

Llamas and Alpacas

Rocky Mountain Llama & Alpaca Assn.

www.RMLA.com

Livestock Laws

Brand Inspection Division

Colorado Department of Agriculture

4701 Marion Street, Suite 201

Denver, CO 80216

Phone: 303-294-0895

Fax: 303-294-0918

www.ag.state.co.us/brand/brand.html

Water Quality and Quantity

Colorado Division of Water Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 818

Denver, CO 80203

Phone: 303-866-3581

Fax: 303-866-3589

www.water.state.co.us

Colo. Dept. of Public Health and Environment

Water Quality Control Division

Animal Feeding Operations Program

4300 Cherry Creek Drive South

Denver, CO 80246

Phone: 303-692-3523

www.cdphe.state.co.us

Acknowledgements

We would like give a special thanks to all of the agencies and organizations listed in this document.

For more information about this document contact:

Jefferson County Planning and Zoning

100 Jefferson County Parkway, Suite 3550

Golden, CO 80419

Phone: 303-271-8700

Fax: 303-271-8744

<http://planning.jeffco.us>



A helpful guide for large animal owners and property owners living next to large animals in Jefferson County

Jefferson County's population continues to grow within the Denver Metropolitan Area. In the past the county was home to many farms and ranches. While the county has become more suburban, many properties continue to allow domesticated large animals, such as horses, cattle, and llamas. The ability to keep animals and its proximity to Denver, attracts many people to Jefferson County. As the county continues to grow, it is important to educate large animal owners regarding management practices and to educate residents that live near or are contemplating living near large animals.

Management Practices

There are many different management practices that help to create a healthy and safe environment for residents and large animals. Management practices range from simple practices like ensuring that animals have access to fresh water, to more complicated practices such as parasite control. There are many different ways to manage manure, pastures, and the health and safety of the animal. It is up to the owner to determine which management practices are best for their property. Guides containing management practices may be obtained from the organizations on the "Resources" list.



Living near large animals

Colorado is a "Right-to-Farm" State. This means that residents and visitors should be prepared to accept the activities, sights, sounds, and smells of agricultural operations as a normal and functional aspect of living in an area with a strong rural character and a healthy agricultural sector. Colorado statute recognizes that when nonagricultural land uses extend into agricultural areas, agricultural operations often become the subject of nuisance suits. As a result, a number of agricultural operations are forced to cease operations, and many others are discouraged from making investments in farm improvements. The statute provides that ranching, farming, or other agricultural activities and operations shall not be considered to be nuisances as long as they are operated in conformance with the law and in a non-negligent manner.

Many people are attracted to areas with animals because they represent the "western" lifestyle. As people move next to large animals, conflicts can occur when their perception of rural living clashes with reality. People with urban expectations may perceive agricultural activities, sights, sounds, and smells as inconvenient, an eyesore, or unpleasant.

Residents and visitors should be prepared to encounter machinery and livestock on public roads, noises, odors, lights, mud, dust, smoke, chemicals, storage and disposal of manure, and the application of chemical fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides, by spraying and other mechanisms. Colorado law requires property owners to control noxious weeds. With larger pastures, the most effective way to do this may be through the spraying of herbicides.



People should always talk to the owner of large animals before approaching the animals. Not all animals are friendly and may injure children or adults. Even animals that are typically friendly can cause injuries if they are frightened or feel that their territory is being invaded.

Dogs or other animals should not be allowed to roam free near large animals. Dogs have been known to attack and injure or kill a domestic animal. Also, owners of livestock have the right to protect their animals from dogs that are running loose and harassing their animals, if these animals trespass onto private property.

Jefferson County also has an excellent open space program that has trails to accommodate mountain bikers, hikers, and equestrians. Trail etiquette asks that mountain bikers and hikers yield to equestrians. Equestrians should let you know when it is safe to pass them.

Resources

General Information

**Colorado State University
Extension & 4-H - Jefferson County**
15200 West Sixth Avenue, Suite C
Golden, CO 80401-5018
Phone: (303) 271-6620
Fax: (303) 271-6644
www.ext.colostate.edu

Colorado State Veterinarian's Office
700 Kipling Street, Suite 400
Lakewood, CO 80215
Phone: 303-239-4161

Jefferson County Animal Control
700 Jefferson County Parkway
Golden, CO 80401
Phone: 303-271-5070
Fax: 303-271-5075

Table Mountain Animal Center
4105 Youngfield Service Rd.
Golden, CO 80401
Phone: 303-278-7575
<http://tablemountainanimals.org>

Soils/Grazing info

United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service - Colorado

655 Parfet St, #E300
Lakewood, CO 80215
Phone: (720) 544-2800
www.co.nrcs.usda.gov

Jefferson Conservation District

655 Parfet St, #E300
Lakewood, CO 80215
Phone: (720) 544-2870
www.jeffersonscd.org

Horses

Colorado State University
Equine Extension Specialist
Animal Sciences Department
Ft. Collins, CO 80523-1679
Phone: (970) 491-8373
www.equineextension.colostate.edu

Jefferson County Horse Council
P.O. Box 1177
Golden, CO 80402
Phone: 303-278-0357
www.JeffcoHorse.org

Westernaires- Jefferson County
15200 W. 6th Avenue
Golden, Colorado 80401
Phone: (303) 279-3767
www.westernaires.org

Colorado Horse Council
420 E. 58th Ave.
Denver, CO 80216
Phone: (303) 292-4981
Fax: (303) 293-2412
www.cohoco.com

Colorado Horse Rescue
10386 North 65th Street
Longmont, CO 80503
Phone: 720-494-1414
Fax: 720-494-1415
<http://www.chr.org>

