



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service • Legislative and Public Affairs
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USDA Expands Animal and Plant Health Stakeholder Registry

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23, 2012—The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is announcing the expansion of its popular Web-based stakeholder registry, GovDelivery, enabling subscribers to receive news and information about every Agency program area.

“APHIS’ expanded use of GovDelivery will help us communicate and engage with all of our many and diverse stakeholders,” said Kevin Shea, APHIS Acting Administrator. “By enhancing our ability to share timely information about APHIS policies, regulations, and efforts to protect animal and plant health in the United States, we’re not only increasing transparency, but more effectively meeting the needs of our customers and stakeholders.”

Until now, Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) and Veterinary Services (VS) were the only APHIS programs using the GovDelivery registry service. In addition to PPQ and VS, stakeholders can now sign up to receive updates related to the Agency’s Animal Care, Biotechnology Regulatory Services, International Services, and Wildlife Services programs. The registry enables stakeholders to proactively sign up to receive information about APHIS activities tailored to their specific interests. Stakeholders simply select those topics they want to hear more about, and APHIS will share information and timely updates.

To sign up for this free, Web-based stakeholder registry, go to: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAAPHIS/subscriber/new>. Stakeholders can choose to receive APHIS updates via email or text message and determine how often they would like to receive information from the Agency. Stakeholders who are already registered but interested in updating their profile, can do so by going to this same link and entering their email address or wireless number.

In addition to registering for APHIS topics, stakeholders will have the opportunity to sign up for updates from the many USDA Agencies, such as the Farm Service Agency, Food Safety and Inspection Service, and Natural Resources Conservation Service, already using the same registry platform.

With Agriculture Secretary Vilsack's leadership, APHIS works tirelessly to create and sustain opportunities for America's farmers, ranchers and producers. Each day, APHIS promotes U.S. agricultural health, regulates genetically engineered organisms, administers the Animal Welfare Act, and carries out wildlife damage management activities, all to safeguard the nation's

agriculture, fishing and forestry industries. In the event that a pest or disease of concern is detected, APHIS implements emergency protocols and partners with affected states and other countries to quickly manage or eradicate the outbreak. To promote the health of U.S. agriculture in the international trade arena, APHIS develops and advances science-based standards with trading partners to ensure America's agricultural exports, valued at more than \$137 billion annually, are protected from unjustified restrictions.

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