

STEPS TO TAKE WHEN THE CIRCUS COMES TO TOWN

BEFORE the Circus Arrives

Contact the venue and sponsors of the circus and ask that they insist that the circus perform without any animals. Show the organizers of the circus our "[Circus Elephants: Training & Tragedy](#)" video about the danger and abuse that animals suffer in the entertainment industry.

Circus promoters use our schools as marketing tools, enticing them to organize field trips to the circus. Contact your local school boards to discourage school promotions of circuses with animal acts.

Check with your city manager and state wildlife agency to ensure that the circus obtained the proper permits. Since circuses are only in one location for a short time, sometimes they will skirt local and state permit requirements in hopes that they will be long gone before anyone finds out.

Urge local authorities to closely monitor the animals and to vigorously enforce local and state laws if violations are found. Download PETA's "[Basic Tips for Circus Elephant Inspections](#)" and provide this information to your local animal control agency and humane society.

Contact PETA for copies of U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) inspection reports or check the [factsheets on this site](#). You can use violations of the Animal Welfare Act to support your position.

Put up posters and stickers.

Sponsor an ad in your local newspaper.

WHILE the Circus Is in Town

Organize a demonstration on opening night. Consider peacefully leafleting at every show. PETA's grassroots protest coordinators support activist-led demonstrations and engage with activists on PETA campaigns. [Click here to see who the grassroots protest coordinator is for your region](#), and contact them to get support for your circus protest.

Write a news release. If you are having a demonstration, let the media know.

Write a letter to the editor of your local paper. Read our [quick facts about the circus](#) for points to make. This is a great opportunity to let people in your area know about the plight of performing animals and to encourage them to boycott circuses with animal acts.

AFTER the Circus Has Left Town

Start a legislative campaign to ban circuses and other traveling exhibits in your town or county. This has already happened in a number of towns, and it can happen in yours! Contact PETA at ActionTeam@peta.org for all the information you need to get started.