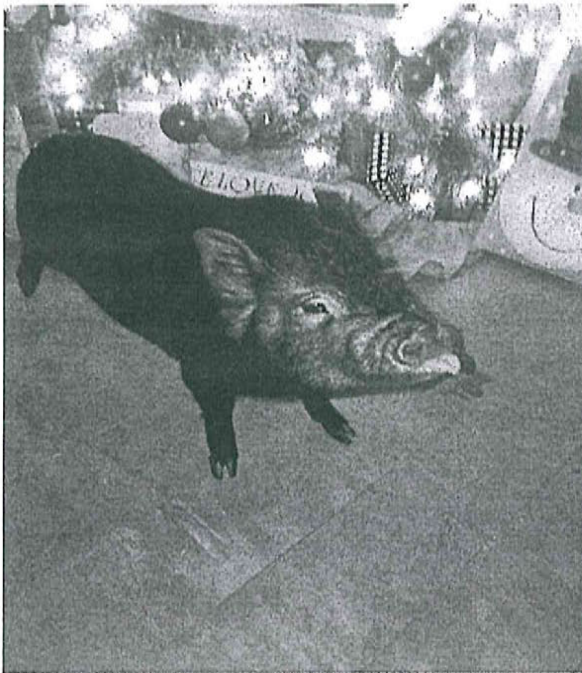


June 26, 2020
Stephanie Bowers Zoning Appeals
Request
City of Shelbyville UDO 5.26 KA-01



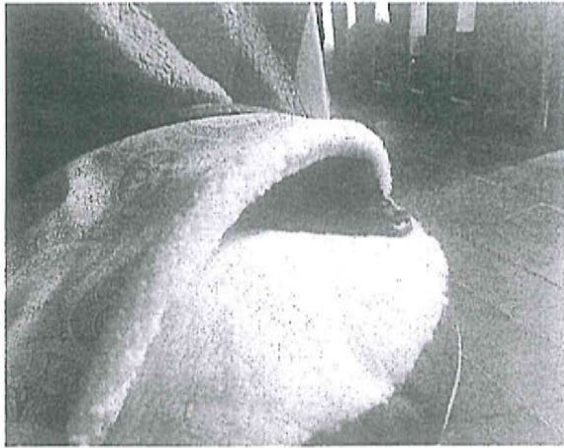


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ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL APPLICATION

Shelbyville Planning & Building Department
44 West Washington Street
Shelbyville, IN 46176
P: 317.392.5102

For Office Use Only:

Case #: BZA _____ - _____
Hearing Date: _____
Fees Paid: \$ _____
Final Decision:
Approved _____ Denied _____

1.

Applicant (person or company requesting variance)

Name: Stephanie Bowers
Address: 523 5th St.
Shelbyville IN 46176
Phone Number: _____
Fax Number: _____
Email: _____

Property Owners Information (if different than Applicant)

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone Number: _____
Fax Number: _____
Email: _____

2.

Applicant's Attorney/Representative

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone Number: _____
Fax Number: _____
Email: _____

Project Engineer

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone Number: _____
Fax Number: _____
Email: _____

3. Project Information:

Address of Property: 523 5th St. Shelbyville IN 46176
Current Zoning: Residential Existing Use of Property: residence

5. Applicable Ordinance Section Number(s)

- Affidavit and Consent of Property Owner (if applicable)
- Proof of Ownership (copy of deed, recent property card)
- Letter of Intent
- Vicinity Map
- Application Fee
- Any Supporting Documents

The undersigned states the above information is true and correct as s/he is informed and believes.

Signature of Applicant: Stephanie R Date: 6-19-2020

State of Indiana)
County of Shelby) SS:

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 19th day of June, 2020

Carol S da Silva Notary Public, Carol S da Silva Printed

Residing in Shelby County. My Commission Expires: 3-16-2024



AFFIDAVIT & CONSENT OF PROPERTY OWNER
APPLICATION TO THE SHELBYVILLE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

STATE OF _____)
COUNTY OF _____) SS:

I, Stephanie Bowers, AFTER BEING DULY SWORN, DEPOSE AND SAY THE
(Name of property owner)
FOLLOWING:

1. That I am the owner of real estate located at 5235th St. Shelbyville IN 46170
(Address of subject property)
2. That I have read and examined the Application made to the Shelbyville Board of Zoning Appeals by:
Stephanie Bowers
(Name of applicant)
3. That I have no objections to, and consent to the request(s) described in the Application made to the Shelbyville Board of Zoning Appeals.

Stephanie Bowers
Owner's Name (Please Print)

[Signature]
Owner's Signature

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 19th day of June, 2020.

Carol S da Silva / Carol S da Silva
Notary Public / Printed

Residing in Shelby County My Commission expires 3-16-2024

Carol S. Da Silva
Notary Public - Official Seal
State of Indiana
Commission Number 681976
My Commission Expires Mar. 16, 2024

Dear Zoning Appeals Board Members:

6/24/2020

Thank you for taking the time to read this packet. I have included factual documentation regarding pot belly pigs as well as statements from my neighbors in support of amending the current ordinance. I have included topics that I believe the City Council will be concerned in regard to public safety such as housing, health of the general public, statistics and statement from local animal shelters regarding pig and/or dog attacks.

Today I am asking that you review my documents in reference to my notice of violation. The current ordinance was put into place in 1995 that is Twenty- Five years ago. Look around our City, at your families, even your properties- a lot has changed in the last 25 years. I have included a statement from the United States Department of Agriculture detailing the Federal Government's take on pot belly pigs. I also have included a statement from my veterinarian that my pets regularly visit. I would like to present these documents as evidence to the Board, proving that I am, in fact, not in violation of a Zoning Ordinance. The Ordinance specifically states Farm Animals are prohibited. It is clear based on the documents I have proved, pot belly pigs are not recognized as farm animals in the USA.

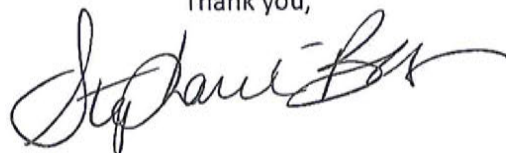
I have never received a complaint regarding my pot belly pigs. In fact, of each neighbor I met with not one knew we had potbellied pigs as pets.

We are a family of 4, and have lived on 5th Street for almost 17 years. We have had our oldest pot bellied pig for almost 3 years now. My husband and I both work full time, and our children attend Shelbyville Central High School. We have been life long Shelby County residents. I could take quite a bit of time to explain how much I love my pot bellied pigs, but that should be apparent to each of you given my efforts and dedication to them.

I would like to partner with the City of Shelbyville to educate our citizens, as well as Animal Control, Police Department, Fire Department and Department of Child Services. I share many of the same concerns as the City. I do not want irresponsible pet owners in our City. I can provide a list of the following information to anyone wishing to have a pot bellied pig as a pet: Veterinarian for pot bellied pigs, information on spaying and neutering, assistance program for spaying and neutering, and rescues near our area to assist in the event they are in need. I would like to serve as a civilian liaison to the city, and offer my personal time, energy and money if necessary to assist those who desire a pot bellied pig as a pet, or currently have one in their home.

The last year and a half has been very difficult for me personally. My pot bellied pigs have helped me through some very troubling times. I rely on them daily for an unwavering love that only a pig can give. They are so much different than dogs or cats in that respect. Potbellied pigs have the intellectual capacity of a 3 to 4 year old child, they are smart, emotional and loving. My pets cry real tears when I am away for work. They are just as emotionally attached to me as I am to them.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephanie B. Fox". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'S' and 'F'.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Washington, DC
20250

September 21, 1997

Ms. Pamela J. Winston
2630 Avenue S, NW
Winter Haven, Florida 33881

Dear Ms. Winston:

Thank you for your letter of September 19, 1997, to President Clinton concerning pot bellied pigs. Because our Agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) enforces the Animal Welfare Act (AWA)—a law that governs the treatment of many animals—the White House forwarded your letter to us for response.

We share your concern for the growing population of unwanted animals and commend your efforts to care for such animals in your area. Under the AWA, our Agency is charged with the responsibility of licensing or registering certain breeders, researchers, exhibitors, and dealers to ensure that they provide their animals with living conditions that meet or exceed specified standards for veterinary care and animal husbandry. Included are areas such as handling, sanitation, food, water, transportation, and protection against extremes of weather and temperature. However, animal ownership laws are under the jurisdiction of State and local governments, and we suggest you continue working with these authorities on this matter.

In regard to your request that the Federal government recognize pot bellied pigs as pets, we wish to clarify that—in most cases—we do consider these animals to be pet animals. A pot bellied pig is considered livestock only when these animals are in import or export status. Restrictions are imposed only to prevent disease transmissions that may affect the health status of the domestic swine industry in either the importing or exporting country. However, USDA—for all other purposes—considers pot bellied pigs to be pet animals because they are not bred and raised in this country for food or fiber purposes. Accordingly, their care and protection fall within the jurisdiction of State and local authorities.

We hope this information is helpful and that you will continue your efforts to ensure the well-being of these animals.

Sincerely,

Terry L. Medley
for Administrator



APHIS - Protecting American Agriculture

Definitions - Animal Boarding

Animal Boarding: The housing and care of animals generally including shelters and pasture areas. Also, the use of any structure and/or land for the lodging, breeding, or care of dogs, cats, pets, fowl, horses, or other domestic animals for profit, excluding animals used for agricultural purposes.

Animal, Domestic: An animal that has been adopted by human beings to live and breed in a tame condition.

Animal, Exotic: An animal raised and bred healthy and humanely for a unique pet or entertainment, or an animal rescued from the wild or from a zoo. An exotic animal is primarily securely caged. An exotic animal does not include an outdoor pet, household pet, or farm animal. Examples of an exotic animal include: a lion, tiger, wolf, coyote, and elephant.

Animal, Farm: Animals commonly used for transportation, food, skins, and other by-products. Farm animals include, but are not limited to: horses, cattle, pigs, sheep, goats, mules, donkeys, miniature horses, miniature donkeys, camels, emu, ostrich, llamas, alpacas, rabbits, mink, fox, buffalo, chickens, turkeys, quail, pheasants, and other animals or fowl of similar characteristics.

Animal, Non-farm: See "Pets, Household" and "Pets, Outdoor."

Antenna: Any system of wires, poles, rods, reflecting discs, or similar devices used for the purpose of receiving and or transmitting signals, images, sounds, or information of any nature by radio, visual, or electromagnetic waves, including but not limited to directional or omnidirectional antennas, panels, and microwave or satellite dishes external to or attached to the exterior of any building.

Apartment: A dwelling unit in a structure, arranged, intended, designed, or occupied on a rental basis for the housing of a single family, an individual, group of individuals, or other single housekeeping unit.

Apartment Complex: A group of structures containing apartments located on a single property and organized around a system of interior drives. An apartment complex may include recreation facilities and other similar accessory uses.

Apartment House: A single structure containing apartments that is accessed only by public streets and does not include any recreational facilities or other similar accessory uses.

Applicant: The owner(s), developer, subdivider, or other legal representative of real estate who makes application for action affecting the property.

Application: The completed form or forms, together with any other required materials, exhibits, and fees required of an applicant consistent with the procedures established by this Ordinance.

Appurtenance: A minor element of a larger structure, such as a bay window, stairs, light post, etc.

Arborist: An individual trained in arboriculture, forestry, landscape architecture, horticulture, or related fields and experienced in the conservation and preservation of trees.

Arcade: A building or part of a building containing four (4) or more video, pinball, or similar player-operated amusement devices, in any combination, for commercial use.

Archery Range: A facility designed and/or used for target practice with bows and arrows.

Arterial Road: See "Street, Arterial."

Arterial Street: See "Street, Arterial."

Assembly Hall: A building or portion of a building in which facilities are provided for group civic, educational, political, professional, religious, cultural, or social functions.

Assisted Living Facility: A facility providing services that assist residents with daily activities, such as dressing, grooming, bathing, etc.

Athletic Field: A wide stretch of open land used for outdoor games such as baseball, basketball, football, or soccer.

Attached Building: A building that is structurally connected to another building by a foundation, wall, or roof line.

Attention Attracting Device: Any flashing or moving beacon, animation, banner, clock or other object mounted onto or in a sign designed to attract the attention of the public.

Auction Facility: A building or property used for the storage of goods and materials that are to be sold on the premises by public auction, and for the sale of the said goods and materials by public action on an occasional basis only.

Auto-oriented Uses, Large Scale: Uses such as sales and service of automobiles, motorcycles and/or recreational vehicles.

Auto-oriented Uses, Medium Scale: Uses such as auto repair and body work, vehicle detailing/auto accessory sales and installation, and oil change/lube shops.

Auto-oriented Uses, Small Scale: Uses such as gas stations, and car washes.

Automobile Parts Sales: The use of any structure and/or property for the display and sale of new or used parts for motor vehicles. This does not include any salvage yard or the storage of inoperable vehicles.

Definitions

livestock

Also found in: [Thesaurus](#), [Medical](#), [Legal](#), [Financial](#), [Encyclopedia](#), [Wikipedia](#).

live·stock

(līv'stök')

n.

Domestic animals, such as cattle or horses, raised for home use or for profit, especially on a farm.
American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fifth Edition. Copyright © 2016 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. All rights reserved.

livestock

('larv, stök)

n.

(Agriculture) (*functioning as singular or plural*) cattle, horses, poultry, and similar animals kept for domestic use but not as pets, esp on a farm or ranch
Collins English Dictionary – Complete and Unabridged, 12th Edition 2014 © HarperCollins Publishers 1991, 1994, 1998, 2000, 2003, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2014

live•stock

('larv, stök)

n. (used with a sing. or pl. v.)

the horses, cattle, sheep, and other useful animals kept or raised on a farm or ranch.
Random House Kernerman Webster's College Dictionary, © 2010 K Dictionaries Ltd. Copyright 2005, 1997, 1991 by Random House, Inc. All rights reserved.

Keeping of Animals Standards

5.26 KA-01: Single-family Residential Keeping of Household and Outdoor Pets Standards

This Keeping of Animals Standards section applies to the following zoning districts:



The following standards apply:

A. Cross References:

1. *Keeping of Animal Ordinance: See City Ordinance 90.01 Keeping Animals, Fowl, or Bees.*
2. *Keeping of Dangerous Animals Ordinance: See City Ordinance 90.06 Keeping Dangerous Reptiles and Animals.*
3. *Keeping of Vicious or Ferocious Animals: See City Ordinance 90.12 Vicious or Ferocious Animals.*

B. Indoor Pets: Maximum of three (3) dogs, plus three (3) of any other mammalian or reptilian indoor pet species, plus any number of fish.

C. Outdoor Pets: Outdoor pets are permitted as follows:

1. *Minimum Lot Area: One-fifth (1/5) acre.*
2. *Maximum Number of Outdoor Pets: One (1) outdoor pet per one-fifth (1/5) acre with an absolute maximum of three (3).*

D. Farm Animals: All farm animals shall be prohibited except chickens and rabbits, which are permitted as follows:

1. Chickens:

- a. *Minimum Lot Area: One-fifth (1/5) acre.*
- b. *Maximum Number of Farm Animals: Three (3) chickens per lot.*
- c. *Permitted and Prohibited Types: Hens shall be permitted and roosters shall be prohibited.*
- d. *Location: A chicken coup shall be permitted, but only in the rear yard and within the setbacks applicable to a primary structure in the subject zoning district.*

2. Rabbits:

- a. *Minimum Lot Area: One-fifth (1/5) acre.*
- b. *Maximum Number of Farm Animals: Four (4) rabbits per lot.*
- c. *Location: A rabbit hutch shall be permitted, but only in the rear yard and within the setbacks applicable to a primary structure in the subject zoning district. It shall be at least fifty (50) feet from residences on any adjoining lot.*

5.27 KA-02: Multiple-family Residential Keeping of Household and Outdoor Pets Standards

This Keeping of Animals Standards section applies to the following zoning districts:



The following standards apply:

A. Cross References:

1. *City Ordinance 90.01 Keeping Animals, Fowl, or Bees.*
2. *City Ordinance 90.06 Keeping Dangerous Reptiles and Animals*

B. Exotic Animals: Exotic animals shall not be permitted.

C. Indoor Pets: Maximum of three (3) dogs, plus three (3) of any other mammalian or reptilian indoor pet species, plus any number of fish.

D. Outdoor Pets: Outdoor pets are not permitted.

INFORMATION BULLETIN #9

SALES TAX

AUGUST 2008

(Replaces Bulletin #9 dated January 2003)

DISCLAIMER: Information bulletins are intended to provide nontechnical assistance to the general public. Every attempt is made to provide information that is consistent with the appropriate statutes, rules and court decisions. Any information that is not consistent with the law, regulations, or court decisions is not binding on either the Department or the taxpayer. Therefore, the information provided herein should serve only as a foundation for further investigation and study of the current law and procedures related to the subject matter covered herein.

SUBJECT: Agricultural Production Exemptions

REFERENCES: IC 6-2.5-4-5, IC 6-2.5-5-1, IC 6-2.5-5-2, IC 6-2.5-5-5.1, 45 IAC 2.2-5-1, 45 IAC 2.2-5-2, 45 IAC 2.2-5-3, 45 IAC 2.2-5-4, 45 IAC 2.2-5-5, 45 IAC 2.2-5-6, 45 IAC 2.2-5-7

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon Publication in Indiana Register

I. Purchases

The general rule for the application of sales or use tax is that a purchase of tangible personal property to be used in Indiana is subject to tax unless a specific exemption is available.

Indiana law provides several exemptions from sales and use tax relating to agricultural production. The exemptions are limited to purchases of animals, feed, seed, plants, fertilizer, insecticides, fungicides, and other tangible personal property; and agricultural machinery, tools, and equipment to be directly used in the direct production of food or commodities that are sold either for human consumption or for further food or commodity production.

The phrase "directly used in direct production" means that the property must be integral and essential to the production process. Property is integral and essential to the production of food or commodities if it is necessary to carry on production and plays a key role in the actual production of the food or commodity. Some examples of property that are directly used in direct production are discussed later.

→ A. Animals, Feed, Seed, and Farm Products

Purchases of animals, animal feed, seeds, fertilizer, plants, insecticides, fungicides, and other similar items of tangible personal property are exempt from sales and use tax if two conditions are met. The person acquiring the property must directly use the property in the direct production of food or commodities for sale and the person must be occupationally engaged in the production of food or commodities sold for human or animal consumption or for further use in food or commodity production.

To be occupationally engaged in the production of food or commodities, a person must be regularly engaged in commercial production for the sale of vegetables, fruits, crops, livestock, poultry, and other food or agricultural products. Persons who do not intend to operate at a profit or who produce food or agricultural commodities for sale as a hobby are not occupationally engaged in the production of food or agricultural commodities.

The term "feed" includes salt, grains, tankage, oyster shells, mineral supplements, vitamins, and other generally recognized animal feed. "Fertilizer" means any commodity that contains one or more substances to increase the available plant food content of the growing medium. Generally, the contents of the fertilizer must become part of the plants grown and must be used as a fertilizer.

Examples:

1. Bob Jones plants 600 acres of soybeans. He intends to sell the soybeans at a profit. He buys insecticide to spray the soybeans. The insecticide fails, and his crop is eventually ruined. The purchase of the insecticide is exempt. The fact that the crop was not sold does not make the purchase of the insecticide taxable.
2. Same facts as in example 1, except that Bob uses the insecticide to protect his prize rhododendrons. The plants are not sold, nor does Bob intend to sell them. The insecticide is taxable because in this example the insecticide is not being directly used in the direct production of agricultural products for sale.

3. Lab Animals Corporation raises animals to be used in research. The animals are not sold to be eaten by humans. The research is to develop medicines to be used to prevent or cure human and animal diseases. Lab Animals Corporation cannot purchase animal feed exempt from tax under the agricultural exemptions.
4. Ride-A-Horse, Inc. purchases 20 horses to be used as riding animals. The horses would be taxable because the animals are not directly used in the direct production of food or agricultural commodities.
5. Ride-A-Horse, Inc. purchases 1,000 bales of hay to feed horses used as riding animals. The hay is taxable because the feed is not used to feed animal directly used in the direct production of food.

B. Agricultural Machinery, Tools, and Equipment

The purchases of agricultural machinery, tools and equipment are exempt from sales and use tax if the machinery, tools and equipment are directly used in the direct production, extraction, harvesting, or processing of agricultural commodities. If the machinery or equipment is not directly used in the direct production of agricultural commodities, but is designed for use in the gathering, moving, or spreading of animal waste, the machinery or equipment may be exempt if the following conditions are met:

1. The person acquiring the equipment acquires it for use in conjunction with the production of food or commodities for sale.
2. The person acquiring the machinery or equipment is occupationally engaged in the production of food or commodities that are sold for human or animal consumption or are used for further food or commodity production.
3. The machinery or equipment is designed for use in gathering, moving, or spreading animal waste.

Examples:

1. Fencing used to confine livestock during breeding, gestation, farrowing, calving, nursing and finishing is exempt from tax. During these activities, the fencing plays a key role in the raising of the livestock.
2. John Doe, a cattle rancher, purchases needles, syringes and vaccine pumps to inoculate his herd to prevent

chemicals is necessary and plays a key role in the raising of crops.

6. Corporation A runs a large hog farm operation where pigs are bred, raised, slaughtered, and packaged to be sold to wholesale grocers. The pigs are kept in confinement buildings. The confinement buildings maintain the integrity of the product and control the animals' growth environment to facilitate the raising process. Any property directly used in the process of raising the pigs, such as heat exchangers, fans, thermostats, heat pumps, roof vents, and the confinement stalls or porches, would be eligible for exemption. These materials are exempt because if a person occupationally engaged in producing food for human consumption chooses to raise livestock in confinement buildings, these materials are both essential and integral to the production process.

C. Utilities

Under certain circumstances, Indiana law provides an exemption from sales tax for the purchase of the following utilities: electrical energy, natural and artificial gas, water, and steam and steam heat. The utilities listed here are exempt from tax if they are directly used in the direct production of agricultural commodities. Thus, if a person occupationally engaged in the production of agricultural commodities purchases electricity to dry grain, the electricity would be exempt because drying grain is integral and essential to the production of grain. The purchase of electricity to run a fan to ventilate a dried grain storage silo would be taxable because the farmer purchasing the electricity is not going to subject the dried grain to further processing.

If a person engaged in agricultural production buys utilities from a public utility and predominantly uses the utilities directly in the direct production of agricultural commodities, the utility is not required to collect tax on the purchase of the utilities. Each meter measuring the consumption of a utility is treated separately for purposes of determining whether a utility is predominantly used in production. Further, a utility is predominantly used in agricultural production when more than 50 percent of the utility is being directly used in direct agricultural production.

Before utilities may be purchased tax exempt from a public utility, an application for a predominant use exclusion must be filed with the Department of Revenue on form ST-200. If approved, an exemption

various cattle diseases. The equipment is exempt from tax because it is essential and integral to the raising of cattle. Without vaccinations, many of John's cattle could die.

3. Sam Johnson owns 800 acres and grows wheat to be sold to a corporate bakery. Sam purchased lumber, nails, concrete, and tools to build a silo to house his grain-drying operation. The lumber and other building materials are exempt from tax; the silo is exempt from tax because the grain-drying operation is integral and essential to the processing of the grain. The grain can not be sold to Sam's customer until it is dried, thus the silo is necessary and plays a key role in the processing of the grain. The tools used to build the silo are taxable because the tools are not used in the processing of the grain.
4. Sam Johnson buys lumber, nails and concrete to build a silo to store grain after it has dried. Sam sells the grain to his customer after the grain is dried without further processing. The materials used to build the silo are taxable. Once the grain has dried, no further processing takes place before the grain is sold, thus the processing of the grain is complete after drying. A silo used to store dried grain may be necessary, but it does not play a key role in the processing of the grain because the processing of the grain is finished. If the storage silo were used half of the time to dry grain and the other half to store dried grain, then the silo would be 50 percent exempt and 50 percent taxable. If Sam also operated a mill where the grain was ground, then the dried grain storage silo would be exempt from tax. The silo would be exempt because the silo would be a temporary storage place for work in process. The courts have determined that the temporary storage of property between processing steps is integral and essential to an integrated production process.
5. Corporation C is engaged in the business of selling agricultural chemicals and fertilizers to farmers. Corporation C purchases an applicator that will be used to spread the chemicals and fertilizer on its customers' fields. The purchase of the applicator is exempt from tax because the application of fertilizers and agricultural

certificate, ST-109, will be mailed to the public utility by the department. If a person is entitled to an exemption for only a percentage of utilities purchased, all of the tax must be paid and a refund claimed for the exempt percentage. Utilities purchased from a source other than a public utility may be purchased exempt using an exemption certificate. See section II, Exemption Certificates.

Examples:

1. Grow, Inc. has two meters for electricity and buys natural gas directly from the wellhead. One of the meters measures electricity used to dry grain. Fifty-five percent of the electricity measured by the meter operates drying equipment used to dry grain. The other meter measures electricity used to heat the chicken coop and power the egg incubators. Forty-nine percent of the electricity measured by the meter is used for the incubators and 51 percent for general heating. The natural gas is used to heat the farmhouse and dry grain that is harvested during periods of high humidity. Sixty percent of the natural gas dries grain.

The electricity meter for the grain silos is not taxable because the electricity is predominantly used directly in the direct processing of grain. Drying grain is integral and essential to the processing of grain. The electricity for the chicken coops is not predominantly used in the direct production because only 49 percent of the electricity is directly used in the direct production of agricultural commodities. Therefore, Grow, Inc. is entitled to an exemption for only 49 percent of the cost of the electricity. The natural gas, though predominantly used in direct production, is only 60 percent exempt from tax because the gas was not purchased from a public utility.

To purchase the electricity for the silos tax exempt, an ST-200 application must be filed with and approved by the Department of Revenue. The sales tax charged for the chicken coop electricity must be paid to the utility and a claim for refund should be filed with the Department to recover the exempt percentage. Tax should be paid for the purchase of the natural gas, and a claim for refund should be filed to recover the tax paid for the exempt percentage. The Department of Revenue realizes that the percentage of exempt use changes from year to year. Thus, the Department may request a new application to be filed if the Department believes the percentage of exempt consumption has changed.

II. Exemption Certificates

Two types of exemption certificates can be used to purchase exempt agricultural-use property. Form ST-105 Indiana general sales tax exemption certificate allows property to be purchased exempt from tax if the property fits under one of the agricultural exemptions provided by Indiana law. Form F0003 (SSTGB Exemption Certificate) is an exemption certificate used by states participating in the Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement. This form should be accepted by Indiana retailers and can be used by non-resident purchasers. The form is available at www.streamlinedsalestax.org/Forms/SSTGB%20Forms.html

The purchaser must complete the form for each purchase before the exemption will be allowed. The purchaser does not need a certificate for each item purchased, but rather a certificate must be completed each time a person purchases one or more exempt items.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Eckart". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

John Eckart
Commissioner



Hillview Veterinary Clinic, LLC
1761 Thornburg Lane
Franklin IN 46131
317-736-8880

June 24, 2020

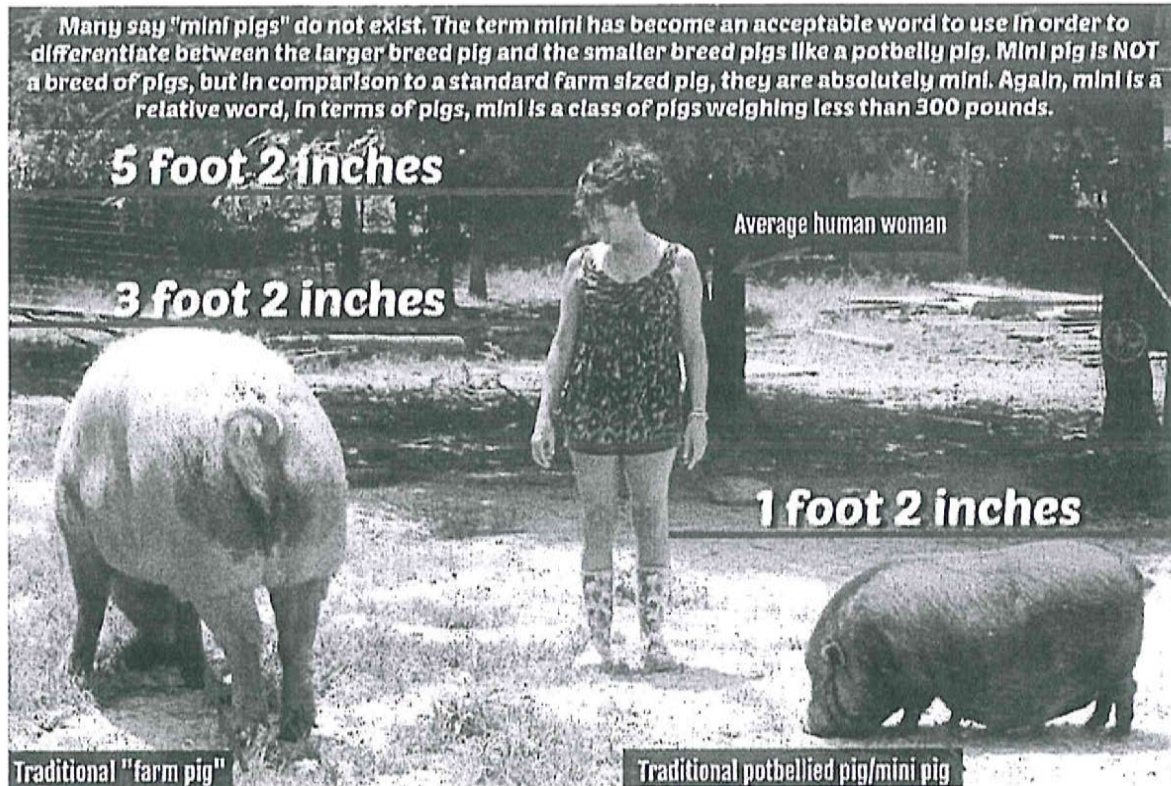
To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in reference to three potbelly pigs who are owned by Stephanie Bowers, a client of Hillview Veterinary Clinic. These potbelly pigs are pets that are not used for show or slaughter. This type of pig does not grow as large as domesticated pigs that are used for commercial production. Butters, Ink, and Tofu are friendly, vaccinated, and well cared for pets that are members of the family.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at the above information provided.

Sincerely,

Lauren Blair DVM



Definition Of A Mini Pig

What is a mini pig? Is there such a thing as a mini pig?

We often see the "great debate" over the term mini pig. There are many who deny their existence, but they would be wrong. Some of these deniers even have sanctuaries, but their "expertise" is based on opinion only and they fail to recognize that the term is in no way describing a breed, only a TYPE of pig that is very much different from a farm pig.

Adult mini pigs might range from 70-300 pounds, all of which would be significantly different than a standard farm pig, which full grown will average 700-1,000 pounds or more. This very difference is why it is necessary to have a generic term to describe the various smaller pigs most commonly kept as pets. The mini pigs CANNOT all be

described by breed, as is so easily done with the larger farm pigs. There are 200 or more ESTABLISHED breeds of farm pigs, many easily identified by just a quick look or a photo. They breed true and individuals within a breed can be very difficult to tell apart. Mini pigs are much more difficult to define by breed since there are so many mixes. Some, such as the purebred Kunekune are pretty easily identified. Potbellies, no longer a pure breed in the US, have a certain look, typically black, black and white, white, or a pinto pattern with a somewhat swayed back and larger belly...thus the name. Most pet pigs are generically called potbellies because their genes are primarily potbelly and they fit the general description. However, over the years, all sorts of mixes have happened. Potbellies have been crossed with everything from farm pigs to wild boars. "Chipmunk" striped piglets are a throwback to wild boars. Potbellies have been crossed with other mini breeds and feral pigs, which are themselves a crazy mix of genes. Kunekunes have been crossed with various farm pigs to create what's called a "pasture pig" ...NOT a breed, only a mix/mutt. They've also been crossed with different mini pig breeds in an attempt to breed for size (the mythical micro/teacup/pocket/dandy/whatever pigs), or color (the mythical "Juliana"). Creating a registry does NOT create a breed. "Juliana" pigs are nothing more than mixed breeds aiming to get a color and body type. If they were a true breed, there would not be the huge discrepancies in coloring, body type and size. Those of us with sanctuaries see the huge variation in the "Julianas" that come into rescue. They're obviously mixes, but the name creates sales. Sadly, the buyers have simply spent their money on a mutt. It's not like buying a registered purebred Golden Retriever from a breeder. The majority of the pet pigs being sold today are the equivalent to a mixed breed dog...commonly called a "mutt". There is NO accurate way to define most of them by breed. Therein lies the necessity of using the generic term "mini pig", which should NEVER be confused with "micro" which is a blatant lie. There has to be a way to differentiate between the large breeds, who HAVE specific breed names and the mini pigs, who are a crazy mix of who knows what.

The word "mini" has become the standard to differentiate between farm pigs and the smaller breeds like potbellied pigs. While that term has been accepted, I fully agree that it can be misleading to uneducated people who were never prepared for ANY sized pig. Mini is simply a class of pigs, not a breed of pigs. Potbelly is a breed. Kune-Kune is a

breed. And in comparison to farm pigs, they are indeed mini. I also think that term is commonly used because most pigs are mixed breeds. They aren't any "purebred" potbellied pigs anymore. They've been mixed with ferals and kunes and other real breeds, so mini sounds better than mutt pigs. There are breeds of dogs, but when you have several breeds that are bred, what is the offspring called? What if a Dalmatian and Chihuahua breed? A Dalhuahua? How about a Saint Bernard and German Shepherd? A Saint Shepherd? Most are referred to as "my dog", no breed attached. But, the word mini will likely continue to be used to categorize the actual breeds of pigs that someone as trying to describe as smaller than a farm type pig. Now micro and teacup and nano and pocket and micro mini? Those are unacceptable descriptions, not only are they flat out lies, but they are completely misleading. We started this website because people were searching for "mini" pigs and it made sense to name the website a commonly searched term so it showed up when anyone was looking for info for their mini pig. However, once they actually read our website, even on the home page, it let's people know why it's called mini pig info, and how that term by itself can be misleading. We dedicated a page on the website to show others what realistic sizes of "mini" pigs are. You can see their stories and pictures by [clicking here](#).

I would much rather have started a website called www.MyPigWasSupposedToBeMiniButEndedUpBeingAFatass.com, but that was obviously too much for people to type in the browser and also not something people would be searching for. I do not condone, support or endorse breeding, though admittedly, before I even knew about pig rescues, I purchased my pig. Had I known there were people out there that brought in pregnant pigs and worked with pigs so they could be adopted? I never would've purchased the love of my life that I have now, I would've submitted an application like anyone else and adopted. It's bitter sweet for me, I couldn't be happier with my pig (on most days. lol) but I do wish I had been exposed to the rescue side of pigs before I purchased a pig.

I do understand that some want a piglet and not a grown/mature pig. You don't have to buy a pig from a breeder if you want a piglet. Pig rescues have piglets. There are rescue networks that know about piglets that need excellent homes. There are people who

have purchased piglets that quickly found out they weren't prepared for a pig and that piglet now needs a new home. Trust me when I say, piglets aren't always fun. Are they cute? Absolutely! But they are hard work. There is typically a process to adopt a pig versus buying one from someone who only cares about money. The people who have dedicated their time, resources and homes to foster these pigs have a legitimate concern about where they will go. They are emotionally vested in these pigs. So, while it may be "easier" to simply buy a pig, you are rewarding someone for bringing more potentially unwanted pigs into the world which keeps the process going and going. NOBODY can guarantee the health of your pig. Not a breeder, not a rescue, no one. ANY pig can become ill, any pig can carry traits passed along from many generations before that aren't dominant genes in other siblings or the parent pigs. If size is of the utmost importance for a pet, then a pig is likely NOT the pet for you, however, if there are city/county restrictions on the sizes of pets/pigs that are allowed, your best bet would be to rescue an older pig that is "fully grown" so there are no surprises. Just keep in mind, while the growth plates in the bones will eventually close and your pig may not get taller or longer, your pig will continue to gain weight if the diet isn't balanced and the amount of calories that are being consumed are more than the calories being burned off. Diets constantly have to be adjusted, so your pig doesn't become obese as they grow older, less active, arthritic, etc. (Diets also need to be adjusted when a mini pig is too skinny) [Click here](#) to read more about nutrition. Again, had I known about pig rescues when I purchased my pig, I probably would've gotten a rescue pig instead of purchasing a pig from a breeder. To find a pig rescue, you can look at the list we have created by [clicking here](#).

I've rescued, I've fostered, I've transported, I've volunteered at pig rescues, I've donated time and money to various pig rescues, organizations, charities and will continue to educate, advocate and help in any way possible. I do not believe there are ANY healthy super small pigs, but I do know there are people who have unrealistic expectations and that they will find one. Unfortunately, 99.9999% will be disappointed and ultimately need to find that pig a home because that pig grew bigger than the little dainty cute pig they wanted, they don't understand pigs nor do they want to learn how to properly care for one. Those who have a passion for pigs and do everything in their power to help will

also continue to help and educate people. I truly believe it is a community effort, it's sad that not everyone takes the time to truly learn about these precious creatures BEFORE they get one, myself included.

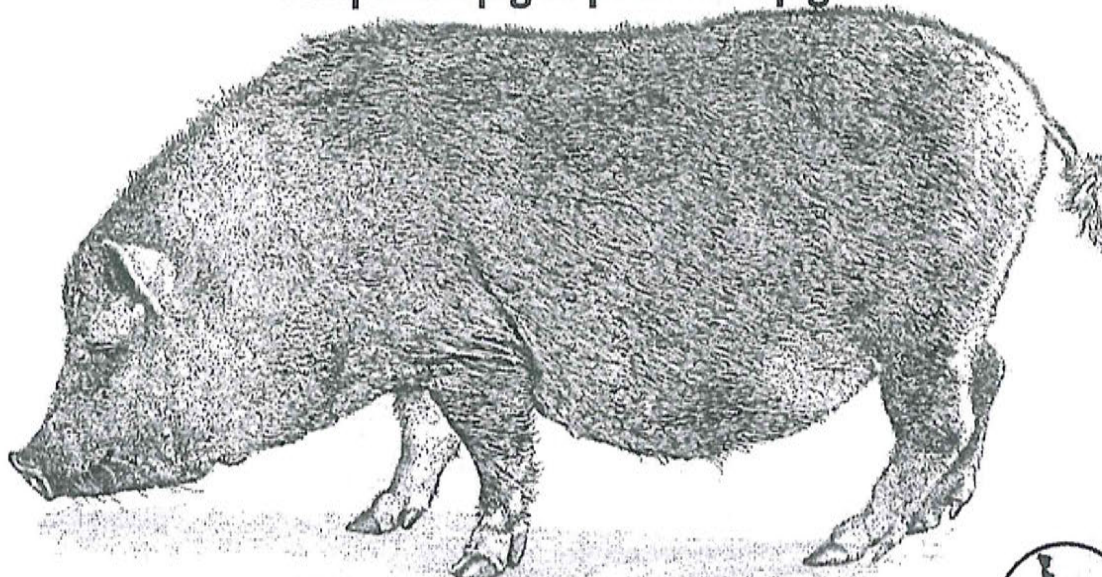
I was an ignorant first time pig mama and my pig suffered because of that. But sharing our stories and experiences is how we all learn. I humbly shared mine as embarrassing and heartfelt it was. My pig passed away at 9 months old because of an idiot breeder, my lack of knowledge, my vets inexperience and a slew of mistakes. That never should've happened. Although he had a genetic heart defect, likely as a result of inbreeding, I take full responsibility for his death. That is also why I bought every vet book there was, collected information from others and websites and credible people and myself along with people who are much smarter than me, created a website to teach other people everything we know about pigs and how to care for them. We get private messages all day, every day with questions. People email nonstop wanting help with their pigs, they call, we help with every bit of energy we have in us. We cry with those who have sick pigs and mourn with those who lose pigs. We laugh with those whose pigs are trouble makers and brainstorm with those who need advice. (Feel free to join our Facebook group and become a part of our pig family by clicking the link. [Mini Pig Info Group](#))

The pig community is a family, a large, sometimes dysfunctional family, but that's no different than my human family. I have learned so much from other pig people and I am quite certain I will continue to learn on a daily basis. I just hate that everyone that is in the community is divided more and more everyday and having to fight with each other when it's not us who are the problem. It's the people who continue to lie, deceive and basically rob people, that need to take the brunt of the hatred, not each other. In the meantime, while mini doesn't accurately describe what the size of your pig will be, it does represent a group of pigs that we have all come to know and love. So when someone says there is no such a thing as a mini pig, they're both right and wrong. There is a miniature sized pig, also known as a mini pig or potbellied pig, but these pigs are anything but mini. This term only describes a class of pigs that are smaller than the farm pigs, but these do NOT describe actual breeds of pigs nor the size of the pig you will end

up with. You can read more about actual breeds of pigs by [clicking here](#). Do not add a pig to your family if you're not prepared to make a 20+ year commitment to a big ball of fun because that is likely what you will end up with. The journey to get there is long and draining, but once your pig becomes part of your family, you will become a parent to an unconventional pet that will steal your heart forever.

Written by: Brittany Sawyer & Dawn Camp

This is a standard pet pig. Also known as a mini pig, companion pig or potbellied pig.



Why does there have to be a pricy label attached?



Mini Pig Standards

The standards of what constitutes a "mini pig" is a bit tricky. Pigs that would be considered "mini" vary a great deal, size wise. Colors, sizes, weights, heights, lengths, girths, and many other factors will ultimately decide if your pig should be considered a "mini pig". (This standard info is being created, so please know it is coming soon!)

Next Page

Support

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All information was collected and/or written by the creators of the website unless otherwise noted. If you have any questions or would like to reach out to us, please email us at minipiginfo@gmail.com or via our Facebook page by [clicking here](#). Feel free to share the links to the website, that is why it was created. **This website does NOT take the place of your veterinarian's advice. Please seek emergency veterinarian care if your pig is sick or injured!!**



Common Misconceptions and Concerns

- **Smell**- when most people think about pigs they think about large farm hogs raised in a confinement as a food source.
- Pigs (ALL PIGS) do not have sweat glands, they aren't capable of having a bad smell.
- Smell associated with pigs comes from the unkempt conditions most farm hogs are forced to live in. They live in mud, feces, and uneaten food.
- Potbellied pigs are easily cleaned up after, using the same equipment you would use to clean up after dogs.
- Most pot bellied pigs are trained to use a litter box when inside- or trained to go to the door just as a dog for bathroom needs.
- **Size**- Farm Hogs average 600- 800 lbs and stand 35-71 inches tall
- Potbellied pigs average 50 to 150 lbs at maturity and stand 12-20 inches tall
- Potbellied pigs are similar in height to English Bulldogs or Cocker Spaniels
 - o Average Dog Breeds and sizes:
 - English Mastiff
30 inches minimum height
343 lbs- largest on record
 - Newfoundland
36 inches tall
260 lbs on record
 - Great Dane
44 inches tall
230 lbs on record
 - Neapolitan Mastiff
31 inches tall
200 lbs
 - Irish Wolfhound
34 inches tall
120+ lbs
 - Saint Bernard
35 inches tall
357 lbs on record
- **Noise** Yes, potbellied pigs make noise, they are animals after all. They make soft grunts, occasionally bark like a dog. They do squeal when in danger, or are scared.
- Common noises also heard in my neighborhood are barking dogs, chainsaws, fireworks, I could go on.
- **Danger** potbellied pigs are affectionate, intelligent, wonderful communicators. A spayed/neutered pig is mildly tempered, and poses very little risk to humans.

- People are far more likely to be bit by a dog or a cat, than a potbellied pig. I myself have been a victim of a dog bite in front of my own home several years ago.
- Potbellied pigs are prey animals, they have no natural defense against predators. Their only defense is to run. A potbellied pig is much more afraid of you, than you are of it.
- **Population control** much like any other animal, potbellied pigs will breed if given the chance. The City should require ALL mini pigs to be spayed/neutered/vaccinated in order to remain within City limits.
- **Illness** Swine flu- the CDC states flu commonly found in pigs, is not easily transmitted to humans. It is not typical that the flu would travel from pigs to humans. I have included literature from the CDC website for more details.
- COVID-19 in pigs According to Ag Web, there have been multiple studies that show pigs cannot be infected with COVID-19. According to the CDC website, research also shows that pigs are not likely to be infected. But, cats and ferrets are.
- Rabies- there is no approved rabies vaccination for potbellied pigs. I would like to propose that in the event a potbellied pig is bitten by a proven rabies positive animal, that the potbellied pig be destroyed as a precautionary measure.
- **Abuse**- What if someone eats their pet potbellied pig? This should be regulated the same as if someone were to eat their pet dog or cat. This is animal abuse, and should be treated as such.
- **Hard to Regulate** The City should **require** all potbellied pigs to be registered with the City of Shelbyville. All potbellied pigs shall be required to be spayed/neutered, vaccinated, remain on the owners property, and subject to the same requirements/limits as dogs.
- Ordinance 5.26 B states a homeowner is allotted a maximum of 3 indoor dogs PLUS 3 any other mammalian or reptilian indoor pet species, plus any number of fish.
- Potbellied pigs should be required to meet the same limits that dogs are within City limits.
- **Pigs are livestock** –Yes, farm hogs are bred for consumption in the US. Livestock feed is not taxed. I have included a copy of the ISDA Bulletin stating these facts.
- Potbellied pigs are not regulated as livestock. Their feed is taxed, the same as pet feed. I am able to purchase mini pig feed at Wal-Mart on Progress PKWY here in Shelbyville.



Reply Reply All Forward

Fw: Info needed

stephanie bowers [REDACTED]

To: Stephanie Bowers

Wednesday, June 03, 2020 12:40 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

On Wednesday, June 3, 2020, 8:42 AM, Chris Browder <cbrowder@cityofshelbyvillein.com> wrote:

Hi Stephanie

We haven't had an aggressive pig or any pig bites, according to Keith. Keith has been here 15 years, so he would know :) He stated that this is a city ordinance through the Planning Department as they passed an ordinance (I'm not sure when) that there are no farm animals in the city limits. That would be where you would need to start, with planning. Perhaps city council as well.

I wish you luck, to go through all of this speaks volumes about how much you love them.

God bless you,
Chris

On Tue, Jun 2, 2020 at 6:49 PM stephanie bowers <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Thank you so much Chris. I am looking forward to his response.

On Tuesday, June 2, 2020, 06:38:45 PM EDT, Chris Browder <cbrowder@cityofshelbyvillein.com> wrote:

Hi Stephanie,

I'm going to forward this email to Keith Barrett, Department Head, for his guidance. We are closed today due to the primaries. If you need to speak to Keith, our phone lines are open from 9 to 5 and our number is [317-392-5127](tel:317-392-5127).

We'll be in touch soon,
Chris

On Tue, Jun 2, 2020 at 5:43 PM stephanie bowers <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hello!

My name is Stephanie Bowers, I live at 523 5th St in Shelbyville. I received a letter from the Deputy Director of Planning stating we are in violation of a city ordinance. We have three mini pigs. One, from a breeder and two rescued from bad situations. I am appealing the ordinance, and gathering information.

Several weeks ago we had to take my oldest (and biggest) pig to the vet due to some stomach issues. Apparently a neighbor saw us loading him in the car and called a complaint simply because we had him. I didn't know it was an issue until I received the letter. Mr. Henderson told me that this individual had nothing negative to say, just that we had a pig. He is almost three, and we have had him since he was 7 weeks old.

Reply Reply All Forward

Fw: Info needed

stephanie bowers [REDACTED]

To: Stephanie Bowers

Wednesday, June 03, 2020 1:29 PM

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

On Wednesday, June 3, 2020, 1:04 PM, Trennepohl, Katie <Katie.Trennepohl@Indy.Gov> wrote:

Stephanie,
Please see the date below which shows the bites that ACS has responded to over the last 5 years.

Bites Between 06/03/2015 and 06/03/2020

BIRD	1
CAT	247
DOG	3746
PIG	1
BAT	16
FOX	1
GUINEA PIG	1
HAMSTER	1
LIZARD	1
MOUSE	2
OPOSSUM	1
RABBIT	1
RACCOON	9
RAT	1
SERVAL	1
SNAKE	1
SQUIRREL	4

From: stephanie bowers [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:51 PM
To: Indy ACS <IndyACS@incy.gov>
Subject: Info needed

Hello,

My name is Stephanie Bowers, I live at 523 5th St in Shelbyville. I received a letter from the Shelbyville Deputy Director of Planning stating we are in violation of a city ordinance. We have three mini pigs. One, from a breeder and two rescued from bad situations. I am appealing the ordinance, and gathering information.

Several weeks ago we had to take my oldest (and biggest) pig to the vet due to some stomach issues. Apparently a neighbor saw us loading him in the car and called a complaint simply because we had him. I

Stephanie Bowers

From: stephanie bowers [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 5, 2020 9:35 AM
To: Stephanie Bowers
Subject: Fw: Swine stats

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

On Wednesday, June 3, 2020, 4:12 PM, BCHS Admin <admin@bartholomewhumane.org> wrote:

Ms. Bowers,

The State Bd. of Animal Health (BOAH) has responded and advised that they do not keep any swine injury reports and only document actual bite cases from domestic animals, mostly dogs and cats. They don't have any information to share but did recommend that you check with the local health authorities.

The local groups would be able to advise on bite cases reported as state law requires a bite report be filed. Hospitals and local animal control would have those statistics. I suspect you will find very few documented swine bites!

It's a real puzzle as to why these animals cause such opposition but it is not at all uncommon.

I'm so sorry that I cannot offer more to support your efforts. Perhaps this fact alone-no reported cases- speaks volumes! I do wish you luck!

As a last effort, consider contacting rescues, like Olivia's Oinking Acres, to see if they have any information on why pigs SHOULD be allowed as pets. This is a very active, best practice rescue in the Plainfield/Brownsburg area. She has a Facebook page as well. She has to take in a lot of pigs that have been banned so she may be willing to help forward your cause!

Respectfully,

Kirsten

Quoting stephanie bowers [REDACTED]

> Kristen thank you so much for taking the time to help me. I wasn't
> aware it was illegal until now. I understand that is my fault, I
> should have been proactive.

>

>

> Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

>

>

> On Wednesday, June 3, 2020, 3:18 PM, BCHS Admin

> <admin@bartholomewhumane.org> wrote:

>

> Ms. Bowers,

>

> I received your message from Jane Irwin, who has retired as of May 1st.

>

> I'm so sorry for your dilemma. I live in Indianapolis where owning
> pet pigs is not yet legal either.

>

> I am not aware of any swine intake at our shelter nor of any reported
> injuries. However, I have reached out to the State Board of Animal
> Health to see if they have anything that could be of assistance to you.

>

> Once I hear back from them, I will let you know. I have also shared
> your contact information with a veterinarian there in case she
> preferred to contact you directly.

>

> I'll do what I can!

>

> Respectfully,

>

> Kirsten VantWoud

> Bartholomew County Humane Society

I watched Tofu and Ink for Stephanie Bowers back in November of 2019. It was for four and a half days. The two pigs were kept inside the home in a pen. They were trained to know what to do when it came time to be fed, they had their specific treats they loved (mainly cheerios); and when it came time to clean their pen, they knew to go outside when I opened the pen door. Although, if it was raining, they didn't want to go outside. The pen and the house are kept clean. It is cleaned once a day or every other day depending on how bad it needs it. They are not at all aggressive. I was petting them a lot actually. I enjoyed watching them and plan to do it again!

Signed,

Ellen K. Harris

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ellen K. Harris".

Dear City Council of Shelbyville, IN:

This letter states that, I Angela Kollmann, at the address of,
1112 S. West St. Shelbyville, IN reside and
am neighbors of the resident Stephanie Bowers at 523 5th St. I would like to say that the
Bowers' mini pigs, do not bother us. In no way do they impact or affect my living arrangements
at my house or in my household. I have no objections, the Bowers' mini pigs living at 523 5th St.
I support the change of ordinance that the Bowers' mini pigs are not "farm animals" "livestock"
or "swine" and is literally a welcomed pet in the community.

Respectfully,

Printed Name: Angela Kollmann

Signature: Angela Kollmann

Dear City Council of Shelbyville, IN:

This letter states that, I Tony GRIFFITH, at the address of,
1204 S. Shelby St. Shelbyville IN 46170 reside and
am neighbors of the resident Stephanie Bowers at 523 5th St. I would like to say that the
Bowers' mini pigs, do not bother us. In no way do they impact or affect my living arrangements
at my house or in my household. I have no objections, the Bowers' mini pigs living at 523 5th St.
I support the change of ordinance that the Bowers' mini pigs are not "farm animals" "livestock"
or "swine" and is literally a welcomed pet in the community.

Respectfully,

Printed Name: Tony GRIFFITH


Signature:  _____

Dear City Council of Shelbyville, IN:

This letter states that, I Tommy Stacy, at the address of,
1174 S. West St. Shelbyville reside and
am neighbors of the resident Stephanie Bowers at 523 5th St. I would like to say that the
Bowers' mini pigs, do not bother us. In no way do they impact or affect my living arrangements
at my house or in my household. I have no objections, the Bowers' mini pigs living at 523 5th St.
I support the change of ordinance that the Bowers' mini pigs are not "farm animals" "livestock"
or "swine" and is literally a welcomed pet in the community.

Respectfully,

Printed Name: Tommy Stacy

Signature: 

Dear City Council of Shelbyville, IN:

This letter states that, I Linda Collier, at the address of,
1101 S. West St. Shelbyville IN 46760 reside and
am neighbors of the resident Stephanie Bowers at 523 5th St. I would like to say that the
Bowers' mini pigs, do not bother us. In no way do they impact or affect my living arrangements
at my house or in my household. I have no objections, the Bowers' mini pigs living at 523 5th St.
I support the change of ordinance that the Bowers' mini pigs are not "farm animals" "livestock"
or "swine" and is literally a welcomed pet in the community.

Respectfully,

Printed Name: LINDA COLLIER

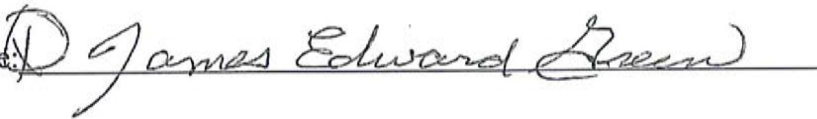
Signature: 

Dear City Council of Shelbyville, IN:

This letter states that, I James Green, at the address of,
1125 ~~St. West~~ ^{Shelby} St. Shelbyville IN 46176 reside and
am neighbors of the resident Stephanie Bowers at 523 5th St. I would like to say that the
Bowers' mini pigs, do not bother us. In no way do they impact or affect my living arrangements
at my house or in my household. I have no objections, the Bowers' mini pigs living at 523 5th St.
I support the change of ordinance that the Bowers' mini pigs are not "farm animals" "livestock"
or "swine" and is literally a welcomed pet in the community.

Respectfully,

Printed Name: James Edward Green

Signature: 

Dear City Council of Shelbyville, IN:

This letter states that, I _____, at the address of,

1126 S West St. Shelbyville IN 46076 reside and am neighbors of the resident Stephanie Bowers at 523 5th St. I would like to say that the Bowers' mini pigs, do not bother us. In no way do they impact or affect my living arrangements at my house or in my household. I have no objections, the Bowers' mini pigs living at 523 5th St. I support the change of ordinance that the Bowers' mini pigs are not "farm animals" "livestock" or "swine" and is literally a welcomed pet in the community.

Respectfully,

Printed Name: Nicola S. Stankovic

Signature: 

Dear City Council of Shelbyville, IN:

This letter states that, I Rhonda Fansler, at the address of, 1130 S. Wood St. Shelbyville IN 46770 reside and am neighbors of the resident Stephanie Bowers at 523 5th St. I would like to say that the Bowers' mini pigs, do not bother us. In no way do they impact or affect my living arrangements at my house or in my household. I have no objections, the Bowers' mini pigs living at 523 5th St. I support the change of ordinance that the Bowers' mini pigs are not "farm animals" "livestock" or "swine" and is literally a welcomed pet in the community.

Respectfully,

Printed Name: Rhonda Fansler

Signature: 

Dear City Council of Shelbyville, IN:

This letter states that, I Lisa Jones, at the address of,
1122 ~~523~~ Shelby St. Shelbyville IN 40176 reside and
am neighbors of the resident Stephanie Bowers at 523 5th St. I would like to say that the
Bowers' mini pigs, do not bother us. In no way do they impact or affect my living arrangements
at my house or in my household. I have no objections, the Bowers' mini pigs living at 523 5th St.
I support the change of ordinance that the Bowers' mini pigs are not "farm animals" "livestock"
or "swine" and is literally a welcomed pet in the community.

Respectfully,

Printed Name: Lisa Jones

Signature: 

Dear City Council of Shelbyville, IN:

This letter states that, I Herminia Carreto, at the address of,

1202 Shelby St reside and am neighbors of the resident Stephanie Bowers at 523 5th St. I would like to say that the Bowers' mini pigs, do not bother us. In no way do they impact or affect my living arrangements at my house or in my household. I have no objections, the Bowers' mini pigs living at 523 5th St. I support the change of ordinance that the Bowers' mini pigs are not "farm animals" "livestock" or "swine" and is literally a welcomed pet in the community.

Respectfully,

Printed Name: Herminia Carreto-Hdez

Signature:  _____

Dear City Council of Shelbyville, IN:

This letter states that, I ~~XXXXXXXX~~ Kellie Stark, at the address of,

1707 South West reside and am neighbors of the resident Stephanie Bowers at 523 5th St. I would like to say that the Bowers' mini pigs, do not bother us. In no way do they impact or affect my living arrangements at my house or in my household. I have no objections, the Bowers' mini pigs living at 523 5th St. I support the change of ordinance that the Bowers' mini pigs are not "farm animals" "livestock" or "swine" and is literally a welcomed pet in the community.

Respectfully,

Printed Name: Kellie Stark

Signature: Kellie Stark

Dear City Council of Shelbyville, IN:

This letter states that, I Jenniter Sturgill, at the address of, 1205 S West Shelbyville IN 46760 reside and am neighbors of the resident Stephanie Bowers at 523 5th St. I would like to say that the Bowers' mini pigs, do not bother us. In no way do they impact or affect my living arrangements at my house or in my household. I have no objections, the Bowers' mini pigs living at 523 5th St. I support the change of ordinance that the Bowers' mini pigs are not "farm animals" "livestock" or "swine" and is literally a welcomed pet in the community.

Respectfully,

Printed Name: Jennifer Sturgill

Signature: (X) Jennife Sturgill

Dear City Council of Shelbyville, IN:

This letter states that, I Abigail Wright, at the address of,
524 5th St. Shelbyville TN 40176 reside and
am neighbors of the resident Stephanie Bowers at 523 5th St. I would like to say that the
Bowers' mini pigs, do not bother us. In no way do they impact or affect my living arrangements
at my house or in my household. I have no objections, the Bowers' mini pigs living at 523 5th St.
I support the change of ordinance that the Bowers' mini pigs are not "farm animals" "livestock"
or "swine" and is literally a welcomed pet in the community.

Respectfully,

Printed Name: Abigail Wright

Signature: X 

Dear City Council of Shelbyville, IN:

This letter states that, I Brooke Hatton, at the address of, 522 5th St. Shelbyville IN 46070 reside and am neighbors of the resident Stephanie Bowers at 523 5th St. I would like to say that the Bowers' mini pigs, do not bother us. In no way do they impact or affect my living arrangements at my house or in my household. I have no objections, the Bowers' mini pigs living at 523 5th St. I support the change of ordinance that the Bowers' mini pigs are not "farm animals" "livestock" or "swine" and is literally a welcomed pet in the community.

Respectfully,

Printed Name: Brooke Hatton

Signature: (X) Brooke Hatton

Dear City Council of Shelbyville, IN:

This letter states that, I _____, at the address of,

1125 Sworst St. reside and
am neighbors of the resident Stephanie Bowers at 523 5th St. I would like to say that the
Bowers' mini pigs, do not bother us. In no way do they impact or affect my living arrangements
at my house or in my household. I have no objections, the Bowers' mini pigs living at 523 5th St.
I support the change of ordinance that the Bowers' mini pigs are not "farm animals" "livestock"
or "swine" and is literally a welcomed pet in the community.

Respectfully,

Printed Name: Brianna Sanchez

Signature: 

Dear City Council of Shelbyville, IN:

This letter states that, I Erica Gettinger, at the address of, 518 Southwest St. Shelbyville IN 46176 reside and am neighbors of the resident Stephanie Bowers at 523 5th St. I would like to say that the Bowers' mini pigs, do not bother us. In no way do they impact or affect my living arrangements at my house or in my household. I have no objections, the Bowers' mini pigs living at 523 5th St. I support the change of ordinance that the Bowers' mini pigs are not "farm animals" "livestock" or "swine" and is literally a welcomed pet in the community.

Respectfully,

Printed Name: Erica Gettinger

Signature: Erica Gettinger

Dear City Council of Shelbyville, IN:

This letter states that, I Jeff Hill, at the address of,

521 5th St Shelbyville IN reside and
am neighbors of the resident Stephanie Bowers at 523 5th St. I would like to say that the
Bowers' mini pigs, do not bother us. In no way do they impact or affect my living arrangements
at my house or in my household. I have no objections, the Bowers' mini pigs living at 523 5th St.
I support the change of ordinance that the Bowers' mini pigs are not "farm animals" "livestock"
or "swine" and is literally a welcomed pet in the community.

Respectfully,

Printed Name: Jeff Hill

Signature: 

Dear City Council of Shelbyville, IN:

This letter states that, I Palmer Hill, at the address of,
521 5th St. Shelbyville IN reside and
am neighbors of the resident Stephanie Bowers at 523 5th St. I would like to say that the
Bowers' mini pigs, do not bother us. In no way do they impact or affect my living arrangements
at my house or in my household. I have no objections, the Bowers' mini pigs living at 523 5th St.
I support the change of ordinance that the Bowers' mini pigs are not "farm animals" "livestock"
or "swine" and is literally a welcomed pet in the community.

Respectfully,

Printed Name: Palmer Hill

Signature: Palmer Hill

Dear City Council of Shelbyville, IN:

This letter states that, I Tara Sangster, at the address of,
501 5th Street Shelbyville, IN reside and
am neighbors of the resident Stephanie Bowers at 523 5th St. I would like to say that the
Bowers' mini pigs, do not bother us. In no way do they impact or affect my living arrangements
at my house or in my household. I have no objections, the Bowers' mini pigs living at 523 5th St.
I support the change of ordinance that the Bowers' mini pigs are not "farm animals" "livestock"
or "swine" and is literally a welcomed pet in the community.

Respectfully,

Printed Name: Tara Sangster

Signature: Tara Sangster

Dear City Council of Shelbyville, IN:

This letter states that, I Miranda Pruitt, at the address of,
521 5th st Shelbyville IN reside and
am neighbors of the resident Stephanie Bowers at 523 5th St. I would like to say that the
Bowers' mini pigs, do not bother us. In no way do they impact or affect my living arrangements
at my house or in my household. I have no objections, the Bowers' mini pigs living at 523 5th St.
I support the change of ordinance that the Bowers' mini pigs are not "farm animals" "livestock"
or "swine" and is literally a welcomed pet in the community.

Respectfully,

Printed Name: Miranda Pruitt

Signature: Miranda Pruitt

Dear City Council of Shelbyville, IN:

This letter states that, I Jeff Curtiss, at the address of,
1108 S. West St. Shelbyville IN reside and
am neighbors of the resident Stephanie Bowers at 523 5th St. I would like to say that the
Bowers' mini pigs, do not bother us. In no way do they impact or affect my living arrangements
at my house or in my household. I have no objections, the Bowers' mini pigs living at 523 5th St.
I support the change of ordinance that the Bowers' mini pigs are not "farm animals" "livestock"
or "swine" and is literally a welcomed pet in the community.

Respectfully,

Printed Name: ★ JEFF CURTISS

Signature: ① [Handwritten Signature]

After a video surfaced of George Floyd being murdered by Minneapolis police, 15-year-old Kellen started a petition demanding justice. It's now the biggest petition ever on Change.org and officers have been arrested and charged. But we haven't yet seen justice. [You can sign the petition here to send a message that Black lives matter.](#)

< Go to my petition's dashboard

Mini Pigs are PETS



1,259 have signed. Let's get to 1,500

sue sch. signed this petition

Shannon Shupe signed this petition



City of Shelbyville: Mini Pigs are PETS

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Stephanie Bowers started this petition to [City of Shelbyville](#) and [1 other](#)

I am the crazy pig lady! We started our journey with Tofu, a pink

Three little pigs fight to keep their home

By: **HALEY PRITCHETT**
hpritchett@shelbynews.com

In the Bowers' backyard, three little pigs graze the grass, eat watermelon, and play.

Butters, Tofu, and Ink have been members of the family for three years and have lived their lives with little difficulty. When the weather is nice, they stay outside and take in the sunshine. At night and during bad weather, they cuddle under blankets with the rest of their human family. They receive baths, pumpkin puree in their pig food for breakfast, and regular trips to the vet.

Recently, things have begun to get a little more difficult.

A neighbor found out about the pigs and reported them to the city. The city



Photo provided

Stephanie Bowers and her son, Justice, feed Butters watermelon. Justice and Butters have had a special relationship since Butters was a piglet.

sent a certified letter saying they had 14 days to obey the city law, which states that farm animals are not allowed to be pets.

Stephanie Bowers' heart snapped when she heard the news. These pigs are not just animals to her.

They are family.

"The thought of losing them," Stephanie said through tears, "Made me not be able to sleep, I've been sick and worried about this."

Stephanie struggles with severe anxiety and depression and has a stressful job at an insurance company helping people all day. When she comes home from work, her backyard is the first place she goes.

Her happy place is with her pigs.

The pigs know when she is struggling and ease her pain. Tofu especially can sense her stress and melt it away with his cuddles and kisses.

Butters has a special relationship with Stephanie's son, Justice, Justice and Butters went to South Carolina together when he was just a piglet to visit family, and they came back with a special bond.

"I don't know how to put it in words," Justice said. "I can whistle to him from anywhere and he'll come right to me."

Jerry Bowers looks at the pigs as his kids.

"Not only are we attached to them, they're attached to us in the same way," he said.

Stephanie said pigs have the intellectual capabilities of a three- or four-year-old child. They feel real pain, and real connection and joy. When the pigs are in a fight, they weep real tears.

"It sounds like a baby crying," Jerry said.

Stephanie, since having the pigs, has made major changes in her lifestyle. She no longer buys products that are tested on

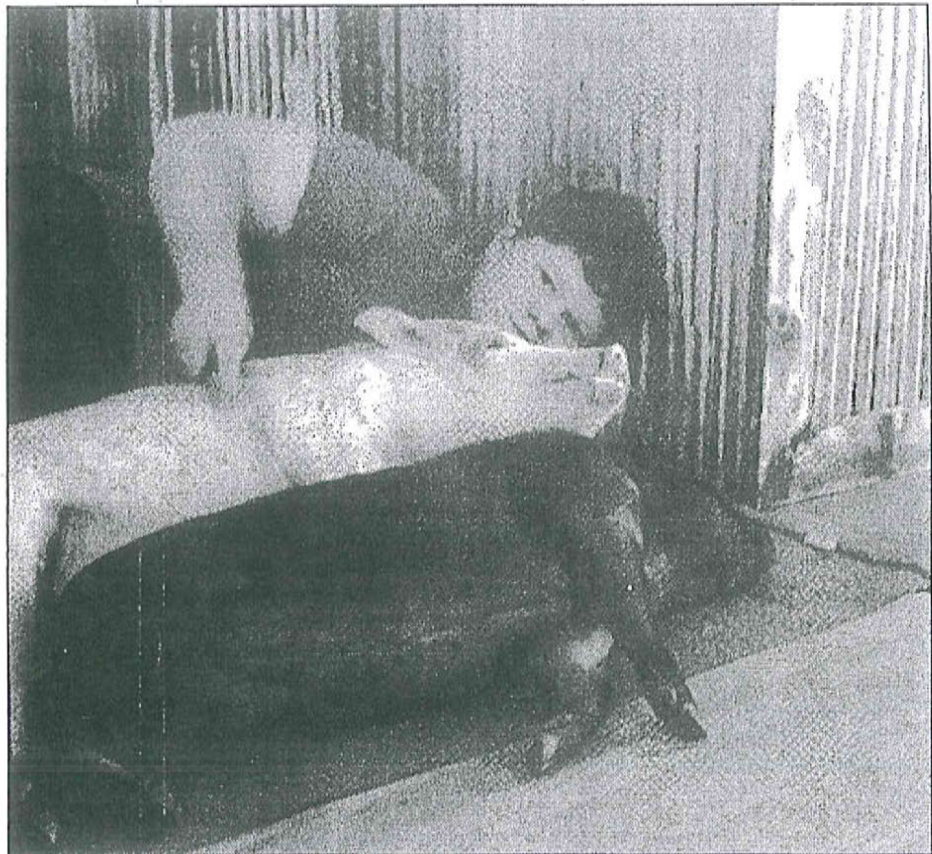


Photo provided

Justice cuddles with Ink and Tofu. During the winter, Justice has spent a lot of time inside playing with the pigs.

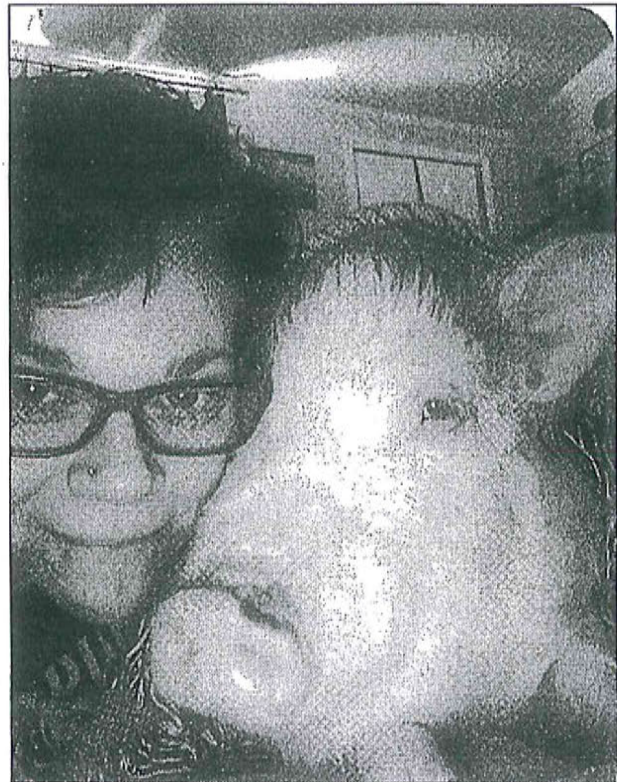
animals, and has become vegan. She says she cannot justify eating or hurting another animal after experiencing how emotional they are.

The Bowers family went around to 20 of their neighbors and asked them to sign forms to help get the ordinance changed. Only one person refused, and she admitted she was the one who called the city.

"The rest of them didn't even know we had pigs. They were all surprised that we had them, and clearly they're not a nuisance if no one knew they were here. They're not making noises or smelling," Stephanie said.

After living in Shelbyville for 17 years on 5th Street, the family is ready to move out of the county if they cannot get the ordinance changed.

The Bowers will be going to the Board of Works meeting at City Hall on July 14 at 8:30 a.m. to appeal their case.



Stephanie Bowers and Tofu cuddle after a long day. The pigs have helped Stephanie cope with her stress after long days at work.



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Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

COVID-19 and Animals

Updated June 22, 2020

What you need to know

- We do not know the exact source of the current outbreak of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), but we know that it originally came from an animal, likely a bat.
- At this time, there is no evidence that animals play a significant role in spreading the virus that causes COVID-19.
- Based on the limited information available to date, the risk of animals spreading COVID-19 to people is considered to be low.
- More studies are needed to understand if and how different animals could be affected by COVID-19.
- We are still learning about this virus, but it appears that it can spread from people to animals in some situations.

For more information, see [COVID-19 and Animals Frequently Asked Questions](#). For information on pets, see [If You Have Pets](#).

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses. Some coronaviruses cause cold-like illnesses in people, while others cause illness in certain types of animals, such as cattle, camels, and bats. Some coronaviruses, such as canine and feline coronaviruses, infect only animals and do not infect humans.

Risk of animals spreading the virus that causes COVID-19 to people

Some coronaviruses that infect animals can be spread to humans and then spread between people, but this is rare. This is what happened with the virus that caused the current outbreak of COVID-19, with the virus likely originating in bats. The first reported infections were linked to a live animal market, but the virus is now spreading from person to person.

The virus that causes COVID-19 spreads mainly from person to person through respiratory droplets from coughing, sneezing, and talking. Recent studies show that people who are infected but do not have symptoms likely also play a role in the spread of COVID-19. At this time, there is no evidence that animals play a significant role in spreading the virus that causes COVID-19. Based on the limited information available to date, the risk of animals spreading COVID-19 to people is considered to be low. More studies are needed to understand if and how different animals could be affected by COVID-19.

Risk of people spreading the virus that causes COVID-19 to animals

We are still learning about this virus, but it appears that it can spread from people to animals in



some situations, especially after close contact with a person sick with COVID-19.

For information on how to protect pets from possible infection with SARS-CoV-2, see [If You Have Pets](#).

Animals that can be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19

We know that cats, dogs, and a few other types of animals can be infected with SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, but we don't yet know all of the animals that can get infected. There have been reports of animals being infected with the virus worldwide.



The first US case of an animal testing positive for COVID-19 was a tiger at a NY zoo.

- A small number of pet cats and dogs have been reported to be infected with the virus in several countries, including the United States. Most of these pets became sick after contact with people with COVID-19.
- Several lions and tigers [\[link\]](#) at a New York zoo tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 after showing signs of respiratory illness. Public health officials believe these large cats became sick after being exposed to a zoo employee who was infected with SARS-CoV-2. All of these large cats have fully recovered.
- SARS-CoV-2 was recently discovered in mink (which are closely related to ferrets) on multiple farms in the Netherlands. The mink showed respiratory and gastrointestinal signs; the farms also experienced an increase in mink deaths. Because some workers on these farms had symptoms of COVID-19, it is likely that infected farm workers were the source of the mink infections. Some farm cats on several mink farms also developed antibodies to this virus, suggesting they had been exposed to the virus at some point. Officials in the Netherlands are investigating the connections between the health of people and animals as well as the environment on these mink farms.

CDC, USDA, and state public health and animal health officials are working in some states to conduct active surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 in pets, including cats, dogs, and other small mammals, that had contact with a person with COVID-19. These animals are being tested for SARS-CoV-2 infection and also tested to see whether the pet develops antibodies to this virus. This work is being done to help us better understand how common SARS-CoV-2 infection might be in pets as well as the possible role of pets in the spread of this virus.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) maintains a list [\[link\]](#) of all animals with confirmed infections with SARS-CoV-2 in the United States.

Research on animals and COVID-19

Research on SARS-Cov-2 in animals is limited, but studies are underway to learn more about how this virus can affect different animals.

- Recent research shows that ferrets, cats, and golden Syrian hamsters can be experimentally infected with the virus and can spread the infection to other animals of the same species in laboratory settings.
- A number of studies have investigated non-human primates as models for human infection. Rhesus macaques, cynomolgus macaques, African green monkeys, and common marmosets can become infected SARS-CoV-2 and become sick in a laboratory setting.
- Mice, pigs, chickens, and ducks do not seem to become infected or spread the infection based on results from these studies.
- Data from one study suggest some dogs can get infected but might not spread the virus to other dogs as easily compared to cats and ferrets, which can easily spread the virus to other animals of the same species

These findings were based on a small number of animals, and do not show whether animals can spread infection to people. More studies are needed to understand if and how different animals could be affected by COVID-19.

Guidance and recommendations

- [Interim Guidance for Public Health Professionals Managing People with COVID-19 in Home Care and Isolation Who Have Pets or Other Animals](#)
- [Interim recommendations for intake of companion animals from households where humans with COVID-19 are present](#) 
- [Interim Infection Prevention and Control Guidance for Veterinary Clinics](#)
- [Evaluation for SARS-CoV-2 Testing in Animals](#)
- [Interim Guidance for SARS-CoV-2 Testing in North American Wildlife](#)
- [Toolkit: One Health Approach to Address Companion Animals with SARS-CoV-2](#)

More Information

[COVID-19 and Animals FAQs](#)

[USDA: Confirmed cases of SARS-CoV-2 in Animals in the United States](#) 

[COVID-19 and Pets](#)


[USDA: Coronavirus Disease 2019](#) 

[Information on Bringing an Animal into the United States](#)

[FDA: Coronavirus Disease 2019](#) 

[World Organisation for Animal Health: Q&As on COVID-19](#) 

Media Announcements

- [Confirmation of COVID-19 in Pet Dog in New York](#) 
- [Confirmation of COVID-19 in Two Pet Cats in New York](#)
- [USDA Statement on the Confirmation of COVID-19 Infection in a Tiger in New York](#) 

Page last reviewed: June 22, 2020

Content source: National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD), Division of Viral Diseases

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New Research Says Pigs, Chickens Are Not Susceptible to COVID-19

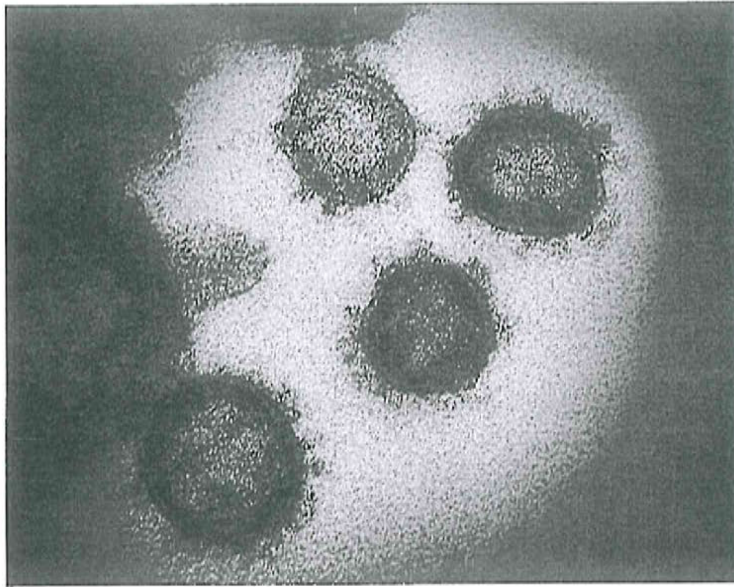


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This transmission electron microscope image shows SARS-CoV-2—also known as 2019-nCoV, the virus that causes COVID-19, isolated from a patient in the U.S., emerging from the surface of cells cultured in the lab. Credit: NIAID-RML (NIAID-RML)

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[Threat ID Diagnoses Field Problems with a Camera Snap \(/article/threat-id-accept-cookies-field-problems-camera-snap\)](#)

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(<https://www.reddit.com/submit?url=https://www.agweb.com/article/new-research-says-pigs-chickens-are-not-susceptible-covid-19>)

“I have seen the results so far of two studies – one that came out of China and this study from Germany,” Pyburn says. “In both cases, they tried to infect pigs and they could not infect pigs with the virus.”

The Friedrich Loeffler Institute started a few weeks ago with infection studies in pigs, chickens, fruit bats and ferrets. Initial results show that fruit bats and ferrets are susceptible to a SARS-CoV-2 infection, but pigs and chickens are not.

In particular, the susceptibility of ferrets is an important finding, since they could be used as model animals for human
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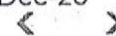
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The researchers discovered that ferrets can be infected efficiently with SARS-CoV-2, they can multiply the virus well and transmit it to fellow species. The virus resided and multiplied mainly in the upper areas of the respiratory tract but the infected animals showed no symptoms of disease.

They examined whether pigs and chickens can be infected, multiply the pathogen and show symptoms of the disease. Tests were also performed to determine whether pigs and chickens could excrete the pathogen, posing a potential risk to humans. Under the test conditions, neither pigs nor chickens were found to be susceptible to infection with SARS-CoV-2.

“According to the current state of knowledge, they are not affected by the virus and therefore do not pose any potential risk to humans,” the release said.

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Pyburn says more studies are going on in the U.S. and other international laboratories looking at pigs, other livestock and pets.

“To this point, we have no evidence that pigs can be infected,” Pyburn says.

More from Farm Journal's PORK:

[Tiger Tests Positive for COVID-19 in New York Zoo](#)

<https://www.porkbusiness.com/article/tiger-tests-positive-covid-19-new-york-zoo>

[Can Livestock Transmit COVID-19 to Humans?](#)

<https://www.porkbusiness.com/article/can-livestock-transmit-covid-19-humans>

[What Can PRRS and PEDV Teach Us About COVID-19?](#)

<https://www.porkbusiness.com/article/what-can-prrs-and-pedv-teach-us-about-covid-19>

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Influenza (Flu)

What People Who Raise Pigs Need To Know About Influenza (Flu)

Introduction

As someone who raises pigs, whether for show (e.g. 4-H or Future Farmers of America [FFA]) or as part of a farming operation (i.e. commercial pork producer), you may have questions about influenza (the flu) in both pigs and people. This document addresses what is known about flu viruses in pigs and people and what people in contact with pigs can do to reduce the risk of getting sick or of getting their pigs sick.

Influenza Virus Infections in Pigs and People

There are many causes of respiratory disease in pigs, including influenza. Among influenza types, only type A influenza viruses are known to infect pigs. Most of the influenza viruses circulating in swine are different from those circulating in people. When viruses that normally circulate in pigs infect humans, they are termed “variant” viruses.

At this time, there are three main flu viruses that circulate in U.S. pigs: H1N1, H1N2 and H3N2. These viruses do not usually infect people and are genetically different from the H1N1 and H3N2 viruses that commonly circulate in people. When the flu viruses circulating in pigs are very different from the human flu viruses causing illness in people, people may have little to no immune protection against the viruses circulating in pigs. Also, human flu vaccines probably would not offer protection against the viruses that are found in pigs.

Flu viruses commonly infect pigs and pig herds and can result in high rates of illness among pigs, but few deaths.

Signs of influenza in pigs include:

- Coughing (“barking”)
- Sneezing
- High fevers
- Breathing difficulties
- Discharge from the nose
- Going off feed

However, pigs also may become infected with flu viruses from people and from birds. This cross-species spread and possible mixing of flu viruses can lead to new and very different flu viruses that might gain the ability to spread easily between people.

Questions & Answers about Influenza in Pigs

Q. How does influenza spread among pigs?

A. Flu viruses are thought to spread among pigs in the same way that human influenza viruses spread among people. That is mainly through close contact between infected and uninfected pigs and possibly from contact by an uninfected pig with an object contaminated by an infected pig. Pigs also can be infected by flu viruses from their human caretakers.

Q. Can influenza virus infections be prevented in pigs?

A. It may be possible to lessen the risk of infections in pigs and/or severity of disease by following these management strategies:

- Vaccinating herds
- Using good biosecurity measures
- Practicing good hygiene
- Vaccinating pig caretakers with seasonal influenza vaccine
- Using proper ventilation systems

Q. What about flu vaccines for pigs?

A. Flu vaccines for pigs can help, but are not 100% effective. Sometimes the vaccine used may not protect against the virus or viruses circulating. In addition, current vaccines may not be effective in young pigs due to interference from antibodies received from the sow. Generally, protection of young pigs is achieved by vaccinating sows; however, those maternal antibodies are not fully protective for the young pig and decrease by the time they are 10 to 13 weeks old or sooner. Producers may vaccinate their animals after maternal antibodies decrease.

Q. How can veterinarians help?

A. You should work together with your veterinarian to develop management strategies to reduce the spread of influenza among herds and to prevent the introduction and spread of flu viruses between pigs, people, and birds.

Q. Can people get influenza from eating pork?

A. Flu viruses in pigs have not been shown to be transmissible to people through eating properly handled and prepared pork (pig meat) or other products derived from pigs. For more information about the proper handling and preparation of pork, visit the USDA website fact sheet [Fresh Pork from Farm to Table](#).

Q. What about 2009 H1N1?

A. The 2009 H1N1 flu virus was first detected in people in the United States in April 2009. It was a new influenza virus among humans which was able to spread easily from person-to-person, causing the first influenza pandemic in more than 40 years. This virus had two genes from flu viruses that normally circulate in pigs in Europe and Asia, three genes that normally circulate in North American pigs, and genes from flu viruses from birds and people as well. This particular virus, however, had not been detected in North American pigs before April 2009. The 2009 H1N1 flu virus is now considered a human influenza virus.

In October 2009, the first case of 2009 H1N1 flu virus infection in a pig in the United States was confirmed. Pig infections with the 2009 H1N1 flu virus also have been found in other countries, including Canada, Australia and Argentina. USDA and other researchers conducted studies in pigs that showed that the 2009 H1N1 virus caused illness in swine similar to those of other well-known, circulating swine flu viruses.

Q. How common are variant infections in people?

A. Human infections with influenza A viruses normally found in swine (now called variant viruses) are rare events, but the frequency of such detections has increased in recent years. This could be occurring for a number of reasons including: improved laboratory methods for testing for these viruses in the United States, increased surveillance in the United States for influenza, or it is possible that the increased frequency of detection of variant viruses represents a true increase in the number of such cases, possibly occurring from exposure to infected swine or through subsequent, limited human-to-human transmission.

The Flu Can Spread from Pigs to People and from People to Pigs

- Human flu viruses can infect pigs and can introduce new flu viruses into the swine population.
- The flu viruses that normally circulate in pigs can infect people, but this is not common.
- In 2005 and 2006, three cases of infection with flu viruses that normally circulate in swine (“variant viruses”) were reported in people.
- Beginning in 2007, about three to four of these cases were reported per year. This increased reporting may partially be because human infection with novel (non-human) flu viruses became nationally notifiable in 2007. That means that when a human infection with a non-human influenza virus is detected in people, it must be reported to federal authorities.
- In 2012, 313 variant cases were reported to CDC, the largest number of cases reported in a single year.
- Reported Infections with Variant Influenza Viruses in the United States includes the most up to date information about infections with variant viruses that have been reported to CDC.
- The flu viruses that commonly spread in humans are different from the ones that spread in pigs.
- People who get vaccinated annually against human influenza can still get sick from swine influenza viruses.
- Pigs that have been vaccinated for swine influenza can still get sick from some human influenza viruses.
- When people are infected with variant flu viruses, the symptoms are basically the same as those caused by illness from human influenza viruses and can include fever, cough, body aches, headaches, fatigue and runny or stuffy nose. There may also be vomiting or diarrhea.
- Most reported cases of human infection with variant viruses have occurred in people who have been near infected pigs in public settings such as fairs or petting zoos, or who work directly with infected pigs.
- Investigations of human cases of infection with variant viruses are routine. These investigations are designed to determine if the flu virus in question is spreading from person to person. It is important to know if flu viruses common among pigs are spreading among people so that cases in other people can be prevented.

Preventing the Spread of Flu Viruses Between People and Pigs

Like everyone else, animal caretakers tending pigs should get annual seasonal influenza vaccines. Although vaccination of people with seasonal influenza vaccine probably will not protect against infection with variant influenza viruses (because they are substantially different from human influenza A viruses), vaccination is important to reduce the risk of transmitting seasonal influenza A viruses from ill people to other people and to pigs. Seasonal influenza vaccination might also decrease the potential for people or pigs to become co-infected with both human influenza viruses and influenza viruses from pigs. Such dual infections are thought to be the source of reassortment of two different influenza A viruses which can lead to a new influenza A virus that has a different combination of genes, and which could pose a significant public or animal health concern.

Other routine measures to take:

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and running water before and after exposure to animals,
- Avoid close contact with animals that look or act ill, when possible, and
- Avoid contact with pigs if you are experiencing flu-like symptoms.





If you must come in contact with pigs while you are sick, or if you must come in contact with pigs that are known or suspected to be infected, or their environment, you should use appropriate protective measures (for example, wear protective clothing, gloves, masks that cover your mouth and nose, and other personal protective equipment) and practice good respiratory and hand hygiene.

If you or your family members become sick with flu-like symptoms and need medical treatment, take the following steps:

- Contact your health care provider and let them know about your symptoms and that you work with swine. Your doctor may prescribe treatment with influenza antiviral medications and may want a nose and throat specimen collected from you for testing at your state health department.
- Avoid or limit contact with household members and others until you have been fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications, and avoid travel.
- Practice good respiratory and hand hygiene. This includes covering your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing and putting used tissues in a waste basket. If tissues are not available, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve. Always wash your hands after coughing or sneezing. This is to lower the risk of spreading whatever virus you have to others.
- Avoid or limit contact with pigs as much as possible. Stay away from pigs for 7 days after symptoms begin or until you have been fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications, whichever is longer. (This is to protect your pig(s) from getting sick.)

Almost all influenza cases in humans are caused by human flu viruses, not viruses from swine. However, if you are infected with an influenza virus of animal origin, the health department will want to talk with you about your illness and make sure that other people you live and work with are not sick with the same virus.

More Information

- [CDC Information on Influenza in Swine](#)
- [USDA Animal Health: Influenza Surveillance in Swine](#) 
- [CFSPH Technical Disease FactSheet on Influenza in Swine](#)  [285 KB, 19 pages] 
- [The Changing Face of Influenza Virus in Swine](#) 

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
U.S. Department of Agriculture

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Content source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD)

Proposed Regulations for Potbellied Pig Owners in the City of Shelbyville

I personally am ready, willing and able to help with my request. I am happy to volunteer my personal time to serve as a Civilian Potbellied Pig Education Liaison to the City and the Residents of Shelbyville. I will partner with the City of Shelbyville to institute a registration process for pet mini pigs within city limits. This will not only allow the city to track and regulate potbellied pigs within City Limits, but also create revenue.

I would love to meet with Animal Control, Law Enforcement, Department of Child Services, and Fire Department to help educate them on what to do if they encounter a mini pig.

I am also more than willing to partner with the City of Shelbyville to assist any individual that receives a complaint regarding their pet mini pig. I will happily volunteer my time, energy and money if necessary to assist any individual in gaining compliance with city regulations.

I have located a Potbellied Pig rescue in Brownsburg, IN called Oinking Acres. They work hard to rescue, treat and adopt potbellied pigs from all over the state. In the event a mini pig must be removed, this could be a resource.

I have also included in this packet, information on assistance for spay/neuter of potbellied pigs.

I also suggest having minimum fencing requirements, leash requirements, and minimum housing standards. Potbellied pigs should not be outdoor pets within City Limits. While they do require outside time, but they need to be in a sheltered environment. Potbellied pigs are delicate animals, and are sensitive to heat and cold.

You are probably thinking to yourself- not all potbellied pig owners are as responsible as I am. I know of other potbellied pig owners in Shelbyville, if they were not responsible wouldn't there be complaints?

When a complaint is received regarding a dog, cat, unkempt yard, trash violation- does everyone within the City limits get punished or reprimanded? No, these cases are considered on an individual basis, just as any other problem should be. It is not fair, just or right to punish the masses for an incident/incidents that we had no part in.

I am asking that potbellied pigs are looked at no differently than any other pet within the City of Shelbyville.

Spay Neuter Assistance Application

Applications are currently being accepted for *appointments scheduled July 7th or later*.
Application deadline for this cycle is June 30th.

If approved, applications will be processed and mailed to your veterinarian on July 1st and we will send you a confirmation email from rescueadvocates@americanminipigrescue.com.

Thank you for your interest in the American Mini Pig Rescue Spay and Neuter Assistance Program. Please submit an application for each pig in need of assistance. *Application processing days are on the 1st of each month*. If approved, a \$50 assistance check and a microhip (if selected) will be mailed directly to your veterinarian to assist in this spay or neuter, so long as funds are available. Please ensure your appointment date, veterinarian's mailing address and contact information is accurate. Failure to provide accurate information may delay or void your eligibility for assistance.

The American Mini Pig Rescue's Spay, Neuter, and Microchip Assistance Fund is made possible in part by the support and efforts of the AMPA - American Mini Pig Association, Pigglyz, and Pig Gear. We need your help to continue providing assistance to pigs in need! Donate at americanminipigrescue.com

Please DO NOT apply for assistance until you have a spay or neuter appointment scheduled with a cost estimate of the procedure, we will not be able to fulfill these requests.

Do you understand and acknowledge the application deadline listed above? *

- Yes
 No

Owner Contact Information

First & Last Name *

Phone Number *

xxx-xxx-xxxx

Email Address: *

Do you represent a(n): *

Rescue Organization or Shelter Name (if applicable):

- Owner
- Private Rescuer
- Rescue Organization
- Animal Shelter

Rescue Organization or Shelter Website (if applicable):

Mini Pig Information

Mini Pig's Name: *

Gender: *

Mini Pig Color: *

Male

Female

Mini Pig Weight, Approximate: *

Mini Pig Age, Approximate: *

Is this pig microchipped? *

Microchip Number:

Yes

No

If your pig does not have a microchip, would you like us to send one FREE to your veterinarian to insert during surgery? This will help us to reunite you with your pig if they are lost or end up at a shelter. *

Yes

No

Please upload a photo of your mini pig for our website. *

Veterinary Contact Information:

This information will be used to mail your veterinarian a \$50 spay neuter assistance check. Please ensure all information is correct. Failure to provide accurate information may delay or void your spay neuter assistance eligibility. Assistance is only available to scheduled surgeries (not past surgeries) if we are given enough time to process the application and mail the check.

You may also ask your veterinarian if they are a member of the American Mini

Pig Education Veterinary Outreach Program and if they offer discounts for AMPA Members or rescue situations.

Veterinary Clinic Name: *

Mailing Address: *

City *

State *

Zip *

Veterinary Clinic Website: *

Email Address:

Additional Information:

Date of scheduled surgery: *

Estimated cost of surgery:

Are there any health concerns or complications? Please explain:

Are there any additional services or procedures being done? *

How long have you had your pig?

Is this your pet or a temporary foster? *

- My Pet
- Temporary Foster

Reason financial assistance is needed: *



Has someone donated to the Spay Neuter Assistance Fund on behalf of this pig? Please list name(s) if applicable.



How did you hear about the American Mini Pig Rescue Spay Neuter Assistance Program?



By submitting this form, I certify the information provided is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Submit

What Actual Harm do Potbellied Pigs Pose to the Residents of Shelbyville?

Now I ask you-

What is the harm to the City and Residents of Shelbyville if potbellied pigs are allowed as pets? There are bad dog owners, bad cat owners, bad property owners, and bad parents. We are not all punished because of their mistakes. I'm asking for an opportunity to prove to the City of Shelbyville that my pets pose no risk, or harm to the City. I am happy to accept a trial period that grants permission for them to stay. Just to prove that mini pig owners are responsible, and care deeply about their pets and those around them. I am willing to meet whatever requirements or registration fees you are willing to impose on me.

