

**2026 NEW ENGLAND 4-H PROGRAM – THE BIG E
4-H DAIRY GOAT ACTIVITY SIGNATURE FORM**

This entry is made in accordance with the Agreement of Responsibility and Acknowledgment of Liability and the Rules and Regulations referred to therein governing this program (collectively, the “Rules and Regulations”). PRINT this form to complete and submit! Do not omit any information requested.

E-mail aginfo@thebige.com

Telephone: 800-639-2908

DETACH THIS APPLICATION AND SUBMIT IT TO YOUR COUNTY CLUB EDUCATOR.

Online entry in ShoWorks is also required.

PRINT ALL INFORMATION – COMPLETE EVERY LINE

NAME OF EXHIBITOR _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____ E-Mail _____

TOWN _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ TEL # _____

EXHIBITOR'S GENDER _____ BIRTHDATE _____ AGE AS OF 1/1/2026 _____

NUMBER OF ANIMALS ENTERED _____ NUMBER OF PENS NEEDED _____

(Including tack pen)

ENTERED IN THE OPEN SHOW (yes/no)? _____ (Separate entry in ShoWorks required)

Please note any accommodation the 4-H member requires to participate in this 4-H activity including dietary restrictions.

The signatures below signify that I and my parent/guardian have read, understand and agree to abide by the Rules and Regulations identified above. These signatures also certify the facts contained in the above to be true and the applicant meets the eligibility qualifications of the Rules and regulations. The applicant also agrees to participate in all activities and to be present at assemblies of this 4-H Activity. Entrants will be responsible for their animal including any damage occurring to the animal or by the animal while on the grounds.

*Signature of 4-H Exhibitor

*Signature of Parent or Guardian

*Signature of 4-H County Representative/Club Leader *Signature of State Office Representative

*All Signatures MUST be completed before entry will be accepted. ENTRIES are DUE August 20 at the STATE OFFICE. YOU MAY OBTAIN ADDITIONAL ENTRY APPLICATIONS FROM YOUR STATE CLUB LEADER OR ONLINE AT WWW.THEBIGE.COM/AGRICULTURE.

EASTERN STATES EXPOSITION ONLINE ENTRIES MUST BE COMPLETED BY AUGUST 23 AT MIDNIGHT. This deadline will be enforced.

OBJECTIVES FOR NEW ENGLAND 4-H PROGRAMS AT THE BIG E

The 4-H program at The Big E is a cooperative effort with the Eastern States Exposition and the Cooperative Extension Systems of the New England States working together toward common objectives. These objectives are:

1. To motivate and recognize the achievements of 4-H members and their volunteer leaders.
2. To give the general public attending The Big E a better understanding of 4-H educational efforts including the organization, program, and accomplishments.
3. To provide educational experiences for 4-H members that are not available in the individual states.
4. To make 4-H programs and activities visible to the general public across the grounds of The Big E.
5. To expand the image of 4-H as a total diverse youth development program.
6. To ensure quality educational activities both for the 4-H participant and the general public.
7. To identify 4-H as an integral part of the Cooperative Extension System and the land grant universities of New England.
8. To involve youth as equal partners in full decision-making roles at all levels of program decision-making.

GENERAL RULES/GUIDELINES FOR 2026 NEW ENGLAND 4-H GOAT ACTIVITIES

* denotes new or changed in 2026

1. Eligibility This show is open to regularly enrolled, 4-H members from New England who are 12 years of age or older on January 1, but not turned 19 years of age on or before January 1 of the current year. Members must be enrolled in the goat project area and must meet respective state criteria.
2. State Representation If 4-H club membership is held in more than one state, and the same project is taken in both states, the 4-H member must compete with and represent the state in which they reside. If the project is only taken in one state, the 4-H member should represent that state.
3. Entries All Entries must be certified by a 4-H Educator, volunteer 4-H Leader and approved (signed) by the State Representative as a verified project animal. Exhibitors must have owned or leased their goats on or before June 1. Exception: For doe kids born after June 1 animals must be raised and cared for from birth and the dam must be a project animal owned or leased by June 1. Goats should be properly conditioned and fitted to be eligible to enter the 4-H Show.
4. Classes An exhibitor may only show in either the registered or all other dairy-type goats classes of the 4-H dairy goat activity. Exhibitors showing ADGA registered classes goats may not show in the all other dairy-type goats classes. 4-H'ers with only non- registered goats may exhibit in all other dairy-type goats doe class. Does over two years of age who have never freshened must be shown in the all other dairy-type goats class. These does even if ADGA registered may not be shown in an ADGA show. If the 4-H'er has no does to exhibit then the 4-H'er may exhibit a wether.
5. Identification and Ownership All goats must be registered in the youth's name or leased in the name of the 4-H member by June 1. The youth's name must appear on the registration as an owner or the animal must be leased. A farm name is not proof of youth ownership. All tattoos must correspond with the animal's pedigree papers. Legible tattoos must match registration papers. Animals that have been re-tattooed must have registration papers stating re-tattoo. Parents and Leaders must certify that this exhibitor has been responsible for the feeding and management of the animal(s) entered. LEASED ANIMALS ARE ALLOWED ACCORDING TO RULES OF STATE OF ORIGIN. Entries of leased animals must have a copy of Lease Agreement attached to entry application and be available to the Superintendent upon request. Original ADGA registration papers or currently accepted documents per ADGA Show Rules must be submitted at check-in and as requested. These documents must remain on the grounds throughout the program. Examples of ownership are as follows [This assumes the Clover Family is treated as non- specific ownership]:
 - Clover Farm: not acceptable as proof of ownership, lease required
 - Clover Family: Sally, Bob, & Chris: acceptable as proof of ownership
 - Clover Family: not acceptable as proof of ownership, lease required
 - Chris Clover: acceptable, no lease required

6. Entry Forms Members must submit an entry form for each animal in ShoWorks. ALL ANIMALS BROUGHT TO THE BIG E WILL BE REQUIRED TO SHOW IN THE TYPE CLASSES. **Substitutions or additional entries will not be permitted.** Depending on space available, each 4-H'er may exhibit up to eight does, OR one wether. No exhibitor is permitted to exhibit animals across registered and All Other Dairy-Type Goats classes.
7. Showing and Fitting Class ALL EXHIBITORS MUST SHOW AN OWNED OR LEASED ANIMAL IN THE SHOWING AND FITTING
8. Classes. Showing and fitting classes will be divided by exhibitor's age.
9. Pen Assignments To help the goat committee with pen assignments, it is critical for exhibitors to update the appropriate state coordinator with any scratches or cancellations. State Coordinators: Connecticut – Jen Cushman jennifer.cushman@uconn.edu; Rhode Island – Kristy Horan kstone@uri.edu; Massachusetts – Andrew Samuelson ASamuelson@umass.edu; Maine –Erin McDonald erin.mcdonald1@maine.edu; Vermont - Wendy Sorrell wendy.sorrell@uvm.edu and, New Hampshire – Hannah Majewski hannah.majewski@unh.edu. Space for tack will be allocated by the superintendent.
10. Arrival Members and their goats must arrive on the premises Thursday, October 1 between the hours of 2pm and 6pm. Participants arriving after 6pm risk being disqualified. NO LATE ARRIVALS!
11. Departure Members and their goats will be released following the Award Ceremony, Saturday, October 3, 2026. Release paper is required for trailers to enter the Mallary Complex Area.
12. Open Show 4-H members and their animals are invited to participate in the open show on Sunday, October 4. If you are bringing animals for the open show that are not registered for the 4-H Goat Activity, they are not permitted to stay in pens designated for the 4-H Show. Please contact Eastern States Exposition to request space for goats in the open show (space is not guaranteed). **Open Show animals may need to leave the barn Saturday after the 4-H activity is released while cleaning occurs. It is estimated that animals will need to be removed for approximately 1 hour. The Ag Office will indicate when the barn needs to empty. Goats can be penned outside or moved to the wash rack. After the clean out, animals can be moved back inside. Open Show exhibitors will need to purchase shavings for new pens from feed store, if desired.** However, they must understand and meet the following conditions: The members must make a separate entry in the open show; follow all open show rules, pay all required fees and arrange for a dorm chaperone. The ESE Dairy Goat Show Committee and ESE 4-H Dairy Goat Activity Chaperones are not responsible for the participants once the ESE 4-H Dairy Goat Activity is over. Parents/Guardians must make the appropriate arrangements, following Eastern States Exposition guidelines, if the 4-H'er wants to stay for the open goat show. **The Open Show parking pass for vehicles is only good after 8pm on Saturday October 3, 2026.**
13. Housing and Meals Eastern States Exposition will provide housing and meals for 4-H Dairy Goat exhibitors and designated chaperones. Members will eat and sleep in the Moses 4-H Dormitory.

All 4-H youth are required to sleep overnight in the dorm for the duration of their 4-H Activity.* The first meal will be supper at 5pm, Thursday and final meal will be lunch on Saturday.

14. Exhibitor Health Condition Each member must obtain from The Big E website a health form to be filled out and signed by their parents or guardian. This procedure gives permission for the Exposition medical staff to administer medical treatment, if and when it is necessary to do so.
15. Drinking of alcoholic beverages, smoking and use of drugs by delegates is prohibited. All 4-H delegates are expected to act in an orderly manner. Delegates are expected to respect the general public and answer questions politely. Delegates will abstain from using profanity. Appropriate actions will be taken for violations.
16. Uniform Only white pants/white skirt with white shirt for the show ring. A green or white sweatshirt is recommended for cool weather. While showing, members will be disqualified if they are wearing shorts, clothing advertising a farm, breed or club or any other clothing that the superintendent considers inappropriate for the event. Delegates may not appear in the barns or on the grounds barefoot. Clean sneakers or hard-soled clean shoes must be worn in the ring, **NO SANDALS, CROCS OR CLOGS**. A 4-H emblem must be worn during all 4- H Goat Activity Events, as part of the uniform. State 4-H Jackets may be worn during breed classes. Please see enclosed dress code for more information.
17. Animal Health Regulations Please refer to the Massachusetts Animal Health Regulations included in this packet. Goat tattoos/tags must be clear and easy to read, and must be documented on the health papers.
18. Care of Exhibits Goats will be penned in the Mallery Complex. The exhibitors should bring their own grain and show equipment. Exhibitors are advised to bring a show box with lock and duplicate key and a hayrack as well as any milking equipment they need. The superintendent will arrange an area for storage. Eastern States Exposition will furnish hay and bedding. Exhibitors will be expected to care for their animals and to keep them in their pens, neat and presentable at all times. Milk waste should be dumped in the designated place in the dairy area. Pen waste does **NOT** go into trash cans. Only 4-H members are permitted to groom, feed, or care for their animals once they arrive on the grounds. **Assistance from adults, parents, or non-members is strictly prohibited** and may result in the disqualification of the entry. The management assumes no responsibility for loss or damage to livestock or persons. 4-H banner display is encouraged. EXHIBITORS NEED TO BRING SHOVELS, BROOMS, FORK AND WHEELBARROW. **There is to be no display of any Farm sign, Herd signs or Farm or Herd Banners, or any display that mentions or advertises organizations, businesses, clubs or herd names.**
19. Only Overnight Watch **persons serving in an official capacity, as appointed by state 4-H coordinators, may stay in 4-H barn areas to supervise animals overnight.***
20. Arrival For arrival, vehicles, delegates and drivers may enter Gate 1, surrendering a vehicle pass to the gate attendant. Vehicles may then proceed to Gate 10 and Mallery Livestock Complex

where animals and equipment may be unloaded. Vehicles may then leave the grounds via Gate 10 to exit at Gate 1.

21. Departure For departure, drivers and vehicles should enter Gate 1 and surrender a vehicle pass or pay a parking fee. The driver should proceed to Gate 10 and park the vehicle outside Gate 10. Upon obtaining an official release slip from their superintendent, the 4-H delegate delivers such release slip to the driver of the vehicle who may then bring the vehicle to the inner grounds from the satellite lot. As soon as loaded, the driver, delegate and vehicle must immediately exit via Gate 10 to Gate 1. Departure times must be adhered to.
22. Exhibitor Tickets may be purchased from the Agriculture Office at a reduced price and may be used for the family of 4 H Dairy Goat delegates. Please call the Agriculture Department at (800) 639-2908 or stop by the Mallory office after August 15.
23. Conditions The 4-H Goat Show Committee and Eastern States Exposition reserve the right to amend or change the rules. Animals of inferior quality will not be admitted to the grounds. For the purpose of handling problems concerning the rules which may arise during the show, please follow the protocol outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding. It will be the responsibility of the superintendent and chairman to consult with the judge to ascertain that they understand the rules by which 4-H members are instructed to compete. **HORNED ANIMALS CANNOT BE SHOWN.**
24. Loss or Damage. All exhibits will be under the direction of Eastern States Exposition Management, who will exercise every reasonable care in the protection of exhibits. In no case will Eastern States Exposition or management be responsible for any loss or damage that may occur. Each exhibitor will be solely responsible for any loss, injury or damage to any animal; or loss, injury or damage done by or arising from any animal exhibited by him/her and shall indemnify Eastern States Exposition against legal or other proceedings in regard thereto.
25. There will be a special 4-H banner for the Best Junior Doe in show and Best Senior Doe in show.
26. Show order subject to change by show management.

ADGA 4-H DAIRY GOAT SHOW AND CLASSES

2026 ADGA Rules Shall Govern

The Junior and Senior shows are separately sanctioned. JUNIOR DIVISION: Does under 24 months of age, who have never freshened nor are in milk.

SENIOR DIVISION: To include does that have freshened or are being milked. This includes dry and precocious milkers. Any doe 24 months of age or over that has never freshened shall not be shown.

*CHAMPION CHALLENGE: All animals entered in this class must have the prefix CH, GCH, or SGCH affixed by ADGA on the animal's registration papers. Permanent champions may be shown in the regular or challenge class whichever the owner chooses.

1. This show is sanctioned by ADGA for the following breeds: Alpine, Guernsey, LaMancha, Nigerian Dwarf, Nubian, Oberhasli, Saanen, Sable, Toggenburg, Recorded Grade.
2. The base date for age computation is the date the animals are to be judged.
3. The original registration certificate is required for all animals six months of age or older and this **MUST** be shown to the Show Secretary before the start of the show.
4. The original registration certificate is required for all animals and this **MUST** be shown to the Show Secretary before the start of the show. Per the current ADGA guidelines, animals may be shown with a stamped duplicate that has been issued within 90 days. No copies of registration papers will be accepted but in the case of the stamped duplicate a faxed stamped copy from the ADGA office is acceptable or as approved by current ADGA show rules. All tattoos must correspond exactly with the animal's pedigree papers and be legible. Animals retattooed must have registration papers stating retattoo. **All goats must be registered in the youth's name or leased in the name of the 4-H member by June 1. The number of leased animals allowed is based on the rules of state of origin. See general rule 5 for specific information.**
5. Purebred and Recorded Grades shall not be shown in the same classes.
6. Due to ADGA rules no horned animals will be allowed.
7. Nigerian Dwarfs are required to be measured.
8. The ADGA 4-H Dairy Goat Show will be divided into the following classes Members may exhibit up to eight goats. Show order is subject to change. Show Begins at 8:30 am sharp.

ALL OTHER DAIRY-TYPE GOATS SHOW AND CLASSES

1. 4-H'ers with a non-registered dairy-type goat, wether, or registered dry does over 2 years of age who have never freshened are eligible to be shown.
2. ALL OTHER DAIRY-TYPE GOATS: All goats must be individually listed on a health chart. Based on the FSEP (Federal Scrapie Eradication Program) goats of any age or sex brought to a show from either out of state or within state must possess a USDA approved individual identification tag, tattoo or electronic implant consistent with the requirements of FSEP.
3. If any class has less than 3 animals entered, it may be combined with another class, at the discretion of the committee.
4. The following classes are to be shown:

- 1201 Milking Yearling under 2
- 1202 Dry doe over age 2
- 1203 Milkers 2 Under 3 yrs of age
- 1204 Milkers 3yrs and older

Senior Champion All Other Dairy-Type Goats

- 1207 Under 6 mo doelings
- 1208 6- Under 12 mo doelings
- 1209 Dry Yearlings

Junior Champion All Other Dairy-Type Goats

- 1214 Wethers (any age)

STAR MILKERS

- a. An ADGA registered or recorded doe shall receive a Star Milker Certificate upon proper application and payment of fee (see Schedule of Rate) provided she has met minimum requirements under ADGA rules, as follow:
 - (1) On the basis of earning 18 or more points at a recognized Milking Competition conducted under rules approved by the Board of Directors.
 - (2) On the basis of AGS Advanced Registry or Canadian R.O.P. certificate (original of which to be sent to ADGA office for verification) where production meets ADGA minimum requirements in 305 days or less. (British Goat Society records are also accepted.)
- b. An ADGA-registered or recorded doe shall be entitled to an automatic *M designation without application or fee (with no Star certificate issued):
 - (1) On the basis of three qualifying Star Milker or Advanced Registry daughters.
 - (2) On the basis of two +B sons (ST.) Or 2 A.R. sons.
 - (3) On the basis of one A.R. son and one +B son (ST.)
 - (4) On the basis of one A.R. son and two A.R. and/or *M daughters.
 - (5) On the basis of one +B son (ST.) And two A.R. and/or *M daughters.
- c. An automatic *M designation is granted any ADGA registered doe that has qualified for Advanced Registry.
- d. The number of Stars shall indicate the number of consecutive generations of tested females in the immediate background. For example 1*M indicates that the doe has qualified under a. or b. above or has met the ADGA minimum requirements for A.R. and that her dam has no production record; 2*M indicates a qualified tested doe with a 1*M dam; 3*M indicates a qualified tested doe with a 2*M dam and a 1*M grand dam, etc.

4-H DAIRY GOAT SHOWING SCORE CARD

Explanation of Score Card based on ADGA Scorecard (Revised January 2025)

POINTS

- B. Appearance of Animal 40
1. Condition and Thriftiness - showing normal growth -neither too fat nor too thin 10
 2. Hair is clean and properly groomed. Hooves trimmed and shaped to enable animal to walk and stand naturally. Neatly disbudded if the animal is not naturally hornless. 10
 3. Clipping - entire body if weather has permitted, showing allowance to get neat coat of hair by show time. Breed- appropriate preparation of hair is allowed in breeds where hair coat may be considered according to the breed standard; neatly trimmed tail, mammary and ears. 10
 4. Cleanliness - as shown by a clean body as free from stains as possible, with special attention to legs, feet, tail area, nose and ears 10
- C. Appearance of Exhibitor 10
1. Clothes and person neat and clean – white costume preferred. 10
Under rules see #14 Uniform requirements

- D. Showing Animal in the Ring 50
1. Leading 10

Enter, leading the animal at a normal walk around the ring in a clockwise direction, walking on the left side, holding the collar or short lead with the right hand. Exhibitor should walk as normally and inconspicuously as possible. Goat should lead readily and respond quickly. Lead equipment should consist of a collar or small link chain, which is inconspicuous, yet of sufficient strength to maintain proper control. A short lead may be used, yet proper control must be maintained. As the judge studies the animal, the preferred method of leading is to walk on the side away from the Judge. Lead slowly with animal's head held high enough for impressive style, attractive carriage, and graceful walk.

2. Posing 15

Pose and show an animal so it is between the exhibitor and the judge as much as possible. Avoid exaggerated positions, such as crossing behind the goat. Stand or kneel where both the Judge and the animal may be observed. Pose animal with front feet squarely beneath and hind feet slightly spread. Where possible, face animal upgrade with her front feet on a slight incline. Neither crowds other exhibitors nor leaves too much space when leading into a side-by-side position.

When Judge changes placing, lead animal forward out of line, down or up to the place directed then back through the line, finally making a U-turn to get into position. When a Judge changes placing in a head-to-tail sequence, lead animal out of line and up or down the line on the side, next to the judge. It is the responsibility of another handler to accommodate changes by moving up or down on the side opposite the judge. To step animal ahead - use slight pull on collar. If the animal steps badly out of place, return her to position by leading her forward and making a circle back through your position in the line. When judge is observing the animal, if she moves out of position, replace her as quickly and inconspicuously as possible. Be natural. Over showing, undue fussing, and maneuvering are objectionable.

3. Showing 15

Show animal to best advantage, recognizing the conformation faults of the animal you are leading and striving to help overcome them. Showmen may be questioned by the judge on their knowledge of proper terminology for parts of a dairy goat, breed standards, evaluation of defects, and the ADGA scorecard.

4. Poise, alertness, and courteous attitude 10

are all desired in the ring. Showmen should keep an eye on their animals and be aware of the position of the Judge at all times - but should not stare at the Judge. Person or things outside the ring should not distract the attention of the showman. Respond rapidly to requests from judges or officials, and be courteous and sportsmanlike at all times, respecting the rights of other exhibitors. The best showman will show the animals at all times - not themselves and will continue exhibiting well until the entire class has been placed, the Judge has given his/her reasons, and he/she has dismissed the class.

TOTAL

100

HERDSPERSON SCORE CARD

(Five Top Individuals will be selected by sub-committee based on the following criteria)

Exhibitor Name: _____

Description of pen location, number of stalls, etc.: _____

		Max Points	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Judge 4	Judge 5
Husbandry 45%	Pen is clean with adequate, clean, bright bedding	20					
	Water bucket adequately clean & filled	15					
	Dairy goats clean, clipped (before show), feet trimmed (assessed through visual inspection of goat)	10					

Presentation 55%	Attractive, organized feeders and feed equipment. Feed and equipment stored neatly when not in use (out of sight if possible), and kept clean, no goat hair clippings on ground.	10					
	Safe and neat storage of supplies (extension cords, clippers, personal belongings, show whites, etc.)	10					
	Aisles kept neat and clean	15					
	Decorations neat and attractive (points will only be allocated for decorations beyond what the State provides)	10					
	Appropriate signage maintained throughout weekend (State ID, animal info, no farm signs)						
Overall Impression	10						

Total (100 points Max)	100					
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One-time educational display – 10 points to be added by committee: Display is separate from optional display contest and must be displayed in tack stall.				
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Total Score: _____

Specific notes if needed:

Tools need to be contained and securely stowed away in tack boxes. For public safety, tack CANNOT be left out within public reach.

4-H'ers may be disqualified if anyone other than themselves or a 4-H Dairy Goat Steward manage (clean, decorate, feed or water, care for) their pen area after arrival and initial set-up.

***** ALL GOATS IN MILK ARE REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE IN MILK TEST. *****

ALL OTHER DAIRY-TYPE GOATS DAIRY-TYPE MILKING COMPETITION

All Other Dairy-Type Goats Dairy Goats will go first. Milk-out will be at an identified area in the Mallary Complex. Milkers will compete in a contest for quantity of milk only. Butterfat will not be tested. All milking does not registered or recorded in the American Dairy Goat Association, the American Goat Society or the Canadian Goat Society are required to participate in this All Other Dairy-Type Goats

MILK TEST.ADGA MILKING COMPETITION—ONE DAY MILK TEST

Competition is open to any goat registered or recorded in the American Dairy Goat Association, the American Goat Society or the Canadian Goat Society, upon proof of such registration or recordation. All other goats not included in one of those registries are still required to participate under the All Other Dairy-Type Goats milk test.

If the competition is held at a state or county fair, the rules governing entry to such fair must also be observed, provided they do not in any way waive the requirement of registration or recordation. All participants are required to use appropriate milk test bucket,

i.e. a stainless steel pail. **No milk machines may be used.** Nigerian Dwarfs are advised to provide their own milking stands.

The owner shall certify to the Superintendent in charge and to ADGA the fact that the goat has not within ten days of date of test received Thyroprotein or any tonic or conditioning powder which states on the label that it will increase milk production. This certification shall be made out and signed by the owner in the presence of the Superintendent at the time the animal is brought into the barn. The Superintendent shall forward this certification to ADGA with the completed milking competition report form.

Goats entered in a One-Day Test shall be on the testing premises the evening before. They shall be milked dry 24 hours before the hour set for the final milking in the test. The Superintendent in charge, or his representative, shall check each doe to verify compliance with the preliminary milk test requirement. The Superintendent, or his representative, may require any doe to be stripped dry at that time to comply with the requirement. Refusal by the owner (or caretaker) will eliminate the doe from participation in the test.

At the time of this preliminary milking, the superintendent in charge will be responsible for checking the tattoos of every doe to verify that they correspond exactly to the tattoos listed on her registration/recordation certificate. Those that are illegible or incorrect cannot receive any *M award. Animals that have been retattooed must have this designation on their registration paper.

There shall be no more than three milkings per day for the competition. Milk must be weighed on a legal dairy scale, recording in pounds and tenths of pounds. A testing supervisor approved by the State Extension Dairyman and/or DHI Manager as licensed to conduct standard DHI tests in the state must do weighing and sampling. Standard DHI sampling and weighing techniques must be used. The supervisor will record the milk weights and butterfat percentage on the standard report form furnished by ADGA. The State Extension Dairyman or State DHI Manager must sign the report form.

The butterfat test must be made as soon as possible after milking and may be sent to any laboratory recognized by that state to run butterfat sample tests or may be run in the regular laboratory of the licensed tester conducting the milking competition. The official milking out and taking of butterfat samples may not be done in private, but must be done in public view.

- a. Points shall be given for quantity of milk, for period of time since last kidding, and for butterfat as follows: For each pound of milk, one point figured to 1 decimal place.
- b. For each complete ten days the goat has been in milk since last kidding one-tenth (.1) of a point, with a maximum of 3.6 points.
- c. For each .05 pounds (.023kg.) of butterfat yielded in the milking, one point.
- d. Any goat that receives 18 or more points will be awarded an automatic *M designation without application or fee.

If a Star Certificate is desired the owner shall complete the necessary part of the application for this certificate and mail with the correct fee (\$5 - members; \$15 - nonmembers) to the American Dairy Goat Association.

Milk Test Procedure:

What each Youth Needs: Milking supplies (stainless steel bucket, wipes, disinfecting spray, etc...), the doe's registration paper, and you need to know the last freshening date of the doe.

Thursday Night:

- The first test to empty each doe will begin at 7pm in alphabetical order of the breeds.
- **It is crucial to pay attention to when each breed is called**
- Youth will bring their goats, registration papers and milking equipment (buckets, wipes, etc.) to the show ring
- Before entering the ring, the goat's tattoos will be checked against the registration number and the date of the last freshening will be recorded. **Tattoos must be legible.**
- Each youth will milk out their goat and will have the supervisor or designee check the udder to verify it is empty
- Once the udder is confirmed empty the milk should be brought to the Supervisor. The folks at the table will need to know the breed and complete name of the goat.
- After the milk is verified, the youth may remove the goat from the stand and return the goat to their pen, youth with multiple does in milk, must milk out each goat. Please have other youth assist you with having your animals ready ringside.
- Please stay around and help other youth with their goats. Help is needed in the ring, holding goats, holding buckets, etc.... Your help will ensure the test is done in a timely manner.

Friday Morning:

- Beginning at 7 am, each breed will be called into the ring in alphabetical order
- Once the youth breed is called, they should bring their goat and milking supplies to the show ring and milk out their goat. You check in and milk your goat.
- After the goat is milked out, the youth must bring up their bucket of milk to be weighed and sampled. Please provide the name of the goat and the breed when you present the milk.
- After the milk is weighed and sampled the goat may leave the ring

Friday Night:

- Beginning at 7 pm, each breed will be called into the ring in alphabetical order
- Once the youth breed is called, they should bring their goat and milking supplies to the show ring and milk out their goat
- After the goat is milked out, the youth must bring up their bucket of milk to be weighed and sampled
- After the milk is weighed and sampled the goat may leave the ring
- At this point, the test is over

SKILL-A-THON RESOURCES

Suggested resources for the skill-a-thon are listed below. Contest content is not limited to these resources.

- Resources General Knowledge Resource Goat Resource Handbook Published by Ohio State University Extension 2008.
- ADGA Linear Appraisal Book https://adga.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/LABOOKLETALL_19.pdf
- ADGA Dairy Goat Scorecard <https://adga.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/ADGA-Scorecard-2025.pdf>

DAIRY GOAT POSTER (OPTIONAL)

Posters will be displayed during the program and evaluated

Visual Posters will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- Educational Value: firm understanding of topic & shows evidence of research beyond basic knowledge (30 points)
- Neatness: typed or neatly written, well laid out, free of tears, stains, smudges, scale of lettering (30 points)
- Originality: Uniqueness of topic, creative way to present topic (20 points)
- Images: Images used are appropriate and support topic visually (10 points)
- Clover: Has 4-H Clover with 18 U.S.C 707 (5 points)
- Size: Display does not exceed 36"x48" (5 points)

4-H DAIRY GOAT STEWARD PROGRAM

This program is available for up to four (4) 4-H members per State.

Two steward positions are available to a 4-H qualifying youth whose animal has become sick and cannot be brought to The Big E. The other two steward positions are available to a youth in the 4-H goat project looking to explore The Big E 4-H Dairy Goat Activity and who will participate without an animal.

The duties of the stewards are to assist members and help with the show. The stewards must be active participants in all activities including skill-a-thon and team builders. The stewards will work with the Committee to assist in the show ring with tasks such as ribbon distribution. They will also help keep the aisles clean during shows and milk test. During milk out they be asked to assist other youth with handling animals or equipment. They may assist other members with showing in a breed class. Additional duties may be asked of the stewards by the Committee as needs arise. The state office must contact Eastern States Exposition with this information and notify the Committee Chair, and all the proper forms must be completed for dorm registration.

2026 NEW ENGLAND 4-H DAIRY GOAT ACTIVITY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1

2:00 - 6:00 pm	4-H members and goats arrive at Eastern States Exposition. All animals must be inspected by the Official Animal Health Inspector before entry to the Mallary Complex. Please, report to the Show Superintendent before unloading animals at Mallary Livestock Complex. After goats are penned, check in animals with Show Secretary- Mallary Arena 2. Members may then register at the Moses 4-H Dormitory.	
5:00 - 7:00 pm	First meal will be served	Moses 4-H Cafeteria
6:00 pm	Herdsmanship Begins Deadline to Turn-In Optional Poster Contest Submission	
6:45 pm	Milk Testing Orientation	Mallary Arena 3
7:00 pm	ADGA Milk Test All Other Dairy-Type Goats does milk out first, followed by ADGA registered alphabetical by breed	Mallary Arena 3
8:00 pm	Mandatory Orientation Assembly for all youth, Chaperone Orientation, (Mallary Complex), Opening Ceremony (Massachusetts)	Mallary Arena 2

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2

6:30 - 8:00 am	Breakfast	Moses 4-H Cafeteria
7:00 am	ADGA Recorded Milk Test All Other Dairy-Type Goats does milk out first, followed by ADGA registered alphabetical by breed	Mallary Arena 3
9:00 am	Senior Showing followed by Junior Showing	Mallary Arena 2
11:15 - 1:30 pm	Lunch	Moses 4-H Cafeteria
1:00 pm	Senior Fitting followed by Junior Fitting	Mallary Arena 2
4:00 - 5:00 pm	Team Building Activity,	Mallary Arena 2
5:00 - 7:00 pm	Supper	Moses 4-H Cafeteria
6:45 pm	Skill-a-thon Orientation	Mallary Arena 3
7:00 pm	ADGA Recorded Milk Test All Other Dairy-Type Goats does milk out first, followed by ADGA registered alphabetical by breed	Mallary Arena 3
	Skill-a-thon	Mallary Arena 3
	Ice Cream Social (Ice Cream Sponsored by NH Dairy Promotion Board; RI: Scoops, bowls, spoons; ME: Toppings)	

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

6:30 - 8:00 am	Breakfast	Moses 4-H Cafeteria
	OPTIONAL Milkout prior to show	
8:30 am	ADGA Breed Classes- Sr. Does followed by All Other Dairy-Type Goats then Jr. Doe Show	Mallary Arena 2
11:30am	Lunch Pizza Party	Mallary Arena 2
2:00 pm	Award Assembly – (Mandatory) Animals not staying for open show must depart immediately	Mallary Arena 2
3:00 pm	Release of Goats & Exhibitors after Award Assembly (animals entered in the open show may stay)	



American Dairy Goat Association

ADGA registry, based on original import records, is your warranty of good breeding and worldwide acceptance.

PO Box 865, Spindale NC 28160

(828) 286-3801 | support@adga.org | ADGA.org

ADGA SCORECARD

The goal of the Unified Scorecard is to aid in the selection of the type of dairy goat that can function efficiently over a long productive lifetime.

		POINTS		
		SR. DOE	JR. DOE	BUCK
A. GENERAL APPEARANCE	An attractive framework with femininity (masculinity in bucks), strength, upstandingness, length, and smoothness of blending throughout that create an impressive style and graceful walk.	35	55	55
	Head & Breed Characteristics - clean-cut and balanced in length, width, and depth; broad muzzle with full nostrils; well-sculpted, alert eyes; strong jaw with angular lean junction to throat; appropriate size, color, ears, and nose to meet breed standard.	5	10	8
	Front End Assembly - prominent withers arched to point of shoulder with shoulder blade, point of shoulder, and point of elbow set tightly and smoothly against the chest wall both while at rest and in motion; deep and wide into chest floor with moderate strength of brisket.	5	8	10
	Back - strong and straight with well-defined vertebrae throughout; taller at withers than hips, and level chine with full crops into a straight, wide loin; wide hips smoothly set and level with chine and loin.	5	7	6
	Rump - strong, uniformly wide and nearly level from hips to pinbones and thurl to thurl; thurls set two-thirds of the distance from hips to pinbones; well defined and wide pinbones set slightly lower than the hips; tailhead slightly above and smoothly set between pinbones; tail symmetrical to body and free from coarseness; vulva normal in size and shape in females (normal sheath and testes in males).	5	7	6
	Legs, Pasterns & Feet —bone flat and strong throughout leading to smooth, free motion; front legs with clean knees, straight, wide apart and squarely placed; rear legs wide apart and straight from the rear and well angulated in side profile through the stifle to cleanly molded hocks, nearly perpendicular from hock to strong, yet flexible pastern of medium length; strong feet with tight toes, pointed directly forward; deep heels with sole nearly uniform in depth from toe to heel.	15	23	25
B. DAIRY STRENGTH	Long bone pattern throughout. Openness and angularity with strong yet refined and clean bone structure, showing enough substance, but with freedom from coarseness and with evidence of milking ability giving due regard to stage of lactation (of breeding season in bucks). <i>Neck</i> - long, lean, and blending smoothly into the shoulders; clean-cut throat and brisket with adequate width of chest floor to support maintenance of body functions. <i>Withers</i> - prominent and wedge-shaped with the dorsal process arising slightly above the shoulder blades. <i>Ribs</i> - flat, flinty, wide apart, and long; lower rear ribs should angle to flank. <i>Flank</i> - deep yet arched and free of excess tissue. <i>Thighs</i> - in side profile, moderately incurving from pinbone to stifle; from the rear, clean and wide apart, highly arched and out-curving into the escutcheon to provide ample room for the udder and its attachment. <i>Skin</i> - thin, loose, and pliable with soft, lustrous hair.	20	30	30
C. BODY CAPACITY	Large in proportion to size, age, and period of lactation of animal (of breeding season for bucks), providing ample capacity, strength, and vigor.	10	15	15
	Chest —deep and wide, yet clean-cut, with well sprung foreribs, full in crops and at point of elbow.	4	7	7
	Barrel —strongly supported, long, deep, and wide; depth and spring of rib increasing into a deep yet refined flank	6	8	8
D. MAMMARY SYSTEM	Strongly attached, elastic, well-balanced with adequate capacity, quality, ease of milking, and indicating heavy milk production over a long period of usefulness.	35		
	Udder Support —strong medial suspensory ligament that clearly defines the udder halves, contributes to desirable shape and capacity, and holds the entire udder snugly to the body and well above the hocks. Fore, rear, and lateral attachments must be strong and smooth.	13		
	Fore Udder —wide and full to the side and extending moderately forward without excess non-lactating tissue and indicating capacity, desirable shape, and productivity.	5		
	Rear Udder —capacious, high, wide, and arched into the escutcheon; uniformly wide and deep to the floor; moderately curved in side profile without protruding beyond the vulva.	7		
	Balanced, Symmetry & Quality —in side profile, one-third of the capacity visible in front of the leg, one-third under the leg, and one-third behind the leg; well-rounded with soft, pliable, and elastic texture that is well collapsed after milking, free of scar tissue, with halves evenly balanced.	6		
	Teats —uniform size and of medium length and diameter in proportion to capacity of udder, cylindrical in shape, pointed nearly straight down or slightly forward, and situated two-thirds of the distance from the medial suspensory ligament on the floor of each udder-half to the side, indicating ease of milking.	4		
TOTAL		100	100	100

		Points	Sub-Total
E. SHOWMANSHIP - Suggested Uniform: Long-sleeved white shirt, regulation white pants; 4-H or FFA necktie; 4-H or FFA cap (if applicable), with matching shoes and belt in black, white, or brown			
1.	APPEARANCE OF ANIMAL		
	Condition and Thriftiness —showing normal growth—neither too fat nor too thin.	10	40
	Hair —clean and properly groomed. Hoofs —trimmed and shaped to enable animal to walk and stand naturally. Neatly disbudded if the animal is not naturally hornless.	10	
	Clipping — Clipping—entire body if weather has permitted, showing allowance to get a neat coat of hair by show time. <u>Breed-appropriate preparation of hair is allowed in breeds where hair coat may be considered according to the breed standard;</u> neatly trimmed tail, mammary and ears.	10	
	Cleanliness —as shown by a clean body as free from stains as possible, with special attention to legs, feet, tail area, nose, and ears.	10	
2.	APPEARANCE OF EXHIBITOR		
	Clothes and person neat and clean –white costume preferred.	10	10
3.	SHOWING ANIMAL IN THE RING		
	Leading —enter, leading the animal at a normal walk around the ring in a clockwise direction, walking on the left side, holding the collar or short lead with the right hand. Exhibitor should walk as normally and inconspicuously as possible. Goat should lead readily and respond quickly. Lead equipment should consist of a properly fitted collar or small link chain, which is inconspicuous, yet of sufficient strength to maintain proper control. A short lead may be used, yet proper control must be maintained. As the Judge studies the animal , the preferred method of leading is to walk on the side away from the Judge. Lead slowly with the animal’s head held high enough for impressive style, attractive carriage, and graceful walk.	10	50
	Pose and show an animal so it is between the exhibitor and the Judge as much as possible. Avoid exaggerated positions, such as crossing behind the goat. Stand or kneel where both Judge and animal may be observed Pose animal with front feet squarely beneath and hind feet slightly spread. Where possible, face animal upgrade with her front feet on a slight incline. Neither crowd other exhibitors nor leave too much space when leading into a side-by-side position.	15	
	When Judge changes placing , lead animal forward out of line, down or up to the place directed then back through the line, finally making a U-turn to get into position. When a Judge changes placing in a head-to-tail sequence, lead animal out of line and up or down the line on the side next to the Judge. It is the responsibility of another handler to accommodate changes by moving up or down on the side opposite the Judge. To step animal ahead - use a slight pull on the collar or lead. If the animal steps badly out of place, return her to position by leading her forward and making a circle back through your position in the line. When Judge is observing the animal , if she moves out of position, replace her as quickly and inconspicuously as possible. Be natural. Overshowing, undue fussing, and maneuvering are objectionable.		
	Show animal to best advantage , recognizing the conformation faults of the animal you are leading and striving to help overcome them. Showmen may be questioned by the judge on their knowledge of proper terminology for parts of a dairy goat, breed standards, evaluation of defects, and ADGA scorecards.	15	
	Poise, alertness, and courteous attitude are all desired in the show ring. Showmen should keep an eye on their animals and be aware of the position of the Judge at all times—but should not stare at the Judge. Persons or things outside the ring should not distract the attention of the showmen. Respond rapidly to requests from judges or officials, and be courteous and sportsmanlike at all times, respecting the rights of other exhibitors. The best showmen will show their animals at all times—not themselves—and will continue exhibiting well until the entire class has been placed, the Judge has given his/her reasons, and he/she has dismissed the class.	10	
TOTAL			100
F. HERDSMANSHIP			
1.	PREPARATION OF THE EXHIBIT		
	Adequate, clean bright bedding	10	40
	Animals attractively space in pens	10	
	Decorations neat and attractive	10	
	Appropriate signs	5	
	Well-chosen color scheme— background, tack-boxes, etc.	5	
2.	APPEARANCE AND ATTITUDE OF EXHIBITORS		
	Knowledgeable, courteous, friendly, able to answer questions about exhibit or dairy goats.	15	20
	Clothes and person neat and clean, appropriated dressed.	5	
3.	CARE OF THE EXHIBIT		
	Dairy goats clean, clipped (before show), feet trimmed.	20	40
	Aisles kept neat and clean.	10	
	Attractive, organized feeders and feed equipment. Feed and equipment stored neatly when not in use (out of sight if possible), and kept clean.	10	
TOTAL			100

SMITH MEMORIAL 4-H DAIRY GOAT AWARD

Berton and Agnes Smith valued integrity, hard work, sportsmanship, and were 4-H'ers through and through. This award goes to a current year 4-H Goat Delegate including Stewards that exhibits fair play, hard work, and honesty/integrity. Eligibility is open to youth from all participating New England States.

This award is funded by Sam & Amy Smith through The Big E, 2028.

Award Criteria:

The candidate demonstrates during the New England 4-H Goat Activity:

Head: demonstrates good decision making skills

Heart: demonstrates dedication to the goat project and/or 4-H

Hands: helpful to others, eager to volunteer and participate in all activities/events Health: demonstrates concern for the safety of themselves, animals, and others.

Delegates will be considered for the award starting 7:00pm on Thursday and concluding at the end of 4-H dairy goat breed show on Saturday.

Selection:

Nominations may be made by any delegate, committee member or chaperone. The selection committee will consist of an adult representative of each state with youth participating plus, the 4-H Goat Show Superintendent or 4-H Goat Committee Chair. A parent/guardian of a nominated youth may not serve on the selection committee. A member of the Smith family may choose to participate.

Prize:

\$100 Monetary prize to be donated by the Smith family in memory of Berton and Agnes Smith and awarded at the end of closing ceremonies of the New England 4-H Dairy Goat Activity during The Big E.

It is an honor and a privilege to represent 4-H and the excellent reputation of your local and state program in the New England Center and in the Mallary Complex at Eastern States Exposition. We are asking you to consider your dress while representing 4-H Youth and Family Development programs and dress for respect. Chaperones may ask you to change your attire if they deem it not appropriate for representing 4-H. You may be corrected on any inappropriate language or actions while you are representing 4-H at The Big E.

Please be advised that the following dress code will be enforced for all individuals participating in 4-H events and activities, **including participants in the fashion programs** and 4-H chaperones.

All chaperones are asked to make sure that their 4-H delegation is meeting the dress code.

EXPECTED ATTIRE

1. All clothing shall be neat, clean, acceptable in repair and appearance, and shall be worn within the bounds of decency and good taste as appropriate for 4-H events and activities.
2. 4-H shirts and state logos are strongly encouraged, except as indicated in ring/show attire.
3. Clean shorts, pants or dress jeans are strongly encouraged.
4. Hair should be clean and neatly combed.
5. Hats will not be allowed in NEC unless it is part of the action exhibit.
6. Footwear deemed appropriate by your respective program must be worn at all times.

PROHIBITED CLOTHING

1. Clothing displaying profanity, products, or slogans which promote tobacco, alcohol, drugs, sex or are in any other way distracting.
2. Skirts and dress hems must be 4" above the knee or less.
3. No cut-off shorts, torn or frayed jeans will be permitted. The inseam length of shorts is 4" or longer.
4. Exposed bare midriffs (front or side), bare chests, visible cleavage, undergarments (including bra straps), or transparent (see-through) clothing are prohibited. Blouse straps must be at least 2" wide.
Exception/clarification for Fashion participants for #4: Formal wear may be strapless or have spaghetti straps. Low-cut backs must not fall below the navel line. Slits cannot exceed mid-thigh, where fingertips hit the leg. Skin-baring sides are inappropriate. Dresses may not be cut below the bust line. The bust continues around your sides directly under the armpit. With arms down at your side, if flesh touches flesh below the bust line, the dress is inappropriate.
5. Spaghetti straps, tank tops, shirts which expose a bare back, halter tops, and tube tops are prohibited.
6. Excessively baggy or tight clothing is prohibited. No wide leg, loose fit pants.
7. Any clothing that must be continually adjusted while wearing to meet the dress code is inappropriate. For example, skirts that "shorten" while walking to be more than 4" above the knees, shirts that fall off the shoulder to expose undergarments, shirts that must be pulled down to cover midriff or pants that need to be pulled up to hide undergarments etc.

4-H CAMPER POLICY

1. Camper spaces are reserved for those serving in an official capacity with their state 4-H program during The Big E. Three camper spots are allotted per state per animal activity.
2. A 4-H Extension Official from each state will email aginfo@thebige.com to confirm the number of campers required **per activity** on or before June 1 of the program year. Information including camper length, dates needed, the names of those who will be utilizing these spaces, and their relationship to the 4-H Activity is not required at this time. **Please note: This information must be disclosed through an email to aginfo@thebige.com. No other forms of communication will be accepted.**
3. Each state is required to fill out the Mallery Camping Reservation Form for 4-H Beef, Dairy, Dairy Goat, Dog, and Sheep activity campers using the livestock camping reservation request system, which will open on Friday, May 30, 2026, at 8 a.m., and close on Monday, June 30, 2026, at midnight. Use the “Special Requests, Accommodations, or Notes” box to indicate the reason for this individual’s need for a 4-H Camper. ESE reserves the right to use these spaces for other purposes if they are not requested by the deadline.
4. Spaces reserved for the 4-H Horse Committee in the Horse Show Camper Lot will be allocated by the 4-H Horse Committee Chair.
5. Camper spaces in the Mallery Agriculture Complex area and the area designated for the 4-H Horse Committee are assessed a \$25/Day. Once your reservation has been received, you will receive a link to pay online or request an invoice.
6. No cars, trucks or other non-camper vehicles are allowed to be used as overnight accommodations on the grounds of Eastern States Exposition. Any vehicles used in this manner will be towed.
7. No tents are allowed in the Mallery Agriculture Complex parking area.
8. Any persons using canvas-sided/pop-up/tent-type campers will be required accept all responsibility for any theft, safety and/or personal liability
9. More information is available regarding the availability of camper parking spaces for parents and non-official personnel in Lot 9. For specific information regarding public parking camping and pricing, please contact The Big E Admissions at 800-639-2908.
10. **Management reserves the right to refuse access, and is not responsible for accidents or personal loss, injury or damages to any property.**

EVACUATION PLAN FOR ANIMALS ON EXHIBITION AT EASTERN STATES EXPOSITION

If an event should occur on the Exposition Grounds that would require the evacuation or removal of animals being exhibited or shown under the control of the Agriculture and Education Department of the Eastern States Exposition (ESE), the following guidelines should be implemented to assist in the timely and orderly evacuation of these animals.

1. The ESE Director of Agriculture will notify the Public Safety Department that a situation exists that would require the evacuation of some or all of the animals on the Exposition grounds.
2. Upon notification from the ESE Director of Agriculture, a Seasonal Police supervisor will be dispatched to the Agriculture and Education Department office located in the Mallery Complex, or other location as directed, to act as a liaison between the Seasonal Police and the ESE Director of Agriculture.
3. This supervisor at the direction of the Agriculture and Education Department will establish a central location where the Agriculture and Education Department exhibitors will standby to be transported or escorted off grounds to off grounds parking so vehicles to be used to transport the animals off grounds may be rapidly returned to the Exposition grounds to be loaded out.
4. If the animals need to be removed immediately from the buildings, they are to be housed in the Coliseum. The Public Safety Department will provide officers to secure the route to this location and assist in isolating the Coliseum once the animals are moved. Removal of animals from the building will proceed under the direction of the West Springfield Fire Department.
5. The Public Safety Department shall provide all available vehicles to transport drivers or escort vehicles to retrieve trailers from off ground locations.
6. A Seasonal Police supervisor shall accompany the vehicles to the off grounds location to assist in assembling a convoy of vehicles to be escorted back to the Exposition grounds for loading.
7. Should the disposal of animal remains be necessary the ESE Director of Agriculture will work with R G Webster Enterprises and the Massachusetts Department of Agriculture Resources (MDAR) to assure that this is done in a timely manner.
8. All operations shall continue until directed by the ESE Director of Agriculture to suspend the operation.

QUARANTINE PLAN FOR ANIMALS ON EXHIBITION AT EASTERN STATES EXPOSITION

Should the Massachusetts Department of Agriculture Resources (MDAR) determine that a mass quarantine needs to take place at Eastern States Exposition, the ESE Director of Agriculture will follow all directives issued by MDAR, and, acting with the assistance of the Seasonal Security personnel, will secure the quarantine area and proceed to set up care for all quarantined animals.

EASTERN STATES EXPOSITION 4-H ACTIVITY EMERGENCY PROTOCOLS (SEE SPECIFIC LOCATIONS)

FAIRGROUNDS

In the case of a major emergency on the fairgrounds, all 4-H members, leaders and chaperones are to report to the front lawn of their respective state buildings along the Avenue of States and remain there until released by the Moses 4-H Dormitory Supervisor. In the case of an active shooter seek safety immediately until instructed to do something else by an official security detail. Upon all clear please report to the Moses 4-H Dormitory or Mallary Complex, whichever one you are closest to.

MALLARY COMPLEX

In case of emergency on the fairgrounds, all 4-H members, leaders and chaperones participating in activities in the Mallary Complex should follow the instruction of Eastern States Exposition personnel or staff given through announcements and if possible stay in a group with their volunteer leaders.

NEW ENGLAND CENTER

In the case of a major emergency on the fairgrounds, all 4-H members, leaders and chaperones participating in the New England Center are to report to the front lawn of their respective state buildings along the Avenue of States and remain there until released by the Moses 4-H Dormitory Supervisor.

EMERGENCY CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- 413-205-5011 Agriculture Department
- 413-205-5185 Moses Dormitory Office
- 413-205-5555 ESE Police
 - Hours of Operation:8:00 am-10:00 pm
- **Call 911 if an emergency occurs outside of ESE Police hours of operation**

OFFICE OF
THE
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF



44 VAN DEENE AVENUE
Tel: (413) 263-3220
Fax: (413) 736-0087

WEST SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS 01089

Updated February 2026

2026 Fire Prevention Regulations for Agricultural Events

The West Springfield Fire Department Office of Fire Prevention shall conduct on-site inspections prior to the start of Agricultural events. Below is a list of rules and regulations in accordance with CMR 527 1.00, the Massachusetts Comprehensive Fire Code.

1. No Smoking is allowed in or adjacent to any buildings, tents, or temporary structures.
2. When permitted, live vegetation shall be balled and kept watered.
3. Fine bark mulch and corn stalks are not allowed for display material. Large wood chips or coarse bark mulch may be used in barns but shall be kept damp at all times.
4. Flammable liquids and gases (propane cylinders) are not allowed in the buildings. Non-flammable gas cylinders shall be supported by metal stands and/or chains.
5. Devices utilizing open flame(s) are not permitted inside any building or tent.
6. Motorized gas or diesel vehicles are not permitted inside buildings, barns, and tents (including scooters, UTVs, golf carts).
7. Battery electric vehicles, scooters, and bicycles are prohibited inside tents, buildings, and structures. The exception to this is mobility equipment for persons with disabilities, which must be properly maintained and in good condition.
8. Hay and straw indoors should be kept to a minimum, not to exceed the amount needed for a single day. Hay and straw should not impede egress, should not block any aisles or exits, and if deemed unsafe may need to be moved upon inspection.
9. Feed and bedding material is not permitted on the floor of any aisle for display purposes, (including wood shavings, sawdust, peat moss, loose straw).
10. No excessive accumulation of litter or rubbish is allowed.
11. Aisles and stalls should not have any coverings over the top of them, as this would impede sprinkler activation and flow. Decorations are allowed, but should not impede safe egress.
12. All exits shall remain free and clear at all times.
13. All fire lanes and fire department access roads shall remain free and clear at all times.
14. All fire alarm pull stations and other fire protection equipment such as extinguishers / sprinkler systems, shall be free and clear of obstructions and readily visible / accessible.

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WEST SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS 01089

15. All aisles shall be a minimum of ten (10) feet in width and shall remain free and clear at all times. Aisle display widths are not to exceed thirty (30) inches from each side of the main aisle and twenty four (24) inches from each side of the side aisles.
16. Any materials used to decorate / customize the space should not increase the fuel load and should not produce toxic fumes/vapors in the event of a fire.
17. No signs, decorations, or other products shall be attached to any part of any sprinkler system.
18. All decorations, fabrics, and/or coverings must be non-flammable as certified by a National Testing Laboratory or, when permitted, rendered non-flammable by a topical flame retardant finish. Burlap is not permitted.
19. Furniture with foam upholstery/padding/cushioning is not permitted in barns or tents (couch, sofa, recliner, etc.). These pieces of furniture contribute greatly to the fuel load of the space, the rapid development of fire, and produce extremely toxic gases when involved in fire.
20. All lights and electrical mechanisms must have a UL label. Electrical devices shall not be permitted to be in direct contact with combustible materials such as wood chips, hay bales and decorations.
21. Extension cords must be UL-listed, in good condition, of appropriately substantial gauge, and not overloaded with electrical devices. Extension cords should be rated for outdoor or all-weather use. Extension cords shall not be covered by any combustible material such as carpet, wall coverings, plywood, wood shavings.
22. Electrical devices shall not be left unattended, i.e., displays utilizing lights and electrical mechanisms shall be unplugged at the end of the show or before retiring for the evening.
23. Any appliances used must be clean and in good condition, UL-listed, should not be plugged into surge protectors, and should be connected directly to an outlet or to substantially-sized rated extension cords with as few devices/cords/connections as possible between the appliance and the electrical outlet.
24. All extension cords, appliances, and electrical components are subject to inspection.

We thank you for your continued cooperation on providing our citizens, visitors, staff, and animals with a safe and enjoyable experience at the Eastern States Exposition.

OFFICE OF
THE
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF



44 VAN DEENE AVENUE
Tel: (413) 263-3220
Fax: (413) 736-0087

WEST SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS 01089

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Link'.

Robert Link
Deputy Chief, Fire Prevention
(413) 263 - 3384 direct
fireprevention@townofwestspringfield.org

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C.J. Bartone #820'.

Christopher Bartone
Chief
(413) 263 - 3226 direct
cbartone@townofwestspringfield.org

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs



Department of Agricultural Resources

100 Cambridge Street, 9th Floor, Boston, MA 02114

www.mass.gov/agr



Maura T. Healey
Governor

Kimberley Driscoll
Lieutenant Governor

Rebecca L. Tepper
Secretary

Ashley E. Randle
Commissioner

Avian Influenza (HPAI) Notices:

Due to the continuing US outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in domesticated and wild birds and in dairy cattle, Animal Health Officials from all six New England States are united in advising the following for agricultural fairs, competitions, exhibitions, shows, swaps, or other in-person events that encourage the gathering or co-mingling of birds and/or cattle:

Avian species

The New England State Veterinarians strongly discourage the exhibition of domestic and wild waterfowl species and may recommend delaying or canceling domestic fowl or poultry shows. If events are held, best practices for biosecurity should be implemented. Waterfowl exhibitions are currently banned in MA through April 30, 2026, which may be extended.

Bovine species

The New England State Veterinarians strongly discourage the exhibition of any bovines, including both dairy and beef cattle, that have been present in any state at the time that state had a current outbreak of HPAI in cattle. Bovines that have been shipped from currently affected states in 2026 should not be allowed on the premises of New England fairs or shows. Moving to or from an affected state for any reason will void any New England Fair and Show Season Official Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (OCVIs) that have been issued for such cattle for the remainder of the 2026 season.

The USDA APHIS Veterinary Services Federal Order Requiring Testing for and Reporting of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Livestock issued on April 24, 2024, remains in effect. It can be found on the USDA website: www.aphis.usda.gov/sites/default/files/dairy-federal-order.pdf

General Rules for All Animals:

See M.G.L. c, 128 §2C, 129 §2

Continue to next sections for additional, specific rules for Cattle, Poultry, Goats, Camelids, Swine, Sheep, Equines, Rabbits, and Dogs and Cats.

1. All animals must be:
 - a. In proper physical condition
 - b. Properly identified
 - c. Free of visual evidence of infectious, contagious, or parasitic disease at time of arrival
 - a. Animals of any species with open or draining wounds will not be approved for entry.

2. An animal will be rejected from entry if:
 - a. There is evidence of infectious, contagious, or parasitic disease or open or draining wounds
 - b. Failure to produce the necessary documents for certification, vaccination, or testing
 - c. **THE INSPECTOR'S DECISION IS FINAL**
3. Any surgical procedure or injection of foreign substance or drug, or the application of any substance which could affect the animal's performance or alter its natural contour, confirmation, or appearance is prohibited.
 - a. Irritants, counterirritants, or similar substances that affect the animal's performance, contour, conformation, or appearance is prohibited.
 - b. Exceptions include:
 - a. External applications of substances to the hooves or horns of animals that affect appearance only are permitted.
 - b. Surgical procedures performed by a duly licensed veterinarian for the sole purpose of protecting the animal are permitted.
4. Official Identification (ID):
 - a. All livestock must have proper official, individual ID as required and approved by the USDA and accepted by the fair or show for the species such as official metal ear tags, tattoos, scrapie tags, or microchips.
 - b. Registration forms must accompany health certificates when used as part of official identification, e.g. with breed registry tattoos or microchips.
5. **Health Certificates: New England Animals Showing in New England States**
 - a. One Official Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (OCVI) may be allowed for animals of the same species to be exhibited at fairs or shows in any of the New England States when submitted with an itinerary of the dates and locations of the events at which the listed animals are expected to be shown. Only animals that are healthy at the time of shipment may be moved.
 - b. For the 2026 Show and Fair season, OCVIs being used for the full season must meet all the requirements detailed in the 2026 New England Fairs and Shows memo issued jointly by the state veterinarians of CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT (attached at the end of this document). This memo may be updated at any time during the fair season in response to animal health outbreaks.
6. **Health Certificates: General Rules for All Animals**
 - a. Multiple animals of the same species may be listed on one health certificate with appropriate individual IDs and descriptions. Animals of different species may not be listed on the same official health certificate.
 - b. An itinerary of the names and locations of each New England fair or show at which the owner expects to show the listed animals and the dates when each animal is expected to be on each site must be prepared by the owner and presented to the veterinarian at the time of the OCVI is written.
 - a. A copy of this planned itinerary must be attached to the official health certificate (import and export) for it to be used for more than one fair or show.
 - b. That proposed list should be signed by the veterinarian and the owner/exhibitor and reference the relevant OCVI number(s).

- c. The name and address of the first show or fair where the listed animal will be exhibited is to be used as the “destination” on the OCVI form.
 - a. “See attached list” or similar statement directing Animal Health Official or Fair Inspectors to the attached proposed itinerary must be included.
- d. Exhibitors must keep an accurate list of the show locations and dates when their animals were present on show or fairgrounds. This record must be available to fair inspectors at each inspection and check-in.
- e. Any animal listed on an OCVI that becomes sick must remain home. If the animal is refused entry to any exhibition during 2026 for health reasons, it must have a new health certificate issued by an accredited veterinarian within 30 days of the next interstate movement.
- f. Any New England state may end their participation in this agreement and revert to the standard published requirements for livestock imports in the state at any time, in the event of foreign animal disease outbreak or changes to state legislation.

Cattle Specific Information

See M.G.L c. 129 §§2, 39 and 330 CMR 4.04(2).

Bovine species- Special Notice 2026

The New England State Veterinarians strongly discourage the exhibition of any bovines, including both dairy and beef cattle, that have been present in any state at the time that state had a current outbreak of HPAI in cattle. Bovines that have been shipped from currently affected states in 2026 should not be allowed on the premises of New England fairs or shows. Moving to or from an affected state for any reason will void any New England Fair and Show Season Official Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (OCVIs) that have been issued for such cattle for the remainder of the 2026 season.

The states currently affected by HPAI in cattle can be found on the USDA website:

<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/avian/avian-influenza/hpai-detections/hpai-confirmed-cases-livestock>

The USDA APHIS Veterinary Services Federal Order Requiring Testing for and Reporting of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Livestock issued on April 24, 2024, remains in effect. It can be found on the USDA website:

www.aphis.usda.gov/sites/default/files/dairy-federal-order.pdf

A plan for managing lactating dairy cattle (LDC), including the handling of milk collected at the exhibition facility, should be in place for all fairs and shows where LDC will be on the premises.

1. Tuberculosis (TB) and Brucellosis testing is not required for animals from [TB-Accredited and Brucellosis-Free States](#) (which can be found at <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/status-eradication-programs>) and from in-state animals. If the exhibitor’s state is not TB-Accredited or Brucellosis-Free, then the exhibitor must call the Massachusetts Division of Animal Health for entry requirements (617-626-1795 or 857-348-3922). All animals must be free of the following diseases and conditions: foot rot, mange, pinkeye, ringworm, warts, cowpox, and open or draining wounds.
2. While not required, it is strongly recommended that all cattle be currently vaccinated against rabies.

3. Note: The Big E is requiring RFID official identification tags for all cattle entering The Big E Fairgrounds premises in 2026. Other fairs may add this requirement. Contact the fair office with questions.

Poultry Specific Information

See M. G. L. c. §§2, 129, and 330 CMR 5.02

Important: *Waterfowl may not be exhibited, shown, or otherwise gathered or co-mingled at in-person events in Massachusetts until April 30, 2026, unless extended by the Director of Animal Health, per MDAR Order 1-17-AHO-25.*

1. No poultry will be admitted to a fairground until it has been individually inspected.
2. All poultry must be free of visual evidence of the following diseases: infectious bronchitis, coryza, pullorum-typhoid, fowl-pox, external parasites, and laryngotracheitis.
3. Each bird must be accompanied by written proof (ID card or test report) that the breeding flock was blood-tested negative for pullorum-typhoid within one year prior to entry date.
4. Birds from quarantined states will not be permitted entry.
5. All birds over 16 weeks of age as of January 1, 2026, shall be individually leg banded with a state leg band. This includes out-of-state exhibitors.
6. No bird vaccinated for laryngotracheitis within thirty (30) days of the fair will be admitted.

Goat Specific Information

See M. G. L. c. 129 §§2, 9 CFR 79.6 and Massachusetts Emergency Order 1-AHO-06.

1. Tuberculosis (TB) and brucellosis testing is not required for animals from TB-Accredited and Brucellosis-Free States (<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/status-eradication-programs>) and in-state animals being exhibited in MA.
2. All goats and kids presented, regardless of age, must be individually listed and identified on the health certificate.
3. All goats must be free of visual evidence of the following diseases and conditions:
 - a. Foot rot, mage, pinkeye, ringworm, warts, pox, and open or draining wounds.
 - b. All goats must also be free of soremouth and scrapie exposure.
4. Based on the Federal Scrapie Eradication Program (FSEP), goats and sheep of any age or sex brought to a show or exhibition from either out of state or within state must possess a USDA official individual identification tag or registry tattoo accompanied by current registration papers consistent with the requirements of the FSEP and the Massachusetts Emergency Order 1-AHP-06. Information is available from USDA-APHIS at 508-363-2290.

Camelid Specific information

See M.G.L. c. 129 §2, M.G.I. c. 131, §23, 321 CMR 9.02.

1. Tuberculosis (TB) and Brucellosis testing is not required for animals from TB-Accredited and Brucellosis-Free States and from in-state animals. If the exhibitor's state is not TB-Accredited or Brucellosis-Free, then the exhibitor must call the Massachusetts Division of Animal Health for entry requirements (617-626-1795 or 857-348-3922).

Swine Specific Information

See M.G.L. c. 129 §14E, 330 CME 11.4(2). 9 CFR 71.19

1. All swine must be identified by an official ear tag or registration.
2. Swine must be free of visual evidence of the following diseases and conditions: erysipelas, atrophic rhinitis, mange, and open or draining wounds.
3. Exhibited swine may not have been fed raw garbage.
4. No person shall import into Massachusetts from outside the state any swine which have been pseudorabies vaccinated. M.G.L. c. 129 §14E.
5. All swine shall originate from qualified pseudorabies-free herds or herds in qualified pseudorabies-free states only.

Sheep Specific Information

See 9 CFR 79 and Massachusetts Emergency Order 1-AHO-06

1. No sheep will be allowed entry from flocks in which Scrapie has been diagnosed or in which animals are under surveillance for Scrapie during the previous 18 months. Based on the Federal Scrapie Eradication Program (FSEP), goats and sheep of any age or sex brought to show or exhibition from either out of state or within state must possess a USDA official individual identification tag or registry tattoo accompanied by current registration papers consistent with the requirements of the FSEP and the Massachusetts Emergency Order 1-AHO-06. Information is available from USDA-APHIS at 508-363-2290.
2. No sheep will be permitted entry from flocks in which soremouth has existed or in which soremouth vaccine had been administered in the previous sixty (60) days.
3. Sheep must be free from visual evidence of foot rot, soremouth, pinkeye, ringworm, and open or draining wounds.
4. While not required, it is strongly recommended that sheep be currently vaccinated against rabies.

Equine Specific Information

See M.G.L. c. 128 §§2C. 44. 330 CMR 16.05

1. All equines entering a Massachusetts (MA) fairground originating from both within or outside Massachusetts must be accompanied by a valid health certificate and have a record of negative EIA (Coggins) test within the last 12 months.
2. All equines must be free of visual evidence of the following diseases and conditions: mange, ringworm, soring, strangles, and open or draining wounds.
3. While not required, it is strongly recommended that all equines be vaccinated for rabies, tetanus, EEE and NV within one year of the fair.

Dog and Cat Specific Information

See M.G.L. c. 129 §39G

1. All dogs and cats must be free of visual evidence of the following diseases: kennel cough, distemper, hepatitis, parvo, ringworm, and mange.
2. All dogs and cats must be accompanied by a valid or current vaccination certificate for rabies.

Contact the Massachusetts Division of Animal Health at 857-348-3922 or 617-626-1795 for further information.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Accredited Veterinarians
Exhibitors and Show Inspectors

FROM: New England State Veterinarians

CT	Dr. Thamus Morgan	NH	Dr. Mark Prescott
MA	Dr. Lorraine O'Connor	RI	Dr. Scott Marshall
ME	Dr. Taryn Pearson	VT	Dr. Kaitlynn Levine

SUBJECT: **2026 New England Fairs and Shows**

DATE: March 27, 2026

Avian Influenza (HPAI) Notices:

Due to the continuing US outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in domesticated and wild birds and in dairy cattle, Animal Health Officials from all six New England States are united in advising the following for agricultural fairs, competitions, exhibitions, shows, swaps, or other in-person events that encourage the gathering or co-mingling of birds and/or cattle:

Avian species

The New England State Veterinarians strongly discourage the exhibition of domestic and wild waterfowl species and may recommend delaying or canceling domestic fowl or poultry shows. If events are held, best practices for biosecurity should be implemented. Waterfowl exhibitions are currently banned in MA through April 30, 2026, which may be extended.

Bovine species

The New England State Veterinarians strongly discourage the exhibition of any bovines, including both dairy and beef cattle, that have been present in any state at the time that state had a current outbreak of HPAI in cattle. Bovines that have been shipped from currently affected states in 2026 should not be allowed on the premises of New England fairs or shows. Moving to or from an affected state for any reason will void any New England Fair and Show Season Official Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (OCVIs) that have been issued for such cattle for the remainder of the 2026 season.

The states currently affected by HPAI in cattle can be found on the USDA website:

<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/avian/avian-influenza/hpai-detections/hpai-confirmed-cases-livestock>

The USDA APHIS Veterinary Services Federal Order Requiring Testing for and Reporting of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Livestock issued on April 24, 2024, remains in effect. It can be found on the USDA website:

www.aphis.usda.gov/sites/default/files/dairy-federal-order.pdf

A plan for managing lactating dairy cattle (LDC), including the handling of milk collected at the exhibition facility, should be in place for all fairs and shows where LDC will be on the premises.

All species

- **Animals of all species susceptible to HPAI** are potentially subject to quarantine as ordered by the State Veterinarian if HPAI is detected on a premises where the animal is or was exhibited.
- **If HPAI is detected in cattle in any New England State**, the Agreement between the New England State Veterinarians to allow the use of a single, fair and show season OCVI for New England animals being exhibited in New England will be voided. All exhibited animals would need to be accompanied by an OCVI issued by an accredited veterinarian within 30 days of being checked in at the show premises and/or other state import requirements.
- Best biosecurity practices for all species should be implemented.

Contact the state where animals will be exhibited for the latest updated information.

2026 Fair and Show New England Health Certificates

For the 2026 Show and Fair Season, domesticated animals from New England states (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT) may be exhibited at fairs and shows in New England throughout the fair and show season using a single Official Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (OCVI) that meet the requirements outlined in this memo.

General Requirements (all NE states):

- A single OCVI from the animals' home state may be completed for travel to and from the New England states in which the animals will be exhibited.
- Multiple animals of the same species may be listed on one OCVI with appropriate individual IDs and descriptions.
- Animals of different species may not be listed on the same official health certificate.
- An itinerary of the **names** and **locations** for each New England fair or show at which owner expects to show the listed animals and the **dates when each animal is expected to be on each site**, must be prepared by the owner and presented to the veterinarian at the time the OCVI is written.
 - A copy of this planned itinerary must be attached to the OCVI (import and export) for it to be used for more than one fair or show.
 - That proposed list should be **signed by the veterinarian and the owner/ exhibitor** and reference the relevant OCVI number(s).
 - Electronic OCVIs **must include this list of exhibition names, addresses, and dated in the "remarks and comments" section**
- The **first show or fair** where the listed animals will be exhibited will be the **Consignee** on the OCVI, as shown here:
 - New England Fair Season**
 - Street address of first fair or show
 - See Exhibition List

- Exhibitors must keep an accurate list of the show locations and dates when their animals were physically on show/fairgrounds. This record must be available to fair inspectors at each inspection and check-in.
- **Any animal listed on an OCVI that becomes sick must remain home.** Any animal that is **refused entry** to any exhibition during 2026 for health reasons must have a new OCVI issued by an accredited veterinarian **within 30 days** of the next fair or show where it will be exhibited.
- Any New England state may end their participation in this agreement and revert to the standard published requirements for livestock imports in the state at any time, in the event of foreign animal disease outbreak or changes to state legislation.

State-specific requirements:

- **CT**
 - Fair and Show OCVIs may be issued and used between January 1 and October 31, 2026
 - An importation permit for exhibition animals is required for cattle, camelids, goats, sheep, and swine
 - Testing and vaccinations are required for some species
 - Contact CT Dept. of Agriculture for permits and requirements at 860-713-2504 or AGR.SVCS@ct.gov
- **MA**
 - Fair and Show OCVIs may be issued and used between January 1 through October 31, 2026
 - Contact MDAR at 857-348-3922 or 617-626-1795 with questions
- **ME**
 - Fair and Show OCVIs may be issued and used between January 1 and October 31, 2026
 - An importation permit for exhibition animals is required for some species https://www.maine.gov/dacf/ahw/animal_health/livestock_importation.shtml
 - Contact ME State Veterinarian's Office at 207-287-3701 with questions
- **RI**
 - Fair and Show OCVIs may be used between January 1 and October 31, 2026
 - Contact the RI State Veterinarian's Office at 401-537-4281 with questions
- **NH**
 - Fair and show OCVIs may be issued on or after April 1, 2026, and used for participating NH fairs and shows from July 1 through October 31, 2026
 - Contact NH State Veterinarian's Office (603) 271-2404 for permits
- **VT:**
 - Fair and show OCVIs may be issued on or after April 1, 2026, and used for participating VT fairs and shows from May 1 through October 31, 2026
 - Contact the VT Animal Health Office at 802-828-2421 for specific import requirements and permits

Sick or exposed animals may not be shipped anywhere.

IAFE (INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FAIRS AND EXPOSITIONS)

CODE OF SHOW RING ETHICS

Exhibitors of animals at livestock shows shall at all times deport themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship. Their conduct in this competitive environment shall always reflect the highest standards of honor and dignity to promote the advancement of agricultural education. This code applies to junior as well as open class exhibitors who compete in structured classes of competition. This code applies to all livestock offered in any event at a livestock show. In addition to the "IAFE Code of Show Ring Ethics," fairs and livestock shows may have rules and regulations which they impose on the local, county, state, provincial and national levels.

All youth leaders working with junior exhibitors are under an affirmative responsibility to do more than avoid improper conduct or questionable acts. Their moral values must be so certain and positive that those younger and more pliable will be influenced by their fine example. Owners, exhibitors, fitters, trainers and absolutely responsible persons who violate the code of ethics will forfeit premiums, awards and auction proceeds and shall be prohibited from future exhibition in accordance with the rules adopted by the respective fairs and livestock shows. Exhibitors who violate this code of ethics demean the integrity of all livestock exhibitors and should be prohibited from competition at all livestock shows in the United States and Canada.

The following is a list of guidelines for all exhibitors and all livestock in competitive events:

- 1) All exhibitors must present, upon request of fair and livestock show officials, proof of ownership, length of ownership, and age of all animals entered. Misrepresentation of ownership, age, or any facts relating thereto is prohibited.
- 2) Owners, exhibitors, fitters, trainers, or absolutely responsible persons shall provide animal health certificates from licensed veterinarians upon request by fair or livestock show officials.
- 3) Junior exhibitors are expected to care for and groom their animals while at fairs or livestock shows.
- 4) Animals shall be presented to show events where they will enter the food chain free of violative drug residues. The act of entering an animal in a livestock show is the giving of, consent by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer and/or absolutely responsible person for show management to obtain any specimens of urine, saliva, blood, or other substances from the animal to be used in testing. Animals not entered in an event which culminates with the animal entering the food chain shall not be administered drugs other than in accordance with applicable federal, state and provincial statutes, regulations and rules. Livestock shall not be exhibited if the drugs administered in accordance with federal, state and provincial statutes, regulations and rules affect the animal's performance or appearance at the event.

If the laboratory report on the analysis of saliva, urine, blood, or other sample taken from livestock indicates the presence of forbidden drugs or medication, this shall be prima facie evidence such substance has been administered to the animal either internally or externally. It is presumed that the sample of urine, saliva, blood, or other substance tested by the laboratory, to which it is sent, is the one taken from the animal in question, its integrity is preserved and all procedures of said collection and preservation, transfer to the laboratory and analysis of the sample are correct and accurate and the report received from the laboratory pertains to the sample taken from the animal in question and correctly reflects the condition of the animal at the time the sample was taken, with the burden on the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person to prove otherwise.

At any time after an animal arrives on the fair or livestock show premises, all treatments involving the use of drugs and/or medications for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the animal shall be administered by a licensed veterinarian.

- 5) Any surgical procedure or injection of any foreign substance or drug or the external application of any substance (irritant, counterirritant, or similar substance) which could affect the animal's performance or alter its natural contour, confirmation, or appearance, except external applications of substances to the hoofs or horns of animals which affect appearance only and except for surgical procedures performed by a duly licensed veterinarian for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the animal, is prohibited.
- 6) The use of showing and/or handling practices or devices such as striking animals to cause swelling, using electrical contrivance, or other similar practices are not acceptable and are prohibited.
- 7) Direct criticism or interference with the judge, fair or livestock show management, other exhibitors, breed representatives, or show officials before, during, or after the competitive event is prohibited. In the furtherance of their official duty, all judges, fair and livestock show management, or other show officials shall be treated with courtesy, cooperation and respect and no person shall direct abusive or threatening conduct toward them.
- 8) No owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person shall conspire with another person or persons to intentionally violate this code of ethics or knowingly contribute or cooperate with another person or persons either by affirmative action or inaction to violate this code of ethics. Violation of this rule shall subject such individual to disciplinary action.
- 9) The application of this code of ethics provides for absolute responsibility for an animal's condition by an owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or participant whether or not he or she was actually instrumental in or had actual knowledge of the treatment of the animal in contravention of this code of ethics.
- 10) The act of entering an animal is the giving of consent by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person to have disciplinary action taken by the fair or livestock show for violation of this Code of Show Ring Ethics and any other rules of competition of the fair or livestock show without recourse against the fair or livestock show. The act of entering an animal is the giving of consent that any proceedings or disciplinary action taken by the fair or livestock show may be published with the name of the violator or violators in any publication of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions, including *Fairs and Expos* and any special notices to members.
- 11) The act of entering of an animal in a fair or livestock show is the giving of verification by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person that he or she has read the IAFE Code of Show Ring Ethics and understands the consequences of and penalties provided for actions prohibited by the code. It is further a consent that any action which contravenes these rules and is also in violation of federal, state, or provincial statutes, regulations, or rules may be released to appropriate law enforcement authorities with jurisdiction over such infractions.

TO BE INCLUDED ON FAIR ENTRY FORM

EXHIBITOR ENTRY STATEMENT

I have read and understand, and in consideration for being permitted to exhibit at this event, agree and consent to abide by the rules of competition, including the IAFE (International Association of Fairs and Expositions) National Code of Show Ring Ethics as stated in the premium list of this event.

Date: _____

Exhibitor (owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer,
or absolutely responsible person)

Date: _____

Guardian or Parent of the above Signator



The Big E 4-H Show Award Donations

Thank you for supporting 4-H youth activities at **The Big E**. Your generous contribution will aid us in our mission to promote agriculture, education, industry, and family entertainment while preserving our New England heritage. Here at Eastern States Exposition, we believe Agriculture is Our Culture, and agricultural fairs like **The Big E** provide producers with a national stage from which to showcase their accomplishments while entertaining and educating the public.

Please send your donation no later than **June 1** to allow time for purchasing awards prior to the show. Orders placed after June 1 may not arrive on time for the event.

We hope that you can come to enjoy the New England 4-H Activities taking place at The Big E this year, September 18 through October 4, 2026. This year's 4-H schedule is listed below:

September 18-20, 2026	4-H Dairy	Mallery Complex
September 20-22, 2026	4-H Poultry*	E Barn*
September 20-22, 2026	4-H Rabbit*	E Barn*
September 24-25, 2026	4-H Horse	E Barn
September 25-28, 2026	4-H Beef	Mallery Complex
September 28, 2026	4-H Beef Auction	Mallery North Arena
October 2-3, 2026	4-H Dairy Goat	Mallery Complex
October 2-4, 2026	4-H Sheep	Mallery Complex
October 2-4, 2026	4-H Dog	Mallery North

*New 4-H Activities in 2026

If you would like to pay by cash or check, please fill out the attached form. Checks should be made payable to **New England 4-H Council***. Please include the **4-H Activity** you are supporting in the memo line.

***4-H Beef Donations** should be made out to **New England 4-H Beef**

Mail form and payment to: Eastern States Exposition Ag & Ed Department
1305 Memorial Avenue, W. Springfield, MA 01089

Note: Donations sent without a form or a 4-H Activity designated in the memo line will be treated as a donation to the general 4-H fund.

To pay online, please scan the QR Code or visit: [New England 4-H Activity Award Donations](#)



Please note: this form is for **4-H Activity** donations only. For donations toward open shows at The Big E, email agininfo@thebige.com to request a copy of the Livestock Donor Form.





2026 4-H Show Donation Form

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Company Name* _____

**Written as you would like it to appear in the Show Catalog. If this field is blank, we will use your first and last name from above.*

I would like my donation to remain anonymous.

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Enclosed is my Donation of: \$ _____

4-H Activity You are Supporting (please circle 1 per form):

Beef

Dairy

Dog

Goat

Horse

Poultry

Rabbit

Sheep

I would like to donate toward the following class or event: _____

Please use my donation as needed.

I will bring an award to present on the day of the show

My Donation is in Memory of (Optional): _____

Donation Collected by 4-H Member, State (Optional): _____

Make Checks Payable to **New England 4-H Council*** and write the **4-H Activity** you are supporting on the Memo Line.

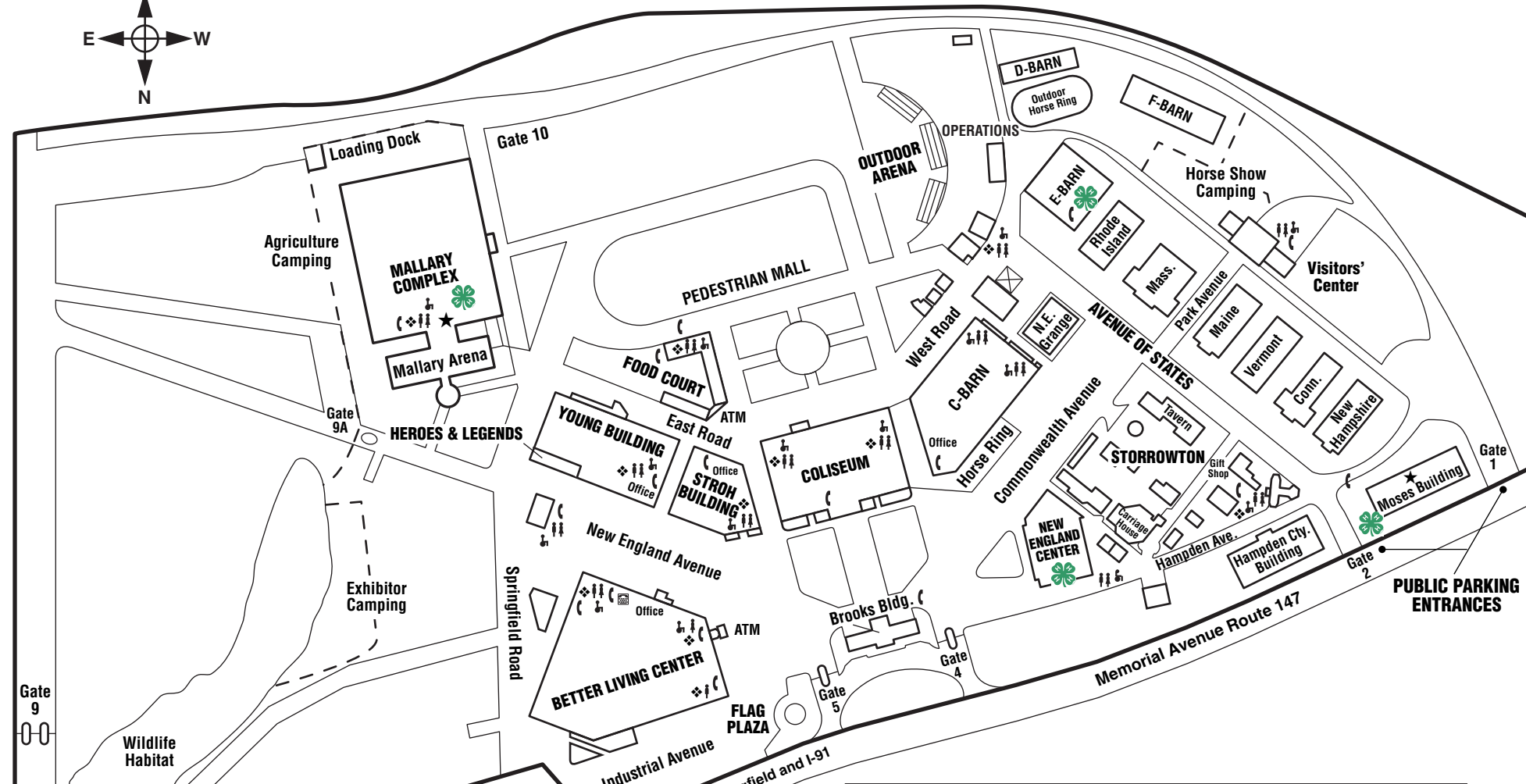
***4-H Beef Donations** should be made out to **New England 4-H Beef**

Please mail this form with your payment by June.



AGRICULTURE
IS OUR CULTURE





EASTERN STATES EXPOSITION

1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield, MA 01089 • 413-737-2443

- ☎ Telephones
- ♿ Restrooms
- ♿ Handicap accessible
- ☎ TTY Telephone
- 👶 Baby Changing Station
- ★ Unisex Handicap Restrooms
- 🌿 4-H Activity Areas

**TO GATE 9
PUBLIC PARKING ENTRANCE**

**PUBLIC PARKING
ENTRANCES**

1 Mile to Springfield and I-91