

Descriptions, Activities, Scholarships, and Grants

The Whatcom County Youth Fair is a two-day learning fair. It is not necessary to belong to any club or organization, or to own an animal, but it is advisable to bring your own. Listed below are brief descriptions of each division. The division superintendents will contact you after your entry is received to inform you of what, if anything, to bring to the fair.

Alpaca/Llama: Learn how to handle your animal, practice going through an obstacle course, and learn to show in the 4-H way. Learn public relations, packing techniques, general health care, and lots more!

Beef: You will attend a clipping clinic, a Fit & Show clinic, followed by hands on practice. After clinics & practice, you will show your animal in the ring. Animals must be at least three months of age, no horns, and clean but preferably not clipped. **A Grant is Available** from Whatcom County Cattleman's for the purchase of a Beef animal. Contact Chris Paul at (360)366-3144 for more information.

Cats: The cat schedule includes getting to know each other, and decorating cages. Following this you will learn how to prepare your cat for show, then practice fitting & showing. Other activities may be a poster making contest, cat safety, and first aid. Cat exhibitors must present proof of vaccinations from a licensed veterinarian for: Panleukopenia, feline rhinotracheitis, calici viruses, a combination shot, and feline leukemia.

Cavies: You will learn about different breed characteristics, care, housing needs, health care as well as a Type and Fit & Show class.

Chess: You will enhance, strengthen, or learn about the Game of Kings. We will teach all skill levels, from beginners just getting started, to advanced levels, from game set up to notation in a chess tournament. Your skills will be tested with a mini chess tournament. FUN!

Country Crafts/Horticulture: If you enjoy exploring new craft projects and want to learn about seeds, plants, gardens, and do crafts with a country motif, come join this division.

Dairy: For novice to advanced dairy show-person, the division has classes on clipping, showing and judging. There will also be other fun and educational classes as well as Fit & Show and Type classes.

Dogs: This will be a busy two days of obedience and sociability training along with several dog demonstrations and a talk by a local veterinarian. All dogs must be at least six months old, have a rabies certificate dated within 36 months, and be current on all vaccinations to include Parvo and kennel cough. Please bring proof with each dog.

Entrepreneurship: Would you like to start your own business? Here is a chance to learn about the whole process: marketing, bookkeeping, etc. You will have an area to set up a booth to sell your product or service.

Goats: In the goat division, (pygmy, dairy, other) you will learn about proper care, grooming and hoof trimming. There will also be a Fit & Show clinic and contest. All goats (wethers exempt) will be required to have scrapies ID (ear tag or tattoo) with flock number. Call Tonya Matter (360)296-5087 for more information.

Homemaking: Have fun learning Homemaking skills including: sewing, cooking, place setting, and we eat! Other projects may be included. Age Requirement of 8 years and older.

Horse: Two busy days of Horse related activities. You will learn tack care, judging, practice groom squad, basic vet care, and Fitting and Showing at halter class. Please do not bring your own horse. For the safety of the exhibitors, quiet horses are provided for the youth. No riding. Used tack will be for sale in the horse division area.

Knitting: Here's your opportunity to learn the basics of knitting. Create a variety of fabrics using different yarns and needles. You will learn to do the knit & purl stitch, cast on, bind off, more advanced techniques for advanced knitters and go home with at least one small useful project and sample swatches. Equipment will be provided.

Lawn Mower Pull: Bring a riding lawnmower if possible and learn the ins and outs of tractor sled pulling, rules & regulations, how to keep your mower running and how to have fun competing with your mower.

****Leadership Skills: New this year!** Sharing the community of Youth Fair. This workshop has you build your own meeting skills resource book to help you throughout life. It will entail learning speaking, listening, and meeting skills, while learning skills for life; you will develop an action plan to make an improvement where you live today. Age requirement of 13-18 years old.

Photography: Introduction to camera basics. We will have Guest speakers who work in the photography field, a photo scavenger hunt & photo judging. You will have fun learning how to take better pictures and express your creativity. A digital camera will be needed.

Posters & Charts: All entrants to the Youth Fair are encouraged to enter posters in the Poster Division. The posters will be displayed throughout the barns and serve as educational material for WCYF visitors. All posters will be judged and receive constructive comments. See the general rules for poster and display requirements to enter posters at the NWWF.

Continued on next page

Poultry: Basic instruction on healthcare, identification, and raising of quality poultry will be covered. Learn how to select and order poultry along with equipment and nutrition needs. You will attend a Fit & Show clinic; get hands on experience, then wrap up day two with a Type and Fit & Show class.

Rabbits: We will learn about rabbits through workshops, contests, crafts and games. Participants will be more prepared for all the fairs, and more knowledge about rabbit care. There will also be a costume, Fit & Show, and jumping center. Bring your own solid bottom cage.

Rodeo: Introduction to Jr. Rodeo and its events. Also learn to throw a rope, and the basics of riding a bucking barrel. There will also be demonstrations of horse events, pole bending, barrel racing, and other fun competitive activities.

Round Robin, Large Animal: The Round Robin clinic is designed for the experienced showman. Friday you will fine tune your showmanship in the Horse, Dairy, Beef, Sheep, & Goat Divisions. That afternoon you will compete in a Round Robin Showmanship Contest. Saturday you will finish the fair with a division of your choice. Please mark that division as well, so we know what division you are attending Saturday.

Sheep: This is a hands-on learning environment, instructing youth on feeding, training and showing. We will work on following trends of the show industry. Our department is obligated to abide by federal regulations with regards to official identification (scrapie tags) of all sheep, except castrated males (wethers) and those going directly to process channels. For any questions regarding the federal program, please call (360)902-1878.

Swine: You will attend a Fit & Show and Type clinic, followed by hands on practice. You will also learn about different breeds and how to select a market animal. Please bring an animal if possible! We require erysipelas vaccinations for all swine.

Teen Leaders/Teen Management: If you enjoy working with people and animals, you will enjoy being a Youth Fair Teen Leader/Manager. Teen Managers serve as hosts and guides to exhibitors and parents, and help manage between the office and the divisions. Teen Leaders will be working with "Supers" in a specific division as hands on instructor coaches, and organizers of that division. Teen Leaders & Managers are an essential role in making youth fair possible. That is what makes this fair great!!! (Age Requirement of 13 years old for Teen Leaders. Teen Management must have served one year as a Teen Leader and be approved by Youth Fair Manager.)

Woolcrafts: Fleece from animal to project. Learn the techniques of carding, drop spindle, hand spinning with spinning wheels, and dyeing wool in the Woolcrafts division. Equipment will be provided.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Project Animal Consignment Auction & Silent Auction: These two auctions are held during the Youth Fair. Funds from these auctions go to the scholarship and grant funds, which are available to the youth to help with higher education or acquiring a project animal through this auction, and into the general fund. See entry form for the forms to apply for these grants or scholarships which are due by April 1, 2018. If you, or your business would like to donate items, products, services or animals to be auctioned during either of these events, please contact the **Silent Auction Super (Jeff & Kathy Peterson (360)739-2384)** or the **Project Animal Super (Kathy Bronkema (360)966-7517)**

Livestock Judging Contest: This is an official judging contest for our county! If you are a regular livestock judging contestant or are new to the experience, you are welcome! We will be judging beef, sheep, swine and goats (if available) Saturday morning. Meet at 8:00AM in the Light Horse barn arena.

Awards Ceremony: All exhibitors and adults should plan on attending the awards ceremony Saturday afternoon. Many awards will be given, including the Rich Waldemar and Bob Veenstra Inspirational Awards, Best Division Award, top youth awards and recognition of the many volunteers who make the youth fair work.

Hanging Basket Sale: Help support the Youth Fair by buying a beautiful hanging basket from VanWingerden Greenhouses. See order information on entry form. Baskets should be picked up by 1:00 PM Saturday. For Group orders contact **Tina Harmer (360)312-9412**.

SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS:

Jay Paul Scholarship: The Jay Paul scholarship is open to Whatcom County High School Seniors or college students for studies in an agriculture related field. This can be a tech school, community college, or a 4 year program. Applicants must have been a Youth Fair participant, a Teen Leader or a Teen Super.

Mark Stap Scholarship: The Mark Stap scholarship is open to all High School seniors going to college. They must have been a participant in the Youth Fair for 5 years or more, with at least one of those years as a Teen Leader or Superintendent. Applicants do **not** have to be a Whatcom County resident.

Mark Stap Animal Grant: This is a grant to help a youth fair participant to purchase a project animal to raise for a project.

Non-Animal Project Grant: This is a grant to help a youth fair participant to purchase a non-animal item to support a project i.e....spinning wheel, camera, loom, and sewing machine.