



# **WORLD FARM ANIMALS DAY 2008**

***Exposing Factory Farm and Slaughterhouse Atrocities Since 1983***

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## **400 COMMUNITIES OBSERVE 26<sup>TH</sup> WORLD FARM ANIMALS DAY**

On October 2<sup>nd</sup>, nearly 400 communities in all 50 states and 20 other countries are hosting information tables, exhibits, video screenings, street theater, leafleting, vigils, marches, memorial services and more (see [www.wfad.org/events](http://www.wfad.org/events)).

The occasion is the 26th annual observance of World Farm Animals Day dedicated to exposing, memorializing, and mitigating the daily terror inflicted on 56 billion cows, pigs, and other innocent, sentient animals in the world's factory farms and slaughterhouses. The date (October 2<sup>nd</sup>) honors the birthday of ethical vegetarian Mahatma Gandhi.

**Proclamations calling for humane treatment of animals** have been issued by the governors of Alabama, Alaska (Vice-Presidential candidate Sarah Palin), Connecticut, and Iowa and by the mayors of Houston and San Diego. Hundreds of highway **billboards and bus display cards** in major cities, including Chicago, Dallas, Los Angeles, New York, and Philadelphia, urge commuters to "Be Kind to Animals - Don't Eat Them." Similar letters were sent to more than 600 newspaper editors.

In the nation's capital, activists are touring universities with a 23-panel photo display of animal suffering in farms and slaughterhouses alongside pictures of humans enduring similar treatment. Arizona State University students are conducting a funeral for the animals, complete with a coffin, mourners and a eulogy. Maryland activists are congregating for a dramatic vigil outside Perdue's original chicken slaughterhouse in Salisbury, MD.

Nearly 50 communities are hosting marches. Humane societies and animal shelters are offering veg starter kits to visitors. Two dozen universities are hosting information tables, demonstrations, and street theater.

The World Veg Festival Weekend in San Francisco is welcoming thousands of visitors. Attractions include international vegan cuisine, healthy food demos, renowned speakers, live entertainment, vegan athletes, vendors and more. Similar fairs are being held in Boston, Charlottesville, and Durham and other cities.

Our Canadian neighbors are holding more than a dozen events. Australian activists are holding a funeral march and memorial service. In Scotland, they are coordinating a variety of educational events, including one involving 'Wee Betty,' the battery hen who describes the world through a chicken's eyes. Activists in Croatia are coordinating dozens of events throughout October, highlighting the suffering of animals in live transport. More than 70 Indian groups are holding lectures, marches, rallies, and educational events. New Zealand is hosting two large vegetarian festivals.

Other participating countries include France, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Kenya, Nigeria, Scotland, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, and the UK.

**World Farm Animals Day** has been coordinated since 1983 by FARM, a nonprofit public interest organization, and is co-sponsored this year by In Defense of Animals. Community events are arranged by local animal and consumer protection activists.

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