

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION



December 16, 2020

Dear 4-H Beef Project Member,

Please find attached several documents regarding our upcoming Howard County 4-H Beef Identification Day. We will be tagging steers on **Saturday, January 16, 2021** at the Howard County Fairgrounds. **Animals must be halter broken.** Tagging, weighing, etc. will be done from **9:00 A.M. until 11:00 A.M.** This year, there will be several changes due to COVID-19 so please read everything carefully in this letter. Please know that our procedures and the event is subject to change due to updated restrictions and guidelines for COVID-19.

PAPERWORK/FORMS

1. REGISTRATION FORMS/ANIMAL SCIENCE CODE OF ETHICS

Attached you will find the registration form that needs to be completed for each 4-H member. If you have steers and commercial heifers that need to be tagged, they need to be on two separate forms. Please **complete** and return it by **January 6, 2021**. **Our office is currently closed, however, we do receive mail on a daily basis. If you choose to not mail and want to bring to our office, you can slide through the glass doors to our suite, however, we recommend you mail the paperwork.** Each 4-H'er is limited to a maximum of ten steers. Please use one form per 4-H'er. Steers cannot be transferred among family members once they are registered and tagged. Tags will cost \$5.00 each this year and replacement tags will cost \$10.00 each. 4-H beef steer and heifer projects are open to 4-H'ers age 8 and up as of January 1, 2021.

Purebred steers (Angus, Hereford, & Shorthorn) are required to have breed association registration papers in the child's name only to show (Please note: Shorthorn Plus steers show as crossbreds). Be sure that your breed papers have the correct ownership date on them. Remember, you need to own your animals and have them in your direct care by January 1, 2021. You will need to be sure that you have your breed papers at every show. Also, purebred steers need to be tattooed. The tattoo needs to match the registration paper. **If you already have your registration papers, please send a copy to the Extension Office with your paperwork.** **If you do not have registration papers as of yet, a copy needs to be sent to the Extension Office once you receive them.** This will help to assure your steers are entered in the correct breed.

The Code of Animal Science Ethics will be in effect the entire show season. They are on the back of your registration form. Please be sure that all required signatures are completed. They must be signed in order to participate. As a 4-H'er you are on display for all to see and the example you set is important.

HEALTH PLEDGE FORM

This form is attached and needs to be completed for each person that will be with you the day of the steer tagging/weighing. Specific instructions as to how these will be collected are in the procedures section.

BEEF IDENTIFICATION DAY PROCEDURES

The process this year will be a bit different so please read everything carefully.

1. When you arrive onto Fairgrounds Road and drive to the gate for entry, you will need to stop. At this stop, Chris Rein (Howard County 4-H Program Assistant) will greet you. At this stop, you will show her the health form(s) and then place them in the box she has available.
2. Once instructed, you will move onto the fairgrounds, you will pull in line via our regular route (drive past the wash racks and then enter the middle road way from the bottom end).

3. The trailer will be backed up to the gate for unloading of animals.
4. All animals will go through the scales first, then the chute to be tagged and for hair to be pulled.
5. Your trailer will need to be moved to the second set of gates for reloading of animals.
6. Once weighing and tagging is completed, you will reload your animals onto your trailer.
7. After reloading, you will then leave the fairgrounds.

COVID-19 INFORMATION

At all times, all participants must wear facial masks/coverings. This means at the first stop when you pull up, you need to have your face mask on prior to rolling down your window.

To the best of everyone's ability 6 foot social distancing needs to occur except for those in your family/vehicle.

Do not exit your vehicle until instructed to do so.

All gates will be disinfected to the best of our ability between trailers. Due to potential cold weather this may be difficult to successfully accomplish.

If you are sick or not feeling well, please do not come!

GENERAL INFORMATION

If there is inclement weather, an email will be sent to the email address on your registration form as well as posted to the Howard County 4-H website at www.howard4-H.org. (In the event we need to reschedule due to inclement weather, we will tag/weigh the next weekend which is Saturday, January 23rd). **All steers must be tagged on the 16th**. Make your hauling arrangements now, please. There will be no vet work done on January 16th.

All 4-H beef projects registered to show in Howard County **must** be housed on your **HOME PLACE** from January 1st through project termination. **You will be required to have written permission for projects to be housed at a location other than where you physically live.** Contact Sheryl at sherylb@umd.edu immediately so written permission can be obtained. **Animals found not to be housed at your home place, without permission will have the ear tags removed. Out of county feeding/fitting is not allowed.** The Howard County 4-H Extension Faculty and Staff reserve the right to make visits to verify animal locations. Do not jeopardize being barred from 4-H participation!

As in the past, commercial heifers will need to be tagged in order to be shown at county and state 4-H shows. If you have a commercial heifer that you would like to have tagged, you can also bring it on January 16th. If you purchase a commercial heifer later in the winter or spring, it can be tagged at a later date but needs to be done by July 1st. Remember commercial heifers are heifers that are not able to be registered with a breed association. **You cannot have a purebred heifer registered with a breed association in one person's name/farm name and then register as a 4-H commercial heifer in a different person's name.** Please use a separate registration form to list commercial heifers. In the top right box of the form be sure to check commercial beef heifers.

We are making plans for Beef Field Day but as you know everything will be dependent on the restrictions in place due to the pandemic. **Beef Field Day is scheduled for Saturday, May 15th and will be a joint event with Carroll County 4-H. It is designed to help new 4-H beef project members and for older members to gain experience showing their animals. Participation is MANDATORY for all Junior, Intermediate and First Year 4-Hers enrolled in the beef project.** We encourage all of our beef project members to participate.

The **Code of Animal Science Ethics** and Behavior Code of Conduct are in effect the entire time of the project. Animals are subject to blood/hair and/or urine sampling and testing at any time. Don't be penalized! Read the label on **everything** you give to your calves. If it is not approved, don't use it.

REMEMBER

1. Steer registration forms are due in the 4-H Office by Wednesday, January 6th. Make sure you have both signatures on the form and all parts of the form are completed. Additionally, each 4-Her is asked to complete the Liability Consent Agreement that is included in this mailing and return with the other paperwork.
2. Tagging, weighing and hair sampling will be done at the Fairgrounds on Saturday, January 16, 2020 - 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
3. REMEMBER : The Extension Office is currently closed so mailing is your best option as mail is delivered daily.
4. Don't wait until the last minute. Mail your papers now!
5. In the event there is inclement weather on the 16th, information about any changes will be emailed to the email address on your registration form by 6:00 a.m. Additionally, an announcement will be on the Howard County 4-H website at www.howard4-h.org.
6. If you have a purebred steer, please make a copy of registration papers and send to the Extension Office with this paperwork or later when you receive them.

Sincerely,



Sheryl L. Bennett
Extension Educator, 4-H

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For Office Use
Check # - _____

Date Paid - _____

**Howard County
4-H BEEF REGISTRATION TRANSMITTAL FORM
2021**

FAMILY NAME _____

Phone # - _____

Cell # - _____

E-mail Address - _____

Please return this form with your registration/code of ethics form(s). All monies must be sent in ahead of time. We will not be handling money on the 16th.

**Checks should be made payable to:
HOWARD COUNTY 4-H EAC
In the memo line please write: 4-H Steer Tags**

_____ **Number of Steers to be tagged (Enclose \$5.00 per tag) \$**_____ **(Lost tags will cost \$10.00 EACH)**

_____ **Number of Commercial Heifers to be tagged \$**_____ **(Enclosed \$5.00 per tag)**

_____ **Total Number to be tagged** **Total amount due \$**_____

**MAIL ALL PAPERS TO: Howard County Extension Office
Attn: 4-H Steer Registration
3300 North Ridge Rd., Suite 240
Ellicott City, MD 21043**

University programs, activities, and facilities are available to all without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, age, national origin, political affiliation, physical or mental disability, religion, protected veteran status, genetic information, personal appearance, or any other legally protected class.