

Date: April 4, 2022

To: All 4-H Swine Members, Leaders and Parents

From: Autumn Converse, 4-H Program Coordinator

Re: 2022 Swine Project Changes and Updates

This is a quick update on the events that will take place for the 2022 fair season within the swine department. Should you have questions, please feel free to contact the MSUE office at 269-467-5521. Please note that the information contained in this letter is subject to change.

- **Countywide Tagging:** All swine will be tagged with a county tag at the countywide tagging events on June 15 or June 16, 2022. These events will be 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. at the fairgrounds. A NUES ID tag will be required for swine to exhibit at the 2022 St. Joseph County fair, and it is the responsibility of the exhibitor to ensure their hog has official ID.
- The St. Joseph County Grange Fair is a non-terminal fair. If a member chooses to take their swine animal home and it is NOT the Grand/Reserve Grand Barrow or Gilt, they may do so with the completion of the Animal Removal Authorization Form. This must be given to the Swine Superintendent by 7:00pm on **Monday, September 19, 2022**
- **NEW Evaluations System for 2022:** All livestock exhibitors will be required to complete an evaluation (interview and record book) and Skill-A-Thon for each species they exhibit. These will take place on Sunday, September 18, 2022.
- Each swine pen will use only shavings to bed with. Straw, bark, and sawdust are not permitted. Use of anything other than dry shavings could result in yellow/red tagging.
- Hogs weighing less than 225 lbs. or more than 320 lbs. are disqualified from any market classes and Carcass Hog Contest. They also will not be sold at the 4-H Large Animal Sale. They may be shown in showmanship classes.
- ALL leaders and members are responsible to clean up after their hogs in and around the wash racks. Many hands make light work! Each 4-H Club will be responsible for one or more wash rack pen(s) for the entire week of fair. Upon inspection, if the wash rack pen assigned to a club is NOT kept clean, the entire club will be held responsible and a yellow tag may be given to each swine member of that club. This will begin on Friday, September 16 through Sunday, September 25.
- **Clipping Pigs:** All Pigs that are clipped must have at least 3/8 inch hair.



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See the **Important dates, deadlines, and events** on page 2 for more information.

Important dates, deadlines, and events

Event or Deadline	Date(s)	Comments
Countywide tagging and registration	June 15 and 16, 5:00 to 7:30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four market animals can be registered per member (any combination of gilts and barrows). Only two animals may be shown at the fair and, if selected, one animal can be shown in the Carcass Contest • Animals can be cross-registered within the immediate family.
Carcass Contest Hog Entries Due	Friday, July 15	
Fair Check-in and Weigh-In	Friday, September 16, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, September 17, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 225 - 320 lbs weight requirement for animals. • All hogs will be weighed at the time of unloading. No re-weighing. • Any swine not within the weight range will be allowed to show in showmanship.
Swine Evaluation and Skill-a-thon	Sunday, September 18. Time TBD.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All members are required to complete the skill-a-thon and Interview to be eligible to show their animals at the fair.
4-H Market Swine Show	Monday, September 19, 9:30 a.m.	
4-H Market Livestock Sale	Thursday, September 22, 10:30 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swine will sell first in 2022
Animal Loading and Barn Clean out	Sunday, September 25, 5:30 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members must help clean and put away the pens once pigs are shipped out.