

VAN BUREN YOUTH FAIR

INFORMATION FOR OPEN CLASS EXHIBITORS

(This will be the ONLY correspondence you will be receiving.)

Important Due Dates

December 31

Van Buren County Born & Raised (Steers)

May 1

Cat Registration
Dairy Ownership
Equine Registration

June 15

Horse Jumping Form
Small Animal Entry Form with fee
Van Buren Youth Entry Form with exhibitor pass fee (All horse classes must be listed on this form.)
Talent Show
Domestic Animal Entry Form
W-9 for those exhibiting large livestock and small animals

Day of Event

Youth Parade

Tagging Deadlines

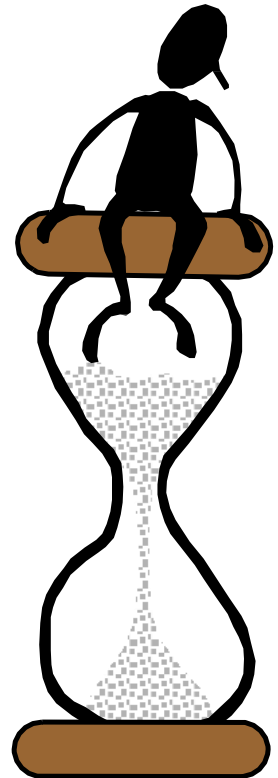
December 31

Steers

May 1

Sheep, Swine and Feeder Calves

Tags are typically available 30 minutes prior to a Van Buren Youth Fair Large Livestock meetings. Contact Bev Rajzer, 423-8688 for more information.



PQA (Swine Exhibitors)

Face to face classes will be held January 19 in Lawrence and February 13 in Dowagiac. Please contact the Cass County MSU Extension office to register; 269-445-4438. If you are able to complete this online, it MUST be completed by February 28. Do not wait for the last minute.

- Exhibitors aged 6 –7 years old must attend PQA training. This is an accommodation made specifically for Van Buren County exhibitors.
- 8-11 years-old—no written test, must attend a workshop each year.
- 12-14 years-old—intermediate level, a passing score on the written test certifies a youth until they reach the next age bracket.
- 15-19 years-old—advanced level, a passing score on the written test certifies a youth until they reach the next age bracket or the maximum three-year certification period has expired.

Van Buren Youth Fair Educational Workshops

For the 2017 Van Buren Youth Fair all youth exhibiting animals (cats, dogs, draft horses, horses, large livestock, or small animals) at the Van Buren Youth Fair are **REQUIRED** to attend one educational workshop for each species they plan to exhibit.



Please RSVP to Janice at 657-8213 for the date you plan to attend, must give at least 2 days notice. Must have a minimum of 10 youth per class or class will be cancelled.

Educational Opportunities

Dates and topics subject to change without notice.

Thursday, March 23- 6:30 p.m. - Van Buren ISD Conference Center in Lawrence
Health for One, One Health for All (all species)

Monday, April 24- 6:30 p.m. - Van Buren ISD Conference Center in Lawrence
Mutation Nation (all species)

Tuesday, May 9
Bridging Human and Animal Health (all species)

Monday, June 12 - 6:30 p.m. - Van Buren ISD Conference Center in Lawrence
Care and showmanship (poultry and rabbits only)

All educational workshops/classes must be completed by July 1.

What else counts as an educational class/workshop?

- Any 4-H, MSU, State, National, Breed or Open Show. If you are an exhibitor or an attendee at any of these shows, you must submit a 250 word essay about what you learned within 30 days of the show in order for this to count.(This will only count for the species that you attend.) Educational classes at shows will also count i.e. quiz bowl, posters and fit your own; must bring proof.
- PQA will count for swine if you attend a workshop during the current calendar year, only if you are required to take PQA this year.
- Fitting and showing clinics offered by other counties. Must submit proof of attendance within 30 days of event.
- Participation in FFA. Must show proof of minimum of 2.0 GPA.
- Any livestock related topic workshop/class offered by 4-H, MSU or other agribusiness. Must submit proof of attendance within 30 days of event.
- Any animal related college class. Must show proof of minimum 2.0 GPA.
- Horse exhibitors- the monthly presentations at Willow Tree Equestrian Center.
- Attending 4-H club or project meeting with guest speaker related to animal species.

All paperwork must be submitted to the MSU Extension Office.

Animal Exhibitors in College

Youth in college unable to attend an educational event may write a 500 word essay per species on a given topic. Must contact Janice Zerbe at the Michigan State University Extension- Van Buren County Office to get your topic. All essays must be submitted to Janice by May 1.

If you have any questions regarding educational workshops please contact Janice Zerbe, rajzerj@anr.msu.edu or 657-8213.

Dairy Ownership Form

Any youth that will be exhibiting in a dairy class will be required to complete a Dairy Ownership Form by May 1. This form will be available on the Van Buren Youth Fair website, MSU Extension Office – Van Buren County or when you pick up other livestock tags.

Market Goat Ownership Verification

Market goat exhibitors or a designate must show proof of ownership by May 1 by bringing their goat(s) to the Van Buren Youth Fair grounds on May 2 to have their scrappy tags recorded.

THIS IS A MANADATORY PARTICIPATION EVENT for all market goats! If you need to make other arrangements to have your tags recorded contact the goat superintendent prior to May 1. (Reminder: All tag numbers must be entered on your fair pre-registration small animal form.)

Record Books

All market animal projects should be considered educational and at times an entrepreneurial project. Youth involved in animal projects should want to gain knowledge in how they manage their project. All youth are highly encouraged to complete a record book for each of their animal projects.



Record books can also help in teaching life skills, such as record keeping, money management, responsibility and in some cases goal setting.

Some species offer record book contests with cash prizes while in other species this is how you receive your premium. (Livestock- this is how you receive your premium.)

These are the following record books:

Small Animals

6-8 Years old –Goats, Poultry, Rabbit, Lab Animal/Cavy

9-12 years old MI 4-H Animal Market Project Record Book Beginner Market Record Book

9-12 years old Van Buren County 4-H Animal Non-Market Project Record Book Beginner Non-Market Record Book

13-15 years old MI 4-H Animal Market Project Record Book Intermediate Market Record Book

13-15 years old Van Buren County 4-H Animal Non-Market Project Record Book Intermediate Non-Market Record Book

16-19 years old– MI 4-H Animal Market Project Record Book Advanced Market Record Book

16-19 years old– Van Buren County 4-H Animal Non-Market Project Record Book Advanced Non-Market Record Book

Egg Notebook for poultry egg class

Dogs

6-8 Years old– Dogs

9-19 Years old– 4-H Dog Member's Record Book (4-H 1213)

Cats

6-8 Years old– Cats

9-19 Years old MSU Cat Project Member Record Book

Large Animals

6-8 Years old– Feeder Calf, Sheep, Swine

9-12 years old MI 4-H Animal Market Project Record Book Beginner Market Record Book

9-12 years old Van Buren County 4-H Animal Non-Market Project Record Book Beginner Non-Market Record Book

13-15 years old MI 4-H Animal Market Project Record Book Intermediate Market Record Book

13-15 years old Van Buren County 4-H Animal Non-Market Project Record Book Intermediate Non-Market Record Book

16-19 years old– MI 4-H Animal Market Project Record Book Advanced Market Record Book

16-19 years old– Van Buren County 4-H Animal Non-Market Project Record Book Advanced Non-Market Record Book

Pullorum Testing (Poultry)

Refer to the Van Buren Youth Fair book or contact the poultry superintendent for more information.

Large Livestock Scholarship

The Van Buren Youth Fair Large Livestock Scholarship is available to a student attending college and/or an institution of higher learning who can meet the following requirements

1. College student and/or enrolled in institution of higher education.
2. Must be active the last three (3) consecutive years in large livestock projects at the Van Buren Youth Fair.
3. Priority will be given to a graduating senior in high school becoming a Freshman in college or a first year student in a higher education program.

RESTRICTIONS:

1. Scholarship is to be used for tuition, fees and books.
2. If the recipient of the scholarship quits or drops out of school, the remainder of the scholarship is to be refunded to the Van Buren Youth Fair Large Livestock Scholarship Fund.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD: \$300.00

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: POSTMARKED BY APRIL 15th.

Scholarship form available on the Van Buren Youth Fair website or from Van Buren County Michigan State University Extension Office.

Alexander F. Zygadlo Memorial Swine Scholarship

Scholarship type: Up to three (3) scholarships, \$60-\$80 each per year for active 4-H swine exhibitor to purchase feeder pig.

Award process: Applicant must submit an essay (250-350 words for exhibitors 6-10 years old; 350-450 words for exhibitors 11-14; 500-600 words for exhibitors 15-19 years old) and include two letters of reference from non-family members (teacher, coach, 4-H leader, etc.)

How the scholarships will be chosen: Scholarships will be chosen by a committee of three or more. Considerations will include need-based, quality of essay and the value of the letters of reference. The award cannot be awarded to the same exhibitor more than once in a three year period.

Restrictions: After receiving scholarships, exhibitor must show swine at the current Van Buren Youth Fair. If the scholarship recipient does not show swine at the current Van Buren Youth Fair, the scholarship money must be returned to the Van Buren Youth Fair and returned to the Alexander F. Zygadlo Memorial Swine Scholarship Fund (if the scholarship recipient brings their pig to the fair and it cannot be shown, the exhibitor will not be penalized.).

Awarding of Scholarship: Scholarships will be awarded prior to the May 1st Swine tagging deadline.

Submitting an essay: All completed essays titled "During My Swine Project I hope to ..." and letters of reference must be mailed to MSU Extension, Attention: Swine Essay, 219 Paw Paw Street, Suite 201, Paw Paw, MI 49079 by January 15.



SMAC Spring Show

Saturday, May 20, 2017- Van Buren Youth Fairgrounds

Registration

Starts at 7:00 a.m.

\$3.00 per class and \$1.00 for Educational/Still Exhibit entries

Pre- Peewee, Peewee and Young Exhibitors are limited to 2 species

Showmanship class is mandatory

Age is determined as of January 1 of current year

Dress Code-White longed sleeved shirt and black pants

(Dairy Goat exhibitors may wear short sleeved white shirts. Non-dairy goat exhibitors may wear dark pants and shirts with collars.)

No Lab Coats

Fair Book Cover Contest

The Fair Board will once again hold a fair book cover design contest.

Guidelines:

- Designed by a Van Buren County youth
- Due at the Extension office by 5:00 p.m., Friday, February 17, 2017 or they can be brought to the Van Buren County 4-H Leaders' Association meeting on Monday, February 20.
- Covers should NOT have a 4-H focus because our fair is open to all youth
- Must be on 8 1/2" x 11" paper with a 1" margin
- Please use black ink
- Last 4 digits of Social Security number must be on the back of the entry along with youth's name

Cover must include the following information:

- 62nd Annual Van Buren Youth Fair
- July 17-22, 2017
- Hartford, Michigan
- Free Parking
- Official Premium Book and Souvenir Program