Summer is here! This is a good time of year to do a quick inspection of your pig’s living space. If your pet stays outdoors, make sure she has access to fresh drinking water, shade and a “swimming hole” or place to cool off and escape the heat. Also keep an eye on any fruit trees or garden veggies that might be producing more snacks than your pet needs. Pigs aren’t known for self-control and moderation when it comes to fallen fruit or a fresh harvest, so make sure you get to the produce before they do!

A Lesson on Zoning - Get it in Writing!

How many times have we heard Marcie Christensen say “get it in writing” in reference to the many questions, pleas and panicked inquiries she receives on the subject of zoning laws? Too many to count. But good advice bears repeating.

When I bought my house, I contacted the city to ask for a written copy of its zoning ordinance. I was told by four different city workers in the zoning department that potbellied pigs were considered livestock and I had a copy of the ordinance on livestock faxed to me.

I knew to get it in writing. Anyone who knows Marcie knows to get it in writing. I didn’t like what the writing said however, as it clearly spelled out I could not have livestock on my property.

Though I got the livestock ordinance in writing, I failed to get the city’s definition of “livestock” in writing. As it turns out, potbellied pigs fall under the Exotic Pets category, not livestock, and are indeed legal where I live -- even if none of the city workers I spoke with seem to know it.

It’s ALWAYS best to figure out the zoning rules BEFORE relocating. When you do contact a city to get it in writing, make sure to not only get the ordinance, but also ask for the written definitions of “Exotic Animals” and “Livestock,” that can make all the difference!

Speaking of Gardens...

Here’s a link to an article about putting your pigs to work tilling soil:
http://tinyurl.com/noa4fd

Product Links (search “pig”):

www.etsy.com
www.countrydoor.com
www.artglass-pottery.com
www.onlinediscountmart.com
www.pigsinapoke.com
www.goodluckcreations.com
www.pigstuff.com

Pass the Pigs online: http://tinyurl.com/8sdaa
KPIG online radio: http://tinyurl.com/mv34dg
Decorative pig story: http://tinyurl.com/m8mle2
Beverage company: www.hogwashfun.com

Visit www.zazzle.com to get pre-designed or custom pig images on everything from postage stamps to tennis shoes. (This week only, get 15% off your entire order with the coupon code: FRIFAMZAZZLE)