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June 13, 2018

To: Livestock Exhibitors at the Richmond County Fair

As animal scientists, producers, and owners of show animals, our animals' health is our top priority. Their health and comfort are everything to us, because without it, our animals will not grow, reproduce, or win any prizes. Many factors go into ensuring our animals' health, and it is a 24 hour per day, 365 days per year job. Of the many factors that go into it, please consider biosecurity for your herd or flock when bringing your animal(s) to the Richmond County Fair.

With an increased potential of disease transmission occurring when large numbers of animals gather for exhibition, the Richmond County Fair Association, in partnership with Virginia Cooperative Extension, have set forth requirements for exhibitors to follow at the Richmond County Fair Livestock Show. As an exhibitor you can help reduce the potential risk of introduction and spread of infectious and/or contagious diseases by following the species specific health requirements as outlined in the attached forms. This will ensure the health of your animals, and your fellow exhibitors' animals.

All exhibitors must inspect their animal(s) for signs of contagious or infectious disease before coming to the Richmond County Fair. A "Self Certification of Animal Health" must be completed prior to loading animals for exhibition. This form is included with these registration forms, and must be completed within 24 hours of arrival to the fairgrounds. Completion of this form is on your honor, and your honesty will help to ensure the health of all of the animals, which is of utmost importance to all animal owners.

If you have any questions, or need help filling out this form, please contact your club leader or local extension agent. **These forms will be inspected upon your arrival to the fairgrounds.** Animals may be denied access to, or excused from the fairgrounds at any time due to potential signs of disease. Your arrival to the fairgrounds and participation in these shows is your agreement to these terms.

Thank you all for your cooperation in ensuring our animals' continued health! We look forward to a wonderful Youth Livestock Show this year at the Richmond County Fair, and are very excited to see everyone with their project animals! Please feel free to contact Wendy Herdman at 804-333-3420 if you have any questions.

Thank you.

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY

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