

Fauquier County Livestock Show & Sale FAQ

How do I participate?

Show up for our buyers' dinner at 6pm, sign in with the Sale Office for a number, and grab a seat!

Where is the Show and Sale held?

The Show and Sale is held at the Fauquier Fairgrounds in Warrenton, Virginia. The sale is always held the first Monday in May.

Is there a Website where I can get more information on the Show and Sale?

Fauquiershowandsale.org

I purchased an animal; do I have to take it home?

No. If you purchased an animal you have two options. Option 1: You can sell back the purchased animal to the "floor". This year we will be purchasing many of the "floored" animals with a grant from the Path Foundation. They will be butchered and donated to local food pantries. Any extra "floored" animals will resell the animal the next day at the Fauquier Livestock Exchange to recoup some of your expenses incurred on Monday night; or Option 2: You may decide that you would like the animal processed for personal consumption.

If I choose to resell the animal, what will my net cost be?

This will depend on the current market weight per pound.

When and how do I pay?

Payment is preferred that night only if they are buying the animal outright (i.e., not reselling). If you are reselling the animal the next day, we will send you a bill after the animal is resold. You will be responsible for the difference. You may pay by check or cash.

If I decide to have the animal processed for personal consumption, what do I need to do?

If you are the winning bidder on an animal, you will need to indicate what you would like to do with that animal; have it processed or sell it back to the floor. Each exhibitor has slots at local slaughter houses for their animals if you choose to have it processed. You will be contacted with your slaughter date, exhibitors will arrange transportation for the animal to the slaughter house and typically buyers pick up their meat directly from the slaughter house.

Can I choose my own slaughter house?

Most local slaughter houses are booked through 2022 already, we have secured enough slots for all of the animals in our Show & Sale at three different local processors. Unfortunately, unless you have already scheduled slots ahead of time, we will not be able to accommodate requests because of how busy the slaughter houses are.

I don't know anything about 'types of cuts'?

Once you purchase the animal, you will be contacted with your slaughter date and given directions on how to fill out the processing sheets.

Are there additional costs if I choose to have the animal processed?

Yes, the local processing facility will charge a processing fee as well as a cutting and wrapping fee. Prices will vary depending on the species you purchase. You will need to check with the processor for prices.

What percent of the animal will I receive back in product?

Based on the live weight of the animal, you should receive about 60% of a steer, 70% of a hog, and 50% of a lamb in carcass weight. Please note that there will be additional weight reductions based on processing choice (i.e. % of boneless cuts, fat-trim, etc.)

How are the proceeds used by the youth?

In most cases, the proceeds are used to purchase next year's project animal, and to pay future costs such as feed, vet bills, and supplies. Many youths who have participated multiple years use their profits towards college expenses.

Can I donate proceeds to an exhibitor or scholarship?

Yes. After the auction, you must talk to the office staff notify them that you would like to donate to that person or to the Susan P. Rucker scholarship.

Why is there an extra animal sold at the end of the sale?

Several years ago, the county lost a very special person and friend of 4-H, Sue Rucker. She was instrumental in making this program the success it is today. Each year a family donates an animal to be sold at the end of the sale. All proceeds go to the Susan P. Rucker Scholarship, which is used for those 4-Her's continuing their education after high school graduation. You could be the sole purchaser of the animal or the auctioneer may stop the bidding and take donations. The auctioneer will usually take the last bid offered by two to three bidders and ask if they agree to "purchase" the animal at the price you bid. The animal will be resold the next day at the Fauquier Livestock Exchange.