



OHIO  
ANIMAL  
ADVOCATES

## A Guide to Your Own Micro-sanctuary

Starting a micro-sanctuary is your way to make a direct impact on the lives of exploited animals right now. Micro-sanctuaries are animal sanctuaries with twenty or less residents. Micro-sanctuaries start when a family decides to turn their property into a space that can prevent animals from being used as commodities and give them lives of care. Most micro-sanctuaries are backyard animal sanctuary spaces for animals that are victims of factory farming and exploitation. You do not need a huge space or many financial resources to start your own micro-sanctuary. Any person or family can make use of empty space on their property and resources to give even one rescued animal a chance at life. Many micro-sanctuaries are founded on veganism and the belief that we must avoid infringing on animal's freedom at all costs. This means making sure anything produced on the sanctuary goes back to the animals, such as feeding chickens the eggs that they lay.

While some micro-sanctuaries start out as such and grow bigger, many micro sanctuaries purposely stay small to give the best possible care and attention to their residents. Creating more micro-sanctuaries has the potential to be more impactful than larger sanctuaries. Typically, micro-sanctuaries are home to "non-companion animals", such as pigs, lambs, chickens, ducks, bats, and more. Traditional livestock animals are not treated with the same respect as cats and dogs. We encourage you to think about starting your own backyard micro-sanctuary and saving some animals from a life of exploitation at human hands. Anyone can do this and you can do it now!

Some things to consider before starting your own micro-sanctuary is time, finances, and location. Managing an animal care facility is a daily task that requires attention far into the future. You will need to be able to afford high quality food, veterinary bills, facilities, bedding, and more. Contact Ohio Animals Advocates for aid in starting up your micro-sanctuary! We can provide you with statewide resource lists on pet pantries and more.



Moonshot Farm  
Galena, OH

## Start Your Own Micro-sanctuary

- Land
  - You do not need much land to start a micro-sanctuary. It depends on how much accessible land you have and how many residents you are interested in taking care of.
  - Zoning codes are very important to assess before starting your sanctuary
  - Make sure you have accessible transport to a nearby veterinarian that cares for your residents
- Resident Care
  - Learn more about specific breed care [here!](#)
  - Many sanctuaries partner with local grocery stores for food
  - Residents should be fed fresh vegetables, fruits, scratch grains, and what they produce, such as feeding chicken's their eggs.
- Grant opportunities
  - [Micro-sanctuary Resource Center Grants](#)
- Social media
  - Start an Instagram, Facebook, or TikTok for your micro sanctuary. Building a social media presence will increase exposure and donations to your micro-sanctuary.
  - Share your resident's stories on social media. These animals have personalities and their lives deserve to be shared!

## Check out other resources to jump start your micro-sanctuary

- [The Sanctuary in Your Backyard: A New Model for Rescuing Farmed Animals](#)
- [What is a Micro-Sanctuary](#)
- [Triangle Chicken Advocates](#)



Good Sprout Rescue  
and Sanctuary  
Pataskala, OH

Moonshot  
Farm  
Galena, OH

