

# Washington County Fair 2020 FAQ

## 4-H and FFA Exhibitor Information

Q: The Fair Board has canceled public grandstands and ground entertainment. Are the 4-H/FFA events still going to be held?

A: As of right now, the answer is yes, if it is ok to gather for such events. The Washington County Extension council/staff/volunteers are working on what that will look like. These plans will be subject to change pending all health and safety concerns and stipulations set upon large events.

Q: What will fair look like?

A: The fairgrounds will not be open to the public but will be open for exhibitor competition and those exhibitor families only that day. It will not be the week-long experience you are familiar with, however, it will give you the opportunity to have a showcase of your learning, receive evaluation and recognition. There will not be public gate tickets sold because the fairgrounds will not be open to the public. There will be ribbons and trophies. The Washington County Extension staff are currently working on the details of this “Youth Exhibitor Fair” plan that will be most safe and reasonable. You should know the schedule is different with some changes to classes. Details and directions will be emailed directly to families and volunteers when confirmed and finalized. These plans will be subject to change pending all health and safety concerns and stipulations set upon large events.

Q: Who will be allowed on the fairgrounds during fair week?

A: **Wristbands will be required for fairground admission during the modified county fair July 19-24.** This will affect those families registered for livestock shows. This safety measure helps to control total bodies on the grounds.

- Each day July 19-24 has a unique color of wristband.
- The correct daily wristband must be on properly (on your wrist) at the gate before vehicle is allowed on the grounds.



- Only two gates will be open for vehicle traffic (see maps that will be provided in Exhibitor Packets)
- Wristbands will be assigned according to show registration in Fair Entry. 1 wristband per exhibitor of that show + 4 total additional per family unit. A family unit is decided by who is listed together under the family email in 4hOnline.
  - Examples:
    - John Smith is the only 4-Her in the Smith family showing Goats. The Smith will get 5 total wristbands for goat show day.
    - Jane Doe and John Doe are two 4-Hers in the Doe family showing Poultry. That family will get 6 total wristbands for poultry show day.
- Families decide who will use the 4 additional wristbands per family unit. It can be different for each show day they have exhibitors participating in. We encourage those with compromised health or age factors to watch the livestream and not be present on the fairgrounds. Families are invited to distribute their bands to those individuals who are needed on the grounds that day to support or provide assistance to the exhibitor. Families should keep track of who has wristbands for what day in case contact tracing is needed for emergency purposes.
- Wristbands will be distributed in the **NEW Exhibitor Packets available for pick up on July 12 from 12 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.** at the Lions Club stage/County Council pavilion. These times overlap with the nonlivestock project drop off day, so families who will be bringing nonlivestock projects can take care of both jobs on the grounds that day. Families who do not have nonlivestock projects to drop off can come anytime between 12 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. as well.
- Approved Extension staff, council, fair board members, 4-H volunteers, and FFA advisors will have approved volunteer wristbands.

Q: Will we still be able to show our exhibits (livestock, static, communication, fashion, etc.) ?

A: Yes, there will be opportunities but again it will look different and will be subject to change.

- **Livestock=** The show schedule will be adjusted to include only a few shows each day. Most livestock will come the day of the show and leave the day of the show. Updated schedule with check-in, stalling, and vet inspection details can be found at [2020 Updated Schedule](#). All department wash racks will be on, however, we discourage general use if possible. Please arrive with animals as ready for show as possible. They will be available primarily for the species who are here over night or showing in the heat of the day or for those animals who have ‘accidents’ on the way to town in the trailer. We want all exhibitors to have their animals clean and healthy,



so know the wash racks will be turned on if needed in those above cases. Sharing supplies at the wash rack will be strongly discouraged.

- **Static/Nonlivestock** = Static projects will be judged state fair-style which means families drop off projects and the judges will view them with no conference judging. Limit of 6 photography and 5 other nonlivestock projects, unless the exhibitor is a graduating senior (the photography limit still applies to all). This will be the year when project write-ups will really matter. All details will need to be included in the write up because judges will not be able to ask questions for more information. There are example write-ups on the Fair Forms website under Nonlivestock <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/washington/page/2012-washington-county-fair> Food exhibits will not be tasted but will be evaluated on other safe criteria, so please package and prepare as usual. Make sure to follow all safe food guidelines also found on the Fair Forms page. Schedule for drop off/pick up is printed in the Fair Newsletter with many other “What to Expect” for static judging this year and requirements to prepare exhibits. You can view the complete Fair Newsletter at <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/washington/sites/www.extension.iastate.edu/files/washington/2020%20Fair%20June-July.pdf> A schedule is set for project drop off on July 12 and pick up on July 25 following club rotations. Garden projects must be dropped off on July 17 from 3-6. Food/Surprise Design projects can be dropped off July 17 from 3pm-6pm or July 18 from 9am-11am in the basement. There will be no viewing of projects on display for 2020. State Fair selections will be made regardless of the status of Iowa State Fair. A video will be made to showcase those selections. Youth may reserve the right to keep a specific exhibit for next year’s fair if they can continue to learn and grow in that project area.
- **Communication Events & Clothing Event** = must be registered and submitted through Fair Entry by July 8. July 8 is the time you register in fair entry AND at that exact time you submit a youtube link of the presentation/clothing commentary in the ‘entry description’. The videography has to be done and filmed and ready to submit by July 8 when you complete fair entry for that particular project. You can submit other exhibits earlier in fair entry and staff will continue to approve those as they come in daily. See these two handouts for what to include in your video for [Communications](#) or [Clothing Event](#). A [Video tip sheet](#) is available on creating best youtube videos. It must be one continuous, unedited video segment. Judges will review videos, complete evaluations, and select winners. There will be no Share the Fun or Extemporaneous Speaking competitions this year. Video presentation of judges’ comments will be shared. Evaluation/ribbons will be mailed to exhibitors.
- **Clover Kids** will not have the same mentoring opportunities this year. We apologize for that inconvenience and disappointment. A complete list of updates for



clover kid activities has been mailed to all families or is available [here](#). Each clover kid club will have a special Clover Kid Showcase Event held through Zoom meetings where they can share 3 projects. Ribbons will be sent in the mail. Families will be sent Zoom links and directions closer to time. The schedule will follow:

Sunday (7/26) @ 7 PM	Monday (7/27) @ 7 PM	Tuesday (7/28) @ 7 PM	Wednesday (7/29) @ 7 PM
Crawfordsville CK	Eagle's Nest CK	Highland CK	Jackson CK
Little Hawks CK	St. James CK	Washington CK	Wellman CK

Q: What about the livestock auction? During these uncertain times we have encouraged families to do as they can every year, but especially this year, to reach out to family and neighbors to help market livestock projects. In the 2020 Exhibitor Fair Only, the Extension Office was not able coordinate the traditional livestock auction. HOWEVER, in an effort to meet needs connecting 4-Hers to the livestock markets, these are now options to exhibitors for 2020. This is an update since the original announcement on May 21.

**These are options. These are NOT required to exhibit but are options for families to utilize if they wish. Participation in any of them does not promise or guarantee market price or premium price.** These options have been generously coordinated by outside parties and are supported by Extension staff. We appreciate the support of area partners to make these available to our exhibitors.

**Option 1:** Trailer transportation to the Kalona Sale Barn will be available to goat, sheep, and market beef animals. Exhibitors must load designated trailer with completed paperwork the evening of their show. A trailer will be available Monday evening for goats, Tuesday evening for sheep and Thursday evening for beef. Animals will be stalled/fed by Kalona Sale Barn until next appropriate sale. A stalling fee will be charged to exhibitor as the seller for early housing/stalling until the actual sale day of that species. \$2/day/head of goat and sheep to sell on July 22. \$5/day/head for market beef to sell on July 30. Checks will be sent directly to the exhibitor from the Kalona Sale Barn. Load out times:

- Goats = July 20, 6 p.m. (or immediately following show if over later than 6)
- Sheep = July 21, 4 p.m. (or immediately following show if over later than 4)
- Beef = July 23, 12 p.m. (or immediately following show if over later than 12)



**Option 2:** Online livestock auction sale coordinated by KDK Sales and Consignment of Washington. Find all details to participate and register for online auction as a seller or buyer at [www.KDKGroup.com](http://www.KDKGroup.com). Deadline to register for the online auction as a seller is July 1.

**Option 3:** Exhibitors take animals home and market them independently to friends and families or through an auction location independently.

Q: When will we know what fair will look like?

A: We will update you as decisions are made. Our goal is to have a plan in place by June 15 and in the mail as your Fair Newsletter. Please frequently check your 4hOnline email, with FFA Advisers, our website, and social media as they will all include updates as available. These plans will continue to be reviewed pending all health and safety concerns and stipulations set upon large events and all will be subject to change.

Q: Do you have suggestions about how to sell market animal projects?

A: There will not be a livestock auction coordinated by Extension staff/Fair Association. See details above of options. Families are encouraged to plan now for that project the end of July. Talk to neighbors, local businesses, family members, and others to see if they would be wanting meat. Also encourage buyers to contact a locker to make sure that they have a spot available for the animals. We plan to offer swine market still through Tysons as in previous years, but subject to change upon the market and their restrictions.

Q: How will you communicate plans for the fair?

A: The Washington County Extension staff will communicate first through your 4hOnline email and FFA Advisers, then through the [Extension Fair Forms webpage](#) , and [4-H Facebook Page](#). The [Fair Newsletter](#) contains very important and updated information.

Q: The 2020 Washington County Fair Book was just published online. Does it still apply?



A: Yes. Class numbers, rules, and descriptions are still helpful and accurate. Keep in mind all dates/times will be adjusted. Any COVID-19 special announcements and rules would override previously printed materials in the fair book. Stay tuned and following all fair announcements as things will continue to be evaluated and may change. The fair book in its entirety published 1<sup>st</sup> of May can be found on the [Extension Fair Form's webpage](#).

Q: What should I do now?

A: Keep working on your static exhibits, communications presentations, clothing event exhibits, and with your animals. Animal ID in [4hOnline](#) and [YQCA](#) certifications are still due on June 1 at 11:59pm. Remember you can still get coupon codes to cover the \$12 cost to take the online training. Call 319-653-4811 or email [amygreen@iastate.edu](mailto:amygreen@iastate.edu) to get one. Fair Entry is open at <http://washingtoncounty.fairentry.com> when families are ready to sign up for specific classes and register specific exhibits. Deadlines:

July 1 = Livestock, Surprise Design

July 8 = Clothing Event, Communications, Static (non-livestock) exhibits

Q: What about the Tall Corn Contest?

A: Tall Corn Contest is still on! Submit a picture of yourself with your tall corn and your measurement by 5:00 pm on Friday, July 24th. Email pictures and measurements to Mike Huston at [cyclonefan04@gmail.com](mailto:cyclonefan04@gmail.com). We've included an example in this post. Measure from the base of the plant (ground level) to the tip of the longest leaf or tassel (whichever is longest). See this [video](#) to assist in how to measure. Results will be announced via Facebook on Saturday, July 25th. Grand Champion receives a plaque in memory of Julie Radda Zieser as well as \$100 cash and reserve champion receives \$50. All participants will receive a Pioneer Seed hat. Sponsored by Pioneer, Mike Huston.

Q: I have more questions, who do I contact?

A: For 4-H/FFA exhibitor questions and exhibitor event details, contact the Washington County Extension 4-H Staff at [washington4h@iastate.edu](mailto:washington4h@iastate.edu). For public events normally



held at the county fair, contact the Washington County Fair Association at [washingtoniacyfairboard@gmail.com](mailto:washingtoniacyfairboard@gmail.com)



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