

December 1, 2023

TO: Extension County Agents/Support Staff
FFA School Advisors
2023 MontanaFair Junior Livestock Exhibitors (outside of Yellowstone County)

FROM: Roni Baker 
Yellowstone County 4-H Extension Agent

RE: 2024 MontanaFair Junior Livestock Show

**Yellowstone County
Extension Office**

All of the information below may be changed at any time. This is the plan for now. We will keep you posted as changes may occur.

This letter is being sent to inform you of the dates to tag animals for the 2024 MontanaFair in Billings. The 2024 MontanaFair will be held August 9 - 17.

All exhibitors who are not Yellowstone County 4-H or FFA members are required to pay a \$35 fee per animal tagged for the MontanaFair. Fees will be due at tagging. Tagging fees are not refundable. Tagging fees are not MontanaFair entry fees. These funds will be used to support the MontanaFair Junior Livestock program.

All (non-Yellowstone County) sheep, beef, goat and swine market animal exhibitors can sell in the Junior Livestock Sale ONLY if they are in the top 5 in their class.

All individuals are required to bring their animals to PAYS (Public Auction Yards) in Billings on a specific date at a specific time. Those dates are listed below.

Beef Tagging – Sunday, January 7 in Billings, MT

12 PM to 3 PM at Public Auction Yards (PAYS)
1:00 - 2:30 pm - Animal Quality Assurance Class
3:00 - 4:00 pm - Horse Helmet Workshop

Swine/ Sheep/Goat Tagging – Saturday, May 4 in Billings, MT

8:00 - 11:00 am at Public Auction Yards (PAYS)
9:00 - 10:30 am - Animal Quality Assurance Class
11:00 am - 12:00 pm - Horse Helmet Workshop

Each exhibitor can tag three animals in each species. Exhibitors can enter all 3 in their entry, but at MontanaFair check-in they must decide which 2 animals they will be weighing and exhibiting. Each exhibitor at the MontanaFair can only sell one animal. Animals must be tagged specifically for the MontanaFair. A market animal tagged for the MontanaFair cannot be shown or sold at another 4-H or FFA Junior Livestock Show/County Fair. Open shows do not pertain to this rule.

If the weather causes a problem for you to get to Billings on the beef tagging date, please contact Roni Baker at the Extension Office (256-2828 or 698-6838) or Bill Cook

Montana State University,
U.S. Department of
Agriculture and Montana
Counties Cooperating.
MSU Extension is an
equal opportunity/
affirmative action provider of
educational outreach.

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Fax (406) 256-2825

Mountains & Minds

(406-670-0689). NO alternate date will be offered for beef, sheep, swine, and goat tagging.

A scale will be available to weigh your animal(s) at tagging time. Steers do not need to be halter broke to be weighed.

All exhibitors at the MontanaFair in Department A (livestock) are required to attend a MSU Extension Animal Quality Assurance Training prior to the fair entry deadline to be eligible to exhibit at the MontanaFair. Exhibitors must attend a session their first year as a beginner/junior and as a senior or the first year they exhibit. They must attend the 1½ hour training with a parent or legal guardian. A training session will be held on tagging day for those who can attend. You can also attend any of the other trainings that will be offered. Contact the Extension Office for detailed information. Several counties around the state are also offering this training. Members can attend a local training session with approval from the Extension Agent. MontanaFair exhibitors must attend the training prior to the fair entry deadline of June 28, 2024.

The Exhibitors Handbook will be online by the end of May. MontanaFair manages registration online at montanafair.com. MontanaFair's entry deadline for the 2024 MontanaFair is June 28, 2024, by 5:00 pm – no exceptions. Entries received after 5:00 pm on June 28, 2024, and before 5:00 pm on July 5, 2024, will incur a \$50 per exhibitor late fee. No late entries will be accepted without payment. Entries submitted after 5:00 pm on July 5, 2024, **will not** be accepted by MontanaFair. Tagging an animal for the MontanaFair does not enter it in the fair. You must also go online at montanafair.com and complete the entries.