

# RAISING BACKYARD PIGS? HELP KEEP THEM SAFE FROM DISEASE

## WHY IT MATTERS

Pigs are susceptible to a number of diseases found in countries outside of Canada. Some, such as *Foot and Mouth Disease* or *African Swine Fever*, are so serious that, if suspected, they must be reported by veterinarians to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. They are not currently found in Canada, but the risk is real.

These diseases may be carried in food scraps, pet food products, in imported meat, on clothing, vehicles and equipment, or by other animals – either wild or domestic. They can result in a painful death for animals, and could lead to a quarantine of your farm or home.

## PROTECT YOUR PIGS

### DON'T

#### **DON'T FEED KITCHEN SCRAPS**

It's illegal to feed pigs meat products, or products that have come into contact with meat. It's also illegal to bring meat products into Canada, because they can carry disease.

#### **DON'T BE A DISEASE CARRIER**

Disinfect clothing or equipment that comes into contact with pigs or other animals.

#### **DON'T LET PIGS WANDER**

or have contact with wildlife. Secure fencing and housing helps keep pigs in and predators out.

### DO

#### **TALK TO YOUR VETERINARIAN ABOUT PIG CARE**

especially if you have any animal health concerns. Did you know that swine veterinarians specialize in pig health?

#### **WATCH FOR AND REPORT TO YOUR VETERINARIAN**

any signs of sickness. These may include:

- fever
- blotchy patches or blisters (especially around ears, snout or hindquarters)
- diarrhea or vomiting
- weakness or difficulty standing
- coughing or laboured breathing

#### **DO REGISTER FOR PIGTRACE**

to help track where your pig came from and where it goes after leaving your farm or home. This can alert you to any possible disease risk or help you find pigs that have wandered. It's also required by law. Find out how by contacting [memberservices@ontariopork.on.ca](mailto:memberservices@ontariopork.on.ca).

**For more information about raising healthy pigs:**  
Download your copy of the Small Producers' Guide to Pigs at [ontariopork.on.ca/producers/small](http://ontariopork.on.ca/producers/small)

**Have a question for a swine specialist?**  
Contact Ontario's Agriculture Information Contact Centre at 1-877-424-1300 or [ag.info.omafra@ontario.ca](mailto:ag.info.omafra@ontario.ca)



ONTARIO PORK