

2026 MARYLAND STATE FAIR - SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Schedule Subject to change

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 2026

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
11am – 3pm	Open Farm & Garden Christmas Trees Received	Cow Palace
11am – 3pm	Open Farm & Garden Entries Received (Section E – Wine)	Cow Palace
11am – 3pm	Open Farm & Garden Entries Received (Section I – Home Brew)	Cow Palace

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2026

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Noon - 8pm	Open Home Arts Entries Received (Sections A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, K, L, M & N)	4H/FFA Home Arts Bldg
2pm - 8pm	Open Home Arts Entries Received (Sections Section M – First Baking Show)	4H/FFA Home Arts Bldg
3pm - 8pm	Open Farm & Garden Entries Received (Sections A, B, C, D, F and G)	Harvest Hall

MONDAY, AUGUST 24, 2026

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
9am - 7pm	Open Home Arts Entries Received (Sections A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, K, L, M & N)	4H/FFA Home Arts Bldg
9am - 7pm	Open Home Arts Entries Received (Sections Section M – First Baking Show)	4H/FFA Home Arts Bldg
3pm - 8pm	Open Farm & Garden Entries Received (Sections A, B, C, D, F and G)	Harvest Hall

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2026

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
2pm - 8pm	4-H/FFA Entries Received (Divisions L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T)	4H/FFA Home Arts Bldg
2pm - 8pm	4-H/FFA Entries Received (Division X – Clover Exhibits)	4H/FFA Home Arts Bldg
2pm - 8pm	4-H/FFA Entries Received – Eggs (in Poultry Division)	4H/FFA Home Arts Bldg

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2026

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Noon - 9pm	4-H/FFA Livestock Entries Received Beef, Sheep, Swine, Dairy Steers	Respective Barns
Noon - 8pm	Open Farm & Garden 1st Flower Show Entries Received - Potted Plants, Orchids and Silk Arrangements	Harvest Hall
4pm - 9pm	4-H/FFA Entries Received for Thursday's 4-H/FFA Horse Show only	Horse Stables

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2026

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
7am - 9pm	4-H/FFA Meat Goat Entries Received	Sheep Barn
7am - 9pm	JABGA and Open Boer Goat Entries Received	Sheep Ring
7am - 9am	4-H/FFA Sheep and Swine Entries Received	Swine & Sheep Barns
7am - Noon	4-H/FFA Beef and Dairy Steer Entries Received	Cow Palace
8am	Open Beef Cattle stalls available	Cow Palace
8am	4-H/FFA Horse & Pony Show – SENIOR Western Show	Horse Show Ring
9am	4-H/FFA Sheep and Swine entries must be in place	Swine/Sheep Barn
10:30am	4-H/FFA Market Lamb Weigh-in (following exhibitor orientation)	Cow Palace Scales
11am	4-H/FFA Swine Exhibitor Orientation	Swine Show Ring
11:30am	4-H/FFA Market Hog Weigh-in	Swine Barn Scales
Noon	4-H/FFA Sheep Exhibitor Orientation	South Cow Palace Ring
Noon	4-H/FFA Beef, and Dairy Steers must be in place	Cow Palace
Noon	4-H/FFA Tractor Operators Safety Event – Registration & Review	Lower Level Grandstands & Track Infield
1pm	4-H/FFA Tractor Operators Safety Event - Written	Lower Level Grandstands & Track Infield
2pm	4-H/FFA Tractor Operators Safety Event - Practical Exam/Driving Event	Lower Level Grandstands & Track Infield
3pm	4-H/FFA Beef Exhibitor Orientation	Cow Palace Show Ring
3pm	4-H/FFA Dairy Steer Exhibitor Orientation	Cow Palace Show Ring
3:30pm	4-H/FFA Dairy Steer, Beef Steer and Commercial Heifer Weigh-in (following swine)	Cow Palace Scales
4pm - 6pm	4-H/FFA Entries received for Friday's 4-H/FFA Horse Show only	Horse Stable
4pm - 8pm	4-H/FFA Entries received for Poultry Show	South End Cow Palace
5pm	Gates open to public	Entrances
5pm - 7pm	U-Learn Farm and U-Learn Barn	Cow Palace
7pm	4-H/FFA Market Lamb Show	South Cow Palace Ring
7pm	Rodeo	Horse Stable
9pm	4-H/FFA Meat Goats, must be in place and checked-in	Sheep Barn

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, 2026

Time	Event	Location
7am - 9am	JABGA & Open Boer goats received	Sheep Ring
7am - 9am	4-H/FFA Entries received for Poultry Show	South End Cow Palace
9am	4-H/FFA Horse & Pony Show – JR & INT Western Show	Horse Show Ring
10am	4-H/FFA Poultry Show	South End Cow Palace
10am	4-H/FFA Beef Showmanship	Cow Palace Show Ring
11am - 7pm	U-Learn Farm and U-Learn Barn	Cow Palace
Noon	4-H/FFA Sheep Showmanship	South Cow Palace Ring
Noon	4-H/FFA Meat Goat Exhibitor Orientation	Sheep Ring
1pm	4-H/FFA Meat Goat Weigh-in	Swine Barn Scales
5pm	4-H/FFA Meat Goat Show - Showmanship followed by Breeding	Sheep Ring
5pm	Open Beef Cattle must be in place and checked-in	Cow Palace
6pm	4-H/FFA Market Swine Show	Swine Ring
6pm	4-H/FFA Dairy Steer Show	Cow Palace
7pm	4-H/FFA Pretty Animal Contest & Parade	South End Cow Palace
7pm - 10pm	4-H/FFA Entries received for Saturday's Horse Show only	Horse Stables

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29, 2026

Time	Event	Location
7:30am - Noon	Open Farm & Garden Second Flower Show Entries Received – Gladiolus & Dahlias	Harvest Hall
9am	4-H/FFA Beef Heifer Show	Cow Palace
9am	4-H/FFA Horse & Pony Show- JR & INT English Show	Horse Show Ring
10am - 2pm	4-H/FFA Presents!	4H/FFA Home Arts Bldg Stage
11am - 7pm	U-Learn Farm and U-Learn Barn	Cow Palace
Noon	JABGA Goat Show	Sheep Ring
2pm	4-H/FFA Swine Showmanship	Swine Ring
2pm	4-H Fashion Revue	4H/FFA Home Arts Bldg Stage
6pm	4-H/FFA Market Goat Show	Sheep Ring
7pm	4-H/FFA Beef Steer Show	Cow Palace
7pm - 10pm	4-H/FFA Entries received-Sunday's 4-H/FFA Horse Show Only	Horse Stable

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 2026

Time	Event	Location
9am	Open Hereford & MD State Hereford Show (time subject to change)	Cow Palace
9am	Open Simmental (time subject to change)	Cow Palace
9am	4-H/FFA Shepherd's Lead Contest	South End Cow Palace
9am	4-H/FFA Breeding Swine Show	Swine Ring
9am	4-H/FFA Horse & Pony Show- SR English Show	Horse Show Ring
9am - 4pm	4-H Robotics Showcase	4H/FFA Home Arts Bldg
10am - Noon	Mallet Competition	State Fair Park
10am	Open Boer Goat Show	Sheep Ring
10:30pm	Open Angus followed by MD State Angus Show (time subject to change)	Cow Palace
11am	4-H/FFA Sheep Breeding Show	South End Cow Palace
11am - 7pm	U-Learn Farm and U-Learn Barn	Cow Palace
12:30pm	Open AOB Beef Cattle Show (time subject to change)	Cow Palace
12:45pm	Open Red Angus Show (time subject to change)	Cow Palace
1:30pm-3:30pm	4-H Top Chef Challenge	4H/FFA Home Arts Bldg
2pm	Open Shorthorn Super Regional Show (time subject to change)	Cow Palace
2:30pm	Open Charolais Show (time subject to change)	Cow Palace
3:30pm	Open Shorthorn Plus (time subject to change)	Cow Palace
3:30 - 7pm	4-H/FFA Presents!	4H/FFA Home Arts Bldg
4pm	Open Supreme Champion Beef Cattle Drive	Cow Palace
4pm	4-H/FFA Swine Exhibits Released	Swine Barn
5pm	4-H/FFA All-Star Showmanship – Market Livestock	Cow Palace
6pm	Open Boer Goats Released	Cow Palace
6pm	Open Beef Cattle Released	Cow Palace
6pm	JABGA Exhibits Released	Cow Palace
6pm	4-H/FFA Sheep Exhibits Released	Sheep Barn
6pm	4-H/FFA Meat Goats Released	Cow Palace
8pm	4-H/FFA Beef Released	Cow Palace

MONDAY, AUGUST 31, 2026

Time	Event	Location
4pm - 8pm	Open Farm & Garden 1st Flower Show Entries Released - Potted Plants, Orchids and Silk Arrangements	Harvest Hall
7pm	Maryland State Fair Youth Livestock Auction	Cow Palace

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2026

Time	Event	Location
9am - 1pm	Open Dairy Cattle Entries Received	Cow Palace

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2026

Time	Event	Location
8am - Noon	Open Dairy Cattle Entries Received	Cow Palace
10am - 5pm	Open Wether Dam Arrival	Sheep Barn
Noon	Open Dairy Cattle must be in place	Cow Palace
Noon	Open Sheep Pens available	
Noon - 8pm	Open Farm & Garden Third Flower Show Entries Received – Fresh Flowers	Harvest Hall
3pm - 8pm	Open Home Arts Entries Received (Section M – Second Baking Show)	4H/FFA Home Arts Bldg
5pm	Open Wether Dams must be in place	Sheep Barn
7pm	Open Wether Dam must be weighed	Sheep Barn

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2026

Time	Event	Location
9am	Open Jersey Show	Cow Palace
9am	Open Wether Dam Show	Sheep Barn
9am - 9pm	Open Sheep Pens available	Sheep Barn
9am - 5:30pm	Open Welsh Pony Show	Horse Show Ring
10:30am	Open Brown Swiss Show	Cow Palace
Noon	Open Hog pens available	Swine Barn
2pm	Open Milking Shorthorn Show	Cow Palace
2pm	Open Red & White Holstein Show	Cow Palace
5:00pm	Gates open to public	Entrances
5pm - 7pm	U-Learn Farm and U-Learn Barn	Cow Palace
7pm	Open Holstein Futurity	Cow Palace

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2026

Time	Event	Location
9am	Open Holstein Show	Cow Palace
9am - 11am	Open Welsh Pony Show	Horse Show Ring
10am - 11am	Milkshake Competition	State Fair Park
11am - 7pm	U-Learn Farm and U-Learn Barn	Cow Palace
Noon	Open Ayrshire Show	Cow Palace
Noon	All Sheep must be in place	South End Cow Palace & Sheep Barn
Noon	Open Swine must be in place	Swine Barn
1pm-5pm	Open Swine Show Check-in	Swine Barn
1pm	Open Swine Show Barrows Weighed	Swine Barn
1:30pm	Open Guernsey Show	Cow Palace
2pm	Open Sheep must be checked in	South End Cow Palace & Sheep Barn
3pm	All Open Swine Crossbred gilt and barrow weigh cards due	Swine Barn
4pm	Open Supreme Dairy Cattle Show	Cow Palace
4pm - 7pm	4-H/FFA Second Flower Show entries received	4H/FFA Home Arts Bldg
5pm	Open Sheep Show - White Border Leicester, All other White Wool, Corriedale	Sheep Barn
7pm	Maryland Dairy Princess Contest	Cow Palace

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 , 2026

Time	Event	Location
8am – 2pm	4-H/FFA Dairy entries received	Cow Palace
8am	4-H/FFA Horticulture Judging Contest	Vista Room – Admin. Bldg
8:30am	4-H/FFA Dairy Judging Contest (Registration @ 8am)	Cow Palace
9:00am	4-H/FFA Poultry Judging Contest	Show Pavilion
9:00am	4-H/FFA Rabbit Judging Contest	Show Pavilion
9am	4-H/FFA Livestock Judging Contest	Cow Palace
9am – 5pm	Open Draft Horse & Mule Show – Confirmation, Cart & Hitch	Horse Show Ring
9am	Open Sheep Show –Black Lincoln, Black Border Leicester, Natural Colored, White Lincoln, Supreme Wool, White Romney, Black Lincoln, Black Border Leicester, Best Fleece, Supreme Wool Selection, MD Bred & Owned	South Cow Palace Show Ring
10am – 1pm	4-H/FFA Presents!	4H/FFA Home Arts Bldg
11am - 7pm	U-Learn Farm and U-Learn Barn	Cow Palace
Noon	Open Dairy Cattle Release	Cow Palace
12:30pm	Open Swine Show (Berks, Spots, Poland China, Tamworth, Crossbred Barrows	Swine Barn
1pm-3pm	4-H/FFA Horticulture Communication Event	4-H/FFA Home Arts Stage
2pm	4-H/FFA Dairy must be in place	Cow Palace
3pm	4-H/FFA Dairy Cattle Exhibitor Orientation	South Cow Palace Show Ring
3pm	All Cross and Purebred barrow weigh cards due	Swine Ring
4pm	4-H/FFA Judging Awards Program (Rabbit, Poultry & Horticulture)	Cow Palace
5pm – 10pm	Horse Pulling Contest – Miniature	Horse Show Ring
6pm	4-H/FFA Judging Awards Program (Livestock & Dairy)	Cow Palace
7:30pm	Horse Pulling Contest – Light Teams & Minis	Horse Show Ring
8:00pm	Youth Sheep Activities	Sheep Ring

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

Time	Event	Location
9am	Open Sheep Show- Dorper, Suffolk Slick, Katahdin, Southdown, All Other Meat Slick, Shropshire, All Other Hair Breeds	Sheep Barn
9am – 5pm	Open Draft Horse & Mule Show – Under Saddle, Cart & Hitch	Horse Show Ring
11am - 7pm	U-Learn Farm and U-Learn Barn	Cow Palace
Noon	4-H/FFA Dairy Cattle Showmanship	Cow Palace
12:30pm	Open Swine Show (Hampshire, York, Chester White, Crossbred	
5pm - 7pm	4-H Top Chef Challenge	4H/FFA Home Arts Bldg
5pm – 9pm	Horse Pulling Contest – Heavy Teams	Horse Show Ring
7pm	4-H Dairy Fit Out	Cow Palace
7PM	Open Swine Showmanship	Swine Barn

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2026

Time	Event	Location
9am	Open Sheep Show – Hampshire Slick, Tunis, All Other Meat Fitted, Dorset, Supreme Selection, Cheviot, MD Bred & Owned Herdsman, Supreme Meat Selection	Sheep Ring
9am	4-H/FFA Dairy Show – All Breeds	Cow Palace
9am	Open Youth Performance & Fitting & Showing Show (riders 17 and under)	Horse Show Ring
9am – 5pm	Open Shetland Pony Show (following fitting and showing)	Horse Show Ring
9:30am	Open Swine Show (Duroc, Landrace, Hereford)	Swine Barn
11am - 7pm	U-Learn Farm and U-Learn Barn	Cow Palace
2pm	The Hellen Burns Smyth Award Ceremony	4H/FFA Home Arts Bldg
2pm	Open Swine Supremes (Barrow, Female, Boar)	Swine Barn
6pm	4-H/FFA Dairy Cattle Released	Cow Palace
8pm	Open Hogs Released	Swine Barn
	Open Sheep Released 1 hour following selection of supreme	Sheep Barn

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2026

Time	Event	Location
3pm - 8pm	Open Home Arts Entries Received (Section M – Third Baking Show)	4H/FFA Home Arts Bldg
3pm - 8pm	Entries for Farm & Garden Fall Flower & Vegetable Show	Harvest Hall
7pm – 9pm	Open & 4-H/FFA Dairy Goat stalls available	Sheep Barn

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2026

Time	Event	Location
9am	Open Highland and Prospect cattle move in	Cow Palace
9am – Noon	Entries for 2nd Bake show	4H/FFA Home Arts Bldg
1pm	Open Dairy Goats must be in place	Sheep Barn
4pm	Open Dairy Goats must be checked in	Sheep Barn
5:00pm	Gates open to public	Entrances
5pm – 7pm	U-Learn Farm and U-Learn Barn	Cow Palace
7pm	Rodeo	Horse Show Ring

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

Time	Event	Location
9am	Highland Cattle must be in place	Cow Palace
9am	Open Dairy Goat – All Breeds – SR Doe Show & Best Udder of Shows	Sheep Ring
9am – 5pm	Open Hunter Breeding/Jumper Show	Horse Show Ring
9am – 9pm	4-H/FFA Dairy Goat & Alpaca Entries Received	
11am – 7pm	U-Learn Farm and U-Learn Barn	Cow Palace
3pm – 9pm	Alpaca and Llama check-in	South Cow Palace
5pm – 7pm	4-H Baking Championship entries received (Judging at 7:30pm)	4H/FFA Home Arts Bldg
5pm – 9pm	Longhorn Entries received	Cow Palace
5:30pm	4-H/FFA Dairy Goat Orientation	Sheep Ring
6pm	Open Highland Cattle Show	Cow Palace
6pm	4-H/FFA Dairy Goat Judging	Sheep Ring
8pm	4-H/FFA Dairy Goat Team Fitting	Sheep Ring
9pm	Open & 4-H/FFA Alpacas & Llamas must be in place	Cow Palace
9pm	All 4-H Dairy Goats must be checked in	Sheep Barn

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2026

Time	Event	Location
8am	4-H/FFA Entries Received for Rabbit & Cavy Shows	South End Cow Palace
8am	Open ARBA rabbit entries received	South End Cow Palace
8am	Open Alpaca/Llama Exhibitors Mtg.	South Cow Palace Ring
9am	4-H/FFA and Open ARBA show (4-H/FFA followed by open by breeds)	South End Cow Palace
9am	Prospect Cattle must be in place	Cow Palace
9am – Noon	Longhorn entries received	Cow Palace
9am	Open Alpaca/Llama Showmanship, Obstacle & Performance	South Cow Palace Ring
9am	Open Dairy Goat – All Breeds – JR Doe Show Only	Sheep Ring
9am	4-H Dog Show entries received	Cow Palace
9am – 6pm	Open Thoroughbred Hunter	Horse Ring
10am	4-H/FFA Rabbit & Cavy Show to follow Rabbit Meat Pen Show	South End Cow Palace
10am	4-H Dog Show – Fitting & Showmanship (all age divisions)	Cow Palace
	Obedience	
	Rally	
10am	4-H Bicycle Safety Event	North End Cow Palace
11am - 7pm	U-Learn Farm and U-Learn Barn	Cow Palace
Noon	Open ARBA rabbit show	South End Cow Palace
Noon	Longhorn Entries must be in place	Cow Palace
1pm	4-H Learn/Earn & Safety (Lawn Tractor)	North End Cow Palace
4pm	4-H Small Engine Event	North End Cow Palace
5pm	4-H/FFA Dairy Goat Showmanship	Sheep Ring
5pm	Open Dairy Goats Released following show	Sheep Barn
5pm	Alpaca/Llama Demonstrations	South Cow Palace Ring
7pm	Open Prospect Cattle Show	Cow Palace

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
8:30am	4-H/FFA Alpaca/Llama exhibitor's meeting	South Cow Palace Ring
9am	4-H/FFA Alpaca/Llama show	South Cow Palace Ring
9am	4-H/FFA Dairy Goat Breeding Show (Nigerian Dwarf, Nubian, Oberhasli, Recorded Grade, Sable, Toggenburg, AOP, Alpine, Lamancha)	Sheep Ring
9am	Junior Longhorn Show	Cow Palace
9am – 6pm	Open Fitting and Showing/Youth Show	Horse Show Ring
10am-Noon	Mullet Competition	State Fair Park
11am - 7pm	U-Learn Farm and U-Learn Barn	Cow Palace
Noon	Open Longhorn Show (following junior show)	Cow Palace
1pm	4-H Drone Challenge	North End Cow Palace
5pm	4-H/FFA All-Star Showmanship	Cow Palace
6pm	4-H/FFA Dairy Goats & Alpacas/Llamas Released	
8pm – 10pm	4-H/FFA Exhibits Released	4H/FFA Home Arts Bldg

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2026

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
9am – 7pm	4-H/FFA Exhibits Released	4H/FFA Home Arts Bldg
9am – 7pm	Open Home Arts Entries Released	4H/FFA Home Arts Bldg
9am – 7pm	Open Farm & Garden Entries Released	Harvest Hall