

It is the philosophy of Ebenezer Farm to increase the children's awareness of the farming life. For the health and safety of the children, and also the livestock and poultry, involvement with the animals is a privilege that will be earned as responsibility is demonstrated. The initial policy will be that the children can look at the animals from the fence. Our animals are well cared for in clean stables. We uphold the highest standards of hygiene and treat them with respect and kindness. They are kept up to date on all required shots. For the children, being involved with the animals provides a wonderful opportunity. Brushing fur, collecting eggs, milking goats and feeding animals enables children to contribute in real ways. In effort to keep the increasing involvement with animals as safe as possible, we have outlined the following guidelines.

- As with all activities at the Farm, children will be supervised by staff when interacting with animals.
- Children must wear “barn boots or shoes” for outdoor use only.
- Children must wash their hands immediately after touching animals or anything pertaining to the animals.
- Children will only be allowed to work with small animals that are friendly and non-threatening.
- Children will be allowed to watch adults work with more mature animals, from behind a fence.

We have outlined three options for involvement with the animals. Please sign the option that you give your approval for. Parents have the right to change their options at any time.

1. I agree to allow my children to participate in the programs involving the animals to the degree that the staff at Ebenezer Farm feels is responsible and safe, as outlined above.

Parent signature _____ date _____

2. I will only allow my children to pet the animals from behind the fence.

Parent signature _____ date _____

3. I will only allow my children to look at, but not touch the animals from behind a fence.

Parent signature _____ date _____