



## Agriculture and Markets

The industry specific guidance below was developed by the Department in response to the pandemic and is no longer mandatory. These archived documents are made available as a public reference and resource only.

Industry partners should refer to [New York Forward Guidance](#) for the most up-to-date information regarding COVID-19. For more information, please visit <https://agriculture.ny.gov/coronavirus>.



# **LOCAL AGRICULTURE EXHIBITS AND DEMONSTRATIONS AND EQUINE EVENTS AND COMPETITIONS FACTS & FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

*Last Updated: September 1, 2020*

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

---

Q1. Who can participate in the competition?

- a. Participants/event staff must come from the region in which the event occurs or from a contiguous county/counties. This requirement can be found in [Interim Guidance for Local Agricultural Demonstrations and Exhibitions](#) as well as the NY Forward Sports and Recreation Guidance (prohibiting travel competition).

Q2. If our region is directly adjacent to another state, does that mean participants/event staff may come from out of state?

- a. No. Participants must come from NYS and must come from the region or from a contiguous county/counties.

Q3. How many people are permitted on site?

- a. For Local Agricultural Demonstrations and Exhibitions:
  - i. AGM Guidance provides: "Demonstrations and exhibitions must be spaced out so that there are groups of no more than 10 people at any one time, including those conducting the demonstration or exhibition." However, NY Forward Guidance provides: ". . . where guidance in this document differs from other guidance documents issued by New York State, the more recent guidance shall apply." Therefore, the current mass gathering restrictions set forth in Executive Order(s) takes precedent for non-food agriculture, local agricultural demonstrations and exhibitions.
- b. For horse events and competitions:
  - i. Beyond the mass gathering limitations set forth by Executive Order, the following is set forth in the NY Forward Sports and Recreation Guidance:
    - a. "Responsible Parties must ensure that for any indoor sport or recreational activity, capacity is limited to no more than 50% of the maximum occupancy for a particular area as set by the certificate of occupancy, inclusive of employees and patrons/players/spectators.
      - Responsible Parties must limit spectators to no more than two spectators per player."

Q4. What are the current mass gathering restrictions?

- a. Pursuant to Executive Order 202.45, the gathering limit in Phase Four regions is fifty people.

Q5. Are patrons required to wear a face covering?

- a. Yes. Anyone who is over age two and able to medically tolerate a [face-covering](#) must cover their nose and mouth with a mask or cloth face-covering when in a public and unable to maintain, or when not maintaining, social distance in accordance with [10 NYCRR 66-3](#), [Executive Orders 202.17 and 202.18](#), and any successor thereof. Farm operators, vendors, and those authorized on their behalf shall deny admittance to any person who fails to comply and shall require or compel such persons' removal. Provided, however, that this shall be applied in a manner consistent with the federal American with Disabilities Act, New York State or New York City Human Rights Law, and any other applicable provision of law. See [10 NYCRR 66-3](#).
- b. Also, please note, for all essential businesses or entities, any employees who are present in the workplace shall be provided and shall wear face coverings when in direct contact with customers or members of the public. Businesses must provide, at their expense, such face coverings for their employees. This is to be done in accordance with [10 NYCRR 66-3](#) and [Executive Order 202.16](#).

Q6. Who is responsible for compliance with the guidance?

- a. Property owners, event organizers, and vendors must ensure full compliance with the NY Forward Guidance as well as all applicable state guidance.

Q7. May individuals stay in the stalls overnight with their animals?

- a. Overnight sleeping in the stalls during a competition is prohibited per the New York State Department of Health.

Q8. May I offer food on site?

- a. Food may be offered if done in accordance with the [Department of Health Interim Guidance for Outdoor Food Services](#) or [Food Services](#).

Q9. Are premium payments still available?

- a. Further guidance is being developed on premium payments.

## NY FORWARD GUIDANCE

---

- Local Agriculture Exhibitions
  - *Includes: beef cattle, dairy cattle, sheep, goat and swine shows*
  - Non-Food Related Agriculture
    - [Summary Guidelines](#)
    - [Detailed Guidelines](#)
    - [Business Safety Plan Template](#)
- Equine Events and Competitions
  - *Includes: all horse events and competitions, such as dressage, jumping, and draft shows*
  - Sports and Recreation
    - [Summary Guidelines](#)
    - [Detailed Guidelines](#)
    - [Business Safety Plan Template](#)
- Food Services
  - *Includes: any food vendors*
  - Food Services
    - [Summary Guidelines](#)
    - [Detailed Guidelines](#)
    - [Business Safety Plan Template](#)

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS GUIDANCE

---

- [Interim Guidance for Local Agricultural Demonstrations and Exhibitions](#)
- [Interim Guidance for Equine Operations](#)
- [Interim Guidance for Animal Care Operations](#)
- [Prevention Tips for Farmworkers](#)
- [Interim Guidance for Prevention and Response of COVID-19 at Farms](#)
- [Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Operator Checklist for Farms](#)

### Please Note . . .

---

- Owners/operators should consult the appropriate guidance documents set forth by NYS Department of Health, <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home>, NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets, <https://agriculture.ny.gov/coronavirus>, and any other state or local governments with relation to the event or workspace.
- Owners/operators must also thoroughly review the guidance documents on the NY Forward web page, <https://forward.ny.gov/ny-forward>, to determine if any other business sector or industry function is represented. If an industry is relates to their event or workspace that does not otherwise fall into any of the guidance offered in Phase I, II, III, or IV, the owner/operator should complete the blank template at [https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/NYS\\_BusinessReopeningSa](https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/NYS_BusinessReopeningSa)

[fetyPlanTemplate.pdf](#). It is likely that multiple industries are represented in one business venture.

- Guidance is subject to frequent revision as NY continues its measured and phased re-opening through NY Forward. Owners/operators should regularly check the guidance documents set forth by NYS Department of Health, <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home>, NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets, <https://agriculture.ny.gov/coronavirus>, on the NY Forward web page, <https://forward.ny.gov/ny-forward>, and any other applicable state or local governments pages for the most up-to-date information.
- Where guidance referenced in this document differs from other guidance documents issued by New York State, the more recent guidance shall apply.
- Owners with questions or concerns on the NY Forward guidance should be directed to the Control Room in the region where the owner or operator is located. For contact information and Frequently Asked Questions, please visit <https://esd.ny.gov/nyforward-faq>.