

Preparing a Swine Operation for Flood Conditions in Rural Manitoba

Key Contacts

- Livestock producers should contact their local [rural municipality](#) (RM) for information on assistance with livestock during a flood.
- [Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation](#) (MASC) local offices will provide information on agricultural crop and forage insurance.
- Disaster Financial Assistance information is available at: www.gov.mb.ca/emo/recover/home/dfa_home.html.
- Flood information is available on the Manitoba Government flood site: www.manitoba.ca/flooding.

Caring for Livestock

Producers operating in a flood plain should have flood plans that include care of livestock, barns and stored feed. Review your plan and ensure you are prepared. If you do not have a plan, work with your local RM emergency coordinator to develop a plan.

- Expected water levels and duration of flooding should be obtained from local municipal officials. Barns and vital buildings should have elevation surveys performed and diked to for protection.
- In the event that local roads are closed (flooded/cut/impassable), producers may need to arrange for enough feed, bedding, supplies and medicines onsite to last the expected duration of the flood. Some hogs may need to be marketed light prior to road closure.
- Producers should ensure there is adequate fuel on site to run equipment for the duration of the event should the diked barn be isolated by rising floodwater.
- An alternate source of energy, such as a backup generator, should be available for use in barns. Ensure existing generators are in good working order before power is shut off to the farm.
- Evacuation of the herd is a last resort.
- If swine must be evacuated, it is best if the herd can be kept intact and moved to a single facility that has similar management. Ideally the pigs will not be mixed with other pigs. An empty barn from a retired producer would work best. In the event that a new location cannot be found; slaughter or humane euthanasia may be the only options.

- Producers who need help finding a temporary location for livestock should contact their local [rural municipality](#) and [Manitoba Pork Council](#).
- Agricultural producers can apply for special spring-road restriction permits that allow them to move grain, oilseed and livestock out of flood-affected areas.
- Contact Motor Carrier Permits and Development in Winnipeg, Monday to Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (closed the first Wednesday of every month from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.) at 204-945-3961 or toll free 1-877-812-0009. If swine are to be evacuated transport in cool weather or early in the morning. Do not overcrowd trailers.
- If swine are to be evacuated transport in cool weather or early in the morning. Do not overcrowd trailers.
- Owner must ensure there is adequate care, feed and water at any temporary location being used by their livestock.
- Contact your service dealer on how to flood proof equipment.