

# Have a Pet Pig?

Use PigTrace to help keep your pet pig safe and healthy

June 2021



ONTARIO PORK



Did you know that pet pigs in Canada must be registered under the national PigTrace program?

## What is PigTrace & why is it important?

PigTrace is a national live animal traceability program designed to ensure **protection, prosperity and peace of mind**. Tracking the movement of animals improves emergency response and communication in the case of a disease outbreak.

The PigTrace program is **mandatory** by law through the federal *Health of Animals Regulations* which are enforced by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA). The CFIA can issue non-compliance letters and fines to those who do not comply with the PigTrace requirements.

**Register with Ontario Pork to get your PigTrace account.**

## More info to help keep your pet pig healthy

Pigs of **all types** are susceptible to **illness**. Diseases can be carried in food scraps, pet food products, in imported meat, on clothing or by other animals – wild or domestic. If infected, this could result in a painful death for your pet and could lead to a quarantine of your home.

The best way to keep pigs safe is to practice **good biosecurity, avoid feeding them table scraps** and contain any disease outbreaks that do occur. Serious animal disease, by law, must be reported to a veterinarian.

Find PigTrace information at :

[ontariopork.on.ca/Producers/PigTrace](http://ontariopork.on.ca/Producers/PigTrace)

Find Swine Health Ontario's Pet Pig Guide at: [swinehealthontario.ca/Communications/pet-pig-guide](http://swinehealthontario.ca/Communications/pet-pig-guide)

Find a vet using the College of Veterinarians of Ontario database:

[cvo.ca.thentiacloud.net/webs/cvo/register/#/](http://cvo.ca.thentiacloud.net/webs/cvo/register/#/)

## The PigTrace program requires you do 3 things:

### 1. Enroll

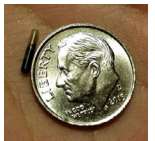
Register with Ontario Pork, your provincial pig organization, to automatically create your required PigTrace account and a Premises Identification (PID) number by:

- Filling out the Small-scale Producer Registration Form found at [ontariopork.on.ca/producers/small](http://ontariopork.on.ca/producers/small) and submitting it by email to [memberservices@ontariopork.on.ca](mailto:memberservices@ontariopork.on.ca) or fax (519-829-1769); or
- Calling Member Services at 1-877-668-7675 ext. 1220 to register by phone

### 2. Identify

Pet pigs are to be identified by one of two methods:

**Microchip:** This is implanted subcutaneous by a veterinarian. No enforcement action will be taken for the initial movement of an unidentified pig to a vet clinic to get its microchip. Each microchip has a unique individual **ISO 11784 15-digit number**.



If you use a microchip, keep a record of this number in a convenient and safe location. Microchips cannot be used on any pigs that enter the food chain.

**Ear Tag:** A 15-digit PigTrace individual ear tag can be purchased through the Ontario Pork office. Tags are to be applied to the pig's ear using an Allflex tag applicator, available at most farm supply stores.



Both identification methods will also help in the return of lost pet pigs.

### 3. Report

All pig movements to and from agricultural facilities (e.g. vet clinics, fairs, farms) and to regions outside of your local municipality must be reported to PigTrace within **seven days**. This can be done online at [pigtrace.traceability.ca](http://pigtrace.traceability.ca) or by submitting the completed [reporting form](#) to Ontario Pork.

Movement reporting is not required for pet pig walks around the neighbourhood or vehicle transportation to locations where livestock are not present (e.g. car ride to the grocery store).

\*If possible, avoid taking your pet pig to locations where other livestock are present, especially other pigs. This will minimize the risk of disease transmission.