

# 2023 - 2024

## Spring ISD Agriscience Facility Rules

The purpose of the Spring ISD Agriscience Facilities are to provide an extension to the classroom for Spring High School, Westfield High School, Carl Wunsche Sr. High School, Dekaney High School, and Roberson Middle School agriculture science students to utilize in their Supervised Agricultural Experience Projects (SAEP).

As the advisors of students' SAE projects and advisors of the Spring FFA, Westfield FFA, Wunsche FFA, and Dekaney FFA, the agricultural science teachers are here to ensure an educational opportunity for students, along with the image, character, and integrity of the Spring ISD FFA Chapters.

In order for all parties to best utilize the agriscience facilities, several rules and expectations must be followed. The agriscience teachers and school administrators will monitor the facilities to ensure the rules and expectations are being followed.

Any person who would like to discuss a barn rule or situation that they feel needs attention will discuss that concern with the teacher that supervises their species.

The Spring ISD agriculture science teachers reserve the right to make decisions concerning the agriscience facilities, the projects, and the rules for the agriscience facilities, as needs or situations arise during the year.

The Spring ISD Agriscience Facilities are Spring ISD facilities and therefore all rules and regulations located in the student handbook apply and will be enforced.

Each April the Spring ISD FFA Advisors will revisit and update the barn rules. Any students who are currently housing their animals at an agriscience facility will be required to sign and return the new Spring ISD Agriscience Facilities rules by May 1<sup>st</sup> of that year. If the 1<sup>st</sup> falls on a Saturday or Sunday the student must submit the signed Agriscience Facilities rules on the Friday prior to May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Spring Independent School District, Spring High School, Westfield High School, Carl Wunsche Sr. High School, Dekaney High School, Roberson Middle School, Spring High School Agriculture Science teachers, Westfield High School Agriculture Science teachers, Carl Wunsche Sr. High School Agriculture Science teachers, Dekaney High School Agriculture Science teachers, Roberson Middle School Agriculture Science teachers, and their supporters are not responsible for any damages or losses incurred to personal property of the students, parents, guests, etc. at the Spring ISD Agriscience Facilities.

In order to ensure the safety of all students, parents, legal guardians, animals, and teachers that utilize Spring ISD Agriscience Facilities, a strict time frame will be set for the facilities to be used. The Spring ISD Agriscience Facilities will open at 5:00 am and will close at 9:00 pm. Since the Westfield High School Agriscience Facility, Wunsche High School Agriscience Facility, and the Dekaney High School Agriscience Facility do not have barn monitors on the premises, random barn visits by the respective Spring ISD agriculture science teachers, as well as camera monitoring, will be used to enforce this rule. If the barn hours are not adhered to, the respective Spring ISD agriculture science teachers will issue notifications of infractions.

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### Student Requirements for Housing at the Facility:

- Students must be enrolled in a Spring ISD School. (can be elementary, middle, or high school)
- Students must be a paid Spring ISD FFA member, in good standing with the organization (this includes holds from the previous years), to exhibit animals through a Spring ISD FFA chapter and to house animals at a Spring ISD Agriscience Facility.
- The Spring ISD Agriscience Facility rules must be signed and returned before students will be issued a pen, given keys/code and allowed to move animals into the barn.
- Eligibility — Any student who is ineligible for 2 consecutive report cards will be evicted from the facility following the 2nd consecutive failing report card until 1 week (7 days) after the last day of school. The failing class does not have to be the same as the failing class on the first two report cards.
  - o Any student that is ineligible for the Spring Livestock Show has 72 hours, from the time of ineligibility notification, to remove their animal(s) and belongings from the facility.
    - This pertains to market animals only, as they are terminal.

### Animal Requirements for Housing at the Facility:

- Only show animals that are validated, registered, or purchased for a show in the current school year are allowed to be housed at a Spring ISD Agriscience Facility. All animals must be shown & exhibited solely under the FFA chapter that is assigned to each facility at any show that it is entered into. For example, only Spring FFA members are permitted to house their animals at the Spring FFA Agriscience Facility, etc.
- If you are keeping any breeding animals at the Agriscience Facility, you will need to provide registration papers (large animals) showing the exhibitor as the sole owner of the animal. For breeding poultry you will need to provide the Advisors with a copy of your Pullorum Typhoid certificate.
  - Breeding Livestock Permitted at the Facilities are:
    - Breeding Heifers (offspring may share a pen until 5 months)
    - Breeding Gilt (offspring may share a pen until 6 weeks)
    - Breeding Bucks (rabbit)
    - Breeding Does (rabbit)
    - Cockerel (chicken)
    - Pullet (chicken)
    - Cock (chicken)
    - Hen (chicken)

### Teacher Approval Prior to Purchase:

- Any individual wishing to have an animal or crop as their SAEP must first have approval for each species from their respective Spring ISD agriculture science teacher.
- The approval for all animal purchases by students for an SAEP, whether housed at the Spring ISD Agriscience Facility premises or off these premises, must go through the respective Spring ISD agriculture science teachers PRIOR to their arrival. Reasons for non-approval, may be, but are not limited to: health, structural quality, seller, or animal breed.

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### Utilization of Pens at Facility:

- Decisions for extra pens will be made at the discretion of the respective Spring ISD FFA Advisors that are in charge of each facility.
- Each student is limited to **two (2)** projects from the same species, with a maximum of **4** projects total on the grounds of the Spring ISD Agriscience Facility. Rabbits and poultry will not be counted by individual animals, rather by the number of pens that are occupied.
- Students **MAY NOT** alter pens for any reason without approval from Advisor.

### Locks at the Barn:

- All gate locks will be provided by Spring ISD and the codes/Keys will be given to the students after they have paid the pen rent.
- **NO PERSONAL LOCKS** are allowed to lock any pens or feed at the Spring ISD Agriscience facilities. You may lock your personal belongings (tack boxes, show boxes etc.)

### Behavior of Individuals at Facility:

- Individuals, whether sellers, breeders, relatives/friends of students, etc., that interfere with the instructional process, verbally or physically assault/threaten any person(s) or otherwise undermine the authority of the respective Spring ISD agriculture science teachers, will receive a notice of Ban form. Parents should not address other students about issues at the Barn and should reach out to the AST's to address all matters.
- **Only Spring ISD FFA students or parents/legal guardians of housed animals will be allowed at each Spring ISD Agriscience Facility. All others without permission will be considered trespassing.**
- In the case that a guest is asked to come to the barn facility by a parent or student, the respective Spring ISD agriculture science teacher must be notified **2 days prior** to the guest coming to the facility. Should the respective Spring ISD agriculture science teachers deem it necessary, those teachers will be accompanying the guest and the parent/student at the barn. Spring ISD Agriculture Science teacher reserve the right to deny the request to have a guest at the barn.
- No Loitering! Feed and care for your animal as necessary and then leave the project center. Any issues that arise or damages that the property or animals incur by the student, family of the student, or guest of the student will be deemed the student and their guardians responsibility.
- The gate is to be closed and locked at all times. If you go through the main gate of the barn, and it is not immediately closed, action will be taken and notifications of infractions will be issued. The gate is for the safety of everyone's animals. Disregarding this rule will not be tolerated.
- According to Spring ISD, vandalism will not be tolerated! Any vandalism will result in immediate eviction of all animals and items that the individual owns.
- Users of the facility are not allowed to bring any domesticated animals (i.e., dogs, cats, house pets, etc.) on the Spring ISD Agriscience Facility grounds unless approved by an Advisor of the respective Spring ISD FFA chapter. If one is brought onto the premises and damages to an animal or property occurs, the individual who brought it will be

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responsible for the monetary damages as determined by the owner of the animal or property. If the property belongs to a Spring ISD FFA chapter, the respective Spring ISD agriculture science teachers will determine the value of the property.

- Any changes made to the barn, pens, or property must have prior approval from the Agriculture Science Teacher.

### Proper Care of Animals/Pens:

- Students will be required to purchase their own equipment (blowers, combs, brushes, water hoses, clippers, feed pans, buckets, etc.), grooming supplies (adhesives, shampoos, conditioners, paint, etc.), etc. to properly care for their project. Spring ISD FFA chapters are not responsible for providing the needed items for a student's project.
- Animal health requires that feces (animal waste) be dumped in the approved container (dumpster) and deceased animals taken off of the premises. Anyone reported of inappropriately dumping animals or waste will receive a notification of infraction. Dumping in trash cans, outside your pen, or around the farm will not be tolerated. A Spring ISD agriculture science teacher (in charge of the respective facility) should be notified once the dumpster reaches ½ full capacity.
- Students/parents must provide clean water and feed DAILY. Feeding should occur twice a day unless the animal is on a self-feeder (i.e., market barrow).
- The student is responsible for cleaning and maintaining the project area (e.g. pen, alleys, barn) at all times. The pen should be cleaned daily to eliminate the possibility of parasites and other illnesses being spread in the barn. If the pen is not cleaned daily, the respective Spring ISD agriculture science teachers will issue notifications of infractions as they deem necessary.
- No animal shall be abused in any way. Examples could include, but are not limited to: beating, mutilation, withholding feed/water, using illegal drugs, keeping the animal in unsanitary conditions, etc. If the animal is not being properly cared for, the respective Spring ISD agriculture science teachers will issue notifications of infractions. However, if the severity of the situation demands immediate attention (beating, etc.), Spring ISD Police Department will be notified, the offender will be removed from the premises (and banned until further notice), and the animal will be surrendered to the respective Spring ISD FFA chapter.
- No shots, injections, or implants are to be administered without written permission from the respective Spring ISD FFA agriculture science teachers.
- The use of extension cords is strongly prohibited, unless approved by the respective Spring ISD FFA Advisor prior to use. This includes approval of the type of extension cord, as well as the method of fixing the extension cord for use. If extension cords are used without prior approval or if extension cords are used that are not deemed safe, the respective Spring ISD agriculture science teacher will issue notifications of infractions.
- Students/parents/legal guardians may use one appliance per pen. However, before appliances may be utilized, the appliance must be approved by the respective Spring ISD agriculture science teacher. If appliances are used with prior approval or more than one appliance is utilized per pen by the student/parent/legal guardian, the respective Spring ISD agriculture science teacher will issue notifications of infractions.

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### Emergency Situations:

- In emergency situations (fire, hurricane, etc.), all able-bodied students shall assist any and all handicapped persons to the entrance/exit gate. Then, if there is not an eminent danger, they will systematically release the animals from their pens, if needed.
- In the case of an animal emergency, contact the respective Spring ISD FFA Advisor FIRST and he/she will advise if a veterinarian is necessary. However, if you are in danger, contact Spring ISD Police first! If your animal is in danger of dying, contact an emergency veterinarian first!
- In the event of inclement weather, the FFA advisor will provide explicit instruction and the students are expected to adhere to those instructions completely.

### Inclement Weather

- In the event of freezing conditions, water will be drained and shut off and will remain off until all threat of freeze past
  - o Animals should have heat lamps and a hay wind break to assuage the cold weather conditions
  - o A rest area tack room will be available for students
  - o Students that have self-dispensing feed/water containers may avoid barn visits
- In the event of flooding students should only go to barn if they can do so safely. If a student is unable to safely get to the barn the Ag advisor should be notified. Student should prepare for conditions by having feed on site so animal can be fed.

### Removal of Animals from the Facility (voluntarily and involuntarily):

- Any evicted animal is to be removed within three (3) days—72 Hours—of eviction notice or the animal will become the property of the exhibitor's respective Spring ISD FFA Chapter and it will be sold. The income money from this sale will go into the respective Spring ISD FFA chapter's Pen Maintenance account. Income from the sale will not defer any pen maintenance fees, fines, or fees that are due. If a student and their animal are evicted from a Spring ISD Agriscience Facility, the student forfeits any opportunity to utilize any facility or raise an animal in a Spring ISD FFA chapter for the remainder of their time in Spring ISD.
- If an animal dies while housed at the barn it is the responsibility of the student to remove the animal and dispose of it the proper way. If you are unable, please contact Cardoza at 281-446-9692.
- The student is to remove all projects and equipment from the barn and clean their pen within one week —7 days—after the Spring Livestock show. The Spring Livestock show will be considered finished, at the conclusion of the auction. On day 8, the animal will become property of the exhibitor's respective Spring ISD FFA chapter and sold at auction. The income money from this sale will go into the respective Spring ISD FFA chapter's Pen Maintenance account. All market animals whose target show was Spring Livestock show must be removed, including those animals owned by students that failed. If you wish to keep equipment at the barn over the summer, you must state so in writing including where the equipment will be stored. All equipment left will become the property of the student's respective Spring ISD FFA chapter. Leaving equipment in a pen does not reserve the pen for subsequent years. The respective Spring ISD FFA agriculture science teachers are the only persons who assign pens.
- A \$50 hold fee will be put on a student's account if their pen is not cleaned within 7 days of the animal being removed from barn.

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### Pen Maintenance Fees:

- The student or family will pay pen maintenance fees for using the Spring ISD Agriscience Facilities in full at the time of the arrival of the animal. In the case of a hardship, it is at the discretion of the respective Spring ISD agriculture science teacher to set up payment plans with the student and parent. All prices below are per head, except poultry and rabbits which are per pen. In the case that goats or lambs are doubled up (2 per pen), per the respective Spring ISD agriculture science teachers, the pen maintenance fee will not be divided. If you desire to keep your pen while sending a breeding stock animal to be bred, you must pay pen rent while the animal is away. Otherwise, your pen may be subject to use as the respective advisors deem fit. Any animal that is on the premises for 24+ hours will pay pen rent for the entire month.
  - o For students on hardships, all rent and/or fees must be paid prior to a show in order to show at a show through the student's respective Spring ISD FFA chapter. For example, if a student is showing at Harris County Fair, the student must have all pen maintenance fees paid for the prior months in order to be allowed to show.
  - o Empty pens will not be utilized as tack pens due to the limited amount of space we have. If room for tack cannot be located, the respective agriculture science teachers will assign space for the tack, as they deem necessary.

SPECIES	COST
Cattle	\$15.00 /month
Lamb	\$10.00 /month
Goat	\$10.00 /month
Swine	\$10.00 /month
Chickens	\$10.00 /month
Turkeys	\$10.00 /month
Rabbits	\$10.00 /month

### Terms and Conditions:

- If the student/parent/guest fails to abide by any of the above mentioned rules, actions can be taken to remove their animal, withhold payment for projects, issue a fine, and/or ban future Spring ISD Agriscience Facility privileges. Disciplinary action may also result from failure to comply with these rules.
  - Procedures for notice of eviction :
    - o Written notice of infraction and verbal warning issued.
    - o Written notice of infraction and parent contact.
    - o Written notice of infraction & eviction of project.
    - o Pen maintenance fees will still be due on any animal evicted from the Spring ISD Agriscience Facility for the months that it was there.
    - o If a student and their animal are evicted from a Spring ISD Agriscience Facility, the student forfeits any opportunity to utilize any facility or raise an animal in a Spring ISD FFA chapter for the remainder of their time in Spring ISD.
- Refer to **Removal of Animal from Facility** paragraph on page 4

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# Spring ISD Agriscience Facility Rules

- Procedures for Banning an individual from a Spring ISD Agriscience Facility:
  - o When a situation is witnessed or brought to the FFA advisors for that Agriscience Facility, a committee comprised of one Advisor from the campus involved, the Agriculture Career Cluster Coordinator and The CTE Director/Coordinator will determine if a notice of ban is necessary.
    - Spring ISD reserves the right to remove any person(s) from Spring ISD Agriscience property for misconduct at the sole discretion of Spring ISD administration officials without appeal.
    - Any person can be declared banned by the ban committee as stated above through a written notification at which time they will no longer be allowed to enter the identified Spring ISD Agriscience property for a duration up to and including life at the sole discretion of the ban committee.
    - Any person so such labeled found on Spring ISD property will be charged with trespassing. Any personal property still located on Spring ISD Agriscience property after written notice is given must be removed within 7 days or is forfeit to Spring ISD. For the purpose of property removal, said person may only enter with police escort.

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- BY SIGNING ON THE LINES BELOW YOU ARE INDICATING THAT YOU HAVE RECEIVED, READ, AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE 2023 - 2024 SPRING ISD AGRISCIENCE FACILITY RULES & CONTRACT SET BY THE SPRING ISD AGRISCIENCE TEACHERS.
  
- THIS DOCUMENT IS BINDING AND NON-NEGOTIABLE. BY SIGNING THIS DOCUMENT, YOU AGREE AS A STUDENT OR PARENT/GUARDIAN THAT YOU AND YOUR GUESTS WILL FOLLOW ALL OF THE RULES OUTLINED FOR THE 2023 – 2024 SPRING ISD AGRISCIENCE FACILITY.
  
- THE PARENT/GUARDIAN ACKNOWLEDGES THESE RULES AND AGREES TO ABIDE AND MONITOR THEIR STUDENT AS WELL.
  
- THIS AGREEMENT WILL BE BINDING FROM THE DATE SIGNED UNTIL THE SPRING ISD AGRISCIENCE FACILITY MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR. ALL FACILITY USERS WITH AN ANIMAL CURRENTLY IN THE FACILITY MUST RETURN THE SIGNED AGREEMENT WITHIN 5 DAYS OF RECEIVING THE AGREEMENT OR BEFORE ANY NEW ANIMAL ENTERS THE BARN.

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*Student Printed Name and Signature*

*Date*

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*Parent/Guardian Printed Name and Signature*

*Date*