

RULES FOR THE 2026 NEW ENGLAND CENTER 4-H ACTIVITIES

* denotes new or changed in 2026

1. Eligibility New England Center 4-H Activities are open to regularly enrolled 4-H members from New England who are 9 years of age or older on January 1 but have not turned 19 years of age on or before January 1 of the current year and who have completed at least one year of 4-H Club work. 4-H members age 7 and 8 may participate for the day but are not allowed to stay overnight in the dorm. All participants must be registered with their state office and Eastern States Exposition by August 23.
2. Attendance Members must be checked into the Moses 4-H Dormitory by 7 pm on their designated arrival day. 4-H leaders are responsible for the supervision of the members from arrival until release. The Moses 4-H Dormitory and New England Center area must be swept and left in a neat and tidy condition. Members may not leave the grounds during the timeframe of the activity unless prior arrangements have been made with the Director of Agriculture and the New England 4-H Council Chairperson.
3. Housing and Meals Eastern States Exposition will provide housing and meals for all 4-H New England Center participants and authorized chaperones at the Moses 4-H Dormitory. The Meal Schedule is as follows: Breakfast – 6:30 to 8 am, Lunch – 11:15 am to 1:15 pm and Supper – 5 to 7 pm. Those who are sleeping in the dorm will receive meal tickets upon checking in. Chaperones can request additional meal tickets from the NEC 4-H Coordinator.
4. Exhibitor Health Condition Members must obtain a health form from [The Big E website](#) that is to be filled out and signed by their parent or guardian. This procedure gives medical staff permission to administer medical treatment if and when it is necessary to do so. Health forms are to be turned in upon check-in at the dorm, will be kept on-file in the Moses 4-H Dormitory Office. State chaperones may also request copies to keep on-file in a secure place within the 4-H Activity area.
5. Dress Code Please refer to the Dress Code Policy Page.
6. Small Animals in the New England Center must have a current health certificate signed by licensed veterinarian. Please refer to the Massachusetts Animal Health Regulations included in this packet. When not displayed the animal must be housed in a cage away from the public (preferably in a quieter setting for the well being of the animal). The animal cannot be housed overnight in the dorm; however, overnight arrangements can be made. To make arrangements for bringing an animal please contact the Agriculture & Education Office at aginfo@thebige.com or via phone at 413-205-5011 at least 3 weeks prior to arrival. This will ensure proper accommodations are made for the animals.
7. Awards Participation ribbons and certificates are available in the NEC 4-H office. States must request ribbons and/or certificates in advance through the NEC 4-H Information Request online form. **Failure to request award items in advance may result in a limited or restricted availability of these materials.**
8. Exhibitor Tickets may be purchased from the Agriculture Office at a reduced price and may be used for the family of 4-H NEC participants. Please call the Agriculture Department at (800) 639-2908 or stop by the Mallary office after August 15.
9. 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.

The Cooperative Extension System 4-H Youth Development program prohibits discrimination in education, employment, and in the provision of services on account of race, ethnicity, religion, sex, age, marital status, national origin, ancestry, sexual orientation, disabled veteran status, physical or mental disability, mental retardation, [and] other specifically covered mental disabilities, [and criminal records that are not job related].

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.

DEMONSTRATING IN THE NEW ENGLAND CENTER

NEC 4-H DAILY SCHEDULE

1. Arrival and Set-up Door 2 opens at 8 AM each morning for 4-H members to begin set up. All members should arrive in the NEC no later than 8:15 AM.
2. Orientation The NEC 4-H Coordinator will conduct an orientation for each state at 8:30 AM on the first day of their participation in the New England Center. Please let the 4-H Coordinator know if additional 4-Hers join your state on a later date so that a second brief orientation can be set up for new participants.
3. Cars may drive onto the grounds to deliver items to NEC until 9 am, after which time all vehicles must be removed from the fairgrounds.
4. Completion of Set-up Set up must be completed by 9:45 AM. **4-H Members are required to remain in the 4-H Area until the building opens to the public at 10 AM.**
5. Demonstration Hours The 4-H Demonstration area must be active from 10 AM until 5 PM unless released by New England Center 4-H coordinator. 4-Hers may be permitted early release at 4:30 PM to march in the parade.
6. Representing 4-H in the NEC Members are encouraged to display a 4-H clover on their shirts, aprons, or with patches or pins while presenting at the New England Center.

4-H PODS

What is a POD?

- The POD area is a place for 4-H NEC participants to showcase 4-H, interact with the public, and educate fairgoers about their 4-H projects.

What do the PODs look like?

- There are seven PODS available for state use. One POD is a 6-foot straight table. The remaining six are 6-foot kidney-shaped tables that stand about 30 inches in height with room for two people to stand behind them.
- All tables are skirted. Extra table skirts are available in the NEC 4-H Office.
- Electrical outlets are available, but limited. Extension cords may be needed if multiple appliances are in use at one time. Be sure to bring your own.

Where are the PODs Located?

- The PODs are located in a dedicated area next to the NEC stage.
- A chevron-shaped Information Desk stands at the front of the POD area. This is to be manned by 4-H Chaperones from 10:00 AM-5:00 PM daily.
- The six kidney-shaped PODs are arranged in a horseshoe configuration within the POD area facing the center of the space.
- The seventh rectangular POD is at the rear of the POD area and is used for educational exhibits.

Utilizing the PODs

- POD participants are expected to run their demonstrations with minimal help from adult leaders and chaperones.
- Please bring posters or banners that indicate each POD topic. Be sure to include club name, and county and state represented.
- If there are not enough participants to man all PODs, static displays are to be utilized to fill the space. These displays should be designed and set up by 4-H youth participants. We encourage you to utilize the frontmost PODs for interactive displays and demonstrations and place any static displays in the back.
- Each state is to bring stationary educational displays/exhibits to be set up on the seventh POD during their states assigned days. Exhibits should be prepared by youth. Displays that have been selected through state or county contests are encouraged. The exhibit is intended to be unmanned and brought by the states on their first day in the New England Center and taken by the state at the end of their last day in the New England Center. It is up to the state coordinator to determine if the other six POD areas will be assigned in advance. Please indicate these POD assignments on the Information Request Form.
- Remember: The best action exhibits include audience participation.
- Brand names of products used in presentations or displays must be covered.

FOOD HANDLING GUIDELINES

- All ESE and Board of Health rules and regulations must be followed for presentations involving food. Please see the attached Board of Health regulations document for full details.
- If sampling, you must apply for a Temporary Food Establishment Permit by visiting [Health - Town of West Springfield, MA](#). ALL PERMITS AND LICENSES MUST BE POSTED IN A CONSPICUOUS LOCATION WHILE SAMPLING IS TAKING PLACE
- All members must use food-safe disposable gloves (no latex) when handling food.
- If food is to be sampled or handed out to the public, a minimum of one member of the delegation must have completed their Serve Safe certification AND Allergen Awareness training. This member of the delegation may be an adult leader or chaperone, and they must be present while food serving is taking place. Allergen Awareness training can be completed online at: <https://www.serve-safe.com/ServSafe-Allergens>. The Serve Safe Certificate must accompany the Certified Individual.
- If you have a limited amount of materials, you may make a clock that shows when samples will be available.

THE STAGE

1. The Stage is 12 feet deep by 24 feet wide (the width faces the audience) in dimension and is universally accessible. Four microphones, including one wireless mike, are available for use. 4-Hers must set the stage clock to show when the next performance will take place.
2. Changing Rooms There are two changing rooms available.
3. Media You must bring all music that you will need. Please bring your music in two different formats to ensure success. Suggested formats include: iPod, iPhone, MP3 players, laptops or CD with a CD player that has a headphone jack. A USB Flash Drive may be used to play music through the video wall. * No additional sound equipment is allowed without prior permission from the 4-H Coordinator.
4. Video Wall has been hung as a backdrop to the stage and will be available for digital presentations, including power points. The video wall is hdmi input and can be connected to any device with either an hdmi output (ex: pc laptop) or an output that can be converted to hdmi (ex: mac w/ dongle). We recommend a screen resolution of 1280 x 720 when using a presentation that includes text (this can be adjusted in laptop settings when plugging into the video wall). **Please save all presentations to a USB Flash Drive.** *

STATE PHOTOS AND POSTERS

1. Photos and Posters from your State 4-H contests may be displayed in the NEC.
2. All photos should be DUPLICATES, not originals. Photos should be laminated and labeled with 4-Her's first name, age, county, and state. States may send up to 12- 8"x10" photos with finished size no larger than 11"x14" or 154 square inches.
3. Up to 8 Posters sized between 12"x18" and 14"x22" may be sent, with the same information needed for photos, but they do not need to be laminated. Posters are returned to the state. Please notify the New England Center Coordinator if you would like your photos returned.

EQUIPMENT

Equipment that is available in the New England Center

Available supplies include but are not limited to:

- Ladder
- Hammer
- Staplegun
- Pens, Pencils
- Staples
- Tape
- Demonstration mirror
- Piano (by request)
- Art Easels
- White Board Easel

Equipment to bring

- Extension cords
- Any piece of equipment that is unique and vital to your presentation should be brought with you. For example:
 - Computer equipment
 - Art supplies
 - Cooking/Food demonstration supplies
 - Musical instruments

PARADE PARTICIPATION

1. 4-H members are encouraged to apply to ride the ESE Trolley in The Big E Daily Parade. *ESE does not permit walking contingents in the parade, only marching bands and honor guards who march in uniform at standard cadence – 120 beats per minute, which equates to two steps per second.*
2. The Big Parade takes place at 6pm, daily.
3. The parade route is approximately one (1) mile.
4. Participants must arrive and report to staging area one (1) hour prior to parade start.
5. Participants must follow [The Big Parade Standards & Regulations](#) (subject to change at any point).
6. Please remember you are representing 4-H and dress appropriately (4-H shirts or jackets look great if you have them). **A 4-H Clover should be visible on each participant in the parade.**
7. No throwing of items to the crowd. It is safer to give them items in the New England Center.
8. You must line up in front of the Moses Dormitory promptly at 4:45 pm.
9. You must have at least 1 Chaperone for every 20 members participating.
10. You are encouraged to bring pre-approved club and state banners as well as the flags from the New England Center. However, you must return the flags to the New England Center after the parade.
11. **Please review parade rules and pre-register your group for the parade by June 26, 2026 by visiting: <https://www.thebige.com/paradeapplication>. Submitting this application is the only way to apply and does not guarantee automatic selection for The Big Parade. Prospective participants must adhere to the application process and deadline. Late requests will not be accepted. Participant selection is at the discretion of Eastern States Exposition. Regrets may not be sent.**

Please note: NEC 4-H Participants may be invited to ride on the 4-H float if there are spaces available. 4-6 riders will fit on the float with a minimum of one chaperone required. Please respond to the invitation as soon as possible so other arrangements can be made if no NEC 4-H participants are available to ride the float.

FOR NEW ENGLAND CENTER COORDINATORS

1. MOU Refer to the Memorandum of Understanding for any additional rules. Email aginfo@thebige.com for the latest version.
2. Registration Must be received by Agriculture Office by August 23. If you will not be using the stage, please contact New England Center 4-H Coordinator by August 1. Brochures can be sent from your state by August 25 to Eastern States Exposition, 4-H, NEC, 1305 Memorial Avenue, West Springfield, MA 01089.
3. Limits on Total Participants Due to limitations on space in the Moses Dormitory, groups may bring a maximum of 125 Girls and 50 Boys. All youth must be presenting at least twice a day on the stage or working in PODs for 90 minutes a day. Up to 3 youth may come as ambassadors to assist others. Please consult Agriculture & Education Department before the fair starts if you think you will be close to these limits and they will try to work with you on it.
4. Pass Policy All admission passes (including bus passes) are issued through your state office on an as-needed basis. Additional passes are available for family members at a reduced price. Please call (413)205-5011 or email aginfo@thebige.com for more information.
5. Overnight Parking Passes can be picked up from dormitory coordinator in the Moses Dorm upon arrival.
6. Information Request Form (due August 23) this electronic form is to let New England Center Staff know if your state has any special needs and 4-H contact person with cell phone number. <https://form.jotform.com/222213652623043>
7. Leaders List (due August 23) A list of all leaders or chaperones, along with their cell phone numbers and e-mail addresses must be submitted to the Agriculture and Education Office.
8. State Responsibilities in the New England Center
 - a. Information Desk Volunteers are to staff Information Desk from 10 am to 5 pm
 - b. Clean-up All PODs, dressing rooms, kitchen, and the stage must be cleaned up before you leave each evening.
 - c. Valuables will be locked up in the 4-H Coordinators office each evening. No items are to be left in the stage dressing rooms after 4:45 pm.
 - d. Participation if participation is a challenge, please let the New England Center Coordinator know if you expect 30 minute or more gaps to ensure coverage.
9. Information to be received by **August 23**:
 - [Information Request Form](#) (JotForm)
 - Leader's List (attach to JotForm)

- Health Forms (one per participant)
- Photo Release (one per participant)

10. Materials to be received by **September 1:**

- Photos
- Posters
- State Brochures

Mail all to materials to:

Eastern States Exposition
Agriculture Office
1305 Memorial Avenue,
West Springfield, MA 01089

2026 NEW ENGLAND CENTER 4-H PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

All Day 4-H Day at The Big E
8 AM NEC Opens for 4-H Setup Enter through Door 2
8:30 AM Massachusetts 4-H Orientation
10 AM-5PM Massachusetts 4-H Presentations in the NEC

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

8 AM NEC Opens for 4-H Setup Enter through Door 2
10 AM-5PM Massachusetts 4-H Presentations in the NEC

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

8 AM NEC Opens for 4-H Setup Enter through Door 2
8:30 AM Vermont 4-H Orientation
10 AM-5PM Vermont 4-H Presentations in the NEC

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

8 AM NEC Opens for 4-H Setup Enter through Door 2
10 AM-5PM Vermont 4-H Presentations in the NEC

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

8 AM NEC Opens for 4-H Setup Enter through Door 2
8:30 AM New Hampshire 4-H Orientation
10 AM-5PM New Hampshire 4-H Presentations in the NEC

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

8 AM NEC Opens for 4-H Setup Enter through Door 2
10 AM-5 PM New Hampshire 4-H Presentations in the NEC

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

8 AM NEC Opens for 4-H Setup Enter through Door 2
8:30 AM Maine 4-H Orientation
10 AM-5PM Maine 4-H Presentations in the NEC

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

8 AM NEC Opens for 4-H Setup Enter through Door 2
8:30 AM Rhode Island 4-H Orientation
10 AM-5PM Rhode Island 4-H Presentations in the NEC

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

8 AM NEC Opens for 4-H Setup Enter through Door 2
8:30 AM Connecticut 4-H Orientation
10 AM-5PM Connecticut 4-H Presentations in the NEC

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 at the 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.

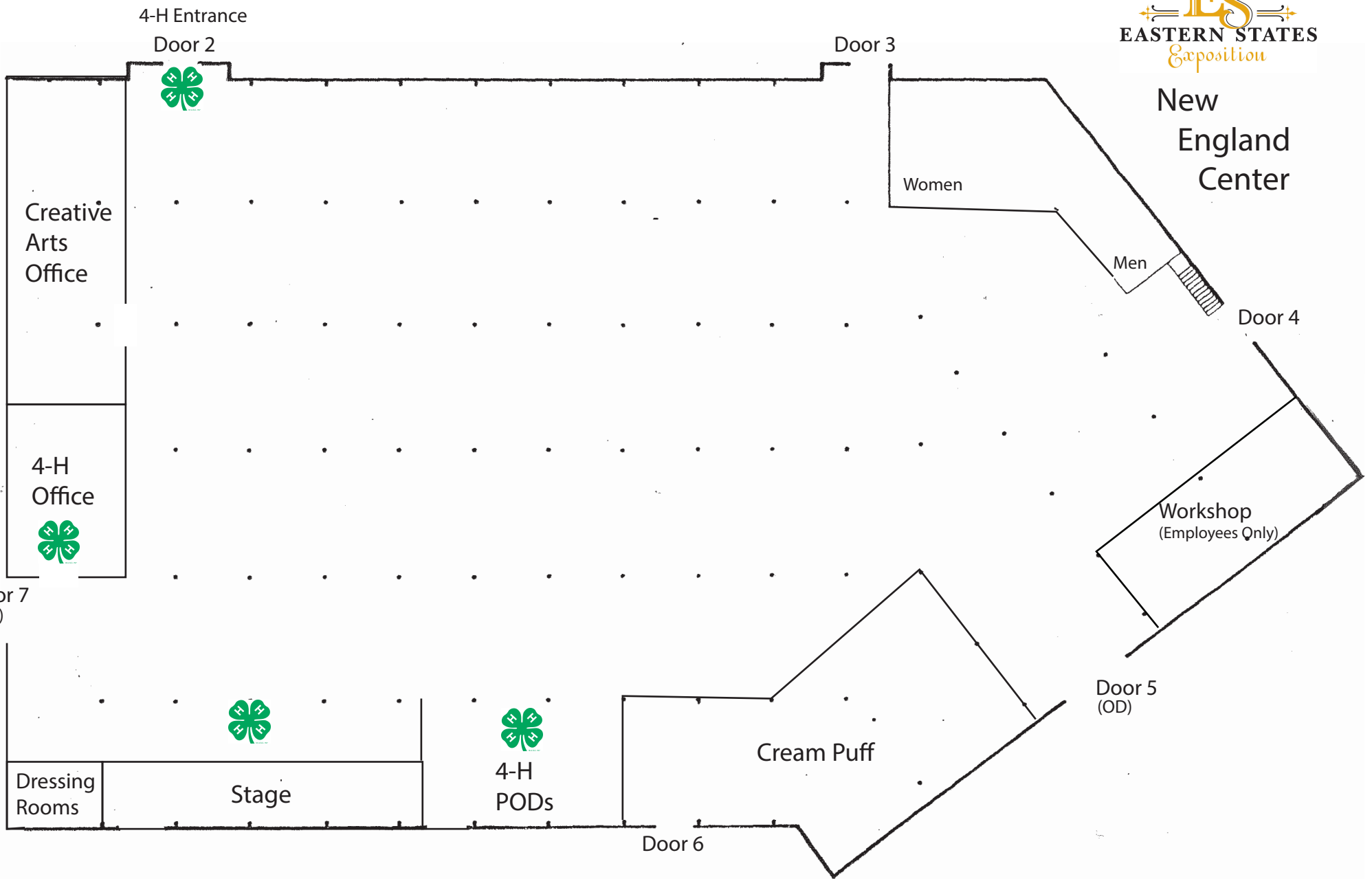
EXPECTED ATTIRE

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.
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.

New
England
Center



OD: Overhead Door (Not a Fire Exit)

Map not to scale

POD 7: Educational Exhibits



4-H POD AREA

NOTE: Map not to scale.
Layout of POD area may vary slightly.

Stage →

STAGE AREA & Seating

4-H Information
Desk

← To Cream Puff

To Door 7 →

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.**

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.

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
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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



Town of West Springfield

Health Department

26 Central Street, Suite 18
West Springfield, MA 01089
(413) 263-3206 | allhealth@tows.org

HEALTH REGULATIONS

EASTERN STATES EXPOSITION, WEST SPRINGFIELD, MA

All food vendors and their employees are expected to know and follow the **2013 US FDA Food Code**. The information that follows is provided to make you aware of items that the West Springfield Health Department considers most important or are specific to our community.

1. All applications for permits must be received in the office of the West Springfield Health Department no later than **THIRTY (30)** days before the event begins. Permits are required for anything associated with food (selling or sampling whether for a fee or not).
2. **ALL** food vendors must comply with the Massachusetts regulations regarding allergen awareness. *
3. Certified Food Managers are required at all shows and at all booths serving food that requires **"time/temperature control for food safety"**.
4. Smoking / vaping is strictly prohibited in food storage, food preparation, and food service areas.
5. **The use of electronic cigarettes and vaporizers is prohibited in all places where smoking is prohibited.**
6. Refrigeration must be 41°F or lower. All foods under refrigeration must also be less than 41°F.
7. Foods that are to be kept hot in a steam table must be at least **135°F**. *Foods must be properly preheated BEFORE being placed into the preheated steam table.*
8. Vendors must use thermometers to monitor food temperatures during preparation, cooking, cooling, reheating, and service. Maintaining a log of temperatures is advised. Sanitize thermometers between foods and between uses.
9. **Waste of all kinds can NOT be placed into storm sewers (open grates in the pavement)**. This includes melt water, mop water, waste water from hand washing, overflows from beverage dispensing, waste beverages, trash and debris.
10. **Vendors are requested to recycle cardboard, metal cans, and organics ("food scraps"). Please reach out to the Eastern States staff for more information on doing this properly.**
11. All employees must wear DISPOSABLE GLOVES (**NO** latex gloves) when serving ready-to-eat foods.
12. All employees must wear clean outer garments and shall keep their hands clean at all times while engaged in handling food, drink, utensils or equipment.
13. **Nail polish and artificial nails are not allowed unless the worker wears gloves at all times.**
14. **Only a PLAIN wedding band is allowed to be worn on hands or arms while working. No other rings, bracelets or watches may be worn of the arms or hands.**
15. Employees must wear effective hair restraints such as hairnets or hats. Any long hair must be pulled back behind the shoulders. This requirement is based on the food service worker's hair length not their gender or duties and applies to front of the "house staff" as well as "back of the house" staff.

16. Adequate and convenient hand washing facilities must be provided and used. Each location shall have running water, liquid soap and approved single use paper towels. If possible, hot running water should be provided to all hand washing stations.
17. No employee shall resume work after using the toilet room or after smoking / vaping without first washing his / her hands. This includes bar tenders, waiters, bus staff and kitchen staff.
18. Cups must be protected from contamination during storage and dispensing. The plastic sleeves they come in or an enclosed dispenser are acceptable.
19. Raw fruits and vegetables must be washed thoroughly before use.
20. Ice cream scoops must be in cold running water or a dry container between uses.
21. All food and drink shall be clean, wholesome, free from spoilage, and prepared so as to be safe for human consumption.
22. All foods must be from an approved source. This means a licensed facility or one that complies with regulations from their state of origin.
23. All food and drink shall be stored, displayed, and served so as to be protected from dust, flies, vermin, and other contamination. This means off the ground, covered and away from sources of contamination such as rain, splash from water/wastewater, birds or other food preparation activities.
24. All straws used for drinking purposes must be individually wrapped or from a dispenser that dispenses only one straw at a time.
25. For events of two (2) days or less or in an emergency, ice chests can be used to keep products cold. Do not allow products to sit in the melt water. Drain the ice chest to an approved sewage disposal system, NOT onto the ground whether the ground is paved or unpaved. **Longer events must provide commercial refrigeration equipment connected to electricity.**
26. No gravy or stuffing shall be made or meat and poultry sliced until the day that they are to be sold.
27. **Failure to comply with a notice of violation in the time specified may result in the suspension of your ability to sell, sample, serve or give away foods.** The notice of violation is the inspection report that is left with the person in charge at the time of inspection. It is incumbent upon each and every employee that the information on the notice of violation/inspection report be shared with a manager immediately so that corrective action is taken promptly. A failure to communicate within your operation is NOT an acceptable reason to fail to comply and puts your permit to operate at risk.

***As of the publication of the 2022 US FDA Food Code, a 9th food item has been added to the list of top allergens. Please adjust all your labels and notices to include SESAME as a food allergen.**

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the West Springfield Health Department.

Here's to a safe and healthy event.



Jeanne Galloway, REHS, MPA, CHO
Director of Public Health

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](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/status-eradication-programs) (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



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**

1 Mile to Springfield and I-91