






IOWA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

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www.iowacountyfair.com 

February 15th, 2026

Hello Iowa County Swine Project Members and Families,

We would like to welcome all new and returning exhibitors to the swine project for 2026! Todd Schmitz and Morgan Worek will be the swine superintendents again this year. Please see below for some basic information to help guide you through the show season.

Timeline of Events

1. February-May

● If Buying Show Pigs

This is the time of year when you should be deciding what breeds and how many pigs you plan to show this year. If purchasing, there are many breeders to choose from, and many right in our backyard. Please reach out to Todd or Morgan if you need a list of breeders where you can purchase pigs or visit wppa.org/youth/sales.

● Premises ID Number

All locations that house livestock are required to have a premises identification number (PIN). You can register for one for free online at www.wiid.org.

2. May-June

● Swine Identification- Due May 20th, 2026.

Each family will receive a letter from us/Fair personnel in April. Anyone who wants to show pigs at the fair will need to “identify” their pigs.

To identify your pigs, you must follow the instructions outlined in the identification letter:

1. RFID tags can be purchased from your local veterinarian, WI State Fair site at entry.wistatefair.com or through the Iowa County Fair office.
2. RFID tags are to be placed in your pig’s ear prior to identification. Please follow the instructions that will be included in the swine ID letter this spring.
3. ID form must be filled out and returned to the Iowa County Fair by May 20th, 2026.
4. **NEW THIS YEAR: There will be an online identification form.** For those who prefer a paper copy, please request one from the fair office.
5. **Note: If you do not identify your pigs by May 20th, you cannot enter them for the fair and they cannot be exhibited at the fair. No exceptions.**

3. July

● YQCA (Youth for the Quality Care of Animals)

This is a program that each exhibitor needs to complete via an online or an in-person class. More information to come from the fair and 4-H on class dates and online process/link.

- **Fair Entries due August 1st, 2026**

Not only do you need to identify your pigs in the spring, but you need to also fill out entry forms for your animals (and any other projects that you plan to take to the fair).

To do this, reference your online Fair Book to fill out the online entry form at www.iowacountyfair.org , pay the \$10 entry fee and submit the entry **by AUGUST 1st**. Any submissions received after this date will be required to pay a **\$100.00 late entry fee**. Late entries only accepted up until August 7th.

4. July- August

- **Animal Health Requirements**

Two important steps that must be completed (More info to come in the spring):

- **PRRS/PEDv Test (Rope test)**- All animals are required to take a “rope” test to ensure that they are free from PRRS and PEDv, which are highly transmissible swine diseases that are very detrimental to the swine industry. Once samples are collected and submitted, results can take up to 10 days to arrive. These test results need to be done before the veterinarian can write the health paper (see below). Once collected, the test is good for 90 days but cannot be expired before Sept. 7th, 2026.
- **Veterinarian Inspection**- All exhibitors need to have a veterinarian come to inspect their pigs within 30 days of the fair to ensure that they are free of sickness and disease. If the pigs are healthy, the family will receive a health form that they will need to bring to the fair with them at weigh-ins. Be sure to arrange a visit with your veterinarian well in advance, so they have time to visit everyone.

5. September 3rd – 7th, 2026

- **Iowa County Fair Schedule.** (All events take place in the swine barn unless otherwise noted.)

Wednesday, Sept. 2 nd	Swine weigh-in/ check-in	6:30 – 9:00 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 3 rd	Swine weigh-in/ check-in	8:00- 10:00 a.m.
	Exhibitor/parent meeting	10:15 a.m.
	Gilt show	6:00 p.m.
	Pee Wee showmanship	Follows gilt show
Friday, Sept. 4 th	Barrow show	8:00 a.m.
	Showmanship	Follows barrow show
	Bacon Buddies swine show	2:00 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 5 th	Jr. Livestock Auction (Schimming Building)	3:00 p.m. (Swine are last to sell)
Sunday, Sept. 6 th	Master Showmanship Contest	11:00 a.m.

Monday, Sept. 7 th	Release of animals	- Early morning for animals going to processing plants (time TBD based on trucking schedule. We will give an exact time at the fair.) - 4:00 p.m. for animals going home
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Rule Reminders:

The Iowa County Junior Fair Book is the official rule book and presides in any situation where there is a question regarding rules. Here are a couple of notable rules that we have had questions on in the past:

1. Wisconsin State Fair pigs (both barrows & gilts) **ARE** allowed to be shown at Iowa County Fair.
2. The swine show will remain **NON-TERMINAL** meaning that pigs have the choice to either go to harvest or go back home after the show. This is what requires all animals to rope test for PRRS/PEDv.
3. All exhibitors that will not be selling their pigs in the livestock auction will be responsible for their own transportation for their animals on Monday, Sept. 7th after release (4:00 p.m.) unless they pay a hauling fee (\$10/ head) and have an appointment scheduled at a locker plant that we are already hauling to (Weber's, Avon, or Bloomington). Animals sold in the auction will still be hauled to the locker plants by Fair personnel as usual.

We will be sending another letter out in April regarding swine identification. If you have any questions, please contact either Todd at 608-553-1705 or Morgan at 608-553-2196. We are looking forward to working with each one of you this year and wish you all the best with your projects!

Sincerely,

Todd Schmitz & Morgan Worek

Iowa County Fair Swine Superintendents