

GRAB SOME FRESH PRODUCE AT YOUR FARMER'S MARKET

.....
VISIT WITH FRIENDS & SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL GROWERS

Farmer's Markets are a great place to get fresh produce. Before the leaves start to fall, make sure to visit one of these local markets in our region.

► **CHATFIELD**

THURSDAYS, 3:00-6:00 PM

Chatfield City Park (through Oct.)

► **DODGE CENTER**

FRIDAYS, 2:00-7:00 PM

*Old School Parking Lot
(through Oct.)*

► **EYOTA**

TUESDAYS, 4:00-7:00 PM

West Side Park (through Oct. 15)

► **KASSON**

WEDNESDAYS, 3:00-6:00 PM

*Prairie Meadows Senior Living
(through Sept.)*

► **LAKE CITY**

THURSDAYS, 5:00-8:00 PM

Ohuta Beach, (through Sept. 19)

► **LAKE CITY**

SATURDAYS, 9:00-12:00 PM

*Century Link Parking Lot
(through Oct. 5)*

► **MANTORVILLE**

TUESDAYS, 11:00-5:00 PM

*Riverside Park Parking Lot
(through Oct.)*

► **PINE ISLAND**

FRIDAYS, 3:00-7:00 PM

Trailhead Park (through Oct.)

► **PLAINVIEW:**

WEDNESDAYS, 4:00-7:00 PM

*Bennett's Food Center
(through Sept.)*

► **ROCHESTER:**

SATURDAYS, 7:30-12:00 PM

401 1st St. SE (through Oct.)

*Twenty-two thousand seven
hundred ninety-five.*

► **ROCHESTER**

WEDNESDAYS, 2:00-6:00 PM

Graham Park (through Sept. 25)

ONE

Purchase Cruelty-Free Cosmetic Products

Worldwide, rabbits, guinea pigs, hamsters, mice and rats are routinely blinded, poisoned and even killed to test new cosmetic products and their ingredients. This torture is still legal in 80% of all countries, with China—where many cosmetics are produced—responsible for an estimated 300,000 animal deaths per year due to cosmetic testing alone.

The worst part is that there is absolutely no need for this cruelty to occur. There are more than 5,000 cruelty-free ingredients available to companies to make their products, and many effective ways to test cosmetic ingredients that do not involve harming animals.

For example, the artificial tissue testing method uses artificial human tissue grown in the lab, and has proved better than tests on rabbits in predicting skin irritation in people. A newly developed modern test tube method can also distinguish toxic from non-toxic cosmetic ingredients without cruel animal-poisoning experiments.

What You Can Do About It:

1. You can stand and take action against cruel cosmetic testing in the United States by signing your name in support of the Humane Cosmetics Act. Simply visit humanesociety.org/becrueltyfree for more details.
2. You can download your very own free shopping guide and pledge to buy products from one of the more than 500 companies that are recognized as cruelty-free. Visit leapingbunny.org for a copy today, and make sure to review it before you buy new cosmetics.

TWO

Report Evidence of Puppy Mills or Animal Fighting Operations

Why it is important to take action against puppy mills and animal fighting:

Tragically, countless animals per year are subjected to extreme violence and even killed by inhumane conditions in puppy

mills and animal fighting rings.

By knowing what steps to take, you can become part of the solution to end animal violence and create better lives for animals.

How to report an illegal puppy mill or animal fighting operation:

If you have information about a potentially abusive puppy mill or illegal animal fighting operation, here are the steps to take:

- **Call your local police department or animal control agency.** Give them as many details as you can about the suspected animal fighting operation or illegal puppy mill situation. You do not need to give your name to law enforcement to report your information.
- **You can also call the Humane Society of the United States puppy mill tip line at 877-MILL-TIP** with information about a puppy mill in your area, or the animal fighting tip line at 877-TIP-HSUS with information about possible animal fighting activity.
- **Call the Humane Society of the United States for more information.** If you have questions or concerns, please call us at 202-452-1100.

THREE

Knowing When to Care for an Injured Baby Wild Animal

It's common to see baby wild animals outside during spring, as a new generation makes its way into the world. Baby wild animals might seem like they need our help, but unless the animal is truly orphaned or injured, there is no need to rescue him or her.

These tips can help you decide if a baby animal is orphaned, injured or perfectly fine—and what to do if it needs your help or needs you to take action.

Signs that a wild animal needs your help:

- Presented by a cat or dog
- Evidence of bleeding

- An apparent or obvious broken limb
- Featherless or nearly featherless and on the ground
- Shivering
- A dead parent nearby
- Crying and wandering all day long

If you see any of these signs, find help for the animal by calling a wildlife rehabilitator for assistance. If you're unable to locate a rehabilitator, try contacting an animal shelter, humane society, animal control agency, nature center, state wildlife agency or veterinarian.

Capturing and transporting the animal:

If necessary, you should consider safely capturing and transporting the animal to an appropriate place for treatment.

However, NEVER handle an adult animal without first consulting a wildlife professional. Even small animals can injure you.

Once you've contacted someone who can help, describe the animal and his physical condition as accurately as possible.

Unless you are told otherwise, here's how you can make an animal more comfortable for transport while you're waiting for help to arrive:

1. Put the animal in a safe container. For most songbirds, a brown paper bag is fine for transport. For larger birds or other animals, use a cardboard box or similar container. First, punch holes for air (not while the animal is in the box!) from the inside out and line the box with an old T-shirt or other soft cloth. Then put the animal in the box.
2. Put on thick gloves and cover the animal with a towel or pillowcase as you scoop him up gently and place him in the container.
3. Do not give the animal food or water. It could be the wrong food and cause him to choke, trigger serious digestive problems or cause aspiration pneumonia. Many injured animals are in shock, and force-feeding can kill them.
4. Place the container in a warm, dark, quiet place—away from pets, children

and all noise (including the TV and the radio)—until you can transport the animal. Keep the container away from direct sunlight, air conditioning or heat.

5. Transport the animal as soon as possible. Leave the radio off and keep talking to a minimum. Because wild animals aren't accustomed to our voices, they can become very stressed by our noises. If they're injured or orphaned, they're already in a compromised condition. Keep their world dark and quiet to lower their stress level and help keep them alive.

FOUR

Advocate for Animals in Your Community

How You Can Help by Writing Letters to Your Local Paper's Editor

From time to time, you may come across an article in your community's newspaper about animal welfare—particularly about how to manage local wild animals like deer, beavers or coyotes. Writing a letter to the editor is a great opportunity to share your opinion, spread information about animal issues, call out inhumane policies and help change public opinion.

When you write your letter, remember these helpful tips to ensure you are writing the most effective advocacy letter possible:

- Write and submit your letter as quickly as possible, preferably the same day that the article runs. Submit letters by email whenever possible.
- Keep your letter as short as possible by focusing on one, or at most two, major points. Support your position with facts, statistics, citations or other evidence—all of which are readily available at humanesociety.org/issues. Aim for no more than 250 words, and be sure to stay under the paper's word limit.
- Close with the thought you'd like readers to remember. Instead of focusing your attention on a reporter, editor or expert who got it wrong, consider the central point you want people reading the letter to take away.



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES**

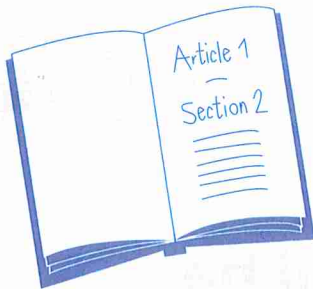
1255 23rd Street, NW, Suite 450
Washington, DC 20037
humanesociety.org

CENSUS 101: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The 2020 Census is closer than you think!
Here's a quick refresher of what it is and why it's essential that everyone is counted.

Everyone counts.

The census counts every person living in the U.S. once, only once, and in the right place.

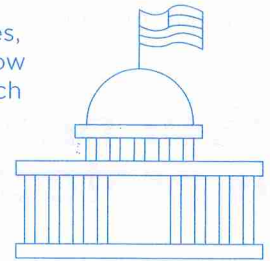


It's in the constitution.

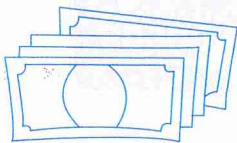
The U.S. Constitution mandates that everyone in the country be counted every 10 years. The first census was in 1790.

It's about fair representation.

Every 10 years, the results of the census are used to reapportion the House of Representatives, determining how many seats each state gets.

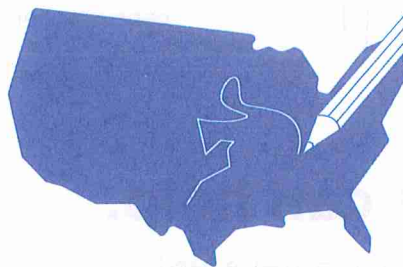
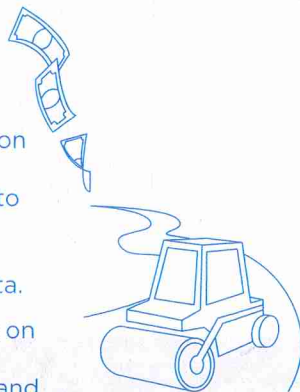


It's about \$675 billion.



The distribution of more than \$675 billion in federal funds, grants and support to states, counties and communities are based on census data.

That money is spent on schools, hospitals, roads, public works and other vital programs.

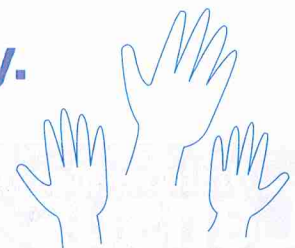


It's about redistricting.

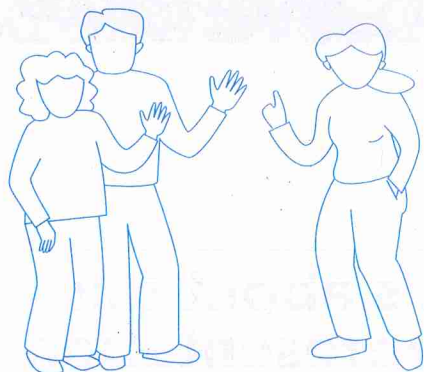
After each decade's census, state officials redraw the boundaries of the congressional and state legislative districts in their states to account for population shifts.

Taking part is your civic duty.

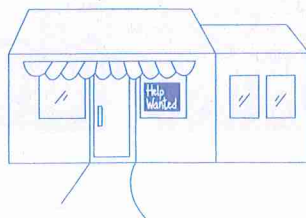
Completing the census is mandatory: it's a way to participate in our democracy and say "I COUNT!"



Census data are being used all around you.

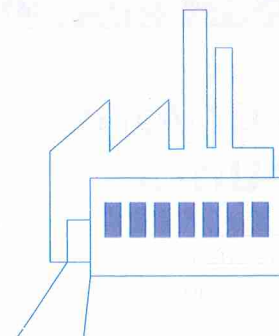
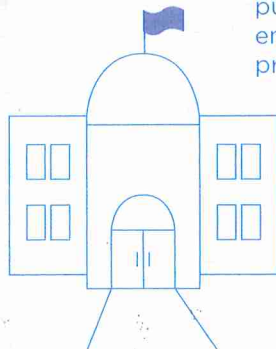


Residents use the census to support community initiatives involving legislation, quality-of-life and consumer advocacy.



Businesses use census data to decide where to build factories, offices and stores, which create jobs.

Local governments use the census for public safety and emergency preparedness.



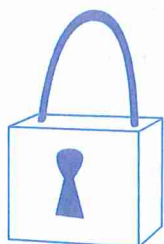
Real estate developers use the census to build new homes and revitalize old neighborhoods.



Your privacy is protected.

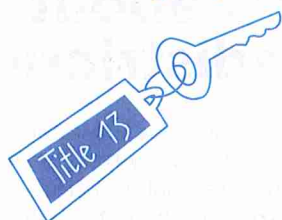
It's against the law for the Census Bureau to publicly release your responses in any way that could identify you or your household.

By law, the Census Bureau cannot share your answers with any other government agency.



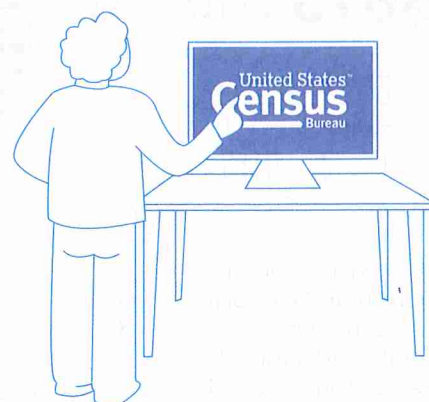
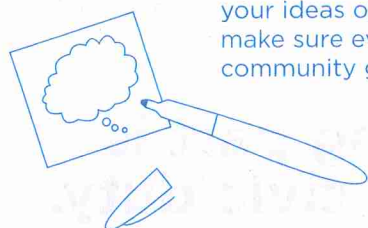
2020 will be easier than ever.

In 2020, you will be able to respond to the census online.



You can help.

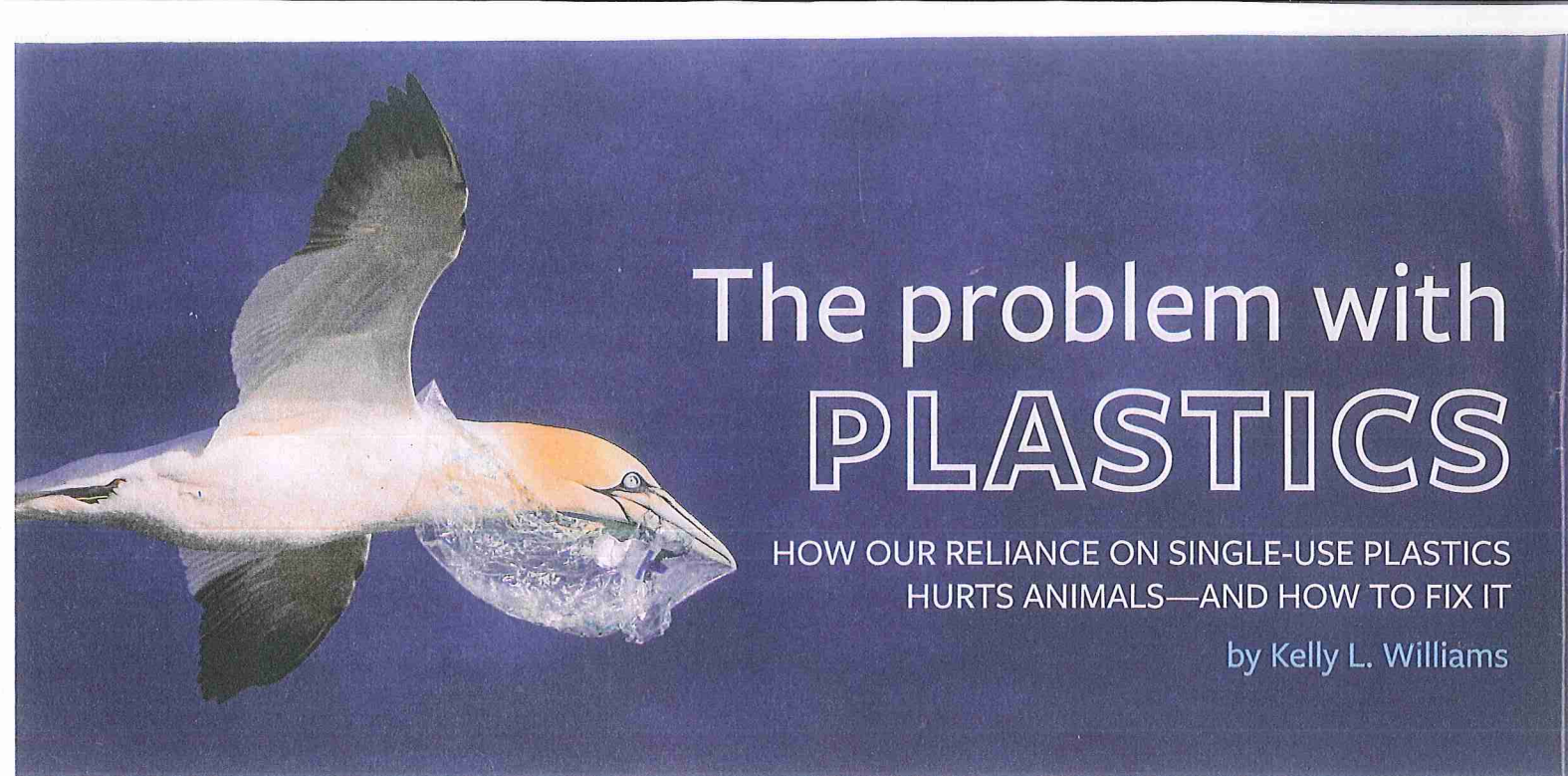
You are the expert—we need your ideas on the best way to make sure everyone in your community gets counted.



United States™
Census
Bureau

FIND OUT HOW TO HELP
AT [CENSUS.GOV/PARTNERS](https://census.gov/partners)

United States
Census
2020



The problem with PLASTICS

HOW OUR RELIANCE ON SINGLE-USE PLASTICS
HURTS ANIMALS—AND HOW TO FIX IT

by Kelly L. Williams

YOU DON'T FORGET THE IMAGES:

the olive ridley sea turtle, a plastic straw lodged in his nose. The Rubenesque sea lion, neck cinched tight by a thick plastic packing strap. The Cuvier's beaked whale, stomach split open to reveal more than 80 pounds of plastic waste—snack bags, rope, rice sacks—compacted into a dense mass.

The cause of these tragedies? Single-use plastics, items we use once and discard: bottles, straws, beverage cups and lids, stirrers, bags, cutlery, six-pack beverage rings, polystyrene. And not just whole objects, but fragments. Because for each startling image that makes the rounds on social media, there are untold numbers of problems we don't see, thanks to microplastics: plastic particles less than 5 millimeters in diameter, either made intentionally or caused by larger waste breaking up.

Plastic waste is terrifyingly pervasive. It's also increasing quickly—we create new

plastic at an exponential rate. Researchers analyzing existing data estimate that 90% of all seabirds have ingested plastic, and plastic waste shows up in some of the most remote spots on Earth—including the Mariana Trench, the planet's deepest point. Researchers now consider marine litter to be “globally ubiquitous.”

It's the old cliché, says Sharon Young, HSUS senior strategist for marine issues: When you throw things away, please be aware there's no such place as “away.” In the sea and on land, animals suffer for our convenience.


Harm comes in two forms: entanglement and ingestion. Entanglement is easier to spot. “Plastic packaging bands often get caught around pinnipeds, like seals and sea lions,” says Kathryn Kullberg, HSUS director of marine and wildlife protection. Helium balloons—often released en masse during a celebration or remembrance—are particularly treacherous. A balloon's plastic ribbon snags on a tree; a bird gets tangled, struggles to break free and is injured. If she can't get free? “Easy prey,” says Kullberg. And balloons travel far: While working on whale-watching boats off the Massachusetts coast, “we would find balloons sometimes 15 miles out to sea with campaign slogans on them from somebody in Pennsylvania,” Young says.

Balloons can get ingested, too, along with other plastic bits resembling a natural meal to many species. “Often plastic will be colorful, so a bird may pick it up thinking it's something else and they feed it to their young, and then the birds starve to death,” says Kullberg. An environmental scientist recently observed a great blue heron trying to swallow what looked a small shark on a Florida beach. Eventually, the heron flew off, leaving her “prey” behind: a

small plastic shark toy. Even corals—eyeless marine invertebrates—are fooled. In one study, corals preferred microplastics to other bite-size offerings. (Scientists speculate that the plastics' scent appealed to them.)

Even relatively small meals of plastic can be problematic, building up to obstruct the gut or simulate fullness without any nutrients. And because plastic can concentrate some chemical pollutants, ingestion could also be providing a new way for these compounds to enter animals' bodies. Researchers aren't yet sure about the long-term effects of these buildups but suspect they cause “undesirable biological effects” on animals' physiological processes.

The problem is widespread and serious and depressing, and there's no single, easy answer. Recycling alone won't work; plastic


Did you know?
Humans create plastic
at an exponential rate.
The amount doubles
every 11 years.



Both marine and terrestrial animals suffer from plastic waste—including soda rings.

tends to degrade during the process to a point where it can no longer be recycled further. Bans on plastic shopping bags, charges or opt-in policies (where consumers must request single-use items) do reduce usage where they're implemented but may have unintended consequences: One economist determined that purchases of plastic trash bags increased dramatically after a ban on plastic shopping bags passed in California. Even so-called biodegradable or compostable plastic isn't a perfect solution. One study showed that after three years, samples did not decompose as promised by the manufacturers.

But there's hope: In study after study, researchers note that reductions in exposure to plastic waste will reduce harm. In other words, if we stop putting garbage in our oceans and rivers and on our coastlines, animals will stop eating it and getting tangled in it and dying from it.

Solving the single-use plastics problem requires individuals, corporations and governments working together, cultivating what one writer for *Anthropocene*—a magazine focusing on environmental challenges and solutions—calls “an ethic of care.” We need to make better choices as consumers, and we must pressure corporations to design better products. We need our federal, state and local governments to invest in waste-management programs and public education campaigns. We've done it before to address other huge problems. “People complain about cars being more expensive because you now need to have catalytic converters on them to clean the air,” says Young, “but now the air's cleaner.” Hybrid and electric cars are gaining in popularity, and we know that public transportation cuts down on carbon emissions.

By making small changes in our own lives, by voting with our dollars and using our voices, we can create a more mindful society. By shifting our habits, we can form a new mindset—one that prizes sustainability over convenience, one that harnesses our creativity to find new solutions and alternatives. There is no “away.” We've got to keep *here* clean.

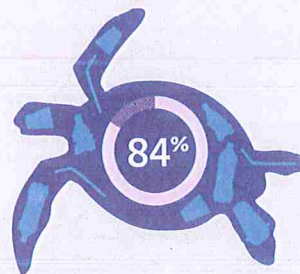


Here's how to start.

AT HOME: Take stock of the single-use plastics you rely on—then replace them with more sustainable options. If it's overwhelming, start with one room at a time.

- Switch to reusable bottles for water and tumblers for your coffee. (Some cafés will give you a discount for using one!)
- Use products like the Guppyfriend or Cora Ball when doing laundry to catch the tiny, non-biodegradable fibers that come loose from polyester clothing during the washing cycle, preventing them from entering waterways.
- Opt for bars of (cruelty-free!) shampoo, conditioner and soap rather than liquids packaged in plastic.

- Stash stainless steel straws and a set of bamboo or metal cutlery in your car or bag to avoid plastic versions while on the go.
- Look for alternatives to plastic shopping bags (canvas or string), produce bags (cotton or nylon) and sandwich bags (silicone or nylon-lined fabric).



One study found that **84%** of the microplastics found in 410 stranded animals' guts were fibers.

IN THE WORKPLACE: As you reduce single-use plastics in your household, politely ask for change at the places you spend (and earn!) your money.



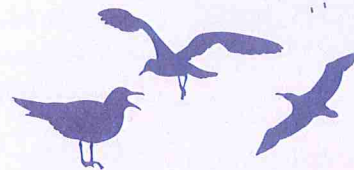
One garbage truck of plastic is dumped into the ocean **EVERY MINUTE.**

IN THE COMMUNITY: Spread the word and get your neighbors involved. Legislation is a powerful way to encourage change, so start talking to your state and local lawmakers!

- Suggest wildlife-friendly alternatives to balloon releases: Plant a tree, fly kites or hang bunting instead. (Get more ideas at balloonsblow.org.)
- Tell your lawmakers you support bans on single-use plastics, such as Styrofoam packaging, plastic bags and more. (Find your legislators at humanesociety.org/leglookup.)

- Ask your office manager to replace plastic coffee stirrers with wooden ones in break rooms and switch from plastic cutlery, cups and plates to reusable tableware that employees share and wash themselves.
- Write to your local supermarket and favorite brands, encouraging them to seek alternatives to plastic packaging. Include specific examples, such as phasing out veggies wrapped in plastic.
- Request that restaurants and bars provide straws only on request.

- Organize a beach/river cleanup or a hike where you pick up trash—not only does this get plastic off the ground, but it exposes people to the problem. Weigh and count the trash you collect, then write a letter to the editor sharing the numbers.



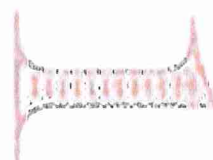
By 2050, plastic will be found in the digestive tracts of **99%** of all seabird species (and 95% of the individuals within those species).

→ **LEARN MORE:** Find even more ideas at humanesociety.org/allanimals.

“It’s unwise to pay too much, but it’s worse to pay too little. When you pay too much, you lose a little money... that is all. When you pay too little, you sometimes lose everything, because the thing you bought was incapable of doing the thing it was bought to do. The common law of business balance prohibits paying a little and getting a lot... it can’t be done. If you deal with the lowest bidder, it is well to add something for the risk you run. And if you do that, you will have enough to pay for something better.”



USA | DOLLAR



2018

Semi with trailer full of hogs overturns in rural Waldorf

By BAILEY GRUBISH

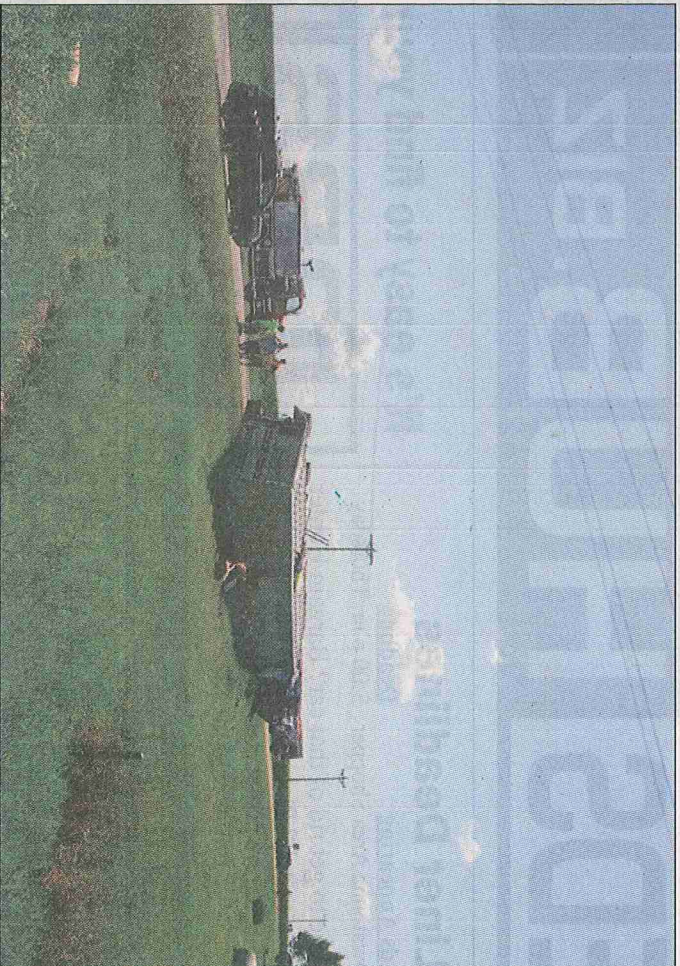
bgrubish@wasecacountynews.com

WALDORF — A semi truck and trailer, fully loaded with market hogs, overturned on Tuesday, Aug. 6 around noon in rural Waldorf.

Sam Jewett, of New Richland, was driving the semi truck and trailer that overturned. According to a Waseca County Sheriff's Office incident report, the tracks from the semi indicated that the unit was westbound on 270th Avenue and was attempting a southbound turn onto 70th Street when it overturned.

The semi overturned on the passenger side and holes were created in the trailer during impact, allowing some of the hogs to escape and roam about the accident site. Local farmers and emergency responders worked to round up all of the escaped hogs.

Jewett was transported by the New Richland Ambulance to the hospital and the hogs were transferred to another trailer that arrived on the scene once they were



A semi from Janesville overturned in rural Waldorf on August 6. (Photos by Bailey Grubish/Waseca County News)

all caught.

The semi truck and trailer belongs to Frechette Trucking of Janesville.

Emergency responders on

scene included Waseca County

Sheriff's Office, Waldorf Rescue,

New Richland Ambulance, New

Richland Rescue, Waseca County

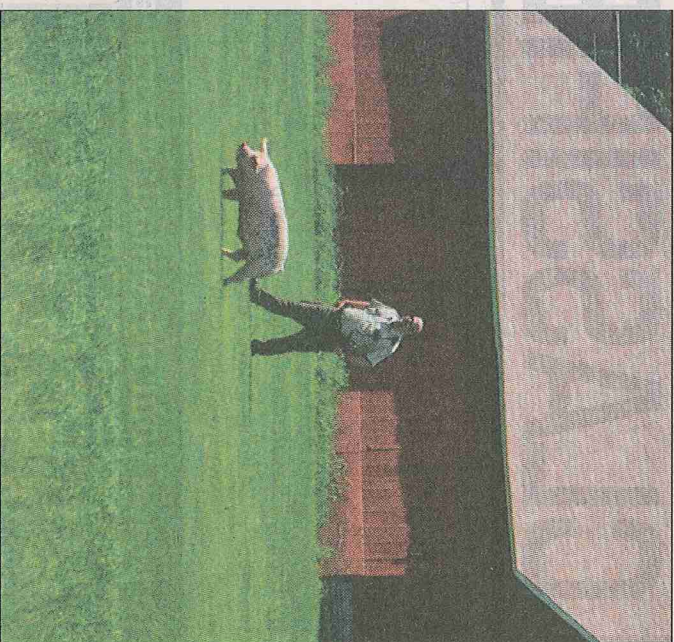
Highway Department and area

farmers.

Reach Reporter Bailey Grubish

at 507-837-5451 or follow her on

Twitter @wcnbailey.



One officer from the sheriff's department corralled one of the pigs from wandering too far from the scene.

Dodge County's Comp Plan draws sharp criticism

BY RICK BUSSLER
PUBLISHER

The proposed Dodge County Comprehensive Plan for the next decade is drawing sharp criticism from an organization that has been battling the county's growing feedlot industry over the past six years.

In reviewing the proposed draft plan for the county's Comprehensive Plan, Sonia Trom Eayrs, who represents Dodge County Concerned Citizens, accuses county officials, both elected and appointed, of doing nothing to address serious health concerns tied to factory farms in the county. She said the county acknowledges many of the problems in the Comprehensive Plan, but is "doing nothing to correct the problems."

However, Mark Gamm of Dodge County Environmental Services, disagrees with Trom Eayrs' assessment of what the county is doing.

Some of the problems outlined in the plan include dangerous air emissions, irresponsible use of ground water resources and overall water quality. But, Trom Eayrs finds nothing in the proposed comp plan that will stop the growth of those problems.

"People need to wake up and see what is occurring in their own back yard," Trom Eayrs said.

The county held a public information meeting on the proposed comp plan on Feb. 20. Since that time, Trom Eayrs has shared substantial documents and comments with the county regarding the comp plan. She pointed out that the county has had several months to consider the comments from DCCC, but she claims the county has not made any effort to address the serious concerns. Specifically, Trom Eayrs is concerned about the 53-acre minimum. The county has a density limit on dwellings constructed on less than 53 acres in the

agricultural district. Yet, she points out, the county allows for the construction of factory farms on "post-age-stamp parcels" of just five acres. "This is idiotic," Trom Eayrs says. "Many citizens in Dodge County are third, fourth and fifth generation families and, by birthright, should have the right to live in rural areas that their ancestors settled."

In regards to factory farms, the draft report acknowledges that both farm owners and non-farm owners have expressed concerns about the number of animal feedlots in their neighborhood and related impacts on water quality and air quality. "While the draft report acknowledges that there is a problem with factory farms, county leadership does not make a concerted effort to change direction in order to solve this serious problem," Trom Eayrs said.

With land use and water quality problems, Trom Eayrs said the county

acknowledges the problem, but "there is no effort by the county to address high nitrates in the Comprehensive Plan." She added there is no effort by the county to address manure management or air emissions from area factory farms.

"Dodge County continues to ignore the environmental degradation of Minnesota waters and public health consequences due to the size and concentration of factory farms," Trom Eayrs said. "When will Dodge County officials put the citizens of this county first, not pigs?"

Trom Eayrs accuses county officials of giving the agricultural industry "preference over our own citizens." She said she feels county leaders have been "irresponsible as far as permitting factory farms" in the county. "I think they are ducking their responsibility," she said. "The fox is in charge in Dodge County, and the fox is determined to stay in charge in Dodge County. We're determined

to call them out."

But, Gamm says the county has taken some proactive steps in dealing with concerns raised by DCCC. He said the draft plan includes a number of implement actions. Some of them include: review

of options for increasing rural housing opportunities while protecting prime agricultural land and consideration of new Groundwater Protection Overlay Zoning District with a purpose to further protect vulnerable drinking water supplies from pollutants.

Gamm also points out the county is working with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture to implement its Nitrogen Management Plan to protect surface water and groundwater.

The Comprehensive Plan is an in-depth analysis of countywide goals and aspirations. The plan defines future policy and action for a wide variety of issues including land use, housing, economic development, transportation,

broadband technology, natural resources and environment, recreation and history and culture. The plan, which was last revised in 2001, enables the county to adopt and enforce land use controls including zoning.

The county received more than 827 written comments from landowners and other interested parties, including DCCC, according to Gamm. He points out that everyone has an additional opportunity to comment on the draft plan at the upcoming public hearing.

The Dodge County Planning Commission will meet tonight (Wednesday) at 7 p.m. in the south wing of the Government Services Building in Mantorville for the purpose of adopting amendments to the Comp Plan. Public comment will be received during the public hearing portion of the meeting. When the public hearing is closed, the Commission will act on the requests.

County's Comp Plan draws sharp criticism

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DCI PUBLISHER

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Specifically, Trom Eayrs is concerned about the 53-acre minimum. The county has a density limit on dwellings constructed on less than 53 acres in the agricultural district. Yet, she points out, the county allows for the construction of factory farms on "postage-stamp parcels" of just five acres. "This is idiotic,"

Trom Eayrs says. "Many citizens in Dodge County are third, fourth and fifth generation families and, by birthright, should have the right to live in rural areas that their ancestors settled."

In regards to factory farms, the draft report acknowledges that both farm owners and non-farm owners have expressed concerns about the number of animal feedlots in their neighborhood and related impacts on water quality and air quality. "While the draft report acknowledges that there is a problem with factory farms, county leadership does not make a concerted effort to change direction in order to solve this serious problem," Trom Eayrs said.

DODGE COUNTY PUBLIC HEARING

**Hearing will focus on county's
Comprehensive Plan**

For the next decade

Wednesday, Aug. 7

7 p.m.

**Government Services Building
Mantorville**

With land use and water quality problems, Trom Eayrs said the county acknowledges the problem, but "there is no effort by the county to address high nitrates in the Comprehensive Plan." She added there is no effort by the county to address manure management or air emissions from area factory farms.

"Dodge County continues to ignore the environmental degradation of Minnesota waters and public health consequences due to the size and concentration of factory farms," Trom Eayrs said. "When will Dodge County officials put the citizens of this county first, not pigs?"

Trom Eayrs accuses county officials of giving the agricultural industry "preference over our own citizens." She said she feels county leaders have been "irresponsible as far as permitting factory farms" in the county. "I think they are duck-

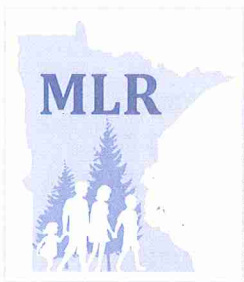
ing their responsibility," she said. "The fox is in charge in Dodge County, and the fox is determined to stay in charge in Dodge County. We're determined to call them out."

But, Gamm says the county has taken some proactive steps in dealing with concerns raised by DCCC. He said the draft plan includes a number of implement actions. Some of them include: review of options for increasing rural housing opportunities while protecting prime agricultural land and consideration of new Groundwater Protection Overlay Zoning District with a purpose to further protect vulnerable drinking water supplies from pollutants. Gamm also points out the county is working with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture to implement its Nitrogen Management Plan to protect surface water and groundwater.

The Comprehensive Plan is an in-depth analysis of countywide goals and aspirations. The plan defines future policy and action for a wide variety of issues including land use, housing, economic development, transportation, broadband technology, natural resources and environment, recreation and history and culture. The plan, which was last revised in 2001, enables the county to adopt and enforce land use controls including zoning.

The county received more than 827 written comments from landowners and other interested parties, including DCCC, according to Mark Gamm of Dodge County Environmental Services. He points out that everyone has an additional opportunity to comment on the draft plan at the upcoming public hearing.

The Dodge County Planning Commission will meet Wednesday, Aug. 7 at 7 p.m. in the south wing of the Government Services Building in Mantorville for the purpose of adopting amendments to the Comp Plan. Public comment will be received during the public hearing portion of the meeting. When the public hearing is closed, the Commission will act on the requests.



MN Lakes & Rivers Advocates



MLR protects Minnesota's lake and river heritage for current and future generations by forging powerful links among lakes, lake advocates and policy makers.

August 2019

Greetings,

My name is Jeff Forester and I am Executive Director of MN Lakes and Rivers Advocates (MLR). MLR is the voice of Lake Associations, Coalition of Lake Associations (COLAs), and Lake and River Associations (LARAs) at the state capitol, and we get results.

In this last legislative session MLR and its members advocated for and the legislature passed a number of bills that will support the work you do on your lake:

- Restored grants to Lake Associations to treat lakes for Aquatic Invasive Species,
- Removed sales taxes lake associations must pay on chemicals for lake treatments and other equipment,
- Created a No Child Left Inside program that lake associations can use to partner with local school districts to do lake-based aquatic science,
- Secured adequate baseline funding for the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center,
- Lowered the State General Tax on local Commercial/Industrial property and cabins by about 6%,
- \$40 million will go to develop reliable high speed internet service throughout Greater Minnesota,

There are other things that happened this last legislative session that will impact your work. See the enclosed, brief, legislative update for more information.

MLR is the only statewide organization that lobbies for lake and lake association issues at the Minnesota Legislature. I am writing to encourage your organization to join MLR today and be a part of protecting the lakes we all love. There is a cynical old saying at the Capitol, "You can either have a seat at the table, or you will be on the menu." For too long there has not been an organized and active group working on behalf of our lakes. Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates is changing that. We have a seat at the table. But we need your lake association to engage.

With two full time lobbyists, a statewide electronic database of concerned citizens, and a growing Lake Association, COLA and LARA membership, MLR has organized and focused intense grassroots pressure at the Capitol on behalf of our lakes and rivers. When this work at the state level is combined with COLAs working at the county level and local Lake Associations working at the township/city level a powerful synergy is created and real progress happens.

In June, at MLR's 25th Anniversary celebration, over 20 lake associations presented projects and programs that they have done and which are helping them grow membership, build local partnerships, raise funding and protect watersheds. There was a great deal of communication and relationship building among lake associations from across Minnesota. DNR Commissioner Sarah Strommen addressed the group, acknowledging the critical role lake associations play. Two Minnesota Legislators presented their goals for next session with regard to lakes, and answered questions on topics ranging from wakeboard boats to terrestrial invasive species.

Member Organization benefits include:

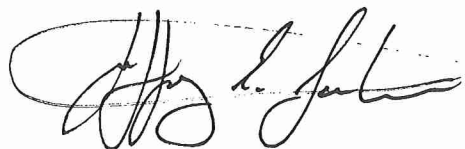
- Invitation to MLR Annual meeting,
- Current/real time email action alerts and Legislative updates,
- Articles for association newsletters and meeting handouts,
- Resources/information for your local issues,
- Events like the Aquatic Invaders Summit and MLR Annual Meeting,
- Statewide advocacy and leadership on lake issues such as Aquatic Invasive Species, fisheries policy and shore line rules,
- A voice in establishing future statewide policy and legislative agendas through periodic conference calls,
- State of the art email action alerts to leverage the grassroots power of your organization,
- Free Seminars and webinars with valuable information on AIS, lake ecology, and estate and trust law strategies,
- Website hosting (available at low cost to members).

Every day Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates is working to support the work you do on your lake. Can we count on you to support lake advocacy statewide?

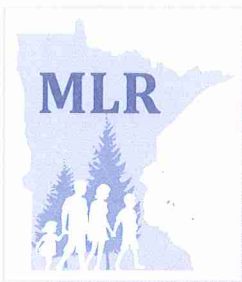
If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, call me directly on my cell at 612-961-6144.

Thanks for the good work you are doing and I look forward to meeting you personally and working with you to further protect the lakes and rivers we all love.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Forester", written over a faint horizontal line.

Jeff Forester
Executive Director
MN Lakes & Rivers Advocates (MLR)



MN Lakes & Rivers Advocates



MLR protects Minnesota's lake and river heritage for current and future generations by forging powerful links among lakes, lake advocates and policy makers.

Membership Form for Your Organization

Through MN Lakes & Rivers Advocates your members gain timely legislative information and a voice in decisions made at the legislature.

A Membership Contribution from your Organization to MLR is essential to provide ongoing year-round legislative advocacy.

JOIN TODAY and Make a Difference for Lake Advocacy

Membership Contribution Levels:

- ☐ \$100 per year (1- 50 members)
- ☐ \$150 per year (51- 150 members)
- ☐ \$200 per year (151- 300 members)
- ☐ \$300 per year (301 or more members)

Web Hosting Option:

- ☐ \$100 per year web hosting fee for members

As a member, your association can host your website on the MLR platform. If you don't currently have a website or want to re-design your website; design services are available at a low hourly rate.

Mail to: **MLR**, PO Box 22262, St. Paul, MN 55122

Make check payable to: **MN Lakes & Rivers (MLR)**
Note: MLR is a 501(c)4 non-profit. Contributions are not tax deductible.

Contact Information:

Organization Name: _____ County: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Organization email address: _____

Organization website address: _____

President name*: _____

Contact Person Email: _____ Phone: _____

Treasurer name*: _____

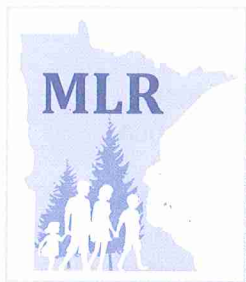
Contact Person Email: _____ Phone: _____

Person who distributes to members*: _____

Contact Person Email: _____ Phone: _____

*Or attach a list of your board members' contact information & board positions.

ORG.join.2019



MN Lakes & Rivers Advocates



MLR protects Minnesota's lake and river heritage for current and future generations by forging powerful links among lakes, lake advocates and policy makers.

2019 Legislative Update

MN DNR Funding and Lake Association AIS Grants Restored, MAISRC Stabilized

An increase in the AIS surcharge on a three year boat tag from \$5 to \$10.60 to restore the DNR AIS account and partially restore the AIS management grants to lake associations.

MAISRC will receive \$510,000 from the general fund and the heritage enhancement account in the game and fish fund, "to prioritize, support, and develop research-based solutions that can reduce the effects of aquatic invasive species in Minnesota by preventing spread, controlling populations, and managing ecosystems and to advance knowledge to inspire action by others."

In addition, \$4 million from the Environmental Trust Fund is granted, "to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to support the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center in developing solutions to Minnesota's aquatic invasive species problems through research, control, prevention, outreach, and early detection of existing and emerging aquatic invasive species threats. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2023, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered."

Property Taxes - State General Tax

MLR has worked for years to reduce or repeal the State General Tax, successfully capping the percentage cabin properties must pay, removing the inflator which drove the tax higher every year.

This year MLR advocated for a reduction in the State General Tax. The Tax Bill signed into law reduced the state general tax on cabins by about 6%.

Sales Taxes

Lake Associations spend over \$6.2 million annually on lake projects and commit 1.25 million volunteer hours annually to the public good of clean and healthy lakes.

This year MLR advocated for the state to help lake associations leverage this incredible work. Much of this expense and time is spent treating lakes for aquatic invasive species.

The 2019 tax bill provides for a sales tax exemption for herbicides used under an invasive aquatic plant management permit by lakeshore property owners, an association of lakeshore property owners, or by a contractor hired to provide the invasive aquatic plant management. The exemption applies only to chemicals registered with the Department of Agriculture for use on invasive aquatic plants.

Economic Development

In 2019 MLR advocated for, and the Legislature passed and Governor Walz signed into law a state investment of \$40 million to bring high speed internet to underserved areas of the state. This will greatly enhance the jobs and economic activity of all of the lakes districts.

Passing Lake Conservation Values to the Next Generation

The **No Child Left Inside** legislation passed into law this year as part of the Environment and Natural Resources Funding Omnibus provides \$182,000 the first year, and \$318,000 the second year to, "provide grants for outdoor environmental, ecological, and other natural-resource-based education and recreation programs serving youth." These grants can go to public entities, like schools, park districts and nonprofit organizations, including lake associations.

The No Child Left Inside program also includes funding for high school hunting, angling and shooting sports funding.

The commissioner of natural resources must develop a basic angling curriculum that includes basic fishing techniques and information about aquatic invasive species, tournament etiquette, conservation, water safety, and related matters. The commissioner must make the basic angling curriculum available without cost to nonprofit organizations operating fishing leagues for high schools.

The Environment and Natural Resources Funding Bill signed by Governor Walz:

- Directs \$500,000 to school districts and American Indian-controlled tribal contract or grant schools to increase firearms safety, trap shooting, archery, hunting, and angling activities in courses that are consistent with required state standards for physical education,
- Provides an additional \$200,000 for high school angling teams,
- Research to restore Native Mussels in Streams and Lakes
- Determine the Influence of Insecticides on Algal Blooms
- Quantify Microplastics in Minnesota's Inland Lakes
- Restore Impaired Lakes through Citizen-Aided Carp Management

Other Outcomes of Interest from the 2019 Legislative Session

Gull Lake pilot study. Expands to all water access sites, a pilot project allowing service providers (dock installers, etc.) to return zebra mussel infested equipment back to Gull Lake under a permit from the DNR.

Cross Lake pilot study. Expands to all water access sites, a pilot project allowing service providers (dock installers, etc.) to return zebra mussel infested equipment back to Cross Lake in Crow Wing County under a permit from the DNR.

Powers. Restricts the Lake Minnetonka Conservation District regulatory authority over commercial marinas to activities below the ordinary high-water mark of the lake.

Soil and water conservation districts. Codifies the duties of soil and water conservation districts (SWCDs), including providing technical assistance in a number of situations, participating in certain activities in administering the Wetland Conservation Act, locally administer the reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) reserve program, participating in local water management planning, and coordinating and cooperating with local, state, and federal partners.

Compensation. Increases the cap on the daily compensation amount for watershed district managers from \$75 to \$125

Legislative intent. Modifies the legislative intent of provisions governing the Mississippi Headwaters Board to authorize all zoning authorities (rather than counties as stated in current law) to implement the plan for the area.

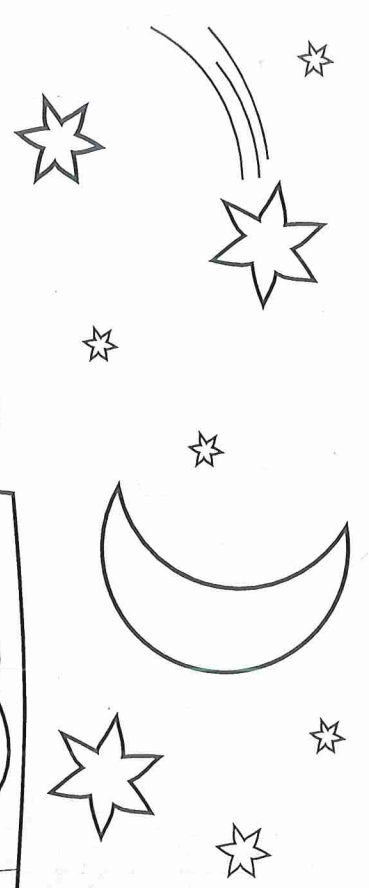
Generally. States that all zoning authorities in addition to the counties are subject to the Mississippi Headwaters Board provisions.

Zoning authority. Defines "zoning authority" for purposes of provisions governing the Mississippi Headwaters Board as "counties, organized townships, local and special governmental units, joint powers boards, councils, commissions, boards, districts, and all state agencies and departments within the corridor" excluding statutory or home rule charter cities.

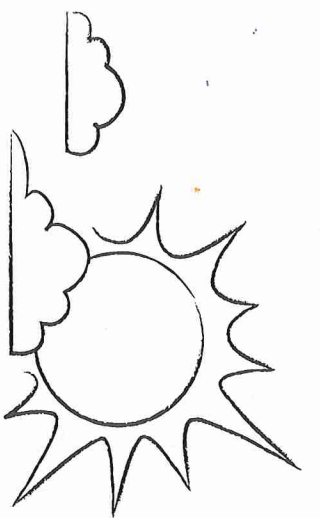
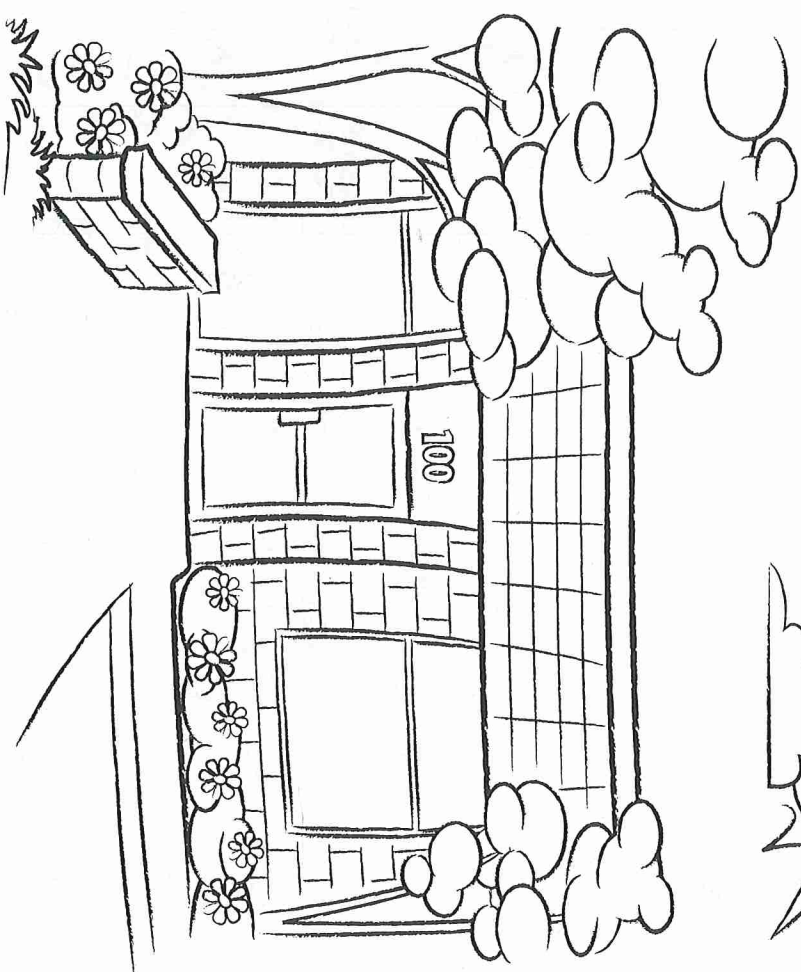
Responsibilities of other governmental units. States that the certification procedure required under the next section applies to all zoning authorities in the corridor.

Purpose. Subjects all zoning authorities to the Mississippi Headwaters Board certification requirements applicable to certain land use actions.

Invasive aquatic plant management permit. Allows notification of landowners regarding invasive aquatic plant management permit activities to be done electronically

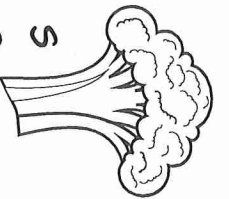
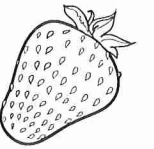
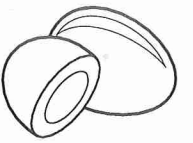


SLEEP WELL. DREAM BIG.

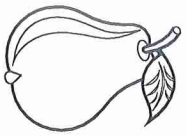
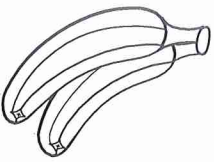


BE HEALTHY

AN EDUCATIONAL COLORING & ACTIVITY BOOK
FROM SOUTH COUNTRY HEALTH ALLIANCE



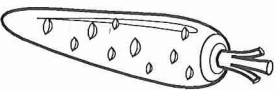
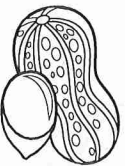
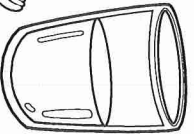
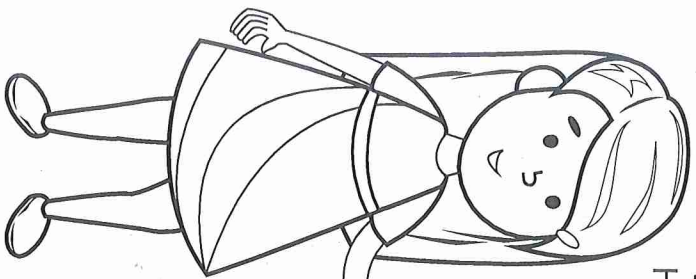
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Fruit
Vegetables
Hummus

Nuts
Cheese
Yogurt

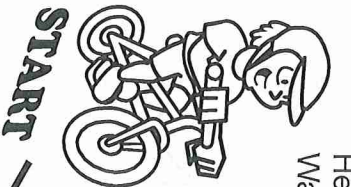
Berries
Carrots
Water



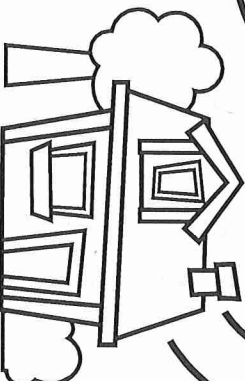
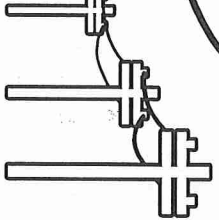
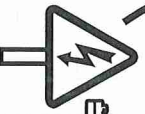
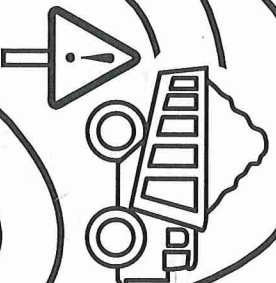
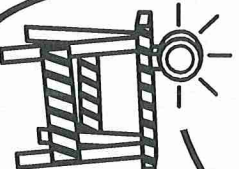
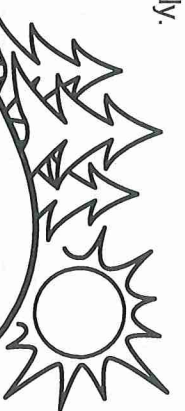
EAT HEALTHY SNACKS AND
DRINK LOTS OF WATER.



Help Max get home safely.
Watch for danger signs.

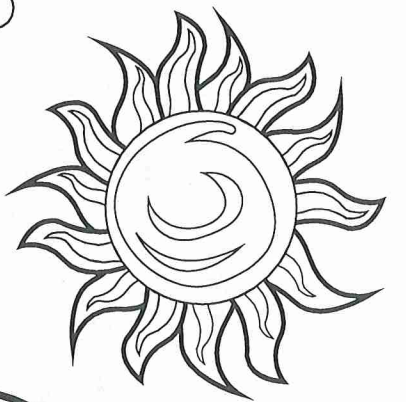
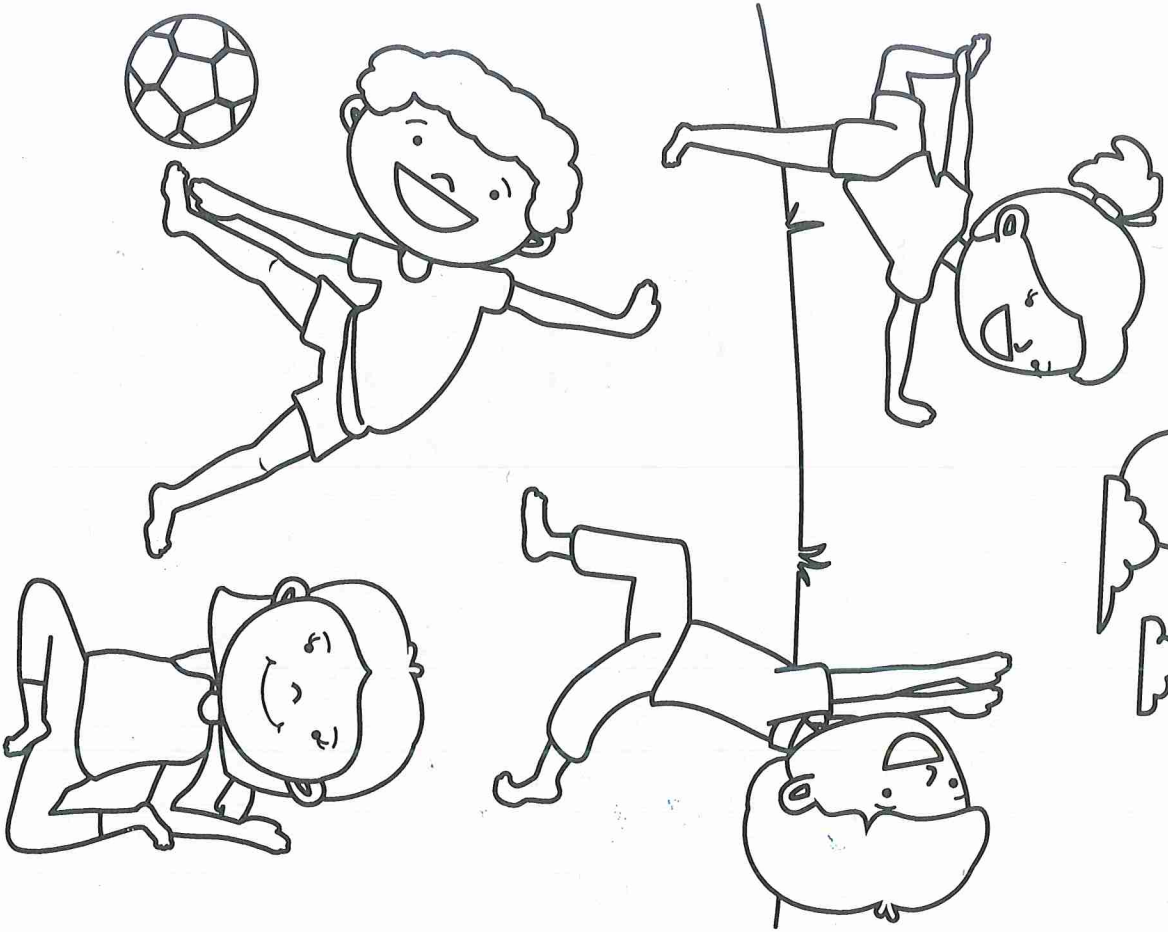


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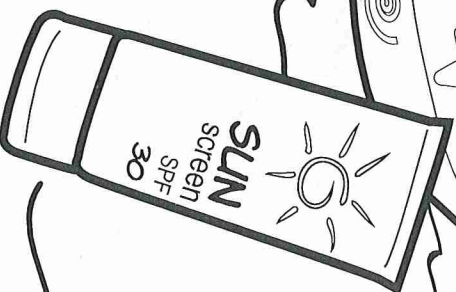


FINISH

EXERCISE



ALWAYS USE SUNSCREEN WHEN
OUTSIDE AND REAPPLY OFTEN!



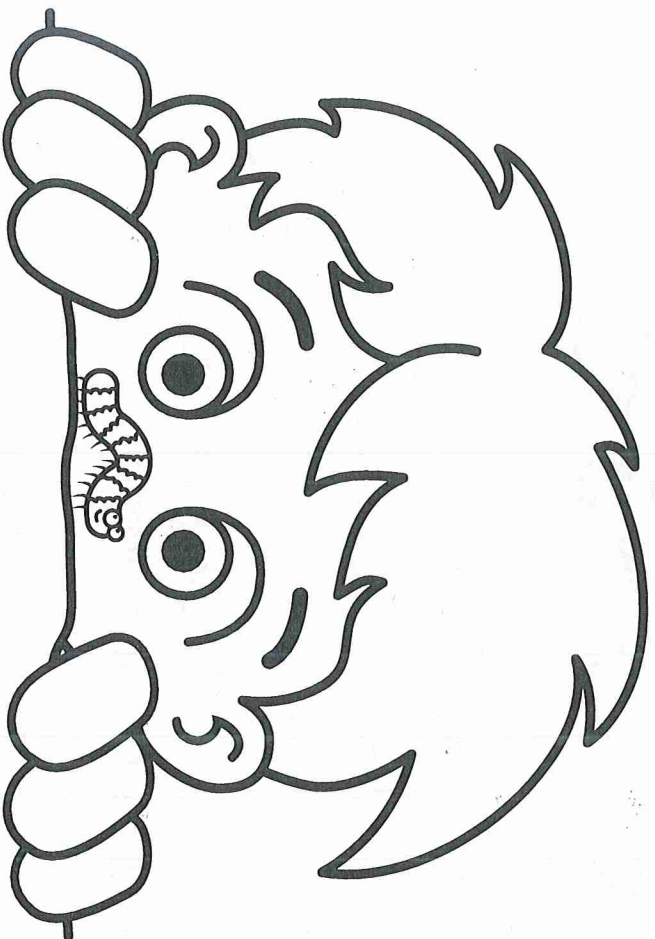
UNPLUG

TURN OFF DEVICES.

TRADE
SCREEN TIME
FOR ACTIVE
PLAY TIME.
YOU MAY
HAVE AN

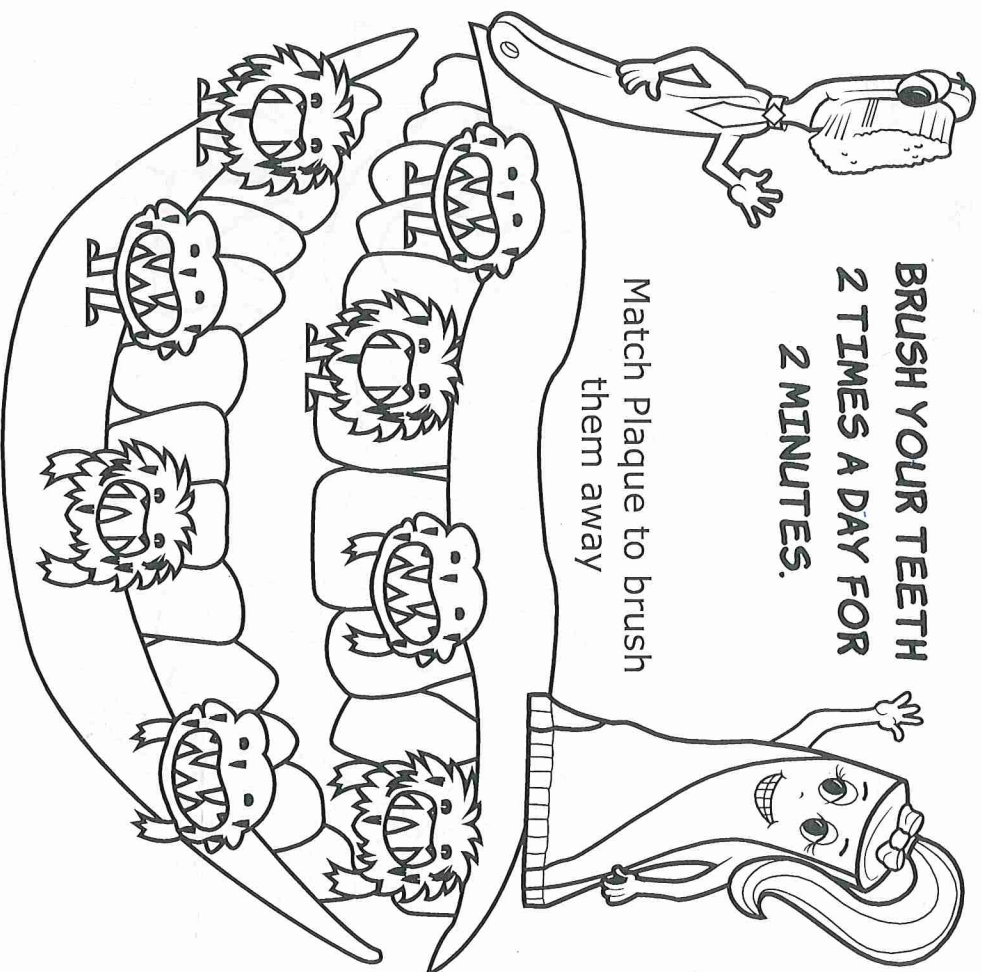


ADVENTURE!

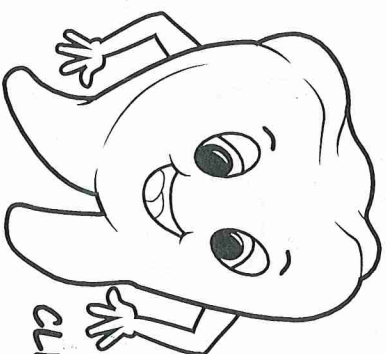


BRUSH YOUR TEETH
2 TIMES A DAY FOR
2 MINUTES.

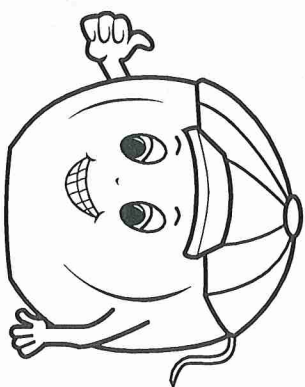
Match Plaque to brush
them away



DAILY FLOSSING IS IMPORTANT TOO!



CLEAN TEETH ARE HAPPY TEETH!



HI!
WELCOME TO
FRESH THYME!

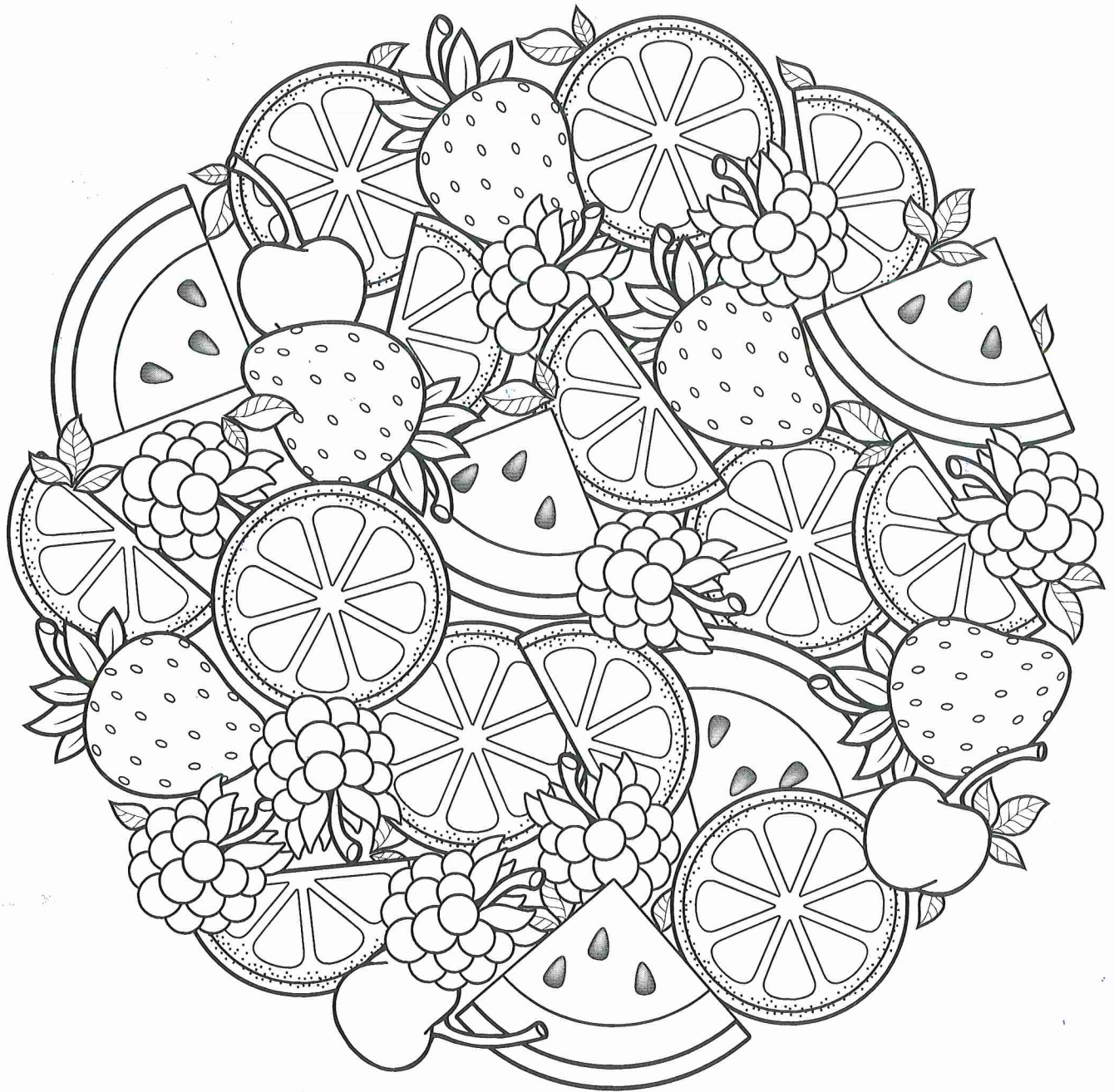


Healthy Food. Healthy Values.



FRESH THYME
FARMERS MARKET

Healthy Food. Healthy Values.



FRESH THYME
FARMERS MARKET®

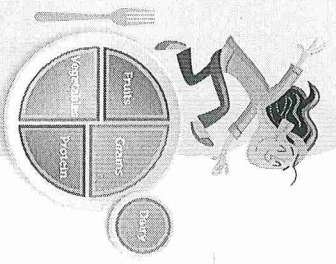
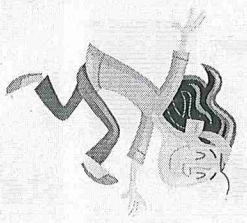
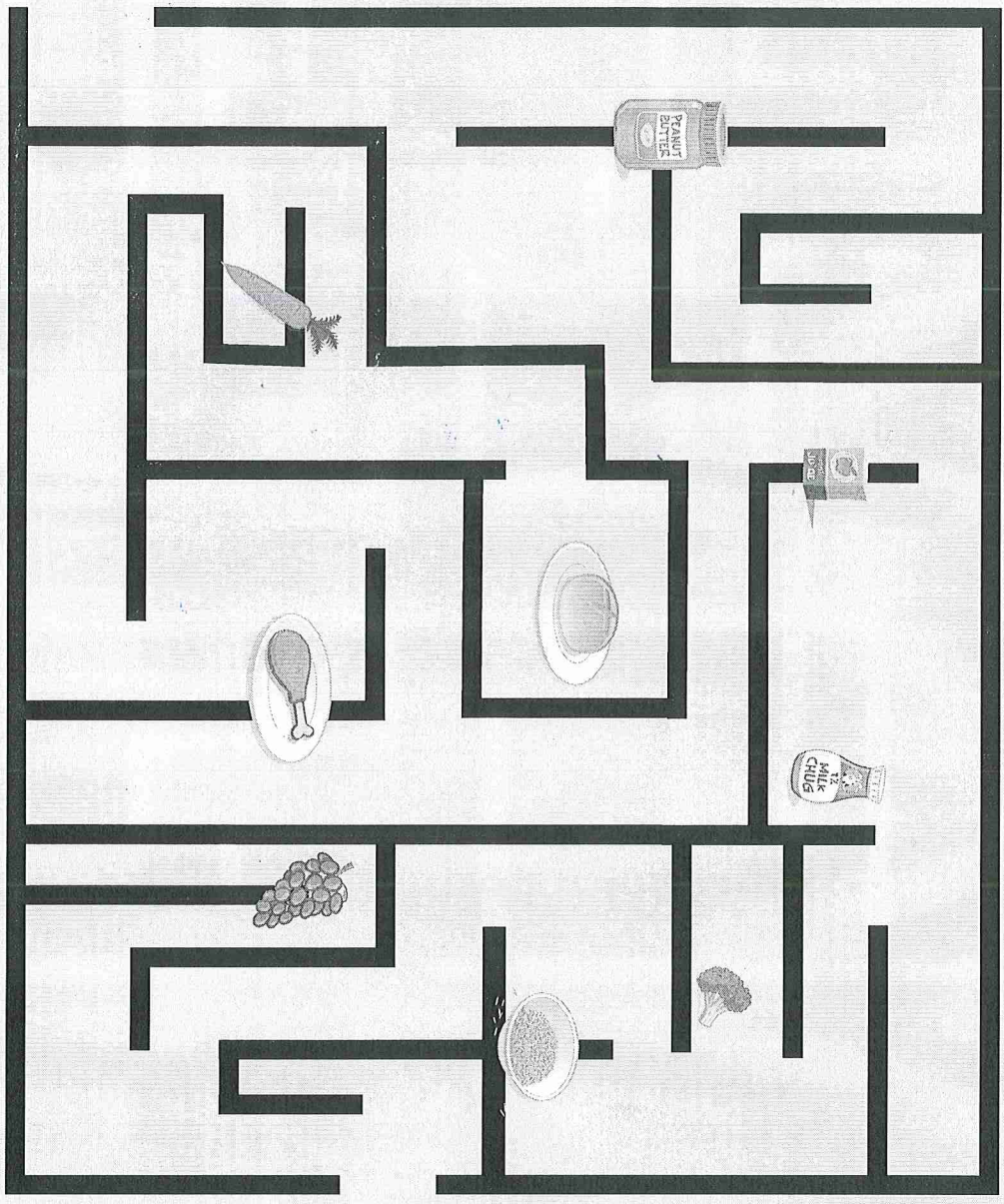
Healthy Food. Healthy Values.

MyPlate Maze

Lead the pal from MyPlate through the maze

. and help her find foods from each food group on the way to

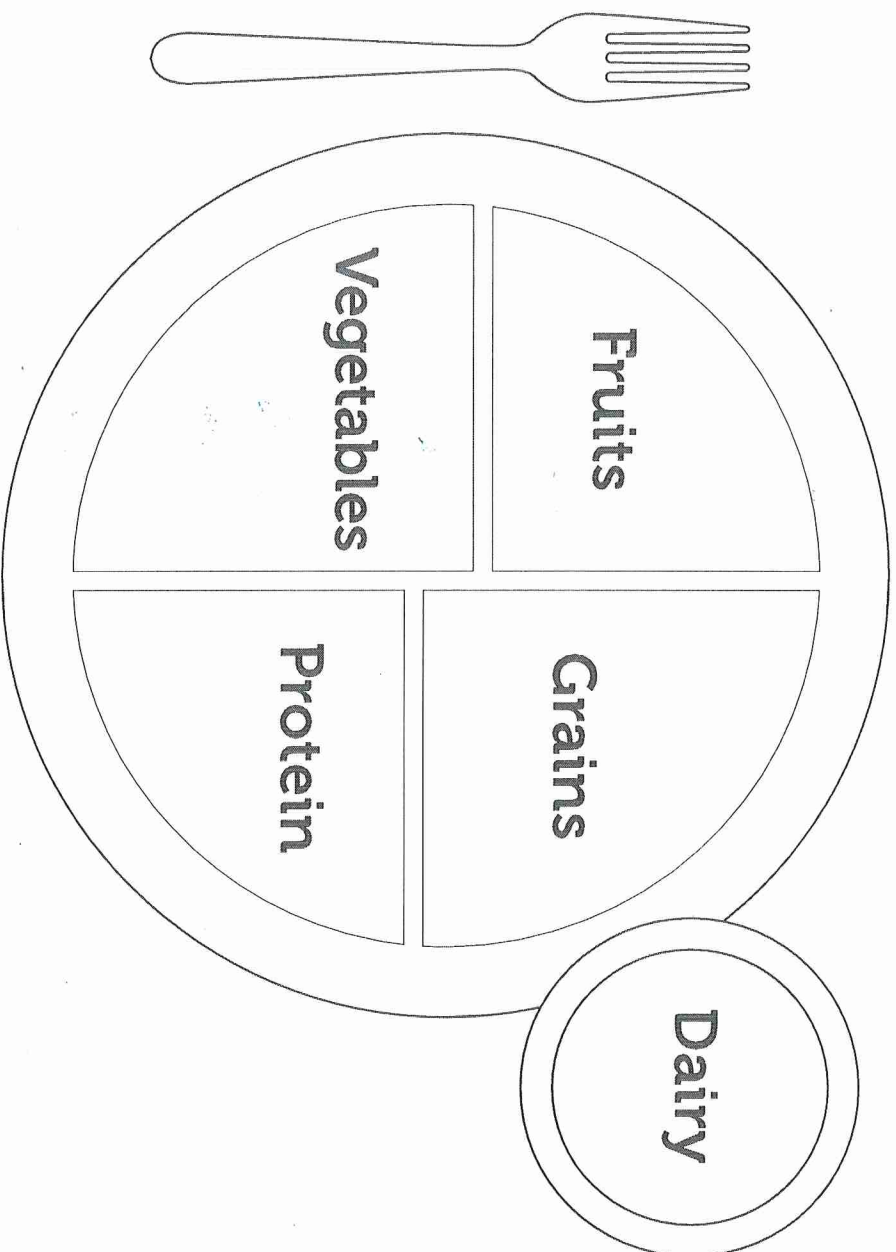
. . . MyPlate for Kids.



Choose **MyPlate.gov**

Adapted from
Team Up At Home Team Nutrition Activity Book

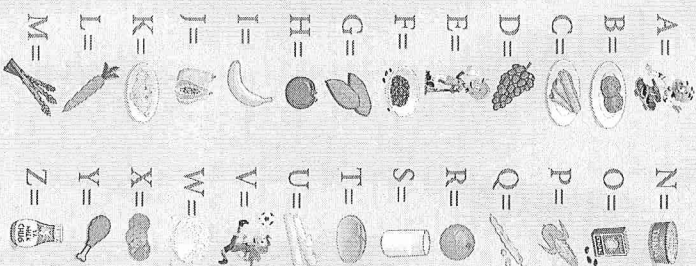




ChooseMyPlate.gov

elow.

Code



100%
WHOPPER®
0% BEEF

IMPOSSIBLE™
WHOPPER®



IMPOSSIBLE™ WHOPPER®



WHAT IS IT?

It's just like the classic WHOPPER®, but made with an Impossible™ patty -- which is cooked like our classic WHOPPER® patty but is actually made entirely from plants.

HOW IS IT COOKED?

The Impossible™ patty is 0% beef. It's made entirely from plant-based sources but it is cooked on the same broiler as our WHOPPER® patties. Let the restaurants know if you would like your Impossible™ patty prepared without using the broiler!

WHAT'S IN IT?

The Impossible™ patty is made from plants. The main ingredients are soy and potato protein, coconut oil, sunflower oil. Read more at impossiblefoods.com.

WHY CHANGE THE CLASSIC WHOPPER®?

We're not changing the WHOPPER®. We're just making it possible for people to experience the same iconic WHOPPER®, Impossible™ style -- featuring an Impossible™ patty made entirely from plants.

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BKC-FLY-445-190801

Planning Commission OKs, Sends Comprehensive Plan to commissioners

BY KAREN M. JORGENSEN
DCI COUNTY WRITER

The Dodge County Planning Commission gave its approval to the revised county Comprehensive Plan last week following a public hearing.

The plan is a revision of the comprehensive plan that was last revised in 2001. The new version was first presented to the public in February and further revised after public input was gathered from the public through public meetings, a survey and other comments. There also were discussions with other interested parties such as MnDOT, Mayo, schools and care centers.

Several changes were made after reviewing the public input, said Cris Gastner of CEDA which prepared the plan.

In his opening remarks at the hearing, Gastner said that a comprehensive plan is not a zoning ordinance or regulations but rather a tool to develop those other documents.

Public input, he said, showed that residents were interested in maintaining the county's rural values and character, protecting prime agricultural land, growing and sustaining diversity and housing options, providing increased opportunity for business growth and increased jobs, supporting improved access to quality

broadband in rural areas, increasing recreational opportunities, allowing for growth without jeopardizing clean air and water and improving and maintaining transportation infrastructure.

Following Gastner's presentation, several audience members spoke to address their concerns about the plan or offer their support.

Rob Westgard, a resident of Milton Township, said he was concerned about restrictions regarding building a home on a parcel less than 53 acres. He explains he owns a parcel that is now unbuildable because the limits permitting building has been reached in his quarter section. Allowing him to build, he said, would raise the tax base and also not be taking away any agricultural land.

Sonja Eayrs, representing Dodge County Concerned Citizens, told the commission that none of the issues that the group has raised in earlier meetings had been addressed.

While there are limits on building a residence on less than 53 acres, she said, the county is still permitting factory farms on five acres.

"There is no effort in the plan to address factory farms," she said, telling commission members they are only inviting more conflict.

She said instead of putting the citizens first, the plan

was pro development and pro factory farm.

Brad Trom said that he raises dogs and that over the past few years whenever people come to look at the dogs their first comment is "what's that smell."

"It's the hogs," he said. The odors affect the dogs, the animals and the people, he said.

Doug Eayrs commented that he appreciated the county doing the presentation on the plan but wished to point out that three branches of the Zumbro River in Dodge County go south right into Olmsted County and Rochester. That means, he said, that what Dodge County does affects neighboring counties.

They also have a home in Concord Township, he said, and their well is contaminated. That area of the county is a karst area and that makes the water sensitive to contamination.

Ken Folie, a member of the Canisteo Township Board, pointed out that there are always concerns about water usage.

The water used in feedlots, he said, is returned to the soil while the water used in communities is directed somewhere else.

He also responded to comments made by Sonja Eayrs

SEE PLAN, A8

A8 THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 2019

DODGE COUNTY INDEPENDENT

NEWS

PLAN: Dodge County FROM A8

that controversies over feedlots had led to trash tossed in ditches near her father's farm and road signs shot at. In Canisteo Township, he said, trash is regularly dumped in ditches and many signs are used for target practice.

"We want to remain pro-ag," he added.

County Commissioner Rod Peterson said he was speaking for himself and not in an official capacity but he wanted to thank everyone involved in preparing the plan and the citizens for their input.

The discussion, he said, gives an indication of where the citizens want to go.

"There are a lot of competing interests," he said. "Life is fluid and the plan needs to be fluid."

Following the closing of the public hearing the Planning Commission voted unanimously to forward the plan to the County Board with a recommendation for its approval.