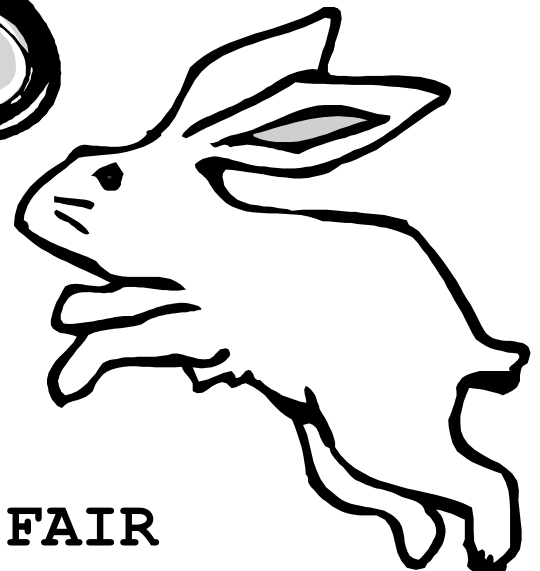
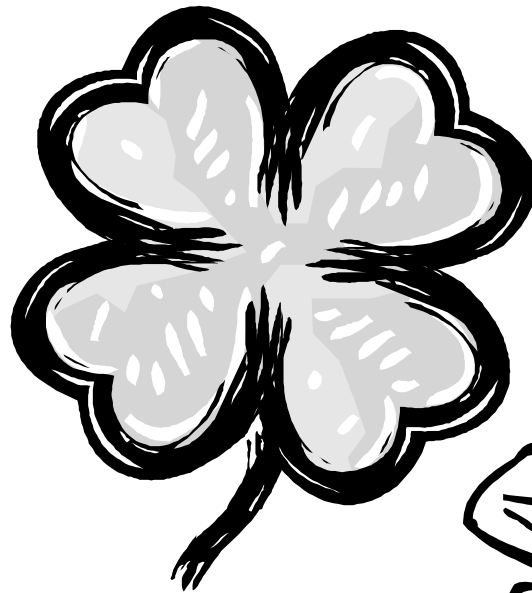
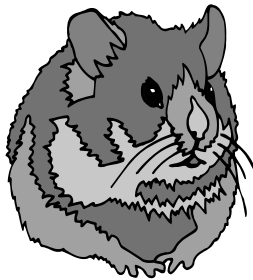


**Sussex County 4-H
Rabbit and Small Animal
Projects
2010 Members Exhibitor
Guide**



**2010 NJ STATE FAIR
Sussex County Farm and Horse
Show**

NJ State Fair
Sussex County Farm and Horse Show
RABBIT AND SMALL ANIMAL 4-H CLUBS
4-H Program Associate-Dave Foord: 973-948-3040
FRIDAY, August 6, 2010; FAIR OPENS AT 10:00AM
TO SUNDAY, AUGUST 15, 2010; CLOSSES AT 5:00PM

Club Leaders for 2010

BREEDERS AND FEEDERS

Bob Bennett	973 948-4963
Clara Bennett	973 948-4963
Bobbie Jo Bennett	973 948-4963
Judy Fontana	973 948-3861

ALL STAR RABBITS

Don Meisinger	973 383-6783
Donna Meisinger	973 383-6783
Nancy McNamee	973 383-9750
Cindy Eddy	973 702-2451
Joyce Manley	973 786-5158
Dennis Hullings	973 948-4330
Tara Dippel	973 876-0226

FOUR LEGGED FRIENDS

Colleen Perigo	862 268-0820
Camille Decker	973 579-2982
Jenn Durso	973 579-6889
Odessa Kise	862 222-6097

CUDDLY CRITTERS

Lynn Prtorich	973 827-4939
Sandie Koch	973 697-3456

WHISKERS AND SQUEALS

Diane Bocian	973 827-1170
Audrey Rosen	973 670-4117
Eileen Dignardi	908 368-7605
Nicole Bocian	973 255-9511

LITTLE CRITTERS

Melissa Teague	973 875-0660
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NIFTY LITTLE CRITTER

Joann Johnson	973 702-7912
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LITTLE POCKET PETS

Sharon Kouba	973 579-3428
Sandi Kately	973 300-0949
Tina Anecchiarico	973 579-7022

FURRY FRIENDS

Ann Sorensen	973 875-7858
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BUNNY BUNCH

Cathy Lawrick	973 827-7059
Becky Walker	973 827-4448
Lisa Fonseca	973 464-5426

Resource Leaders:

Allyson Hensley	973 534-3360
Ashley Meisinger	862 268-5887
Tara Dippel	973 876-0226
Tommy Cloughsey	862 268-5887
Jesse Vaughn	973 876-0226
Odessa Kise	862 222-6097
Danielle Vanherwynen	973 875-2719

Registration for the Show

1. **REGISTRATION FORMS**, along with code of conduct, must be filled out and signed by member and parent, and returned to your club leader by June 1st. **PROJECT BOOKS** must be turned in to your club leader by June 1st. The leaders will turn them in at the June Meeting. All entry forms will be collected at the leader's meeting in June. **NO ENTRIES ARE TO BE GIVEN TO THE FAIR OFFICE OR ACCEPTED LATE.** Anyone failing to meet the required date will not be allowed to show at the Fair.

2. There will be no changes to the registration form unless it is to substitute a rabbit of the same breed, sex and age. Leaders should be consulted if there is uncertainty in type, sex, color, etc., before the entry form is signed. Leaders will not be held responsible for errors on entry forms. **IF YOU SCRATCH A RABBIT AT REGISTRATION, YOU MUST SIGN THE ENTRY FORM TO SHOW THAT YOU UNDERSTAND THAT THIS RABBIT CANNOT BE SHOWN.** If you are uncertain as to whether to scratch a rabbit or not, wait until Sunday.

3. Each member may show a total of 10 project animals.

4. Each member **MUST** participate in Showmanship and the Skill-a-thon to receive cash premiums.

5. Each member will be limited to 2 cages. You may only leave 2 project animals for the week. Any project animals over this amount should be brought for the day of the show only. If you take 2 cages, you must keep those cages filled for the entire fair week. **All rabbits/cavy must remain all ten days of the fair.**

6. Project animals shown may include: rabbits (any breed including mixed), guinea pigs (cavy), gerbils, hamsters, mice, chinchillas and rats. All project animals to be shown at the fair must be included in your project book. All rabbits must be 12 weeks or older to be shown and cavy must be 9 weeks or older.

All rabbits must be born by **May 10th** to be eligible to be shown.

All Cavies must be born by **May 31st** to be eligible to be shown.

7. In addition, each member may enter 2 project animals in the costume contest.

Fair Admission:

Only 4-H members with entry forms and project books will be entitled to fair passes for admission. The cost for these is \$24 for a family of two parents and 4-H member(s) or \$12 for a family of one parent and 4-H member(s). You need to turn your money into the leader of your club, as your leader will pick up the badges for your club in July. Contact your leader as to the date he/she needs the money and when you will get the badges from your leader. After the fair, you will need to turn in your badge to your club leader. Leaders will return all badges to the fair office. Only one exhibitor parking pass will be given per family. Should you require an additional pass, it must be requested. If a member is not showing their animal, they must still fill out an entry form and participate in showmanship/skill-a-thon and turn it in with a completed project book to get fair passes.

If for some reason a 4-Her can not exhibit or show something from their project area, then they are expected to be actively involved in planning and implementing 4-H activities during the fair (such as but is not limited to: 4-H club booth display, 4-H Knowledge quest, AG Central Demonstration, the 4-H Prep Carnival, or the rabbit/small animal show) and **PARTICIPATE** in the showmanship and skillathon tests. Some examples of activities that **DO NOT** qualify a 4-Her for a weekly pass are: helping another 4-Her to prepare an animal for the show, helping another 4-Her to bring an animal to the fairgrounds, volunteering to check the food and water of the animal of another 4-Her.

Fair Set Up:

Barn power washing: Saturday July 31st at 8:00am – bring push brooms. If you have a power washer bring it along. Contact Donna Meisinger (973 383-6783) if you can help. The leaders & members will bleach cages before they are set-up. **WEAR OLD CLOTHES!**

Fair Cages Set-up: Saturday, July 31st at 7 pm. All members are expected to help set up cages.

SHOW ANIMAL CHECK IN:

According to the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, all members exhibiting poultry, rabbit, cavy and small animals must have a leader complete a state Health Form within 30 days before the 1st day of the fair. Contact your leaders to have them visit your home and complete this form.

ONLY club leaders will check in ALL SHOW ANIMALS. All animals must be checked by a leader for health before going into a cage or shown. At the following dates and times leaders will be checking in rabbits/cavy.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 5TH 7:00PM - 9:30PM

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6TH 8:00AM -10:00AM

**SHOWING AND PREP ANIMALS ONLY - SUNDAY AUGUST 8th
12-4 PM**

All animals coming for the show only must be checked in between 12-4 pm on Sunday, August 8th. The leaders will not be able to check in any rabbits/cavy after 4:00 pm, as we will be preparing for the show at that time. Members should have their animal(s) in proper carriers ready to go to the arena by 5:30 pm. Please remember that it may be very hot and cat-type carriers may cause your rabbit to get overheated.

Leaders will be checking to make sure your rabbit/cavy is healthy. If there is any question as to the health of your rabbit/cavy and two leaders decide that your rabbit/cavy cannot stay, it will have to be taken home immediately.

At check in, you will be given a coop number. This number must be placed in the right ear with permanent marker for identification and show purposes.

Cage ID Tags

Each cage will have a number and metal cage card holder. Please take the time to fill in the information card and place it in the holder. This tag will be placed on the back side of the cages which can be used if your rabbit/cavy is showing signs of stress or the owner needs to be contacted.

Food, Water and Feeding:

You will need to bring a food bowl and water bowl/bottle for each rabbit/cavy that you bring - this also includes your sale rabbits/cavy. You must supply feed for your rabbit/cavy, and you are in charge of making sure your rabbit/cavy is fed and watered daily before 10 am. If you cannot be there one day, it is your responsibility to make sure that someone else knows to feed your rabbit/cavy on that day. You may store feed for your rabbit/cavy under your cages. Animals with special watering needs must be labeled and water needs to be provided. Cages will be checked for cleanliness and leaders will be notified if cage is dirty!

On very hot days – Frozen Water Bottles should be changed 2x/day with special attention paid to the Lop-ear rabbits

Cleaning Cages:

Cages need to be cleaned every day before **10 am**. Dirty shavings need to be removed from the cages and taken by the club member to the dumping area at the end of the road. You may want to bring gloves or a dustpan for cleaning your cages. Sale rabbits/cavy must also be fed and changed by 10 am. Do not leave dirty shavings in boxes throughout the barn for someone else to clean up. All swept shavings are to be picked up and disposed of- **DO NOT SWEEP SHAVINGS OUT THE BARN DOORS!** Cages will be checked for cleanliness. and leaders will be notified if cage is dirty!

IMPORTANT Please note: Failure to comply with any of the rules covering the care of your animal[s] and upkeep of the barn during all ten days of the fair may result in the loss of privilege to keep animals at the fair. This will be at the discretion of the club leader and/or the small animal director.

Keeping the Exhibit Clean:

People like coming to our exhibit at the fair. Please keep it an attractive area. Do not leave garbage around the cages or behind the cages. Make sure that your sleeping bags, clothes, etc., are either in the car or under the cages by 10 am. Make sure that shavings are swept up in front of and behind your own cages, including sale cages. All swept shavings are to be picked up and disposed of- **DO NOT SWEEP SHAVINGS OUT THE BARN DOORS!**

THE RABBIT SHOW:

This year's show will be on **Sunday, August 8th** from 6 pm to 9 pm (approx. ending time) in the livestock show arena (not in the barn). Since we are following another event in the arena we hope to start our Show at 6 pm, but please bear with us if they do not finish on time and we are put behind schedule. There is no way that we will be able to start the show any sooner, no exceptions can be made to our start time. Judges are to be announced.

All project animals must be moved to the show arena in an appropriate carrier. **No project animal can be carried to the show arena in a member's arms.** This is not safe for the 4-H member or the animal. If you do not have the proper carrier, talk to your leader.

Please listen carefully for your class and have your animals at the show table on time. In the event that you are showing several breeds and two or more are called to the table at the same time, please arrange for another 4-H member to assist you. All Leaders and senior 4-Hers will be present to assist members in need. **Parents are not allowed in the show arena unless a leader gives permission.**

**** No Drinks or food are allowed in arena. Each club will make arrangements to keep members hydrated; however, if you miss your breed showing class time, it is the 4-Her's responsibility.****

At the end of the show all best of breed rabbits will be brought to the table for the best of show judging. Also, we will have special classes at the end of the show such as rabbit with most personality, longest ears, etc. Any member who has not received a trophy in the regular show will be eligible at the end of the show for our special classes. **All members must remain in the show arena until the show has been completed, unless permission is given to leave early.**

Remember good sportsmanship and GOOD LUCK!

BARN SITTING



NO FOOD OR DRINK IS PERMITTED IN THE BARN

Each exhibitor's family will be asked to spend some time tent sitting during their club's assigned day. Each club will be responsible for a day and night barn sitting shift during the fair week. Leaders of each club will assign shifts discussing the day, times, and duties of the members and families. An adult 21 years of age or older must be present at all times

BARN SITTING DUTIES:

All animals, sale and non-sale animals, need to have water checked every two hours. Animals with special water needs will be labeled. Do not feed any rabbits/cavy other than your own. Sweep floors if needed and make sure all personal items are hidden under cages and behind green skirting. Protect all animals from fair visitors. The hardest job is trying to keep people from poking at the rabbits/cavy and putting their fingers in the cages. NOTIFY A LEADER OF ANY SICK OR STRESSED ANIMALS IMMEDIATELY!!!!!!!

Selling of sale animals: Follow all instructions in the sale book and those instructions given to you by your club leader.

Make sure the tent-sitting logbook is completed before the end of your shift.

IF YOU SIGN UP TO TENT SIT, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO BE THERE ON TIME OR FIND A REPLACEMENT.

OVERNIGHT BARN SITTING

Each club must make arrangements for one leader or a parent to spend at least one night at the fair in the rabbit building. An adult staying cannot be a member of 4-H and must be at **least 21 years of age**. If a club member wants to spend the night, you must check with the adult in charge to see if you can stay and you must fill out and return a 4-H permission slip to that adult (get form at desk). That way we know that your parents know where you are and we can seek medical help in an emergency. For liability, Parents/adults should fill out an adult overnight volunteer form as well.

The adult in charge may determine who will be allowed to stay with them on the night that they have duty. All youth who do spend the night are expected to be in the rabbit barn by ten (unless other arrangements are made with the adult/parent spending the night). Adult staying overnight may not leave till 9 am the following day or when next shift tent sitter arrives.

Sale Animals and Equipment:

1. **Sale animal and equipment check in-** Leaders only may check in sale animals and equipment. **Sale animal and equipment can only be checked in between 5pm and 7pm each night UNLESS other arrangements with a leader are made.**
2. Only 4-H members can sell animals or equipment. Prep members are not eligible for selling. Only animals recorded in the project books can be sold.
3. Anyone who sells animals and equipment must barn sit a minimum of 4 hours.

4. Rabbits must be at least 12 weeks old and must be born by May 10th of the current year to be sold. Cavies must be at least 9 weeks old and born by May 31st to be sold. If two leaders feel that your animal(s) are unsuitable to be sold, you must take it home.
5. Animals can only be sold in the sale area. NO animals can be sold from the exhibit area.
6. Only 5 animals can be sold at a time with a maximum of 20 animals total during the fair week per member.
7. Three copies of proper paperwork with your leader's signatures, food in a labeled zip-lock bag must be provided at the sale animal check in.
8. Mice and Hamsters must supply their own cage and carrier box.
9. No checks will be taken for sold animals or equipment. CASH ONLY!

Sale Prices: (Maximum)
Rabbits with pedigrees-----\$40.00
Rabbits without pedigrees----\$25.00
Cavies with or without pedigrees----\$20.00
Hamsters, Rats and Gerbils---\$10:00
Mice---\$7.00

****Special Note: A \$2.00 fee per rabbit and \$1.00 fee per cavy and small animal will be taken from the total sale price of each animal or equipment item sold.**

****In addition, a 10% (of the total sale price) fee may be taken as well by the NJ State Fair/ Sussex County Farm and Horse Show for each animal/item sold.****

*****Money from sales can only be picked up at the end of the fair week at completion of cage clean up. The fee and the possible 10% will be taken out and a check of the corrected amount will be given to only that member who sold animals/items. A parent must accompany the member when the money is picked up. Money will be signed for at the time of pick up.**

Showmanship and Skill-a-thon Questionnaire:

All 4-H members showing their animals must participate in Showmanship and Skill-a-thon Questionnaire in order to receive premiums. Levels will be determined by your years of membership. Judges will use the Danish system for awarding of ribbons. Prep members can also participate in Showmanship if they would like to. The sooner you start and the more practice you get, the better you will be.

Showmanship & Skill-a-thon will be in Barn 1 at the Fairgrounds

SKILL-A-THON & SHOWMANSHIP DATES & TIMES:

 **July 17th - 6:00pm to 8pm**

 **July 18th - 6:00pm to 8pm**

Any questions or concerns, call Tara Dippel at 973 876-0226

Taking Rabbits Home:

You may take your rabbit/cavy home on Sunday, August 15th at **5 pm at the end of the fair**. If your rabbit/cavy is showing signs of stress (i.e. eating poorly or acting strangely), speak to a leader about taking that animal home, as their health is important. If a leader decides that one of your animals is showing signs of stress or is ill, you will need to take that animal home that day.

Clean-Up:

Cages will be taken down and the area cleaned and swept on Sunday August 15th beginning at **5 pm**. Bring a scraper and/or a broom. All members are required to help.

FUN ACTIVITIES DURING THE FAIR WEEK:

Watch for dates and more details from your leaders!

Show-Deo: This fun activity is held on **Friday, August 6th at 7:00pm** in the livestock arena. The games include hay bale jumping, tug-of-war, relay races and more. If you want to be part of the fun, be at the Livestock Pavilion by 7:00pm. Prep members are welcome to participate in the Show-Deo.

Prep Carnival: Fun for all of our future 4-Hers. Games, activities and much more for all prep members will be on **Wednesday, August 11th at 6:00pm** in livestock arena. Any questions can be directed to Cathy Lawrick @ 973-827-7059.

Costume Contest: On **Friday, August 13th at 7:30 pm** in the Main Arena, there will be a small animal dress up contest. Put your thinking caps on and come up with a theme for your project animal to portray. The limit is 2 project animals per member. Remember to write **FUN** in section breed on the entry form and put your name on the list at the fair. This is in addition to the 10 animals that you are allowed to show in the regular show. A leader must check in these animals as well.

Contact Colleen Perigo for details or questions.

Knowledge Quest: Dates will be announced and will be held in the Ag Central Tent. Each club is required to plan an interactive, “hands-on”, fun activity that the general public can participate in.

Round Robin: Test your knowledge about all types of livestock and other 4-H programs. Round Robin will be in the livestock arena. Date & Time to be announced

Livestock Food Booth: Contact Cece Pattison @ **973-383-4109** if your club is interested.

We are looking forward to a really great year. With your help and cooperation this will be possible. If you have any questions, please call your leader.

Thank you,
The 4-H Rabbit and Small Animal Leaders