

W.A. Ranches at the University of Calgary

COVID Guidelines

Access is being offered as follows, in compliance with [University of Calgary COVID-19 workspace safety guidelines](#):

- Non-UCalgary visitors are required to complete [COVID Waivers](#) for activities at the ranch
- Access to shared spaces, must be pre-arranged with W.A. Ranches staff to prevent over-crowding and allow for cleaning between users.
- Users are required to follow all UCalgary COVID-19 Re-entry Protocols, including wearing non-medical masks in indoor public spaces, maintaining physical distance, washing your hands often, and self-isolating immediately if you feel ill.
- Users must bring their own masks. They are not provided by the ranch
- Those accessing the ranch are responsible for ensuring cleaning and sanitizing of workspaces before their departure. Sanitizer (wipes, sprays and towels, garbage bins) are provided for use of common areas at the Cochrane Home research house. When supplies are running low, please contact the Ranch Director
- Communicate with designated Ranch Representative through phone calls, text, or e-mails
- If face-to-face communication is necessary, maintain distance of 2 meters and only meet in the machine shed, ranch house or outdoors

Resuming activities at W.A. Ranches will enable researchers, postdocs and graduate students to return to data collection or research programs that require access to the ranch while keeping our staff safe. If researchers are able to conduct their activities from home, we ask that you continue to do so.

Next steps

If you wish to access W.A. Ranches:

- Request access by contacting Dr Ed Pajor, Director of W.A. Ranches
- Secure all standard departmental approvals for field work, including the Field Level Hazard Assessment.
- Safety protocols will be provided when access is confirmed.

We are committed to the safety of our campus community and ensuring that our return to campus proceeds safely and efficiently. Thank you for your continued cooperation and patience.

On-Ranch Protocols

- Research personnel should follow the AHS recommendations for physical distancing at all times
- Two research personnel will work together at all times to minimize hazards associated with on-ranch activities.
- If research personnel are feeling ill (e.g. fever, runny nose, dry cough, etc.) they will not go to the ranch and will notify the other research personnel of their condition.
 - If research personnel become ill within 2-5 days after visiting the ranch, they should contact Dr Ed Pajor (403-991-7975) to notify him of their health status

- Research personnel will communicate with ranch staff as to their expected arrival time and location on the ranch

Arriving to Ranch

- The ranch house should be used as the main location for all research and educational preparations.
- Wash hands in ranch house upon arrival
- If leaving the ranch house to conduct research wear clean coveralls, boots, wash hands. These items are not provided by the ranch, and will need to either be brought with you or stored at the ranch house if approved as part of visit planning with ranch management.
- Remain in own vehicles while moving throughout the ranch to minimize contact with ranch staff
- Place floor mat or other protective cover on floor of vehicle while driving on ranch
- When conducting research at the ranch please maintain appropriate social distancing as directed by the province of Alberta. If social distancing is not possible, additional preventative actions may be required (PPEs). Please contact Dr. Pajor for additional information which will be based on UCV's policies regarding research where social distancing is challenging.
- Use washrooms and breakrooms in the ranch house
 - Wipe down contact areas (sink, door handles, etc.) with disinfectant when arriving and leaving
- If picking up samples, wear disposable gloves to handle samples and wash hands after handling
 - Wipe down contact areas with disinfectant wipes after collecting samples

Departing from Ranch

- Leave designated coveralls, boots, and other clothing at the ranch if possible
- If boots need to leave the facility, clean boots with water, Virkon, and scrub brush in front of the ranch house. Store boots in a bag or container if transporting them off ranch
- Use ranch house washing machine and dryer for laundering dirty coveralls. Remove coveralls and place in plastic bag or container to transport if needed
- Wash hands prior to departure of ranch and wipe any contact surfaces with disinfectant prior to departure