



Feral Hog Transportation Regulations

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Landowners in the Plum Creek Watershed of Hays, Caldwell, and Travis counties sometimes ask themselves, now that I have hogs in my trap, what do I do with them?

The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) regulates the movement of feral hogs, holding facilities, and release on hunting preserves. A point of clarification is required as hunting preserves must have a hunting lease permit issued by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Female Feral Hogs

Movement and release of females (sows and gilts) and males (boars and barrows), are regulated differently. Think of females as the production factory contributing to increased feral hog populations (Figure 1). They may not be transported and released onto another property. They should be removed from the population.

Female feral hogs may be held for up to seven days in an escape-proof pen or trailer (Figure 2). They can be taken directly to slaughter, or sold to an approved holding facility, who then takes them to slaughter.

For a list of approved holding facilities, visit the TAHC website at http://www.tahc.state.tx.us/animal_health/feral_swine.html.

Male Feral Hogs

Male feral hogs may be held for up to seven days in an escape-proof pen or trailer (Figures 3 and 4). They can be sold to an approved holding facility, slaughter facility, or authorized hunting preserve. An approved holding facility can take them to slaughter or sell them to an authorized hunting preserve. Only male feral hogs may be sold to an authorized hunting preserve.



Figure 1. Female and young feral hogs entering a corral trap. (Photo by Larry Lindsey)

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Figure 2. Transporting live feral hogs in a trailer.



Figure 3. Feral hogs captured in a box trap.

Fencing of authorized hunting preserves must be inspected by TAHC field inspectors and determined to be swine-proof. Male feral hogs must be individually identified using a form of official identification including ear marks, brands, tattoos, or electronic devices prior to release on the hunting preserve. Contact TAHC for other non traditional forms of identification. Authorized hunting preserves

are also subject to periodic inspections by the TAHC.

Additional Information

To hone your knowledge of feral hogs and methods for their control, several publications were developed by the Texas AgriLife Extension Service and can be downloaded at no charge by going to the Plum Creek Watershed Partnership website <http://plumcreek.tamu.edu/feralhogs>.

This website also has an on-line tool which allows landowners and the general public to report feral hog sightings and control measures.

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Figure 4. Live feral hog on a trailer.

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