

Athena-Weston School District 29J

Code: **KG-AR(2)**
Revised/Reviewed: 1/08; 8/10/15
Orig. Code(s): ECAA

Weston-McEwen Land Lab Terms and Conditions

Mission Statement

Our mission is to implement a plan to improve and maintain the Land Lab facility for the benefit of FFA and 4-H Club students' agricultural education.

Dear Prospective FFA/4-H Land Lab users:

The Land Lab is a working facility for FFA and 4-H members who have animals; therefore, the following rules must be followed. Please keep in mind that the land and buildings are property of the Athena-Weston School District 29J and should not be altered in any way with out consent from a school official, i.e., to include fencing, plumbing, electrical, etc.

1. No animal(s) will be penned until Land Lab fees are paid. If past due fees are owing, these must be paid in full and you must pre-pay for a full year. We will refund any overpayment. Land lab fees \$5 per month, per species.
 - * A \$25 fee will be charged to any FFA or 4-H member who does not clean their pen with-in a week of animal departure.
 - ** Land Lab fees are to be paid to the FFA Advisor, 4-H leader or the Weston-McEwen High School office.
 - *** Land Lab fees provide users with the use of animal housing, lights, water and straw.
 2. Placement of projects and usage of pens and barn will be deemed by the AST instructor and 4-H leader. Pens will be shared as deemed necessary by the AST instructor and 4-H leader.
 3. Pens – The pen itself, the area around it and the isle in front of it will be cleaned at least once per week by the project owner. There will be a clipboard with a log sheet in each barn where you will signify and date when you cleaned your pen for that week. Each Sunday evening, the land lab manager, the AST instructor or the 4-H leader will check to see it has been done. If the rules are not met the following will occur:
 - 1st Offense: Written letter warning and conference with user.
 - 2nd Offense: A \$10 fine and conference with user.
 - 3rd Offense: A \$20 fine and conference with parents and user. User will be put on probationary standing and closely watched for improvements.
 - 4th Offense: Removal from the land lab and conference with advisory committee to determine eligibility for use of the land lab the following year.
- * **If the problem is not taken care of the animal(s) will be removed from the land lab and sold at auction.**

4. All equipment will be returned to designated areas after each use.
5. All animals are to be supplied with adequate feed and clean water. Put empty feed sacks and twine in the dumpster, not on the ground.
6. All Land Lab users will assist in at least two of the four clean-up days each year.
7. Younger 4-H students must have parental help in clean up and maintenance of animals and pens.
8. Children younger than 4-H are not encouraged to be in the barns or pens.
9. Liability: The district is held harmless in case of loss or injury to the user and/or his/her project while on the premises of the land lab. Damages caused by either the user or the project of the user shall become the liability of the individual user. The offender/offender's owner shall pay reimbursement of assessed damages promptly to either the district or to the other user.
10. Storage: The storage of feed, straw, equipment and/or machinery, other than that necessary for a user's project, shall be forbidden. If you do store feed at the land lab, you must keep it in animal-proof containers to eliminate the possibility of loose animals getting into feed causing death and/or illness. Once again, the land lab is not responsible for lost or stolen items. Do not keep clippers, canes, shears, etc., at the land lab.
11. The AST instructor may:
 - a. Deny usage of the land lab and remove a project if the user fails to maintain their assigned area and meet the cleaning requirements for their area.
 - b. Approve or deny alterations for the property of the land lab, unless otherwise specified by the superintendent.
12. Animal Capacity and Project Size

Due to the fact that the land lab is a Weston-McEwen High School Facility, Weston-McEwen FFA students will have first priority in housing for livestock projects.

- a. FFA Students
 - (1) Each student is entitled to keep two market animals per species, per show. For example a student could have two market hogs, two market sheep, two pens of broilers, and two pens of rabbits per show.
 - (2) Each student is also entitled to a certain number of breeding animals. Each user may keep the following breeding animals at the land lab a maximum of two breeding sows, four breeding ewes, five breeding hens, five breeding does. The Land Lab will allow one male per species to be kept at the land lab that will be available for all users.
- b. 4-H Member: Each member is entitled to keep one market animal per species, per show. A student could have one market hog, one market sheep, one pen of broilers and one pen of rabbits per show.

13. Important Information – Heat Lamps

- a. Heat lamps can be a very useful tool for the care of young livestock. Nevertheless, the use of heat lamps is also a very dangerous and unsafe practice when not properly installed and used appropriately. To ensure the proper use of this tool, the following requirements for using heat lamps at the Weston-McEwen Land Lab is as follows:
 - (1) Prior to use of heat lamps permission must be granted by the AST Instructor. There will be a \$30/month charge per heat lamp.
 - (2) Heat lamps will be allowed for pig litters from birth to six weeks.
 - (3) Heat lamps will be allowed for sheep and goats from birth to one week of age, unless ill.
 - (4) Heat lamps used throughout the summer months of May to September may be turned on in the evenings and turned off the next morning. Extra straw in the pen should suffice for keeping warmth throughout the day.
 - (5) Heat lamps must be hung properly. Lamps must be properly bolted or hung by chains that are secured to a higher, stable location.
 - (6) All cords or chains must be securely fastened and out of the way of all animals.
 - (7) Heat lamps must be at least three feet high from where the young are located. This is to prevent the area from becoming too hot and having the potential for fire.
 - (8) There will be no heat lamps in the market barn.

These standards are being set to ensure the safest facility that we can offer our students. These standards are applicable for all species and will be enforced. Most heat lamps are not needed as long as fresh, clean straw is placed in the pen on a daily basis; however, in some cases a large litter or a runt may need extra warmth, but should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

We agree to the terms and conditions as stated above for use of the land lab.

FFA/4H Student signature

Date

Parent signature

Date

FFA Advisor/4H Leader signature

Date