Building a humane economy, one company at a time, across a wide range of industries
HIGHLIGHTS OF 2021

Center for a Humane Economy is the first animal protection organization to focus on influencing the workings of business to forge a humane economic order – from food and agriculture to pharma and fashion to wildlife management and mining and forestry. The Center works with corporations to alert them to their responsibilities in a culture where consumers, investors, and other key stakeholders abhor cruelty, seek the protection of habitats, and embrace innovation.

This report touches on our campaigns, activities, and accomplishments in 2021. We are seeking to construct the building blocks of a humane economy by promoting forward-looking public policies, science-based persuasion, cultural change, and investigations and enforcement of our existing laws and corporate standards.

Your support is immensely helpful and appreciated on behalf of animals everywhere. Together, we can set the foundation for a humane economy and a more peaceful world for all lives on this planet.

- A series of federal courts, with the Center participating as an amicus participant in all of the proceedings, affirmed that cockfighting is banned on every inch of U.S. soil, including in the U.S. territories. It’s a rare event when the nation enacts wholesale prohibitions on a widespread, lucrative form of animal exploitation. Cockfighting damages the reputations of jurisdictions — whether U.S. territories, states, or nations — downgrading the reputation and tourism appeal of these destinations.

- In 2021, we shut down Wisconsin’s fall wolf hunting, hounding and trapping season thanks to a lawsuit largely financed by the Center. Even though wolves provide a range of economic and ecological benefits in areas where they survive, they have been under assault. In a year of human attacks on wolves this was easily the biggest win, sparing hundreds of wolves from extreme cruelty and restoring protections for wolves across their range in the Upper Midwest – their major stronghold in the lower 48 states.

- We launched an in-depth scientific review of the public health, animal welfare, and ecological consequences of mink farming. Our research demonstrated that mink are the single greatest non-human threat when it comes to SARS-CoV-2 spillover – a greater threat than the notorious live-wildlife markets in China. We’ve established that this industry is not just a threat to the wild mink but to all of humanity. We’ve put the issue on the radar screen in the United States, while also noting a terribly deficient U.S. response to the problem.

- We built a powerful coalition among industry, health, science and animal welfare interests and launched a national effort to end the government mandate of using animals in drug testing as overseen by the FDA. We’ve been working to drive policy through the FDA Modernization Act to influence the entire pharmaceutical sector.

- We pushed back against an abrupt and unwarranted policy from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to ban imports of dogs from 113 countries, including from rescue organizations and pets from our uniformed and civilian personnel overseas.

- We built a successful global coalition to raise awareness of the inhumane business practice among Nike, Puma, and Adidas of selling products made from skins of kangaroos in Australia – the largest mass slaughter of terrestrial wildlife slaughter in the world.

- We are working to hold major food retailers accountable for their prior pledges to source eggs and pork from operations that do not place the laying hens and breeding sows in extreme confinement. Meanwhile, we are mounting a defense of state ballot measures that establish humane treatment and sales standards, working in state and federal courts to uphold the rights of states to protect public health and animal welfare.

- We fed 3,000 elephants in distress in Thailand after the COVID-19 crisis stifled tourism and disrupted the ability of elephant-tourism industry to deny any form of proper care to the animals. The Center is working with businesses and the Thai government to support sanctuaries where tourists can enjoy seeing elephants exhibit natural behavior and where elephants can be left alone to be elephants.
Modernize Testing

The Center built a coalition of more than 150 corporations and organizations to promote a policy to eliminate an animal-testing mandate for all new drugs in place for 84 years.

The Center built a powerful coalition to combat outdated and inhumane government-mandated drug testing protocols.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration requires that drugs be tested on animals prior to approval. The data, though, demonstrate that animal tests are not predictive of the human response to drugs – with the animal tests not translating to human clinical trials in nine of 10 cases. We also did an economic assessment to reveal that private businesses must invest $1 billion to $6 billion in capital to bring a new drug to market, with the timeframe dragging for as many as 15 years in some cases. This drug development paradigm is not protecting the safety of patients and not delivering cost-effective drugs in a timely manner to the people who need them.

That’s why we brought together 150 organizations and corporations, including the dozens of patient advocacy groups, medical associations, biotech and pharmaceutical companies, and animal welfare groups to urge FDA to reform its protocols. The agency must stop mandating the torment of millions of animals — including tens of thousands of beagles, and primates taken from the wild.

Most diseases have no cures, and a reliance on animal models may be hindering the pace in developing treatments to address longstanding human afflictions.

Thankfully there are a growing number of partners in innovation:

- **Harvard’s Wyss Institute** announced the development of a human “body-on-a-chip” platform that enables in-vitro prediction of drug behaviors in humans.

- **Emulate** leverages human biology plus technology to ignite a new era in human health.

- **BICO** is replacing outdated methods for drug discovery to end animal testing once and for all.

- **Quris**’ AI Clinical Prediction Platform better predicts which drug candidates will safely work in humans, avoiding tremendous costs of failed clinical trials.

- **AxoSim** empowers advancements in human neuroscience and accelerates the drug development process through their human-relevant drug discovery platform.

While our sister organization, Animal Wellness Action, is finding success with its legislative work to pass the FDA Modernization Act, the Center will continue to help the FDA and private business recognize there is a powerful and collective voice that includes pharmaceutical companies, corporations, and the majority of Americans, who no longer have any tolerance for gratuitous cruelty to animals.

Pharmaceutical companies, academic medical centers, and federal agencies that conduct research and testing all subscribe to the 3Rs framework for animal testing:

1. Refining techniques to minimize pain and distress.
2. Reducing the numbers of animals used in protocols.
3. Replacing animals with non-animal methods where they exist.

The FDA cannot act on the Third R if it mandates animal testing in every drug development protocol.
Rethink Mink

Mink factory farms are a shrinking industry, they pose a significant public health risk and are inhumane – that should be enough to warrant a ban

Mink factory farming is bad enough on its own lack of merits when it comes to animal cruelty, but when you factor in the transference of a deadly and mutated coronavirus from mink to humans, continuing to breed and kill them in massive numbers has become a critical public health issue.

You wouldn’t know about this extreme public health risk given the seeming indifference and inattention by our top health and agriculture agencies. But the Center has undertaken a task that the government wouldn’t and the mink industry denied: it exhaustively assessed the science and calibrated the threat.

Dr. Jim Keen, D.V.M., Ph.D., our own in-house infectious disease expert and epidemiologist, put together the world’s most comprehensive and authoritative report on mink farming and SARS-CoV-2, showing a unique mutation from mink also found in humans.

The Center’s report was released in concert with bipartisan legislation in the Congress to ban mink farming in the U.S. – the MINKS Are Superspreaders Act. In effect, it was the Center’s report that set up the push for this national ban on mink farming.

Initially the United States was alone in not minimizing the threat, while others took swift and just action: Denmark, France, the Netherlands, Italy, and other nations recognized that the economic output of the mink industry does not come close to justifying the public health threat. When Denmark shut down, that shut down the biggest fur-farming nation in the world.

The U.S. mink industry generated 1.4 million pelts (5% of global production) at a farmgate value of just $47.4 million in 2020 (with costs exceeding revenues by millions, and with state and federal subsidies keeping the small number of farms afloat). It makes little sense to hold onto a dying, subsidized mink industry that threatens human and wildlife health for a luxury fashion item that Americans do not want. It is entirely an export market, with nearly all pelts sold to high-end consumers in China. China’s elites get the coats and they outsource the viral risk to our homeland.

The Center believes that no sound government should ever choose to support a small and dying fashion-oriented, inhumane business when so much is at stake.

Keen’s report made clear that mink farms are an urgent health threat:

*If SARS-CoV-2 could design its perfect habitat, it might closely resemble a mink ranch: a highly stressed, immuno-suppressed inbred host with thousands of other mink kept in very small cages,” noted Dr. Keen in his landmark report.*

Mink farms in Europe and the United States have spawned five COVID-19 variants that were found in people (Cluster 5 in Denmark and the Netherlands, Marseille-4 in France, N501T in Michigan, Y453F in Poland, and unreported mutations in Latvia.) Mink farm variants uniquely threaten human health and the global economy.

Indeed, a massive worldwide SARS-CoV-2 epidemic in farmed mink has paralleled the human COVID-19 pandemic, with outbreaks on at least 450 mink farms in 13 countries in Europe, Canada, and the United States.

The COVID-19 outbreaks at U.S. mink farms are likely undercounted because of deficient U.S. government oversight and a failure to focus on zoonotic disease prevention. The U.S. has no active or mandatory COVID-19 surveillance or testing of mink farms or farmers by federal (CDC, USDA) or state agencies.
This year the Center focused on the inexcusable business practices of Nike, Adidas, and several other athletic shoe manufacturers that purchase kangaroo skins for soccer cleats and drive the slaughter of these iconic animals.

Nike and Adidas, as well as other soccer shoe manufacturers, participate in the slaughter of 2 million kangaroos each year. It is the largest slaughter of mammals on our planet, 10 times larger than the Canadian harp seal hunt that garnered the nation’s outrage years ago. The mass kangaroo slaughter is no less heinous. Government-sanctioned hunters shoot them and are instructed to decapitate orphaned joeys or bash them on the head “to destroy the brain.” Many times, joeys escape then starve to death without their mothers.

The Center spent 2021 building a successful coalition to raise awareness. We launched a campaign in Europe with 14 major European-based organizations to promote an EU-wide ban on kangaroo parts. The organizations are each promoting a 60-second film showing, in reverse chronology, how a kangaroo ends up becoming part of a shoe in a soccer match. We also sent a May 10 letter to John Donahoe, Nike CEO, with 62,167 names, telling him in part:

“To be clear, kangaroo leather soccer cleats drive the world’s largest commercial wildlife slaughter. This
fact vitiates Nike’s pledge to its customers to adhere to principles of corporate responsibility and sustainability in its sourcing practices.”

Our campaign’s viral video depicting this connection between Nike and Adidas soccer cleats and the killing of two million kangaroos annually, has gone global.

The U.S. bans imports of the pelts, and, for reasons related to cruelty to animals, we don’t allow trade in harpooned whales killed by Norwegian vessels or slain dolphins rounded up in Japan’s drive fisheries. Why would we allow for kangaroo skins?

Our major investigations and enforcement work continues in California – where kangaroo shoes are illegal – to dry up any sales of kangaroo-based shoes, in our attempt to bifurcate the U.S. market for Nike and eventually to close it entirely to soccer cleats made from kangaroos. Our extensive report on illegal sales of kangaroo skins, the product of nearly a year-long investigation, threw the curtain back on this contraband in California.

Our study of European soccer championships revealed that synthetic shoes outperformed kangaroo skins by a country mile – proving there’s no practical need for the systemic, commercial slaughter of Australia’s global symbol.

Synthetic shoes are lighter, more durable, sustainable and environmentally friendly. And they don’t come from cruelty.

Shoe companies already have endless numbers of shoe models made from non-animal fabrics and fibers, and there’s just no reason to source skins of wildlife taken from their native habitats.

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Cage-Free Future

Animals built to move should be allowed to move

Ten states and more than 60 American food retailers now have policies against gestation crates — a rectangular metal enclosure in which a pregnant pig is kept without bedding or space to move more than a few inches. The sow cannot even turn around.

But the industry is fighting every step of the way and we are fighting back.

One way has been for the Center to encourage food producers to stop purchasing pork and eggs from farms that use extreme confinement that barely allow breeding pigs and laying hens to move more than a few inches. Animals are sentient beings, and this is pure torture physically, emotionally, and psychologically.

Many food retailers including McDonald’s, Costco and Safeway are committed to phasing out buying from farms that allow this horrible practice to continue. But we need to push to make sure more corporations understand that there are alternatives, such as electronic sow feeding systems and pasture-based operations that provide better living environments, rather than cages or crates. And when they fail to listen, they lose the public’s trust.

Our affiliate, AWA, is pushing in tandem for the Pigs in Gestation States (PIGS) that would allow for $10 million a year for assistance to pig farmers for improvements in their housing systems to conform, taking the money from the hundreds of millions raised through the National Pork Check-Off program that was constituted to benefit farmers. The measure is endorsed by rank-and-file pig farmers that know that good husbandry requires giving animals sufficient space to move, including Niman Ranch, which includes 600 pig producers in the Midwest network of producers.
Saving Wolves

Wolves draw tourists, contribute to local economy and balance ecosystems.

It’s been a tough year for wolves. January kicked off with a removal of federal protections for wolves in the Great Lakes and other regions, thanks to a policy change by the Trump administration in 2020.

Wisconsin responded swiftly, with hunters killing 223 wolves within 48 hours – nearly double the state quota. Wisconsin then moved forward with plans for a fall 2021 season and beyond. But we were ready to fight.

A lawsuit brought by and largely financed by the Center shut down Wisconsin’s fall and winter hunting season, which was to include the use of packs of dogs, neck snares, and leghold traps and would have claimed a large portion of the state’s surviving wolves. Our dramatic win in a Wisconsin court spared the direct killing – with packs of dogs, neck snares, night hunts – hundreds of wolves. The win restored temporary protections for wolves in the Great Lakes region from trophy hunters and trappers. Along with the decisions of governors in Michigan and Minnesota who decided not to open hunting seasons after federal delisting, this was the best news of the year for wolves. Wolves faced an ongoing massacre in Idaho and Montana, and we have pleadings before the Interior Secretary to intervene.

Banning Greyhound Racing

Dogs are our family members, not props for entertainment

Greyhound racing is a failing industry – there were 60 operating live tracks in our country two decades ago, and now there are only three operating with one of the three set to close down by the end of 2022. Racing dogs face extreme confinement up to 23 hours a day, as well as frequent injury on the track. No good private company should support such mistreatment of dogs, especially with a vast array of other legal gambling options in society. Never have people interested in games of chance had more options.

In 2021, the Center focused on public awareness, while its affiliate AWA and the Center pushed legislation to force private companies out of the dog track business. There’s no place for greyhound racing in a society that values animals as more than props for entertainment. We are pushing Delaware North, the owner of the last viable greyhound tracks in the United States, to eliminate greyhound racing from its gambling offerings to its customers.
In 2021, the Center focused on elephants in Thailand that were in crisis due to the inhumane tourism industry.

In Thailand, elephants that were used for riding – up to 12 tourists would be loaded onto steel platforms onto their backs – were no longer being used during a dried-up economy due to the coronavirus.

Without tourist dollars, these business owners did not have money to feed the elephants, and left the animals chained and tied to trees days on end. Many starved and died; others died from fallen timber above their heads due to storms.

This year, the Center launched an “Elephants in Crisis” campaign to deliver food relief to as many as 3,000 starving elephants conscripted into the tourism trade that bottomed out after the pandemic hit and left their custodians with little capacity to meet the animals’ needs.

The initial grant went to the Elephant Nature Park, a Thailand-based sanctuary that has demonstrated the ability to buy and distribute locally grown food.

The Park, which is led by Lek Chailert, is a sound welfare organization to support elephant care. But there is much more to be done when it comes to protecting elephants from a tourism trade that could find its footing once again, and force elephants to carry tourists for ‘fun.’ The Center is working with businesses and the Thai government to recognize the benefits of a paradigm shift away from entertainment and toward a watchable-wildlife experience, where tourists can enjoy seeing elephants exhibit natural behavior and where elephants can be left alone to be elephants and not used as carriage rides.

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We were ecstatic this year, when Barbara Creecy, South Africa’s Environment Minister, recommended an end to trophy hunting of captive lions and commercial cub petting.

The Center had been active on the campaign, along with South African animal welfare and conservation groups, urging a “New Deal for Wildlife.”

As Jennifer Skiff, director of international programs for the Center said so well, “South Africa is on the cusp of putting an end to the disgraceful slaughter of captive lions for their heads, bones, and tawdry cub petting operations, and it is a joyous prospect.”

In South Africa, private operators abuse lions during their entire life cycle—keeping them captives and exploiting them for cub-petting, lion-walking, and ultimately, trophy hunting. These “farms” long enabled the mass production of lions in barren, factory farm conditions to supply an insatiable appetite for bones in China for folk medicines, foreign trophy hunters, and unwitting tourists who patronized the farms and perpetuated the life cycle of cruelty with their payments for these commercial opportunities.

The Center and other animal welfare and conservation groups have been urging South Africa to choose eco-tourism to bolster its economy instead of exploiting native wildlife.

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End Cockfighting

**Enforcing our federal laws against animal fighting**

The Center was in the thick of casework to convince the federal courts to affirm the authority of the United States to ban cockfighting in the territories, eliminating any ambiguity about our nation's total ban on staged animal fights. The U.S. Court of Appeals for both the First Circuit and the Ninth Circuit each rendered opinions in 2021, affirming that cockfighting is illegal in Guam and Puerto Rico. The U.S. Supreme Court in October denied a challenge from Puerto Rico’s cockfighting community and the Commonwealth’s political leadership, cementing the rulings of the appellate court judge.

With our partners AWA and the Animal Wellness Foundation, we conducted investigations and found largescale fighting operations are also trafficking hundreds of thousands of animals for fighting across state, territorial, and national lines. While cockfighters stage illegal animal combat throughout the United States – at dozens of arenas in Puerto Rico and at facilities from Kentucky to Oklahoma to Alabama – America is also the cockfighting breeding ground to the world, with Mexico and the Philippines key destinations for the trafficking of fighting animals.

Our sister organizations are pushing for millions in new dollars for enforcement and implementation for all the federal laws for animals. The Animal Cruelty Enforcement Act aims to do that very thing by creating an Animal Cruelty Crimes section at the U.S. Department of Justice. This bill starts to shift enforcement responsibilities from the agency with built-in conflicts (the U.S. Department of Agriculture) to a more neutral one that can mete out justice when deserved.

It’s become common knowledge that violence against animals is often a precursor to other forms of social violence and criminal conduct. That relationship is particularly strong in domestic settings, where animal abuse is often entangled with spousal, child, and elder abuse. Witnessing acts of cruelty can result in either adopting the violent behavior (through modeling) or induce emotional trauma. The link may also be evident in more organized forms of animal exploitation, such as staged animal fighting. In these settings, participants may become desensitized to the suffering of animals, manifesting other dangerous social behaviors.

Still, in the 21st century, there are disturbing acts of animal cruelty that occur every day, with many forms of cruelty of an interstate or international scale and often built around the use of the internet and other interstate instrumentalities.

No Big Cats as Pets

**Commercial cub petting in U.S. on the brink**

It was a tough year for roadside zoos exploiting big cats as pets. Major cub petting operators and exhibitors were shut down, with federal law enforcement watching over Joe Exotic in prison and federal and state actions taken against other big commercial cub petting operators in the nation, including actions against Jeff Lowe in Oklahoma, Tim Stark in Indiana, and “Doc” Antle in South Carolina. The Big Cat Public Safety Act has nearly 300 cosponsors and is poised for success in 2022.
Get the Lead Out of Hunting

A long-lasting toxic metal that’s unsafe for humans and wildlife

It has been commonly understood for thousands of years that lead is a deadly toxin. Yet it’s only in recent decades that we’ve taken it out of gasoline, paint, and other substances. The lingering effects of lead pipes still pose hazards for communities, as we have seen in the devastating water crisis in Flint, Michigan, and the larger debate over crumbling infrastructure in the United States. It is the sensible and conservative move to get lead out of wildlife management, especially now that there are ready alternatives available in the marketplace for every single hunter and fisherman.

That’s why the Center is pushing public awareness, while AWA is working with our allies to introduce the Lead Endangers Animals Daily Act to ban the use of lead ammunition on National Wildlife Refuges.

Scientists have published a range of peer-reviewed studies demonstrating that lead is a long-lasting toxic metal that is unsafe for humans and wildlife, killing millions of wild animals a year, diminishing game populations, and putting hunting families at risk. In 1991, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service banned toxic lead ammunition for waterfowl hunting, producing a conservation and animal welfare success story. Within 10 years, researchers found significant improvements in the blood and bone lead levels in a variety of waterfowl species. The use of nontoxic shot reduced the mortality of mallards by 64% and saved approximately 1.4 million ducks in a single fall flight.

Despite its known toxicity, lead-based ammunition is the single largest source of unregulated lead knowingly discharged into our lands and water. Additionally, an estimated more than 4,000 tons of lead fishing sinkers are lost to the environment annually in the United States. More than 130 species – including humans – are exposed to toxic lead shot, bullet fragments, fishing tackle, or prey contaminated with spent lead ammunition. Animals consume spent lead ammunition or lead fishing tackle by foraging spent lead shot from the ground, feeding on the remains of lead-contaminated gut piles, scavenging the remains of animals that were shot with lead ammunition and left behind, or directly ingesting lead sinkers and jigs.

In the Stable – Not on the Table

Saving horses from slaughter

We have partnered with Animals’ Angels on field investigations tracking the transport of American horses to slaughter in Mexico. Our sister organization, AWA, is happy to report that the House of Representatives, for the first time in more than a decade, passed a ban on the shipment of horses to Canada and Mexico for slaughter with no vocal opposition. The Senate did not pick up the amendment, but we have cemented support on this issue to set us up for success in the near future. The House and Senate bills have strong bipartisan support and supermajorities of lawmakers favoring them. We’ll be working to secure votes in both chambers in 2022.
**Banning the Shark Fin Trade**

*Let them keep their fins*

Some experts estimate that commercial operators kill as many as 70 million sharks a year for their fins to supply the demand for shark fin soup, mainly in China.

We are combatting this horrible business with public awareness, and AWA reports that a key Senate committee passed a shark fin ban, giving our country a very real opportunity to pass this legislation in 2022 and get it signed into law.

AWA also had winning amendments to challenge Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s ban on dog imports (including rescues) from 113 nations, including China where there is a robust effort to save dogs destined for the meat trade.

**Plant-Based Offerings Ready for Take-Off**

*We’re asking airlines to do their part*

Agricultural producers rear 10 billion animals a year for food production, and this comes with incredible costs in the form of animal cruelty on factory farms, air and water pollution, enormous volumes of greenhouse gas emissions, increased health care costs, and other collateral effects. Center for a Humane Economy asks every business to do its part when it comes to reducing the adverse impacts of animal agriculture.

We’re asking major airlines to do their part by offering up more plant-based options for flyers. Specifically, we ask the airlines to make plant-based meals the standard and meat-based meals the specialty offerings. A number of the major airlines are responding favorably to our requests for action:

- Delta has partnered with Impossible Foods and Black Sheep Foods to introduce five new plant-based dishes for select flights and customers. It is also working towards offering more locally grown vegetables.

- British Airways is introducing new plant-based menus across its lounges as part of its commitment to sustainability, starting in Heathrow Airport in London then rolling out in the U.S.

- United Airlines has collaborated with Impossible Foods to offer new plant-based items to its in-flight menu and select lounges, including an Impossible meatball bowl.

- Virgin Atlantic responded to our communiqués and has removed beef from all cabin offerings. The airline introduced the Beyond Burger and is continuing to expand its plant-based offerings. Virgin Atlantic has committed to higher animal welfare standards and sustainable fish, seafood, soy, and palm oil (or better alternatives). Currently 90% of their flights are served by caterers who meet their standards, and they are continuing to work with suppliers to improve their numbers.

Offering up more plant-based options, whether it’s airlines, cruise ships, baseball stadiums, corporate cafeterias, or the like, provides better outcomes in our society by giving consumers better options at mealtimes. We’re pleased to see some progress in the skies.
Center for a Humane Economy is taking on the toughest fights and demanding that businesses recognize animal welfare as a core value of our society. In 2022, we will continue to press ahead with our campaigns to benefit pets, farm animals, horses, and captive and free-roaming wildlife in the United States and abroad.

Animals deserve protection from human ignorance and cruelty, and our societal institutions – including business and government – must recognize that the treatment of animals matters to so many people.

Please continue to join us and support this incredibly important journey to make the world a better place for all creatures.

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WAYS YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE TO A HUMANE ECONOMY

1. Live a more humane lifestyle

Americans throw out 40% of their food, and 22% of this waste comes from animal products. There are numerous costs, including increased greenhouse gas and higher energy outputs. We could spare more than a billion animals in the United States each year just by eliminating food waste. Minimize your own waste, and dispose of it carefully, since that waste not only eats up space and wildlife habitat but can kill animals.

2. Speak with your hard-earned dollars for change

Invest in companies that have animal welfare policies and tell CEOs and mutual fund managers to do the same if they want your support. If you are a member of a pension fund, tell managers not to invest in companies engaged in factory farming. Choose cosmetics and cleaning products not tested on animals. And always avoid fur, exotic leathers, and other products borne out of animal cruelty.

3. Be in the know

Stay updated on animal welfare issues with our blog, The Corporate Animal. Read The Humane Economy by founder Wayne Pacelle for a practical roadmap on how you can use the marketplace to promote the welfare of all living creatures.

4. Be social

Social media is powerful tool for show friends, family and wider communities how to build a more humane society. Share the latest in animal welfare news by following us on social media and alerting your followers about opportunities to help animals.

5. Eat lower on the food chain

Make your food choices with animal welfare and factory farming in mind. Eat more plant-based foods, which are better for you, the planet, and animals. Reduce your consumption of meat. If you eat animal products, choose those with the labeling certifications “Global Animal Partnership,” “Animal Welfare Approved,” or “Certified Humane.”

6. Influence policymakers

Support the Center’s campaigns here and use your voice to speak up for animals by alerting corporations of their responsibilities. Visit our sister organization Animal Wellness Action’s Contact Congress page to let your legislators know you’re keeping an eye on their animal welfare votes. And thank them when they do the right thing, through letters to the editor at your local newspaper. You can find your lawmakers’ voting score here.

7. Travel like an eco-tourist

Pursue eco-friendly destinations when you take a vacation. This brand of tourism drives the global economy and benefits more progressive nations. Make sure the places you travel to have habitat preservation and management laws, as well as proper law enforcement to protect wild animals and their visitors.

8. Help animals in need

Choose to adopt homeless or foster animals – they make incredible and grateful companions, and you save a life in the process. If you’re not ready for a lifetime companion, you can always foster a dog or a cat in need or volunteer to work with adoptee animals. Spay and neuter your pets to prevent unwanted animals, assist animals struck by cars or locked in automobiles by calling the proper authorities.

9. Spread the knowledge

Further the dialogue surrounding animal welfare issues with friends and families at the dinner table, when you are at a restaurant or out shopping, by sharing your knowledge about how to help animals by building a more humane economy through individual action.

10. Speak up when you see cruelty

Don’t be shy about contacting executive agencies, such as agricultural and wildlife agencies. For any information you have about the inhumane treatment of captive, farmed or companion animals, wildlife trafficking or environmental crimes, you can call The Environment and Natural Resources Division of the U.S. Department of Justice at 202-514-2701.
SHAPING THE WAY BUSINESSES TREAT ANIMALS

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