

Animal Contact Exhibit Check List

Signage

The animal contact exhibitor shall provide visible signage at the entrance and exit of the exhibit to educate the public. The signage will include:

- Animal contact may pose a health risk.
- Items that are prohibited in animal areas.
- Identified high-risk populations such as the elderly, children under the age of six, women who are pregnant, and people with existing health conditions.
- Location of hand-washing stations.

(Printable signage: <https://www.ncagr.gov/markets/fairs/fairmanagerinfo.htm>)

Fencing

Animals and bedding shall be separated from the public with fencing to minimize the public's contact with manure and bedding.

- Fencing shall be at least 29 inches high.
- On the side(s) of the exhibit intended for public contact, the fencing shall have a solid board or panel at the bottom at least eight inches high to contain manure and bedding.
- Fencing may allow children to reach through or over to pet and feed animals.

*This does not apply to animal rides (including pony, camel, and elephant rides); milking booths; or the petting of an animal held or restrained outside of its housing area by an exhibit operator or patron as part of an educational or photographic opportunity where there is limited possibility of contact with manure and bedding.

Hand Washing Stations

Hand-washing stations shall be located **within 10 feet of the exit** of the animal contact exhibit, wherever feasible. Hand washing station shall:

- Post signage directing patrons to handwashing station.
- Provide a sink suitable for small children,
- Provide soap, running water, paper towels, and disposal containers.

*Waterless hand sanitizing lotions, gels, or hand wipes shall not be provided in the transition or exhibit area, to promote handwashing with soap and water. Such dispensers may be placed at the entrance of milking booths to reduce the potential for introduction of disease to the exhibit animals.

Prohibited Items

To minimize hand-to-mouth contact no pacifiers, baby bottles, drink cups, food, drink or smoking shall be allowed in animal contact exhibits.

Age Requirements

Unsupervised children less than six years old shall not be permitted in animal contact areas.

Feeding of Animals

Only food provided by the animal contact exhibit may be fed to the animals. Animal food shall not be provided in containers that are human food items, such as ice cream cones.

Staffing Requirements

An animal contact exhibit shall be staffed at all times of operation by at least one person who has the authority to ensure that the exhibit complies with Aedin's Law. The owner, operator, or person in charge of an animal contact exhibit shall be responsible for compliance, and shall not knowingly permit violations by its employees, agents, or patrons.

Surface Areas

- Surfaces in the animal contact exhibit that can be touched by both fair patrons and animals shall be made of impervious material and shall be cleaned and disinfected daily and at any time visible contamination is present.
- All animal fencing, feed troughs, and open watering systems shall be disinfected prior to and at the end of each fair.
- Contact animal exhibits shall be held on impervious surfaces whenever feasible.
- Impervious exhibit areas shall be cleaned and disinfected at the end of the fair.
- Exhibit areas that are not impervious shall be cleaned of all manure at the end of the fair and shall not be used for human activities for at least six months after cleaning.

*Paragraphs (c) and (e) of this Rule shall not apply to **pony rides**.

Waste Disposal

The animal contact exhibit shall have a designated area for temporary storage of animal waste and shall not transport such waste through areas occupied by fair patrons. Manure disposal and storage areas shall be inaccessible to the public unless waste is bagged and placed in a closeable dumpster.

Food & Beverages

Food and beverages for human consumption shall not be sold, prepared, served, or consumed in transition areas. If a food vendor is located in this area speak to the fair manager.

Health Certificates and Vaccinations

An official health certificate as defined in 02 NCAC 52B .0202, a rabies vaccination certificate (when applicable), and any other documentation required by 02 NCAC 52B for species or state of origin, shall accompany all animals contained in a public contact setting. (b) An animal for which there is an approved rabies vaccine, but which is too young to receive rabies vaccination, is prohibited from animal contact exhibits unless proof of rabies vaccination within the preceding 12 months of the mother is provided. (c) Initial rabies vaccination shall be administered at least 30 days prior to the event. Subsequent vaccinations for livestock shall be no more than one year prior to the event and may be within 30 days of the event if proof of previous vaccination is provided. Dogs and cats shall be in compliance with the North Carolina rabies law, G.S. 130A, Article 6, Part 6. (d) If no licensed rabies vaccine exists for a particular species (such as rabbits, goats, llamas, and camels), no vaccination is required.

Daily Monitoring

Animals shall be monitored daily by exhibit personnel for signs of illness. Animals that exhibit signs of illness shall be removed from public contact immediately.

RECORDS Each contact animal exhibit shall keep a record of daily disinfection and animal monitoring during each fair. Records shall be maintained for a period of one year and shall be made available for inspection by the Commissioner of Agriculture or his designee.

HIGH RISK ANIMALS that pose a high disease risk to humans, as determined by the State Veterinarian or his representative, shall not be allowed in animal contact exhibits.

BIRTHING ANIMALS No near-birth or birthing sheep, cattle or goats and no sheep, cattle or goats that have given birth within the previous two weeks shall be allowed in animal contact exhibits