

Alvin Independent School District

Agricultural Science Facility Rules and Regulations

2022 County Feeding Period

The purpose of the Alvin I.S.D. Agriculture Science Facility is to provide an extension to the classroom instruction to maximize learning and to allow FFA members to utilize the facility for their Supervised Agricultural Experience (S.A.E.) animal projects.

In order for all parties to best utilize the Agriculture Science Facility, there are rules and regulations, which must be observed and complied with. To ensure compliance, Alvin Independent School District employees including agriculture science teachers and administrators will monitor and manage the facility (both physically and via security cameras).

All participants must comply with the following criteria:

1. The Agriculture Science Facility is a part of the Alvin Independent School District and therefore, all rules and regulations found in the student handbook and the code of conduct apply. This includes the summer months and any breaks occurring during the school year.
2. Neither Alvin I.S.D., its employees, volunteers, nor the FFA are responsible for damage or loss to personal property, injury of members, animal projects, guests, or family of participants.
3. Only FFA members in good standing may utilize the agriculture facility.
4. **Only one guest under 18 years of age may accompany a student with an animal project to the facility, parents and siblings may accompany at any time.** Parents, Guardians, or Guests who cause a disturbance while at the Ag Facility will lose their privileges to enter the Agriculture Facility.
5. Any student previously evicted from the Agriculture Facility will not be allowed to utilize the facility in the future.

6. A student must do the following things **BEFORE** bringing any animal onto the Agriculture Facility grounds:

- **Obtain written permission from an agriculture teacher via email.**
- **Attend a meeting with their parents/legal guardian and agriculture teacher.**
- **Understand and sign the rules agreement plus pay all barn fees.**
- **Have an exit plan for all breeding animals.**

7. BARN FEES

- Barn fees are required for each pen(s) that a student uses to raise their project(s).
- They must be paid prior to the animal(s) arriving at the facility.
- These fees are used to cover the cost of sand, dewormers, supplies, and misc. medicines.
- Barn fees will be assessed at the beginning of each feeding period.
- County Projects (April-October)
- Major Projects (October- March)

FEES:

- \$60 per animal/pen per feeding period (non- cattle)
 - Rabbit pen fee- will include up to a maximum of three (3) pens used for either breeding or market rabbits.
- \$200 per cattle per feeding period (covers hay)
- \$15 lost key card

******Pen/Stall Space******

- **Students are allowed one (1) pen/stall per feeding period unless space is available.**
 - Students are allowed no more than one (1) pen per species (excluding rabbits) per fair/show. Unless approved by the District Lead Ag Teacher.
 - Students that desire additional pen space will be put on a waiting list per species.
 - No more than one (1) animal per pen/stall except for poultry and rabbits. Unless approved by the District Lead Ag Teacher.
 - A deadline date to reserve pens/stalls will be determined for each species prior to the beginning of the feeding period.
 - All unreserved pens will be released after the deadline date and prior to purchasing deadlines and validations for each species.

- The extra pens will be assigned in the order the students signed up for the waiting list.

8. *FACILITY ELIGIBILITY*

- Students must be in good standing with their chapter.
- Project must be validated for a show that occurs during the feeding period.
- Must attend a project meeting prior to the animal moving in.

9. *FACILITY HOURS.*

- The Agriculture Facility hours are from 5:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- Gates are to remain closed and locked at all times to ensure the safety of the students and their projects.
- No unauthorized personnel shall feed or be at the facility for any reason before 5:30 a.m. or after 9:00 p.m. without permission from the agriculture teachers or school administrators.
- Failure to be out of the facility lot by 9:00 p.m. will result in 20 point deduction. Access cards and keypads will be disabled between the hours of 9:00 pm and 5:30 am.
- If problems persist then security cameras will be reviewed to determine who is not abiding by the rules and point deductions will be assessed.

10. *ANIMAL COST*

- The student is responsible for the initial cost of the animal as well as any expenses incurred while feeding and caring for the animal during the feeding period. This includes but is not limited to any major medical expenses (ex: vet bills, supplements, etc.) that is required to maintain the health of the project.

11. *CARE OF ANIMAL*

- **The student is responsible for proper care of his/ her animal.** This includes adequate nutrition and hydration for proper growth and development of the animal project, plus cleaning the pen and surrounding area.
- Ag teachers reserve the right to seek treatment for any animal found to be in need of immediate emergency care, when owners are unable to be contacted. Any expense that occurs due to treatment will be the responsibility of the animal's owner.

- It is also the student's responsibility to care for the animal during hurricanes and other natural disasters. It is not the responsibility of the Ag teachers or Alvin I.S.D. school administrators.

12. CARE OF STALLS AND BEDDING

- Pens **MUST** be cleaned and **manure removed on a daily basis.**
- The pen is to be maintained with adequate approved sand or shavings.
- The pen's bedding should be changed on a regular basis to ensure the health and well being of the animal project.
- All soiled bedding is to be promptly and properly disposed of in designated areas.
- Wheelbarrows must be emptied into the designated area every time they are used.
- All soiled bedding must be cleaned out **BEFORE** new bedding is added.

13. USE OF FANS

- Fans must be labeled for outdoor use with a sealed motor ; Any plastic and/or indoor fan will not be allowed.
- Fans will be hung utilizing an appropriate fan mounting bracket/hanger.
- Power cords will be zip-tied to the frame of the pen. (the cord shall not be wrapped around the frame.)
- If an extension cord is needed, it must be an appropriate length to reach the power outlet with little to no excess cord. Any excess cord shall be coiled, zip-tied, and hidden behind the power/water pedestal.

14. POINT SYSTEM

- To ensure the cleanliness and safety of the Alvin ISD Agricultural Facility, a point system will be in place to manage all student and animal projects.
- All students will be put on a point system of 100 points.
- Each student will have one point system per feeding period. Students with multiple animal projects will be on one point system.
- Point value decisions are made by the Ag Science teachers, Barn Managers, and Administrators.
- Points can be made up by performing extra duties around the Agricultural Facility. Extra duties will be deemed appropriate by the Agriculture Science Teacher. **Points earned must be made up within 7 days of points lost infraction.** Make up points will be based off of Barn

Manager or Ag teacher's schedules only. (Ex: cleaning out trailers, washing aisles, etc.) **Students may only gain a maximum of 10 points per 7 days & not to exceed 100 points over the length of the project(s).**

- If a student has questions about their point value, they will need to see an Ag Science Teacher.

LOSS OF POINTS

- Points will be deducted when infractions occur, both student and parent will be notified of the deductions via email or text.

POINT DEDUCTION SYSTEM:

10 POINTS

- *Failure to perform daily feeding duties*
- *Failure to dispose of trash (feed sacks, etc.)*
- *Failure to clean pen*
- *Failure to empty the wheelbarrow*
- *Failure to put away tack or equipment*
- *Failure to store feed in a closed container*
- *Failure to remove feeder from pen after each feeding (Swine Only)*
- *Wearing non closed toed shoes while handling an animal.*

20 POINTS

- *Failure to perform schedule duties (sweeping aisles/ tack rm.) Failure to clean up the grooming area when finished. Failure to clean up manure/trash in the common area.*
- *Failure to participate in a barn clean-up*
- *Failure to show up and load and unload the animals for a livestock show*
- *Failure to exit Ag Facility by 9:00 p.m.*

50 POINTS

- *Any unsafe practices that could result in harm or damage to yourself, others, animal projects, or the Ag Facility*
- *Moving pens without permission of Barn Manager or Ag Teacher*

75 POINTS

- *Disrespect or insubordination to an adult (teacher, parent, school personnel, etc.)*
- *Fighting and/or harassment of another student or parent*

NOTIFICATION PROCESS:

- Students and parents will be notified when the student's points decline to **40 points**. Ag teachers will meet with the student and the parents.

- Any student falling below 25 points during the feeding period will automatically lose Ag Facility privileges for 1 year. (Feeding period is defined as the period of time an animal is on feed for a show designated for that animal. As an example, the fall shows would include the State Fair, and County Fair. The spring shows will include (but not limited to) the major shows such as Fort Worth, San Antonio, and Houston.
- When a student is **out of points**, the student's animal project will be evicted from the Ag Facility. A written notice will be sent to students and parents with a maximum of one week to remove animals from the facility. *(If the animal is not removed within one week, the animal will be removed at the student's expense and sold at a local auction facility.)*

15. PEN ASSIGNMENTS:

- Animals will be approved by Agriculture Science Teachers based on the student's past performance (deemed by the point system) and availability of pens.
- Students will be assigned pens upon payment of their barn fees.
- Students may not move, or expand pens for any reason, unless approved by the agriculture teachers.
- Pens are assigned on a first come first served basis with senior members having priority pending pen availability and Ag teacher approval.

16. PROJECT PLANNING DEADLINES:

- Students must comply with the following project planning deadlines to reserve a pen:
 - MAJOR SHOWS (Houston, Austin, San Antonio, etc.) –
 - Heifers, Steers, Goats, and Lambs- September 1st
 - All other animals- October 1st
 - COUNTY FAIR –
 - Heifers and Steers- March 1st
 - All other animals- April 1st
- *Any student turning in an agreement after the deadline will be on a first come first serve basis pending teacher approval and pen availability.*

17. SENIOR STUDENTS:

- No senior student may start a project which will not finish before the school year ends unless approval has been granted by the Ag. Teachers.
- Graduated seniors will not be allowed to utilize the Agriculture Facility, unless otherwise approved by Ag. Teachers. This will be determined by

pen availability and only applies to projects being raised for the county show.

18. REMOVAL OF ANIMALS AFTER SHOWS

- The student is to remove all projects from the Ag facility within **one (1) week** after their respective show unless otherwise directed by an Agriculture Teacher. This rule applies to **all** animals including all cattle projects (steers, heifers, and cow calf pairs).
- If the animal is not removed by the one week period, the student will be assessed a **\$100 hauling/handling fee to deliver the animal to an auction facility.**

19. ANIMAL DEATH

- If an animal project dies at the agriculture facility, it is the student's/parent's responsibility to remove the animal carcass within two (2) hours of being notified of its existence.
- If the carcass is not removed within 2 hours, this service will be provided at the expense of the owner of the animal project.

20. ANIMAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT

- This animal project is the student's project and responsibility. All animal project management decisions will be made by the student/parent. Agriculture teachers are available to assist and aid a student when a student requests this assistance. Agriculture teachers will closely monitor all show rules. **Ethical treatment of animals is required at all times and rule violations will not be tolerated.**
- If a student feels their animal needs to be evacuated from a natural disaster or needs to leave the facility for any reason it is your responsibility to coordinate this activity. A letter is to be given to the Ag teacher explaining circumstances, where the animal is going, and for how long. **There are county and major rules that govern how long an animal can be outside of the county and the direct supervision of the student.**
- If the animal becomes sick or injured and is not responding to treatment then a plan will need to be made to remove the animal. This will prevent additional suffering and the potential spreading of an illness throughout the barn.

21. STUDENT BEHAVIOR

- Students are expected to act in a professional manner at all times at the agriculture facility. Any activities, which endanger the health or physical well-being of students/parents/teachers/manager/facilities or animals, will not be permitted. **Loitering or other activities not directly related to the furtherance of the Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) will not be permitted on school grounds.**
- Students will not be able to enter the Ag Facility while serving an assignment in ADAPT or a suspension from school. While serving their assignment for ADAPT or suspension the student will be considered ineligible to show under the FFA.

22. ARENA

- The arena availability and daily use will be handled by the Agriculture Science Teachers.
- During clinics or shows hosted by agriculture teachers, the use of the arena will be limited.
- The arena will be cleaned and raked after each use.
- Use the arena to practice showing and working on conditioning your animal for show.

23. TACK ROOMS & FEED ROOMS

- Rooms are to be clean and **free of loose hay and open feed bags** at all times.
- Lockers will be kept up in an orderly fashion
- Valuables should be locked in your locker or left at home. Any items left out will be collected and the student must contact an Ag Teacher to get it back. (ex.: show stick, etc.)
- Alvin I.S.D. and its employees are not responsible for theft or damage of any personal items.
- All tack and feed containers are to be labeled with the student's name.

24. AG FACILITY CLEAN-UPS

- The appearance of the agriculture facility is a priority; there will be periodic “Ag Facility clean-ups” which are mandatory for students with animal projects housed at the Agriculture Facility.

- If a student is unable to attend for any reason, they are responsible for finding a suitable replacement. Failure to attend clean-up will cause loss of points and/or up to the loss of facility privileges.
- The arena will be raked and the barn cleaned every week by different species groups. The Ag teachers will set the date and time of each barn clean up to best meet the schedule of the species.
 - This will be the tentative schedule:
 - 1st week Cattle
 - 2nd week Swine
 - 3rd week Goats & Lambs
 - 4th week Poultry, Rabbits, & Make Ups
 - 5th week ALL Species
- **At the conclusion of each feeding period, there will be a mandatory barn cleanup for all students who kept animals at the barn during the show season. Failure to participate will jeopardize your ability to keep future projects at the show barn. In addition, a \$100 fine will be placed on each student with their campus.**

25. AGRICULTURE TEACHERS USE OF ANIMALS

- Student projects may be used by agriculture teachers for livestock judging practice or to teach skills such as weighing, leading, vaccination, or any other livestock management practices. Prior to the use of a project, the teacher will notify the student/parent.

26. STUDENT ELIGIBILITY FOR LIVESTOCK SHOWS

- In order to be eligible to participate in any livestock show as an FFA member, the students must meet the following requirements:
 - Be enrolled in an agriculture science class in high school.
 - Have approval of supervising species Ag Teacher.
 - Be a member in good standing of their FFA Chapter.
 - Attend all mandatory livestock meetings for the specific livestock project.
 - **Be passing ALL subjects at the time that eligibility is determined per UIL guidelines. If a student is ineligible to show due to grades, the animal is ineligible to show unless eligibility is defined differently at that show.**
 - Have paid entry fees on time and meet all show requirements.
 - Not currently serving an assignment in ADAPT or suspension.

27. PROBLEMS AND CHAIN OF COMMAND

- When a problem or concern arises, the best way to resolve it is by following a set “chain-of-command.” Always begin with the supervising teacher.
 - Supervising Species Ag Teacher / Farm Manager
 - District Lead Ag Teacher
 - Assistant Principal / CTE Program Coordinator
 - Principal
 - CTE Director

28. TERMS, CONDITIONS AND CONSEQUENCES

- The Agriculture Program reserves the right to remove any animal from the facilities if any one of the following conditions exists:
 - *Animal abuse or neglect of any form*
 - *Diseased or infected animals that are not being treated to improve their health*
 - *Animals that are unsafe to handle*
 - *Students failing to observe rules*
 - *Animals not being fed for show purposes*
 - *Student is no longer involved in the program*
 - *Student expelled from AISD*
 - *Student withdraws from AISD*
 - *Student is placed in ADAPT*

If the student fails to abide by any of the above-mentioned rules or guidelines, actions can be taken to remove the animal and/or ban any future agriculture facility privileges. The student is subject to disciplinary action for failure to comply with these rules/guidelines.

29. NOTICE OF EVICTION WILL PROCEED AS FOLLOWS:

- When a student loses all points, notification will be sent to students and parents with a maximum of one (1) week to remove animal projects from the facility. (See Point System.)
- Immediate removal of project from the agriculture facility.
- Major infractions of school, facility, or student code of conduct rules while at Agriculture Facility that result in:
 - Suspension or Expulsion
 - Will result in immediate eviction, as deemed appropriate by Alvin ISD Administration.

Alvin Independent School District Agriculture Science Facility Usage Agreement

By signing this document, I agree to the following terms:

Student: _____ (Print Name)

I agree to abide by the rules and criteria set forth in the Alvin I.S.D. facility rules that I have received, read, understood, and signed. I agree to pay all relevant fees associated with the expense and upkeep of my project animal. I agree to conduct myself in a professional manner at all times.

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Legal Guardian:

(Print Name)

I agree to abide by the rules and criteria set forth in the Alvin I.S.D. facility rules that I have received, read, understood, and signed. I agree to pay all relevant fees associated with the expense and upkeep of my student's project animal. I agree to indemnify Alvin I.S.D., Alvin I.S.D.'s employees and volunteers of liability for an injury that my child, my guests, or I may sustain by participation in activities at the Alvin Independent School District Agriculture Science Facility, and I agree to monitor my student for compliance with the above stated rules.

This document is binding and non-negotiable.

Parent(s) signature

Date

Supervising Agriculture Teacher

Date

Parent Cell Phone Number(s):

Student Cell Phone Number:

Parent Email (s):

Student Email:

Barn Fee: _____ Keycard Number: _____ Date: _____

Specie(s): _____ Pen #(s) _____