

Exhibitor Information and Barn Rules

Welcome to the 2011 Fair! We are glad that you have chosen to exhibit your project animals with us in the Small Animal barn. This will be an exciting and fun week for you and one of the highlights of your 4-H or FFA year. Here are some tips, schedules, information, and barn rules - please read them over carefully:

1. Showmanship and Judging times - Monday, August 1st

Dogs - 1 p.m. on Saturday, July 30th in the covered arena

Pocket Pets and Cats - 2 p.m. Sunday, July 31st in the covered arena

Rabbits - 9 a.m - 4 p.m. in the covered arena. Showmanship first, then breed judging

Poultry - 10 a.m. breed judging in the small animal barn

1 p.m. poultry showmanship in the covered arena

Goats - 4 p.m. in the covered arena. Showmanship first, then breed judging

Exhibitors are responsible for getting their animals to judging and showmanship on time. Judging will begin on time. If an exhibitor fails to attend, their market animals may be excluded from the sale.

2. Skill-A-Thons for Poultry, Rabbits and Goats in the Small Animal Barn - Thursday at 1:00 p.m.

3. Overall small animal showmanship competition- Thursday at 4:00 p.m.

4. Costume class is Saturday, August 6th at 8:30 a.m. in the covered arena. This is an optional class just for fun.

5. Small Animal Sale begins at 10:00 a.m. Friday, August 5. Encourage your buyers to attend. If you decide not to sell your animal at the sale, you must notify the area superintendent and remove your animal from the fair by 11:00 p.m. the day of judging. The Grand and Reserve animals in each area must sell. Exhibitors are responsible for getting their market animals to the auction ring. We have some extra laundry baskets to use if needed. Sale orders will be posted in the small animal barn before the sale.

6. Your animals must be fed and watered before 9:00 a.m. each day of the fair. If superintendents determine that an animal is not being properly cared for, it may be sent home.

7. Keep cages and pens clean. Wood shavings are provided for bedding and trays. Please do not use straw for bedding.

8. Exhibitors are limited to two small animal market animal market project sales per year, including egg pullets. A meat pen counts as one project. See the Fair book for more information.

9. Showmanship dress regulations are dark pants and long-sleeved white shirts. No blue jeans, shorts, or hats allowed. Closed toe shoes must be worn - no sandals allowed. A white show coat is an optional substitution for a white shirt. No nail polish or jewelry should be worn. Hair should be pulled away from the face.

10. Exhibitors are responsible for their own property at the fair. The Gratiot County Fair for Youth accepts no responsibility for loss or damage to personal items or injury or loss of exhibit animals.

11. Cages, carriers, and watering cans may not be stored at the fair. Food containers must be water-proof and have a lid. The small animal barn has wheelbarrows, shovels, brooms, and watering cans available for exhibitor use.
12. The Superintendent for each small animal area may combine smaller classes or split large classes for judging purposes.
13. To help keep the Small Animal Barn clean, barn duty rosters will be posted on a bulletin board near the center of the barn. Exhibitors are encouraged to sign up for barn duty. The Fair will provide brooms, dustpans, and other supplies.
14. The Small Animal barn will open each day by 7:00 am and will close at 10:00 pm.
15. In the event that we have more entries in breed classes than we have space to exhibit them, superintendents may allow animals to be brought in the day of judging and taken home after judging is completed.