



PUBLIC NOTICE

The Ohio Department of Agriculture will hold a public hearing for the purpose of accepting testimony on the proposed amendments made to Chapters 901:2-1; 901:2-3; 901:2-6; and 901:2-7 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

The rules in this package adopt and amend the federal meat inspection regulations of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) pursuant to the Federal Meat Inspection Act, the Wholesome Meat Act, and the Livestock Slaughter Act. Pursuant to 918.04 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Ohio Department of Agriculture (Department) shall adopt rules which meet or exceed the federal requirements for meat inspection. The rules set forth in this package update the rules to meet the 2018 federal meat inspection requirements as well as clarify the existing portions of the law to ensure that all interested parties are able to read, understand, and follow the laws.

Currently, the Department maintains four chapters of Administrative Code rules regarding meat inspection. OAC Chapter 901:2-1 regulates the intrastate production of red meat. OAC Chapter 901:2-3 regulates the intrastate production of poultry products. OAC Chapter 901:2-6 regulates the interstate production of red meat. OAC Chapter 901:2-7 regulates the interstate production of poultry products.

As a part of the five-year rule review process, the Department elected to combine the interstate and intrastate chapters. This will allow the regulated community to rely on one chapter of rules rather than two. Due to this change, OAC Chapters 901:2-6 and 901:2-7 are proposed to be rescinded. The applicable provisions have been included in 901:2-1 and 901:2-3, respectively.

The hearing will be held on:

August 6, 2019 at 9:00 A.M.

**Ohio Department of Agriculture
Bromfield Administration Building
Hearing Room 133 (Seminar "B")
8995 East Main Street
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068-3399.**

The hearing will be conducted in accordance with Chapter 119 of the Revised Code. Any person affected by the rule package may appear and be heard in person, by his attorney, or both, may present his position, arguments, or contentions, orally or in writing, offer and examine witnesses, and present evidence tending to show that the no change rule package, if adopted or effectuated, will be unreasonable or unlawful.



More information on the rule package, including a business impact analysis and copies of the rules, can be found by visiting the [Department's Administrative Rule](#) page or by visiting the Register of Ohio at www.registerofohio.state.oh.us.

Any person who wishes to present his position, arguments, or contentions in writing, other than at the public hearing, may do so by either mailing his or her written comments to the Ohio Department of Agriculture, c/o Legal Section, 8995 East Main Street, Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068; by email at ecomments@agri.ohio.gov, or by transmitting by facsimile at (614) 995-4585. Written comments sent by mail shall be postmarked no later than the day of the hearing. Written comments transmitted by facsimile shall be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on the day of the hearing.

