

## Care of Animals at County Fair

Animals must be cared for while at the fairgrounds. All 4-Hers must leave a contact number on their stall card. Care includes the following: Water, Feed / Hay, and Stall Cleaning

Failure to properly care for your animal is against Hendricks County 4-H policy. As stated in the Hendricks County 4-H Handbook

*Exhibition of 4-H projects in local, county or state exhibits/fairs is considered a privilege and is voluntary on the part of the exhibitor. . . With the privilege of exhibition also comes the responsibility for abiding by all of the terms and conditions pertaining to the respective 4-H project. Not following the established terms and conditions of the projects will be grounds for exclusion from the competition/exhibition of the project itself. (p. 6)*

*Fraud deception, any prohibited activities or general or departmental rules, or any activity determined to be improper or unethical by the 4-H Fairboard or 4-H Youth Council, a 4-H Fair Director and/or the 4-H Youth Educator shall not be allowed. Any exhibitor found in violation is subject to sanctions and/or disqualifications. (p. 42)*

If you are going to be away from your animal such that care may need to be given, you are responsible for telling the barn manager or an adult leader about your absence as well as what alternative plans you have made for care of that animal. **THE 4-H MEMBER EXHIBITING THE PROJECT HAS THE ULTIMATE RESPONSIBILITY!!**

Example: Susie Senior shows both Western and English days. She has to work on Tuesday so can't come in the morning to water and feed her horse or clean the stall.

Solution: Susie should talk to another 4-Her and ask for help. Then she should talk to the Barn Manager or one of the adult leaders and communicate the situation and what she has worked out. If she cannot find someone to help, she should still talk to the Barn Manager or an adult leader to work it out.

If in the opinion of the Barn Manager or an adult leader, an animal is not being cared for properly, the following procedure will be followed:

1. The individual observing the care will contact the Bridle Bunch Leader.
2. The Bridle Bunch Leader will check and attempt to call the number listed on the stall.
3. The 4-H member will have 1 hour to correct the situation.
4. If the situation is not corrected within 1 hour or the Bridle Bunch Leader is unable to make personal contact with the emergency contact and the care is not proper, she will contact Horse & Pony Committee President and either a 4-H Fair Director, a 4-H Fairboard member or the 4-H Youth Educator.
5. The 4-H Official will check the situation and determine if a breach has occurred. Sanctions will be decided by the 4-H Official with the input from the Bridle Bunch Leader and the Horse & Pony Committee President.

Sanctions can include loss of State Fair eligibility, disqualification to participate in additional county fair classes and/or forfeiture of awards.