

-Hunterdon County 4-H Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease Policy

Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease (RHD) is a highly contagious disease caused by calicivirus. It started effecting European rabbits but has been found in North American native rabbits or hares, such as our cottontails, snowshoes hares and jackrabbits. Based on ongoing confirmed cases within the USA Hunterdon County 4-H will be following the outlined measures below. This policy will be constantly monitored and can be modified as needed per USDA guidelines and recommendation.

1. Hunterdon County 4-H will cancel or reschedule shows within 50 -mile radius of a confirmed outbreak of RHD in domestic rabbits within the past 30 days of the entry deadline.
2. All carrying cages must be cleaned and disinfected prior to coming to fair and once you return home. We recommend the following to be used in carrier trays/bottoms: newspaper or puppy pads.
3. No hay will be allowed to be used as bedding in carriers or coops. All hay used for feeding must be contained using something like a toilet paper/paper towel roll, zip ties, or small pieces of PVC pipe.
4. No fruits or vegetables will be fed to rabbit's while being exhibited at fair.
5. All rabbits being cooped and exhibited at fair will be housed on risers.
6. All rabbits entering fair will be permanently tattooed in the left ear.

Please sign below stating you have read the above policy and agree to follow all precautionary measures.

Signature of youth participant in 4-H event

Signature of guardian

Date

Date