

**4-H Companion Animal Day**  
**Friday, July 31, 2009, 10:00 a.m.**  
**Youth Discovery Center**  
**Entry Deadline: July 11 postmark**

Refer to the following website for Ohio 4-H Companion Animal information:

[http://southcenters.osu.edu/4h/sm\\_animal](http://southcenters.osu.edu/4h/sm_animal)

<http://4hcompanionanimals.osu.edu>

### **General Rules**

#### ***Age of Participants***

1. Participation is open to boys and girls ages 8 and in the third grade as of January 1, 2009. The last year of eligibility, or participation, in 4-H is the year in which the individual turns 19.

#### ***Companion Animal Day Participation***

1. Participants can be enrolled in companion animal projects through any type of 4-H membership (i.e. community club, school enrichment, special emphasis, etc.) and through FFA.
2. Any youth enrolled in one or more of the following Companion Animal projects may enter Companion Animal Day without being judged at the county level: *Cat 1 – Purrr-fect Pals*, Project No. 216; *Cat 2 – Climbing Up*, Project No. 217; *Cat 3 – Cat Connections*, Project No. 218; *Guinea Pigs*, Project No.215; *Pet Rabbits*, Project No. 227; *Small Animals*, Project No. 220, and *Reptiles and Amphibians Idea Starter*, No. 365.13.
3. Any youth enrolled in a Self-Determined Project taking a companion animal not listed as a project in Participation Rule 2, such as caged birds, pot-bellied pigs, hermit crabs, etc., may enter Companion Animal Day without being judged at the county level.
4. Participants may have a maximum of one entry in each of the Companion Animal projects listed above in Participation Rules 2 and 3, *with the exception of Small Animals, Project No. 220 and Reptiles and Amphibians*. For those two projects, participants *may enter two animals* provided they are *different species*. (For example, youth taking the Small Animals Project may enter a mouse and a chinchilla, or a ferret and gerbil, etc; and youth taking the Reptiles and Amphibians Project may enter a turtle and snake, or a frog and lizard, etc.)
5. For the *Small Animals*, Project No. 220, only the seven Small Animals represented in that project will be permitted to be shown, which are mice, rats, hamsters, gerbils, chinchillas, ferrets, and hedgehogs.
6. Youth taking other companion animals must be enrolled in the Self-Determined Project.
7. Youth winning clock trophies may repeat the same project each year provided age and project eligibility rules are followed.

#### ***Entry Procedure***

1. Youth must enter by completing the *2009 Ohio State Fair Companion Animal Day Entry Form* and mail entries directly to the Ohio State Fair Entry Department. **All entries must bear a postage stamp and be postmarked no later than July 11, 2009.**
2. Entry fees are \$4.00 per companion animal entered.
3. Classes for each project will be divided into Junior (age 13 or under as of January 1, 2009) and Senior (age 14 or over as of January 1, 2009) age divisions.

### ***Ownership, Age and Health Requirements of Animals***

1. All Companion Animals must be in the continual care of the junior fair exhibitor on or before May 1, 2009. Therefore, all entries, except cats, must be a minimum of 12 weeks old by August 1.
2. Cats must be a minimum of 15 weeks old by July 31, 2009. Kittens less than 15 weeks old are not permitted on the Fairgrounds.
3. Cats must be immunized against Feline Panleukopenia (FPL), Feline Viral Rhinotracheitis (FVR), Feline Calcivirus (FCV), and Rabies. All vaccinations must be **current through July 31, 2009**, and given by a licensed, accredited veterinarian. Proof of vaccinations must be on the *2009 Ohio State Fair Junior Fair Companion Animal Day Certificate of Vaccination for Cats and Ferrets*, and signed by a licensed, accredited veterinarian.
4. Ferrets must be immunized against Rabies and Canine Distemper. All vaccinations must be **current through July 31, 2009**, and given by a licensed, accredited veterinarian. Proof of vaccinations must be on the *2009 Ohio State Fair Junior Fair Companion Animal Day Certificate of Vaccination for Cats and Ferrets* and signed by a licensed, accredited veterinarian.
5. Any companion animal taken through the Self-Determined Project must meet the health requirements of the Ohio State Fair for that species. Applicable health certificates, signed by a licensed, accredited veterinarian, must be presented at registration.
6. Any animal exhibiting abnormalities or symptoms of sickness, disease, or parasite infestation will be eliminated from the show and must be removed from the Fairgrounds. If an animal is under veterinary care for a health condition that is not infectious or contagious, the exhibitor must bring a health certificate from the attending veterinarian verifying the condition and treatment. Decision of show personnel is final.

### ***Evaluation***

1. Participants will have a personal interview evaluation with at least one judge.
2. The judge(s) will evaluate participants on the following basis (refer to Ohio State Fair Companion Animal Day Evaluation Form found at <http://4hcompanionanimals.osu.edu>): Knowledge of Project – 45 pts; Skillathon Station Knowledge – 5 pts; Interview – 20 pts, and Exhibit – 30 pts. Sample score sheets can be found on the website.
3. Each youth will participate in one skillathon station respective to his/her project.

### ***Participant to Bring***

1. Animal and adequate cage and accessories;
  - Cats and ferrets must wear a harness, as well as an attached leash, during activities out of their cages. Other animals must be appropriately harnessed or caged.
2. Health certificates for cats and ferrets, and applicable Self-Determined Project animals;
3. Completed project book (if applicable); completed project records; and
4. Educational display, such as pictures, scrapbook, or poster.

### *Classes*

J-1	Cat 1 – Junior	J-9	Pet Rabbits - Junior
J-2	Cat 1 – Senior	J-10	Pet Rabbits - Senior
J-3	Cat 2 – Junior	J-11	Small Animal - Junior
J-4	Cat 2 – Senior	J-12	Small Animal – Senior
J-5	Cat 3 – Junior	J-13	Reptiles & Amphibians - Junior
J-6	Cat 3 – Senior	J-14	Reptiles & Amphibians - Senior
J-7	Guinea Pigs - Junior	J-15	Self-Determined - Junior
J-8	Guinea Pigs – Senior	J-16	Self-Determined - Senior

### *Showmanship*

Junior and Senior Showmanship classes will be offered for the following projects: Cats, Guinea Pigs, and Pet Rabbits. Awards will be given in each class.

### *Decorated Cage Contest*

A decorated cage contest will be held for all Companion Animal Day participants. This contest is optional. Awards will be presented in species and age divisions. Cages will be provided to use for this contest. The decorated cage contest is optional for all exhibitors.

### *Judging Schedule*

The schedule for judging will be determined after receiving entries.

### *Awards*

1. All participants will receive participation ribbons sponsored by **The Ohio State Fair**.
2. “Outstanding of the Day” rosettes, sponsored by **The Ohio State Fair**, will be awarded to participants scoring 90% or higher.
3. A clock trophy will be awarded to each overall class winner.