



# HAY BALE DECORATING COMPETITION

Competitive Exhibits Office  
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**ONLINE ENTRY REGISTRATION STARTS APRIL 1, 2026**

**ONLINE ENTRY REGISTRATION CLOSES JUNE 15, 2026**

**ON-SITE DECORATING at ERIE COUNTY FAIR August 8, 2026 2PM-6PM and  
August 9, 2026 8AM-12PM**

***\*All entries become property of the Erie County Fair and are not eligible for removal***

**Entry Fee:** \$25.00 allows entries throughout Departments in Creative Arts, Ag-Grange, and Environment and Sportsman. A promo code redeemable for three (3) admission passes will be emailed to the exhibitor on Tuesday, August 11, 2026

**Ages:** 13 & Up

**Prize Checks:** Available Tuesday, August 18, 2026, between 11:00 AM – 10:00 PM at the AG-Grange Info Desk along with satin ribbons earned. Checks not picked up by Sunday, August 23, 2026, will be mailed.  
**\*Checks are VOID 60 days from issue date and WILL NOT BE REISSUED. Ribbons will not be mailed.**

## **Hay Bale Decorating Competition Rules:**

1. Please read and abide by all The Erie County Fair rules and regulations.
2. ***All entries must be registered by Monday, June 15, 2026.*** For more information see the Important Entry Information page at [www.ecfair.org](http://www.ecfair.org).
3. Anyone 13 years old and older is eligible to enter this competition. Team and Organization entries are permitted.
4. Round Hay Bales will be provided and set in place for decorating on August 8 and August 9 as specified above. Supplies are not provided. Additional information will be provided to the exhibitor via email on June 16, 2026.
5. Special requirements:
  - Hay Bale displays must be family-friendly and suitable for public viewing.
  - Decorations must be securely fastened and weather resistant.
  - No live animals, perishable food, or hazardous materials permitted.
  - Displays must remain intact through the duration of the Fair and become property of the Fair. Props will not be returned to exhibitor.
  - Entries are limited to 10, enter early to secure your spot.

## **Judging Criteria**

- |                                    |     |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Appearance & Overall Impression | 40% |
| 2. Creativity & Originality        | 35% |
| 3. Craftsmanship & Neatness        | 25% |

# HAY BALE DECORATING COMPETITION CLASSES

**Premiums Offered:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place Blue \$100, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Red \$75, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Yellow \$50

## **Hay Bale-1**

1. Fun on the Farm (5 entries)
2. Americana (5 entries)