

New section

55.655 Animal Exhibitor permit; permit requirements; permit time limits.

1. It shall be unlawful for any animal exhibit to operate within the County without obtaining an animal welfare exhibitors permit issued by regional animal services.
2. Each permit application shall be submitted to regional animal services. Any false statements made by the applicant may void the application and permit. Each applicant shall Submit an application with:
 - a. The name, phone number and complete address of the corporation, partnership or legal entity responsible for the exhibit and the responsible party's name and phone number who may act on behalf of the exhibitor.
 - b. The location(s) the where the exhibit will be housing animals and holding operations.
 - c. Current animal inventory, including the common and scientific name, age, sex and any permanent identification of each animal.
 - d. A copy of the current USDA exhibitors permit.
 - e. Copies of health certificates for each animal listed on the application.
 - f. The exhibits certificate of insurance in the amount not less than \$1,000,000, with Washoe County Regional Animal Services listed as an additional interest.
 - g. For an exhibit traveling into the County, that exhibit must submit an application with required documentation six (6) weeks prior to arrival in the county and submit a scheduled of show times with animal transport procedures.
3. Upon receipt of an application, regional animal services shall review the application to ensure the exhibitor has met the conditions as set forth in this chapter.
4. Prior to the first performance or demonstration, regional animal services must conduct a site inspection to verify:
 - a. The current inventory of the exhibitor
 - b. The health status of the animals on the inventory list
 - c. Inspect the animal containment cages to ensure animal health and public safety.
 - d. The schedule of show times and animal transport procedures.
 - e. During the inspection, the animal control officer must verify that the commercial animal establishment holds a valid business license or special permit to operate from the local jurisdiction.
 - f. The animal control officer may impose restrictions on the exhibitors permit if there are conditions adverse to local or state laws.
5. The exhibitor shall immediately notify regional animal services of an animals' death, relocation or escape. Said person(s) shall be liable for costs incurred by regional animal services or other law enforcement agency as a result of an animal escape.
6. Animal exhibitor permits granted to circuses, performing animal exhibitions, or animal exhibits are valid for the duration of the event not to exceed 30 days from the date of issuance. An exhibitor, who is under contract with a local business to provide educational programs or

entertainment, may apply for a exhibitors variance to extend the permit. A Nevada non-profit corporation exempt from taxation under the Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(3), which is established for educational purposes, may apply for an annual permit. Except as otherwise provided, an animal exhibit shall be inspected and the exhibitor permit renewed annually by regional animal services.

7. Any exhibit operating within the boundaries of the City of Reno shall maintain a City of Reno business license or special permit to operate. Any exhibit operating within the boundaries of the City of Sparks shall maintain a City of Sparks business license or special permit to operate. Any exhibit operating within the boundaries of the unincorporated areas of Washoe County shall maintain a Washoe County business license or special operating permit.
8. An animal control officer or peace officer may suspend, revoke or deny an exhibitor permit for a violation of State, Federal or local law pertaining to animal welfare.
 - a. If the permittee fails to comply with any conditions imposed on the exhibitor permit, regional animal services may suspend or revoke the permit. In such case, the permittee shall be advised in writing of the reason(s) therefor and may appeal that decision to the administrative hearing office no later than 14 days after receiving the written notice. A failure to appeal the suspension or revocation within 14 days precludes further administrative or judicial review
 - b. Upon the filing of an appeal, the administrative hearing office shall hold a hearing on the appeal as soon as practicable
 - c. The administrative hearing officer may hear any testimony and admit any evidence he or she deems necessary. All proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with WCC 55.800(6) through 55.800(17), inclusive
 - d. The hearing officer's decision sustaining, reversing, or sustaining with conditions the suspension or revocation shall include findings of fact and be transmitted in writing to the appellant within 14 working days
 - e. Any permittee aggrieved by the hearing officer's decision may appeal that decision by filing a petition for judicial review in the district court within 30 days of the hearing officer's decision. The exhibitors permit shall remain in place until a decision is rendered by the district court unless there is a public safety issue.

"Exhibitors Variance" means an official decision of regional animal services to allow an exhibit to operate for a timeframe greater than 30 days not to exceed 90 days.

"Exhibit" means any circus, performing animal show, animal demonstration, traveling animal business or zoological park

"Exhibitor" means a corporation, partnership or legal entity responsible for the exhibit and the responsible party who may act on behalf of the exhibitor(s).