



MONTANA
STATE UNIVERSITY

EXTENSION



2024-2025 CASCADE COUNTY 4-H LIVESTOCK PROJECT GUIDELINES AND COUNTY SHOW RULE BOOK

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CASCADE COUNTY LIVESTOCK PROJECT GUIDELINES

CASCADE COUNTY 4-H LIVESTOCK LEADERS OFFICERS

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MSU Extension Website: <https://montana.edu/extension>

MONTANA 4-H CODE OF CONDUCT

The 4-H Center and Montana State University Extension wants your participation in 4-H events and activities to be filled with exciting experiences, new friendships and fun. To ensure a positive experience for all participants, it is expected that each participant be considerate of others, participate fully in programming and observe the following expectations.

- ◆ I will conduct myself at all times so as to be a credit to my club, my community, and my county.
- ◆ I will show respect for the rights of others to be courteous at all times.
- ◆ I will be honest and not take unfair advantage of others.
- ◆ I will respect the property of others.
- ◆ I will demonstrate sportsmanship in the contests and meetings, modesty in winning and generosity in defeat.
- ◆ I will attend contests promptly and respect the opinion of others in discussion.

CASCADE COUNTY 4-H ANIMAL SHOWS CODE OF ETHICS

Exhibitors of animals at 4-H animal shows shall, at all times, conduct themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship. Their conduct in the 4-H show ring shall always reflect the highest standards of honor and dignity to promote the advancement of youth education, positive character development, and integrity.

All people working with 4-H exhibitors are under an affirmative responsibility to do more than avoid improper conduct or questionable acts. Ethics violations/infractions will be processed through the 4-H Livestock Leaders of Cascade County. The committee may consist of specialists, 4-H volunteers, and 4-H livestock committee members. Owners, exhibitors, and other responsible persons who have violated the Code of Ethics will forfeit awards and may be prohibited from future exhibition.

4-H Member Responsibility of animals(s)

The owner/4-H exhibitor of the animal is ultimately responsible for the animal's care and condition whether he/she was actually instrumental in or had actual knowledge of the treatment of the animal in violation of the Code of Ethics.

The act of entering an animal is the giving of consent by the owner, exhibitor, or other responsible person to accept appropriate disciplinary action taken by 4-H livestock show officials against such individuals.

Exhibitor Guidelines

1. 4-H exhibitors are expected to care for and groom their animals while at fairs or livestock shows. It is the responsibility of the 4-H exhibitor to fit their animal. 4-H strongly recommends fitting be done by the 4-H member while overseen by an adult.
2. The showing of unethically fitted animals(s) is prohibited. Unethical fitting is deemed to mean any physical or physiological attempt to alter the natural conformation, musculature or weight of any animal by use of injections or ingested material not conducive to the continued health of the animal or marketability of its

carcass. The use of diuretics, unapproved growth stimulants or other unapproved medication, or showing animals that have not been properly withdrawn from approved drugs is prohibited. The use of Clenbuterol, "ACE", or any drugs not approved by the FDA for market animal or specific species animal use is prohibited.

3. No change in the major color pattern of any animal by painting or dyeing will be allowed. Neutral coloring only may be used. Addition of any hair or hair-like substance to any part of the animal's body is prohibited. This applies to all animals exhibited in market classes, showmanship classes, and sale.
4. No owner, exhibitor or other responsible person shall conspire with another person or persons to intentionally violate the Code of Ethics or knowingly contribute or cooperate with another person or persons either by affirmative action or inaction to violate the Code of Ethics.
5. Any carcass suspected of being tampered with or suspected of containing drugs will be detained until the investigation is complete. If the carcass is condemned at the packing plant for any reason, it shall be grounds for disqualification in the on-foot and carcass division of the show. Additionally, all premiums and sale money will be forfeited, and the loss of the animal be incurred by the exhibitor.

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

A General Grievance Procedure is available to all 4-Hers. Grievances must be in writing. A form may be obtained from the Extension Office and will be available at events. The completed form must be submitted within 24 hours with a \$25 processing fee. The grievance committee, consisting of the show committee and Extension Agent will convene within 24 hours and make a decision as expeditiously as possible.

LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Cascade County 4-H Livestock Leaders Meetings are on the last Tuesday of January, February, March, April, May, June, August, September, October, and November at 6:00 p.m. at the MSU Extension Cascade County office.

CASCADE COUNTY LIVESTOCK SHOW AND SALE RULE BOOK

SHOW COMMITTEE

The Show Committee is defined as the Cascade County 4-H division show chairs and Extension agent. In the event, there is an emergent need to change the existing or published schedule of the county show, a meeting is to be called of the show committee and Extension agent to clarify or change said schedule to properly follow the livestock rule book.

COUNTY SHOW DIVISION CHAIRS

A division chair is a volunteer from the livestock leaders committee. Division chairs are species specific, and there is one chair for each species. Division chair duties are defined as follows:

1. Organize members & animals for weigh-in, getting to show ring, sale order, load out, & barn clean-up.
2. Work with executive show committee to maintain class updates.
3. Find Round Robin Contest Judge for assigned species.
4. Solve problems within your species, up channel as needed.
5. Handle complaints.

JUNIOR LIVESTOCK LEADERS

The purpose of this committee is to provide leadership opportunities for youth members within the Livestock Leaders Committee.

1. Jr. Leaders are available to all 4-H youth age 13 and above.
2. Jr. Leaders assist with project days, help plan the livestock show in relation to themes, prizes and additional activities.
3. They are available as mentors to younger 4-H members and their families for livestock projects throughout the year.
4. They meet on Sundays and will meet in November, January, March, May, and June, and are welcome to attend regularly scheduled livestock leaders meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of each month.

ELIGIBLE JUDGES

No former Cascade County 4-H youth member may be a judge at the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show until at least 5 years have transpired following his/her last year of eligibility in 4-H youth projects.

SHOWING ETIQUETTE

1. When showing, dress neatly in clean, practical clothes such as nice shirt with long or short sleeves, and long pants. Ties and hats are optional. Unacceptable clothing includes shorts, t-shirts, sleeveless tops, sandals or flip-flops. Long hair is encouraged to be pulled back.
2. When your class is called you have three minutes to enter the ring. You will be called three times at one-minute intervals. At the end of three minutes the class will be closed, and you will not be allowed to participate. Every effort will be made to accommodate your needs.
3. No parents are allowed in the Show Ring at any time during competitions unless acting in an official capacity (i.e., pig board handlers and ring stewards).
4. Anyone seen mistreating his/her animal on the grounds, in the Pavilion or in the show ring, will be reprimanded. Show Ring: Excused from class. Livestock Pavilion: Depending on the severity, the Division Chairs Rules Committee will determine the consequences.

SAFETY RULES

- ◆ All dogs must be leashed.
- ◆ Boots, leather shoes or other closed toe shoes are required for your safety.

MARKETING VISIT REQUIREMENT

All 4-H members, enrolled in livestock projects, must visit with at least one business to promote the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show and Sale. 4-H members must document their visit in their record book in My 4-H Year under Promotional Presentations. This needs to be completed and documented prior to the record book review to be allowed to show and sell at the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show and Sale.

CLUB MEETING ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENT

All 4-H members, enrolled in livestock projects, must attend 60% (or club bylaw minimum) of their club meetings to be eligible to show and sell at the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show and Sale. Absences may be marked as excused at discretion of club Organizational Leader, or if members are attending another 4-H event. Unexcused absences may be made up by attending a 4-H livestock education event. Attendance will be tracked using a Google Sheet created by the Extension Office. Club secretaries and/or Organizational Leaders will enter club meeting attendance into this provided Google Sheet. The Extension Office or a Livestock Leader will enter educational event attendance into the Google Sheet.

RECORD BOOK REVIEW

All 4-H members bringing an animal to the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show & Sale must bring their current and up to date 4-H record book to the record book review event on the date set prior to county show. The 4-H member will be allowed to make necessary corrections at the record book review or prior to weigh-in at the County Show. If the record book is not current and complete by weigh-in, the 4-H member will not be allowed to show or sell their animal. The final ruling will be made by the executive committee.

Absentee record book review will be allowed. The 4-H member needs to complete the Absentee Record Book Review form and hand in the record book to the Cascade County Extension office prior to record book review event.

A parent shall not judge his/her child's animal record book.

Each record book must contain:

1. My 4-H Year.
2. Animal Project Journal and Financials with UP TO DATE records.
3. MSU Curriculum Project Book with
 - a. 4-H Record book seven activities and three-five learning experiences.
4. Documentation of Marketing Visit Requirement in Promotional Presentations of the My 4-H Year.
5. Livestock Independent (Self Determined) Study (if applicable).
6. Absentee Record Book Review Form (if applicable).

Forms are available at the MSU Cascade County Extension office and/or website, OR can be completed on ZSuites.

RATE OF GAIN CONTEST

Beef, swine, sheep, and goat have the opportunity to participate in the Rate of Gain contest. The initial weigh in dates will be set by the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Leaders. Beef will weigh in January. Swine, sheep, and goats will weigh in May. If the animal does not weigh at these designated dates, they are not eligible for the contest. Final weight will be taken at the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show and Sale. The top 3 winners per species will be decided by weights gained during these set dates. Animals that are below minimum weight for species are not eligible to participate.

LARGE MARKET ANIMAL LIMITS

The Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show is a terminal sale for large market animals. 4-H members may enter and sell a maximum of two species at the sale. Large animal species options are market beef, market goat, market sheep, market swine. A 4-H member cannot sell two hogs or two steers. 4-H members must declare specie(s), be enrolled in 4-H, and have paid 4-H enrollment dues by October 31st.

Animals judged worthy of sale (blue & red ribbons) must be sold in the 4-H market livestock sale and are processed for carcass data unless sent home due to infraction(s).

The processing facilities limit the number of animals they can handle due to space and staff. Livestock leaders will work every year to accommodate all members' projects through the butchering process. If accommodations cannot be made by November 30th of the 4-H year, then kids with two animals will be asked to pick their sale project or choose another option.

SMALL ANIMAL MEAT PENS

Meat pens of three for rabbit and poultry (chicken or duck) and single turkey meat pen will be sold at the livestock sale and do not compete in the carcass contest. Buyers will take home meat pens live. Members may sell one large and one small animal meat pen or two small animal meat pens.

INTENT TO ENTER FORMS

4-H members are required to have animals in possession by a certain date during the 4-H year. When these animals are in possession, the 4-H member needs to inform the Livestock Leaders committee which animal(s) might be entered in the Cascade County Livestock Show and Sale in July. This is done by completing an Intent to Enter Form.

1. 4-H members may intent to enter any number of animals for the market class in the Cascade County Livestock Show.
2. Intent to Enter Forms and a **non-refundable fee** of \$10 per animal or per meat pen are due:
 - i. Market Beef: First Monday in January.
 - ii. Market Swine: Third Monday in April.
 - iii. Market Sheep: Second Monday in May.
 - iv. Market Goat: Second Monday in May.
 - v. Meat Pens: 70 Days before Cascade County Show.
3. A picture of the entire animal showing the ear tag provided by the Extension office. Please refer to below EAR TAGS section for species specific tag rules. Rabbit and poultry meat pens do not need a photo of the pens. Forms without pictures of animals are considered incomplete. Intent to Enter forms with pictures will be available for verification at the County Show weigh-in table.
4. Late Intent to Enter Forms will be charged \$25 per animal or per meat pen, and are only accepted for **one week** past the due date.
5. The Livestock Leaders strongly recommend intending an additional animal as a potential replacement. The benefit is if an animal dies or is determined to not be ready, the 4-H member has another animal to choose from for the county show/sale.
6. 4-H siblings may jointly intent to enter one market beef, goat, sheep, or swine.

EAR TAGS

1. All 4-H members bringing a livestock project to the county show will be required to have their animals ear tagged with a tag provided from the Cascade County Extension office.
 - a. Beef ear tags are available December 1.
 - i. Ear tags may be placed in either ear.
 - b. Swine, sheep and goat ear tags are available March 1.
 - i. Ear tags for market goats and sheep shall be placed in opposite ear of the scrapies tag.
 - ii. Market swine ear tag may be placed in either ear.
2. The ear tag number must be clearly visible and is required with the Intent to Enter form.
3. Mature breeding project animals to be shown at the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show and Sale must be owned by the species intent to enter date, EXCEPT BEEF BREEDING. The breeding project animal will be identified on the intent to enter form by a unique, permanent identifier. See the dates below.
4. Dates:
 - Market beef must be owned and ear tagged by January 1.
 - Breeding beef must be owned and ear tagged with unique identifier by April 1.
 - Market swine must be owned and ear tagged by April 15.
 - Market goats must be owned and ear tagged by May 1.
 - Market sheep must be owned and ear tagged by May 1.

ANIMAL PREFERENCE GUIDELINES

The animal preference guidelines are set up to assist families in signing up for market animal projects. To eliminate a “first come, first serve” basis, members will be sorted into the following. These guidelines are created due to the limit of processors to take animals.

1. Members will be listed by the number of years they have completed the beef project.
2. Members will be listed by the number of years they have completed a lamb, goat, or swine project but not a beef project.
3. Members who have never taken a livestock project.
4. Incomplete projects will not receive credit for that year.

The following applies to all species:

1. The year totals for project completion in 2024 will be based from 2014 to present. This would allow 4-H members who are seniors in high school to count all the years they may have been enrolled in the project to have completed it.
2. A completed project is an owned beef, sheep, goat, swine, rabbit, or poultry that is fed and cared for by the member and the member turned in a project book (Project book with 7 activities and expectation of completing 3-5 learning experiences, animal journal with current records, My 4-H Year (green pages) and 4-H record book checklist.) When record books are due to organizational leaders and turned into the MSU Cascade County Extension Office for year-end awards.
3. A member can only designate one market animal on the first-come-first served basis list for entry in the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show and Sale.

COUNTY SHOW ENTRY FORMS

The Cascade County Livestock Show and Sale entry form is completed to allow the Livestock Leaders prepare the barn for the County Show in July. This entry form collects stalling information for both large and small animals, and animals coming for showmanship only, as well as, any other show information needed.

1. Show Entry forms will be available in May and will be due three weeks before the show.
2. 4-H members will be charged a \$10 late fee if submitted after the due date, and no late entries will be accepted two weeks before the show.
3. Members will need to document the anticipated number of species that will be staying for the show **by ear tag number on the County Show Entry Form.**
 1. County Show entry forms are required for all animals in the county show. **Intent to Enter forms do not serve as entry forms.**

LARGE ANIMAL WEIGH-IN PROCEDURE

1. All cattle, sheep, swine, and goats will undergo a VETERINARY HEALTH INSPECTION at weigh-in. This is done to ensure the health and safety of the animal entered and all other animals at the show. Projects that are found to be lame, sick, or unsound by the veterinarian will not be allowed to show and must leave. The Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show Veterinarian will make all decisions affecting the health of 4-H market projects. The veterinarian’s decision is final.
 - a. A veterinarian fee of \$2 is included on the County Show Entry fees.
2. Animals must be present and checked in before weigh-in schedule deadline for that species. Late arrivals will not be accepted. Division chairs may consider unusual circumstances. Being late is not an excuse.
3. The 4-H member must declare to weigh-in volunteers which animal is chosen for market class and will be sold in sale immediately after weigh-in. Only the animals for market and showmanship can stay in the barn. All extra animals must go home on weigh-in day. There is no space in the barn for extra animals.
4. Weights
 - a. Steer: Minimum of 1100 pounds and maximum of 1500 pounds
 - b. Swine: Minimum of 220 pounds and maximum of 300 pounds
 - c. Lamb: Minimum of 100 pounds and maximum of 170 pounds
 - d. Goat: Minimum of 70 pounds and maximum of 120 pounds
 - e. **Buyers are not charged for anything over maximum weight**

5. All animals must come to weigh-in clean (mud-free) and with clean ear tags. Any animal with excessive mud will be sent to the end of the line. It is the 4-Her's responsibility to find a way to clean off their animal before it will be weighed.
6. The scale will be calibrated prior to start of weigh-in. Scale will be zeroed out after each weight is taken and mud cleaned after every 5 animals. Feces will be cleaned immediately from the scale.
7. Light animals get one automatic re-weigh immediately after first weigh-in **without leaving weigh-in area**. If the second weight is still under the minimum, the exhibitor choices are:
 - a. The 4-H member may take the animal home that day.
 - b. The 4-H member may use the animal for showmanship only and it will not be sold in the show sale.
 - c. Light-weight animals can be put into a feeder class. They will not be able to sell in the sale, butchered with other Cascade County 4-H animals, or be entered into the carcass contest. The 4-H member may advertise and sell the animal private treaty. The 4-H member is responsible for the sale and processing arrangements. The feeder class will not receive grand or reserve placings.
8. **1% Rule:** If the animal's weight is within one percent (**1%**) of the minimum weight, it will be allowed to participate in the market classes. If member feels the animal isn't a marketable product, they have the option of dropping the market class.
 - a. **Current weight allowances are:**
 - i. **Steer: 10 pounds, Lamb: 1 pound, Goats: 1 pound and Swine: 2 pounds**
9. Each 4-H member may request a re-weigh immediately after the first weight is given if the member questions the weight. If a second weight is requested, the second weight will count as the official weight.

SMALL ANIMAL CHECK-IN

1. Rabbits and poultry must be inspected by the Division Chair or other designated party BEFORE occupying a show cage at check-in.
2. All poultry exhibitors must bathe and dust their poultry/waterfowl at least 7 days before the show. Dirty, diseased or infested animals will be refused at check-in.
3. Rabbits and poultry (chickens and ducks) will be sold in meat pens of three. Turkeys will be a single meat pen. Animals should be same species and weight for each animal +/- one pound. Rabbits will follow breed specific rules for ARBA. Poultry will follow APA guidelines, as well.

SHOWMANSHIP

1. Showmanship entries are divided into age categories for the Cascade County Show as determined by the child's age as of October 1 of the current 4-H year:
 - a. Junior: 8-10 years old
 - b. Intermediate: 11-13 years old
 - c. Senior: 14 years and older
2. There is no requirement for advancement, other than age.
3. Rabbit and poultry members may show one of their animals for showmanship.
4. Youth entering will also compete in the Round Robin competition.
5. 4-H members may bring an additional animal to enter in the respected showmanship class. Species may include beef, goats, sheep, rabbits, or poultry.
 - a. Examples:
 - i. A 4-H member may show a steer in the beef showmanship class and a sheep in showmanship class.
 - ii. A 4-H member may show their breeding project animal in the respected showmanship class. (i.e., A heifer may be shown in the beef showmanship class.)
6. Replacement animal can be used for showmanship if the animal is housed, cared for, and trained by a family member also enrolled in the project.

ROUND ROBIN COMPETITION RULES AND SETUP

1. Grand Champion and Reserve Champion Showmanship species winners from each age division (Sr, Int, & Jr) are invited to participate.
2. If a participant qualifies in more than one species, they must pick their preference and the 3rd or 4th place winner in other species is able to participate.
3. Species will be shown based on entries. Not all species are shown in all age divisions.
4. Showman will show own animal for 2 minutes, switch animals, show second animal for 2 minutes, and then switch species. Repeat above until all showmen are back to their own animal.
5. Judges will rate the showman on a scale of 1 to 10 based on their skills to successfully showcase the animal. 10 being top of the scale and 1 being needs the most improvement.
6. Judges may ask questions.
7. Ring will need to accommodate the number of species being shown.

SALE

1. Sale order is determined with a random draw or sort within species after the close of intent to enter for that species. Lot numbers are assigned when the catalog is finalized.
2. Species order is determined by the show committee.
3. White ribbon market animals will not be sold but may be shown in showmanship classes.
4. A 2.5% fee is assessed on gross sale of all 4-H livestock animals sold at the 4-H Sale to defer costs incurred by the Cascade County Livestock Committee.
5. After the sale remember to complete your 4-H records with the sale information received with your sale and carcass premium checks and turn them in for year-end awards.
6. 4-H members have up to 90 days to cash checks after the checks are issued. 4-H families will be notified when checks are ready to be picked up from the MSU Cascade County Extension office.
7. Purple ribbons will be recognized at the sale.

BUYERS PICTURES

A photo of each 4-H member and their market livestock animal will be available for a Thank You prior to the sale. Some 4-H members like to frame the picture; that is a personal choice.

BREEDING PROJECTS

4-H members signed up for a breeding project will obtain a Cascade County 4-H Breeding Project Workbook from the Extension office and follow the project requirements noted in the book and submit a completed record book at the end of the 4-H year. The breeding project year is the same as the 4-H year; from October 1 to September 30. Members can enter their breeding project in certain competitions listed in the workbook. The following are competitions which occur at the Cascade County Livestock Show and Sale.

Breeding Project County Show Entries

Breeding projects can be entered in the county show in three different categories:

1. Supreme Breeding Female Classes
2. Overall Breeding Display
3. Overall Breeding Pen

SUPREME BREEDING FEMALE (Dairy, Swine, Sheep, Goat, and Beef, Rabbit and Poultry)

Supreme breeding female is judged based upon the requirements of the breed of the species for purebreds. Crossbreds will be judged based on multiple breed requirements of the breeds.

1. This contest will take place in the show ring and judged by large animal judge.
2. Each species will have a class competition where the class will be judged and placed.
3. The entry can be solely the female or a female with offspring. Intact males, younger than breeding age are allowed to show.

4. The grand champion in each species will then compete for the Overall Supreme Breeding Female class amongst all species.
5. Supreme breeding female class order is dairy first, swine second, sheep third, goat fourth, and beef last.
6. It is not required to prove pregnancy status of the animal but verification may aid in competition.
7. Breeding animals must be inspected by a veterinarian on arrival and pay the vet fee.
8. Awards: Breeding projects receive awards based on species: Cattle (beef & dairy), Swine, Sheep, Goat (meat & dairy), Rabbit, and Poultry.
9. There is an OVERALL Supreme Female for large animals, and a separate OVERALL Supreme Female for small animals.

OVERALL BREEDING DISPLAY (Beef, Swine, Sheep, Goat, Dairy, Rabbit, and Poultry)

1. The breeding display can be a visual depiction of the 4-H member's breeding project; representing the project as a whole or a topic of choice to highlight. (i.e., breeding plan for project, controlling herd disease, applicable topic to species, etc.)
2. Display may be presented near live pen display or in designated display area in pavilion.
3. Guidelines for judging will be developed by a Livestock Leader committee led by the show Chair and this information will be provided to members when the entry form is made available.
4. Awards: A grand and reserve champion will be selected across all species competing against each other.

OVERALL BREEDING PEN (Beef, Swine, Sheep, Goat, Dairy, Rabbit, and Poultry)

1. A breeding pen consists of live animal(s) involved in breeding project; not limited to the animals entered into Supreme Female.
2. 4-H members will have an in-person interview with the large animal show judge at the pen.
3. Pen can be decorated but not required.
4. Guidelines for judging will be developed by a Livestock Leader committee led by the show Chair and this information will be provided to members when the entry form is made available.
5. Awards: A grand and reserve champion will be selected across all species competing against each other.

Breeding Project Load-Out

All breeding projects may load out at any time after contests are completed.

RABBIT AGILITY

Members competing in rabbit agility at the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show will follow the rules defined in the New Jersey 4-H Rabbit Hopping and Rabbit Agility Guidelines and Competition Rules (Appendix A). Members may enter the rabbit agility competition on the entry form for the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show. Members must be enrolled in the rabbit project, complete rabbit record book, and attend record book review.

LARGE ANIMAL LOAD-OUT PROCEDURES

1. Load out will be done at times established by the Show Committee. Division chairs will coordinate the load out and approve pen cleaning.
2. Showmanship Animals: All showmanship animals must be removed from the building before market animal load out.

CLEAN-UP PROCEDURES

Everyone is required to clean up.

Each 4-H member must:

1. Check out with his/her designated Division Chair. If a 4-H member does not show to clean up, a \$50 fee will be deducted from sale check, and the money goes to the 4-H Livestock Committee. If a member is unable to attend clean-up, the 4-H member **must make arrangements with another 4-H member to clean up and timely inform the division chair via a documented means by the close of the show.**

2. Clean his/her pen and adjacent area to the dirt. Remove all waste to the outside **Bunker** at the south end of the Livestock Pavilion. Dump all waste (no plastic/paper) as far back in the bunker as possible.
3. Clean rest of barn as per contract with MT Expopark.
4. Clean out wash racks and drains.
5. Pick up litter from the bleachers and inside the Livestock Pavilion.

AWARDS

1. Grand and reserve champions will be awarded prizes designated by Jr. Livestock Leaders.
2. Cascade County 4-H Livestock Leaders will determine budget for all awards, and seek sponsorships for the show operations and awards.
3. Class ribbons will be as follows. First receives the grand champion ribbon, second receives the reserve champion ribbon. All other animals in each grand/final drive will receive a purple ribbon. Non-grand/final drive animals will receive standard blue, red, or white ribbons.

CARCASS CONTEST

1. The carcass contest will follow the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show and Sale after the animals have been processed.
2. Market animals will be graded by a carcass judge designated by the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Committee. (NEW addition to the rule follows)
3. All animals will be harvested in a USDA or State of Montana inspected slaughter facility which will be selected **ONLY** by a vote of the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Leaders Committee.
4. No Custom Exempt slaughter facilities will be allowed to harvest any market animal that is delivered for slaughter, as a courtesy to the buyer, under the direction of the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Leaders Committee.
5. All animals are USDA or State inspected.
6. The group of USDA inspected, State of Montana inspected, and/or Custom Exempt final processing facilities to be presented to the buyers will also be approved **ONLY** by a vote of the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Committee.
7. The harvested carcasses will be delivered to the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Committee approved USDA inspected, State of Montana inspected, and/or Custom Exempt final processing facilities, after carcass grading is completed.
8. Carcass data will be submitted to MSU Extension for evaluation. The Cascade County Contest will follow Steer of Merit Standards for Market Beef, Goat Carcass Standards for Market Goat, Certified Lamb for Market Sheep, and Symbol of Excellence for Market Swine. Steer of Merit, Goat Carcass Standards, Certified Lamb, and Symbol of Excellence are reviewed annually and are based on industry standards.
9. The Cascade County 4-H Livestock Leaders will collect the following monies from 4-H members for the carcass contest:
 - Market Beef: \$10 per animal
 - Market Goat: \$10 per animal
 - Market Sheep: \$10 per animal
 - Market Swine: \$10 per animal
10. Carcass monies collected will be dispersed using the table below after the carcass contest has been conducted. Note that the top animals may not have qualified to be Steer of Merit, Goat Carcass Standards, Certified Lamb, or Symbol of Excellence, however, they will be ranked by the state standards.

Payout will be based on number of animals in said species on a scale as follows:

Number of Animals	1 to 3	4 to 8	9 to 15	16 to 29	29 and more
Placed 1 st	100%	60%	50%	40%	30%
Placed 2 nd	-	40%	30%	30%	25%
Placed 3 rd	-	-	20%	20%	20%
Placed 4 th	-	-	-	10%	15%
Placed 5 th	-	-	-	-	10%

(Or variation of above)

SPECIES SPECIFIC RULES

BEEF

1. All market beef must be owned, and ear tagged by January 1.
2. Minimum weight 1100 pounds at weigh-in (See 1% rule).
3. Maximum payable weight is 1500 pounds. Buyers are not charged for pounds over 1500.
4. Market beef must be naturally polled or dehorned with a re-growth not exceeding three (3) inches in length.
5. Nose rings are **not** permitted.
6. Neck ties are required when animals are tied in stalls.
7. Market beef may be steers or spayed heifers of any beef breed.
8. Bulls or stags are not allowed.
9. Bill of sale is required at weigh-in prior to the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show and Sale.
10. All animals must be halter broke. Animals deemed unmanageable by the Livestock County Show Rules Committee will be sent home.
11. Market beef is divided into classes by weight after weigh-in.

GOATS

1. All market goats must be owned, and ear tagged by May 1.
2. Minimum weight 70 pounds at weigh-in time (See 1% rule).
3. Maximum payable weight is 120 pounds. Buyers are not charged for pounds over 120.
4. **Please Note:** Goat projects are **required** to have a **scrapies ear tag**. Tags are often provided by the breeder; if not, scrapies tags are available from the Extension Office.
5. Market goats are divided into classes by weight after weigh-in.
6. Billy goats are not allowed.
7. All goats must be clipped
8. Goats will not be more than 1-year-old as of the show date.

SHEEP

1. All market sheep must be owned, and ear tagged by May 1.
2. Minimum weight 100 pounds at weigh-in time (See 1% rule).
3. Maximum payable weight is 170 pounds. Buyers are not charged for pounds over 170.
4. **Please Note:** Sheep projects are **required** to have a **scrapies ear tag**. Tags are often provided by the breeder; if not, scrapies tags are available from the Extension Office.
5. Market lambs are divided into classes by weight after weigh-in.
6. Rams are not allowed.
7. All sheep will be slick shorn.
8. Sheep will not be more than 1-year-old as of the show date.

SWINE

1. All market swine must be owned, and ear tagged by April 15.
2. Minimum weight 220 pounds at weigh-in (See 1% rule).
3. Maximum payable weight is 300 pounds. Buyers are not charged for pounds over 300.
4. Market swine are divided into classes by weight after weigh-in.
5. Boars are not allowed.
6. All hogs shall be driven at the show while showing, exercising, washing, and moving from place to place. Hog joggers are prohibited except during move-in and deemed necessary by the swine division chair(s) for safety.

RABBIT

1. Members entering animals for rabbit can show a maximum of five (5) animals per species in the conformation classes, excluding meat pens.
2. Exhibitors must be on hand for all judging.
3. All animals will be included in the Best of Show.
4. Must be owned and in possession by May 1
5. All rabbits must be tattooed and tattoo number stated on the intent to enter form.
6. Members may exhibit a show quality and/or pet quality rabbit(s). Show quality rabbits are pure bred; pet quality is cross bred. No more than one pet quality rabbit per 4-H member may be entered.
7. Rabbits under 3 months or pregnant will not be accepted.

8. Check-Out: Exhibitors must clean cages and be released by Division Chair.

POULTRY

1. Members entering animals for poultry can show a maximum of five (5) animals per species in the conformation classes, excluding meat pens.
2. Exhibitors must be on hand for all judging.
3. All animals will be included in the Best of Show.
4. Must be owned and in possession by May 1, except for meat pens intended for the livestock show and sale.
5. All birds must have leg bands and band number stated on the entry blank. Leg bands may be purchased at the Cascade County Extension Office or on your own.
6. Exhibitors must bathe and dust their poultry/waterfowl at least 7 days before the show. Dirty, diseased, or infested animals will be refused at check-in intent to enter form.
7. In the event of a health concern observed at check-in a veterinarian will be consulted, their decision is final.
8. Check-Out: Exhibitors must clean cages and tables before being released by Division Chair.

MEAT PENS

Rabbits

1. Meat pens of three for rabbit will be sold at the livestock sale and do not compete in the carcass contest. Buyers will take home meat pens live.
2. Rabbit tattoos must be marked on the intent to enter form. Rabbits must be tattooed in the left ear. The Cascade County 4-H Livestock Leaders have a tattoo kit that can be leased out.
3. Rabbit meat pens should be composed of commercial breeds or crosses of commercial breeds. The pen should be uniform in the same breed, color, size, etc.
 - a. Commercial breed examples: American, American Chinchilla, Beveren, Californian, Champagne D'Argent, Checkered Giant, Cinnamon, Crene D'Argent, Flemish Giant, French Lop, Giant Angora, Giant Chinchilla, Hotot, New Zealand, Palomino, Satin, and Silver Fox.
4. Rabbits intended to be sold at the livestock sale must be in possession/kindled at least 70 days prior to the sale.
5. Rabbits should be 10-14 weeks old, minimum of 70 days at sale date.
6. Each animal must be 3.5 to 6 pounds.

Poultry

1. Poultry leg bands must be marked on intent to enter forms.
2. Poultry meat pens should be same sex and breed. Pen can be a cross but needs to make weight, look uniform, etc.
3. Ducks: Pen of 3.
 - a. Jumbo Pekin 7 weeks of age at the county show and other production breeds 12 weeks of age at county show.
4. Turkeys: Single pen.
 - a. Broad breasted 16-22 weeks of age at county show and Heritage breeds 25-30 weeks of age at county show.
5. Broiler chickens: Pen of 3.
 - a. 7-9 weeks of age at county show.

2024-2025 CALENDAR

All deadlines are strictly observed. The MSU Cascade County Extension office does not accept items that are postmarked on a deadline date. All forms must be in the office by 4:30 p.m. on the date indicated.

October 1, 2024	New 4-H Year begins
October 1, 2024	Breeding projects begin
October 29, 2024	Cascade County 4-H Livestock Leaders Meeting.
October 31, 2024	Must declare 4-H market animal to Extension office.
November 10, 2024	Beef 101 Project Day
November 26, 2024	Cascade County 4-H Livestock Leaders Meeting
December 14, 2024	Breeding Project 101 Project Day
January 6, 2025	Beef Intent to Enter and full body photo due
January 11, 2025	Swine 101 Project Day
January 12, 2025	Market Beef Weigh-In
January 13, 2025	Last day to submit Market Beef Intent to Enter forms with a \$15 late fee. No forms accepted after January 13, 2025
January 28, 2025	Cascade County 4-H Livestock Leaders Meeting
February 8, 2025	Rabbit/Poultry 101 Project Day
February 25, 2025	Cascade County 4-H Livestock Leaders Meeting
March 8, 2025	Lamb/Goat/Dairy 101 Project Day
March 25, 2025	Cascade County 4-H Livestock Leaders Meeting
April 12, 2025	Project Day
April 21, 2025	Swine Intent to Enter and full body photo due
April 22, 2025	Cascade County 4-H Livestock Leaders Meeting
April 28, 2025	Last day to submit Market Swine Intent to Enter forms with a \$15 late fee. No forms accepted after April 28, 2025
May 1, 2025	4-H Enrollment Closes
May 2, 2025	Meat Pen Intent to Enter for turkey, rabbit, chicken, and duck due
May 9, 2025	Last day to submit Meat Pen Intent to Enter forms with a \$15 late fee. No forms accepted after May 9, 2025
May 10, 2025	Project Day
May 27, 2025	Cascade County 4-H Livestock Leaders Meeting
May 12, 2025	Sheep and Goat Intent to Enter and full body photo due
May 19, 2025	Last day to submit Market Sheep and Goat Intent to Enter forms with a \$15 late fee. No forms accepted after May 19, 2025
May 2025	Market Swine, Goat, and Sheep Weigh-In
June 9, 2025	Last day for to enter the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show and Sale. No forms will be accepted after June 16, 2025. Late fees will apply.
June 24, 2025	Cascade County 4-H Livestock Leaders Meeting
June 2025	Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show and Sale entry forms due.
June 2025	Livestock Quality Assurance must be completed to compete at the County 4-H Livestock Show in order to compete or sell.
June 2025	Mandatory Record Book Interviews for Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show and Sale.
July 9-12, 2025	Montana 4-H Congress
July 10-13, 2025	Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show and Sale
July 22, 2025	Cascade County 4-H Livestock Leaders Meeting
August 2025	Project books and breeding project books due to organizational leaders
August 26, 2025	Cascade County 4-H Livestock Leaders Meeting
September 23, 2025	Cascade County 4-H Livestock Leaders Meeting
October 2025	Achievement Night