MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

May 23, 2016

To: 4-H Families Involved in the Tuscola County Fair

Re: Important Tuscola County Fair Information

Fair Premiums will no longer be paid, either by the State or the Fair Board, starting with the 2011-2012 4H program year. Having to make this decision saddens the members of the Fair Board. They plan to do the free grandstand stamp pass for the 5 entries in different division/ category. Please look for the cards to record the entries and superintends signatures.

The Tuscola County 4-H Council and the project area superintendents need everyone's help to make the 2016 Tuscola County Fair a success. In order for club members to receive full benefit from the 4-H program, its members need to be involved in volunteer activities. Although fair is a very busy time for all exhibitors, it is vital that they take the time to give back to the 4-H program. All fair participants are expected to bear their fair share of the work needed to make the fair a success.

**SET-UP & CLEAN-UP**

Parents and teens are responsible for helping with set up and clean up of all areas in which a youth exhibits in during the fair. If a parent is not available, the family is expected to find another adult to stand in for them. If a youth is exhibiting in many different areas, it is still the family's responsibility to find others (fellow club members, family friends, etc.) to help cover this responsibility. Attendance will be taken at both set up and clean up in each area. The more volunteers we have, the quicker and easier the process will be. There was a good turn out last year and the work went quickly for all. Thank you to everyone who helped and we are looking for even more participation this year.

- Set up for all project areas will be on **Wednesday, July 20th** at 6:00 p.m. unless superintendents notify exhibitors otherwise. Pizza and pop will be provided following set up.

- Clean up and tear down will be on **Sunday, July 31st** immediately following project pick up. Many helpers will be needed to assist in cleaning and disinfecting livestock areas following the fair.

Those helping with set up and clean up are asked to bring supplies such as brooms, dustpans, shop-vacs, buckets, mops, rags, paper towels, tape, staple guns, screw drivers, hammers, pliers, etc.—any supplies that you might imagine could be needed for the job. Remember that Community Building This will be where all the Non Perishable, Perishable and Agricultural projects will be judged and displayed. Tasks that need to be completed in the Community Building include: sweeping, setting up tables, covering tables with paper and skirting, and setting up booths.

**4-H Dairy Barn**

The 4-H Diner relies on 4-H youth, parents, and leaders to volunteer during the week of the fair. Each 4-H Club is responsible for working in the 4-H Dairy Barn at least once during fair week. This is a mandatory community service expectation for each club exhibiting at the fair. There are three (3) shifts each day of the fair, 2 adults and 4 youth are needed to cover each shift. Please complete the 4-H Dairy Barn Sign-Up form to schedule a time. A random shift will be assigned to your club unless you've arranged for a specific time in advance. All of the proceeds from the 4-H Dairy Barn directly benefit Tuscola County 4-H programs by funding educational programs, scholarships, camp, awards banquet, and much more.

**MSU EXTENSION**

362 Green Street
Caro, MI 48723

989-672-3870
Fax: 989-673-5953
www.msue.msu.edu

MSU is an affirmative-action,
equal-opportunity employer.

**COMMUNITY BUILDING**

The Community Building needs to be supervised during the week of the fair to make sure that all the projects stay in place and on display. Volunteers are needed to take shifts in the Community Building. Clubs are encouraged to do demonstrations or activities for the public and answer questions from passers by, but it is not mandatory. This is a great way to advertise 4-H and your club, even livestock clubs can help. Call MSU Extension to sign-up your club or yourself for a time to volunteer to watch the Community Building.

**HELP NEEDED**

Volunteers are also need on the following dates. If you are interested, call the MSU Extension office at (989) 672-3870 with the date and time you are available along with your contact information. Please plan to arrive 15 minutes early for instructions.

- Saturday, July 23rd – Assist with non-perishable project check-in at the Community Building from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Saturday, July 23rd – Clerk for non-perishable judges at the Community Building from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Monday, July 25th – Clerk for food judges at the Community Building from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- Monday, July 25th – Clerk for horticulture / Ag judges at the Community Building from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- Thursday, July 28th – Assist with buyer check-in at the livestock auctions from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Sunday, July 31st – Assist with exhibit check-out at the Community Building from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

**REMINDER:** NO exhibits will be released before 6:00 a.m. on Sunday 31st . Removal of exhibits before release time will result in forfeiture of earned prizes / awards.

**4-H MEMBER AND LEADER PASSES –** 4-H member exhibitors are required to pay a **$2.50 entry fee** which includes one gate pass that is good all week. Registered 4-H leaders with exhibiting members are also eligible for this gate pass. Lost or destroyed passes will not be replaced. 4-H members may also purchase weekly grandstand passes for $10 at the Fair Office.

**4-H HELPER PASSES –** 4-H parents, grandparents and other immediate relatives 30 inches tall and over as well as 4-H leader spouses must have a 4-H Helper gate pass or pay the regular fair gate fee to enter the fairgrounds. The cost remains **$2.50 per person per day or 12.00 per person for the entire week.** These passes do not include midway rides or admission to the Grandstand. These passes are intended for 4-H family members and others who will be assisting 4-H exhibitors during fair week. Lost or destroyed passes will not be replaced.

**Again this year** – In lieu of Premiums the Fair Board has introduced the following incentive to all 4-H/ FFA members:

- Register and Enter (1) exhibit in the Fair and you will not be charged the $2.50 4-H/FFA pass fee, which gets you into the Fair for the week.
- Register and Enter (5) exhibits – from different divisions / categories – in the Fair and earn a free $10 4-H Grandstand Pass as long as you follow the process listed below:

(This is a $60 value, if you attend the Grandstand show every night!) *** Not available to Open Class entries**

**The Process will be:**

At check-in, you will need to obtain signatures from various Superintendents, confirming that your (1) or (5) exhibits are on display. The **FREE** 4-H / Grandstand pass will be distributed at the **FAIR OFFICE on Sunday and Monday ONLY** of Fair week, during the posted office times.

Save up those school projects or make something new to enter at the Fair! And let's fill the Community Building!

New this year to our schedule of events is the **Cloverbud Show Day**. On Saturday, July 30 starting at 2 pm, there will be a designated show just for Cloverbuds exhibiting Large Livestock projects. There is a special entry form that also need to be completed when entering these cloverbud classes. Because we are making a special day for them on Saturday, the cloverbuds will not show earlier in the week.

**CAMPERS**: **Please see the New Camping Space Agreement located at the back of the fair book**. Contract deadline for the reduced fee and a reserved site is **June 24th**. All persons wishing to camp at the fair may park at the fairgrounds on Wednesday prior to the fair, **July 20th**. Camper parking for the horse area is from 1 – 3:00 p.m. for returning campers and 3–5 p.m. for new campers. Contact Amy Kotsch at (989) 553-2066 for questions regarding camping near the horse barns. Camper parking for the large livestock area is from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. for returning campers and 7:30-8:00 p.m. for new campers. Contact Alma Bennett at (989) 843-6019 for questions regarding camping in the large livestock area. Any person wishing to camp that fails to submit their request by the June 24th deadline will be parked on Thursday, July 21st, if space is available. Please see the fair book page 75 & 76 for pricing information please notice that there is an **additional charge** for campers/ trailers with air conditioners. Campers that are parked without permission will be towed.

Attention all FACEBOOK users: To all of our 4-H Members, leaders and their families: **"LIKE"** our NEW Facebook page: **Tuscola County 4-H.**

This will become a valuable tool for communicating last minute changes and updates related to 4-H Camp, Exploration Days, and especially the Fair!

Best wishes,

Heather Middleton

Heather Middleton
4-H Youth Development Coordinator