



Welcome to The Big E!

4-H Chaperone Orientation at Eastern States Exposition

Your Timeline



What you need to know!



Dorm Rules

Learn about what to bring, what to expect and your home away from home



Safety

What to do in emergencies, policies in place and best practices for keeping you and your members safe!



Program Specifics

Here are a few things that you want to know before you get here with your animal(s) or exhibits. **This does not replace your species rules packets, you must read them!!!



Resources

Websites, maps and contact numbers to make your trip a success!

Our mission is to empower youth to reach their full potential, working and learning in partnership with caring adults.

Always remember our goal is to positively teach youth to be successful; not just today, but for the rest of their lives! Shows will come and go, but learning humility, teamwork, ethics and character will last a lifetime!

The Dorm: Rules

What to Bring

Health Forms are handed in upon arrival.

Lockable bags, that fit under beds. Bring 2 keys.

Large items are stored downstairs in boxes.

NO FIREARMS, KNIFES, OR ALCOHOL.

Bedding

Sleeping bag/pillow (no feather pillows) *If you see a child without these items, discreetly go down to the desk and they will help!

You will be sleeping in a large room with lots of bunk beds. It is usually at least 60 degrees in the dorm.

Clothing

Appropriate clothing for your activity! Shoes at all times!

Toiletries: towel, sandals for shower, *soap, *shampoo, *toothbrush and *toothpaste. *Can be bought in Storowton also!

SMOKING IS NOT PERMITTED INSIDE!

You must read the PDF: Dorm Regulations in addition to this information, before arrival.

The Dorm: What to Do.

Basics

Wristbands- these are only for registered youth and adults in the dorm- DO NOT SHARE.

Parents and others are invited to pay to eat meals with youth, but are not allowed upstairs in the dorm.

Meals

Tickets will be given for hot meals served daily:
B: 6:30-8am, L: 11:15-1:15pm, D: 5-7pm

Make sure all your kids have time to eat and do eat!! Many youth like to bring money to buy "Fair Food" as well.

Courtesy

All MUST BE in by 10:30pm and lights out by 11pm.

Cell phones should be on silent and used with consideration for others.

Keep your area neat and sweep under beds.

[You must read the PDF: Dorm Regulations in addition to this information, before arrival.](#)

Safety

The most important job of a
Chaperone!

Others are entrusting
their children with us. It is
our responsibility to keep
them safe at all times!

How it works

Step 1

Stay Safe in the Dorm

Read all the Rules and Regulations of the Dorm. If you have any questions AT ALL ask the Dorm staff at the desk.

Report irregularities directly to Elena Hovagimian when they occur.

Step 2

Stay Safe on grounds

4-H youth must travel in at least pairs.

All youth must tell their chaperones where they are going!

Step 3

Emergency Protocols

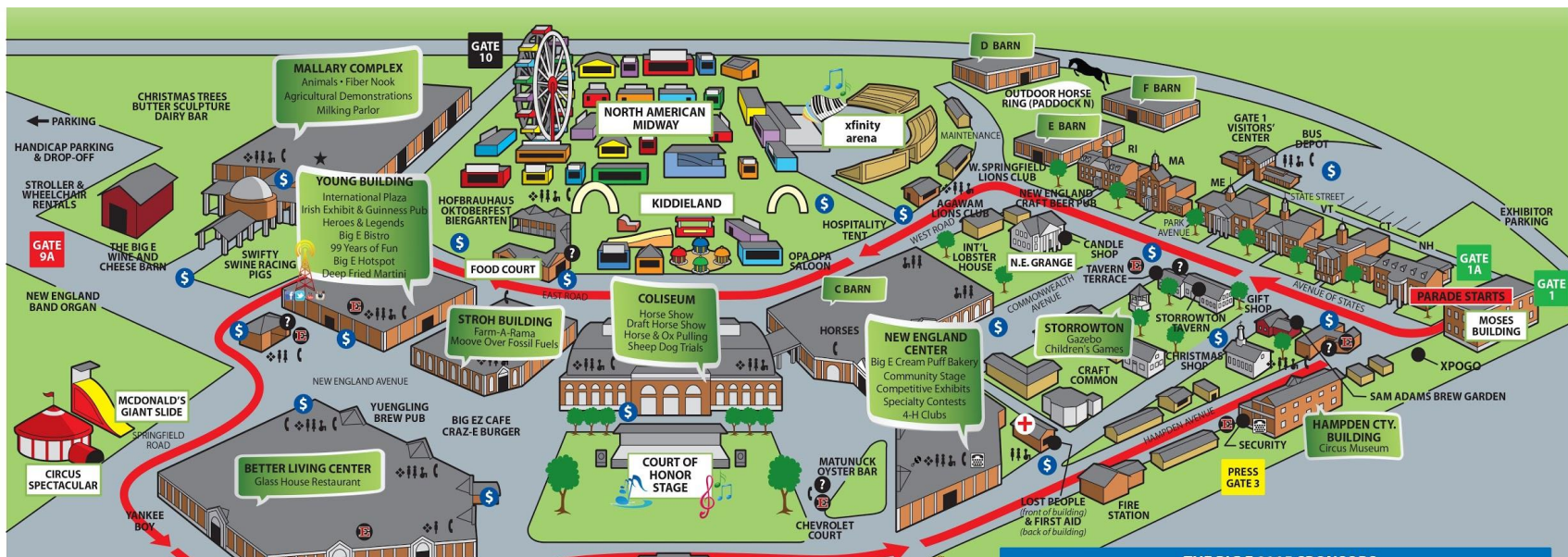
If a major Emergency occurs on the grounds: If you are closer to the Avenue of States go to your state lawn. If you are closer to Mallary, stay in Mallary.

IF YOU NEED HELP: Immediately contact a 4-H committee member (they are on the grounds, in your area). They will contact Elena Hovagimian and the State 4-H Offices, if necessary. If you cannot find anyone go to the Agriculture Office (near the bathrooms in Mallary). If it is an immediate dangerous emergency situation dial (413) 205-5555 for security or medical help.

Emergency Protocols - One more time...

Go to the one closest to you: Mallary Complex or the lawn of your state building. Find and account for all of your youth.

If the need arises there are animal evacuation protocols in place. Chaperones will be directed by The Big E staff and security. [Read the Emergency Protocol PDF](#) to know exactly what will happen with animal evacuation.



10 Helpful Hints for New Chaperones

1. Check to make sure all delegates have their required beef records to hand in upon arrival. This includes health papers and the Big E Heifer or Steer Record forms.
2. Know the number of delegates your state has, their names and cell phone numbers. Their cell phone numbers could be helpful if someone needs to get a hold of them.
3. Have a copy of the weekend schedule.
4. Share your knowledge with youth and adults when appropriate but don't push your advice in an unwanted situation.
5. Make sure your group has all of the clothes and other items needed for the day before they leave the dorm in the morning.
6. Help the youth with time management, the beef program is very busy!
7. Delegates and chaperones should be in attendance when activities are going on.
8. Make sure your delegates check in with you should they leave the barns.
9. Beef are large animals, if there is a safety concern bring it immediately to the Beef Committee's attention or the livestock office.
10. HAVE FUN! Meet chaperones from other States and encourage your 4-H members to meet 4-H members from other States. They may develop lifelong friends!!

10 Helpful Hints for New Chaperones

1. Know the number of delegates your state has, their names and cell phone numbers. Their cell phone numbers could be helpful if someone needs to get a hold of them.
2. Have a copy of the weekend schedule.
3. Once all of your animals are checked in make sure ALL of your 4-H animals are stabled on your line.
4. You are encouraged to come to any committee member with questions or issues you need help with.
5. Share your knowledge with youth and adults when appropriate but don't push your advice in an unwanted situation.
6. Offer your help to any state that needs assistance, some are very short on chaperones.
7. Delegates and chaperones should be in attendance when activities are going on. It is important to support and encourage all of our teams that are participating in the different contests.
8. If there is a problem with any delegates or their animals please tell your State 4-H representative first or the Chairman or Superintendent if your State person isn't available.
9. You are their coach for the weekend, not a parent. Be positive with your comments when they are needed. They are a team and should work that way.
10. HAVE FUN! Meet chaperones from other States and encourage your 4-H members to meet 4-H members from other States. They may develop lifelong friends!!

10 Helpful Hints for New Chaperones

1. Be sure to attend general orientation and chaperone meeting.
2. Know the number of delegates your state has, their names and cell phone numbers. Their cell phone numbers could be helpful if someone needs to get a hold of them.
3. Keep a copy of the weekend schedule with you.
4. Each state is assigned a block of kennels. Youth can choose their kennel from their state's block. Youth kennel with the state they represent even if they live in a different state.
5. Monitor that youth are abiding by the program and show ring dress code.
6. Dogs should be walked and allowed to relieve themselves only in the marked ESE designated area in the parking lot closest to the kennel area.
7. Share your knowledge with youth and adults when appropriate but don't push your advice in an unwanted situation.
8. Cheer all youth on, this is their time to shine.
9. If there is a problem with any delegates or their animals please tell the Committee Chair or Superintendent and your State 4-H person. If there is a concern with a fairgoer please contact the Agriculture Office in the Mallary Building.
10. HAVE FUN! Meet chaperones from other States and encourage your 4-H members to meet 4-H members from other States. They may develop lifelong friends!!

GOAT

10 Helpful Hints for New Chaperones

1. Upon arrival youth should see Show Chair for pen assignment, have their animal health checked, pen animal, report to the secretary's desk with papers and then check in at the dorm.
2. Monitor that youth are abiding by the program and show ring dress code.
3. Animals should be walked down the outer aisles of the barn instead of the aisle between sheep and goats.
4. Milk in goes in the milk jug and shavings go in the marked areas outside the barn.
5. You are encouraged to come to any committee member with questions or issues you need help with.
6. Watch for extension cords or other items that present a chew/trip hazard.
7. Delegates and chaperones should be in attendance for all 4-H goat activities. It is important to support and assist all members of the team. Remind youth they have been selected to to display their project at the fair. Please be prepared to assist as needed.
8. Youth staying for the open show will need to clear out of the barn on Saturday evening during cleaning before setting up their open show pens.
9. If there is a problem with any delegates or their animals please tell the Committee Chair or Superintendent if your State person isn't available. If there is a concern with a fairgoer please contact the Ag Office.
10. HAVE FUN! Keep a copy of the schedule with you and listen for announcements in the barn.

10 Helpful Hints for New Chaperones to the New England Center Program

1. Some states stay overnight, some do not, either way we need to do our best to be in the New England Center by 8:30am the day we start for instructions.
2. Wheels are your friends! Use luggage with wheels and carts to transport your exhibits to the New England Center!
3. Wear layers - The weather can change throughout the 3 weeks!
4. The 4-H NEC has 4-H aprons to wear when behind the tables- take advantage of this, then you can save your 4-H t-shirts for marching in the parade.
5. Make sure you schedule your 4-Hers so they have time to go and eat meals!
6. The state buildings are great for kids and adults to eat affordable fair food.
7. If you forgot to bring anything, ASK the dorm staff or the NEC Coordinator, they can help you find it on the grounds or off grounds!
8. Know where your 4-Hers are or are going at all times.
9. If you have anyone playing music on the stage, download it to your device. If you are giving anything away, plan on at least 200 items a day.
10. If anyone is thinking of doing a food demo or a demo with a live small animal, contact your state coordinator and The Big E at least a month in advance to learn of the requirements.

10 Helpful Hints for New Chaperones

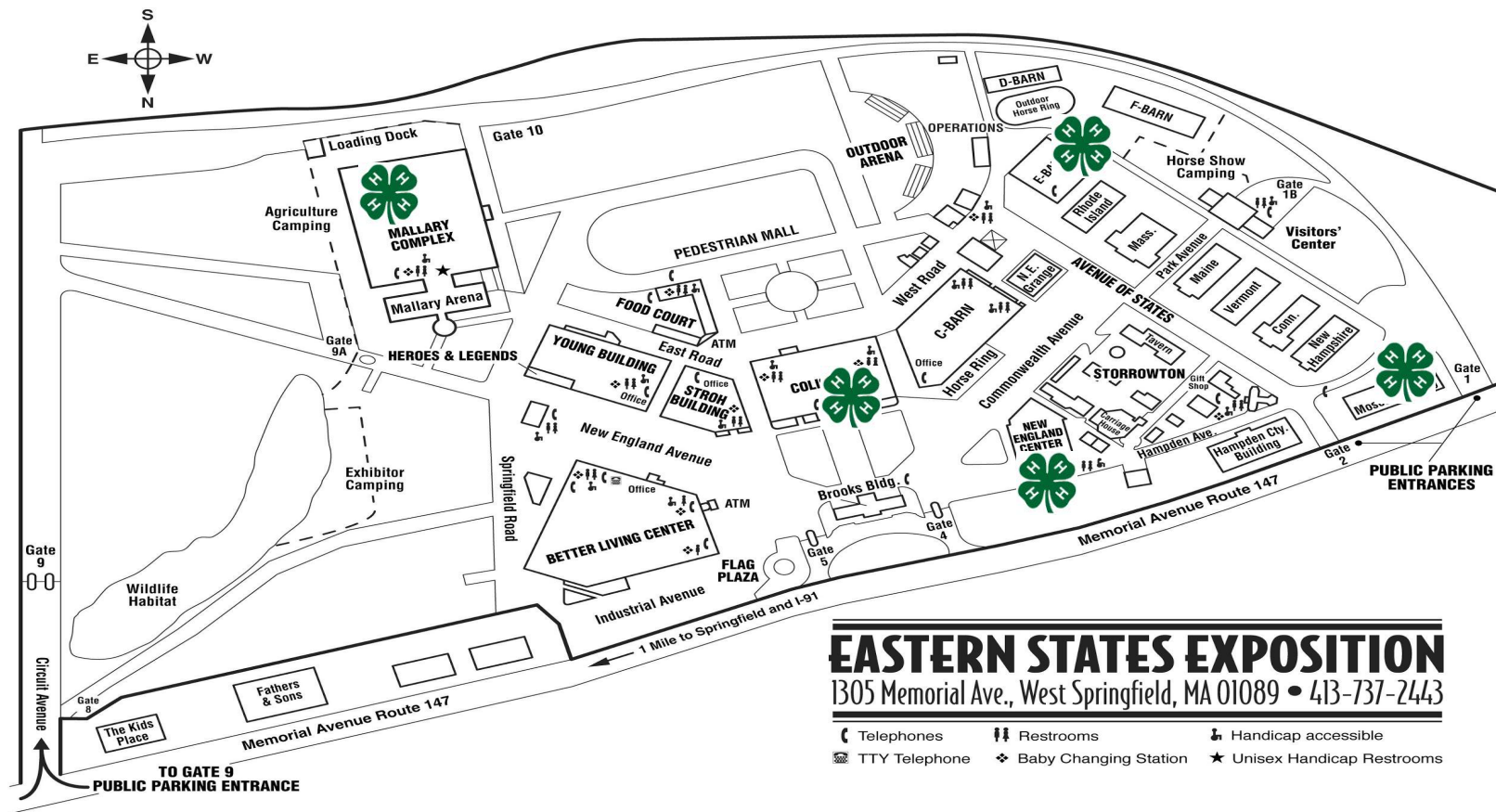
1. Be sure you attend general orientation and attend the chaperone meeting
2. Get acquainted with the other state's chaperones, you may want to share duties so all can have some "off time"
3. Check frequently for schedule changes and activity locations
4. Encourage parents to find a spot to observe and allow their child to "shine" on their own with their horse
5. You are encouraged to come to any committee member with questions or issues you need help with
6. Share your knowledge with youth and adults when appropriate but don't push your advice in an unwanted situation
7. All bathrooms or Porta-Potties for the horse program are outside of the horse barn
8. Only touch a horse or intercede in a situation when it is a safety issue
9. Cheer all youth on, this is their time to shine
10. Offer your help to any state that needs assistance, some are very short on chaperones

S H E E P

10 Helpful Hints for New Chaperones

1. Know how many delegates your state has and what their names are. A list of their cell phone numbers could be helpful if someone needs to get a hold of them for important reasons.
2. Keep a copy of the schedule for the weekend in your pocket.
3. Once their sheep are properly settled in make sure they get their paperwork checked in and everything up to the dorm in time.
4. Take a mental note of the condition of the sheep when they first arrive and look at them throughout the weekend to notice if they are starting to look unhappy or showing other signs of possible sickness.
5. If you notice pens that need clean water or more bedding let the delegate know.
6. You are their coach for the weekend, not a parent. Be positive with your comments when they are needed. They are a team and should work that way.
7. Make sure your group has all of the clothes and other items needed for the day before they leave the dorm in the morning.
8. All delegates and chaperones are to be in attendance when activities are ongoing.
9. If there is a problem with any delegates or their animals please tell your State 4-H representative first or the Chairman or Superintendent if your State person isn't available.
10. Check to make sure delegates are properly dressed before they enter the ring.

WHERE TO FIND 4-H ACTIVITIES



Big E Ag Office: (413) 205-5011

[Big E Maps](#)

[Show Ring Code of Ethics](#)

Resources
