

**MARYLAND 4-H ANIMAL LEASE PROGRAM
STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING AND RELEASE**

In order to increase opportunities for youth to work with, care for and show an animal, the 4-H Program of University of Maryland Extension permits 4-H members to use animals (horses, ponies, dogs, alpacas, llamas, dairy cattle, beef, goats, sheep, and swine) owned by others for 4-H projects in accordance with Guidelines for the Maryland 4-H Animal Lease Program(s) and other applicable 4-H rules and regulations.

We, the undersigned animal owner, 4-H member, and parent(s)/guardian(s) of the 4-H member want to participate in a Maryland 4-H Animal Lease Program(s) and have voluntarily made arrangements for the use of one or more leased animals animal(s) by the 4-H member for 4-H projects in conjunction with the Program(s).

We understand and acknowledge that the University of Maryland Extension (UME) and 4-H Program (including their officers, agents, employees and volunteers) are neither involved in nor parties to our arrangements; and we further acknowledge that they have not made any representations or warranties of any kind regarding the leased animal(s) or the 4-H member (including, but not limited to, the fitness or safety of the animal(s) and/or the skills, qualifications or reliability of the 4-H member) or the advisability of making such arrangements or participating in the Program(s).

We each further understand, acknowledge and agree that the State of Maryland, University of Maryland, UME and the 4-H Program (including their officers, agents, employees and volunteers) are not responsible or liable for any damage or harm (including, but not limited to, injuries to the 4-H member or animal(s), property damage and/or financial losses) in any way associated with participation in the Maryland 4-H Animal Lease Program(s) and/or the use of the leased animal(s) by the 4-H member.

Further, in consideration of being permitted to participate in the Maryland 4-H Animal Lease Program(s), **we each do hereby RELEASE**, and agree to indemnify and hold harmless, to the fullest extent permitted by law, the State of Maryland, the University of Maryland, UME and the 4-H Program and their officers, agents, employees, and volunteers from and against any and all costs, liabilities, expenses, claims, compensation, demands, and causes of action of any kind on account of any loss, damage and/or injury that might, in any way, arise out of or relate to participation in the Maryland 4-H Animal Lease Program(s) and/or the use of the leased animal(s) by the 4-H member, whether due to the negligence or other act or omission of any person or entity.

WE HAVE READ, FULLY UNDERSTAND AND VOLUNTARILY SIGN THE FOREGOING STATEMENT AND RELEASE.

Owner of Animal(s) Signature (Date)

Printed Name

4-H Member Signature (Date)

Printed Name

Parents/Guardians of 4-H Member Signature (Date)
Signing behalf of themselves and the minor 4-H Member

Printed Name