Feral pig hunting? Make biosecurity your target

African swine fever (ASF) is a highly contagious disease of domestic and wild pigs that Australia is currently free from. The Victorian Government is asking pig hunters to remain vigilant as this serious disease spreads through parts of Asia and Europe.

ASF can be transmitted through contact between infected pigs, pork products and contaminated vehicles, clothing or equipment.

ASF does not affect people or other animals, however, human activity is the main cause of disease spread.

An outbreak of ASF in Australia would have a significant impact on domestic pig health and production and devastate Australian pork producers.

You can help protect Australia from ASF by following some simple biosecurity practices.

## DO

* Follow good hygiene and biosecurity practices.
* Clean and disinfect all equipment when leaving a hunting area.
* Report any sign of sick or dead pigs by calling the all-hours Emergency Animal Disease hotline on 1800 675 888.
* Respect all quarantines and other restrictions in place. Adhere to on-farm biosecurity practices when hunting on farms.

## DON’T

* Translocate, transport or release live feral pigs. It is a significant biosecurity risk and it is illegal.
* Hunt wild pigs if you are in contact with domestic pigs. If you do hunt wild pigs, wash and disinfect all hunting boots, clothes and equipment.
* Move domestic pigs to new locations without completing a Pig Pass National Vendor Declaration.
* Leave left-overs from your meals in the hunting areas.
* Travel with uncovered or un-bagged carcasses in the back of a ute. If you choose to take a carcass, meat or a trophy from the animal, do so in a sealed plastic bag or plastic container, and incinerate any unused animal waste material.
* Trap or bait feral pigs with meat products as this is considered swill feeding and it is illegal.

You are our eyes and ears in the field. If you see sick or dead pigs or suspect an unusual disease, call the all-hours Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline on 1800 675 888.

For more information on ASF and the risks of swill feeding visit agriculture.vic.gov.au/ africanswinefever or call 136 186.