



**NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
MEAT AND POULTRY INSPECTION PROGRAM**

**What You Need to Know:
Selling Bones and Chews for Your Furry Friends**

ND Century Code 4.1-41-05 states that each pet *food* product must be registered with the North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA) feed program. Registration includes a compliant product label containing the name of product, feeding directions, guaranteed analysis, list of ingredients and safe handling instructions.

Pet chews and bones, whether flavor-coated or unflavored, are exempt from registration, unless a claim is made that the product provides value to the animal (i.e. “Good for Digestion,” “High Protein” or “Cleans dog teeth”).

Some examples of products exempt from registration are:

- All chews, bones, toys and exercisers made of animal skin, hide, wood or manmade materials
- Hooves
- Ears
- Animal bones
- Ligaments
- Snouts
- Pizzles

These products can be sold in a retail food shop without registration with the NDDA, as long as they are stored and displayed separately from other human foods and clearly labeled “not for human consumption.” They must be prepared and processed separately from human foods.

Custom exempt byproducts cannot be saved by the processing facility. The byproducts and trimmings from custom exempt animals are not owned by the processor, and therefore must be given back to the owner or disposed of in an acceptable manner. Only bones or other byproducts that were previously inspected and passed under state or federal inspection may be saved and sold as treats.

For more information on pet food or pet treat manufacturing, contact Jamie Good, the North Dakota Department of Agriculture Feed Specialist at 701-226-7337.