

Have a safe and fun Labor Day weekend. The Northern Gila County Fair is almost here. First, I want to tell you all how proud of you I am of all your hard work and perseverance. Hope all your animals are looking and doing their best. Be sure to get your final practicing in before show day! Be sure to get your buyers letters handed out and make one last push to market your animal. Also below is some final information for Fair.

Tuesday Sept 5th- 9am till finished at the Tonto Apache Gym they will be setting up the indoor exhibit area if you are available we always welcome the help (although this is not required).

Wednesday Sept 6th- 9am-noon at the Payson Event Center (Rodeo Arena White Tent)

We are setting up the livestock pens and show ring, **we need help getting the area set up please, talk to Mrs Merrick about coming with the FFA.**

Wed 12:30pm-5:30pm Indoor Exhibits and Garden Exhibits need to be turned into the Fair at Tonto Apache Gym. (These exhibits should be pre-registered online before Monday at noon at www.ngcfair.com/exhibits or you can register them at the check-in if needed). We encourage you to enter other exhibits you have worked on over the past year like art, gardening, welding, baking, hobbies and more. Also encourage your family or friends to enter this year.

Thursday Sept 7th- 8am-noon Animal Jr Livestock Market Animal Weigh-In at the Payson FFA Ag Building. This is where you get your official animal weight for the auction as well as your livestock packet.

You will need:

Your animal :)

Your Bill of sale

Brand inspection

Your Seasonal Pass <https://agriculture.az.gov/animals/animal-services-inspections/livestock-inspections/seasonal-passes> , and

Your YQCA Certificate <https://yqcaprogram.org/>

Your Educational Poster (per species) take your poster to the Fair and hang it over your animal pen, high where it won't get eaten by the animals.

Also bring your own animal feed, feed and water buckets and needed show equipment. Your items will be stored in your own vehicle or trailer not in the barn (unless you have a box to secure it in that can be kept out of the walking area).

You will need to bring your own shavings for your pen to the Fair this year. I suggest at least one bag per day (more than one per day for steers). We will have shavings available for purchase, but please do NOT take shavings until you have gotten approval from Cassie to do so as we need to collect \$8 each for them.

*At weigh-in you will get your Fair packet. It will have a list of your entries; please verify you are correctly entered. It will have a **parking pass (bring it with you** to enter the fair for free, otherwise it will cost you \$5 per person each time) you will also be given two wristbands for your parent(s) to enter for free. Your packet also has forms that will need filled out and turned in before the auction. It will have your exhibitor # you must wear your number on your back during the livestock show.

After weigh-in you take your animal to the Fair and put it in your assigned pen.

Thursday, September 7th- 3:00 pm Mandatory Exhibitor Meeting:

This is mandatory for all youth showing livestock (parents are encouraged to attend) as this is where you will get any updates on schedule changes the Fair Board has had to make. You will also get your barn duty assignment. **4:30pm** Payson Police and Fire Department will be giving a presentation to Northern Gila County Fair board, volunteers, and livestock participants on event safety and event threat procedures. You are invited to attend and participate in a short question and answer safety presentation, we will be meeting at the Livestock tent at the Event Center.

Friday, September 8th is Kids Day at the Fair, Gymkhana and Livestock Show Day

Arrival of Open Livestock Animals (these will show out of their trailers and open show trailers will park on the West side of livestock area)

School Kids arrive around 9am from the Elementary schools (remember to engage with the kids about your project)

Livestock Show starts at 10am

We only have a handful of registered open classes so we should move quickly into Jr livestock.

Showman's Experience Class (**is Friday**) will follow the Livestock Show. *If you have a sibling or a friend that is interested in showing your animal in the Showman's Experience Class this is a great opportunity to get them experience (if you feel comfortable letting them use your animal).

Jr Livestock Show will follow the open show starting with Showmanship classes then Market Classes.

Gymkhana Event (open to all ages) 5pm

Saturday Sept 9th Small Stock Show

Turkey Show and Small Stock Show 9am

Round Robin Showmanship Contest 11am

Jr Livestock Auction Auction and Awards 4:00 pm (buyers' registration 3pm- Will be providing a meal to the buyers this year, once they get their bidder number they show it to receive their plate).

Remember, get people to come to the Fair to bid on your project! Also encourage them to support you with an add-on donations. Add-on donations can be given during/after the livestock auction as well.

Sunday Sept 11th- Release Day and Clean up

Processors will be picking up animals at 9am, you need to be there to load your animal. Then we need to take down pens and clean up. Remember **you need to help this day** or you will be charged extra commission out of your Livestock Auction check if you do not attend.

Remember it is your responsibility to market your animals and find potential buyers for your projects.

Keep your animal watered during the Fair, remember to get your animal out and exercise it so it doesn't get stiff.

Let's keep the Fair grounds clean and looking good.

Just have fun and do your best!

If you have questions, reach out and don't be afraid to ask.

Lastly we have carnival ride presale passes for sell (ask Fayth Lowery)