



Ministry of
Agriculture

POST MORTEM INFORMATION FOR PET OWNERS

July, 2016

POST MORTEM PROCEDURE AND GUIDELINES:

- The Animal Health Center provides post mortem examination of pets and companion animals performed by specially trained veterinary pathologists to determine the cause of death or disease.
- Animals can be submitted Monday-Friday by veterinarians or pet owners and may be dropped off in person or shipped via mail, courier or greyhound.
Our address is 1767 Angus Campbell Road, Abbotsford, B.C. V3G 2M3
- Animals may be submitted fresh or frozen. Fresh samples are preferred, and should be kept cool to preserve tissue quality.
- A completed submission form must accompany all animals. Please include information such as species, age, breed, medications, history of illness, how and when the animal died, and anything else you feel is important. If euthanized, please indicate how. These forms can be downloaded and printed from our website or provided at the Animal Health Center reception area

PRIVATE CREMATION:

- We are now able to release animals weighing less than 40kg to a **licensed pet crematorium** for private cremation.
- This service must be arranged independently through a vet clinic or licensed crematorium.
- Animals will only be released once the case is completed by the pathologist and no public health risk has been identified. Animals deemed a risk to humans or other domestic animals (i.e., those with serious infectious diseases) will not be released.
- This service must be arranged prior to the post mortem procedure and the Animal Health Center must be notified at the time the animal arrives.
- A signed release form is required.
- If a paw print impression is requested please have vet clinic staff prepare it before the animal is sent to the Animal Health Centre. Under special circumstances, post mortem staff may be able to create a clay paw impression if the client provides the clay impression kit

LINKS

Link to Animal Health main page [Animal Health Centre](#)

Direct link to submission form [Mammalian Submission Form](#)

Please contact the Animal Health Centre directly at 604-556-3003 if you have any questions