

**Tuskegee University
College of Veterinary Medicine
Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital
Animal Health and Safety Plan**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital (VMTH) is a full-service practice for all animal species. VMTH provides primary care, preventive medicine, and after-hour services to the surrounding community. Specialized medical, surgical, and diagnostic services are offered to the

—Maintains

Lighting—Lighting is uniformly distributed throughout animal facilities to permit good observation of animals, provide a photoperiod control appropriate to the species, and contribute to a safe working environment for personnel. Emergency lighting is provided. Natural lighting is used where available.

Noise—Activities that create noise with the potential to cause stress is minimized and conducted away from animal housing. Excessive noise is minimized by training staff and by use of appropriate equipment and facilities. Animals that produce levels of noise having the potential to cause stress are housed separately. Appropriate noise protection for personnel is provided where noise levels are high, above 85 decibels.

Social—Where group housing is appropriate, consideration is given to behavioral and social interactions. Environmental enrichment is considered as appropriate to the species. Human interactions are incorporated into daily routines where appropriate. Play opportunities and enrichment are provided on a regular basis.

SANITATION

Cleaning—All equipment and areas are cleaned (beginning of the day, between patients, and at the end of the day) with appropriate detergents and disinfectants. Bedding used in cages or pens is changed daily or as required to keep animals dry and clean. Animal waste is removed at least once daily, via collection, hosing, or flushing. Animals are kept dry during these procedures. Litter is emptied from cages and pens in a manner that minimizes exposure of animals and personnel to aerosolized waste. Cages are sanitized, using proper agents followed by thorough rinsing, before animals are placed in them. Animals and personnel are protected from noxious agents. Waste cans or containers are cleaned and sanitized daily.

Waste Disposal—Waste is removed daily, and in compliance with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations. Waste cans are leak-proof and have tight-fitting lids. Waste storage areas are separate from animal housing areas and kept free of vermin. Biological wastes are stored appropriately prior to disposal.

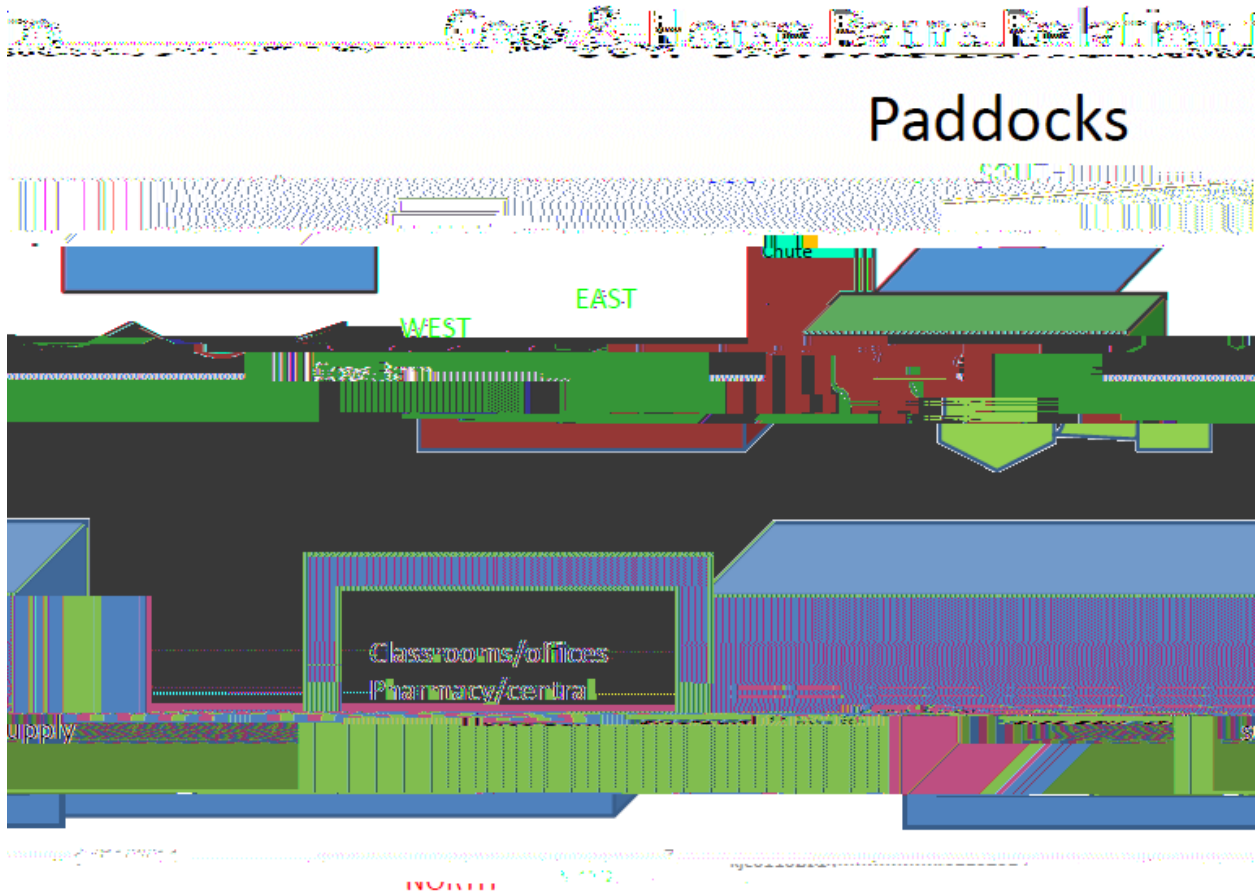
Vermin

Weekend and Holiday Care

Animals are observed and cared for by qualified personnel every day. Emergency care is provided after hours, holidays and weekends by qualified veterinarians who rotate on call duties.

Disaster Plan

The goal of the animal health and safety plan is to ensure TUCVM is able to respond to and restore animal operations as soon as possible following a disruption of services or an emergency



- Tornado
 - Animals housed inside will remain inside.
 - Animals outside in the pasture will remain outside.
- Flooding
 - The clinic is located on high ground with adequate drainage. Animals in-house can be maintained in-house.
- Fire
 - Horses
 - North aisle rows D & E: horses are to be walked out the west and roll up door then head south toward the paddocks.
 - Middle aisle rows: B & C: row C is to be walked out the west rollup door then head south to the paddocks.
 - Animals in isolation will be placed on trailers and moved to the opposite side of the paddocks away from health animals.
 - The eyes of horses will be covered with towels/blankets as they are moved outside to prevent them from returning to the building.
 - See diagram below

- Note: Every effort will be made to save all animals within reason and without harm to humans.



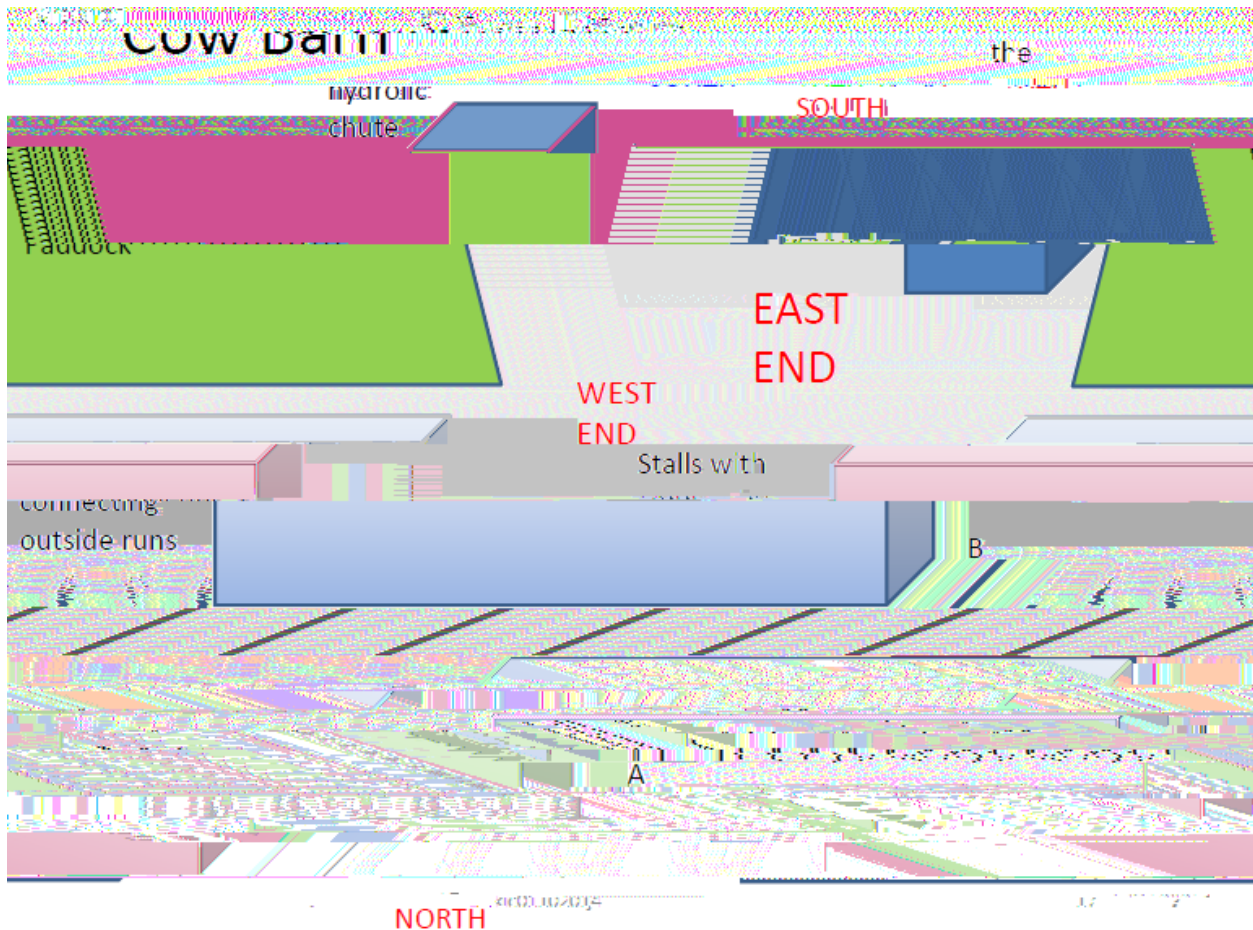
Cattle

Cattle are to be driven to the cow barn paddocks

Small ruminants can be temporarily taken to the far paddock behind the cow barn paddock or placed on the cattle trailer and moved to the far side outside of the southernmost equine paddock.

See diagram below

- Note: Every effort will be made to save all animals within reason and without harm to humans.



When it is safe to do so, animals will be accounted for initially by count and then by identification from medical records and markers.

Important Reminder:

- Horses and farm animals will return to places of perceived safety, i.e., in an attempt to run from danger, they may run back to the place in which they are being taken from. Cover the head of horses with towels or blankets.
- Horses, cattle, small ruminants, swine, etc. will panic. This can result in serious injury for both animals and people. Those identified to assist with animals during disasters must be formally trained and part of the managed team of rescuers.
- Average horse weighs 500 to 1500 pounds and may not be easy to handle on a good day.

Small Animal Clinic Evacuation
The Small Animal clinic

OSHA Requirements for Veterinarians. Retrieved from
http://www.ehow.com/list_7500481_oseha-requirements-veterinarians.html