



CONNECTICUT
FOR
ANIMALS
Education Fund 501(c)(3)

2026-2027 **ACTION** RESOURCE GUIDE



CFA
in action!

What's inside...

About CFA
Animal Welfare
Fact Sheets
Resources

Get involved @ www.ctforanimals.org



Connecticut for Animals Education Fund (CFA):

Empowers individuals to become informed advocates for animal welfare.

Engages the public through outreach campaigns.

Educates through virtual and in-person workshops and developing educational materials.

Collaborates with other animal welfare organizations and law enforcement agencies.



About CFA

CFA is a recently created non-profit 501(c)(3) parallel organization working alongside CT Votes for Animals (CVA) to improve the lives of animals in the state through community education and outreach!

Our Vision:

CFA Education Fund strives to cultivate a compassionate society where animals are valued and their rights are respected, fostering a culture of empathy and responsibility towards all living beings.

Our Mission:

CFA Education Fund is committed to promoting the welfare and protection of animals and the environment through education, awareness, community outreach, and engagement.

Meet Our Staff and Board!



Scan QR to read
about the team!

CFA is your trusted source for education on animal welfare in the state. With educational tools, advocacy guides, and resources on animal protection laws, CFA empowers you to make a difference. For the latest updates and resources, scan the QR code to visit our regularly updated educational library page and help support CT's animals.

**Scan for the most current CFA
Educational Materials online**





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Rodent Management

Think Outside
of the Bait Box

Neonicotinoids/
Pollinators (Neonics)



STOP THE POISONS



RODENT MANAGEMENT AND 2ND GENERATION ANTICOAGULANT RODENTICIDE

THE PROBLEM

Second Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides (SGARs) are killing Connecticut's wildlife

Rodents are the main source of food for most raptors

These poisons were originally formulated to kill rodents like rats and mice, squirrels, chipmunks, and other small mammals, but rodents are the main food source of most raptors.

If a mother owl feeds a rodenticide-poisoned mouse to her baby owlet, it will kill the baby in an excruciating manner. SGARs are anti-coagulants; the babies and whatever raptor consumes the rodents, will bleed out from the inside, a slow, painful death.

SGARs are powerful poisons that stay in tissues and organs of rodents for months, making it easy for predators that naturally eat rodents — such as owls, eagles, and hawks — to get a lethal dose of toxins. Rodents frequently eat more than a single dose. Since the rodent doesn't die instantly, this allows the rodent to continue consuming the toxins. Birds of prey don't have a chance against this super lethal build-up in the rodent's tissues.

SGARs are a risk to all

SGARs not only kill a variety of animals, but they also weaken and sicken them too, making them vulnerable to other



causes of death. The evidence that SGARS poses an unreasonable risk to wildlife is piling up. Tragically, unintentional secondary poisonings from SGARS are increasing at an alarming rate and victims include wildlife, pets, and children.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Join us in the grassroots movement to ban the use of SGR's and replace them with innovative, humane solutions such as fertility control.

In the 2025 legislative session SB-9 – AAC The Environment, Climate, and Sustainable Planning passed in both chambers. While intended to address environmental issues, the bill is seen as a **setback** due to its treatment of second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides (SGARs). By classifying SGARs as “restricted use,” the bill prohibits general public access but still allows certified applicators to use them. Critics argue this reinforces the dangerous idea that SGARs are acceptable if applied by professionals, despite the fact that there is no safe poison or safe way to apply one. The use of SGARs is counterproductive to rodent control by poisoning, harming, and killing the very animals that naturally regulate rodent populations throughout CT. Ideally, there should be a bill to ban SGARs entirely, including regulations which would eliminate their use on State owned properties or land including wildlife habitat. In addition, product labels should contain factual evidence about the effects these

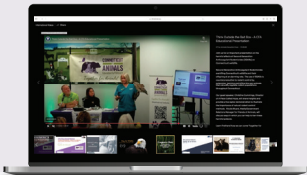
poisons have on our wildlife & environment as well as the risks imposed upon our very own children and pets.

The Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a recommended sustainable management method for rats and mice which use a combination of biological/chemical/cultural/physical tools.

Recently, new studies have shown that fertility control is an excellent humane, affordable and effective method. Both Contraceptol (mice & rats) and Evolve (rats) are available to the public. Currently, several fertility control studies are taking place within the state with Contrapest and Good Bites, hopefully bringing additional fertility control methods to market in the near future. These products are not hormone based and are made up of natural ingredients that lessen fertility while being supplied on a regular basis. They only affect the targeted nuisance and have no effect on wild rodents not being treated. There are no secondary effects because the substance breaks down within the body after only 15 minutes from ingesting. These methods do not sterilize rodents.

RESOURCES

Think Outside of the Bait Box



► **Watch now**



Scan for full fact sheet and several additional resource links

NEONICOTINOID PESTICIDES



THE PROBLEM

Our health, food supply, and environment are at risk with the use of neonics.

Neonics are poisons

Neonicotinoids (neonics for short) are the most widely used insecticide in the world. Neonics affect the neurological system and have been shown to harm brain and heart development in prenatally exposed children. A recent study of 171 pregnant women in the US found that over 95% had neonics in their bodies. The CDC found neonics in 50% of the population, the highest concentrations found in children.

Neonics destroy food chains and poison waterways.

We are facing drastic declines in bee and other insect populations, as well as the loss of 3 billion birds in the last 50 years, with the sharpest drop seen in birds who eat insects. Neonics are systemic pesticides; plants treated with them are force multipliers creating 24-hour pesticide dispersal from seedling through final disintegration. The pollen, fruit, and even the dew on the leaves of these plants are toxic to bees and other insects.

Neonics are water soluble so easily wash into rivers and streams. Data shows that surface water contamination levels caused by neonics are high enough to cause significant impacts in aquatic food chains.

Neonic-coated seeds are exempt from regulation

The Department of Agriculture does not track how much corn sold in CT is

grown from neonic-coated seeds because, thanks to a loophole, this pesticide seed coating has been exempted from government regulation on the grounds that it is not labeled a pesticide when on a seed.

FAST FACTS

- One neonic-coated seed is enough to kill a songbird.
- One square foot of grass can have enough neonics to kill 1 million bees.
- The 3 most used neonics likely jeopardize the continued existence of over 200 threatened and endangered species, representing 11% of the list.
- USGS studies show neonics in 50% of US streams, including the Norwalk and Connecticut Rivers.
- A study on Long Island found neonics in 30% of drinking water.
- Over 800 million corn seeds are planted each year in Connecticut and virtually all (except organic) are coated with neonics.
- Only 5% of that pesticide coating is taken up into the plant, according to industry research. The remaining 95% moves through soil and air into waterways.
- Several studies report that using neonic-coated seeds provide little to no economic benefit to farmers who use them.

WHERE IT'S HAPPENING

While most neonic uses are banned in Europe and parts of Canada, in the US, only about ten states have some restrictions in place.

- In 2016, CT passed the Pollinator Protection Act which classifies neonics as “restricted use,” barring them from retail sale and only allowing use by certified applicators.
- In 2022, CT banned the use of the neurotoxin pesticide chlorpyrifos on golf courses (where 80% of use occurred) but dropped the part of the bill that would have banned neonics from non-agricultural uses.
- In 2022 and 2023, CT failed to pass bills to ban neonic use on lawns and ornamental landscapes despite wide support from state legislators and residents.
- **In the 2025 legislative session SB-9 – AAC, the Environment, Climate, and Sustainable Planning – passed in both chambers.** While intended to address environmental issues, the bill is seen as a setback due to its treatment of Neonics as “restricted use,” the bill prohibits public access but still allows certified applicators to use them. This reinforces the dangerous idea that Neonics are acceptable if applied by professionals, even though **there is no safe poison or safe way to apply one.**

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Call for the federal regulation and tracking of neonic-coated seeds. In Connecticut, monitor and restrict the use of neonics on lawns and ornamental landscapes, and use viable, more sustainable alternatives to neonics for grub control.

Neonic alternatives include:

- 1) A bio-insecticide, Grub-Gone, employs Btg (Bacillus thuringiensis gallerias), available since 2018.
- 2) Milky spore is a Japanese beetle grub killing bacterium best applied in late summer. (Less effective in cold climates.)
- 3) A parasitic wasp called Spring Tiphia is reported to be very effective at control of Japanese beetles.



▶ Check out our Educational Videos

RESOURCES

Neonics: The New DDT Protect Birds, Bees, Food & Water from Neonicotinoid Pesticide Contamination

When Voluntary Action Isn't Enough: The Case for Regulating Pesticide-Coated Seed | Xerces Society

Do Not Buy Guide



Scan for
resource links

COEXISTING WITH & ASSISTING WILDLIFE

Peacefully coexist with
wildlife fact sheet

Black Bear Hunting

Canadian Geese Sheet

Beavers



Peacefully Co-existing With Wildlife

BEARS

Conflicts with CT's black bears may arise when bears make a habit of foraging in areas where human-provided food is readily available. Proven strategies to keep black bears wild and people safe depend on removing food attractants.

Never intentionally feed bears. Remove bird feeders from March through November. Bird baths, native flowering plants and nesting boxes are alternative ways to attract birds without enticing bears.

Use a bear-resistant trash can and/or store your trash cans in a garage or shed until the morning of pick-up.

Make bears feel unwelcome around your home by making loud noises with a whistle, air horn, hand-clapping or yelling until they leave. A negative experience (aversive conditioning) plus no food teaches bears to avoid that area.

Protect attractants, such as bee hives and chicken coops, with electric barriers. Keep pets in enclosed areas. If you do see a bear from afar, enjoy the moment! Never approach a bear, not even to get a photo.

If a bear is acting aggressively, don't run; make yourself tall and large, and back away slowly. Keep a whistle or bear spray on hand if you live or hike in bear territory. When hiking, keep dogs on a leash.

COYOTES

Coyotes are scavengers and provide an ecological service by helping to keep our communities clean of carrion. Most coyotes fear humans, however, those who associate people with food may become habituated to our presence.

Documented cases of coyotes injuring people are very rare and most often related to people feeding them or the presence of a dog. Coyotes eat a wide variety of food, and like most animals, prefer food that is easy to obtain.

In rural habitats, coyotes hunt by day and night. In urban areas, coyotes appear to be more nocturnal but can often be seen during daylight hours, especially at dawn and dusk. They communicate through vocalization, scent marking and body displays.

Coyotes become more active, vocal and territorial during mating and pupping seasons (February-September), so pay special attention to your companion animals' safety during these times and do not allow them to roam. Tips for co-existing with coyotes are similar for most other wildlife and includes keeping garbage secure, fruit and birdseed off the ground and close off crawl space under decks and buildings to avoid creating a space to den. If you frequently see coyotes in your yard, make loud noises with pots & pans or air horns and haze the coyote with a water hose.

DEER

If you are concerned about deer in your gardens, choose plants that are less susceptible to browsing by deer, including prickly plants and those that produce a smell. Barriers, netting, chicken wire and hardware cloth can be useful.

If you see a fawn, do not touch it. Mother deer only return to their fawns a few times a day, mostly after dark. Keep dogs inside and outside lights off to encourage the mother's return. The only time to intervene is if the fawn is constantly crying for more than an hour, has broken bones, lying prone on its side (rather than curled or on stomach), when a deceased mom is present or if signs of dehydration (curled ear tips), along with other symptoms such as



flies, fly eggs, or maggots, are present. A licensed wildlife rehabilitator should be contacted before moving.

RACCOONS

Raccoons are notorious trash can divers and they are very smart, agile and persistent individuals. The best way to keep them out of your garbage is to make sure it is secure in a garage or with a hard-sided container with a tight lid or using clamps.

It is a common misconception that raccoons who are out during the daytime are rabid. It is NOT unusual for a healthy mother raccoon with babies to search for food during the day. Only if a raccoon or other wild animal is acting strange or sick, should animal control be contacted.

OPOSSUMS

Opossums are North America's only marsupial. The female carries and nurses her young, sometime up to 13 at a time, in her pouch for 2-3 months. She then carries them on her back for another 1-3 months. Opossums will not go back and retrieve their young if they are separated. If you find a baby opossum, please reach out to a wildlife rehabilitator using the *Dealing with Distressed Wildlife* via the QR code on the next page. If you find a deceased adult opossum, check their pouch for babies or call a wildlife rehabilitator.

Opossums are clean, gentle and are great to have around, as they help with pest control. Opossums are relatively disease free, and while they may foam at the mouth as a natural defense, they almost never carry rabies. They have poor eyesight, and when scared, they faint. They are more active at night but may be seen during the day. The best way to help your backyard opossum is to keep your dog on a leash.

RODENTS

Rodents play an important role in the health of grasslands and forests and are a major source of food for many predators and scavengers. They are complex, unique beings with the capacity to experience a wide range of emotions. They are also very social animals, become attached to one another and are very clean animals who groom themselves several times a day. They are less likely than dogs or cats to transmit parasites and viruses. That being said, not everyone wants to share their home with rodents.

The use of Second Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides (SGARs) is counterproductive to rodent control by poisoning, harming, and killing the very animals that naturally regulate rodent populations throughout CT.

The use of glue-traps and other poisons are futile, also dangerous to other living beings and extremely cruel. These lethal methods never work in the long run as the resultant spike in the food supply will cause accelerated breeding among survivors and newcomers.

The best way to humanely keep rodents out of your home is by using effective rodent-control programs that are integrative, adaptive and focus on repellents, deterrents and exclusion. Eliminate access to food by keeping counter surfaces, floors and cabinets free of crumbs. Store food in chew-proof containers, seal trash and pick up fallen fruit/vegetables in gardens. Reduce hiding places by keeping grass and vegetation trimmed back and store outdoor furniture, grills and wood pilings away from buildings.

It's imperative to determine entry points such as holes, cracks, gaps around pipes and doors and start the process of repelling the rodents through use of ammonia-soaked rags or cotton balls, radio or strobe light.

Rats can slip into buildings through a quarter-size hole and mice through a dime-size hole. Once repelled and you are sure that they are gone, seal the area off. Once the area has been rodent-proofed, any animals who remain can be live trapped and released during mild weather. Live traps should be checked hourly and disabled and stored securely when not in use.

BIRDS

Nestling birds are sparsely feathered and not capable of hopping, walking, flitting or gripping tightly. If you find a nestling bird that has fallen from their nest, they should be put back into their nest, if possible. If the nest has been destroyed, you can make a new one with drainage holes, place the chick inside, and look for parent birds in the vicinity. If you are certain that the bird is an orphan, you should contact a wildlife rehabilitator.

Fledgling birds (fully feathered) may be found on the ground. Many birds learn to fly from the ground up and should be left alone. Look for parent birds overhead. If there are cats in the area, you can put the fledgling in a nearby shrub off the ground where parents can still access them. Most baby birds who appear abandoned are perfectly healthy fledglings whose parents are nearby.

Chimney Swifts are threatened migratory birds who depend on chimneys to raise their young and will return each spring. If you hear chattering in your chimney during the summer months, they are likely Chimney Swifts. They cause no harm and will vacate by mid-September. Please share your chimneys.

RESOURCES



*Scan for additional
resource links*

COEXISTING WITH & ASSISTING WILDLIFE

PLEASE DO

Let half of your yard grow! Creating a meadow in your yard and using only non-motorized garden maintenance equipment creates a safe and appealing setting for beneficial bees and butterflies.

Keep cats indoors! Indoor life is safer for your cat and will save vulnerable animals from painful injury and death. Screened in catios are a great solution.

Prevent bird window collisions with decals!

Leave dead and live trees still standing! These trees provide food and shelter for wildlife. Trees prevent erosion and provide much needed shade. Through photosynthesis, trees absorb carbon dioxide and produce oxygen, especially large mature trees. By leaving stumps in place, trees can regenerate.

Leave the leaves! They provide important cover for many species.

Plant native plants and flowers! This will help create pollinator pathways.

Drive carefully! When you see one animal cross the road, there are likely more to follow. Watch for frogs on rainy summer nights, and turtles, especially near wetlands and waterways. If you see a turtle crossing a road, move it to the side of the road in the direction it was crossing.

Preserve open space! The more open space we can preserve, the better it will be for our future generations and the wildlife who we share our planet with.

PLEASE DON'T . . .

Feed wild animals! It is often with good intent that people feed animals, however this almost always has a negative impact on their survival. Don't leave unsecured food attractants such as garbage, pet food or greasy grills in screened in areas in or around your home.

Use Pesticides, herbicides, rodenticides! Never use these poisons which are highly toxic to all beings.



BLACK BEAR HUNTING

THE PROBLEM

There is a risk that black bear hunting will be legalized in the state of CT.

Hunting black bears is not legal in CT, but some residents would like to see that change. They point to hunting as the way to curb the growing number of human-bear interactions in the state. However, it is not the size of CT's black bear population in CT that is leading to more negative encounters with humans and hunting them is not the answer.

Human practices are luring bears closer

"The primary contributing factor to bear problems is the presence of easily accessible food sources near homes and businesses," according to the State Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) website.

Black bears who eat food associated with humans (e.g., birdseed, trash, pet food) on a regular basis become comfortable near people and associate humans, houses, and neighborhoods with food. Negative interactions with bears decline when attractants are removed. These habituated bears are the most likely to cause human-bear conflicts, not necessarily those who

would fall victim to being hunted. It's counterproductive to kill bears in their natural habitat exhibiting normal behaviors and teaching their cubs to do the same. It's essential that humans realize the responsible role they play.

Bears can be legally killed in the state of CT

CT law already allows qualified state agents to capture or kill a bear when there is a public health or safety threat. Additionally, in 2023, the CT General Assembly passed, and the governor signed into law, Senate Bill 1149/Public Act 23-77 to provide creative strategies to address increasing conflicts involving CT's expanding black bear population. The Act allows individuals to request permits to take bears when bears are damaging agricultural crops, livestock, or apiaries, and non-lethal responses are unreasonable or ineffective; bans the intentional feeding of potentially dangerous animals (including bears); and establishes the right to use deadly force to defend oneself, other people, and one's pets if attacked, in certain circumstances. This law went into effect on October 1, 2023.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Use these proven non-lethal strategies that allow people and bears to peacefully co-exist.

These strategies include:

- Never intentionally feed bears.
- Purchase a bear-resistant trash can or store your trash cans in a garage or shed and bring your garbage to the curb on pick up day.
- Remove bird feeders from March through November.
- Remove unsecured food attractants around your home, including garbage, pet food, and greasy outdoor grills.
- Protect beehives, chicken coops and similar attractants with electric barriers.
- Make loud noises with an air horn, hand-clapping or yelling to make bears feel unwelcome. That, along with a lack of food will teach bears to avoid the area.
- Keep pets in enclosed areas, and when hiking, keep dogs on a leash.



RESOURCES

CT Coalition to Protect Bears

Get BearSmart

American Wildlife Values Study (2018)

Bear Law FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions About Black Bears



*Scan for
resource links*

CANADA GEESE ROUNDUPS



THE PROBLEM

Goose roundups are a short-term, inhumane response to a long-term issue.

Roundups must be repeated each year. The Department of Natural Resources acknowledges the failure of goose roundups and reports that geese often return just weeks after a roundup has occurred.

Goose roundups are traumatic and painful. Gassing is a painful and excruciatingly long process that was never intended for geese. Geese have chemical receptors that are acutely sensitive to carbon dioxide. This allows them to dabble for long periods underwater and fly at high altitudes where the air is thin. The gassing process simultaneously burns and freezes their lungs for up to 45 minutes before their death.

WHERE IT'S HAPPENING

All municipalities in Connecticut are at risk.

In 2003, state legislature passed a law that allows municipalities, private homeowners associations and certain non-profits to conduct goose roundups. To date, no municipalities have conducted a roundup, but most recently, Bristol's Park Board Commissioners were considering it.

Canada Goose management plans are required and CT Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection must sign off on the plan. Several municipalities in the state have submitted plans, but have chosen humane alternatives instead due in part to strong opposition from residents.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Focus on the clean-up solutions and landscape.

There are many humane alternatives to goose roundups. It is recommended to apply multiple alternatives at once to create the highest impact. We recommend managing clean up of large spaces with a sweeper, such as Tow and Collect Paddock Cleaners which provide an efficient and effective solution to goose droppings.

Canada geese are attracted to lawns that are heavily fertilized, watered and mowed. They also prefer easy access to water and a clear view of the horizon as this helps them see approaching predators and allows for a quick escape. Changing the habitat to include taller grasses, especially around water features, makes a huge impact.

RESOURCES

The Truth About Geese
(idausa.org)

Canada Goose Habitat Modification Manual
(Friends of Animals)

Solving Problems with Canada Geese (HSUS)

The Best Way to Live in Harmony with Canada Geese (Friends of Animals)



Scan for
resource
links

Coming soon...

Beavers



Animal Cruelty

Puppy Mills

Rabbit Farming

Dog Fighting

Factory Farming vs.
Small Family Farms

Leg-Hold Traps

Cats Resources



Animal Cruelty



ANIMAL CRUELTY

THE PROBLEM

Animal cruelty exists in many forms, and the laws to protect animals often fall short.

Animal cruelty includes many kinds of maltreatment, from temporarily failing to provide essential care to the malicious killing or repeated torturing of an animal. Some types of animal cruelty may be unintentional and can be rectified by simply directing the owner to information and resources. More severe cruelty, however, may be a warning sign and indicative of the potential for future violence by the perpetrator. The consideration of an act as a felony or a misdemeanor also varies, though the mens rea, or intent, of the perpetrator, along with the degree of suffering, are often the deciding factors. States can have differing definitions of animal cruelty, whether in terms of the specific acts that are prohibited or the categories of animals protected. Most state level animal cruelty laws protect only companion animals. There are two categories of animal cruelty, crimes of omission and crimes of commission.

Crimes of omission

The first category is crimes of omission, in which we consider a lack of action, or neglect, as being the source of the cruelty.

Crimes of commission

The second category of animal cruelty is generalized as crimes of commission where deliberate acts take place.

Scan QR code on the next page for more details in the full Fact Sheet.

MOTIVATIONS

Cruelty can be the result of ignorance regarding humane and appropriate care of an animal, callousness regarding the sentience of animals, a form of amusement, prejudice towards a particular species, or unmanaged anger that is taken out on an animal. There is a strong link between animal cruelty and interpersonal violence or criminal behavior, and other motivations are tied to the power and control over other individuals or animals. These include retaliation towards a person or animal, gaining power and control over an animal or person, intimidation or influence over another person, and pleasure from the pain and suffering incurred from the cruelty. Finally, a strong motivation behind animal fighting is financial gain, as the world of professional animal fighting can be worth millions of dollars from both the fight purses and illegal gambling.

WHERE IT'S HAPPENING

With such a wide range of motivations, it is safe to say that animal cruelty, in some form, can take place almost anywhere. Many forms of cruelty can be hard to spot when they take place within the home or in a secluded

location. When vulnerable stray or abandoned animals are the victims, the acts may go unnoticed as the animal would not be noticed or missed in the same way as a pet might be.

EXEMPTIONS

Exemptions to animal cruelty laws exist and are typically based on human use of the animals. This would include hunting, research, legal sports such as horse racing, and agriculture.

The Federal Animal Welfare Act does cover some human uses of animals and provides some regulatory oversight. A further exemption is that of religious practice, and the United States Supreme Court ruled in 1993 that religious groups are exempt from animal cruelty laws and the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act (HMSA) when it comes to animal sacrifice. Halal slaughter, in which stunning does not take place, is covered under the HMSA.

ANIMAL CRUELTY IN CT

The Animal Legal Defense Fund publishes an annual ranking of state animal protection laws. In 2023, CT was the most improved in its legal protection for animals, rising to rank 11th in 2023, up from its rank of 30th in 2022, placing CT in the top tier of states for animal protection.

The legislation that contributed to this rapid increase includes a requirement for veterinarians in CT to report suspected animal cruelty and granting them immunity for reports made in good faith, closing a legal loophole in the state's law prohibiting the sexual assault of animals and, lastly, preventing anyone convicted of animal cruelty from

continued on next page

possessing, adopting, owning, or residing with an animal for five years following their conviction.

CT was the first state to develop a courtroom advocate program, known in CT as Desmond's Law. This law permits the court to appoint an advocate for the interests of justice in cases concerning cruelty to dogs or cats.

CT has animal cruelty laws in the following general categories: general animal cruelty, animal fighting, sexual assault, cruelty to working animals, and cruel hunting, trapping, and fishing.

In addition, there is mandatory cross-reporting between animal control officers and the Department of Child and Families to assist in child abuse cases. Civilians have civil and criminal immunity for entering a vehicle to rescue an animal in imminent danger under certain conditions, such as hot cars. Finally, animals may be included in domestic violence protective orders.

CT does not have any specific animal protection laws pertaining to farm animals.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

WHAT YOU CAN DOs to animal cruelty are multifaceted and may be challenging to implement, though not impossible.

Firstly, we can all **model good behavior towards animals** and do our part to change public perceptions that "it's just an animal." If we hope to bring a new companion animal into our homes we can choose to adopt, including senior animals and long-term shelter residents.

Animal cruelty cases must be thoroughly investigated and prosecuted.

Further, offenders must receive punishments that are commensurate with the crime as the link between animal cruelty and interpersonal violence (The Link) is real and must be taken seriously. Our animal control officers are often overwhelmed and under resourced, as are our police departments and courts, yet these are the groups tasked with animal cruelty investigations and prosecutions.

Finally, **speaking up** is an important part of WHAT YOU CAN DO. When we see animal cruelty, we have to say something or report it. With The Link in mind, when we see children being cruel to animals, we cannot look the other way or dismiss it as just "kids being kids." Children must be taught that animals are sentient beings, and they must be kind to them.



How to report animal abuse:

Contact your town's Animal Control Officer, local police or report cruelty to the CT. Dept. of Agriculture at **860-713-2506**.

RESOURCES

2023 U.S. State Animal Protection Laws Ranking Report Animal Legal Defense Fund

Important Animal Laws in CT



*Scan for
resource links*

PUPPY MILLS



THE PROBLEM

Puppy mills are sources of cruelty and neglect.

Puppy mills, sometimes referred to as puppy farms, are large-scale, high-volume breeding facilities in which adult dogs are kept, often in conditions of extreme neglect, for the sole purpose of producing as many puppies in as short a period as possible.

Profits over Puppies

The operating model for puppy mills places profits over the welfare of the dogs and many spend their lives, especially their productive years, in cages with little enrichment from human contact or their environment.

The cages used often have wire floors that damage dogs paws and are overcrowded. The animals receive little or no licensed veterinary care which, along with malnourishment, results in significant health issues and sometimes death for the animals.

Female dogs are bred as soon as they are old enough and are continually bred back as quickly as possible after producing a litter. When their useful breeding life is over, they may simply be abandoned.

Expect inbreeding and genetic disorders

In puppy mills, acceptable husbandry practices are ignored, including inbreeding avoidance, as the sole purpose of these facilities is to rapidly produce puppies to satisfy consumer demand for certain breeds.

Though generally sold as pedigree dogs, buyers should be aware that this is not a safeguard as to the health and background of the puppy they are purchasing and does not mean that a puppy has been screened for genetic disorders or genetic testing has been performed to verify the breed.

FAST FACTS

- Two million puppy mill puppies are sold annually.
- Most of the puppies sold in pet shops come from puppy mills.
- Backyard breeders use the same model as puppy mills.
- Puppy mill dogs are sold in pet stores, through specialty publications and classified ads as well as on the internet using professional websites and even posing as rescue organizations.
- Despite regulation under the Animal Welfare Act, the breeder/owners of puppy mills are rarely licensed.
- In puppy mills, puppies frequently have hereditary disorders even though they are generally sold as pedigree dogs.
- Breeding dogs receive little or no licensed veterinary care which, along with malnourishment, results in significant health issues and sometimes death for the animals.

WHERE IT'S HAPPENING

Puppy mills can be anywhere.

Currently, approximately 10,000 puppy mills of various sizes are believed to be in operation in the United States selling around 2 million puppies annually. The largest of the mills can have as many as 1,000 dogs on site but many are smaller. Those that only breed one or two dogs are known as "backyard breeders" but, despite their small size, their operating model is the same as the larger puppy mills.

While some states have now banned the sale of animals in pet shops, it is still legal in many places, and the majority of the puppies sold in pet shops come from puppy mills.

Another avenue for sales is through the internet, classified advertising sites and specialty publications. With considerable effort put into producing professional looking websites, it is easy to fall into the trap of thinking they are the site of legitimate breeders with rhetoric and deceptive photographs showing clean facilities and happy, healthy dogs running outside. Puppy mills will also sell dogs through deception in which they pose as rescues and "adopt" out the animals.

Consumers should be wary of "breeders" who will not let them visit the breeding facility or meet the puppy's parents and will only meet potential buyers at a different location. The larger more established puppy mill breeders are often located in remote locations and even have special techniques, such as high-pitched noises, to quiet the animals when necessary to avoid detection.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Stop the support of puppy mills and adopt from animal shelters and rescue organizations.

Puppy mills exist because there is no shortage of consumers who are willing to buy from them, unwitting as they may be. CT does not ban the sale of pets from pet shops and, as these are often bought from puppy mills, avoiding the purchase of animals from pet shops is one way to negatively impact puppy mills.

Further, both in CT and throughout the United States, animal shelters and rescues are at capacity and full of amazing dogs and other animals desperate for a loving home. Adopting from these locations is not only rewarding but sends a clear message to the puppy mills that their business model and cruel treatment of animals is not acceptable.

While it is not unusual for people to prefer to bring a puppy rather than an older dog into their family, puppies can be found and adopted from reputable rescues, they do not have to be purchased from a pet shop.

If obtaining a puppy from a breeder is necessary, refer to our Breeder Questions.

STATE AND LOCAL RESTRICTIONS

While some states have now banned the sale of animals in pet shops, it is still legal in CT. In fact, as all neighboring states have banned the sale of puppies in pet shops, CT is one of the only states in the

Northeast where puppy mills can send their product. With no specific puppy mill or pet shop statutes, puppy mills in CT would be



PUPPY MILLS (cont.)

restricted under CT General Statutes (CGS) § 53-247(a) which prohibits people from overdriving, overloading, overworking, torturing, depriving of substance, mutilating, cruelly beating or killing, or unjustifiably injuring any animal. The law prohibits a person who impounds or confines an animal from, (1) failing to provide it with proper care;

(2) neglecting to cage or restrain it from injuring itself or another animal; or (3) failing to provide it with wholesome air, food, and water.



Scan for resource links
(includes Breeder Questions)

RABBIT FARMING

THE PROBLEM

CT is at-risk for large-scale rabbit farming for meat.

In 2022, the CT Department of Agriculture unsuccessfully initiated legislation for a program that would allow the processing of thousands of rabbits for food. Similar legislation came up in 2024 and 2025. Changes to the legislation could make it easier for the mass slaughter of rabbits for meat to take place in Connecticut.

Increased disease transmission and public health risk

According to Rebecca Bernardo, President of Everybunny Counts, there is a 2020 study titled *Livestock-Associated MRSA in Purulent Subcutaneous Lesions of Farm Rabbits*, describing the 24% prevalence rate of MRSA infections in slaughterhouse rabbits. The close-keeping, inhumane conditions in slaughterhouses are a breeding ground for this infection that can be transferred to humans through consumption of contaminated rabbit meat. MRSA-infected rabbits often

present no symptoms and would require routine and costly culturing of all rabbits ante-mortem to ensure that MRSA was not present.

Additionally, there is the threat of RHDV2 to both wild and domestic rabbits, should an outbreak occur at one of these facilities.

Rabbits are exempt from USDA protections

The USDA does not include rabbits in its definition of livestock; therefore, they are not protected by their laws and regulations. Because the Humane Methods of Slaughter act does not apply to rabbits, there are no standards that require rabbits to be rendered unconscious prior to their slaughter. This could result in rabbits being subjected to some of the worst forms of cruelty of all farmed animals.



RABBIT FARMING (cont.)

FAST FACTS

- They are the 3rd most common family pet.
- They are intelligent, social and curious beings.
- Rabbits are slaughtered at 8-12 weeks old.
- Rabbits emit more carbon than chicken and pork.
- It takes an estimated 4 lbs of feed to make one pound of rabbit meat.
- Whole Foods stopped selling rabbit meat after concluding that there was no market for sales.
- 24% prevalence rate for MRSA infections in slaughterhouse rabbits.
- RHDV2 is a highly contagious rabbit virus, killing up to 80% of rabbits infected.
- Visible signs of the RHDV2 virus are rare.
- RHDV2 can be spread through direct contact, equipment, contaminated materials, dogs and more. The virus can survive extreme temperatures.
- A notable outbreak of RHDV2 occurred in 27 states, including CT, in 2022.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Join us in working to avoid advancing rabbit meat farming and support innovative, planet-friendly economic development opportunities.

Education plays an important role in creating awareness of the health risks and inhumane treatment associated with rabbit meat farming. The state should be encouraged to seek out innovative business ideas that are better for the environment and all its inhabitants instead of expanding into dangerous farming practices. Additionally, the demand from the public for more plant-based foods and products continues to increase. Many restaurants now offer a variety of plant-based foods and offer meat-alternative protein options.

RESOURCES

Livestock-Associated MRSA in Purulent Subcutaneous Lesions of Farm Rabbits

[fs-rhdv2.pdf](#)

Inside the Dark World of Rabbit Farming

What is the Humane Slaughter Act? How does it protect animals?

Everybunny Counts



Scan for resource links





DOG FIGHTING

THE PROBLEM

Dog fighting is a brutal and highly secretive underground activity that causes immense suffering and death. It occurs nationwide, and in Connecticut, in basements, alleys, vacant buildings, rural areas, and even vehicles. Losing dogs that survive are often killed in cruel ways to erase the shame of defeat.

Three Categories of Dog Fighters

Street Fighters: Typically own one dog, prioritize aggression, and engage in impromptu fights. Many are gang members who use their dogs for status and intimidation. Their fights can be especially barbaric, such as forcing dogs to fight inside car trunks ("trunking").

Hobbyists: Own multiple dogs, focus on breeding and training, and participate in organized fights within a known network. Found in both urban and rural areas, they choose dogs for agility rather than size.

Professionals (Dogmen): The most organized and secretive. Many operate large-scale breeding yards and have national or even international networks. Some have respectable careers, such as veterinarians or teachers, but are deeply involved in organized crime.

Professional dog fighters are the hardest to infiltrate and prosecute. They operate in a closed world where long-term undercover investigations are often the only way to gain access. Their fights involve huge sums of money, and beyond financial gain, Dogmen take pride in their legacy, breeding champions with legendary reputations.

Dogs spend their first 18 months to two years tethered with little training. At around two years old, they are tested in a short fight. Those that refuse to fight (called curs) are either killed or used as bait for other dogs. Fighters prize "gameness," a dog's willingness to fight to the death despite pain or injury.

The American Pit Bull Terrier is the breed of choice for hobbyists and professionals due to its strength, agility, and loyalty.

WHERE IT'S HAPPENING

Dog fighting attracts people from all backgrounds, including teachers, doctors, veterinarians, and professional athletes. Some operations run out of seemingly innocent locations, such as daycare centers. While fights occur in both rural and urban areas, live streaming now allows spectators to participate remotely. Professionals go to great lengths to conceal their activities.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Dogs used in fighting often show physical signs such as torn or missing ears, bite wounds, puncture marks, bruising, and swollen faces. Bait dogs, if they survive, have similar injuries but may also have filed or missing teeth to prevent harm to fighting dogs.

If you suspect dog fighting, do not intervene. Report it to local authorities or animal control officers. Keep pets secure to prevent theft for baiting, and never list pets as "free to a good home"

DOG FIGHTING (cont.)

online, as dog fighters often exploit these listings.

The most effective way to stop dog fighting is through strong laws and public awareness. Advocate for tougher animal cruelty laws and support law enforcement efforts to combat this crime.

STATE AND LOCAL RESTRICTIONS

Dog fighting is illegal at both state and federal levels, with severe penalties. Attending a fight is also a crime, and bringing a minor to a fight increases penalties. Any interstate activity, such as transporting dogs for fights, can elevate the crime to a federal offense.

All 50 states prohibit animal fighting, though laws vary. Some states specify banned activities, while others rely on general animal cruelty laws.

At the federal level, the Animal Welfare Act bans animal fighting across state or international lines. The Animal Fighting Prohibition Enforcement Act (2007) strengthened penalties. Large-scale dog fighting rings often involve additional crimes such as illegal weapons, drug trafficking, racketeering, human trafficking, and financial crimes.

In Connecticut, CGS 53-247(C) classifies dog fighting as a Class D felony. It is illegal to own, train, or bet on fighting dogs, permit fights on one's property, or attend fights.

CRIMINAL OFFENSES RELATED TO DOG FIGHTING

- Possessing dog fighting paraphernalia
- Training dogs to fight
- Prolonging fights
- Possessing a dog intended for fighting
- Using bait animals
- Organizing, promoting, or advertising fights
- Allowing fights on one's property
- Betting on fights
- Selling, breeding, or transporting fighting dogs
- Owning a dog with injuries consistent with fighting

RESOURCES

The Lost Dogs by Jim Gorant
Detailed Discussion of Dog Fighting Inside the Illegal World of Dog Fighting

Bringing Down the Dogmen
Chicago Police Dog Fighting Tips
Stallone: The Face of Dog Fighting
(Graphic Content)

NPR: The Battle to Stop Dog Fighting
Michael Vick Case Study
Life on a Chain: Inside Dog Fighting
(Graphic Content)



*Scan for
resource links*

FACTORY FARMS VS. SMALL/FAMILY FARMS

THE PROBLEM

On a macro level, factory farming has devastating effects on animals, the planet, and human health. However, local family farms can't feed all the people at our current consumption rate.

While CT is not the home to many factory farms, we do consume tons of out-of-state food items and should be aware of the issues caused by our food consumption habits. How can we make better decisions for ourselves, the animals and the planet?

Nationally, the ever-increasing appetite of humans for meat, dairy and eggs has led to 83% of farmed land being used by farmed animals. When combined with the land needed to grow corn and soy for livestock feed, one-third of the habitable land is dedicated to animal agriculture. This footprint is unmatched by any other industry in history. In addition, farmed animals eat five times more food than all the people on our planet, however meat and dairy combined provide less than one-fifth of a consumers' nutritional needs. The food grown to feed farmed animals is exponentially greater than the food made from those animals. The current system is an unsustainable model.

Understanding the key differences between factory farming and personal farms, often referred to as family farms/small scale farms, is the first step in making choices that can create a positive difference for the animals, human health and our planet.

FACTORY FARMED ANIMALS FOR FOOD

Cows/Cattle	Turkeys
Chickens	Rabbits
Pigs	Geese/Ducks
Sheep/Lambs	Frogs
Fish	Crustaceans
Goats	

Looking at CT

Hillendale Farm in Bozrah is one of the state's only factory farms. They are one of the largest egg manufacturers in the U.S. and made the news in 2023 when more than 100,000 hens died in a fire. This sparked discussions about cage free legislation, but never made it to the Capitol.

While there are several small slaughterhouses in the state, there are no meat-packing facilities, which means that animals need to be transported out to NY or PA for large scale slaughter. Currently, farmed animals are exempt from most animal cruelty statutes.

continued on next page



**FACTORY FARMS VS.
SMALL/FAMILY FARMS (cont.)**

WHAT YOU CAN DO

There are many ways we, as individuals, can help to create change when it comes to not supporting factory farming and that begins with recognizing that animals are sentient beings and not products. Every purchase is a chance to change our food system!

Eat less meat, dairy and eggs. Nine billion land animals are slaughtered for food in the U.S. each year. Fewer than one percent of these animals are raised on pasture, with space, fresh air and sunshine. To give all farmed animals a life worth living and to create a sustainable planet, many individuals and families choose a vegan lifestyle or incorporate alternatives to meat and dairy into more of their meals. Consuming fewer animal products is better for you, too, reducing the risk of several chronic, preventable diseases, including cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and obesity.

Buy local & shop for higher-welfare foods. Most animal products sold in supermarkets come from factory farms. You can avoid factory-farmed meat, dairy and eggs by shopping at farmer's markets or buying directly from small family farms.

Decrease waste. Twenty-six percent of animals slaughtered for meat go to waste. Help reduce waste by not buying more than you need, using up food before it spoils and utilizing leftovers.

Keep the victims of ultimate cruelty off your plate. Avoid eating these foods which are especially inhumane including milk-fed veal, frog legs, foie gras, crustaceans, live sashimi, shark fin soup.

Advocate for stronger state and federal laws to protect farmed animals, farm workers and the environment.

Work within your community and with your local and state legislators to create stronger laws to protect the welfare of farmed animals, farm workers and the planet.

FACTORS	FACTORY FARMS	SMALL/FAMILY FARMS
Scale	Factory farms, also known as concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs), operate on a large scale, producing significant quantities of meat, dairy, or eggs.	Personal or family farms operate on a much smaller scale, often run by individuals or families.
Practices	They often use intensive farming techniques to maximize production. This can include keeping animals in confined spaces, using automated systems for feeding and waste management, and relying on antibiotics, hormones and genetic programs to promote rapid growth.	These farms usually employ more traditional and sustainable farming methods, such as free-range grazing, crop rotation, and organic farming practices.

Impact on Animals	The focus on efficiency and profit can lead to poor living conditions for animals, including overcrowding, limited movement, lack of light and restriction of natural behaviors.	Animals on personal farms generally have better living conditions, with more space to move, access to the outdoors, and opportunities to engage in natural behaviors, as well as potentially better veterinary care.
Labor Practices	Factory farms often employ large numbers of workers in physically demanding and sometimes hazardous conditions. Workers may face long hours, low wages, and limited job security.	Family farms often involve family members working together, sometimes supplemented by a small number of hired hands. The work can be physically demanding but is usually more varied and less repetitive than on factory farms.
Employee Health Risks	Employees are exposed to high levels of dust, chemicals, and animal waste, which can lead to respiratory issues, infections, and other health problems. The repetitive nature of tasks can also result in musculoskeletal disorders.	While there are still health risks, the smaller scale and more sustainable practices of family farms can mitigate some of these dangers.
Environmental Health	Pollution from factory farms, including air and water contamination from waste runoff from large manure lagoons, can negatively affect nearby communities, leading to health problems like asthma, allergies, and other chronic conditions.	Family farms typically use more sustainable farming practices, reducing the risk of environmental contamination. This can lead to better overall health outcomes for the surrounding community.
Environmental Impact	Factory farms can have significant negative impacts on the environment, such as water and air pollution from waste runoff, greenhouse gas emissions, and overuse of natural resources.	Personal farms tend to have a lower environmental footprint, using fewer chemicals, managing waste more sustainably, and promoting biodiversity.
Economics	The dominance of factory farms can lead to the decline of small family farms, reducing local employment opportunities, decrease in consumer food choices, and disrupting rural economies.	Family farms contribute to local economies by purchasing supplies locally, employing local workers, and supporting local markets.
Economic Model	They are typically contracted by large agribusinesses which prioritize cost reduction and high output through a vertical integration system which combines companies operating at different supply chain stages to gain greater control over the production and distribution process.	They often focus on local markets, cooperatives, direct sales, and community-supported agriculture (CSA), emphasizing quality over quantity.

continued on next page

FACTORY FARMS VS.
SMALL/FAMILY FARMS (cont.)

Ethical Concerns	The treatment of animals in factory farms raises ethical concerns, which can impact the morale and mental health of workers who witness or participate in these practices.	The humane treatment of animals on family farms can positively impact the mental health and morale of those involved in farming, as well as the community's perception of farming practices.
Community	As factory farms consolidate agricultural production, rural areas may experience depopulation and a loss of community cohesion.	Family farms often foster a sense of community and connection to the land, promoting social cohesion and preserving rural lifestyles.

RESOURCES

- Shop with Your Heart | More Humane Shopping
- 5 Ways You Can Help Farmed Animals
- Farmed Animals: How does factory farming affect animals?
- Meat Racket - The Secret Takeover of America's Food Business
by Christopher Leonard, Simon & Schuster, Published 2/18/2014



Scan for
resource links

LEGHOLD
TRAPS



THE PROBLEM

Leghold & body-crushing traps are barbaric and inhumane; however, they are legally permitted in the state of Connecticut.

Furbearing animals for which there is an open trapping season in Connecticut may be taken by Box Traps, Live Traps, Deadfalls, Padded and Unpadded Metal Traps, Smooth Wire Traps, and Species-Specific Traps subject to restrictions. Included in these are leghold and

body-crushing traps, which are metal traps that are designed to slam shut on an animal's foot or body. The victims endure prolonged pain and, in a panic, often chew off their limbs to escape, if they aren't killed outright.

Leghold and body-crushing traps are indiscriminate, much like land mines
Leghold and body-crushing traps frequently capture animals other than the species targeted. Dogs, cats, eagles,

owls, ducks, songbirds, hawks (including birds protected by state and federal law), deer, and many other “nontarget” animals have been killed or maimed.

There is nothing soft about “padded” leghold traps

The “padded” leghold traps have extremely hard, thin rubber strips, required by CT DEEP (Department of Energy and Environmental Protection) regulations to be “not less than 3/32 inch thick” – about the thickness of a credit card! These traps still cause grievous injuries such as leg fractures, dental injuries, joint dislocations, and limb amputations in a captured animal.

FAST FACTS

- Traps often cause agonizing deaths.
- Unintended animals are often victims of trapping and are not required to be reported.
- Killing predators such as coyotes and foxes interferes with the natural population control of other species such as deer and rodents.

Numbers are elusive

CT DEEP does not require trappers to report accidental captures of non-target species, so it is impossible to know how many animals are truly impacted by trapping. However, the Harvard Law School’s Animal Law and Policy Clinic’s review of public records revealed that between 2017 and 2022, CT DEEP’s Environmental Conservation (EnCon) Police received many complaints about animals grievously injured or killed by these traps. Refer to the Harvard study under “Resources” for more detailed information.

WHERE IT’S HAPPENING

There is a furbearer trapping season in Connecticut that varies in the late fall into the winter depending on the species.

Trapping of river otters, beavers, mink, muskrats, weasels, coyote, gray fox, red fox, raccoon, opossum and skunk are legally permitted in the state.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

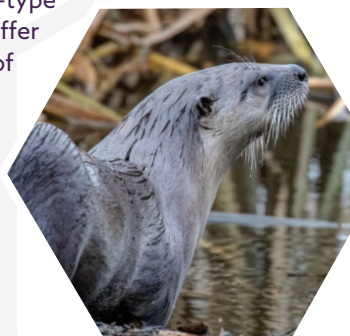
Ban body-crushing and leghold traps in the state of Connecticut through regulation and legislation.

A regulatory solution has been proposed by the Harvard Law School Animal Law and Policy Clinic in a letter to the Commissioner of DEEP regarding its responsibility as “trustee of the environment for the present and future generations.” This letter requests a review of DEEP’s existing trapping regime that fully accounts for the environmental policy considerations set forth in the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA).

Nine US states, including Connecticut’s neighbors Massachusetts and Rhode Island, have banned or significantly restricted the use of leghold traps.

Legislatively, there is a campaign in Connecticut working to only permit box and cage-type traps which offer the benefits of “catch and release.”

*continued on
next page*



LEGHOLD TRAPS (cont.)

RESOURCES

Request by the Harvard Law School Animal Law & Policy Clinic for Review of Connecticut's Policies Related to the Use of Leghold and Body-Gripping Traps Public Records regarding leghold traps in Connecticut. Prepared by Harvard Law School Animal Law & Policy Clinic

Declarations Prepared by Harvard Law School Animal Law & Policy Clinic

"A Legislator's Guide to the Trapping Debate" by Dr. Nan Zyla, President, HARP, Inc. (Humane Alternatives for Resolving Problems)

"Ban Leghold Traps: Scientists, Advocates and Celebrities Speak Out" by George D. Whitney, D.V. M, 1988

One fox loses leg, another removes own foot after being caught in illegal traps in Lexington (boston.com)

Furbearer Trapping Seasons (ct.gov; <https://portal.ct.gov/deep/hunting/2024-connecticut-hunting-and-trapping-guide/furbearer-trapping-seasons>)



Scan for
resource
links



CATS

Our cat resources
are always growing!
Scan to explore the
latest updates.



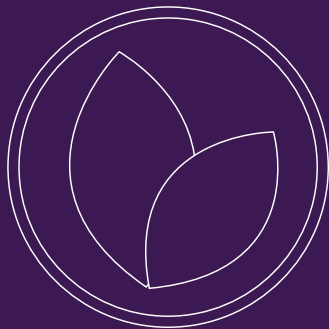
Scan to access CT's
Animal Population
Control Program
(APCP)



Vegan / Plant-Based Living



VEGAN / PLANT-BASED LIVING



HEALTHY
LIVING



Scan for highlight CFA's healthy living initiatives

ADDITIONAL FACT SHEETS & RESOURCES

Exotic Animals

Animals in traveling circuses endure long periods shut in small spaces, physical and social deprivation and brutal, violent methods of control. Human-only performance shows create jobs without exposing citizens to stressed and abused animals.



Coming soon...

Importation



Greyhound

The very first public act of the 2024 legislative session (Public Act 24-1, An Act Concerning Dog Racing) outlawed the cruel practice of dog racing and made CT the 43rd state to ban it outright. However, in CT, simulcasting is still permitted.



Beavers



Horse racing, Bobcats,
and more!

“Education is the
most powerful weapon
one can use to
change the world”

Nelson Mandela

STUDENTS IN ACTION >>



Scan QR to read more of what Alexandra has to say regarding the interaction between humans and animals as featured in CVA's June 2025 newsletter.



MEET ALEXANDRA KUTCHINS

Alexandra Kutchins is a soon-to-be graduate of Trinity College with a degree in Psychology. Her lifelong passion for animals has driven her to explore animal behavior, both through academic study and hands-on experience. Growing up around animals- from dogs and cats to birds and farm animals- has deepened both Alexandra's appreciation and understanding of their behavior, health, and emotional well-being. Combining her love for animals and her background in psychology, she hopes to make a meaningful difference in the health, welfare, and conservation of animals as well as the ecosystems they inhabit.

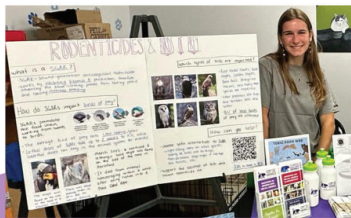
"The goal is not tolerance, but gratitude and compassion for the animals that awe us, keep our ecosystems healthy, and sustain us."



Student Interns Set up and display their work and research!



Addi Smith – Guilford, CT



Together for Animals!



DONATE TODAY

CFA is committed to promoting the welfare and protection of animals and their environment through education, awareness, community outreach, and engagement.

We are deeply grateful for your financial support, which allows us to carry out this vital mission. We rely entirely on individual supporters like you, your contribution is crucial in enabling us to provide robust educational programming focused on animals in CT.

Thank you for being a part of CFA's mission and coming Together for Animals!



Jim Lombella

Dr. James "Jim" Lombella
President/CEO

CFA relies on gifts from caring people to prevent cruelty to animals and improve their status and welfare by educating the public on issues confronting animals in CT.

Ways to donate:

Make a one-time donation securely online

Become a monthly donor

Mail check payable to CFA*

Include CFA in your estate plans: will, retirement plan, insurance proceeds, etc.

Make a gift in memory or in tribute to a loved one

Participate CFA's End-of-Year Campaign



*Make your secure
donation today!*

Your gift makes you a member of CFA. Gifts of \$1,000 or more annually qualify you for CFA's Leadership Society status.

* CT For Animals Education Fund is a 501c3 tax-exempt organization. Your donations are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

In addition to fact sheets our website is your central source for updated animal welfare resources



Visit **CTforAnimals.org** for the latest resources being added all the time!

Some additional resources:



EATS Act (Ending Animal Agricultural Suppression Act): Farm Animal Sanctuaries Make Their Voices Heard



CT-WildlifeValuesReport.pdf
(colostate.edu)



CT-AgencyCultureMemo.pdf
(colostate.edu)



Struggling with an animal?
Scan QR above or visit
211CT.org

This list of resources is provided for informational purposes only and is not intended to be comprehensive. CT for Animals (CFA) does not have any affiliations with, nor does it endorse, any of the listed organizations. We encourage individuals to conduct their own research before engaging with any group or service.

Thank you to all our partners!





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