



January 2023

Dear Poultry & Rabbit Exhibitors,

Happy New Year from the Jefferson County Fair Park!

The 2023 Jefferson County Fair, July 12<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> will be the 170<sup>th</sup> edition of this annual event. It promises to continue being a generational tradition with a slice of 2023.

Since the successful 2022 Fair, Fair management has been reviewing Fair programs in an effort to implement improved practices and enhance consistent compliance with governmental regulations related to the annual youth auction.

In addition to the proposed 2023 Fair information posted online, this letter is to share with you some logistical changes and recommendations related to successful 2023 Jefferson County Fair participation:

- Building #5 (Current Fair Poultry Building) will house the poultry, rabbit and cat exhibits. This exhibit area will have active judging all five days of the Fair.
- Open Poultry show will be on Saturday, it will be a one-day transport in/out show.
- Open Rabbit show will be added on Sunday, it will be a one-day transport in/out show.
- 2023 Exhibit Schedule:
  - Wednesday – Cat show and Market Poultry Show
  - Thursday – Poultry Showmanship and Rabbit Show
  - Friday – Poultry Show
  - Saturday or Sunday – Open Poultry or Rabbit Shows, TBD
- Poultry & Rabbit Animal Auction Participants: Poultry & Rabbit exhibitors who are planning to sell an animal in the auction are encouraged to consider securing a harvesting appointment with a licensed processor for each animal they intend to sell. These auction animals will continue to be sold live (same as in the past), but harvesting appointments will not be secured or endorsed by Fair management. Harvesting appointments secured at a licensed facility by the exhibitor will be noted as such in the auction program. Animals without licensed harvesting appointments will still be allowed to sell, but these animals will have no identified processing information listed in the auction program.

To remain compliant with current regulations, the Fair will no longer deliver and/or act as an intermediary for poultry or rabbit processing providers (custom or inspected), this includes the transporting of live poultry or rabbits, processor payment and handling of resulting food products. Therefore; poultry and rabbits sold in the auction on Saturday, July 15<sup>th</sup> will need to either be taken from the sale by the purchaser on Saturday or be picked up at the conclusion of the Fair on Sunday, July 16 from 6 to 9 pm. After the auction, exhibitors will receive purchaser information and any special purchaser instructions (donations/buyer support). Fair management will identify a procedure for auction animal pick up to reasonably meet animal traceability, regulation compliance and other legal concerns to protect exhibitors and the Fair. Auction animals remaining at the Fair Park after 9 pm on Sunday will become the property of the Jefferson County Fair unless the buyer or the exhibitor has made arrangements with Fair management.

Below is correspondence we received from DATCP to assist you in identifying potential processing establishments. Feel free to contact DATCP if you have any questions related to this topic:

The state licensed meat establishment list is located on WI DATCP's website. Using the search (magnifying glass), you can search the list for poultry or rabbit. This list does not include federal establishments. Please note differences between CUSTOM and OFFICIAL licensed establishments.

**State Meat Establishment List:**

[https://mydatcp.wi.gov/documents/dfrs/Meat\\_Establishments\\_Inspected\\_and\\_Custom\\_Directory.pdf](https://mydatcp.wi.gov/documents/dfrs/Meat_Establishments_Inspected_and_Custom_Directory.pdf)

**Custom Establishments:**

Custom establishment provide a service (meat processing) for the animal owner. If they are using a custom establishment, they would want to make sure each buyer is the service recipient and is paying for the processing fee directly to the establishment. The processed product is marked NOT FOR SALE and cannot be sold.

**Official Establishments:**

Processing under inspection (product bearing the marks of inspection) would be required if the resulting product is not being returned to the service recipient (animal owner), and is being further distributed into commerce such as retail.

Here is a link to the list of federal establishments:

**Federal Meat Establishment List:**

<https://www.fsis.usda.gov/inspection/establishments/meat-poultry-and-egg-product-inspection-directory>

For additional 2023 Jefferson County Fair program information please go to the Jefferson County Fair Park website at JCFairPark.com. If you have any questions or feedback related to this information you are encouraged to contact the Fair office at 920.674.7148 or [fair@jeffersoncountywi.gov](mailto:fair@jeffersoncountywi.gov).