



Approach to welfare issues 

1. **Identify** and measure an issue.
2. Develop **resources** about it.
3. **Be part of the solution-** work with the people who can do something about it.

farmers - researchers – industry stakeholders – government – SPCA

FARM & FOOD
Care ONTARIO

Do the right thing...for farm animals

- **Farm Animal Care Advisory Council**
 - forum for dialogue to advance responsible farm practices
 - all members in a collaborative approach on issues facing animal care
 - develop strong connections between sectors
 - keep up to date on current issues within agriculture

Engaged group that is passionate about animal care

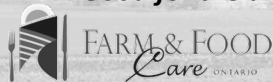
FARM & FOOD
Care ONTARIO

Farm Animal Care Helpline

- 1992 – improve farm animal care
- Confidential farmer helping farmer approach
- No legal authority – just a ‘helpful’ approach
- Not for emergencies or cruelty/abuse



Good for the animals, the farmer and the industry.



Who responds?

- Supply managed groups: field staff
- OCA – Helpline reps
- Ontario Pork & others – Helpline reps throughout province
- Farm & Food Care contract staff – on occasion

What is covered?



Beef cattle

Dairy cattle

Pigs

Rabbits



Goats

Veal calves

Chickens

Turkeys



Farm animal care helpline

- If situation is beyond peer helping/education, laws are broken, or animals are being abused Helpline rep will call the OSPCA or other authorities
- The Helpline **does not** have the mandate or resources to respond to the estimated 1,400 farm animal calls answered by the OSPCA in a year.



Getting the call



- FFC takes down caller information
 - What animal
 - What the concern is
 - How many animals
 - As detailed location as possible
 - Farm name and farmer name
 - etc, etc, etc...

Caller details- name phone number and email
(remains confidential)



Passing the torch

- FFC contacts appropriate commodity
 - i.e. Beef cows- OCA
- Pass along detailed report form with all caller details
- Commodity contacts Helpline reps based on location



Making the visit

- Rep will be asked to make contact via phone or make drive by visit to make initial contact with farmer
- Make farm visit
 - Can use report form to guide through what to look at
 - Each farm visit will be different
 - Use judgment on recommendations and follow up



Reporting

- Fill out the report form
 - (either on farm or after)
- Send report to commodity lead
- Forms sent to FFC office
- FFC will call back caller with details of what saw on farm



Calling back

- FFC will call back the original caller to give a brief summary of the visit and if any further action is required

Overall timeline 2 weeks




Helpline vs. OSPCA

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confidential • No legal authority <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can only make recommendations • Available Monday-Friday during regular office hours • Deal with thin animals, not starving animals 	<p>vs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confidential • Have legal authority <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can press charges • Available regular office hours
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Like parenting animal care is a touchy subject!



Process of approach

Awareness

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Education (Decision Trees)

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Peer Pressure (Producers, Staff)

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Enforcement



SHOULD THIS BIRD BE LOADED?
Guidelines for Transporting Poultry

LOAD & TRANSPORT HEALTHY BIRDS

DO NOT LOAD
• Weak and/or not alert
• Dark red, purple, or black combs or wattles
• Discharge from eyes, nostrils
• Swollen headwaters

CAUTION
Conditions requiring assessment before loading
• Environmental
• Wet birds in cool or cold weather
• Heat and/or humidity
• Cold and/or wind chill

Requirements
The person shall not use a transport for poultry...
• Transport a mix of mixed birds
• Do not mix poultry of different species

Using cattle behaviour to move animals
Think about the animals
• Cattle are sensitive to noise and vibration...
• Cattle have a strong tendency to move away from the sound of their own hooves...
• The right facilities

Handling Cattle
Work smarter, not harder

Doing the right thing, right

Get off on the right foot
Pick the right ramp
Loading and unloading of cattle should be done safely to avoid costly injuries. A step-up or step-down can lead to an injured animal that cannot complete the journey.

Guide to Footrot in Sheep
The best way to deal with sheep footrot is to avoid introducing it to your farm.

Caring for COMPROMISED CATTLE
Increased risks for report offenders
Report offenders posted on OFAC website

We are the helpful experts

Real The Dirt on Farming II
Questions about where your food comes from? People in agriculture answer them with the straight goods.

Virtual Farm Tours
www.virtualfarmtours.ca

FARM & FOOD Care ONTARIO

MOU's with OSPCA

- Memorandum of understanding
 - Current DFO, CFO
 - Pending OCA
- Joint approach to responding to calls
 - Collaboration working together on a united front responding to farm animal calls
- Fairly new approach in Ontario


FARM & FOOD Care ONTARIO

OSPCA training




- 2 week course covering all farm animals in Ontario
- Hands on training & class room component
- Joint with OMAF & University of Guelph
- FFC presentation talking about Helpline and dealing with farmers

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Euthanasia



- Non-penetrating redesigned nail gun
- Zephyr
 - UoG & OMAF developed
 - Bock Industries manufacturing
 - Runs off air compressor 120 PSI
- TED
 - Completely portable
 - Runs off butane cartridge
 - Use- turkeys, ducks, chickens and pigs (Further research on other species)

LivestockWelfare.com

Videos, fact sheets, producer resources, educational links

- Farm animal care resources
- Extensive data base – all farm animal species
- First responder resources
- Up to date info on animal care issues

www.livestockwelfare.com




Training videos



Four part training video series for first responders

 <p>Livestock Emergency Response Video Series Part One: Handling</p>	 <p>Livestock Emergency Response Video Series Part Two: Loose Livestock</p>	 <p>Livestock Emergency Response Video Series Pt. 3 Responding to Accidents</p>	 <p>Livestock Emergency Response Video Series Pt. 4 Scene Security</p>
Animal Handling 101	Loose Livestock	Responding to Accidents	Scene Security



Livestock Emergency Response

- Train professional teams to respond
- Specified trailers and resources
- Educational videos targeted to police and fire fighters (& others)




Producer attitude study

- Polled Ontario farmers on their current practices
 - Focus groups (6) and surveys (402)
- Attitudes concerning animal care & environment
- **What are your concerns? What investments are you making? What are you doing well? Where do you go for information? etc.**



Reaching out to the public



Where you can find out more

- www.farmfoodcare.org
- www.farmcarefoundation.ca
- www.livestockwelfare.com
- www.farmissues.com
- www.virtualfarmtours.ca
- www.letstalkfaranimals.ca
- www.caringfortheland.com



Together we can achieve more!

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