

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Mission Statement: The mission of the Montgomery County Agricultural Center Inc., is to coordinate the efforts of our volunteers to present the annual Montgomery County Agricultural Fair. This event provides the opportunity for 4-H and Future Farmers of America (FFA) members to exhibit their livestock, homemaking and craft projects. We also focus on promoting the science and preservation of agriculture in Montgomery County and educating fair patrons and the community regarding agricultural related topics.

Rules are subject to change, please consult the fair website at www.mcagfair.com for most current information.

1. Every animal and article upon the grounds will be subject to the rules and regulations of the Ag Center; while every precaution will be taken for the safekeeping of the same, the Ag Center will in no case be responsible for any loss, damage or accident, which may occur. The Montgomery County Agricultural Fair will not be held liable for loss by fire, burglary, or theft of property belonging to any persons or organizations. Security personnel will be available on the grounds; however, this does not imply responsibility on the part of the Ag Center for theft, damage, accident, etc.
2. The gates will open to the public at 10 am and close at 11 pm each day during the exhibition. Exception: gates open at 3 pm, Friday, August 12, 2011. Fair closes at midnight each day.
3. No bills, posters or advertising stickers are allowed on the fences, buildings, telephone poles or other surfaces.
4. No illegal or disorderly conduct will be permitted.
5. No parking or driving on Maple, Hickory, Sycamore or Red Oak Avenues are permitted from 10 am to midnight.
6. Exhibitors must abide by Fire Code regulations, which include no parking in designated fire lanes, no smoking in barns or buildings, and no propane tanks or other combustible materials in barns, trucks, or buildings. There is a \$250 fine per fire code violation.
7. Exhibitors must read the rules and expectations for participation in the MCAC Fair and promise to support and practice humane treatment of animals at all times.

ENTRIES

8. All exhibits must be the property of the exhibitor.
9. Entries are open to Montgomery County residents or out-of-county Montgomery County Agricultural Center members who have been granted a waiver. Exception: open class animal exhibitors may come from anywhere in the United States.
10. **Entries are due and must be postmarked by July 10, 2011.** Entries must be made on the regulation entry blanks furnished by the Fair and all entry fees enclosed. Make all entry checks payable to The Montgomery County Agricultural Center, Inc. and mail to: 16 Chestnut Street, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877.
11. **ABSOLUTELY NO ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER JULY 20, 2011. A late fee of \$25 per exhibitor will apply to entries postmarked after July 10, 2011. This fee is nonrefundable and non-negotiable.**
12. The Ag Center reserves the right to extend an invitation to exhibit, and the right to refuse an exhibitor, without giving reason for such action. Any exhibitor displaying behavior deemed inappropriate will be removed from the grounds. The Ag Center further reserves the right to remove any objectionable exhibit or attendant without being liable for compensation. Entry fees will not be refunded.

13. All animal exhibitors must provide the department superintendent or designee with a self-certification of animal health prior to unloading. Animals may not be removed from trailers until this task has been completed. This form is available at www.mda.state.md.us.
14. Rabies Certification for applicable breeds must be presented to the department superintendent or designee upon arrival at the Fairgrounds.

ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE OF ENTRIES

15. Animals will be expected for check-in between the hours of 6:00 am and midnight on Saturday. Exhibitors wishing to arrive between midnight and 6:00 am, Sunday, must contact the department superintendent to make arrangements. Refer to species sections for specific details. All animals shall remain on the grounds until released on the last Saturday of the Fair at 9:00 pm or at the discretion of the Superintendent.
16. Any exhibitors wishing to remove their exhibit before the close of the Fair must possess a written statement for removal recommended by the Superintendent of the proper department. In the case of animals, early departures are allowed only if animals are entered in another show, in which case, verification of the entry from the Show Secretary must be received at check-in.
17. All premiums will be forfeited upon early removal of an exhibit before the designated departure time for that department.

JUDGING

18. Every entry that is entered for competition will be registered by number. The names of the exhibitors will not be attached to the entries until after the awards have been given.
19. Competitors attempting to interfere with judging will forfeit entry fees and the right to compete. All judges' decisions are final.
20. No animal or article can take more than one premium, except cattle, sheep, llamas, swine, and goats, which compete for group and special prizes.
21. All animals or articles competing for the same prizes must be brought together publicly for judging and comply with any reasonable request made by the Judge or Superintendent of that department.
22. When there is one exhibitor in a class, the Judge(s) will award only one premium - the highest or a lower one as may be determined by the Judge(s) who will in no case award a premium where there is no merit.
23. Show Committee and Superintendents reserve the right to divide, combine, or cancel classes if necessary and to refuse any entry.
24. A protest must be submitted in writing to the Department Superintendent and/or the Executive Director or Fair co-chairs before noon of the day following the violation. The reasons which prompted the protest must be clearly stated and supported by facts. Each protest must be accompanied by a cash deposit of \$150 that will not be returned unless the allegation is proven to be true. Questions not covered by the rules and regulations shall be decided by the Superintendent of the respective department. The Board of Directors and Executive Director will review such protests with legal counsel if necessary.

PREMIUMS

25. All premiums as recorded by the department clerk shall be mailed to the exhibitors following the close of Fair. Exhibitors must include their correct address when sending entries, or upon arrival, in order to receive premiums. Every effort will be made to correctly mail premiums returned to the Fair until October 15, 2011.
26. Any discrepancies or questions regarding premiums must be made in writing and mailed to the Fair Office by September 30, 2011. The form for this request is included with the

premium check. **PREMIUM CHECKS MUST BE CASHED WITHIN 90 DAYS OF ISSUANCE. ANY CHECKS NOT CASHED WITHIN THAT TIME ARE CONSIDERED A DONATION TO THE FAIR AND WILL NOT BE RE-ISSUED. NO EXCEPTIONS!**

ANIMAL POLICY

1. During fair time, no animals are allowed on Ag Center property unless they are registered for exhibition at that time or they have been granted a special Ag Center permit.
2. Owners of animals granted a permit by the Ag Center shall abide by all restrictions imposed by the Ag Center.

GOLF CARTS, SCOOTERS, ETC.

1. Unauthorized golf carts, scooters, gators, cushman's, mules, segway's, etc. are not permitted on Ag Center property.
2. Segway use is permitted by special approval for law enforcement and Fair management personnel only.

FAIR ANIMAL HEALTH

If the health of an animal is in question, the Department Superintendent will contact the Fair veterinarian to perform an assessment. If there is cause to consider additional action, the Superintendent will contact either a Fair Chairperson or the Executive Director who will convene a committee of at least three of the following persons: Fair veterinarian, Department Superintendent, Fair Chairperson, Executive Director, or Board of Directors member to determine next steps that could include, but not limited to: taking no action, sending the animal home, etc. The decision of the Committee is final.

TREATMENT OF ANIMALS

The Montgomery County Agricultural Fair (MCAF) supports animal welfare principles which seek to ensure and improve the treatment and well being of all animals during our Fair. Supporting animal welfare means believing proper care that is dictated by the Maryland State Department of Agriculture (MDA), U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Animal Control Officer for the City of Gaithersburg is implemented at all times. It is our belief and mission that every animal participating in the activities of the MCAF shall at all times be provided proper care and management. The primary care, custody, and control of the animals brought to the MCAF is the responsibility of our exhibitors who agree to support principals related to humane treatment of animals. Our Department Superintendants, Chairpersons, Board of Directors, Staff and volunteers shall monitor, document, and report to the Fair Office at (301) 926-3100 x205, any concerns regarding animal health or welfare on the Fair grounds. In the event there is an animal welfare concern, a witness should immediately contact the Fair's main office at the number listed above.

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL REQUIREMENTS

The MDA Animal Health Section strives in safeguarding Maryland's animal industries at our Fairs and Shows. With an increased potential of disease transmission occurring when large numbers of animals gather for exhibition, MDA has set forth requirements for exhibitors to follow at Maryland Fairs and Shows. As an exhibitor you can help reduce the potential risk of introduction and spread of infectious and/or contagious diseases by following the species specific health requirements as specified below.

General Requirements

Exhibitors shall ensure that the animals they present at fairs or shows are in good health. Any animals showing signs of contagious or infectious disease are not permitted to enter or remain at the exhibition. All exhibitors must adhere to the MDA Animal Health Rejection Policy.

General Requirements (COMAR 15.11.14.04-06)

1. **Exhibitor Requirements:** Exhibitors at state, county, and district fairs, along with other livestock exhibitions, expositions, and shows are required to comply with regulatory provisions of the State of Maryland relating to animal health as noted in COMAR 15.11.14.04-06. These requirements are summarized below.
2. **Requirements Apply to All Livestock:** Livestock - means those species of animals used for human food or fiber or those species of animals used for service to humans. This includes but not limited to cattle, sheep, new world camelids (llamas, alpacas, vicunas, and guanacos), goats, bison, privately owned cervids, ratites (cassowaries, kiwis, ostriches, and emus), swine, equine, poultry, aquaculture, and rabbits. Livestock does not include dogs and cats.
3. **Documentation:** Documentation is required for entry of all livestock and is described below. Examples of forms can be obtained by clicking on links. For out of state animals, see species specific out of state requirements.

Interstate Certificate of Veterinary Inspection - a legible record, made on an official form of the state of origin, issued by an accredited veterinarian, issued for animals being imported to or exported from this state within 30 days before the importation or exportation of the animals it describes which shows that the animals listed thereon meet the health requirements of the state of destination.

Intrastate Certificate of Veterinary Inspection - a legible record, made on an official form of the state of origin, issued by an accredited veterinarian, issued for animals being shown within the state and not crossing a state line, which shows that the animals listed thereon meet the health requirements of that state. In Maryland, good for entire show season (Jan 1-Dec 31).

Self Certification - a document signed by the owner/caretaker/transporter stating that the animals presented for exhibition are not showing any signs of, or having recent exposure to (within 21 days) infectious or contagious diseases. See species specific requirement for copies of species specific Self Certification Forms.

Test Report Forms - Testing is required for some species

Examples are shown below:

Avian Influenza Testing Report

Pullorum-Typhoid Testing Report

Coggins Test Report (Equine Infectious Anemia)

Maryland Poultry Premises Identification - All premises with poultry are required to be registered in Maryland.

4. Livestock with clinical signs of infectious or contagious diseases or external parasites (such as but not limited to active lesions of ringworm with resulting loss of hair, sore mouth, caseous lymphadenitis, mange, or multiple warts easily visible without close examination) are not permitted entry or allowed to remain at the exhibition.
5. Upon request, a person who exhibits livestock shall present for inspection all reports, test charts, and appropriate health certificates required to accompany the livestock.
6. All Maryland entries must be accompanied by an Intrastate Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) for show, except Equine, Poultry and Rabbits. The Intrastate CVI is valid for the entire show season (Jan 1 - Dec. 31), providing that the status of the herd or animal(s) does not change.
7. The Intrastate CVI must be filled out, completed, and signed by an accredited veterinarian using the proper CVI form. The veterinarian is required to send the original top (white) copy to MDA Headquarters, the middle (yellow) transport copy is to be retained by the owner of the livestock, and the last (pink) copy is for the veterinarian's records.
8. All out-of-state entries must be accompanied by an Interstate Certificate of Veterinary Inspection. An APPROVED copy of this certificate must be forwarded by the State of Origin to the Animal Health Section. The Interstate CVI is valid for 30 days from the date of inspection.

9. Each animal must be properly identified on the Intrastate or Interstate CVI.
10. Self-certification forms must be filled out within 24 hours prior to loading and presented upon request to the designated representative.

SPECIES SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the general requirements above, specific requirements by species are shown below:

CATTLE

A. All Cattle: General Requirements:

Identification: Individual identification of each animal shall be a legible tattoo, official metal ear tag, or registration number.

B. Maryland Cattle

Brucellosis: Maryland is a Bovine Brucellosis Class-Free State. Brucellosis testing is not required for Maryland cattle.

Tuberculosis: Maryland is an Accredited Tuberculosis-Free State. Tuberculin test is not required for Maryland cattle.

Immunization: Bovine Respiratory Complex is required on all Maryland cattle to include Bovine Respiratory Syncytial Virus, Bovine Viral Diarrhea, Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis and Parainfluenza. Leptospirosis is recommended.

C. Out-of-State Cattle

Brucellosis:

1. Bovine Brucellosis Class Free State, Region, or Zone
 - a. No brucellosis test is required.
2. Non-Bovine Brucellosis Class Free State, Region, or Zone
 - a. Must have official vaccinates under 24 months old with vaccination dates recorded on the Interstate CVI, or
 - b. Must be tested negative within 30 days before entry.

Tuberculosis:

1. Accredited Tuberculosis Free States, Region or Zone
 - a. No tuberculin test required.
2. Modified Accredited Advanced or lower Tuberculosis Free Areas or States (Not TB Free)
 - a. All cattle over 6 months of age shall comply with the following:
 - Cattle must originate from a herd where a complete herd test was conducted within the past 12 months; progeny from such herds born since that test may be imported without a tuberculin test, or
 - Any individual animal, over 6 months, entering Maryland must have a negative tuberculin test within 60 days before import.
 - b. Status of herd and area must be shown on certificate.

SWINE

A. Maryland Swine

Identification:

1. Swine shall be identified by an official ear tag, tattoo, or recognized breed ear notch.
2. Ear notch identification is acceptable for barrows, crossbred gilts, and breeding swine.

Brucellosis: Maryland is a Brucellosis Class-Free State. Brucellosis testing is not required for Maryland swine.

Tuberculosis: Maryland is an Accredited Tuberculosis-Free State. Tuberculin test is not required for Maryland swine.

Immunization: Leptospirosis is recommended.

C. Out-of-State Swine

Identification:

1. Individually identified by an official ear tag, tattoo or recognized breed ear notch.
2. Ear notch identification is not acceptable for crossbred animals

Brucellosis: All swine, except barrows, 6 months of age and older shall be negative to an official test for brucellosis within 30 days prior to exhibition entry, or originate directly from a validated brucellosis-free herd.

Pseudorabies: Swine over 6 months of age shall be negative to an official test for Pseudorabies conducted within 30 days prior to exhibition entry, or originate immediately and directly from a qualified Pseudorabies negative herd.

Immunization: Leptospirosis is recommended

SHEEP

A. All Sheep: General Requirements

Identification: Individual identification of each animal shall be by an official USDA scrapie ear tattoo or official metal or plastic tag. A microchip ID is acceptable if the owner provides the reader. Ear tattoos may be used when a registration certificate, listing the tattoo number, accompanies the animal. When using an ear tag, the tag must indicate the premises ID and state of origin. The tag number must be assigned by a state or APHIS representative and recorded in the Scrapie Record Database. Contact the USDA at 410-349-9708 for ear tags.

B. Maryland and Out of State Sheep

No additional requirements.

C. Market Lambs

It is recommended that all lambs be slick shorn prior to entry for inspection for club lamb fungus.

GOATS

A. All Goats: General Requirements

Identification: Individual identification of each animal shall be by an official USDA Scrapie ear tattoo, or official metal or plastic tag. A microchip ID is acceptable if the owner provides the reader. Tattoos may be used when a registration certificate, listing the tattoo number, accompanies the animal. When using an ear tag, the tag must indicate the premises ID and state of origin. The tag number must be assigned by a state or APHIS representative and recorded in the Scrapie Record Database. Ears should be used for tattooing when possible. If there is no space in the ear, the flank or tail fold may be used. Contact the USDA at 410-349-9708 for ear tags.

B. Maryland Goats

Brucellosis: Maryland is a Brucellosis Class-Free State. Brucellosis testing is not required for Maryland goats.

Tuberculosis: Maryland is an Accredited Tuberculosis-Free State. Tuberculin test is not required for Maryland goats.

C. Out-of-State Goats

Tuberculosis:

1. Accredited Tuberculosis Free States, Region or Zone
 - a. No tuberculin test required.
2. Modified Accredited Advanced or lower Tuberculosis Free Areas or States (Not TB Free)

a. All goats over 6 months of age shall comply with the following:

- Goats must originate from herds in which all animals are tested negative within past 12 months; progeny from such herds born since that test, may be imported without a tuberculin test, or
- Any individual animal entering Maryland must have a negative tuberculin test within 60 days before import.

c. Status of herd and area must be shown on certificate

b. Have a negative official test for Salmonella pullorum-typhoid within 90 days before entry to exhibition. Poultry must remain segregated from any untested birds after a partial flock test.

3. Documentation of test results on MDA - E20, VS form 9-2, VS form 9-3 or comparable form.
4. All poultry except pigeons and doves must have negative avian influenza test conducted on at least 10 birds from their flock (or complete flock if fewer than 10) on official test within 90 days prior to event.

HORSES, PONIES, MULES, AND OTHER EQUIDAE

A. All Equine: General Requirements

Identification: Individual identification shall include the following as applicable; name, registration number, tattoo or brand, breed, age, sex, color and markings if present.

Equine Infectious Anemia (Coggins): All equine for exhibition shall be accompanied by a valid Coggins Test done within 12 months prior to exhibition entry.

Self Certification Requirement and Exemption: An Exhibitor's Self-certification of Animal Health is required for each equine entering a fair or show-type event where multiple livestock species are present. The form must be available for inspection if requested. Those participating in equine-only shows and events are exempt from this requirement; however, it is good practice to thoroughly double check the health and skin condition of the animal before departing for the event. The form provides an easy checklist to do this. Exhibitors may not bring an animal having apparent or known signs of a contagious or infectious disease to a show.

B. Maryland Equine

1. All horses and other equidae, 9 months of age and older, shall be accompanied by a negative test for equine infectious anemia (EIA) made within the 12 months before the date of the event. A copy of this test shall accompany every animal.
2. a CVI is not required for Maryland equine

C. Out-of-State Equine

1. All horses and other equidae, 9 months of age and older, shall be accompanied by a negative test for equine infectious anemia (EIA) made within the 12 months before the date of the event. A copy of this test shall accompany every animal.
2. All horses and other equidae shall be accompanied by a CVI issued within 30 days prior to entry.
3. The following states are exempted from the CVI requirement: Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia.

POULTRY

A. All Poultry - General Requirements

1. **Identification:** All poultry entering an exhibition shall be identified with a numbered leg or wing band.
2. **Testing:** All poultry for exhibition shall meet the requirements for Avian Influenza and Pullorum-Typhoid testing.
3. All poultry exhibitors shall complete a Poultry Exhibitor's Self Certification of Animal Health.

B. Maryland Poultry

1. **Premise Registration:** All poultry exhibitors must have valid proof of a registered Maryland Poultry Premises ID Number.
2. All poultry except waterfowl, pigeons and doves shown at public exhibitions in this state shall meet one or more of the following requirements:
 - a. Originate directly from a U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean flock as defined in Title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations, and all amendments to that publication thereafter adopted pursuant to rules that the director may promulgate, OR

C. Out-of-State Poultry

1. All poultry except waterfowl, pigeons and doves shown at public exhibitions in this state shall meet one or more of the following requirements:
 - a. Originate directly from a U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean flock as defined in Title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations, and all amendments to that publication thereafter adopted pursuant to rules that the director may promulgate, OR
 - b. Have a negative official test for Salmonella Pullorum-Typhoid within 90 days before fair, exhibitions, exposition, or show facility and remain segregated from all poultry of unknown or positive salmonella Pullorum-Typhoid test status.
2. Documentation of test results on MDA - E20, VS form 9-2, VS form 9-3 or comparable form.
3. All poultry except pigeons and doves must have negative Avian Influenza test conducted on at least 30 birds from their flock (or complete flock if fewer than 30) on official test within 10 days prior to event.

RABBITS

A. All Rabbits: General Requirements

1. See: 2011 Rabbit Waiver - Rabbits are not required to have an Interstate or Intrastate CVI.
2. All Rabbits for exhibition shall complete a Rabbit Exhibitor's Self Certification of Animal Health.

B. Maryland and Out-of-State Rabbits

No additional requirements

CAMELIDS

A. All Camelids: General Requirements

Identification: Individual identification of each animal shall be a legible tattoo, official metal ear tag or registration number.

B. Maryland Camelids

Brucellosis: Brucellosis testing is not required for Maryland camelids.

Tuberculosis: Tuberculin test is not required for Maryland camelids.

C. Out-Of-State Camelids

Brucellosis: Brucellosis testing is not required for out-of-state camelids.

Tuberculosis: All Camelids, including castrates, 6 months or older, shall meet at least one of the following requirements to be eligible for exhibition:

1. Originate directly from a herd not under restriction or quarantine for tuberculosis and from which all animals have tested negative for tuberculosis within the past 12 months; or
2. Have a negative individual Tuberculin test documented within 60 days of exhibition.

PLEASE NOTE:

Maryland Law provides penalties for violations of Animal Health Law and Regulations.

Livestock failing to meet Health Requirements will be denied entry or removed from the exhibition - "REJECTED". See policy below:

Animal Health Rejection Policy

Animal rejections for health reasons can be made by MDA Animal Health veterinarians or field inspectors, private veterinarians contracted by the show, University of Maryland Extension employees, or individuals designated by Fair or show 'responsible person'. Suspicion of communicable disease is adequate grounds for rejection. Confirmed diagnosis is not required since timely removal of suspicious animals is required by law to protect the remaining animals. If it is believed that there is a potentially serious communicable disease present, all animals originating with the suspect animal may be rejected. Vesicular diseases are of particular concern. All decisions are final. All parties involved will be notified of all rejections. The exhibitor is responsible for removal of the animal(s) from the grounds immediately.

QUESTIONS???

If you have any questions or are unsure of any of these animal health requirements for Maryland fairs and shows, please contact the MDA Animal Health Headquarters Office or Diagnostic Laboratory during normal business hours.

MDA Animal Health Program Headquarters

50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401
410 - 841 - 5810

Frederick Animal Health Lab

1840 Rosemont Ave
Frederick, MD 21702
301 - 600 - 1548

Salisbury Animal Health Lab

27722 Nanticoke Road
Salisbury, MD 21801
410 - 543 - 6610



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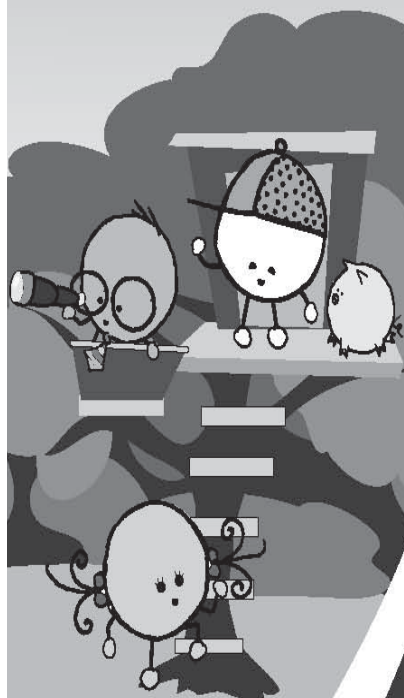


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Lakeforest Mall is located at Montgomery Village Avenue and Route 355, across the street from the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair.