

Washington State 4-H Fair

WSU Puyallup ❖ 2606 W. Pioneer ❖ Puyallup, WA 98371

Off Season (Oct 1 – Aug 15): 253-445-4630; Fax 253-445-4587
Fair Time (Aug 16-Sept 30): 253-770-5410; Fax: 253-770-5412

Website: <http://4h.wsu.edu/statefair/index.htm>



1.16m(6/09)

TO: 4-H CAT SHOW PARTICIPANTS

FROM: Washington State 4-H Fair

SUBJECT: State 4-H Fair Participation Information - 2009

Congratulations! Your achievements have made it possible for you to represent your county 4-H program at the Washington State 4-H Fair. I hope that your experiences at State 4-H Fair this year will be good ones. State 4-H Fair organizers have prepared the following information for you, to help make your visit a satisfying one.

- **ANIMALS MAY BE VET CHECKED BETWEEN 6 P.M. AND 8 P.M. THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, IF YOU LIVE CLOSE OR WILL BE STAYING IN THE DORMS THURSDAY EVENING.**
- **ANIMALS WILL BE VET CHECKED BETWEEN 8:30 A.M. AND 9:30 A.M. ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11**
- **CATS SHOULD BE IN PLACE BY 9:30 A.M. SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12-13.**
- **ANIMALS WILL BE RELEASED AT 10 P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY. SEE PG. 2, FOR SUNDAY RELEASE.**
- **THIS IS A THREE-DAY CAT SHOW AND ALL CATS ARE EXHIBITED EACH DAY.**

1. Please read this memo carefully. Information in this letter will be printed in bold if it is new for this year. Questions should be directed to your county Extension 4-H office, or the State 4-H Fair office. Check current maps for the new or unfamiliar locations. Important information about security, parking, dorms, passes, and camper space rentals is available in WS4HF/1.10m, and is not repeated in this letter. Be sure to ask for that information.

There are new gate opening and ticket sales times that you should be aware of, for any one entering the fairgrounds before 10 a.m. For more information, see WS4HF/1.10m or go online to www.thefair.com.
2. If you can't participate, please call your county 4-H office, or the State 4-H Fair Asst. Mgr.'s office at (253) 770-5413.
3. WS4HF/1.01m must be completed and either returned to the County Extension Office or mailed to the State 4-H Fair office in time to be received prior to the first day of your attendance. Follow county office instructions. The form is available from your County Extension Office.
4. The State 4-H Fair Premium Book is online at: <http://4h.wsu.edu/statefair/index.htm>. Please read all information relating to your participation prior to coming to State 4-H Fair.
5. As a State 4-H Fair participant, *you* are on exhibit to other 4-H'ers and the public. Behavior and appearance that shows pride and respect for yourself and the 4-H organization is expected of all 4-H participants. Displaying courteous, appropriate language and wearing clean, appropriate clothing is part of your responsibility to the State 4-H Fair.
6. If you have qualified for and want to make a public presentation at the State 4-H Fair, please let the Cat Superintendent know early on Friday morning, even though you may wish to do your presentation on a different day. You must have received a blue placing on your presentation at the county qualifying event. For your convenience, you are encouraged to make your public presentation during the time you are at the fair with your animal.
7. Cats belonging to exhibitors who need to stay in the dorm Thursday evening must be vet checked Thursday evening prior to being caged for the evening. Vets will be available 6 - 8 p.m. Vehicles will be allowed on the fairgrounds Thursday evening, for one hour only.
8. All cats must be brought in through the Green Gate, or the Service Gate on 5th Street SW. Vehicles are allowed to drive onto the fair grounds in the mornings, through the Service Gate. (See paragraph 5, page 1) Please unload and remove your vehicle promptly. There is limited parking space adjacent to the barns; other exhibitors will appreciate your courtesy. Vehicles must be removed by 8:45 a.m., or they will be towed.
9. Vet requirements are listed in the 2009 State 4-H Fair Premium Book. Please read that section carefully. *Your animal's health is your responsibility.* Your veterinarian should be consulted in determining the appropriate level of prophylactic care beyond basic immunization requirements stated in the Premium Book. Caution should be exercised in handling other cats, or allowing your cat to be handled by other exhibitors. It is possible to transfer serious diseases to your cat through indiscriminate handling practices. **Cats showing evidence of flea**

dander will be rejected entry into the fair and will be sent home.

Rabies vaccination certificate requirements: “An inoculation certificate (WS4HF/1.30m) is available from local County Extension Offices, the WA State 4-H Fair Office, or on the 4-H website. It must be completed at the administering veterinarian’s office, and submitted for all cats exhibited in the State 4-H Fair. No other document may be substituted. If rabies inoculation was given by a veterinarian who is no longer available (e.g. from a temporary clinic, etc.) the original receipt or veterinarian-generated document that includes (1) date of vaccination, (2) cat’s name or ID and age, (3) brand or type of vaccine, (4) the veterinarian’s signature or clinic stamp should be stapled to the inoculation certificate (WS4HF/1.30m). The exhibitor should complete all information required on the inoculation certificate – except the lower portion that is reserved for clinic/veterinarian use.” PLAN AHEAD

- 10. Because of increased awareness of good animal welfare on the part of the general public, you are expected to handle and exhibit your animal safely and humanely. Violations will be dealt with appropriately and promptly.
- 11. The fair will provide veterinarians for vet check-in inspection only. If you find you need emergency vet services during your stay, please go to the cat superintendent or assistant for help. The cat barn superintendent will help you arrange for an office call with a local veterinarian, and dismiss you from the show temporarily. All veterinarian service will be billed to the exhibitor at local rates, and must be paid at the time of the service.
- 12. Exhibiting an animal at the State 4-H Fair implies your acceptance of the Animal Project Exhibitor Commitment to Quality Animal Care agreement. The written agreement is part of this letter. Please read it carefully. It

is also listed in the premium book. Participation indicates your intent to comply with these statements.

- 13. Herdsmanship is one of your important exhibiting opportunities. Educational information for the public is an important part of herdsmanship. Pride in yourself and your animal will be reflected in a clean, well-tended and pleasantly decorated exhibit area. Special attention to cleanliness is important in how the viewing public feels about the 4-H Cat Project. It is the responsibility of each exhibitor to care for their cat and to see that someone is on duty when cats are on display. Design your cage decorations so that the public can see your cat while it’s in the cage. Check the information in the Premium Book concerning herdsmanship. Herdsmanship ribbons will be available during release of cats on Sunday evening. Ribbons will not be mailed to your county.
- 14. Western Washington Fair, our host, requests that we not prepare, serve, or eat/drink foods and beverages within the animal barns, and that we encourage our barn visitors to refrain from eating/drinking while in the barns. An appropriate location, out of sight of the public, will be provided for you to use for snacks and meals as necessary. Remember to wash your hands frequently, but especially before handling food. This reflects the serious nature of food contamination from animal contact – for barn visitors as well as exhibitors. Please cooperate in setting a good example for the more vulnerable urban public.
- 15. Cages provided in the barn adjacent to the 4-H Pass Office are loaned by the King County 4-H Cat Leaders, and measure 45” long x 21” deep x 20” high. Over the past several years, Western Washington Fair has given a number of cages to county cat project groups. Most counties are now able to provide their State 4-H Fair exhibitors with cages. We encourage you to bring your own cage, but if you can’t one will be provided.

CAT SHOW SCHEDULE

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Vet check-in 8:30-9:30 am	On display 10 am-10 pm	On display 10 am-6 pm
On display 10 am-10 pm (Decorated cages judged during the day)	Fit & Show 8:30 am-5 pm	Type Judging 9 am-5 pm
Judging Contest 5-8 pm	Costume 6:30 p.m.	Department meeting 5-6 pm

Exhibitors will be released as soon as all cages and tables are cleaned, folded and carried out, and barn is clean. Barn clean-up begins at 6 p.m. Non-exhibitors are asked to help with this effort. With cooperation and teamwork, everyone can be on their way home promptly. The Cat Show Superintendent will announce release.

CATS AND DORMITORIES

Dormitory residency is provided for the use of 4-H exhibitors at State 4-H Fair. See WS4HF/1.10m for important information about dormitory use. One parent or chaperone per exhibitor is welcome. Because of housing demands, other family members should not expect to be accommodated.

Cats will not be kept in the dormitories, due to the problems of dormitory residents with allergies, and the typical nocturnal habits of cats. Early, careful planning and preparation for alternative sleeping arrangements will help you and your cat have a good experience at State 4-H Fair. Cats belonging to exhibitors residing in the dormitories will remain in the cat barns overnight. All cats staying overnight in the barn will be caged in their show cage, or an alternate cage may be brought for your cat's nighttime use. The extra cage must be stored out of the sight of the public and the exhibitors during the day. Plan cage decorations carefully, so that your cat will not be able to hurt itself or destroy your decorations during the evening.

Cat exhibitors' parents or leaders residing in the dormitories will be asked to check the cat barns periodically during the night. A volunteer schedule will be prepared for regular shifts. The barns will be secured against unauthorized entry from 10 p.m. until 7 a.m. After several years successful experience with this housing arrangement, we have confidence it is an uneventful part of exhibiting cats at the State 4-H Fair.

Animals are not to be bathed or groomed in dormitory or public rest rooms. There is a laundry sink in the east barn that can be used if your cat fouls itself during the night.

ANIMAL PROJECT EXHIBITOR COMMITMENT TO QUALITY ANIMAL CARE

This is an agreement, formal or implied, between 4-H participants and the management of the State 4-H Fair. Its purpose is:

- To encourage ethical decisions and activities by 4-H youth.
 - To ensure the overall well being of all 4-H animals exhibited.
 - To ensure the use of commonly accepted practices in preparing and exhibiting animals for show.
 - To maintain a safe and wholesome food supply.
 - To maintain the intent and integrity of animal competitions and displays for future generations.
1. The purpose of my participation in the Washington 4-H Animal Sciences Program is to strengthen my own knowledge, ability, and skill as a feeder, manager, trainer, caregiver, and exhibitor of animals and to develop my sense of responsibility and good character. If my project includes food production animals, my goal is to produce safe and wholesome food.
 2. I will do my own project work to the best of my ability.
 3. I will not use or allow abusive, fraudulent, or illegal practices or products to be used in the feeding, care, fitting, training, and showing of my animals.
 4. I will not misrepresent my animals or myself in any way.
 5. I will read, understand, and follow the rules, without exception, of animal shows in which I am a participant and ask that my parents and my 4-H leader do the same.
 6. My animal project is an example of how to accept what life has to offer, both good and bad, and how to live with the outcome. I will treat other people's animals with the same respect and care I give my own animals.
 7. I realize that I am responsible for the proper care and safe, humane treatment of my animals. I realize that I am also responsible for demonstrating strong moral fiber and good character as an example to others.
 8. I will voice any objections to events related to my participation by using the protest policy described in the premium book. I will not directly interfere with the judge, show management, or other exhibitors before, during, or after the event.
 9. I accept that failure to uphold this commitment could result in forfeiture of my right to participate in the 4-H Animal Sciences Program.