

169C.3 Notice to livestock owner.

1. *a.* If livestock trespasses upon a landowner's land or the landowner takes custody of the livestock, the landowner shall deliver notice of the trespass or custody to the livestock owner within forty-eight hours following discovery of the trespass or taking custody of livestock which has not trespassed. If a local authority takes custody of the livestock, the local authority shall deliver notice of the custody to the livestock owner within forty-eight hours after taking custody of the livestock. The forty-eight-hour period shall exclude any time that falls on a Sunday or a holiday recognized by the state or the United States. The notice shall be made in writing and delivered by certified mail or personal service to the last known mailing address of the livestock owner.

b. If the aggrieved party does not know the name and address of the livestock owner, the aggrieved party shall make reasonable efforts to determine the identity of the livestock owner. The reasonable efforts shall include obtaining the name and address of the owner of the brand appearing on the livestock from the department of agriculture and land stewardship under chapter 169A. If the name and address of the livestock owner cannot be determined, the aggrieved party shall publish the notice as soon as possible at least once each week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper having general circulation in the county where the livestock is located.

2. A notice required under this section shall at least provide all of the following:

a. The name and address of the landowner or local authority.

b. A description of the livestock and where it trespassed or strayed.

c. An estimate of the amount of the livestock owner's liability.