

**RHODE ISLAND GOVERNMENT REGISTER
PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING**

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Title of Rule: Rules and Regulations Governing Animal Care Facilities
(250-RICR-40-05-4)

Rule Identifier: 250-RICR-40-05-4

Rulemaking Action: Proposed Amendment

Important Dates:

Date of Public Notice: June 2, 2026

Hearing Date: June 25, 2026

End of Public Comment: July 2, 2026

Rulemaking Authority:

R.I. Gen. Laws Chapters 4-17.1 and 4-19-13

Summary of Rulemaking Action:

These amendments are intended to address issues with these facilities that are not significantly addressed in the current regulations that impact animal welfare and compliance with municipal ordinances by entities that are required to be licensed or registered under these regulations.

Additional Information and Public Comments:

All interested parties are invited to request additional information or submit written or oral comments concerning the proposed amendment until July 2, 2026 by contacting the appropriate party at the address listed below:

SCOTT N. MARSHALL, DVM
Department of Environmental Management
Division of Agriculture/Animal Health
235 Promenade Street, 3rd Floor
Providence, RI 02908
scott.marshall@dem.ri.gov

Public Hearing:

A public hearing, in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.5, to consider the proposed amendment shall be held at which time and place all persons interested therein will be heard. This hearing is subject to R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 42-46, Open Meetings.

Public Hearing Information:

Date: June 25, 2026

Time: 10:00 A.M.

Location: DEM

Room 300, 3rd Floor
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI, 02908

The place of the public hearing is accessible to individuals with disabilities. If communication assistance (readers/interpreters/captioners) is needed, or any other accommodation to ensure equal participation, please call 401-284-3427 or RI Relay 711 at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting so arrangements can be made to provide such assistance at no cost to the person requesting. For questions regarding available parking, please contact the agency staffperson listed above.

Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation:

In the development of the proposed amendment consideration was given to: (1) the benefits and costs of a reasonable range of regulatory alternatives reflecting the scope of discretion; (2) alternative approaches; (3) overlap or duplication with other statutory and regulatory provisions; and (4) significant economic impact on small business. No alternative approach, duplication, or overlap was identified based upon available information.

For full regulatory analysis or supporting documentation contact the agency staffperson listed above.