

## 2015 Burlington County Farm Fair Health Requirements

Dear fair participant:

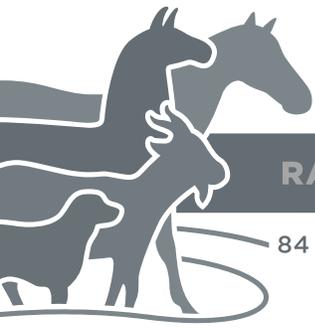
Our fifth year in Springfield is right around the corner! Much of this year's requirements are the same as last year, but please carefully review this mailing to ensure you know and understand what is needed before arriving on the fairgrounds.

Specific information, listed by species, is laid out in the attached document entitled "**2015 Burlington County Farm Fair Health/Testing Requirements by Species**". Please remember the requirements on this chart apply for animals originating within the state of New Jersey. Out-of-state animals have additional requirements; please contact us for details if you have an animal coming from out-of-state. As in past years, health certificates and proof of required vaccination/testing must be presented to, reviewed, and approved by the fair veterinarian or his designee upon arrival on the grounds and prior to being allowed to proceed to park and unload. **Animals for which all the required documentation is not presented or that appear ill or unfit for display will not be admitted to the fairgrounds.** In order to expedite the entry process, please bring both your original documents and a copy to give to the veterinary staff to be kept on file in the fair office. If you do not bring copies you will need to wait at the checkpoint while copies are made before you can proceed.

The animal health requirements for the Burlington County Farm Fair are based upon the 2015 Fair/Show Animal Health Recommendations, Regulations and Forms produced by the State Veterinarian and the New Jersey Division of Animal Health. Each fair/show is tasked with creating and enforcing their own requirements, which may be more stringent than those, put forth by the state. *Please be aware that there are differences between the state regulations and those put forth by the fair. The regulations that are provided here are the specific regulations that must be followed for the Burlington County Farm Fair.*

Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (CVIs) and NJ Animal Health Certificates (AHCs) must be completed by an accredited veterinarian. One of the two of these forms is required for all animals with the exception of poultry, covies, rabbits, and ferrets. An alternative for these excepted specific species is the "4-H Poultry, Cavy, or Rabbit Health Form" (attached) which may be completed by a 4-H Leader over the age of 18. CVIs, AHCs, and Health Forms must be completed prior to arriving on the fairgrounds. They will not be provided by veterinary staff once already on the grounds. New Jersey law requires rabies vaccination be performed by a licensed veterinarian and species requiring rabies vaccines must have proof of current vaccination from the veterinarian who administered the vaccine. Proof can either be in the form of the vaccine being recorded on the signed CVI or AHC, or on a separate rabies certificate signed by the administering veterinarian.

Any person selling poultry (including baby chicks) at the fair must provide the buyer a copy of the VS 9-2, or VS 9-3 form to certify the poultry originated from a pullorum-



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clean/NPIP hatchery or flock. In addition, *a permit is required to sell baby chicks at the fair.* Permits must be obtained directly from the NJDA Division of Animal Health no later than 30 days prior to the start of the fair. The cost is \$5 per day chicks will be offered for sale. For further information on this requirement please contact the NJDA directly at (609) 671-6400. *Any person selling chicks must have a copy of the permit on file with the farm fair office.*

Per state law, rabbits, turtles, baby chicks, ducklings, or other fowl under two months of age may not be offered for sale, bartered, or given away *for use as household domestic pets*. Additionally, animals that have been dyed or artificially colored may not be sold, bartered, given away, or displayed.

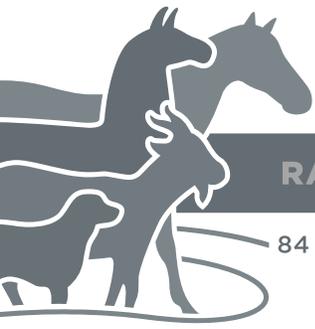
***All food animals exhibited (this includes milk producing animals) must be accompanied by a Drug Use form even if they are not offered for sale.*** Copies of these forms will not be collected but must be kept by the person responsible for that animal. Horses are not considered a food animal in this context and are exempt from this requirement. Food animals that have not been treated with any medication still need a form filled out- simply check the appropriate box on the form. A copy of this form is attached for your use.

**Swine exhibitors:** Recent issues with Swine Enteric Coronavirus Disease (SECD) in the US have prompted increased vigilance both in swine producers and at public events. While this disease is not zoonotic (i.e. not contagious to humans) it is highly contagious and spreads readily between pigs. In addition to the previous requirements any swine entering the fairgrounds in 2015 must be accompanied by evidence of a negative test for SECD dated within 30 days. Swine from different sources should not be co-mingled while on the fairgrounds. Further, it is recommended that swine returning to the farm be segregated from other pigs for a minimum of 30 days as an additional precaution.

**Poultry exhibitors:** A dangerous new strain of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) has been circulating in the country recently. While this disease has not been identified in NJ there have been numerous outbreaks across the country which have caused high mortality in poultry and turkey flocks. There are no additional testing requirements for poultry this year, however exhibitors are encouraged to familiarize themselves with this disease and be vigilant about monitoring birds both at home and while on the fairgrounds. As with other species, any sick poultry should be immediately reported to the fair veterinarian.

(More information at: <http://www.state.nj.us/agriculture/avianinfluenza.htm>)

**Equine exhibitors:** Over the past few years we've seen a significant number of equine herpes virus (also known as rhinopneumonitis or EHV) cases in New Jersey and surrounding states. While the vaccine for this disease is not completely protective, it can help reduce the severity of signs in affected horses and decreases the amount of time they shed the virus. *While vaccination for EHV (Rhino) is not required, we do recommend that all horses housed on the fairgrounds or attending shows have received*



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an EHV vaccine within the past 6 months. Please also note that proof of a negative Coggins dated within **12 months** is required of any horse, pony, mule, or donkey present on the fairgrounds.

**Sheep and goat exhibitors:** Please remember that last year there was a change in the state's sheep and goat identification rules. **All** sheep and goats are required to have an approved ear tag and/or tattoo. We will also accept a USDA approved microchip as identification for these species. For questions regarding the USDA's Mandatory Identification of Sheep and Goats regulation, or to obtain official identification tags for sheep and goats, call the New Jersey USDA APHIS Veterinary Services office at (609) 259-5260.

Each year humane issues are a concern. It is our opinion that animals housed on the fairgrounds are likely better supervised than they would be at home due to a constant caretaker presence. Also, veterinary support is readily available throughout the duration of the fair. We believe the fair is a very safe venue for animals and fairgoers alike. The majority of humane issues are grievances from fairgoers with little to no experience with farm animals. Be courteous and take the opportunity to educate fairgoers who raise questions. All concerns regarding humane issues posed by exhibitors, spectators, or SPCA/Humane Police officers must be *immediately* reported to the fair veterinarian via the Farm Fair Office. New Jersey has specific regulations on the Humane Treatment of Domestic Livestock that must be followed to by exhibitors and investigators alike. Copies of these regulations are available at the farm fair office for your reference.

Animals that appear overly stressed, unhealthy, unsound, or unfit to show can and will be asked to leave the fairgrounds. All animals present on the fairgrounds are subject to oversight by fair management. Throughout the course of the fair animal health and welfare decisions made by Farm Fair officials and/or the fair veterinarian shall be final.

These guidelines are meant to ensure the health and well-being of all animals, participants, and fair visitors. They apply to all animals being housed on the fairgrounds including 4-H animals and animals in commercial exhibits (petting zoos, pony rides, circus animals, and the like). We strongly recommend the management of individual shows adopt the same requirements for animals hauling in for their respective shows. Enforcement of requirements for individual shows is the responsibility of that show's management.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and we look forward to a great 2015 fair! Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at my office at (609) 261-7280. (Please do not direct inquiries to the 4-H or Farm Fair offices)

**Matthew Edson, DVM**

Veterinarian, Burlington County Farm Fair