



TOWN AND COUNTRY INNOVATION SHOW Exhibitor Handbook



PO Box 527 • 800 West 18th Street • Spencer, IA 51301
Phone: (712) 580-3000
www.claycountyfair.com • competition@claycountyfair.com

The Clay County Fair is “The World’s Greatest County Fair” by presenting blue-ribbon competition, world-class entertainment and innovative exhibits in a safe family atmosphere, while also providing year-round facilities for entertainment and events.

CLAY COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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Dennis Larson – Treasurer
Jerome Hertel – Secretary/CEO/Manager
Kathy Anderson
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Greg Lear
VerDon Schmidt
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Term Ending 2025: Jeff Bohnenkamp, Joanne Follon, Marcia Langner, Dennis Larson, Greg Lear, Mark Rees, Karen Schwaller, Joe Simington, Kevin Tlam

PLEASE NOTE!

***All open class entries are now accepted ONLINE.
Visit www.claycountyfair.com to make your entries.
If you do not have internet access, please visit or call the Fair
Administrative Offices to request a paper entry form.***

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS
CLAY COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION, INC.
POLICY F-6
NON-LIVESTOCK COMPETITION

- F-6.1** The Clay County Fair management reserves to its Executive Committee the final and absolute right to interpret these rules and regulations and arbitrarily settle and determine all matters, questions and differences in regard hereto, or otherwise arising out of, connected with, or incident to the Fair. (4/17/12)
- F-6.2.** Any person who violates any of the following special rules will forfeit all privileges and premiums and be subject to such penalty as the Fair may order. (4/17/12)
- F-6.3.** The Fair will not be responsible for loss or damage to or of exhibits, or to the property of exhibitors or concessions operators. (4/17/12)
- F-6.4.** No roving, vending, or soliciting by either a profit or non-profit organization, or on his own behalf, shall be permitted on the Clay County Fairgrounds or parking lots. All solicitations for either contributions or sale must be made from within the confines of a booth or display area as authorized by a duly executed contract. (4/17/12)
- F-6.5.** No dogs, cats, or other pets shall be permitted on the Clay County Fairgrounds during the Clay County Fair. The only exceptions are assistance dogs that are properly identified, or any pet that is part of an attraction, exhibit, or demonstration. Pets are permitted in designated campground areas. Pets must be on a leash or contained in living quarters, trailers, etc. Failure to comply shall result in expulsion from the fairgrounds. (4/17/12)
- F-6.6.** All applications for entries must be made in accordance with guidelines found in the appropriate department exhibitor handbook. The Clay County Fair reserves the right to accept or reject any entry offered. (2/20/18)
- F-6.7.** Exhibitors must comply with individual department entry deadlines and other departmental rules. All exhibits, except those specified, must remain in place until 6:00 p.m. on the last Sunday of the Fair. Exhibitors in departments where entry tags are used must present claim tickets for return of their goods to the superintendents or their assistants in the department in which the exhibit is shown. Under no circumstances will exhibitors be permitted access to the display cases where exhibits are shown. (2/19/19)
- F-6.8.** Exhibitor questions on premium amounts or ribbon placing must be received on or before October 15, or no adjustments or corrections will be able to be made. Premium checks will be issued after that date. There will be no reissuing of lost premium checks, and premium checks that are issued will become void after 45 days. All awards, ribbons, and exhibits not picked up at the Fair Administrative Offices by October 15 will be forfeited and become property of the Clay County Fair. (2/20/18)

- F-6.9.** The Fair will use diligence to insure the safety of articles entered for exhibition, after their arrival and placement, but under no circumstances will it be responsible for loss, injury, or damage done to, or occasioned by, or arising from any articles on exhibition. The exhibitor shall indemnify the Fair thereof against all legal or other proceedings in regard thereto. (2/19/19)
- F-6.10.** Articles entered for premiums which are the result of mechanical or artistic skill must be entered by the artist, inventor, manufacturer, maker, or authorized agent. (4/17/12)
- F-6.11.** In case of protest of an article or exhibit, notice must be given the superintendent of the department during the day of examination of the article protested, and a written statement giving the reasons for protesting, verified by affidavit, with names of witnesses, must be filed with the Fair. (4/17/12)
- F-6.12.** The right of an exhibitor to appeal from the decision of a judge to the Fair will lie only when it is charged that the award has been made in violation of the rules governing the exhibit; or when it is charged that the decision of the judge has been influenced or interfered with by another. (4/17/12)
- F-6.13.** A Clay County Fair department superintendent may not make a competitive entry directly or indirectly in a department over which that person has supervisory responsibility. (4/17/12)
- F-6.14.** All questions of dispute or differences not provided for under these rules shall be referred to the Executive Committee whose decision shall be final. (4/17/12)

<u>IMPORTANT DATES and TIMES – TOWN & COUNTRY INNOVATION SHOW</u>	
August 21	Deadline for Pre-registration entries (NEW 2023!!)
September 7	Entries received (4-6pm or by appointment) – Commercial Exhibits Bldg.
September 7	Judging (6:00pm)
September 9-17	CLAY COUNTY FAIR
September 17	Entries released (6:30pm-8:00pm)
October 15	Exhibitor questions on premium amounts or ribbon placing must be received on or before this date or no adjustments or corrections will be made. Premium checks will be issued after this date.
	Deadline for picking up entries

Superintendent

Karen Schwaller

(712) 330-2445 or (712) 338-4963

Committee Members: Terry Gano, Art Hamrick, Brad Behrens,
Leo Behrens, Dave Schwaller

1. Pre-registration is encouraged, but not mandatory. To pre-register, enter online at www.claycountyfair.com by **August 21 NEW FOR 2023!!** or complete appropriate forms. Forms are available at the Clay County Fair Administrative Offices. Mail, email or bring your completed entry form to: Clay County Fair, PO Box 527, 800 West 18th Street, Spencer, Iowa 51301, or email to competition@claycountyfair.com. No entry fee is required. Entries are open to anyone from any county or state. Use a separate entry form for each department in which you are entering at the Fair. **Entry tags for those exhibitors who pre-enter will be available at the department during entry days, they will not be mailed out.**
2. Entries will be **received on Thursday, September 7 from 4:00pm to 6:00pm** or by appointment with the superintendent. The Town and Country Innovation Show is located in the **Commercial Exhibits Building**. **Judging** will begin at 6:00pm that (Thursday) evening.
3. All entries, when received, must be accompanied by a written description of the project, its intended use and safety qualities (cost of the project and time spent on the project – optional). The written description **must** be laminated or protected in plastic.
4. Photos of entries will be accepted FOR DISPLAY PURPOSES with appropriate written description; however, those entries will not be eligible for premiums.
5. Entries judged on workmanship, design, usefulness, appearance, safety, and creative use of resources.
6. Placement of exhibits in “small exhibit” or “large exhibit” categories will be at the discretion of the judges.
7. Depending on size of exhibit, some entries may be displayed outside. The Clay County Fair will not be responsible for loss or damage to projects exhibited.
8. Save the claim checks and present them when calling for exhibits at the close of the fair. Exhibits will be released on Sunday, September 17 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. No early releases are permitted.
9. Exhibitor questions on premium amounts or ribbon placing must be received on or before October 15, or no adjustments or corrections will be able to be made. **Premium checks will be issued after that date.**
10. Cash premiums will be awarded to the top three places in each class. There will be ONE overall “Best Safety Award” and ONE overall “Creative Use of Resources Award” to the entry judged to have the best safety or creative features.

TOWN AND COUNTRY INNOVATION SHOW

The Town and Country Innovation show celebrates innovation and creative inventions from people of all walks of life and any age. It's a showcase for creations using new materials, or creations made of recycled materials found in iron and metal piles, wood piles and other kinds of materials that have been previously used. *Whether the inventions are small – or large enough to be pulled onto the fairgrounds – it will be a great collection of ideas from all kinds of people!*

INNOVATION SHOW

DIVISION 10– ADULTS (18 & UP) – USEABLE FARM AND HOME PROJECT

CLASS	BLUE	RED	WHITE
1. Open Class Adult – Small Exhibit	100.00	50.00	25.00
2. Open Class Adult – Large Exhibit	100.00	50.00	25.00
Best Safety Award			
Creative Use of Resources			

DIVISION 11 – YOUTH (17 & UNDER) – USEABLE FARM AND HOME PROJECT

CLASS	BLUE	RED	WHITE
1. Open Class Youth – Small Exhibit	100.00	50.00	25.00
2. Open Class Youth- Large Exhibit	100.00	50.00	25.00
Best Safety Award			
Creative Use of Resources			

DIVISION 12 – ADULTS (18 & UP) – REPURPOSED PROJECTS

CLASS	BLUE	RED	WHITE
1. Open Class Adult – Small Exhibit	70.00	40.00	20.00
2. Open Class Adult – Large Exhibit	70.00	40.00	20.00
Creative Use of Resources			

DIVISION 13 – YOUTH (17 & UNDER) – REPURPOSED PROJECTS

CLASS	BLUE	RED	WHITE
1. Open Class Youth – Small Exhibit	70.00	40.00	20.00
2. Open Class Youth – Large Exhibit	70.00	40.00	20.00
Creative Use of Resources			

Repurposed Projects can be described as: “Exhibits using materials found around rural or urban locations that can be used for the creation of decorative displays, or to create repurposed yard or home displays. (i.e.: decorative yard ornaments made from scrap metals, woods, plastics, etc.; repurposed items – turning something with one specific purpose into something totally different, etc.). There will be no limit on size for these items. Entries will be judged on ingenuity, creativity, creative use of resources and overall appearance.

“BUCKET OF JUNK CHALLENGE”

ADULT (Ages 18 and up) and YOUTH (Ages 8-17) DIVISIONS

The Town and Country Innovation show invites fair goers to let their creative juices run wild – to create something out of a bucket of “junk.” (Items with which to create or sculpt can be items that are found lying around the grove, discarded piles, garages, storage areas, etc., including recycled materials, wood, metal, fiberglass, plastics, hardware, etc., anything that could be considered ‘junk’.)

All items used to create an entry in the ADULT division and YOUTH division MUST fit inside a 5-gallon bucket. Entrant must provide the 5-gallon bucket and the junk. **Limit of 1 entry per person**. Entries will be judged on workmanship, design, appearance, and creative use of resources. AT LEAST 75% of the items in the bucket of junk must be used to make the creation. Extra pieces may be added in order to create the sculpture of your vision. Photo **MUST** be taken of the contents of the bucket so judges can find them on the project.

All items on the creation may be cleaned, sanded, welded, cut, bolted, fastened, bent, shaped, or finished in any manner the sculptor desires. Painting of projects will be permitted but is not required. Judge’s decision is final.

BEGINNERS DIVISION

The Town and Country Innovation Show would like to encourage participation of people of all ages, especially our very young innovators and fairgoers. All items used to create an entry **MUST** fit inside a bucket no larger than a 5-quart ice cream pail. Entrant must provide the ice cream pail and the junk. **Limit of 1 entry per person**. Entries will be judged on workmanship, design, appearance and creativity. **AT LEAST** 75% of the items in the bucket of junk must be used to make the creation. Extra pieces may be added in order to create the sculpture of your vision (adornments, etc.). Photo **MUST** be taken of the contents of the bucket so judges can find them on the project. *We look forward to seeing what our youngest minds can create out of junk!*

DIVISION 14– ADULTS (18 & UP)

CLASS	BLUE	RED	WHITE
1. Open Class Adult	50.00	25.00	10.00

DIVISION 15 – YOUTH (AGES 8 TO 17)

CLASS	BLUE	RED	WHITE
1. Open Class Youth	50.00	25.00	10.00

DIVISION 16 – BEGINNER (AGES 5 – 7)

CLASS	BLUE	RED	WHITE
1. Open Class Beginner	20.00	10.00	5.00

