




4-H Animal CARES Pledge

Creating Animal Responsible Exhibitor Skills




How would you rate your project animal care exhibitor skills? For each pledge statement, select (✓) a ribbon on "How Am I Doing?". Then write one way you can improve for each pledge category.

I Pledge...	Blue 	Red 	White 	What Will I Do to Improve My Animal Care Skills?
<p>GPP #1: I pledge to use an appropriate veterinarian/client/patient relationship (VCPR) as the basis for medication decision-making.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I know my vet's name, address and phone number. • I know what type of medications require a veterinary's decision for use. • I always follow my veterinarian's advice and recommendations. • I know what animal vitals and symptoms to share with my veterinarian when my project animal is sick. 				
<p>GPP #2: I pledge to establish and implement an efficient and effective health management plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I control parasites and vaccinate my project animal. • I wear personal protective equipment to protect myself and my project animal from disease. • I always quarantine new animals and my project animals that I take to shows when I return home. • I would never take a sick or infectious animal to Fair. 				
<p>GPP #3: I pledge to use antibiotics responsibly.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I only use antibiotics for treatment of illness and control and prevention of disease in my project animal. • I contact my veterinarian before treating my project animal with an antibiotic or any other animal health product. • I provide proper ventilation and nutrition, vaccinations, bio-security practices to decrease the need for antibiotics. 				
<p>GPP #4: I pledge to properly store and administer animal health products.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We only use medications labeled for use for my project animal species or prescribed by our veterinary. • We choose the drug administration method that will cause the least meat damage. • We never give injections in the rump, ham or loin. • We always use the smallest gauge, clean needle to effectively inject an animal health product. • We always store animal health products according to the label. 				
<p>GPP #5: I pledge to follow proper feed processing protocols.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I purchase high quality feed in a quantity that can be stored and fed before spoilage. • I always read and follow feed tag recommendations to help my project animal reach desirable market weight. • I always keep my feed tag with the feed and use different scoops for different feeds to prevent cross contamination. • I utilize a Veterinarian Feed Directive when warranted. • I keep accurate feeding records on all feeds fed. 				

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<p>GPP #6: I pledge to establish effective animal identification, medication records and withdrawal times.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I properly identify my animals for tracking treatments. • I immediately record all treatments and accurately. • I keep treatment records for the required time for my project animal. 1 year, 2 years or 5 years. • I am honest in reporting treatments on the Drug Use Notification Form required at Fair weigh-in. • I can accurately calculate a withdrawal time. • I am 100% sure my project animal is free of drug residue at show, sale and harvest time. 				
<p>GPP #7: I pledge to practice good environmental stewardship.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I provide proper shelter and shade for my animals. • I always keep my animal facilities and equipment clean. • I control flies, mosquitoes and rodents in my animal's environment. • I always provide plenty of clean, fresh water and keep my animal's water containers clean. 				
<p>GPP #8: I pledge to maintain proper workplace safety.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I control hazards in my animal's pens to prevent injury. • I make sure my animals are protected from potential predators with secure fencing, gates, etc. • I always wash my hands before and after working in the barn or with my animals. • I never eat or drink in the barn to reduce my exposure to zoonotic illnesses. 				
<p>GPP #9: I pledge provide proper animal handling and care.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I provide my animal with a nutritious diet and clean, fresh water I observe my animal's daily for signs of illness, changes in behavior and performance. • I always exercise and transport my project animal during the coolest part of the day. • I properly restrain and safely handle my project animal to reduce stress and maximize comfort at home and the Fair. 				
<p>GPP #10: I pledge to utilize tools for continuous improvement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can tell others what I am doing to produce a safe, wholesome animal food product. • I know the rules required for my project animal to show and sell at the Fair. • I attend educational programs (clinics, club meetings) to help me continuously improve my animal care. • I always use the 10 Good Production Practices to make decisions in the care of my project animal. 				