



Home, Farm, & Garden Information Catalog

For General Fair Information, please visit our website

www.madisoncountyfairva.com, or contact:

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Fair Mailing Address: PO Box 1071, Madison, VA 22727

Department Superintendent: Clare Lillard, (540) 705-6927

2026 Updates

Use only the information found in this year's catalog! Be sure to use the correct tags for your entries.

Registration and entry take-in will be held on **Tuesday, July 14, 2026 between 4:00 and 7:00 pm** at the picnic shelter at the fairgrounds. Please bring your completed entry form, all entries with tags completed, and any payment due for Junior Youth and Senior Youth entries.

HF&G Department Rules

1. General Rules and Regulations of the Madison County Fair apply. The rules outlined in this document apply to all sections of the Home, Farm, & Garden Department (HFG), unless noted in the Section Rules.
2. Read carefully and follow all rules for all sections. Use only the numbers and information from this catalog and not one from a previous year or another fair.
3. Exhibitors may enter only one entry per class, except for Section Q: Quilting (refer to that section for more information).
4. Exhibitors do not need to be residents of Madison County.
5. Age divisions are determined by age as of September 30, 2026, and are as follows:
 - Youth 5-8 (no exhibitors under age 5 are permitted), will not be judged
 - Junior Youth: ages 9-13
 - Senior Youth: ages 14-19
 - Adult: over age 19
 - Senior Citizen: ages 65 and up and not wishing to be judged in the Adult division
 - Special Citizen: any age with a significant physical or intellectual impairment, not wishing to be judged

6. An entry fee applies for Junior Youth and Senior Youth exhibitors, as follows, based on the total number of entries regardless of section. Fees must be paid during registration. There are no fees for exhibitors in other age divisions.
 - 1-3 entries: \$1
 - 4-6 entries: \$2
 - 7-9 entries: \$3
 - 10-12 entries: \$4
 - 13 or more entries: \$5
7. Premiums will be paid to Junior Youth and Senior Youth exhibitors based on results of judging, as follows. No premiums will be paid for entries placing below a Red Ribbon. See Judging Standards for more information about ribbons.
 - Best in Show Award: \$5
 - Blue Ribbon: \$3
 - Red Ribbon: \$1
8. Registration will be held between 4:00 and 7:00 pm on Tuesday, July 14 at the picnic shelter on the fairgrounds.
No items will be accepted after registration closes.
9. “Exhibitor’s Choice” categories are for items that may not fit in any other category, but fit in that section.
10. Exhibitors are asked to fill out the Entry Form and tags provided in this catalog before registration. Forms and tags may also be found online at www.madisoncountyfairva.com, or available for pickup at the Madison Extension Office.
11. Leave “Exhibitor Number” blank on entry forms and tags until registration. An exhibitor number will be assigned at registration and can then be added to entry tags. Volunteers will be on site to assist and for any questions.
12. All exhibits must have been completed and/or prepared by the exhibitor, and must have been completed since the previous fair, unless noted otherwise in section rules. Youth exhibitors may receive assistance with their entries as appropriate, but the work must be primarily their own. Group projects must be identified as such and the names of all participants must be listed.
13. Glass is not allowed for most entries. Refer to the rules for each section for specific instructions.
14. Use the current year’s tags for all entries. Fill out everything **except** the exhibitor number, which will be assigned at registration. Fold up the end backwards to hide the exhibitor name, but please do NOT tape it closed.
15. Any youth with twelve (12) or more entries in the HF&G Department will earn a free Madison County Fair t-shirt and a weeklong entry pass. Exhibitors under 10 years old and/or those who have already received a pass from another department will not receive a pass.
16. The HF&G exhibit building will be cleared of all unofficial people during judging. The building will be open to the public during designated times only, which are listed in the fair’s schedule.
17. The building will be open only while a host is on duty. They are available to answer questions about exhibits and for security purposes.
18. Entries will be judged according to the Standards of Judging. Judges are not required to award all ribbons and prizes.
19. **Exhibits must be picked up between 10:00 am and 12:00 pm (noon) on Sunday, July 19, or between 9:00 and 11:00 am in Monday, July 20.** Entries may not be removed earlier; any exhibitor doing so will forfeit any premiums or prizes won. Entries not removed by 11:00 am on July 20 will become the property of the Madison County Fair.

Judging Standards for the Home, Farm, & Garden Department

The Madison County Fair uses the Danish system of judging. All entries will be judged against a standard of quality and creativity, and not against each other. The department judges are highly knowledgeable in their judging areas. The Blue Award is given to exhibitors exceeding the standard, the Red Award is given to those meeting the standard, and the White Award is given to those who are below the standard. Judges are not required to give each award in a single category. Judges are allowed to give more than one award in a single category. One Best in Show Award from each Age Division may be chosen from all entries in each section.

Age Division and the typical ability ranges of each will be considered in judging. Youth 5-8 and Special Citizens are not judged and all entries will receive a ribbon. For Youth exhibitors, help with their projects is acceptable when necessary (i.e. using an oven, sharp tools, or other equipment; following instructions in a kit or class; farming and gardening; etc.), but the work should be mainly their own. Help should be age-appropriate; for example, older children should require less assistance.

All items entered into the fair will be judged on the following criteria:

- Appearance: presentation, cleanliness, neatness, and design
- Workmanship
- Suitability to category
- Suitability and/or creativity of materials used
- Level of effort or difficulty

Individual sections will be judged on the additional following criteria:

Art Work, Crafts, and Decorated Clothing

- Design: composition and creativity
- Technique and use of materials

Baked Goods

- Appearance
- Texture
- Flavor

Canned Goods

- Uniformity of solids
- Consistency of liquids
- Proportion of solids to liquids

Flowers, Garden, and Farm Crops

- Quality, freedom from injury/flaws
- Arrangements: use of available products, appearance, presentation, use of color
- Collections: similarity of size and color

Needle Arts, Sewing, and Quilting

- Design: composition and creativity
- Suitability of pattern/design to function or shape of article
- Workmanship: stitches used, finished edges, suitability of materials to purpose

Photography

- Composition
- Creativity of subject matter
- Image quality

Section A: Art Work

Section Rules

1. All general rules apply.
2. Entries must have been completed since last year's fair.
3. All two-dimensional art work must be mounted, matted, or framed. Framing is optional for works on canvas.
4. NO GLASS IS ALLOWED, except for A-32 Stained Glass. Plexiglas is acceptable, but no glass may be in frames.
5. For youth entries, construction paper and poster board are acceptable for mounting/matting. Adult entries must use mat board or frames (without glass).
6. Entries must be created by the individual. Adult entries must be of original design (except for A-13 Paint By Number).
7. Computer-generated or aided work must demonstrate creativity of design by the exhibitor, and may not simply be a download. Use of AI (artificial intelligence) is not allowed.

Judges' Tips and Suggestions

1. Cover any names on work to be judged (not necessary for Youth 5-8). A post-it note or similar non-damaging item will suffice, and will be removed after judging is complete.
2. Avoid attaching tags directly to the art work. Tape them to the mount in the lower right corner so that the tag is visible.

Oil Painting on Canvas

- A-01 Oil Landscape/Seascape
- A-02 Oil Portrait
- A-03 Oil Still Life
- A-04 Exhibitor's Choice Oil Painting

Watercolors

- A-05 Watercolor Landscape/Seascape
- A-06 Watercolor Portrait
- A-07 Watercolor Still Life
- A-08 Exhibitor's Choice Watercolor

Acrylic Painting

- A-09 Acrylic Landscape/Seascape
- A-10 Acrylic Portrait
- A-11 Acrylic Still Life
- A-12 Exhibitor's Choice Acrylic

Other Painting

- A-13 Paint by Number

- A-14 Painted Barn Quilt

- A-15 Pastels

- A-16 Exhibitor's Choice Painting

Drawing

- A-17 Pencil Drawing
- A-18 Charcoal Drawing
- A-19 Pen & Ink Drawing
- A-20 Colored Pencil Drawing
- A-21 Crayon Drawing
- A-22 Marker Drawing

Pottery & Ceramics

- A-23 Wheel-thrown Bowl
- A-24 Wheel-thrown Vase
- A-25 Wheel-thrown Mug
- A-26 Any Wheel-thrown Item
- A-27 Functional Handmade Pottery (not from wheel)
- A-28 Decorative Handmade Pottery (not from wheel)

- A-29 Pottery Using Mixed Techniques

- A-30 Hand-Painted Ceramic from Mold

- A-31 Ceramics, Glaze Technique

Other Art Work

- A-32 Stained Glass
- A-33 Scratch Art
- A-34 Cartooning
- A-35 Sculpture (not from clay)
- A-36 Papier Mache
- A-37 Mixed Media Art Work
- A-38 Collage
- A-39 Faux Finish
- A-40 Finger Painting
- A-41 Computer Generated Art from Original Design
- A-42 3D-Printed Art from Original Design
- A-43 Exhibitor's Choice 2D Art
- A-44 Exhibitor's Choice 3D Art

Section AG: Agricultural Farm Crops

Section Rules

1. All general rules apply.
2. All entries must have been harvested since last year's fair from the home or farm under the care of the exhibitor. For youth entries, a farm cared for by a relative is acceptable provided that the youth helped with the majority of planting, care, and harvesting, as age-appropriate. Items grown or created by a group must be entered in the group's name; list all participants as appropriate and available.
3. All loose grains must be cleaned and entered in a clear **plastic** quart container, NO GLASS.
4. Honey and sorghum should be submitted in a sealed clear glass jar, and properly labeled with the type and date made/collected.
5. Eggs should be submitted in a half-dozen carton, big end up, and cleaned. Exhibitors must be the primary caretakers of the birds.
6. All hay and straw must be submitted as one flake from a square bale, tied. Whole bales are not accepted.
7. "Oddity" is an item unusual in its shape, size, or appearance, or unusual for our region/climate.

Judges' Tips and Suggestions

1. Cleanliness and presentation matter!
2. Submit the type and number of items listed. Improper entries will not be judged.
3. When possible, tape tags to the container of the entry. For tied items, tape the tag to the string so that it is clearly visible.
4. For tallest corn entries, dig some root rather than cutting the stalk so that all of the stalk can be measured.

Grains

- AG-01 Barley, quart
- AG-02 Shelled Corn, quart
- AG-03 Corn, single whole ear
- AG-04 Indian Corn, single whole ear
- AG-05 Tallest Single Stalk Corn
- AG-06 Corn, six stalks (tied together)
- AG-07 Spring Oats, quart
- AG-08 Winter Oats, quart
- AG-09 Rye, quart
- AG-10 Soybeans, quart
- AG-11 Wheat, quart

Hay (Flake only, not whole bale)

- AG-12 Alfalfa (not more than 10% grass)

- AG-13 Alfalfa Mixture

- AG-14 Clover (not more than 10% grass)

- AG-15 Clover Mixture

- AG-16 Orchard Grass (not more than 10% legume)

- AG-17 Orchard Grass Mixture

- AG-18 Timothy (not more than 10% legume)

- AG-19 All Other Mixtures

Eggs

- AG-20 Six Eggs, Bantam

- AG-21 Six Eggs, Brown

- AG-22 Six Eggs, White

- AG-23 Six Eggs, Colored (Aracuana)

- AG-24 Six Eggs, Duck

- AG-25 Single Egg, Oddity

- AG-26 Single Egg, Other Fowl

Straw (Flake only, not whole bale)

- AG-27 Barley Straw

- AG-28 Oat Straw

- AG-29 Wheat Straw

Other Farm Products

- AG-30 Honey, pint or quart

- AG-31 Sorghum, pint or quart

- AG-32 Exhibitor's Choice Farm Product

Section B: Baked Goods

Section Rules

1. All general rules apply.
2. Entries must be on disposable plates and in plastic bags with zippered or twist-tie closures.
3. No mixes or pre-made crusts may be used. All entries must be “from scratch.”
4. “Gifts in a Jar” mixes are to be created by the exhibitor. The instructions for the recipient must also be included, along with a list of the ingredients used. A baked sample of the mix is required to be submitted with the mix and recipe for B-34 Cookie Mix in a Jar and B-35 Cake Mix in a Jar.
5. Youth may receive help with baking as appropriate, but the work must be primarily their own.
6. Bread machines are only allowed to be used in B-16 Any Bread Machine Loaf, and are not allowed in any other entry.
7. Items requiring refrigeration may NOT be entered; this includes cream pies and decorated cakes.

Judges' Tips and Suggestions

1. Attach tags with tape to the outside of the plastic bags. Do not put them inside!
2. For entries with multiple items, choose items that are alike in appearance.
3. For Exhibitor's Choice entries, please include the name of what you are entering on the tag.

Biscuits: Plate of 3

- B-01 Sweet Milk Biscuits
- B-02 Sweet Potato Biscuits
- B-03 Buttermilk Biscuits
- B-04 Exhibitor's Choice Biscuits

Muffins: Plate of 3

- B-05 Corn Muffins
- B-06 Fruit Muffins
- B-07 Exhibitor's Choice Muffins

Breads: Half-Loaf

- B-08 White Yeast Bread
- B-09 Whole Grain Bread
- B-10 Sourdough Bread
- B-11 Quick Bread, Zucchini
- B-12 Quick Bread, Banana
- B-13 Other Quick Bread
- B-14 Exhibitor's Choice Bread
- B-15 Dinner Rolls (plate of 3)
- B-16 Any Bread Machine Loaf

Pies: Quarter-Pie

- B-17 Apple Pie
- B-18 Pecan Pie
- B-19 Cherry Pie
- B-20 Blueberry Pie
- B-21 Peach Pie
- B-22 Exhibitor's Choice Pie

Cookies: Plate of 3

- B-23 Oatmeal Cookies
- B-24 Chocolate Chip Cookies
- B-25 Peanut Butter Cookies
- B-26 Snickerdoodle Cookies
- B-27 Any Drop Cookies
- B-28 Any Bar Cookies
- B-29 Brownies
- B-30 Exhibitor's Choice Cookies

Cakes: Quarter-Cake

- B-31 Chocolate Cake
- B-32 Vanilla Cake

B-33 Coffee Cake

B-34 Pound Cake

B-35 Exhibitor's Choice Cake

Gifts in a Jar: Must be decorated, include a list of ingredients, and a recipe for preparation

B-36 Cookie Mix in a Jar (must also include a baked sample of 3)

B-37 Cake Mix in a Jar (must also include a baked sample, 1/4 cake)

B-38 Soup Mix in a Jar

B-39 Snack/Trail Mix in a Jar

B-40 Beverage Mix in a Jar (hot or cold)

B-41 Exhibitor's Choice Dessert (plate of 3, half-item, or quarter-item as applicable)

Section CN: Canning & Food Preservation

Section Rules

1. All general rules apply.
2. Entries must be in glass regulation canning jars with a two-piece vacuum-sealed lid. **Rings must be removed!**
3. Food coloring is not allowed.
4. Product must have been preserved since last year's fair.
5. Youth may receive help as appropriate, but the work must be primarily their own.
6. Entries should be in half-pint, pint, or quart jars; nothing larger than a quart should be entered.

Judges' Tips and Suggestions

1. Jars should be clearly labeled with the item name, date preserved, and any other relevant information. This is in addition to completely filling out the entry tag.
2. Judges will choose whether or not to open and/or taste entries. Tasting is not required. Opened jars will not be refrigerated after judging and contents should be discarded after the fair.

Pickles

- CN-01 Bread & Butter Pickles
- CN-02 Dill Pickles
- CN-03 Sweet Cucumber Pickles
- CN-04 Watermelon Rind Pickles
- CN-05 Pickled Beets
- CN-06 Pickled Peppers
- CN-07 Relish, Any Flavor
- CN-08 Exhibitor's Choice Pickles

Vegetables

- CN-09 Green Beans
- CN-10 Dilly Beans
- CN-11 Beets
- CN-12 Carrots
- CN-13 Corn
- CN-14 Peas
- CN-15 Salsa (include list of ingredients)
- CN-16 Tomato Juice
- CN-17 Tomato Sauce
- CN-18 Whole Tomatoes
- CN-19 Exhibitor's Choice Vegetable

Fruits

- CN-20 Apples
- CN-21 Applesauce
- CN-22 Cherries
- CN-23 Grape Juice
- CN-24 Peaches
- CN-25 Pears
- CN-26 Exhibitor's Choice Fruit

Jams, Jellies, & Preserves

- CN-27 Apple Butter
- CN-28 Marmalade
- CN-29 Blackberry Jam
- CN-30 Blueberry Jam
- CN-31 Plum Jam
- CN-32 Raspberry Jam
- CN-33 Strawberry Jam
- CN-34 Exhibitor's Choice Jam
- CN-35 Apple Jelly
- CN-36 Grape Jelly
- CN-37 Pepper Jelly
- CN-38 Exhibitor's Choice Jelly

- CN-39 Blackberry Preserves

- CN-40 Cherry Preserves

- CN-41 Peach Preserves

- CN-42 Strawberry Preserves

- CN-43 Exhibitor's Choice Preserves

Peppers

- CN-44 Hot Peppers

- CN-45 Sweet Peppers

- CN-46 Exhibitor's Choice Peppers

Sauces

- CN-47 BBQ Sauce

- CN-48 Ketchup

- CN-49 Spaghetti or Pizza Sauce

- CN-50 Exhibitor's Choice Sauce

Section CR: Crafts

Section Rules

1. All general rules apply.
2. Entries must have been completed since the previous year's fair.
3. Youth and Special Citizens may receive help as appropriate, but the work must be primarily their own.
4. NO GLASS is permitted in any entries. If an item contains a frame, please remove glass. Plexiglas is acceptable.
5. Entries must be created by the individual. Computer-generated or aided work must be the creation of the exhibitor, not simply a download. Use of AI (artificial intelligence) is not allowed.
6. Recycled Items CR-61 and CR-62 must be made from materials that would normally be discarded. On the tag (or another label), list what the item is and what it is made from.
7. Collections (CR-17 thru 21) items must be labeled, and are limited to a maximum of 16-inch display and 6-10 items.
8. LEGO Creations must be submitted in a box with either low sides or one side removed for viewing. Creations should be glued into the box with temporary glue.

Judges' Tips and Suggestions

1. For very small items, consider mounting them to a piece of cardboard or illustration board (neatly) with pins, tape, or temporary glue, or putting them in a clear, zippered plastic bag.
2. Attach tags in a way that the tags are visible but do not cover up the work.

CR-01 Artificial Flower Arrangement or Wreath

CR-02 Decorated Wreath, not floral

CR-03 Handmade Wreath

CR-04 Basketry

CR-05 Beaded Craft (not jewelry)

CR-06 Bible School or Camp Craft

CR-07 Decorated Birdhouse

CR-08 Handmade Birdhouse, not from a kit

CR-09 No-Sew Fleece Blanket

CR-10 Handmade Book

CR-11 Decorated Bookmark

CR-12 Bulletin Board

CR-13 Embellished Candle

CR-14 Handmade Candle

CR-15 Computer-Generated Greeting Card from Original Design

CR-16 Handmade Greeting Card

CR-17 Collection of Typical Items Found at a Fair

CR-18 Hobby Collection

CR-19 Insect Collection

CR-20 Leaf Collection

CR-21 Rock Collection

CR-22 Craft From a Kit

CR-23 Diorama

CR-24 Doll House

CR-25 Cloth Doll

CR-26 Doll from Kit

CR-27 Dream Catcher

CR-28 Duct Tape Craft

CR-29 Decorated Eggs (fake eggs, or yolks removed)

CR-30 Felted Item

CR-31 Finger-Knitted Item

CR-32 Decorated Flower Pot

CR-33 Foam Craft

CR-34 Hair Accessory

CR-35 Holiday Craft (not a tree ornament)

CR-36 Handmade Jewelry

CR-37 Rubber Band Jewelry

CR-38 Keychain

CR-39 Latch Hook Craft, any item

CR-40 Leather Craft

CR-41 LEGO Creation from Kit

CR-42 LEGO Creation from Original Design

CR-43 Macrame

CR-44 Magnet

CR-45 Mobile

CR-46 Model (Airplane, Car, etc.)

CR-47 Model Rocket

CR-48 Nature Craft

CR-49 Tree Ornament

CR-50 Paper Craft, any type

CR-51 Paperweight

CR-52 Pen/Pencil Holder

CR-53 Decorated Picture Frame

CR-54 Handmade Picture Frame

CR-55 Original Poem

CR-56 Original Short Story, 300 words or less

CR-57 Popsicle Stick Craft

CR-58 Polymer Clay Craft

(Continued on the next page)

Section CR: Crafts (continued)

CR-59	Handmade Puppet	CR-65	Single Scrapbook Page	CR-70	Weaving (not a basket)
CR-60	Purse, not sewn	CR-66	Stenciled Item	CR-71	Woodworking
CR-61	Recycled Item, Decorative	CR-67	String Art	CR-72	4-H Education Exhibit
CR-62	Recycled Item, Functional	CR-68	Fishing Fly or Lure	CR-73	Rope Coil Basket
CR-63	Any School Project	CR-69	Tin Punch	CR-74	Exhibitor's Choice Craft
CR-64	Scrapbook, any subject				

Section P: Photography

Section Rules

1. All general rules apply.
2. Photos must have been taken since last year's fair, not simply printed since then.
3. All photos must be mounted on white posterboard, illustration board, or mat board, with a margin of 1-2 inches all around. Frames are not allowed and will not be accepted. Colored mat board is only allowed in P-13 Matted Photo, in which the matting is considered in the overall presentation.
4. Due to space restrictions, exhibitors are limited to 15 total entries in this section.
5. Photos may be from digital or film cameras, and in color or black & white, except where designated.
6. Printed photos must be a minimum of 4x6 inches and a maximum of 8x12 inches. Mounts for P-23 Collection of Photos may not exceed 12x16 inches.
7. Computer editing, such as Photoshop, is allowed within a normal lifelike range. Significant digital editing and alterations are allowed only in P-06 Computer-Enhanced or Altered Photo. Computer-generated or aided work must be the creation of the exhibitor. Use of AI (artificial intelligence) is not allowed.

Judges' Tips and Suggestions

1. Do not submit "selfies" except in the Selfie category.
2. Tape tags to the lower right corner of the mounts so that they can be seen but do not cover the photos.

P-01	Action Shot	P-11	Macro Shot	P-21	Holiday
P-02	Animal: Pet or Livestock	P-12	Madison County Life	P-22	Selfie
P-03	Animal: Wildlife	P-13	Matted Photo	P-23	Collection of Photos, 3-6 photos in a single theme mounted together
P-04	Architecture	P-14	Patriotic	P-24	Weather
P-05	Close-up	P-15	Portrait of a Child	P-25	Natural Wonder
P-06	Computer-Enhanced or Altered Photo	P-16	Any Other Portrait	P-26	Abstract Composition
P-07	Farm Scene or Activity	P-17	Seascape	P-27	Exhibitor's Choice Black & White
P-08	Funny	P-18	Special Event	P-28	Exhibitor's Choice Color
P-09	Garden or Flowers	P-19	Sunrise/Sunset		
P-10	Landscape	P-20	Winter Scene		

Section F: Flowers

Section Rules

1. All general rules apply.
2. Entries must have been grown in the current year by the exhibitor and must have been in the exhibitor's possession for a minimum of 30 days.
3. NO GLASS containers will be accepted, except for F-09 Terrariums, and Arrangements (F-48 thru 55). Ceramic containers are allowed for Potted Plants and Arrangements.
4. Specimens should be single items except where noted. No auxiliary foliage is allowed in specimen entries.
5. Specimens (single or groups of 3) must be entered in transparent plastic drink containers and in water. If using a large bottle and/or a specimen is very top-heavy, add small stones to the bottle for stability. Bottles should be sized appropriately for the specimens.
6. Youth entrants must have helped with the majority of the planting and care, if not all care. Adults and Senior Citizens must have provided all care.

Judges' Tips and Suggestions

1. Remove labels from bottles if possible so as not to distract from the flowers.
2. Attach tags with tape to the bottles so that they can be easily read.
3. Day lilies are not listed and should not be entered because they will be finished flowering by judging time.

Potted Plants (Entire Pot)

F-01	African Violet
F-02	Indoor Dish Garden
F-03	Outdoor Dish Garden
F-04	Flowering Houseplant
F-05	Houseplant, Foliage Type
F-06	Potted Cactus
F-07	Potted Succulent
F-08	Potted Fern
F-09	Terrarium
F-10	Exhibitor's Choice Potted Plant

Annuals (Specimens)

F-11	Celosias
F-12	Cosmos
F-13	Geranium
F-14	Marigold
F-15	Petunia
F-16	Salvia
F-17	Zinnia
F-18	Exhibitor's Choice Annual

Bulbs (Specimens)

F-19	Dahlia
F-20	Lily (not day lily)
F-21	Gladiolus
F-22	Exhibitor's Choice Bulb

Roses (Specimens)

F-23	Pink Variety
F-24	Red Variety
F-25	White Variety
F-26	Yellow Variety
F-27	Other Color Variety
F-28	Multi-colored Variety
F-29	Miniature Variety
F-30	Collection of 3 stems, single variety

Perennials (Specimens)

F-31	Coneflower
F-32	Gerbera Daisy
F-33	Daisy, White

F-34	Phlox
F-35	Rudbekia
F-36	Yarrow
F-37	Everlasting
F-38	Scabiosa
F-39	Exhibitor's Choice Perennial

Flowering Shrubs (Specimens)

F-40	Butterfly Bush, single
F-41	Butterfly Bush, 3 stems
F-42	Hibiscus
F-43	Hydrangea

Sunflowers (Specimens)

F-44	Single Specimen
F-45	Collection of 3 stems, single variety
F-46	Sunflower, Largest Head
F-47	Sunflower, Tallest Stalk

(Continued on the next page)

Section F: Flowers *(continued)*

Arrangements (Fresh, unless noted)

- F-48 “Madison’s Natural Beauty” Arrangement of wild-flowers found in Madison County
- F-49 Fairy Garden, not to exceed 18” in any direction; may include purchased accessories
- F-50 Arrangement in a Recycled Container
- F-51 Dried Flower Arrangement or Wreath
- F-52 “A Celebration of Color” Mass arrangement with a variety of colors, textures, and flower types
- F-53 Miniature Arrangement, under 6” in all directions
- F-54 Any Arrangement, between 6” and 18”
- F-55 Large Arrangement, over 18” in at least two directions

Madison Garden Club Awards

These special awards are sponsored by the Madison Garden Club to promote interest in horticulture among youth. Judges will select recipients for the following:

- Junior Youth Best in Horticulture
- Senior Youth Best in Horticulture
- Junior Youth Best in Design (Arrangements)
- Senior Youth Best in Design (Arrangements)

Section DC: Decorated & Embellished Clothing

Section Rules

1. All general rules apply.
2. Only the decoration of items will be judged, not the construction. Clothing/accessories may be purchased.
3. “Article of Clothing” is something meant to be worn to cover the body, such as a shirt, pants, vest, dress, coat, etc. “Accessory” is something meant to contribute to an outfit, such as a hat, hair decoration, scarf, etc. Large shawls or coverups may be entered as either.
4. Clothing must be entered on a hanger, with the item pinned as best as possible to the hanger. Any other items that can be hung on hangers should be hung and pinned, as well.

Applique

- DC-01 Iron-On Applique, Accessory
- DC-02 Iron-On Applique, Article of Clothing
- DC-03 Sewn-On Applique, Accessory
- DC-04 Sewn-On Applique, Article of Clothing

Tie-Dye

- DC-05 Tie-Dyed T-shirt
- DC-06 Tie-Dyed Article of Clothing, other than t-shirt
- DC-07 Tie-Dyed Accessory

Other Embellishment

- DC-08 Hand-Painted Article of Clothing
- DC-09 Hand-Painted Accessory

- DC-10 Puff Paint Decorated Article of Clothing
- DC-11 Puff Paint Decorated Accessory
- DC-12 Mixed Techniques Article of Clothing
- DC-13 Mixed Techniques Accessory
- DC-14 Any Costume Using Decorative Techniques
- DC-15 Hand-Beaded Item
- DC-16 “Beadazzled” Item (using device/machine)
- DC-17 Machine-Embroidered Clothing
- DC-18 Machine-Embroidered Home Item or Accessory
- DC-19 Screen-Printed T-shirt
- DC-20 Heat-Transfer Vinyl Decorated Article of Clothing
- DC-21 Heat-Transfer Vinyl Decorated Home Item or Accessory
- DC-22 Exhibitor’s Choice Decorated or Embellished Item

Section G: Garden Crops

Section Rules

1. All general rules apply.
2. Entries must have been grown in the current year by the exhibitor and must have been in the exhibitor's possession for a minimum of 30 days. For youth entries, a garden cared for by a relative is acceptable provided that the youth helped with the majority of planting, care, and harvesting, as age-appropriate.
3. "Oddity" is an item unusual in its shape, size, or appearance, or unusual for our region/climate. Include the name of the item on the tag.
4. Entries should be on white disposable plates, bowls, or trays, with tags taped to the plates so they can be easily read. Herb specimens must be entered in transparent plastic drink containers—NO GLASS—and in water.
5. G-51 Farm-To-Table entries must include fresh produce and a sample of an item made from that produce; items that require refrigeration will not be accepted. Items must be grown and made by the exhibitor.
6. All displays (G-48 thru 51) will be judged on the quality of items and overall appearance. Display containers should function well and also add to the overall design. A list or description of items shown should be included.

Judges' Tips and Suggestions

1. Cleanliness matters! Items should be clean and free from injury.
2. Submit the type and number of items listed. Groups of items should be as alike as possible.

Vegetables

- G-01 Beets, with tops, 3 items
- G-02 Green Beans, 6 items
- G-03 Lima Beans, 6 items
- G-04 Other Variety Beans, 6 items
- G-05 Broccoli, 1 head
- G-06 Cabbage, 1 head
- G-07 Carrots, with tops, 6 items
- G-08 Corn, 3 ears half-shucked
- G-09 Cucumbers, 3 items
- G-10 Eggplant, 3 items
- G-11 Garlic, with or without tops, 3 items
- G-12 Okra, 6 items
- G-13 Onions, with or without tops, 3 items
- G-14 Hot Peppers, 3 items
- G-15 Sweet Peppers, 3 items
- G-16 Red Potatoes, 3 items
- G-17 White Potatoes, 3 items

- G-18 Yellow Potatoes, 3 items
- G-19 Yellow Squash, 3 items
- G-20 Cherry or Grape Tomatoes, 6 items
- G-21 Red Tomatoes, 3 items
- G-22 Other Tomatoes, 3 items
- G-23 Zucchini, 3 items
- G-24 Exhibitor's Choice Vegetable

Fruits

- G-25 Raspberries, not wild, 6 items
- G-26 Blueberries, 6 items
- G-27 Blackberries, not wild, 6 items
- G-28 Peaches, 3 items
- G-29 Cantaloupe, 1 melon
- G-30 Watermelon, 1 melon
- G-31 Exhibitor's Choice Fruit

Herbs (Specimens)

- G-32 Basil

- G-33 Chives
- G-34 Dill
- G-35 Mint
- G-36 Oregano
- G-37 Parsley
- G-38 Rosemary
- G-39 Sage
- G-40 Thyme
- G-41 Exhibitor's Choice Herb
- G-42 Herb Dish Garden, whole container

Other Garden Crops

- G-43 Any Natural Oddity
- G-44 Largest Cabbage
- G-45 Largest Watermelon
- G-46 Largest Zucchini
- G-47 Any Heirloom Variety

(Continued on the next page)

Section G: Garden Crops (*continued*)

Displays

- G-48 Vegetable Basket: display of at least five varieties
- G-49 Fruit Basket: display of at least three varieties
- G-50 Herb Display: at least five varieties in multiple
- G-51 Farm-To-Table Display

5 Riders Farm Garden Crops Awards

These special awards are sponsored by 5 Riders Farm to promote interest in gardening. Awards will be given to the exhibitor with the highest points in the Garden Crops Section in each Age Division.

Section SW: Clothing & Sewing

Section Rules

1. All general rules apply.
2. Entries must have been completed since last year's fair.
3. Clothing items should be entered on a hanger, pinned to the hanger as best as possible.
4. All work must be done by the exhibitor. Pattern use is acceptable. Youth may receive help from adults as appropriate, but the work must be primarily their own.

Judges' Tips and Suggestions

1. Tags may be pinned to cloth with safety pins or taped to hangers. Tags may be moved during and after judging for display purposes.
2. Everything visible is considered during judging, including backs and interiors!
3. This section is for sewing. Quilts should be entered in the Quilting section, unless the quilting is a minimal aspect.

Clothing & Accessories

- SW-01 Blazer or Jacket
- SW-02 Shorts
- SW-03 Costume
- SW-04 Dress or Jumper
- SW-05 Doll Clothes
- SW-06 Button-down Shirt
- SW-07 Pajamas
- SW-08 Skirt
- SW-09 Slacks or Pants
- SW-10 Formalwear

SW-11 Vest

SW-12 Blouse

SW-13 Apron

SW-14 Exhibitor's Choice Sewn Clothing

Other Sewing

SW-15 Crib & Pillow Set

SW-16 Appliance Cover

SW-17 Flag or Banner

SW-18 Tote Bag or Duffel

SW-19 Purse

SW-20 Pillow

SW-21 Pot Holder

SW-22 Set of Placemats

SW-23 Table Runner

SW-24 Holiday Décor

SW-25 Tree Ornament

SW-26 Exhibitor's Choice Sewn Item, non-clothing

SW-27 Any Item Made from Recycled or Repurposed Cloth

See the Quilting Section for special Youth awards in Clothing & Sewing!

Section NA: Needle Arts

Section Rules

1. All general rules apply.
2. Entries must have been completed since last year's fair.
3. Clothing items should be entered on a hanger, pinned to the hanger as best as possible. Large items such as blankets should be submitted folded; they will be unfolded for judging and then displayed. For small items, presentation/display is considered in judging. If anything is framed, NO GLASS is allowed; Plexiglas is acceptable, or glass should be removed from frames before entering the item.

Judges' Tips and Suggestions

1. Cover any names on work to be judged (not necessary for Youth 5-8). A ribbon or scrap of cloth pinned over a name is acceptable and will be removed after judging. Only full names need to be covered, not initials.
2. Tags may be pinned to cloth with safety pins. Tags may be moved during and after judging for display purposes.
3. Everything visible is considering during judging, including backs!
4. Only hand work should be entered in this section. Machine embroidery may be entered in Decorated & Embellished Clothing.

Crochet

- NA-01 Crocheted Afghan
- NA-02 Crocheted Baby Blanket
- NA-03 Other Crocheted Baby Item
- NA-04 Crocheted Hat
- NA-05 Crocheted Scarf
- NA-06 Crocheted Doily
- NA-07 Crocheted Item with Novelty Yarn
- NA-08 Exhibitor's Choice Crochet

Needlepoint

- NA-09 Needlepoint, Original Design
- NA-10 Needlepoint from Kit
- NA-11 Needlepoint, Pre-Worked Center
- NA-12 Needlepoint from Graph
- NA-13 Needlepoint Chair Seat or Footstool
- NA-14 Exhibitor's Choice Needlepoint

Counted Cross Stitch

- NA-15 Counted Cross Stitch from Kit
- NA-16 Counted Cross Stitch, 11-18 Count
- NA-17 Counted Cross Stitch, 22-32 Count
- NA-18 Counted Cross Stitch Christmas Item
- NA-19 Counted Cross Stitch from Perforated Paper
- NA-20 Exhibitor's Choice Counted Cross Stitch

Knitting

- NA-21 Knitted Sweater
- NA-22 Knitted Afghan
- NA-23 Knitted Baby Item
- NA-24 Knitted Hat
- NA-25 Knitted Scarf
- NA-26 Knitted Item with Novelty Yarn
- NA-27 Exhibitor's Choice Knitted Item

Hand-Embroidery

- NA-28 Embroidered Table Item
- NA-29 Embroidered Clothing (clothing may be purchased)
- NA-30 Crewel Embroidery, Any Item
- NA-31 Combination of Hand Embroidery Stitches, Any Item
- NA-32 Exhibitor's Choice Embroidery

Other Needle Arts

- NA-33 Plastic Canvas Needle Art
- NA-34 Any Framed Needle Art
- NA-35 Any Tatted Item
- NA-36 Any Smocked Item
- NA-37 Loom Knitting
- NA-38 Exhibitor's Choice Needle Art

Section Q: Quilts

Section Rules

1. All general rules apply.
2. In this section ONLY: exhibitors may enter any number of items in each category, except for Q-05 Large Quilts which is limited to two entries per person due to space restrictions.
3. Youth exhibitors may have received help as appropriate but must have done the majority of the work.
4. Entries must be the work of the person or people in whose name they are entered. A group project (raffle quilt, round robin, etc.) must include the names of the group and all participants. If additional space for names is required, tape a small note to the bottom of the tag.
5. All tags must include information about the piecing AND the quilting of each item. Use the "Quilts Section" tag for these entries rather than the general tag for the HF&G Department.

Judges' Tips and Suggestions

1. Pin a scrap of cloth or ribbon over any names on labels or elsewhere on the quilt. These will be removed after judging. Only full names need to be covered, not initials.
2. Submit quilts folded, with the tag pinned to the top of the bundle so that it is clearly visible. Tags will be moved during and after judging for visibility.
3. Sleeves are not necessary. Quilts will be draped over hanging rods to raise them out of reach of viewers. They will also be covered with thin, clear plastic to protect them.

Q-01 Small Quilted Project: may include but is not limited to a postcard, pillow, potholder, Christmas stocking, ornament, table runner, placemat, and more

Q-02 Miniature Quilt: not to exceed 25" on the longest side

Q-03 Small Quilt: 26" to 48" on longest side

Q-04 Medium Quilt: 49" to 72" on longest side

Q-05 Large Quilt: 73" or more on longest side

Madison Quilters Guild Awards in Quilting and Sewing

Judges will select recipients for the following special awards:

From all Quilting entries in all Age Divisions:

Best Use of Color/Design

Best Hand Quilted

Best Home Machine Quilted

Best Longarm Quilted

Best Applique

Best Use of Embellishment

For Junior and Senior Youth:

Best Quilting Entry

Best Clothing & Sewing Entry

Plus, a Viewers' Choice Award in Quilting will be voted on by visitors to the HF&G Building during the fair!

Helpful Hints & Tag Instructions

1. Fill out the Entry Form and tags before coming to registration in order to save time. You are welcome to leave something blank if you need to ask questions, but please complete as much as possible before arriving. **Leave "Exhibitor Number" blank** until you are assigned a number at registration.
2. Very small items should be mounted to something or submitted in a zippered plastic bag to keep them secure and avoid getting lost; this also provides a way to attach the entry tags.
3. Read all General Rules AND Section Rules to see how they apply to your entries. Submit things as required in order to avoid disqualification: correct number, correct materials, etc.
4. Use **ONLY** this current catalog's rules and category numbers. Numbers often change from year to year.
5. At registration, bring all of your items and your entry form to the Picnic Shelter, near the HF&G Building, at the fair. Find your Division line to enter, receive your exhibitor number, add your number and colored stickers to your tags, pay fees for Jr. and Sr. Youth, and verify categories for items. After this is completed you will take all of your items to the HF&G Building entrance. Only volunteers and fair staff are permitted in the building during registration.
6. Fold up the bottom of completed tags **BACKWARDS** to hide the exhibitor name for judging. Please **DO NOT** tape tags closed so that they may easily opened after judging.
7. Print or photocopy as many tags as you need. Or, printed copies are available for pickup at the Madison County Extension Office, as well as printed copies of this catalog.
8. See the samples below for filling out tags. Age divisions are determined by age as of September 30, 2026:
 - Youth 5-8 (no exhibitors under age 5 are permitted)
 - Junior Youth: ages 9-13
 - Senior Youth: ages 14-19
 - Adult: over age 19
 - Senior Citizen: ages 65 and up and not wishing to be judged in the Adult division

Sample Tag:

Entry Tag	
Exh. No.	_____
Division	<u>Jr.</u>
Category	<u>A-22</u>
Description	<u>Marker</u> <u>Drawing</u>
..... Fold here	
Exhibitor Name:	<u>John Smith</u>
Town	<u>Rochelle</u>

Quilting Tag ALSO includes:

Circle one:	
Hand-Pieced	<u>Machine-Pieced</u>
Circle one:	
Hand-Quilted	<u>Longarm-Quilted</u>
Home-Machine-Quilted	
..... Fold here	
Exhibitor Name:	<u>Jane Smith</u>
Town	<u>Syria</u>
Quilted By:	<u>Sarah Jones</u>

Madison County Fair

Home, Farm, and Garden Department Entry Form

(Bring completed form when dropping off exhibits at the fairgrounds)

Name: _____ Birth Date (youth only): _____ Phone #: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Email address (please print clearly): _____

Age Division - Please circle one

Youth 5-8
Age 5-8

Junior Youth
Age 9-13

Senior Youth
Age 14-19

Adult
Age 19+

Senior Citizen
Age 65+

Special Citizen
Any age

	Section	Class	Description (from catalog, plus any identifying info)
Ex.	CR	32	Decorated flower pot, blue with butterflies
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			

(continue on back, if needed)

Disclaimer: Neither the Madison County Fair Inc. nor sponsors will be responsible for any accident or injury to the person or property of any exhibitor, spectator, attendant or any other person. The exhibitor agrees to indemnify the Fair and any sponsor against any claim or liability for damage. By signing this form, the exhibitor and parents/guardians attest that they have read all the rules of the show and agree to abide by all rules and decisions of the Fair Board.

Signature of Exhibitor

Signature of Parent/Guardian (if under 18)

This Box For Fair Use ONLY

Entry Fee \$ _____ Paid _____ # of Entries _____ Pass/T-shirt _____ Exhibitor Number: _____

	Section	Class	Description <i>(from catalog, plus any identifying info)</i>
13			
14			
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40			

Exhibitor
Number: _____

See the "Helpful Hints" page for tag instructions. Fill out tags completely EXCEPT for exhibitor number, which will be assigned at registration. Cut out tags and attach to each entry.

Do not use tags on this page for Quilting entries!

Entry Tag Exh. No. _____ Division _____ Category _____ Description _____ _____ Fold here Exhibitor Name: _____ Town _____	Entry Tag Exh. No. _____ Division _____ Category _____ Description _____ _____ Fold here Exhibitor Name: _____ Town _____	Entry Tag Exh. No. _____ Division _____ Category _____ Description _____ _____ Fold here Exhibitor Name: _____ Town _____
Entry Tag Exh. No. _____ Division _____ Category _____ Description _____ _____ Fold here Exhibitor Name: _____ Town _____	Entry Tag Exh. No. _____ Division _____ Category _____ Description _____ _____ Fold here Exhibitor Name: _____ Town _____	Entry Tag Exh. No. _____ Division _____ Category _____ Description _____ _____ Fold here Exhibitor Name: _____ Town _____

This page is intentionally left blank for tag-printing purposes.

See the "Helpful Hints" page for tag instructions. Fill out tags completely EXCEPT for exhibitor number, which will be assigned at registration. Cut out tags and attach to each entry.

Use these tags ONLY for Quilting entries!

Quilting Entry Tag	Quilting Entry Tag	Quilting Entry Tag
Exh. No. _____ Division _____ Category _____ Description _____ <i>Circle one:</i> Hand-Pieced Machine-Pieced <i>Circle one:</i> Hand-Quilted Longarm-Quilted Home-Machine-Quilted	Exh. No. _____ Division _____ Category _____ Description _____ <i>Circle one:</i> Hand-Pieced Machine-Pieced <i>Circle one:</i> Hand-Quilted Longarm-Quilted Home-Machine-Quilted	Exh. No. _____ Division _____ Category _____ Description _____ <i>Circle one:</i> Hand-Pieced Machine-Pieced <i>Circle one:</i> Hand-Quilted Longarm-Quilted Home-Machine-Quilted
..... Fold here Exhibitor Name: _____ Town _____ Quilted By: _____ Town _____	 Fold here Exhibitor Name: _____ Town _____ Quilted By: _____ Town _____	 Fold here Exhibitor Name: _____ Town _____ Quilted By: _____ Town _____