

PIG PLACEMENT NETWORK

www.pigplacementnetwork.org

PET PIG ZONING PACKET

INFORMATION TO HELP YOU DEAL WITH LOCAL ZONING
ORDINANCES & HOMEOWNER ASSOCIATION RULES EFFECTING
YOUR PET POT BELLY PIG.

Much of the documents and information contained in this packet came from the late Rebecca DiNolfi's
Pet Pig Zoning Packet and the American Mini Pig Association Zoning Ordinance Packet
www.americanminipigassociation.com

OVERVIEW

This section summarizes points worth discussing with local officials that help them to understand that pet mini pigs need to be defined, treated, and zoned just like other allowed pets. Throughout this handbook the terms mini pig, pet pig, and pot bellied pig are interchangeable and include all pet mini pigs including but not limited to KuneKune, Juliana, Yucatan, mixed breeds, etc. Sections that follow this overview will discuss additional points covering Emotional Support Animals, as well as Homeowners Association rules. Immediately after this overview section, there are various documents that support these points and other issues that may help you in your dealings with officials in your attempt to get them to allow you to keep your pet pig(s). Once you review the packet, if you need more assistance contact us by email at contact@pigplacementnetwork.org or call us at 215-322-1539. You can also check the zoning info available at minipiginfo.com as well as at americanminipigassociation.com.

1. Find out when the zoning ordinance section(s) at issue were passed. Read them as well. Mention that if they were passed prior to 1985 they were written before pot belly pet pigs were even in the US. Before 1985, the only pigs (swine) that zoning laws could cover were farm animal livestock which can weigh 800 pounds or more and which are much different than the companion domestic pot belly pet pigs which are much smaller and average only 150 lbs or so.
2. Mention that soon after arriving in the US, various USDA agencies stated that they considered pot belly pigs to be pets and not livestock, as did various livestock associations. Supporting documents are in this packet as well as copies of various Governors' Proclamations to that effect.
3. Discuss the suitability of pet mini pigs as domesticated companion pets mentioning that they are among the smartest mammals; that they reach the maturity of a 3-4 year old child (which is very unusual for a domestic companion pet); that they can be indoor and/or outdoor pets; that they are very clean and are often trained to use a litter box if indoor pets; and that

they can be walked on a leash and taught many tricks including playing the piano.

4. Look at the zoning ordinance and mention, if true, that the zoning law allows large dogs that are much larger than pot bellies including Newfoundlands, Mastiffs, St. Bernards, Bernese Mountain ,etc. Also mention that dogs and cats are predators (attackers by nature) while pet pigs are prey animals and have a natural instinct to retreat. By nature, pet pigs are usually less aggressive than cats and dogs.
5. Mention that many veterinarians view and treat pot bellies as pets and use supporting letters in this packet, as well as getting a similar letter from your veterinarian, if possible.
6. Mention that many Livestock Associations also view mini pigs as pets and not livestock and use letters in this packet supporting that position.
7. Mention it's estimated that there are over 1 million pet pig owners in the US and that many localities allow them as pets. If possible, contact nearby townships and see if they allow pot bellies as pets and mention those that do.
8. Mention that livestock and livestock feed is not subject to state sales tax while pet pigs and pet mini pig feed are subject to state sales tax because authorities consider them pets and not livestock swine raised for meat.
9. Mention that pot bellies are allowed to fly as pets with certain airlines (but only in cargo and no longer allowed to fly in the cabin with passengers).
10. Mention that pot bellies stay as pets in pet friendly hotels such as Red Roof Inns.
11. Mention that some pot bellies are trained as therapy pets and can also be qualified as Emotional Support Animals, just as dogs and other pets are.
12. Mention that your pet pig is registered with AMPA if it is.
13. You want officials to see your pet pig as a friendly, intelligent, clean, sweet, and quiet pet. To support that, get letters from friends, neighbors, etc stating that they enjoy your pet pig and why. Consider providing pictures of your pet pig and maybe a video of them interacting with you, children, neighbors, friends, etc. Your goal is to bring your pet pig to life, changing the

perception of officials who might view mini pigs solely as farm animals into recognizing them as companion pets.

14. If confronted with being told that “a pig is a pig is a pig”, mention that a dog is a canine and so is a wolf and that a cat is a feline and so is a tiger. Dogs, cats, and mini pigs are all household pets. You can also state that pet pigs have some differences in temperament, genetics, size, and purpose compared to significantly larger commercial farm pigs.
15. Mention that these famous people have pet pigs, too: Paris Hilton, Kendall Schmidt, Jonathan Ross, Danielle Steel, Tori Spelling, David Beckham, Denise Richards, Elizabeth Hurley, Miley Cyrus, Rupert Grint, Jon Stewart, Rachel Bilson, and Arnold Schwarzenegger.
16. Mention that only mini pet pigs can be microchipped because they are domesticated companion pets and other swine/animals raised for consumption can not be microchipped.
17. Keep your composure as you go through the process. There is no single approach that will work in every case. You may have to appeal the first determination that you receive from an animal control or zoning officer. Usually that means applying to the Zoning Hearing Board for a variance or a different interpretation of the zoning laws. You want to get someone in the chain of authority to recognize that your pet pig has not and will not burden or negatively affect the neighborhood, that you are a responsible pet owner, and that your pet pig should be allowed and treated as a companion domestic pet under their zoning laws. At some point you may want to contact your elected local official for help. You may also want to bring your situation to the attention of the media to help to persuade elected officials.

EMOTIONAL SUPPORT ANIMALS

If you have a pet mini pig that is qualified as your Emotional Support Animal (ESA), you have an additional important fact to add to your case. There are two conditions that you have to meet in order for you to have a qualified ESA. First, you need to be diagnosed by a healthcare professional finding that you have a psychiatric, mental or emotional disability. Secondly, a health care professional

must state in writing on their letterhead that you need to have your pet mini pig because it provides you a therapeutic benefit through its companionship and presence in your life.

Having a qualified ESA is especially helpful in situations involving housing administered by HUD and governed by the US Federal Fair Housing Act and Amendments of 1988. This law makes it unlawful to refuse to make reasonable accommodations to rules or policies when they are necessary to afford persons with disabilities the use and enjoyment of a dwelling. This seems to include prohibiting qualified Emotional Support Animals, certainly in the types of housing that those laws cover. This law takes precedence over and deems illegal local restrictive zoning laws that limit housing choices for persons with disabilities. See if your state has its own helpful Fair Housing Law or Disabilities Rights Law.

Even where the law doesn't cover your type of housing, officials need to know about your need to have your qualified ESA as it may help you to persuade them to allow you to keep your pet mini pig(s).

You can also contact a Disability Rights Advocacy Organization, if there is one located in your state, as they may offer you free information, advice, and assistance helping you to strengthen and present your case.

HOMEOWNER ASSOCIATION (HOA) RULES

If your HOA allows pets, especially large dogs, then you can follow the Overview section in this packet. If your HOA prohibits pets and you have a Certified Emotional Support Animal, then use that section's advocacy points. Since you signed an agreement/contract with the HOA and agreed to its terms, your only recourse is to try to get the HOA Rules changed especially where your HOA prohibits pet pigs or prohibits all pets.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Letters to Authorities

Governor's Proclamations

Letters from Veterinarians

Letters from Livestock Associations

Letters from State Taxing Authorities

Additional Info from US Government

More Useful Documents



2464 Walton Road, PO Box 498, Rushland, PA 18956

Cell 267-228-4512 Office 215-322-1539

November 11, 2019

Dear Jeffrey,

This letter discusses classifying the pot belly pig as a pet vs as livestock.

Miniature swine came to America in 1989, bred strictly for the pet market. That continues to be the case, miniature swine are only bred as companion animals.

My business, Ross Mill Farm, founded in 1990 has catered to benefiting & servicing miniature swine and their human families. Ross Mill Farm is a Boarding Facility also offering veterinary services and grooming services. We also manufacture a high quality pet pig food, treats and special made harnesses to fit the unique anatomy of the pot belly pig. We have well over 2,000 active customers that have pigs in their homes that live with a family in residential homes. And my business is on the rise with the increased number of pigs as pets. And my business only serves a small region..

Where needed, Zoning laws are changing in cities and towns throughout the country to allow the pet pig to reside in homes and yards. Many jurisdictions already allow this. If these have any restrictions at all, which many don't, those restrictions only limit the number per household or require the pig to be altered, vaccinated. etc. much the same as ordinances that govern other animal companions.

Veterinary Conferences are also teaching the unique care that pet pigs require. There are a growing population of veterinarians that treat the pet pig in the same clinics that service dogs and cats.

Social media is filled with pet pig owners sharing their experience and seeking/giving advice with other pet pig owners about their porcine family members in America as well as several other countries.

The *Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council* is aware of the changing tide and has considered the pig as a pet in their legislative efforts. Pet pig products are more available today than ever because of the demand of ever increasing pigs becoming companion pets.

On March 11, 1996 the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service is an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture, they govern the transportation of swine from state to state and require swine to have a permanent identification with ear piercing tags or tattoos. USDA APHIS allows pet pigs to use a microchip during transport because they have no concern that a microchip will ever enter the food chain. On Dec.24, 1997 APHIS issued a decision stating that the potbellied pig, when they live in the United States are considered pets and not livestock.

Other governmental bodies have changed or altered their restriction and requirements because the pot belly pig is considered a pet in their eyes.

On June 8 1992, the Comptroller of Public Accounts, Austin, Texas issued a decision stating that Sales Tax is due on the sell of potbellied pigs because they are not considered pork producing animals or food for consumption. Therefore as pets, their sell needs to be taxed.

I recently learned from the North American Potbellied Pig Association that a court overturned a municipality decision and ruled that potbellied pigs are pets and therefore the family could keep their potbellied pig as a pet.

Susan Armstrong-Magidson

www.rossmillfarm.com

www.pigplacementnetwork.org

215-322-1539

Date:

Dear City Council Members,

Thank you for taking time to review this packet. I have included information about mini pigs as pets, examples of other city ordinances regarding pigs as pets, statements from friends, family, and neighbors. A petition was shared and we received _____ signatures of support. The statistics of dog complaints and bites vs. mini pig complaints for our city. The federal definition of livestock, facts of owning a mini pig as a pet, and a letter from my vet. My pigs AMPA pet registration certificate, as well as letters of support from the American Mini Pig Association and American Mini Pig Rescue. I hope the information will help clarify what makes a mini pig a pet and why they are so incredibly loved as such.

So a little bit about me.....

A little bit about my pig.....

With the popularity of these pets growing every year the ordinance change can encourage responsible pet pig ownership. It may prevent zoning violations that result in pigs being removed and landing in local shelters. These intelligent, sensitive animals do make extraordinary members of the family.

Thank you for your time,



American Mini Pig Rescue Advocates

Dear Sir/Ma'am,

I am writing today to ask your city to consider an amendment to your animal zoning ordinances to allow pet mini pigs to live with their families.

The American Mini Pig Rescue Advocates is a 501c3 nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting and advocating for pet mini pigs. Unfortunately, there has been a huge increase of pet pigs losing their homes due to outdated zoning ordinances. We ask you to join the many cities across the nation that have updated these ordinances to reflect the pet market of today while reducing unnecessary displacement and abandonment of pet mini pigs.

Many city ordinances across the nation were written prior to 1986 when Vietnamese Potbelly Pigs were first sold into the pet market in the United States. These original potbelly pigs averaged 250 pounds which were comparatively miniature to the 600-1,500 pound domestic swine that are raised as livestock. Today's mini pigs, as recognized and registered by the American Mini Pig Association, are a mix of several smaller breeds. These mixed mini pigs are referred to as American Mini Pigs, averaging 12-18 inches in height and 50 to 150 lbs. at maturity. These pet pigs have different temperament, genetics, size, and purpose from the large commercial farm pigs. American Mini Pigs are housed as pet animals, just like a dog or cat. They receive the same standard of veterinary care, training, healthy foods, and comfortable accommodations. Mini pigs often accompany their families on vacations or shopping trips.

If your city has any questions or concerns regarding allowing mini pigs as pets in your zoning ordinances, please contact us. We would be glad to help dispel the many myths and misconceptions of these wonderful pets.

Thank you for your consideration,

Stephanie Matlock

American Mini Pig Rescue, President

RescueAdvocates@AmericanMiniPigRescue.com

References:

<http://www.ansi.okstate.edu/breeds/swine/vietnamesepotbelly> www.americanminipigassociation.com

and www.americanminipigrescue.com



To Whom It May Concern,

The American Mini Pig Association would like to thank you for taking the time to consider amending your zoning ordinance to allow pet mini pigs to live with their owners. Mini pig families are very passionate and dedicated to these pets.

On behalf of the American Mini Pig Association, I would like to formally recommend an amendment to your city's animal ordinance to allow mini pigs. This amendment may include the same regulations that are set forth for dogs or cats to encourage responsible ownership, including a pet limit per household, appropriate veterinary care, leash law, and/or registration. Please see supporting document "The Facts of Owning Pigs As Pets" to dispel many common misconceptions about these cherished pets.

Mini pigs are intelligent and sensitive pets. It causes a great hardship for the families to be separated from the pets they are bonded to. In addition, this separation due to zoning often results in displacing animals that end up putting a burden on local animal shelters or worse. These pets have great potential to increase welfare in the community as registered Therapy Animals volunteering at schools, hospitals, nursing homes, and other community centers, or as Emotional Support Animals to help their owners at home through difficult times. The AMPA has a blog series dedicated to Mini Pig Heroes in the community showcasing the benefits they have brought to the people of their city.

The American Mini Pig Association has created a nationwide registry to document verifiable information on these mini pigs such as age, size, health, track pedigrees, promote responsible breeder, ownership, and veterinary care. AMPA Registered Breeders are required to follow a strict code of ethics. They must prove age and size of their mini pigs. These steps will ensure that consumers are not victims of fraud or deceived on size of their new pets. AMPA Registered mini pigs will have an official certificate verifying their pet status.

Visit the American Mini Pig Association website to learn the facts of mini pigs as pets. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us. We would be more than happy to discuss any issues your city may have. www.americanminipigassociation.com

Sincerely,

Kimberly Chronister

American Mini Pig Association, Vice President info@americanminipigassociation.com

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



Governor's Office

PROCLAMATION

POTBELLIED PIG DAY

March 1, 1998

WHEREAS, Pennsylvanians have enjoyed the companionship of potbellied pigs since their introduction to the United States in 1985; and

WHEREAS, originally inhabitants of the jungles of China and Vietnam, potbellied pigs have endeared themselves to Americans. Their high intelligence, cleanliness and unique appearances make them an ideal, and unusual, pets; and

WHEREAS, similar to dogs, potbellied pigs can be trained to do many things. Because of their intelligence, they can do tricks, be easily housebroken and even be trained to walk on a leash; and

WHEREAS, in celebration of these animals, a national Congress will bring together owners of potbellies to affirm responsible ownership through educational seminars and networking.

THEREFORE, In special recognition of the the companionship afforded by potbellied pigs and the importance of their proper care, I, Tom Ridge, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim March 1, 1998, as POTBELLIED PIG DAY in Pennsylvania.



GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, on this twenty-fifth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and ninety-eight and of the Commonwealth the two hundred and twenty-second.

Tom Ridge

TOM RIDGE
Governor

STATE OF ALABAMA
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Alabamians have enjoyed the companionship of potbellied and other miniature pigs since their introduction to the United States in 1986; and

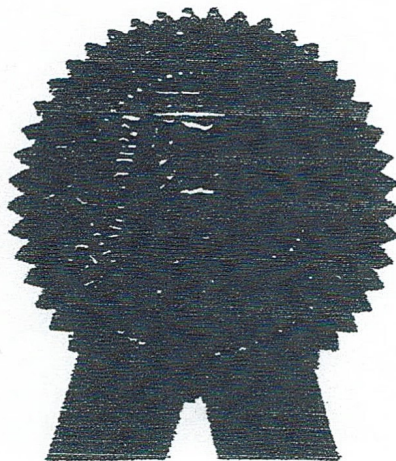
WHEREAS, originally inhabitants of the jungles of Asia, China and Vietnam, potbellied and other miniature pigs have endeared themselves to Americans; their high intelligence, cleanliness and unique appearances make them an ideal and unusual pet for the right person; and

WHEREAS, similar to dogs, potbellied and other miniature pigs can be trained to do many things; because of their intelligence, they can do tricks, be easily house-broken, be trained to walk on a leash, and are used in hospitals and nursing homes in "pet therapy;" and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Don Siegelman, Governor of the State of Alabama, in special recognition of the companionship afforded by potbellied and other miniature pigs and their special care, do hereby proclaim September 10, 1999, as

Miniature Potbellied Pet Pig Day

in Alabama.



*GIVEN UNDER MY HAND, and
the Great Seal of the Governor's
Office at the State Capitol in the City
of Montgomery on this 19th day of
July, 1999.*

Don Siegelman
Governor Don Siegelman

QUAKERTOWN VETERINARY CLINIC, PC.

2250 North Old Bethlehem Pike
Quakertown, PA 18951

D. C. Streams, D.V.M.
S. J. Geller, V.M.D.
R. S. Bimes, D.V.M.

Small Animal: 215-536-6245
Large Animal: 215-536-2726
Fax Number: 215-536-0226

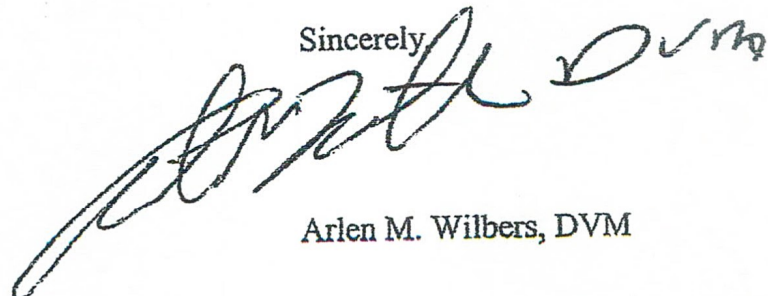
March 30, 2005

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a large animal Veterinarian with over 600 pot-bellied pigs under my care. All of these are pets and most of them are house pets. These animals range in adult weight from 350 pounds to 45 pounds. Any pig over 170 pounds would be considered unusually large. I consider 60-150 pounds to be the average adult weight for this breed and normal height being 12-24 inches.

Please feel free to contact me at 215-536-2726, if you have any further questions or concerns.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Arlen M. Wilbers, DVM'. The signature is stylized and cursive, with a large initial 'A' and 'W'.

Arlen M. Wilbers, DVM

Delaware Valley Veterinary Hospital

400 Swedesboro Rd
Mullica Hill, NJ 08062
(856) 241-1100

September 17, 2004

To Whom It May Concern:

Please be advised that Pot Bellied Pigs are bred as domesticated animals, not as farm animals. Pot Bellied Pigs are meant to live in a home not on a farm.

If you have any further question please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Dr. Steven Mildner

RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

of Passaic County

NEW JERSEY AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

1310 RT 23 NORTH • WAYNE • NJ • 07470 • PHONE: (973) 305-5742 • FAX: (973) 305-8865

December 11, 1997

Ms. Kathleen M. Caren
Mountain Springs Lake
16 Quince Tree Lane
West Milford, NJ 07480

Dear Ms. Caren:

At your request, I am writing you regarding the classification of pot belly pigs. Rutgers Cooperative Extension, 4-H Youth Development, as governed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, recognizes the pot belly pig as a domestic animal.

Although there are a variety of pig species, the pot belly has gained the recognition of a domestic animal, as it can adapt well to the human environment.

Sincerely,



Scot Scala
County Agent

Letter Date: July 6, 1995

Pennsylvania Livestock Association letter for pet pigs

PENNSYLVANIA
LIVESTOCK
ASSOCIATION

REPLY TO:
Beverly Gruber Executive Secretary
P.O. Box 5
New Tripoli, PA 1806 610.767.5026 610.767-5034 (FAX)

July 6, 1995
DVPPA
Box 590
Rushland, PA 18956

To Whom It May Concern:

In response to your question of why members of Pennsylvania livestock Association do not raise potbellied pigs for slaughter, the answer is as follows:

The quality of the meat is not up to par compared with other meats, therefore, there is no market for these pigs as a food product.

In order to create a market for this pig, extensive, exhaustive and very expensive investigations would have to be made.

It is our opinion that these pigs are only raised to be pets

Sincerely

Anthony Dobrosky
President
Pennsylvania Livestock Association

This page was printed from <http://www.petpigzone.com>

**THE NEW JERSEY
LIVESTOCK ASSOCIATION, INC**

PHONE (609) 478-4290

**Secretary-Treasurer
Mary Anne Simmons**

**R.D. 2, Box 349AA,
Monroeville, NJ 08343**

April 4, 1995

To Whom it May Concern,

I have recently been asked why we don't raise pot bellied pigs for slaughter. I can only tell you that there is no market for these pigs, the quality of meat is poor, and there is no profit as a pork product.

It is my opinion that these pigs are raised to be pets.

Respectfully,

Joseph D. Villari

Joseph D. Villari
President
New Jersey Livestock Association



State of Illinois
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Division of Animal Industries

217/ 782-4944

State Fairgrounds / P.O. Box 19281 / Springfield 62794-9281

Fax-217/524-7702

Bureau of Animal Health
217/ 782-4944

Bureau of Animal Welfare
217/ 782-6657

Apiary Inspection Section
217/ 782-4944

January 6, 1994

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This letter is in regard to the classification of pot-bellied pigs. Inasmuch as those animals are sold by pet shops, kept as ornamental pets and are not utilized as a source of food for human consumption, this Department considers them pet animals. They must meet the requirements to comply with the brucellosis and pseudorabies regulations relative to the sale and importation of swine as stated for the state of Illinois which are administered by the Bureau of Animal Health of this Department.

Very truly yours,

BUREAU OF ANIMAL WELFARE

David R. Bromwell, D.V.M.
Chief Veterinarian

DRB/tjp

Print

Letter Date: 2/16/2005

Illinois Department of Revenue sales Tax Division

Yes there is tax as there is no exemption for pets or food.

Thank you for using our on line inquiry service.

Sincerely,
Joe Myers
Taxpayer Assistance Division

Internet email replies from the Illinois Department of Revenue are not binding on the Department and create no rights under the Taxpayer Bill of Rights. Internet email replies to Internet questions are not private letter rulings or general information letters as those terms are defined at 2 Ill. Admin. Code 1200.

>>> 02/15/05 05:35AM >>>
Name: Rebecca DiNolfi

Dear Sir/Madam,
I was wondering if there was a sales tax levied on the sale of the pet potbellied pig and its feed in this state? Please advise me as soon as possible thank you very much.
sincerely
Rebecca DiNolfi

~~This page was printed from <http://www.potpigzone.com>~~

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to you to inquire about the taxation of pet food . Peticuliarly potbellied pig feed. Is their feed taxed and is the potbellied pig itself taxed when sold in your state? thank you for the information.

Respectfully
Rev.Rebecca DiNolfi

Question Reference #050707-000265

Tax Category: Sales Tax
Sub-Category: Sales and Use Tax
Contact Information: rdinolfi@juno.com
Date Created: 07/07/2005 06:34 PM
Last Updated: 07/08/2005 10:35 AM
Status: Waiting

Thanks for your inquiry,
Emily
Taxpayer Service & Information Center

"DISCLAIMER"

Pursuant to the Pennsylvania Code 61 Pa. Code 3.4 and 3.5, this message is intended to supply general information to a taxpayer and should not be relied upon or used in tax appeals. Only written determinations issued by the Department of Revenue, Office of Chief Counsel, to a particular taxpayer based on specific facts are binding on the Commonwealth.

This e-mail contains PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION from the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue intended only for the use of the Individual(s) named above. If you are not the intended recipient of this e-mail, or the employee or agent responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination or copying of this e-mail is strictly prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, immediately notify us by clicking on the reply button.

From: "PA Dept.of Revenue" <revenuepa@custhelp.com>
To: rdinolfi@juno.com
Date: Fri, 8 Jul 2005 10:35:38 -0400 (EDT)
Subject: The taxation of the Pet potbellied pig and their feed [Incident: 050707-000265]

Thank you for contacting the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue. Recently you requested personal assistance from our on-line support center.

Please do not reply to this e-mail. To update this incident, click the link below and update this incident via your Web browser.

Below is a summary of your request and our response.

To update your question from our support site, click the following link or paste it into your web browser.

https://revenue-pa.custhelp.com/cgi-bin/revenue_pa.cfg/php/enduser/acct_login.php?p_userid=rdinolfi@juno.com&p_next_page=myq_upd.php&p_refno=050707-000265&p_created=1120775650

Subject

The taxation of the Pet potbellied pig and their feed

Discussion Thread

Response (Emily) - 07/08/2005 10:35 AM
Rebecca,

The potbellied pig and its food are both taxable in PA.

Auto-Response - 07/07/2005 06:34 PM

Title: Explain the differences between regulation, revenue ruling, letter ruling, reven

Link: https://revenue-pa.custhelp.com/cgi-bin/revenue_pa.cfg/php/enduser/std_adp.php?p_faqid=1495&p_created=1078937964

Title: I was shocked to find out that I should be paying Use Tax on items purchased ove

Link: https://revenue-pa.custhelp.com/cgi-bin/revenue_pa.cfg/php/enduser/std_adp.php?p_faqid=1516&p_created=1080232464

No matches were found.

Customer (Rebecca DiNolfi) - 07/07/2005 06:34 PM

FEDERAL DEFINITIONS

-U.S. Code Title 7 § 8302 states “The term “livestock” means all farm-raised animals.” -Title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations defines:

“*Farm animal* means any domestic species of cattle, sheep, swine, goats, llamas, or horses, which are normally and have historically, been kept and raised on farms in the United States, and used or intended for use as food or fiber, or for improving animal nutrition, breeding, management, or production efficiency, or for improving the quality of food or fiber. This term also includes animals such as rabbits, mink, and chinchilla, when they are used solely for purposes of meat or fur, and animals such as horses and llamas when used solely as work and pack animals.”

“*Pet animal* means any animal that has commonly been kept as a pet in family households in the United States, such as dogs, cats, guinea pigs, rabbits, and hamsters. This term excludes exotic animals and wild animals.”

“*Exotic animal* means any animal not identified in the definition of “animal” provided in this part that is native to a foreign country or of foreign origin or character, is not native to the United States, or was introduced from abroad. This term specifically includes animals such as, but not limited to, lions, tigers, leopards, elephants, camels, antelope, anteaters, kangaroos, and water buffalo, and species of foreign domestic cattle, such as Ankole, Gayal, and Yak.”

“*Wild animal* means any animal which is now or historically has been found in the wild, or in the wild state, within the boundaries of the United States, its territories, or possessions. This term includes, but is not limited to, animals such as: Deer, skunk, opossum, raccoon, mink, armadillo, coyote, squirrel, fox, wolf.

***Wild state* means living in its original, natural condition; not domesticated.

“*Retail pet store* means a place of business or residence at which the seller, buyer, and the animal available for sale are physically present so that every buyer may personally observe the animal prior to purchasing and/or taking custody of that animal after purchase, and where only the following animals are sold or offered for sale, at retail, for use as pets: Dogs, cats, rabbits, guinea pigs, hamsters, gerbils, rats, mice, gophers, chinchillas, domestic ferrets, domestic farm animals, birds, and coldblooded species.”

-USDA Animal Welfare Act & Animal Welfare Regulations defines same as Code of Federal Regulations.



Ms. Kathleen M. Caren
Mt. Springs Lake
16 Quince Tree Lane
West Milford, NJ 07480

DEC 24 1997

Dear Ms. Caren:

This is in response to your letter of December 16, 1997, requesting a copy of the definition of "Farm Animal" and "Exotic Animal" as stated in the Title 9 Code of Federal Regulations.

Title 9 Code of Federal Regulations, Subchapter A-Animal Welfare, Part 1, Section 1.1 defines "Farm animal" as "any domestic species of cattle, sheep, swine, goats, llamas, or horses, which are normally and have historically, been kept and raised on farms in the United States, and used or intended for use as food or fiber, or for improving animal nutrition, breeding management, or production efficiency, or for improving the quality of food or fiber. This term also includes animals such as rabbits, mink, and chinchilla, when they are used solely for purposes of meat or fur, and animals such as horses and llamas when used solely as work and pack animals."

"Exotic animal" is defined as "any animal not identified in the definition of "animal" provided in this part that is native to a foreign country or of foreign origin or character, is not native to the United States, or was introduced from abroad. This term specifically includes animals such as, but not limited to, lions, tigers, leopards, elephants, camels, antelope, anteaters, kangaroos, and water buffalo, and species of foreign domestic cattle, such as Ankole, Gayal, and Yak." The animals mentioned in the definition of "animal" include dog, cat, nonhuman primate, guinea pig, hamster, and rabbit.

We wish to clarify that--in most cases--we do consider pot bellied pigs as pets. A pot bellied pig is considered livestock only when these animals are in import or export status. Restrictions are imposed only to prevent disease transmissions that may affect the health status of the domestic swine industry in either the importing or exporting country. However, USDA--for all other purposes--considers pot bellied pigs to be pet animals because they are not bred and raised in this country for food or fiber purposes. Accordingly, their care and protection fall within the jurisdiction of State and local authorities.

We hope this information is helpful in explaining the status of the pot bellied pig as it relates to our regulations.

Sincerely,

Betty K. Walters

Betty K. Walters
Veterinary Medical Officer
Animal Care

Post-it® Fax Note	7671	Date	6-26	# of pages	6
To	Tina (Maurice)	From	Kathleen		
Co./Dept.	Passman-Daugh	Co.	Prentice Hall		
Phone #	973-226-8877	Phone #	201-236-7133		
Fax #	973-228-7954	Fax #	" " - 7123		





March 15, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

Recently, there have been numerous unfortunate situations involving covenants, city or county ordinances, pet miniature pigs, and citizens bonded to those pets.

It is time to re-visit the pet miniature pig. Miniature pigs, including potbellied pigs, Julianas, Kune Kunes, and small mixed pigs, are not livestock. They are smaller breeds of swine, growing up to 250 pounds, that are kept as house pets. They are well cared for, receive proper veterinary care, proper diet, leash, litter box, and trick training. They can live to be 15 or 16 years old, and are very affectionate with their people. These pigs and their people have a human/animal bond which benefits people and communities everywhere – it teaches compassion, instills a sense of responsibility, prevents loneliness, and provides comfort to those with conditions such as autism or PTSD.

Small breeds of pigs are used in schools, hospitals, and nursing homes to provide entertainment and comfort. They are recognized and registered as emotional support animals and it is only a matter of time before they will become eligible to be registered service animals.

Proactive changes to zoning laws and HOA rules will prevent future litigation related to the Americans With Disabilities Act. These changes will also prevent the civil actions and the adverse publicity that occur when the authorities remove a beloved pet from a home

Proactive steps should be used to make everyone's pig experience happier. Requirements for leash training, housing, noise restrictions, vaccinations, composting and waste removal, landscaping and fencing, sterilization, the number of pigs, and licensing can be established before a problem develops.

It is time to get ahead of the pet pig situation and to welcome them into our communities.

Please consider zoning FOR pet pigs at this time.

Thank you,

Cathy Corrigan, DVM



www.AmericanMiniPigAssociation.com

To whom it may concern:

We are writing in regards to the inclusion of mini pigs as pets in city animal ordinances. As veterinarians that treat family pets including cats, dogs, and mini pigs, we encourage you to include mini pigs in city or town zoning.

Mini pigs live as family pets. We recommend your city animal ordinance reflect this. Mini pigs are not a single breed such as potbellied pig, but rather a size classification of smaller sized pigs that are raised as clean and quiet pets. There are very clear distinctions between large breeds raised commercially as livestock and the miniature breeds of pets.

Mini pigs are not raised, housed, treated, or used for the purposes of livestock animals. They are not fed garbage or exposed to commercial hog farm diseases. There is a very low risk of zoonotic diseases with pet pigs. It is very unlikely for a person to become sick from a pet mini pig.

When mini pigs are kept as pets in residential areas, we recommend the following:

- Spay/neutered before 6 months of age
- Microchip placement as permanent identification
- Vaccinations as appropriate
- Annual checkup, routine parasite control, fecal & giardia test
- Appropriate housing and containment (mini pigs should not roam)

Respectfully,

Dr. Cathy Corrigan, DVM at Emerald City Emergency Clinic

Seattle, Washington <http://emeraldcity24hrvet.com/>

American Mini Pig Association Veterinary Member



www.AmericanMiniPigAssociation.com

To whom it may concern:

We are writing in regards to the inclusion of mini pigs as pets in city animal ordinances. As veterinarians that treat family pets including cats, dogs, and mini pigs, we encourage you to include mini pigs in city or town zoning.

Mini pigs live as family pets. We recommend your city animal ordinance reflect this. Mini pigs are not a single breed such as potbellied pig, but rather a size classification of smaller sized pigs that are raised as clean and quiet pets. There are very clear distinctions between large breeds raised commercially as livestock and the miniature breeds of pets.

Mini pigs are not raised, housed, treated, or used for the purposes of livestock animals. They are not fed garbage or exposed to commercial hog farm diseases. There is a very low risk of zoonotic diseases with pet pigs. It is very unlikely for a person to become sick from a pet mini pig.

When mini pigs are kept as pets in residential areas, we recommend the following:

- Spay/neutered before 6 months of age
- Microchip placement as permanent identification
- Vaccinations as appropriate
- Annual checkup, routine parasite control, fecal & giardia test
- Appropriate housing and containment (mini pigs should not roam)

Respectfully,

Dr. Jyl Rubin, DVM at Dr. Jyl'd Mobile Vet Connection

Orangevale, California <http://www.drjyl.com/>

American Mini Pig Association Veterinary Member



www.AmericanMiniPigAssociation.com

To whom it may concern:

We are writing in regards to the inclusion of mini pigs as pets in city animal ordinances. As veterinarians that treat family pets including cats, dogs, and mini pigs, we encourage you to include mini pigs in city or town zoning.

Mini pigs live as family pets. We recommend your city animal ordinance reflect this. Mini pigs are not a single breed such as potbellied pig, but rather a size classification of smaller sized pigs that are raised as clean and quiet pets. There are very clear distinctions between large breeds raised commercially as livestock and the miniature breeds of pets.

Mini pigs are not raised, housed, treated, or used for the purposes of livestock animals. They are not fed garbage or exposed to commercial hog farm diseases. There is a very low risk of zoonotic diseases with pet pigs. It is very unlikely for a person to become sick from a pet mini pig.

When mini pigs are kept as pets in residential areas, we recommend the following:

- Spay/neutered before 6 months of age
- Microchip placement as permanent identification
- Vaccinations as appropriate
- Annual checkup, routine parasite control, fecal & giardia test
- Appropriate housing and containment (mini pigs should not roam; *but be inside fencing*)

Respectfully,

Dr. Alison Meyer, DVM at Marymont Animal Clinic

Silver Spring, Maryland <http://marymontanimalhospitalinc.com/>

American Mini Pig Association Veterinary Member



The Facts of Owning Pigs As Pets

Written by:

The American Mini Pig Association

Mini pigs have unfairly been excluded from city zoning ordinances across the United States. Most of these laws were put into place before the era of the pet mini pigs. The laws in place are often referring to livestock, as large hogs raised for meat purposes. Please consider the following to amend your local ordinance to allow pet mini pigs to live with their devoted families. There is no reason these pets should be excluded or singled out. Mini pigs offer a variety of benefits and challenges for their owners just as all other pets do. To learn more about mini pigs as pets please visit www.americanminipigassociation.com or contact the American Mini Pig Association directly at info@americanminipigassociation.com. We would be glad to answer any questions you or your city council members might have.

Myth: Pigs are not pets

We beg to differ! Pigs have been pets since the 1980s. A rapidly growing number of owners across the United States, Canada, and beyond, claim their dedication to pet mini pigs. The numbers continue to spike as more families fall in love with the charms and challenges of these unique pets. Follow the American Mini Pig Association on [Facebook](#) or view the massive educational [website](#) dedicated to mini pigs as family pets.

The American Mini Pig advocates for responsible owner, breeder, rescue, and veterinary practices. Mini pigs are being registered as pets through the official [AMPA registry](#).

Resource:

www.americanminipigassociation.com

Myth: Pigs will make us sick

Pet pigs present a very low zoonotic risk to humans. You are far more likely to get sick from your child's classmates or a stranger at the grocery store than from a pet pig. Pigs living as pets are not exposed to the conditions and diseases of commercial farm hogs.

The [CDC](#) states: "Almost all influenza cases in humans are caused by human flu viruses, not viruses from swine." and

"At this time, there are three main flu viruses that circulate in U.S. pigs: H1N1, H1N2 and H3N2. These viruses do not usually infect people and are genetically different from the H1N1 and H3N2 viruses that commonly circulate in people."

According to the [North Carolina Swine Veterinary Group](#), even on commercial pig farms, people are more at risk from mechanical or electrical injury than microorganisms.

To further protect against zoonotic diseases, mini pigs should be vaccinated yearly against erysipelas and regularly dewormed with Ivermectin to prevent mange mites as recommended by the Merck Veterinary Manual. This is similar to the vaccine and parasite control routine that is standard for dogs, cats, and other pets. Some cities require a rabies vaccine in pet pigs as an added precaution.

Resources" www.cdc.org

www.ncsu.edu

Myth: Pigs are HUGE!

Mini pigs average in height from 12 to 18 inches tall at maturity. They are short and heavy. They are very similar in height to English Bulldogs or Cocker Spaniels. Mini pigs average 50-150 lbs in weight when full grown, very similar in weight to medium to large dogs but the pigs are much shorter in height than a dog with similar weight. A 70 pound mini pig will take up less space on the couch than his 70 pound Labrador Retriever brother!

Comparing pigs and dogs:

Mini Pigs

12 to 18 inches average

50 to 150 pounds average

English Mastiff dog

30 inches MINIMUM according to the [Mastiff Club](#)

343 pounds on [record](#)

Newfoundland dog

36 inches tall on [record](#)

260 pounds on [record](#)

Great Dane dog

44 inches tall on [record](#)

230 pounds on [record](#)

Neapolitan Mastiff dog

31 inches according to [AKC Breed Standard](#)

200 pounds according to [Dog Breed Info](#)

Irish Wolfhound dog

34 inches according to [AKC Breed Standard](#)

120+ pounds according to [AKC Breed Standard](#)

Saint Bernard

35 inches inches according to [Dog Guide](#)

357 pounds on [record](#)

While no one can guarantee the size of any animal, choosing an [AMPA Registered Breeder](#) will ensure pet owners are not deceived. These breeders have been pre-screened, proven measurements of the breeding pigs, and signed a [Code of Ethics](#) to ensure happy, healthy, socialized mini pigs. [AMPA Registered Breeders](#) will make sure your neighborhood doesn't accidentally end up with an Esther sized pig!

Resources:

www.AMPAbreeders.com

www.americanminipigassociation.com

www.akc.org

www.guinnessworldrecords.com

www.ibtimes.com

www.dogbreedinfo.com

www.dogguide.net www.mcoamastiff.com

www.thehydrantblog.com

www.worldrecordacademy.com

Myth: All pigs are the same, or all pet pigs are potbellied pigs

Pigs come in a variety of shapes and sizes, bred for different purposes. There are three distinctions of pigs: pets, livestock, and medical research.

Pet Mini Pigs are a miniature size of pig as recognized and registered by the [American Mini Pig Association](#). These pigs are usually mixed with several breeds Juliana, Gottengin/Guttengin, African Pygmy, Yucatan Micro, Swedish White, and various mixes of these breeds. It is very rare to find a purebred Vietnamese potbellied pig. Instead, today's pet pigs are mixed breeds or "mutts" often referred to as American Mini Pigs. Mini pigs average in height from 12 to 18 inches and 50 to 150 pounds at maturity when they are 5 years old. Mini pigs are bred and sold as pets. Breeders focus on **temperament, personality, size, and structural soundness avoiding genetic faults or aggression**. These pigs are often used as Therapy Animals in hospitals, nursing homes and schools and as Emotional Support Animals (ESA) due to their intelligence and bonds with their owners/families. **The purpose of these animals is to be family companions as pets.**

Livestock are defined by [Merriam-Webster](#) as **farm animals kept for use and profit**. Pigs in terms of livestock are often referring to as "farm hogs" or "full size hogs". Common livestock breeds of swine are Landrace, Yorkshire, Berkshire, Tamworth, Red Wattle, Large Black, Large White, Mulefoot, Duroc, Guinea Hog, and Old Spot. These animals are raised as a food source on a small or large scale, both at farms and commercial facilities. Livestock farm hogs will typically grow in excess of 700-1,000 pounds when allowed to mature. However, the vast majority of farm hogs are slaughtered by the time they reach 250 pounds around 6 months of age. **The purpose of these animals is financial profit through food production.**

Medical research has long used swine in laboratories for medical advances to benefit human health care. According to the [American College of Veterinary Pathologists](#), the most common miniature breeds available in the United States are the Hanford, Yucatan, Yucatan micro, Sinclair, and Göttingen (from largest to smallest). Swine have been an integral part of surgical training, pharmaceuticals and medicine development, testing the safety of medications, toxicology testing, organ transplantation, bioprosthetic organs, cardiovascular research, wound healing, burn victim treatments, and regenerative medicine. Swine have also been used in studies involving ulcers, cancers, diabetes, and alcoholism. Swine involved in medical research are bred, born, and raised in closed facilities that are highly regulated for genetic background and disease control.

Resources:

[American College of Veterinary Pathology](#)

[Göttingen Mini Pigs](#)

[National Anti-Vivisection Society](#)

www.americanminipigassociation.com

www.merriam-webster.com

www.vet.sagepub.com

www.thepigsite.com www.minipigs.dk

www.navs.org

Myth: Pigs are noisy

Pigs are animals and do make noise as they communicate, just as all animals and humans do. A well cared for pet pig will not cause any disruption to the neighborhood. Many pet pigs live happily in their home or in their yard with only soft grunting and quiet communications of contentment. If you're lucky you'll hear an oof oof or a funny bark if they get excited that sounds a lot like a dog! High volume obnoxious sounds are more connected to commercial farm settings with many, many large animals similar to a dog kennel or shelter. This is a completely different scenario than a single pet mini pig or single pet dog. A pet mini pig does not face the same challenges as a large scale commercial farm.

The noise of a pig can be compared to the noise of a dog, in that typically they are very quiet, but can raise their voice when they are hurt, scared, or lonely, and each is an individual with its own personality. Some dogs are very quiet and some are a regular nuisance to their neighbors.

A pig's most extreme squeal can reach 110 decibels, which is a very short burst of panic noise. Similarly, a dog kennel of barking dogs can reach 100-108 decibels of nonstop barking, as referenced by [Perdue](#). Some things commonly heard in a neighborhood that are louder than a pig's brief squeal are circular saw, chain saw, and firecrackers.

Resources: www.pijac.org

www.progressiveag.org

Myth: Pigs stink and create too much waste

Mini pigs have no body odor when they are spayed and neutered. They have very few functioning sweat glands, instead relying on water or mud to cool them off. Most pet pigs enjoy a nice roll in a kiddie pool! That is, when they aren't snoozing in front of the TV.

Intact boars (males that have not been neutered) do have a musky odor that is used to attract females. The American Mini Pig Association recommends all pet pigs be [spayed or neutered](#) before 6 months of age. A neutered pet pig will not have the odor of a boar.

All pets create waste, but pigs create fertilizer! Pig's manure can be composted to feed the garden. Swine manure contains several essential plant nutrients giving a higher crop yield than inorganic fertilizers.

All pet waste should be managed by owners. For pigs, picking up regularly and disposing of the waste or composting, there is no smell or odor.

Resources:

www.sagepub.com www.americanminipigassociation.com

Myth: Pigs are dangerous

Pigs are affectionate, intelligent, excellent communicators, and very much loved as family pets across the world. There is no reason to fear them. These small pigs are very similar in size to a bulldog. If a male mini pig grows tusks past the lip line, these can be easily trimmed by a veterinarian as described by the [Merck Veterinary Manual](#).

Statistics vary by locality, but residents are far more likely to be bitten by a dog or cat in the neighborhood than a pet pig.

To reduce any concern, zoning regulations may include requirements for pet pigs to be spayed, neutered, microchipped with a permanent identification, vaccinated against rabies, and contained in a fence or on a leash.

Resources:

www.merckvetmanual.com

Myth: Property values will decrease

There is absolutely no evidence that property values will decrease by having a pet pig in the community. On the contrary, mini pigs tend to bring a lot of positive attention, sometimes even media coverage! These special pets are opening the eyes of people everywhere. Local mini pigs often become celebrities in their own neighborhoods towns. They bring a certain joy to the community that no other pet does.

Meet [Skooter](#), the Mini Pig Hero that saved his little boys life by alerting his mom to an incident in the bathtub that left the boy nearly unconscious.

Meet [Pearl](#) the Mini Pig Hero that teaches children responsibility at school.

Meet [Bacon Bit](#) the Mini Pig Hero that detects seizures.

Meet [Addy](#) the Mini Pig Hero that visits nursing homes.

Meet [Hamlet](#) the Mini Pig Hero that brings joy to the Human Department of Children Services.

Resources:

www.americanminipigassociation.com/blog click Mini Pig Heroes

Myth: Pigs are fed garbage or waste scraps

Mini pigs are considered family pets with all the comforts and care that other family pets are given, including top notch nutrition and sanitary care.

[Mazuri](#) and other companies have formulated a complete pelleted diet to meet the specific needs of mini pigs. In addition to their pellets, mini pigs often enjoy a daily salad of fruits and vegetables along with a few healthy snacks or treats such as popcorn, cheerios, or raisins.

Mini pigs should NEVER be fed garbage or waste scraps. While this *may* be the case with some farmers that raise large hogs for slaughter, they do this to grow the hog to market size as cost effectively as possible. Mini pig families are not raising pigs to slaughter and they are not looking to cut cost. Pet pigs are family and often claimed to “eat better” than their humans! Many pet pig owners go to great lengths to feed their pigs a fresh assortment of organic vegetables and whole, fresh foods. Learn more about Mazuri mini pig food.

Resources:

www.americanminipigassociation.com www.mazuri.com

Myth: Pigs cannot live indoors

Mini pigs are very happy to live indoor/outdoor just like the family dog, as stated by the [Merck Veterinary Manual](#). If pigs are housed outside, they should be given proper fencing and protection from the elements as addressed in the American Mini Pig Association [Owner Code of Ethics](#).

Mini pigs can be trained to use a litter box like a cat, or to go outside into the yard to use the bathroom just like the family’s dog. Read more about [potty training](#) pet pigs.

Resources: www.americanminipigassociation.com

www.merckvetmanual.com

Myth: Pigs are dumb livestock

Mini pigs are highly intelligent companion pets. Classifying a pet mini pig as livestock would be similar to classifying a child’s pet bunny as livestock because they are commonly raised in rabbitries in the meat/fur industry and shown at livestock shows. Mini pigs are raised and treated as family pets. There is no correlation to the livestock swine industry. Penn State classify rabbits as livestock, while stating "Rabbit farming has grown from raising a few rabbits for family consumption to large commercial operations with hundreds of rabbits. Investment in a rabbitry, including breeding stock, can be quite modest." Yet, this classification does not stop families from owning a rabbit as a family pet.

Mini pigs are so smart they learn to move levers and switches to get food and water. They have high level social cognitive abilities and self-awareness. Furthermore, pigs have shown a variety of emotions and feelings as shown by the [Humane Society](#).

Mini pigs have been certified nationwide by the 501c3 nonprofit organization [Pet Partners](#) alongside dogs as Animal Assisted Therapy volunteers. This certification requires the right temperament and plenty of training. These mini pigs and their handlers are invited to hospitals, schools, nursing homes and other community centers to provide therapy to the residents. Mini pigs are also used as Emotional Support Animals to comfort their owners with emotional disorders. www.petpartners.org

Meet [Skooter](#), the Mini Pig Hero that saved his little boys life by alerting his mom to an incident in the bathtub that left the boy nearly unconscious.

Meet [Pearl](#) the Mini Pig Hero that teaches children responsibility at school.

Meet [Bacon Bit](#) the Mini Pig Hero that detects seizures.

Meet [Addy](#) the Mini Pig Hero that visits nursing homes.

Meet [Hamlet](#) the Mini Pig Hero that brings joy to the Human Department of Children Services.

Resources: www.extension.psu.edu

www.humanesociety.org

www.petpartners.org

Mini pigs have been trained to:

- [Sit](#)
- Stay
- [Spin](#)
- [Bow or Curtsy](#)
- [Crawl](#)
- Back up
- [Take treats gently](#)
- [Clicker train](#)
- [Walk on a harness](#)
- [Relax for hoof trims](#)
- [Come to their name](#)
- No