

## 4-H DEPARTMENT

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### A. GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS - 4-H Department

1. Exhibitors will be limited to Howard County 4-H Club members and must be enrolled and active in 4-H work no later than May 1st of the current year, unless project requirements list an earlier date, then that date will be in effect. A 4-H'er must be 8 years old (5 years old for Clover entries) and must not have passed his/her 19th birthday by January 1, 2009.
2. Exhibits must be the result of the current year's projects (August 2008-August 2009). **Previous years exhibits are NOT acceptable in the Indoor 4-H Building and will be disqualified if exhibited.** Copyrighted exhibits are prohibited.
3. All 4-H Entry Blanks must be sent to the Howard County 4-H Office, 3525-L Ellicott Mills Dr., Ellicott City, MD 21043, on or before July 1, 2009. PLEASE SUBMIT SEPARATE ENTRY BLANKS FOR EACH DEPARTMENT. POSTMARK WILL DETERMINE ACCEPTABILITY. NO POSTAGE METERS ACCEPTED. **Faxed entries will not be accepted.**
4. Each exhibitor is responsible for submitting and removing entries from the Fairgrounds on the dates required.
5. Exhibits or Projects must be verified by the 4-H Extension Educators as being **BONAFIDE 4-H PROJECTS**. Projects for competition **MUST** be the work of the 4-H'er submitting it. **4-H'ERS MUST BE ENROLLED WITH THE 4-H OFFICE IN A PROJECT BY MAY 1 TO EXHIBIT THAT PROJECT.**
6. The 4-H Extension Educators shall be ultimately responsible for any decisions affecting 4-H Departments and Shows in consultation with the 4-H Department Chairpersons, 4-H Livestock Oversight Committee, and 4-H Behavior Expectations Committee.
7. All 4-H members exhibiting or participating in 4-H activities at the Howard County Fair must comply with all rules and regulations.
8. Each department will have Junior, Intermediate, and Senior Divisions when listed. Clover (age 5-7), Junior (8-10), Intermediate (11-13), and Senior (14-19) as of January 1, 2009.
9. All exhibitors must get an Exhibitor's Number from the 4-H Office before entering exhibits. Fair entry blanks can be picked up from organizational volunteers, the 4-H Office, or our web site **www.howard4-h.org**.
10. The Maryland and Howard County 4-H Behavior Expectations will be in effect the entire week of the fair for all youth and adults.
11. Clover exhibitors are limited to departments designated for clovers.
12. Any request for consideration on behalf of exhibitors for any special needs (whether physical, medical, or educational) must be declared on entry form and properly documented. This information must be updated annually.
13. Exhibitors with special needs - 4-H members with Disabilities - Determining Age Division (Junior - age 8-10 as of January 1 or if identified as having developmental disability, until the end of 5<sup>th</sup> grade year; Intermediate - age 11-13 as of January 1 or if identified as having developmental disability, from September 1 of 6<sup>th</sup> grade year thru August 31 of 8<sup>th</sup> grade year; Senior - age 14-18 as of January 1 or if identified as having developmental disability from September 1 of 9<sup>th</sup> grade year thru acceptance of terminal high school degree.
14. It is the policy of the Maryland Cooperative Extension that no person shall be subjected to discrimination on the grounds of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, age, marital or parental status or disability.

**B. 4-H INDOOR BUILDING ENTRIES**

1. **All 4-H Indoor Building entries will be PRE-ENTERED.** Entries are available at the 4-H Office or our web site [www.howard4-h.org](http://www.howard4-h.org). All exhibitors must abide by General Rules & Regulations.
2. Each exhibitor **may enter only ONE exhibit in each Class.**
3. **Exhibits may not be removed for any reason until Sunday, August 16th 11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.** Violation of this means prize money forfeiture. All exhibits must be removed at this time. Any exhibits left will not be the responsibility of the Howard County 4-H Department or the Howard County Fair Board and will be disposed of after 30 days.
4. To ensure **food safety, since refrigeration is not available**, no uncooked potentially hazardous foods such as milk, half and half, evaporated milk, cream, cream cheese, yogurt, whipping cream, whole eggs, egg whites, egg yolks, or egg substitutes shall be used in fillings or icings. Eggs used in recipes must be cooked. Icing's must be a non-refrigerated type recipe. Ingredients are to be freshly purchased quality products.
5. Box Cake Mixes will be accepted for **decorated cakes only.**
6. When two exhibits are made from the same batter, both will be disqualified.
7. 4-H'ers may exhibit in Open Class **only** if they are **not enrolled** in the specific project. 4-H'ers are encouraged by May 1<sup>st</sup> to know what projects they are carrying. 4-H'ers may show in the Junior Flower Show in open class. Use your 4-H Exhibitor Number for both 4-H and Open Class entries.
8. Fair Ribbons will be given to money award winners. The Danish System of group judging, based on workmanship, consists of first judging each exhibit on it's own merit then placing all individual exhibits of similar quality in the same general group. Example: All excellent quality is Blue Stamp group; all good quality is Red Stamp group; all fair quality is White Stamp group. Quality is stamped on the Entry Exhibit Tags.
9. Non-perishable exhibits will be received on Wednesday, August 5th from 4:00 - 8:00 P.M. and Thursday, August 6th from 4:00 - 8:00 P.M. only. Perishables (Baked Goods, Flowers, Vegetables and Candies and Food Preservation) will be received on Saturday, August 8th from 7:30 - 9:00 am. All perishables will begin judging at 10:30 a.m. Entries will be accepted at the back entrance of the Indoor 4-H Building. Baked Goods and Candy exhibits will be sold to benefit the Howard County 4-H Program.
10. Gift baskets will also be included in The Baked Goods Auction at the exhibitor's discretion. Please indicate on entry tag.
11. Booths, Banners, Posters, Clovers, Woodworking, Home Environment and Natural Resources which includes Science, Entomology and Hobbies will be judged on Friday, August 7th between 4:00 - 8:00 P.M.
12. Computers, Creative Writing, and Club Books will be judged prior to week of fair.
13. 4-H'ers are not eligible for the "Total Points" award in the 4-H Indoor Building if they have won it for two years consecutively. Previous year winners will be posted.
14. Tags should be fastened securely to all entries.

**General Awards sponsored by:** Ellicott City Kiwanis Club, Barbara Larimore - In memory of Jean Keplinger, and Dottie Titherington/Clyde Brown, Sr. - In memory of Bud Brown Jr.

4-H ENTRIES DUE - **July 1st**  
INDOOR - LIVESTOCK  
BICYCLE - CANINE - ROCKETRY- SMALL PETS - WILDLIFE

Send to: Howard County Cooperative Extension  
4-H Fair Entry  
3525-L Ellicott Mills Dr.  
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Enter online at: [www.howard4-h.org](http://www.howard4-h.org)

**C. 4-H - AGRICULTURAL AND OTHER SCIENCES**

1. The Maryland 4-H Code of Animal Science Ethics applies to all livestock exhibitors. The Oversight Committee consisting of 4-H livestock superintendents, a representative of the Fair Board, and the 4-H Extension staff, will have authority to rule in cases of alleged violations. Breed exhibition standards will be in effect. Blood, hair, and urine samples may be drawn on all champion market animals immediately following the show.
2. All Beef Cattle, Swine, Dairy Cattle, Sheep and Goat breeding animals must be registered before July 1st in exhibitor's name. Registration papers will be checked by the 4-H Superintendent. Tags/tattoos, as required, must be in the ear on arrival.
3. All animal exhibitors are limited to two animals in each 4-H Breeding Class or Weight Class. Exhibitors must exhibit their own animals, except where two (2) animals fall in the same class, then another Howard County 4-H member may assist them. Department Superintendents must be notified before show time.
4. Market animals will be shown and entered in the Rate-of-Gain Contest at the weight recorded on ID Day.
5. All 4-H Dairy animals, Beef Heifers, Breeding Sheep, and Poultry may show in Open Class competition. 4-H and Open Class Entry Blanks for breeding animals are filled out and sent to the Fair Secretary on or before July 1st, with entry fee. Postmark will be used. Only 1 entry is needed for 4-H and Open Class.
6. **All Beef, Sheep, Swine, and Dairy Goat exhibits must be on the grounds by 7:00 A.M. Sunday, August 9th and all 4-H Dairy exhibits must be on the grounds by 1:00 p.m. on Monday, August 10th. Market Lambs and Market Goats must be on the grounds Saturday, August 8th - 6:00 p.m.**
7. All entries are subject to the current Health Regulations as outlined by the Maryland Animal Health Department. Copy of health papers must be sent with entry.
8. All feed and bedding must be furnished by the exhibitor. Beef will be bedded on tanbark at \$10.00 per head. Fee must be paid on Sunday, August 9, 2009.
9. 4-H members are responsible for the care of their animals while on the grounds and for the cleanliness of the barns and pens. Aisles should be kept clean and open. (Only show boxes behind animals). No butt fans allowed.
10. **4-H animals MUST be fitted and cared for by the exhibitor. IMMEDIATE FAMILY AND OTHER HOWARD COUNTY 4-H MEMBERS MAY ASSIST IN PREPARATION OF OTHER 4-H ANIMALS. 4-H members are encouraged to do all their own work. OUT OF COUNTY HELP IS NOT ALLOWED. Family employees are not allowed to help.**
11. Overall Showmanship Champions are not eligible to compete in the same Department again. Sweepstakes competition is open to all former overall winners regardless of age.
12. NO UNRULY ANIMALS WILL BE ALLOWED TO REMAIN ON THE GROUNDS OR IN THE SHOW RING. The department superintendent in consultation with the supervising 4-H staff will be responsible for decisions affecting this rule.
13. **Exhibitors are the responsibility of their parents at all times.** Permission slips acknowledging parental responsibilities will be available from the 4-H office and must be completed by all who stay on the grounds OVERNIGHT.
14. All 4-H livestock exhibitors must clean their pens and stalls the final night of the fair.

15. All protests must be submitted in writing to the supervising 4-H Staff within 24 hours of the occurrence. They must detail the concern and the names of witnesses. Written protests must be accompanied by a certified check/money order/cash for \$150. If the complaint is sustained the accused party will incur the cost and the \$150 will be returned to complainant. Protests must be in writing. Anonymous protests will not be accepted. Judging procedures will not be interrupted for protest investigations and depending upon the basis of the protest, a decision may be withheld until a complete investigation is completed.
16. **Beef, Sheep, Swine, and Goat Market Animals must meet minimum rate of gain to show. Rate-of-Gain is calculated from 1st Day to Weigh-in at fair. There is no tolerance. (BEEF - 2.0 pounds day, GOAT - .2 pounds day, SHEEP - .4 pounds day, SWINE - 1.5 pounds day). There will be NO reweighs.**
17. Livestock Orientation - **MANDATORY** - Sunday, August 2nd - 4:00 - 6:00 P.M. - Show Ring. This is for Beef, Sheep, Swine, Goat, Rabbit, Poultry, and Dairy exhibitors.
18. 4-H'ers may show a market or breeding animal in livestock, dairy, or goat showmanship classes.

**D. 4-H - ANIMAL SHOW ATTIRE**

1. The prescribed show attire is required for all showmanship classes, breed shows, market shows and the livestock sale.
2. No farm names or other identification shall appear on show uniforms.
3. Safe appropriate attire, including footwear is required at all times.
4. Premiums shall be forfeited if dress code is violated!
5. No **Hats or Cell Phones** allowed in the ring.

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**DAIRY CATTLE AND DAIRY GOATS:**

4-H boys - white pants, **white shirt with set in sleeves and collar**, and green or black tie. (Caps shall **not** be worn in the show ring).

4-H girls - white slacks **white blouse with set in sleeves and collar**, and green or black neck piece. (Caps shall **not** be worn in the show ring). No crop tops, scoop necks, or lace up blouses.

**LIVESTOCK (BEEF, SHEEP, SWINE, MARKET & FIBER GOAT) & CANINE:**

4-H boys - tan or forest green pants or jeans, **white shirt with set in sleeves and collar**, and green or black tie. (Caps shall **not** be worn in the show ring).

4-H girls - forest green or tan slacks or jeans, **white blouse with set in sleeves and collar**, and green or black neck piece. (Caps shall **not** be worn in the show ring). No crop tops, scoop necks, or lace up blouses.

4-H Superintendents may excuse anyone inappropriately dressed.