



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

JAMIE CLOVER ADAMS
DIRECTOR

February 27, 2014

Michigan Fair Managers
c/o Lisa Scramlin, Executive Director
Michigan Association of Fairs & Exhibitions
P.O. Box 224
Eau Claire, MI 49111-0224

Dear Michigan Fair Managers:

Livestock exhibitors and the public rely upon the check-in staff to be the first line of defense when it comes to protecting the health and welfare of animals at a fair or exhibition. Under Public Act 466, of 1988, as amended, also known as the Animal Industry Act, every exhibition is required to have an accredited veterinarian on contract and available for animal health and welfare questions and/or issues.

In the past few years, we have had animal health and welfare concerns at fairs. Occasionally, it was difficult to contact and consult with the fair veterinarian on these cases. This year, we would like to be ahead of the curve by collecting and keeping a spread sheet with the contact information for each fair or exhibition veterinarian in the state. This will save precious time in making decisions and lead to more productive and timely discussions. Please share name and contact information for your accredited veterinarian(s) with Debbie Mulvaney at 517-284-5684 or mulvaneyd@michigan.gov.

Additionally, MDARD is providing a training course - free of charge - for fair veterinarians.

March 22: Fair Veterinarian Training, 1:00-3:00 p.m. at The Forum, Michigan History Museum, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, MI.

The training will cover rules, regulations, the protocol for reporting diseases, and handling isolation cases. Please be sure to have your veterinary representative contact us for registration at 517-284-5683 to speak with Tina Moreno or via email at morenot@michigan.gov

We hope these efforts, in collaboration with the Michigan Association of Fairs and Exhibitions, and MSU Extension will help fair veterinarians be prepared for a quick response when needed.

MDARD looks forward to a successful fair and exhibition season in 2014. For further information on exhibition requirements please visit our website at www.michigan.gov/mdard

Enclosed are two brochures on biosecurity that are swine focused but appropriate for all species.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Averill".

James Averill, DVM, PhD
State Veterinarian and Division Director
Animal Industry Division