

This e-mail contains A LOT of information. Please read to the end!

4-H Livestock Exhibitors –

We are looking forward to an excellent 2026 Douglas County Fair! The Douglas County Extension Office, Fair Board, and gracious volunteers have been working hard to prepare. Don't hesitate to ask if you have any questions or need assistance with anything during fair week. We are here to help make the fair the best it can be. Throughout the week, I encourage you to thank your family and all our great volunteers for helping make the count fair possible. Below are things for you to keep in mind before and during the fair. Good Luck and have a great week!

CARING FOR YOUR LIVESTOCK

We want to take exceptional care of our livestock during the fair. **The forecast is looking warm for the week of the fair. Please be sure to watch your animals closely and water regularly. Per General Rules on Page 9, no misters or hoses for the watering or cooling of livestock will be allowed in any individual pens.**

This includes the following:

- Porta Cools
- Swamp Coolers
- Desert Coolers
- Swamp Boxes
- Evaporative Coolers
- Wet Air Coolers

***Keep your pen space clean.**

- If you borrow someone's personal wheelbarrow, please empty it and return it promptly so it's ready for them to use.
- Make sure your animals are watered and fed.
- Be polite to the public and answer any questions they may have about your livestock.
- The fair is an excellent opportunity for us to educate others about 4-H/FFA, the agriculture industry, and your livestock!

CAMPERS

Are you planning on camping at the fair? All campers must be parked by the end of the day on Sunday, July 26. Exceptions will be made for campers who are also used to hauling livestock. **Electrical camper spots have already been assigned. Campers are not allowed in the grassy areas. Campers without an electrical spot must park in the non-electrical spots east of the Open Pavilion. You will be asked to move if your camper is parked in a grassy area.**

LIVESTOCK TRAILER PARKING

Livestock trailers can be parked around the perimeter of the beef tie-outs or along the fence on the north end of the fairgrounds.

LIVESTOCK CHECK-IN

4-H families will be allowed to drop off supplies and tack (**not animals**) before check-in from 6-9 pm on July 27.

Poultry | Goat | Llama | Rabbit | Sheep | Swine Supply/Tack Drop Off Times:

Sunday, July 26, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. OR

Monday, July 27, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Beef Exhibitor Supply/Tack Drop Off Times:

Sunday, July 26, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Monday, July 27, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Livestock Check-In is on Monday, July 27, from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

PLEASE REFER TO THE ATTACHED MAP FOR THE LOCATION OF THE VET CHECK STATION AND WHERE TO UNLOAD YOUR LIVESTOCK. LIVESTOCK TRAILERS ENTER AT THE NORTHEAST GATE.

Check in at the Vet Check Station AND the Check-in Table:

- *Sheep, Goat, Llama, Poultry, Rabbit, and Swine check-in* is at the north end of the pavilion in your respective livestock areas. You **MUST** check in with your superintendents on Monday evening, so they know you have arrived.
- Beef Cattle, Dairy Cattle & Bucket Calves check-in is in the southwest corner of the Community Bldg. You **MUST** check in with your superintendents on Monday evening, so they know you have arrived.
- All animals will be checked at the vet check station before being unloaded into the designated areas.
- **Please see the attached map for the check-in station.**

***Stall your livestock according to the pre-assigned pen assignments.**

LIVESTOCK EXHIBITOR MEETING (New this Year)

There will be a mandatory Livestock Exhibitor Meeting held on **Tuesday, July 28th at 7:30 a.m.** on the south end (ring side) of the Open Pavilion. Exhibitors from ALL species are expected to attend this informational meeting. We will start the Poultry Show and begin weigh-in as soon as the meeting is over at 8:00 a.m.

LIVESTOCK WEIGH-IN AND FINAL CHECK-IN

All market animals will be weighed and checked in on Tuesday, July 28. Breeding animals will also be checked at the same time.

Market Animals - Once weighed in at the South end of the Open Pavilion, please head to the north end to check in with Candice or Nickie. We will need your weights.

Breeding Animals – Please check in with Candice or Nickie at the North end of the Pavilion.

GOATS – 8:00 am

SHEEP – 8:30 am

SWINE – 9:00 am

BEEF – 8:30 am

TREATMENT RECORDS

Treatment records for all market animals are due at the fair board office (inside Building 21) by 1:00 p.m. on Friday, July 31. This includes market beef, swine, goats, and sheep, as well as meat pens for rabbits and poultry. You can download the livestock drug treatment form on our [Douglas County Fair Livestock/Animal Exhibitor Information Page](#).

LIVESTOCK GENERAL RULES

As a reminder, after the selection of the Grand Champion and Reserve Champion in beef, goat, sheep, and swine, the on-call veterinarian will collect samples for testing. Animals are not to leave the designated area until instructed by the veterinarian. Refer to the [2026 Fair Book](#) for testing details.

COUNTY FAIR AUCTION REMINDER

As a reminder, only market beef, market hogs, market lambs, market goats, meat pens of rabbits, and meat pens of chickens **will sell in the terminal** livestock auction. All Grand and Reserve Champion Market Beef, sheep, hogs, goats, and Meat Pens of Rabbits & Poultry can sell in the auction, but are not required to sell. Exhibitors can only sell one animal at the auction.

AUCTION CARDS

Auction cards are due at the fair board office (inside Building 21) by 1:00 pm on Friday, July 31.

Mark the back of the auction card with where the animal is going (auction, ship extra, local processor, and who is buying the animal). If you sell an animal at the auction, the buyer can send it to a local processor or to the floor buyer. Retaining ownership of the animal by the seller is not an option.

*If you have an extra animal you do not want to take home, mark your auction card “Ship as Extra” on the back and turn it into the Fair Board office (Bldg. 21) by 1:00 p.m. on Friday, July 31.

*If you plan to sell extra animals to be taken directly to a local processor for your family or someone else, the auction card needs to be marked on the back and turned in by 1:00 p.m. on Friday, July 31, to the fair board office at Bldg. 21. The card must have, the person’s name that is getting the animal, contact info, and the processor who will be taking the animal. You must also contact the processor before the fair to let them know you are sending extra animals so they can determine processing times.

****Show Times and Events****

POULTRY SHOW – Tuesday, July 28 at 8:00 a.m.

MEAT GOATS – Tuesday, July 28 at 6:00 p.m.

RABBITS – Wednesday, July 29 at 8:30 a.m.

DAIRY CATTLE/DAIRY GOATS – Wednesday, July 29 at 11:00 a.m.

4-H Enrichment Activities - Wednesday, July 29, 12:00 p.m., Open Pavilion

4-H Trivia Contest – Wednesday, July 29, 2:30 p.m., Dreher Family 4-H Bldg.

SWINE – Wednesday, July 29 at 5:00 p.m.

LLAMAS – Thursday, July 30 at 9:00 a.m.

SMALL LIVESTOCK ROUND ROBIN – Thursday, July 30 at 10:30 a.m.

LIVESTOCK JUDGING – Thursday, July 30 at 1:30 p.m.

SHEEP – Thursday, July 30 at 6:00 p.m.

SCOOPS WITH THE SHERIFFS – Thursday, July 30, at 8:00 p.m., Farm Bureau Picnic Pavilion

(4-H CWF and the Douglas County Sheriff’s Department will host a free Ice Cream Social)

BUCKET CALF – Friday, July 31 at 8:30 a.m.

BEEF – Friday, July 31 (following bucket calf show)

ROUND ROBIN – Saturday, August 1 at 9:00 a.m.

4-H AWARDS CEREMONY – Saturday, August 1 at 3:00 p.m.

LIVESTOCK AUCTION - Saturday, August 1, at 5:30 p.m.

RELEASE TIMES

All livestock will be released on Sunday, August 3, from 7:30 am to 10:00 am.

THANK YOU NOTES

It is **essential** to recognize the individuals who support our 4-H'ers! Please write a thank-you note to your auction buyer and bring it to the Extension office when you pick up your premium check, or after September 1.

*Also, please write thank-you notes to individuals who sponsored any awards you receive.

*Last, but certainly not least, consider writing thank-you notes to the fair board, your superintendents, club leaders, and anyone else who helped you with your project(s) throughout the year!

BEEF/DAIRY EXHIBITORS

***Please plan to help set up the Community Building on Sunday, July 26, at 6:00 p.m.**