



Ernie Morales  
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**Texas Animal Health Commission  
Chronic Wasting Disease Inspection Fee**  
*What you need to know*

**What is the Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Inspection Fee?**

The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) provides a voluntary herd monitored status program for species that are susceptible to Chronic Wasting Disease. Those that participate in the Commission's monitored program are required to verify annually their herd inventory. That requirement is provided in Section 40.3(3) and the requirement states that "[an] annual inventory in participating herds shall be verified by a TAHC, USDA or accredited veterinarian."

For those that choose to use the services to their accredited veterinarian, the herd owner will incur the cost for those services. When the TAHC performs the services without assessing a fee, we not only undercut the competitiveness of those private accredited veterinarians, we also perform a task that costs the agency uncompensated expenses which is difficult in these dire economic times. Therefore the agency has assessed a fee that is competitive with a private veterinary practitioner in order to cover our cost associated with the performance of that task.

**What will the new fee be?**

The TAHC will assess a fee of one hundred (\$100) dollars per hour if a TAHC representative performs a CWD herd inventory verification.

**When will this fee go into effect?**

The fee will become effective on September 1, 2011. After this date, this fee will be implemented when anyone requests a CWD herd inventory verification.

**Where do I send my fees?**

Texas Animal Health Commission or TAHC  
P.O. Box 12966  
Austin, TX 78711-2966

**Do I have to use TAHC personnel to perform a CWD herd inventory?**

No. You may still have your private practitioner perform this task, however it requested our personnel will perform that task for the aforementioned fee.

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**COMMISSIONERS:**

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## **How do I request for agency personnel to perform this task?**

### **Region 1 - Amarillo, TX**

Phone: 806-354-9335  
Region Director: Dr. David Finch  
Supervising Inspector: Steve Shaller

### **Region 5 – Beeville**

Phone: 361-358-3234  
Region Director: Dr. Brodie Miller  
Supervising Inspector: Bart Stockbridge

### **Region 2 – Hempstead**

Phone: 979-921-9481  
Region Director: Dr. Mark Michalke  
Supervising Inspector: Dwayne Easley

### **Region 6 - Lampasas**

Phone: 512-556-6277  
Region Director: Dr. Pete Fincher  
Supervising Inspector: Ann Wagner

### **Region 3 – Fort Worth**

Phone: 817-244-2597  
Region Director: Dr. Max Dow  
Supervising Inspector: Bobby Crozier

### **Region 4 – Mt. Pleasant**

Phone: 903-572-1966  
Region Director: Dr. Greg Hawkins  
Supervising Inspector: Chip Nicholson

## **What is CWD?**

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a contagious neurological disease affecting deer, elk and moose in North America. It causes a characteristic spongy degeneration of the brains of infected animals resulting in emaciation, abnormal behavior, loss of bodily functions and death.

CWD belongs to a group of diseases known as transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSEs). Within this family of diseases, there are several other variants that affect domestic animals; Scrapie, which has been identified in domestic sheep and goats for more than 200 years, bovine spongiform, encephalopathy (BSE) in cattle (also known as “mad cow disease”) - *Chronic Wasting Disease Alliance*

## **How do I find out more about CWD?**

- [http://www.tahc.state.tx.us/animal\\_health/cwd/cwd.html](http://www.tahc.state.tx.us/animal_health/cwd/cwd.html)
- <http://www.cwd-info.org/>
- [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/wps/portal/footer/topicsofinterest/applyingforpermit?1dmy&urle=wcm%3apath%3a%2Faphis\\_content\\_library%2Fsa\\_our\\_focus%2Fsa\\_animal\\_health%2Fsa\\_animal\\_disease\\_information%2Fsa\\_alternate\\_livestock%2Fsa\\_cervid\\_health%2Fsa\\_cwd%2Fct\\_cwd\\_index](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/wps/portal/footer/topicsofinterest/applyingforpermit?1dmy&urle=wcm%3apath%3a%2Faphis_content_library%2Fsa_our_focus%2Fsa_animal_health%2Fsa_animal_disease_information%2Fsa_alternate_livestock%2Fsa_cervid_health%2Fsa_cwd%2Fct_cwd_index)