

WASHINGTON STATE 4-H FAIR INFORMATION

SECURITY MEASURES – PARKING – PASSES/TICKETS – ENTRANCE GATES CAMPER SPACE RENTALS – APPROPRIATE DRESS – ROLE OF PARENTS/LEADERS

SECURITY MEASURES AT ALL GATES

Washington State Fair, in concern for the security of their visitors, has issued the following statement: “Due to increased security at the fair, all vehicles, coolers, purses, backpacks, diaper bags, packages, etc. may be subject to search upon each and every entry. No illegal or dangerous items, including guns and knives, will be allowed through any vehicle or pedestrian gate.” Please allow extra time upon arrival, for search checkpoints.

The State 4-H Fair, while recognizing your need for equipment to care for animals and to complete participation in other activity contests, encourages each 4-H family give careful consideration to must be brought onto the fairgrounds. Be prepared to open tack boxes, ice chests, and other containers. If boxes are locked, be sure a key or combination is in the possession of the person who presents the box at the security checkpoint.

PARKING

Please check current fairground maps for locations of exhibit areas. You will want to park in the lot that is most convenient for your activity. **PARKING IS NOT FREE.** Each entry into a parking lot costs a minimum of \$12.00 during the week and \$18.00 on the weekends.

PASSES/TICKETS

- Through the courtesy of the Washington State Fair, hosts for the State 4-H Fair, passes are available for participants and chaperones. Exhibitors will receive one youth pass and one chaperone pass from the County Extension Office. Additional complementary pairs of passes, as required for your fair activity, will be available at the 4-H pass counter on the fairgrounds. It is located on the west corner of the dog/cat arena, Building 50, in the State 4-H Fair Office (see maps of fairgrounds buildings).
- The 4-H pass counter is open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily for your convenience. The office will be completely closed on all Tuesdays, except for Sept 20 when the office will open at 12 p.m.
- 4-H exhibitors or their parent should request passes in person; do not send another 4-H member to get your passes. Passes will be available for livestock and rabbit/cavy exhibitors or their representative in the species' barns 6:30-10:00 a.m. on the morning of animal arrival only. After that time, passes will be available at the 4-H Pass Office.
- All additional family members and other guests must purchase entrance tickets. Anyone entering a gate before 10 a.m. must have either a pass or a pre-purchased ticket. Tickets are not sold at the gates before 10 a.m. You may purchase tickets at the 4-H pass counter prior to the day you need the passes. Discounted tickets are also available at Puget Sound area Safeway stores and Columbia Banks. Go to www.thefair.com for more information on locations and prices.

ENTRANCE GATES

Only employees, exhibitors, and those assisting with 4-H events will be allowed on the fairgrounds before 10 a.m.

- SERVICE GATE – Vehicle access to the fairgrounds. Attended 24 hours. Passes or pre-purchased tickets are needed for each vehicle occupant. The vehicle entry gate closes at 8:45 a.m. each morning. Dog exhibitors can bring their equipment and animal through this gate in

the family vehicle, unload at the dog and equipment at the dog barn (leave someone in charge of these items), and exit promptly. Park in the Green Parking Lot, for ease of exit in the evening, when you must carry out all show supplies and materials. If delivering materials to the fairgrounds during the daytime, you may bring your packages to the Shuttle Service inside the Service Gate. After inspection, they will be delivered to the location you indicate. Someone must be at the delivery point to receive the material, or volunteer 4-H staff at that location must be informed of pending delivery.

- **GREEN GATE** – Opens at 6 a.m. for those with passes and pre-purchased tickets. This gate is convenient to dormitories, dogs, horse barns/arenas, rabbits/cavies, and the State 4-H Fair Office.
- **PURPLE GATE** – Opens at 5:30 a.m. for those with passes or pre-purchased tickets.
- **BLUE GATE** – Opens at 6 a.m. for those with passes or pre-purchased tickets. Both the Purple and Blue Gates are convenient for livestock barns and 4-H Exhibit Building participants.
- **GOLD GATE AND RED GATE** – Both gates are open at 6 a.m. for those with passes or pre-purchased tickets.

ENTRY AND STORAGE FOR LIVESTOCK TRUCKS

All livestock trucks and other vehicles hauling livestock animals will have a new arrival procedure this year. From 15th Street SW, all livestock vehicles will turn into the rodeo entrance into the parking lot (follow directional signs). **You must use the rodeo entrance off of 15th Street SW. Do not enter through the Green Parking Gate.** Livestock vehicles will then be sorted into three lines, one for each unloading area. Vehicles will be directed onto the fairgrounds, following the newly established route through the fair. Only vehicles with livestock animals aboard will be directed onto the fairgrounds. All other vehicles will be parked and all tack and equipment will be shuttled onto the fairgrounds. After unloading the animals, livestock trucks will be directed to the designated parking areas for livestock vehicles.

Pick-ups and trucks **used for hauling animals**, can be stored in the designated Livestock Parking area. Request a parking card to hang on your rear view mirror, as animals are being unloaded. You must register your license plate to get the parking card. Vehicles are expected to remain parked in this lot the entire time you are at the fair. If you go in and out daily, you will be expected to pay daily parking fees. **No other vehicles may be parked in the Livestock Parking area.**

ENTRY AND STORAGE FOR HORSE TRAILERS

From 15th Street SW, horse trailers should turn onto Fairview Avenue. From there, enter the parking lots through the Livestock Entry gate. Fair personnel will give you a parking card to hang on your rear view mirror. You will need to register your license plate to receive the parking card. Horses will be unloaded and vet check will take place in the parking lot.

CAMPER SPACE RENTALS

Camper space is available for campers and trailers, on a first-come reservation basis, from the Washington State Fair. The State 4-H Fair is not involved in those arrangements. Please call 253-845-1771 to request reservation information. Space rent is payable in advance to the Washington State Fair. There are dumping stations in the camper parking lots and a mobile service truck does come in for your convenience. Early reservations are advised – camping space is limited. Partial refunds may be made, if WSF offices are notified at least five days in advance of entry date. Please note, the State 4-H Fair is not involved in camping on the fairgrounds.

TENT CAMPERS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON THE CAMPGROUNDS, WHETHER ACCOMPANYING CAMPERS OR AS AN INDEPENDENT RENTAL.

There are exhibitor showers in the AgriPlex Building. 4-H does not monitor the use of these showers.

ROLE OF PARENTS/LEADERS AT THE FAIR

The State 4-H Fair Trustees and staff would like to welcome **you** to Puyallup. We know that your young person has worked hard to earn an invitation to participate at the Fair, but we want to also recognize the contributions made by those who are not exhibiting while at Fair. We strongly encourage you to read all the material we have prepared for your young person's participation at State 4-H Fair. Collecting a premium book for their use would be helpful, too. You can find more information as well as the Exhibitor Guide at the web site: <http://extension.wsu.edu/4h/fairs/state-4-h-fair>

The purpose of this letter, besides letting you know that we're glad to welcome you, is to explain how parents and other non-exhibitors can participate in the Fair. You will notice that there are several places in the printed material where do's and don'ts for non-exhibitors are mentioned. While the term "non-exhibitor" sounds rather negative, it's meant to imply that we understand that 4-H'ers receive both practical and theoretical support from many people in their lives in addition to parents. And it's a lot more to the point than saying "All parents, step-parents, adopted parents, grand parents, brothers, sisters, cousins, good friends, ..." Well, you understand!

The support of parents, family, and all of those described under the umbrella "non-exhibitors", is very important in the lives of children and young adults. By giving them our support, we help establish a strong base for self-worth, regardless and exclusive of any awards or ribbons they may receive while they are exhibiting here. That's why it may seem strange that there are so many "don'ts" attached to non-exhibitors at the State 4-H Fair. We are asking you to provide a different kind of support to your exhibitor, while they are at Fair, than you normally might in other circumstances.

As the world has become a more complex place for children to grow up in, the role of 4-H has had to undergo some subtle and not so subtle changes, too. Now 4-H not only tries to teach good animal husbandry, but also life skills that kids can use later on to help themselves in many ways. Demonstrations can help kids become more comfortable with speaking in public, and teaches them to organize their thoughts. Keeping record books helps them learn discipline and organization. Herdsmanship helps them learn to share, work as a team member and accept responsibility.

What role does exhibiting at a fair have in teaching life skills? In a practical sense, think about having an important job interview. A livestock show is more or less based on the same principle. An interviewer (*a judge*) is looking for someone who fits the job description (*shows the qualities that best illustrate the standards for fitting and showing an animal*). Those who have prepared both mentally and physically and can present themselves well will most likely receive the job offer (*the award they desire*).

Part of the application process for many jobs is testing, both physical and mental. Participation in a show teaches 4-H'ers that while preparation is very important, they must learn to think quickly and plan ahead while on the move.

Part of what kids are asked to exhibit, along with their abilities and animals, are the life skills they have learned while in 4-H. Most of all, State 4-H Fair is about what kids have learned to do, not about what we can assist them in doing. Most parents and non-exhibitors, by the time that magic "arrival day" rolls around, have done enough to help children get here, and can retire... *While you might give your child a ride to that job interview, you certainly would not accompany them into it.* After all, you're already got a full time job - being a parent and a friend.

So, your role in this Fair is that of giving support, during their most and least successful moments ... and to let your 4-H youth do the work they've been preparing to do!

Here are some practical tips to make *your* Fair attendance more comfortable:

- Bring some lawn chairs, so you can relax while you watch your kids doing herdsmanship. Don't sit "front and center" – let their good work and the animals they are so proud of be what the fair visitor sees first. Please do not block aisles or building entrances with your chairs.
 - Cushions, extra blankets, and a thermos of hot drinks or ice chest of cold beverages will contribute to your comfort in the bleachers and barns.
 - If you're feeling like you really want something to do to help out, check with the superintendent or come over to the State 4-H Fair office. We take volunteers of all kinds.
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- Encourage your exhibitor to get lots of rest. It's hard to shine in an "interview" if you're half-asleep.
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There's just one more thing we want to explain, before you get here. We will request that there be someone around your county exhibit at all times while the Fair is open to the public, as an adult volunteer barn monitor. People will try to touch the animals whether or not we post "Don't Touch" signs. It's in our best interest to discourage them. It will be much easier for us to say, "I'm sorry, but please don't get too close to the animal" than it is to deal with the unpleasant aftermath of an accident. Your help, whether it's sharing your time or encouraging your kids to help with this, is needed and appreciated.

APPROPRIATE DRESS

During your stay at the State 4-H Fair, we want you to have the best experience possible. The State 4-H Fair Board has developed the following dress code to assure that no one will feel offended or uncomfortable during his or her stay. If you choose to dress inappropriately, you will be asked to change. By planning ahead and packing appropriately, you will save yourself the inconvenience of having to change and you will be contributing to a pleasant fair atmosphere.

All clothing shall be neat, clean, and acceptable in repair or appearance and shall be worn within the bounds of decency and good taste as appropriate for 4-H events.

Articles of clothing which display profanity, products, or slogans which promote tobacco, alcohol, drugs, sex or are in other ways distracting are prohibited.

Excessively baggy clothing, and clothing which advertises gang symbols or affiliation is prohibited.

Items of clothing which expose bare midriffs, bare chests, undergarments, or that are transparent (see-through) are prohibited. Tank tops with straps wider than one inch are permitted. Please be advised that spaghetti straps, shirts which expose a bare back, halter tops, and tube tops are prohibited.
