equipment; or replacement of existing process or control equipment with equipment substantially different in terms of capacity, method of operation, material processed, or intended use than that noted in the most recent registration form)

❖ **What is required by the Animal Crematory AGP Rule?**

General Requirements

- Animal crematories shall cremate only animal remains and, if applicable, the bedding associated with the animals and appropriate containers. Containers shall contain no more than 0.5 percent by weight chlorinated plastics as demonstrated by the manufacturer's data sheet. If containers are incinerated, documentation from the manufacturer certifying that they meet this requirement must be kept for at least two years after their use.
- Animal crematory units shall not cremate dead animals which were used for medical or commercial experimentation. No other material, including biomedical waste shall be incinerated.
- The facility shall not emit objectionable odors.
- Use of the AGP rule authorization does not eliminate the necessity for the owner/operator to obtain any other federal, state, or local permits that may be required, or relieve the

owner/operator from the duty to comply with any federal, state or local requirements that may apply.

☑ Operating Requirements

Operating requirements for crematory units depend upon the date of original construction.

For crematory units built after August 30, 1989, the following operating parameters apply:

- Animal crematory units shall provide design calculations to confirm a sufficient volume in the secondary chamber combustion zone to provide for at least a 1.0 second gas residence time at **1800° F** (This information shall be provided to the Department with the AGP registration for the proposed new unit);
- The actual operating temperature of the secondary chamber combustion zone shall be no less than **1600° F** throughout the combustion process in the primary chamber; and
- Cremation in the primary chamber shall not begin unless the secondary chamber combustion zone temperature is equal to or greater than **1600° F**.

☑ Continuous Monitoring Requirements

- Each crematory unit must be equipped and operated with a continuous monitoring equipment to record the temperature at the point or beyond where 1.0 second gas residence time is obtained in the secondary chamber combustion zone according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Each crematory installed after February 1, 2007, shall be equipped and operated with a pollutant monitoring system to automatically control combustion based on continuous in-stack opacity measurement. Such system shall be calibrated to restrict combustion in the primary chamber whenever opacity exceeding 15% occurs.
- A complete file of all temperature measurements; all continuous monitoring system, monitoring device; and performance testing measurements; all continuous monitoring system performance evaluations; all continuous monitoring system or monitoring device calibration checks; and all adjustments, preventive maintenance, and corrective maintenance performed on these systems or devices, shall be recorded in a permanent legible form available for inspection.
- Continuous temperature monitoring documentation shall include operator name, operator indication of when cremation in the primary chamber was begun, date, time, and temperature markings. Pollutant monitoring system documentation shall include indication of when the

opacity measurement system was cleaned and checked for proper operation in accordance with the manufacturer's recommended maintenance schedule.

☑ Initial Compliance Demonstration and Testing

- The owner or operator of any animal crematory unit shall have a performance test conducted for visible emissions no later than 30 days after the unit commences operation, and once every calendar year thereafter.
- Visible emissions shall not exceed 5% opacity with an exception for visible emissions not exceeding 15% opacity for up to 6 minutes in any one-hour period.
- Testing of emissions shall be conducted with the unit operating at a capacity that is representative of normal operations and is not greater than the manufacturer's recommended capacity. The operating capacity shall be a batch load in pounds, for a batch animal crematory unit and a charging rate, in pounds per hour for a ram-charged animal crematory unit.

☑ Record-keeping

The owner/operator of the unit shall maintain the following records for two (2) years:

- Continuous monitoring data, crematory container composition and repair records

☑ Equipment Maintenance

- All animal crematory units shall be maintained in proper working order in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications to ensure the integrity and efficiency of the equipment.
- If a crematory unit contains a defect that affects the integrity or efficiency of the unit, the unit shall be taken out of service. The unit shall not be operated until it has been repaired or adjusted.
- A written plan containing operating procedures for startup, shutdown and malfunction shall be maintained and followed during those events.
- Each unit's burners shall be operated with the proper air-to-fuel ration. The burner's flame characteristics shall be checked visually at least once during each operating shift and adjusted if necessary.

❖ **Who do I contact regarding questions about AGPs and/or registration procedures?**

- Please contact the Department's Small Business Environmental Assistance Program by phone at 1-800-722-7457 or by email at Small.Business@dep.state.fl.us.

DISCLAIMER: This handout is for guidance purposes only. It is not official rule language and does not include a comprehensive listing of all environmental regulations that may be applicable to Animal Crematories. Please refer to paragraph 62-210.310(5)(d), F.A.C., for complete and up-to-date rule language.