

## Questions to ask yourself before you get a pet pig

- ö Are pigs allowed in your city or town?
- ö Do you own, or rent, your property? If renting, has it been cleared with the property owners?
- ö Will the pig be kept indoors or outdoors?
- ö What will the pen size be?
- ö Do you have a fenced yard?
- ö Is your backyard landscaped?
- ö Are you aware that a pig can be destructive, they love to dig, it's an instinctual behavior, their snouts are a digging tool? Note: older pigs usually mellow out and don't root as much.
- ö If outdoors, what type of house will the pig have for protection?
- ö Will the pig have shade, sunlight and a dry area during the winter?
- ö If the pig is going to spend most of its time indoors, will the pig be able to go outside when you are not home (eg: a piggy door)?
- ö For pigs that will be allowed in the house, what type of floor covering do you have?
- ö Is your house child-proof?
- ö Have you owned a pet pig?
- ö Are you aware the size of an adult pig?
- ö Did you know that pigs continue to grow till about 3 or 4 years of age?
- ö Have you seen a 4 or 5 year old pig?
- ö Is everyone in the family happy about adopting a pig?
- ö Do you own other animals? If so what types? Do you know that certain dogs will attack and maul pigs?
- ö Do you have children? If so what age(s) are they?
- ö A pig's life span is estimated at 12 to 20 years or more. Are you aware of this?
- ö What are your long-term plans if the pig lives for 12+ years?
- ö Are you aware of proper feeding and where to buy special formulated potbellied pig food?
- ö Do you have a veterinarian who has experience working on potbellied pigs?
- ö If you are adopting a second pig to go with a pig you already own, are you able to fence-train the pigs so that they can visit with each other for a week or two before putting them together?
- ö Would you consider rescuing a pig in need of a loving home rather than buying one from a pig breeder?
- ö What age, sex, color, breed and size pig(s) are you looking for?

## Pre-Adoption Education

Impulse buying a potbellied pig (or any pet, for that matter) is a bad idea. You need to totally acquaint yourself with the nature of the pig and your responsibilities as a pet pig owner. Take the time to familiarize yourself with all aspects of the potbellied pig prior to adoption. There are several excellent books available to assist you in this educational process. See SCAMPP's website, particularly the "Info Articles," "Adoption Corner," "Piggy Videos," and "Buying a Teacup Pig" pages for information and resources. Our website is updated often, so check back regularly.