

Central Montana Fair, July 17-27, 2024

Fairgrounds Exhibitor General Information

Note: Watch for any updates online at CMTfair.com or call 406-535-8841

General Information:

The Central Montana Fair is open to all residents. All exhibitors, age 2 and greater, must be residents of Fergus County or adjoining counties and bona fide owners of their respective entries, which must be products of Central Montana. Articles competing for prizes must be done by the person exhibiting them. The Central Montana Fair assumes no responsibility for damage done to any exhibit while on the Fairgrounds, although due care and caution will be exercised to prevent such loss or damage. Exhibits not complying with the rules of the Central Montana Fair will be automatically disqualified.

Gate Charges:

There is no entrance gate charge for the Fair. There is no charge for parking your vehicle at the Fairgrounds.

Lost and Found:

The lost and found is located at the Sheriff's Office in Mollie's Office across from the Trade Center.

Fair Ticket Office:

The Fair Ticket Office, (located in the Trade Center through Pre-Fair, and underneath the Grandstands from Wednesday, July 24, 2024, to Saturday, July 27, 2024), will be selling tickets to the Night Show, Rodeos, and Motor events. Please note that event tickets can be purchased online and printed at home or remain on your phone.

Tickets and/or phones will be scanned at the gate.

Food Concessions:

Food concessions are located under the Grandstands and at various locations on the grounds including the 4-H Booth across from the Livestock Pavilion.

Carnival:

The Carnival opens at noon, Wednesday through Saturday. The Carnival will close each night at midnight or earlier if attendance is too low or extenuating circumstances arise. Carnival POP tickets can be purchased online at CMTfair.com.

Fair Camping:

Camping at the Fairgrounds is arranged through the Fairgrounds Office. Contact the Fair Office if you would like to reserve any open spots. Running electrical cords from electrical to non-electrical spaces is not allowed. Campers, please use the designated Camping Entrance. You will need to display your vehicle permit in your window to get your vehicle through this gate and to be parked in the camping area. Please remember to pick up your camper and vehicle permits at the Fairgrounds Office on or after July 16, 2024, and before you set up camp.

Deliveries on Fairgrounds:

Delivery conveyances will be allowed on the Midway each day Wednesday through Saturday prior to 9:45 am only. Deliveries after 9:45 am will have to be hand carted. All unauthorized vehicles must be off of the Midway by 10:00 am.

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Department Superintendents:

Each superintendent will have charge of the department assigned and are subject to the Fairground's Board and Management. Each superintendent is charged with caring for exhibits in his or her department and receiving the judge's book and must see that the awards in each are duly entered therein. The superintendent and the judge must sign each book immediately upon completion of awards.

Trade Center Exhibits:

Needlework, Arts, Crafts & Hobbies, Photography, FFA, Commercial, 4-H, and School Exhibits.

Ag Building Exhibits:

Agriculture, Horticulture, Vegetables, Floral, and Foods are located on the lower level of the Ag Building.

Trade Center and Ag Building Hours:

- Wednesday, July 24 hours 11:00 am - 9:00 pm
- Thursday, July 25 hours 11:00 am - 9:00 pm
- Friday, July 26 hours 11:00 am - 9:00 pm
- Saturday, July 27 hours 11:00 am - 9:00 pm

Exhibit Entry:

To better serve you, the exhibitors, all exhibitor entry forms will now be available online through the CMTfair.com website. Online entry is strongly encouraged, with all departments asking that you enter online prior to bringing entries to the fairgrounds. Online entry will allow us to have all the paperwork completed prior to your arrival, thus speeding up the entry process.

Links to the Entry forms can be found at CMTfair.com, under the Fairbook link. Should an exhibitor be unable to enter online, paper entry forms will be available through the fairground office.

Premiums:

1st place-\$3.00, 2nd place-\$2.00, 3rd Place-\$1.00 (NO CHECKS)

Premium Pickup:

Premium money may be picked up during the fair under the Grandstands Thursday through Saturday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, or at the Trade Center Office 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Sunday through Thursday, August 1, 2024. No checks will be issued for regular premium payouts.

Exhibit Release:

All exhibits shall be checked out and released Sunday after the Fair from Noon to 3:00 pm or during the week following the fair from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm until August 1, 2024. The Fair will dispose of any remaining exhibits after that.

IMPORTANT: Exhibitors - be sure to bring your exhibitor's number when picking up your exhibits. IF PICKING UP ITEMS FOR SOMEONE ELSE, THIS MUST BE IN WRITING AND SIGNED BY THE OWNER OF THE ITEM.

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4-H Livestock:

4-H Livestock exhibits are located in the numerous buildings at the north end of the Fairgrounds.

Trailer Parking Policy:

Trucks, trailers, and livestock exhibitors are asked to enter at the Livestock entry gate. Each 4-H Club will be allotted a certain number of parking spaces around the Livestock Pavilion to be determined by the Livestock Superintendent and the 4-H Leaders. All others must park in the designated area east of the Livestock Pavilion.

Judges:

The Central Montana Fair uses the American or Competitive System of Judging, which compares the entry in each class to each other and selects a 1st (Blue), 2nd (Red), and 3rd (White), in each class. The judges are instructed to award in each instance only prizes of such grades as the merits of the individual animal or article justifies. The absence of competition will not be accepted as justification for awarding a high-class prize to an animal or article of medium or inferior quality.

The decisions of awarding judges shall be final, and no appeal will be considered, except in cases of protest. Any exhibitor attempting to interfere with the adjudications will be promptly excluded from the competition. Any exhibitor who publicly expresses disapproval in the judging area, or openly disagrees with the decision of the judges, or who by an act of interference, shall be guilty of conduct unbecoming an exhibitor, shall be excluded from further competition.

Protest: ***

Any exhibitor lodging a protest must make it in writing and it must be delivered to the superintendent within 24 hours after the judging or the cause of protest will not be considered valid. It must state plainly the cause of complaint and must be accompanied by a deposit of ten (\$10) dollars, which sum may, at the discretion of the Board, be forfeited to the Fergus County Fair if the protest is not substantiated. If the said protest is substantiated, the money will be forthwith returned to the protestant. This provision shall not preclude the right of any Superintendent or Judge to bring any cause of fraud by an exhibitor before the Board for their consideration. In this case, the Board reserves the right to act in the premises as fully and to the same extent as if an exhibitor had filed a formal protest.

So that we all can enjoy the Fair:

1. The Fergus County Fair Board reserves the right to change its' rules and regulations and to determine arbitrarily all matters and differences in regard thereto.
2. In the event of a conflict of general and special rules, the latter will govern.
3. Exhibit entry applications will be taken online CMTfair.com. If online is not available to applicants, fair entry blanks can be furnished by the Fairgrounds Office upon request.
4. Every animal and article upon the grounds shall be under the control of the Fergus County Fair Board and while every precaution will be taken for safe keeping of same, neither the Fair Board, its' officers nor agents will be responsible in any case of loss, damages or accident that may occur.
5. The Management reserves the right to prescribe the dimensions and regulate the position of all signs. The Management also reserves the right to direct the arrangement of articles on exhibit as necessary to secure harmony and an attractive appearance.

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6. In every contract made with the Fergus County Fair Board, these rules and regulations shall form a part thereof, as fully as if specifically incorporated therein.
7. Exhibitors must prepay all freight and express charges on goods delivered to the Fairgrounds. The Fergus County Fair Board will not, under any circumstances, accept shipments billed otherwise.
8. Solicitations on the grounds will not be allowed.
9. The Fergus County Sheriff's Department will be on hand to enforce the rules and regulations and to be of assistance.
10. Under no circumstances will any person be permitted to tack up posters, or advertisements, bills, or cards upon buildings, trees, or any place on the grounds, nor will anyone be permitted to distribute handbills, flyers, etc. Persons not willing to comply with this rule will be asked to leave the grounds.