

Town of Westport
Animal Care Guidelines
January 20, 2020

The following guidelines are intended to provide the essential information required for raising and maintaining healthy, disease free animals within the animal owner's property. The Massachusetts Division of Animal Health is responsible for the health and safety of domestic animals. More detailed information on maintaining animal health can be found on: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/division-of-animal-health>. Additional information can be found at the Massachusetts Department of Agriculture – MDAR.

1. Unsanitary conditions. All farms and animal owners shall operate in such a manner as to prevent unsanitary conditions.
2. Shelter. Adequate shelter from the weather shall be provided.
3. All buildings used for the housing of animals shall be structurally sound and kept in a clean and satisfactory condition.
4. Water source. A constant water supply adequate for animal consumption shall be provided.
5. Feeding and feed bins. All animals shall receive adequate feed. All methods of feeding shall be designed in such a way that livestock can be excluded from the feed storage bins or areas.
6. Confinement. The means of confinement shall be adequately designed, installed and maintained.
7. Manure shall not be stored within 50 feet of a dwelling or 100 feet from any groundwater well used as a potable water source.
8. Infestation. All areas where livestock are kept shall be maintained in such a manner that prevents the infestation of vermin.

Any area not covered, please revert back to Best Management Practices according to MDAR.

Where the piggery, equine and tenant farm regulations establish additional or more stringent requirements for operation and maintenance, farmers, animal owners and operators shall be required to comply with those requirements.

Ag Com reserves the right to change these guidelines at any time.