

## Pork Donation & Processing Information

If an agency partner (or a food bank) want to accept a donation from a farmer, the pig must be processed with a processor who is either USDA certified or has "Equal to" certification by the state.

- Here is the link to the "Equal-To" plants that are approved to slaughter meats that go to grocery stores and food shelves - if they are not a USDA continuous inspected plant: <https://www.mda.state.mn.us/minnesota-state-equal-plants>).

The product should be properly labeled by that processor with a USDA stamp or whatever the state requires for labeling for an Equal to certification. They can receive it fresh but should immediately be frozen or they can receive it frozen. (Frozen is recommended.)

Both the state of **MN (MDA)** and the **MN Pork Producer Association** are working to identify what processors in the state have any excess capacity to take in additional hogs. For any contacts you get asking about our ability to facilitate processing of their hogs, you can have them reach out to those entities.

**NOTICE: If you have an immediate need for slaughter of livestock or poultry due to a lost market or other COVID-19 related issue, please contact one of the following individuals for assistance in finding appropriate meat processing resources:**

- Jim Ostlie: 320-842-6910 or [Jim.Ostlie@state.mn.us](mailto:Jim.Ostlie@state.mn.us)
- Courtney VanderMey: 651-201-6135 or [Courtney.VanderMey@state.mn.us](mailto:Courtney.VanderMey@state.mn.us)

Minnesota Pork Producers Association <https://www.mppainsider.org/>

Minnesota Department of Agriculture <https://www.mda.state.mn.us/>