

## Introduction

Thanks for showing an interest in helping with the animals on the farm. Currently we have laying hens (and a rooster) and Flemish Giant Rabbits. These animals require attention on a daily basis in the form of egg collection and water and feeding.

Always be sure to properly sanitize your hands after handling the animals in order to help limit the chances of spreading germs. Although hand sanitizer should be available in the animal area, should it be empty or missing hand sanitizer is always available at the farm in the bathroom and tractor areas as well. **Do not use the water in the 250 gallon water totes as they are not full of potable water and are limited to watering the animals and plants only.**

Be sure to secure all gates and doors while working. Chickens are not meant to roam the entire farm and should remain in designated areas only.

On the web: [www.docwarren.org](http://www.docwarren.org)

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## Pillwillop Therapeutic Farm

### Chicken and Rabbit Care Basics: Feeding and Watering.



**\*IF YOU CANNOT FEED  
THE ANIMALS ON YOUR  
DAY BE SURE TO CONTACT  
DOC WARREN ASAP.  
ANIMALS NEED CARE  
EVERYDAY! WHENEVER  
POSSIBLE CONTACT OTHER  
VOLUNTEERS FOR  
COVERAGE AS SOON AS  
YOU KNOW YOU CANNOT  
BE HERE.**

*Nurture In  
Nature...*

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## Chickens

Eggs should be collected as early as possible to prevent egg breakage by the chickens. On weekends it should be before noon, earlier is better if possible. During weekdays this may not be possible but every effort should be made to do it as early as possible. If an egg is broken remove it from the area of the chickens and put dirt on any wet areas left behind.

This is like an Easter egg hunt. Check behind totes, under plastic tarps, in nest boxes and under anything large enough for chickens to fit under. Egg cartons can be found in a container near the large feed cans. We average about 1 egg per chicken per day but this can be affected by weather, stress etc.

You are welcome to all or some of the eggs that you collect. Any that you do not want please leave by the side doors of the barn in a carton. If you have any extra cartons please feel free to leave them at the barn as well.

Chicken feeders should be filled regularly and should never be less than half full. Feed is found in the large metal garbage can. Feed scoops can be found in one of the two large metal garbage cans. Please keep it in the can so it does not get lost.

If you feel comfortable feed chickens cracked corn by hand. If uncomfortable doing so spread 4-5 handfuls on the ground. Cracked corn can be found in the smaller can near where you feed them. When it is empty it can be refilled by the larger metal garbage can.

Let Doc Warren know when the large feed cans are nearing empty so he can buy more.

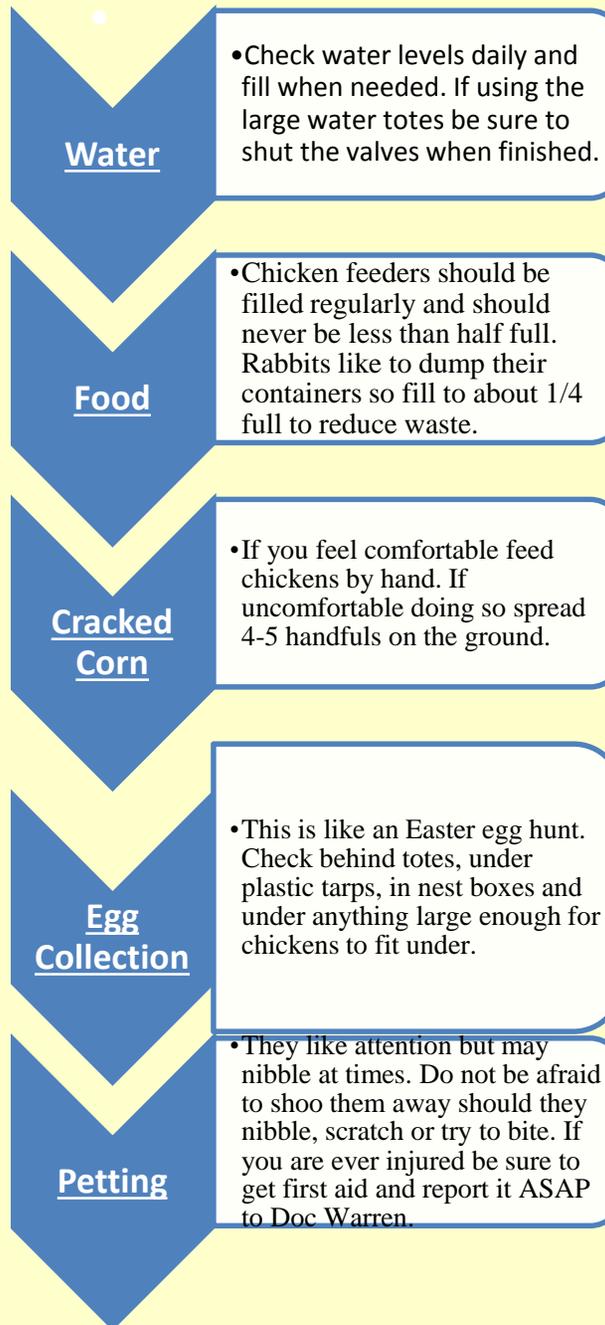
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## Rabbits

Rabbits are fed and watered daily. They tend to tip over so care should be taken to secure the dishes as best as possible. Place them on the flattest area as possible near the end or sides of the area.

Fill the food containers in the multiple rabbit hutch about ¼ full, any more and it is likely to be wasted by tipping. Water can be filled completely.

If there are greens or carrots please feel free to give both hutches a decent amount based on the supplies available. If you have greens or carrots at home that you do not need or they are starting to turn and you want to get rid of them please feel free to give it to them

The hutch with one rabbit (Bugs) can be fed differently. Feel free to fill his food container and water as he rarely if ever spills them.

All the rabbits have a tendency to love being pet and held though as animals the likelihood of being scratched or nibbled is great. Momma sometimes bites though no one has ever been hurt. If they try to bite or scratch simply shoo them away with your hands.

The hay should be changed every week or two- there will be a chart to keep track of this. If you do it please mark the chart with the day and time. Gather dirty hay into the black plastic cart and dump it in the compost pile that is west of the Seasonal High Tunnel (towards Lindsley Brook). Secure all tools and instruments before leaving.

**Be sure to have fun!!!**