



PennState Extension

Common Sense Biosecurity for CART Members

The Chester County CART provides an invaluable service to citizens of Chester County who can no longer provide care for animals in times of a crisis. However, when dealing with farms small or large certain biosecurity measures must be taken to ensure that no diseases are introduced to the farm that the farm is diligently trying to keep out. Just like humans' animals can suffer from certain diseases that do not affect humans but can cause devastating illness to animals if introduced to a farm. Therefore, we encourage all CART volunteers to only enter farms if requested through 911. Do not step on any farm either large or small unless requested to do so via CART protocols. If you are requested to step on a farm please follow all biosecurity protocols which include:

Clean all shoes and boots by removing with soap and water all organic material that may be on the footwear. Then place Tyvek boots over your boots or shoes so that nothing can be introduced from walking on the farm.

Make sure your clothes are clean and free from organic material. If Tyvek suits are available, you can utilize them over your clothing.

Spray clean tires with a disinfectant before driving in the lane

Do not enter barns or other animal areas unless directed to do so.

Most farms have contingency plans for feeding and care of livestock in the case of illness of the primary care giver. Often it is another family member or neighbor who knows the biosecurity measure for the farm, knows what and how to feed the livestock present, and will make sure the animals are given the care they require.

So please remember these tips for keeping our Chester County farms safe. If you have any questions concerning these tips, please feel free to give me a call at the Penn State Extension Office 610-696-3500. Leave a message and I will respond.

Thanks for your service!

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