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Animal Welfare Publications, Guidance Documents, and Forms

Last Modified:

Are you part of our regulated community or looking to learn more? We offer many publications and guidance documents on the Animal Welfare Act and related topics. Here, you'll also find forms for current licensees and registrants.

Animal Care Aids

These documents give easy-to-understand information to aid our regulated community and anyone who cares for animals in providing humane care.

Last Updated	Document	Topic
2024-02	Bear Husbandry and Habitat (376.56 KB)	Bears
2024-02	Bear Nutrition and Winter Lethargy (296.83 KB)	Bears
2024-02	Environmental Enrichment for Bears (356.94 KB)	Bears
2024-02	Veterinary Care for Bears (207.81 KB)	Bears
2024-02	Canine Periodontal Disease (PD) (288.72 KB)	Dogs
2024-02	Coat Care: Preventing Matted Hair (177.69 KB)	Dogs
2024-02	Common Skin Disorders in Dogs (434.5 KB)	Dogs
2024-02	Early Rearing Environment (549.17 KB)	Dogs

Last Updated	Document	Topic
2024-02	Identifying Healthy and Unhealthy Skin in Dogs (592.91 KB)	Dogs
2024-02	Maternal Stress and Puppy Development (211.1 KB)	Dogs
2024-02	Socialization (616.08 KB)	Dogs
2023-08	Access to Potable Water for Dogs (1016.18 KB)	Dogs
2023-07	Aging Puppies by Teeth (350.72 KB)	Dogs
2022-06	Minimum Space Requirements for Dogs (779.51 KB)	Dogs
2021-05	Flea Control for Dogs (326.18 KB)	Dogs
2021-05	Heartworm Disease in Dogs (287.91 KB)	Dogs
2021-05	Intestinal Parasites in Dogs (375.16 KB)	Dogs
2024-02	Monitoring for Periodontal Disease (PD) in Dogs (325.57 KB)	Dogs
2024-02	Preventive Care for Periodontal Disease (PD) in Dogs (315.87 KB)	Dogs
2020-05	Managing Animals and Veterinary Care at Drive-Through Parks (326.33 KB)	Drive-Through Animal Parks
2020-05	Tips for Shelter and Housing at Drive-Through Animal Parks (346.11 KB)	Drive-Through Animal Parks
2025-02	Keeping Animals Safe During Emergencies (483.13 KB)	Emergency Preparedness
2023-11	Cleaning and Disinfection Procedures (224.29 KB)	Facilities
2023-11	Infection Control Practices (215.95 KB)	Facilities
2023-11	What is Antibiotic or Antimicrobial Resistance (AR) (253.15 KB)	Facilities
2024-02	Mammals That Fly or Glide (267.35 KB)	Flying or Gliding Mammals
2024-02	Protecting Giraffes in Cold Weather (598.35 KB)	Giraffes
2023-06	Guinea Pig Eye Health (766.32 KB)	Guinea Pigs
2023-06	Guinea Pig Skin Disease (343.13 KB)	Guinea Pigs

Last Updated	Document	Topic
2020-07	Clean Housing is Vital to Guinea Pig Health (506.47 KB)	Guinea Pigs
2020-07	Guinea Pigs Do Best When Housed at the Right Temperature (657.57 KB)	Guinea Pigs
2020-07	Minimizing Stress Helps Keep Guinea Pigs Healthy (581.83 KB)	Guinea Pigs
2024-02	Feeding Nondomestic Cats (652.18 KB)	Nondomestic Cats
2024-02	Metabolic Bone Disease in Nondomestic Cats (582.32 KB)	Nondomestic Cats
2024-02	Tips and Calculations: Adding Calcium to Boneless Meat Diets for Nondomestic Cats (475.54 KB)	Nondomestic Cats
2020-05	Public Feeding of Animals in Petting Zoos and Other Settings (324.31 KB)	Petting Zoos
2024-02	Enrichment Devices for Primates (471.14 KB)	Primates
2024-02	Options for Meeting Social Needs of Primates (265.87 KB)	Primates
2024-02	Primates: Natural Social Groupings and Compatibility (229.5 KB)	Primates
2024-02	Primates: Special Needs of Great Apes (253.47 KB)	Primates
2024-02	Primates: Special Needs of Infants and Young Juveniles (268.33 KB)	Primates
2024-02	Special Needs of Primates Showing Signs of Psychological Distress (188.41 KB)	Primates
2024-02	Special Needs of Primates With Research Restrictions (228.89 KB)	Primates
2024-02	Special Needs of Primates Unable To See or Hear Other Primates (278.78 KB)	Primates
2024-02	Supporting Natural Behaviors in Primates (332.49 KB)	Primates
2020-01	Daily Observations: Behavior (234.47 KB)	Regulated Animals
2020-01	Daily Observations: Physical Health (185.78 KB)	Regulated Animals
2024-02	Semi-Aquatic Animals (295.23 KB)	Semi-Aquatic Animals

Last Updated	Document	Topic
2024-02	Feeding Two-Toed Sloths (235.93 KB)	Sloths
2021-04	Housing Two-Toed Sloths (536.37 KB)	Sloths
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Tech Notes and Other Publications

These documents offer easy-to-understand guidance to help current licensees and registrants provide humane care to their animals, comply with all AWA regulations, and understand the inspection process.

Last Updated Date	Document	Topic	Document Type
2021-04	The Attending Veterinarian (498.42 KB)	Attending Veterinarian	Tech Note
2021-04	El Veterinario a Cargo (538.29 KB)	Attending Veterinarian	Nota Técnica de Animal Care
2024-04	Preparing Your Avian Environment Enhancement Plan: It's More Than Adding Toys! (401.42 KB)	Birds	Tech Note
2022-05	Guidance for Zoos and Captive Wildlife Facilities: Protecting Birds From Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (552.5 KB)	Birds	Factsheet
2022-03	Protecting Captive Wild Birds From Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (241.05 KB)	Birds	Tech Note
2022-03	Development Guide: Contingency Plans for Emergencies (1.12 MB)	Contingency Plans	Tech Note
2022-03	Quick Reference: Contingency Plans for Emergencies (569 KB)	Contingency Plans	Tech Note
2022-02	Daily Observation (1.43 MB)	Daily Animal Observation	Tech Note

Last Updated Date	Document	Topic	Document Type
2022-07	Temperature Requirements for Dogs (940.3 KB)	Dogs	Tech Note
2022-06	Minimum Space Requirements for Dogs (775.44 KB)	Dogs	Tech Note
2021-04	Live Dog Import Permit Requirements Under the Animal Welfare Act (393.64 KB)	Dogs	Tech Note
2018-11	Questions and Answers: Dog Activities Requiring a USDA License/Registration (698.97 KB)	Dogs	Tech Note
2022-08	Identification and Recordkeeping Requirements for Dogs and Cats (530.37 KB)	Dogs and Cats	Tech Note
2022-06	Minimum Age Requirements for Transporting Dogs and Cats in Commerce (773.88 KB)	Dogs and Cats	Tech Note
2024-10	Comparable Standards Evaluation for Foreign Facilities Importing Marine Mammals from the United States (140.46 KB)	Facilities	Guidance
2023-07	Categorizing Animal Pain or Distress in Research Facility Annual Reports (378.58 KB)	Facilities	Tech Note
2024-12	Events Covered Under the Horse Protection Act (353.78 KB)	Horse Protection	Tech Note
2023-04	Attempted Inspections (879.94 KB)	Inspections	Tech Note
2022-04	Inspection Report Appeals Process (1.14 MB)	Inspections	Tech Note

Last Updated Date	Document	Topic	Document Type
2023-02	Licensing and Registration Under the Animal Welfare Act: Guidelines for Dealers, Exhibitors, Transporters, and Researchers (187.97 KB)(Gray Book)	Licensing	Booklet
2022-06	Licensing Changes Under the 2020 Licensing Rule (1022.08 KB)	Licensing	Tech Note
2022-05	Veterinary Care Changes Under the 2020 Licensing Rule (851.44 KB)	Licensing	Tech Note
2022-05	Handling and Husbandry of Neonatal Nondomestic Cats (1.16 MB)	Nondomestic cats	Tech Note
2022-01	Research With Free-Living Wild Animals in Their Natural Habitat and the Animal Welfare Act (1.12 MB)	Research	Tech Note
2022-08	Zoo and Aquarium Serology Study (512.28 KB)	Zoos and Aquariums	Factsheet

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Forms

Below are forms for current licensees and registrants.

Last Updated	Document	Form Number
2018-04	Program of Veterinary Care	APHIS Form 7002 (177.81 KB)
2022-03	Program of Veterinary Care for Dogs	APHIS Form 7002A (231.18 KB)
2020-11	Record of Acquisition of Dogs and Cats	APHIS Form 7005 (167.6 KB)

Last Updated	Document	Form Number
2021-05	Record of Disposition of Dogs and Cats	APHIS Form 7006 (166.53 KB)
2021-05	Continuation Sheet for Record of Disposition of Dogs and Cats	APHIS Form 7006A (158.04 KB)
2020-01	Itinerary of Exhibition With Overnight Travel	APHIS Form 7010 (1.14 MB)
2020-01	Continuation Sheet for Itinerary of Exhibition With Overnight Travel	APHIS Form 7010A (1.14 MB)
2020-08	Exercise Plan for Dogs	APHIS Form 7013 (132.79 KB)
2020-11	Record of Animals On-Hand (Other Than Dogs and Cats)	APHIS Form 7019 (130.88 KB)
2020-11	Record of Acquisition, Disposition or Transport of Animals (Other Than Dogs and Cats)	APHIS Form 7020 (153.23 KB)
2020-11	Continuation Sheet for Record of Acquisition, Disposition or Transport of Animals (Other Than Dogs and Cats)	APHIS Form 7020A (195.29 KB)
2020-11	Environment Enhancement Program for Nonhuman Primates	APHIS Form 7050 (258.72 KB)
2024-08	Environment Enhancement Program for Birds	APHIS Form 7052 (358.37 KB)
2021-05	Contingency Planning Program	APHIS Form 7093 (268.77 KB)

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Animal Welfare Regulations

Animal Care operates in accordance with the [Animal Welfare Act](#) and the [Horse Protection Act](#). Find out more about those regulations below.

[Animal Welfare Act Regulations](#)

[\(PDF, 3.67 MB\)](#)

[\(also known as the "Blue Book"\)](#)

[Ley de Bienestar Animal y Regulaciones para el Bienestar Animal](#)

[\(PDF, 5.26 MB\)](#)

[\(también conocido como el "Libro Azul"\)](#)

[Horse Protection Act Regulations](#)

Related Links

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