

# Pick Up Day Information



## Safe and Secure Transportation:

For piglets, the best way to transport them is an enclosed carrier inside the vehicle. The plastic carriers are ideal because they make less mess. The wire kennels will work as well but we recommend putting a tarp down under it. Do not use towels or blankets in the bottom of the crates, they will slip around, and the piglets can't get traction. In addition, pee/poo will get all over the piglets. The best lining for transporting is a thick layer of pine shavings (for absorbency) with a layer of hay on top (that will keep the pigs cleaner when messes are made). We don't recommend letting piglets sit in your lap or on the seat, even for a short ride. They may be nervous being in a car for the first time and it won't be a good first experience with you for them, and again, there will be a mess!



If the pigs are riding in the back of a truck bed or a flat trailer, wire cages **MUST** be secured and covered with a tarp or canvas. Without shade and a wind break, the pigs are susceptible to dehydration and exposure.

For yearling or adult pigs, an enclosed trailer or livestock trailer is preferred. Shavings or hay work as a floor covering. We have ramps that we can load the pigs into the trailer with.

If your trip is over 3 hours, make sure to bring water dishes and plan to stop to offer water along the way. We don't feed pigs in the morning of transportation because there is nothing worse than a car sick pig. Keep pigs hydrated by offering water dense fruit, like melon or apples, as snacks for longer rides.

We are happy to measure pigs before pickup to make sure they will fit comfortably in the cages and to help you in any way we can to prepare for the ride. We will not let pigs leave without adequate cover and security for the trip home. Please feel free to discuss any transportation concerns you have before pickup.

## Farm Visits and Biosecurity:

The biggest biosecurity risk for a farm is necessary foot traffic. We are very intentional about keeping foot traffic to a minimum and taking precautions with visitors to protect our animals. For that reason, please limit visitors to the adult primary care takers of the pigs if possible.

When you arrive, we will give you shoe covers to wear during your visit. That helps protect our animals and your shoes and vehicle! Animals roam every inch of the property and you're likely to step in something! There are NO EXCEPTIONS! If there are feet on the ground, they are covered.

We do understand that it isn't always possible to come without the new junior farmers. And I know they are excited to meet the new pigs! However, we do have limited time at pickup to ask and answer questions and we can't make the most of our time if our attention is divided. If young visitors are too small to wear adult size boot covers, they will need to be carried during the visit. There is equipment around the yard and many uneven surfaces, so please keep the kids close during the visit and no climbing on fencing. We appreciate your help and understanding with this!



## Directions:

125 Buckskin Drive, Grand Cane, LA 71032

GPS directions to our house are generally accurate. However, you will want to make sure that they are bringing you into our neighborhood from Hwy 171, and not taking you on Smyrna Road. That is a back road and very muddy and narrow. We are the last house on the right before the dead end on Buckskin, there is a 6' chain-link fence. Pull up to the gate and we will let you in.



## General Notes:

On pickup day, please message or TEXT when you are on the way and have an estimated ETA. When you are about 15-20 minutes away, please TEXT to let us know so we can put the dogs where they need to be and be watching the gate for your arrival. My cell is 318-218-7139.

We have very weak cell service in our area. Make sure your GPS has the location is updated before you get too close. If you are making electronic payments at pickup, it might be best to send it before entering the neighborhood because it may be harder to get a signal at the house.

We don't have a restroom available to visitors. The best gas station close to us is 5 miles north on Hwy 171. Kickapoo Corner, 4144 Highway 171, Gloster, LA 71030

You are welcome to take pictures of anything we have made for the pigs! Necessity is the mother of invention and it's been years of trial and error around here. Please ask before shooting any videos! No one likes to be caught off guard on a video.

If you have any questions or concerns about picking up and transporting your pig, PLEASE reach out! We are here to make your visit as educational and enjoyable as possible. Thanks, Bubba and Paula