

Legislation Regulating Farming

The Provincial Government's fundamental policy surrounding farming is that farmers have the right to farm and this is set up in the [Farm Practices Protection \(Right to Farm Act\)](#). Other legislation that regulates farm activities includes:

- [Environmental Management Act](#)
- [Integrated Pest Management Act](#)
- [Public Health Act](#)
- [Reportable and Notifiable Disease Regulation](#)
- [Premises Identification Regulation](#)
- [Animal Health Act](#)

...and many many more. Information on these legislations and helpful resources can be found through the [Ministry of Agriculture and Food](#) or in the [Farm Practices Reference Guide](#).



RIGHT TO FARM ACT

It is important that residents understand that farmers do have the right to farm, especially in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR). This right is protected in the [Farm Practices Protection \(Right to Farm\)](#)

“What’s that smell?” and other questions you may have.

Working farms may be something new for someone that did not grow up around them. Early morning, strange noises and smells are just some of what you may experience living near an active farm.

WHAT'S THAT NOISE?

Farming requires long, hot hours. The Typical workday starts early and ends late...and yes, the rooster does crow at the break of dawn! Just think of it as nature's alarm clock.

WHAT'S THAT SMELL?

Many crops rely on fertilization, or nutrient management practices, and many use the end products (pardon the pun) of their livestock. The farmer is recycling and using environmentally friendly alternatives to chemical fertilizers. It is quite common to see a farmer spraying this fertilizer onto the fields. Depending on wind direction, it can disrupt a patio party quite quickly. It may be a good idea to contact your farming neighbourhood and see what the schedule for spraying is.

WHAT'S THAT NOISE?

Most farming uses large machinery. Sometimes peace and quiet can be disturbed, especially during planting and harvest time. Machines can run late into the night and start up very early in the morning. Bird scare devices, and other techniques, such as helicopters, may also be a requirement of farming to ensure crops are successful.



Photo by McKenzie Gyorkos

HOW LONG DO WE HAVE TO FOLLOW THIS GUY?

Living in a rural community can sometimes mean less traffic, but farm equipment is slow and may cause delays, especially during harvest time. Be patient and share the road to ensure everyone gets home safely.

Township of Spallumcheen

Incorporated in 1892, the Township of Spallumcheen is the oldest rural municipality. Containing over 350 farms and inhabiting 255 km² the Township is a diverse mix of homes, farms and businesses. Over 50% of the land base within the Township is located in the Agricultural Land Reserve and in addition to over 5,000 residents there are also almost 5,000 dairy cows, over 1 million chickens as well as goats, pigs, llamas, beef cows and many more farm animals that call Spallumcheen home. There are many appeals to living in a rural community such as Spallumcheen.



4144 Spallumcheen Way
Spallumcheen, BC V0E 1B6

Phone: 250-546-3013

Email: mail@spallumcheentwp.bc.ca

Website: www.spallumcheentwp.bc.ca

If you believe a farm may be acting in contravention of the Right to Farm Act, you can contact the Farm Industry Review Board to investigate:

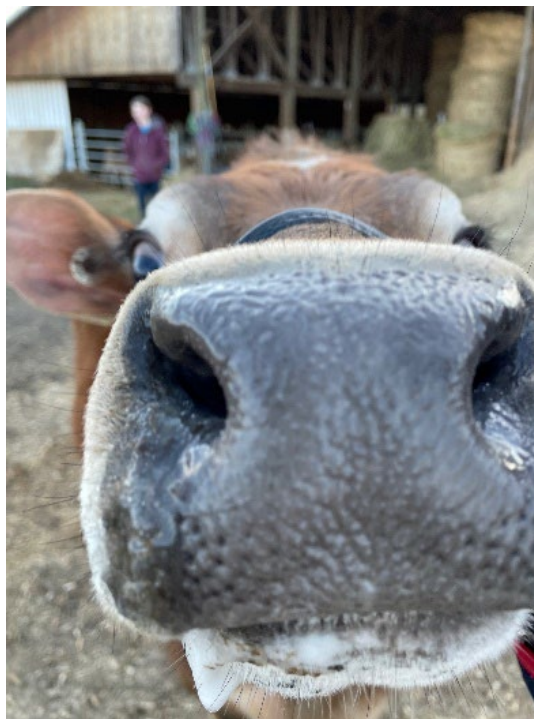
- Phone: 1-800-663-7867
- Email firb@gov.bc.ca



More questions answered...

WHERE'S THE FENCE?

Property lines in the country are not always clear. Know where lines are and respect them. Most farm animals are fairly docile, however if you're not sure how to act around the animals; just ask.



WHAT'S WITH ALL THE SMOKE?

In BC, farmers are permitted to clear large tracts of land for crops and grazing. Farms may use burning as an approved method to do this in the right conditions. For more information on Open Burning you can review the [Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation](#)

or visit the Township of Spallumcheen website for more information on [Open Burning](#).

FIREWORKS ARE FUN...RIGHT?

Most people do not realize how much suffering fireworks can cause to animals. The unfamiliar sound and vibration can be very frightening and can cause animals to panic. Frightened animals can try to escape and often become injured in the attempt or while loose from their farm.

Fireworks are only permitted in the Township from October 24 to November 1st annually. Be proactive when planning for fireworks events and talk to your neighbours to help reduce the potentially for animal injury.

WHERE DOES FIDO FIT IN?

Dogs are great companions and well suited to a rural lifestyle where there is often more room to romp and play. It is important that you keep your dog contained to your property and do not permit your dog to run loose. Dogs are predators by nature and can, in some circumstances, harm or even kill livestock. Dogs can also stress livestock with their presence. Ensure that your dog remains on your property or under the control of an adult at all times