

Legal Activism: Navigating Ontario's Ag-Gag Laws

WHAT DOES THE SECURITY FROM TRESPASS AND PROTECTING FOOD SAFETY ACT (STPFSA) DO?

1 Prohibits entering farms, slaughterhouses, or premises where farm animals are kept without explicit consent

2 Prohibits interference with vehicles transporting farm animals

3 Prohibits any interaction with farm animals without explicit consent

4 Provisions apply to physical contact with farm animals whether the animal is dead or alive

5 It is an offence to create conditions for farm animals to escape animal protection zones or transport vehicles

6 It is an offence to spray or throw substances on or at farm animals

PENALTIES

- 1.** Offenders can face arrest without a warrant by either the owner/occupier or by police
- 2.** A first offence can result in a fine of up to \$15,000
- 3.** Subsequent offences can result in fines up to \$25,000

WHERE DO THESE LAW APPLY?

1

Farms

2

Animal Processing Facilities

3

Animal Protection Zones

AN "ANIMAL PROTECTION ZONE" MAY INCLUDE (BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO):

- Farms
- Slaughterhouses
- Rodeo Arenas
- Livestock auctions
- Fairs/circuses
- Petting Zoos





POSSIBLE ADVOCATING TACTICS

1

Continue to share information about animal agriculture in Canada

2

Work with individuals in other provinces

3

Change the location of your protests to high-traffic but animal free areas

4

Build relationships and speak to your MPPs and MPs about animal issues

5

Explore and implement passive activism strategies

WHAT TO DO IF TROUBLE ARISES?

- Provide your **correct** name, address and date of birth if asked
- Cease conduct and/or leave the premises if asked
- Do not resist an arrest (whether by a citizen or police)
- You have the right to make multiple phone calls

GENERAL TIPS

1 **KNOW THE CONTACT INFORMATION OF A CRIMINAL LAWYER**

2 **ASK TO SPEAK TO YOUR LAWYER UPON ARREST**

3 **ASSERT YOUR RIGHT TO SILENCE**

