

Wisconsin Association of FFA

State Convention Contest Handbook

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- * **Opening and Closing Ceremony Contest**

Updated January 2009

Wisconsin Association of FFA

Agriscience Fair Policies

1. The Agriscience Fair Competition is open to all FFA members in grades 7-12. There are four divisions. Division I is open to individual members in grades 7, 8 and 9. Division II is open to individual members in grades 10, 11 and 12. Division III is for teams of two members in grades 7, 8 and 9. Division IV is for teams of two members in grades 10, 11 and 12. The student's grade level is determined by the age of the member at the time of qualification at the state level. Because the Wisconsin FFA Convention is currently held at the end of the school year, the student's grade will be the year in school the student would have just completed.
2. All rules, project components and judging criteria set forth by the National FFA Organization for the National FFA Agriscience Fair will apply to the Wisconsin State FFA Agriscience Fair.
3. Each entry in the Wisconsin Agriscience Fair competition will be ranked gold, silver or bronze. If the judges feel it is necessary, a participant award can be given but to those exhibits that clearly do not meet the criteria of an Agriscience Fair exhibit.
4. A State Winner can be selected in each of the categories. Only one state winner is allowed in each Category within each Division. An Agriscience Fair Entry must be ranked gold before it will be considered for the award of State Winner. If projects are worthy of a gold rating then a State Winner needs to be selected from those entries. All gold ratings should be ranked. If an Agriscience Fair exhibit is declared a state winner, this means that they are eligible to advance to the National FFA Competition. If a state winner, wishes not to advance to National Competition, they need to inform the judges and the title of state winner will not be awarded to that individual and/or team.
5. Once a student has been declared a State Winner in a certain Division and Category and is eligible to advance to National competition, they cannot exhibit in that same Division and Category in succeeding years.
6. Students can only enter in one division and one category in a given year. This means that they cannot enter an Agriscience Fair project as an individual and also as a team.
7. Each participant is required to meet with the judges to explain their project at the Wisconsin FFA Convention.
8. All National FFA rules and policies concerning animal care, human subjects, safety, etc. will apply to the State FFA Agriscience Fair. All necessary forms that are required by National FFA will also be required on the State Level.
9. Entry forms for the Wisconsin FFA Agriscience Fair are due postmarked to the Wisconsin FFA Center May 1. The official entry form and the abstract of the Agriscience Fair project must be submitted at that time.
10. Wisconsin Agriscience Fair results will be announced on stage at the LifeWork Expo during the Wisconsin FFA Convention. Only the State Winner in each Category and Division will be announced on the Main Stage of the State FFA Convention.
11. All Agriscience Fair exhibits must be in place on Tuesday evening of the State FFA Convention. Judging will take place on Wednesday morning before the opening of the LifeWork Expo.
12. The decision of the judges is final.

**Wisconsin FFA Agriscience Fair
Official Entry Form**

**USE NATIONAL FFA ENTRY FORM AND ALL
NATIONAL REQUIRED WAIVER FORMS TO APPLY FOR
THE WISCONSIN AGRISCIENCE FAIR.**

**CONTESTANTS ALSO NEED TO SUBMIT A COPY OF
THEIR ABSTRACT ALONG WITH ALL OTHER
REQUIRED FORMS.**

**ENTRY FORMS ARE DUE MAY 1 TO THE
WISCONSIN FFA CENTER**

State FFA Agriscience Fair – Electrical Hook-Up Request

Submit this form only if you require any electrical connection for your Agriscience Fair Display. Please limit the electrical hook-ups as much as possible to help reduce costs. We will provide you with the necessary electricity that you need for your display when you submit this form.

Please return to the Wisconsin FFA Center, P.O. Box 110, Spencer, WI 54479

By June 1

Name _____

Chapter _____

Describe your electrical needs for your Agriscience Display:

Agricultural Issues Forum

The Wisconsin Association of FFA will conduct the Agricultural Issues Career Development Event at the State FFA Convention. No District or Sectional competitions are held at this time. **The CDE is limited to the first ten teams to submit an entry form.** The entry form is attached. Complete rules for the Agricultural Issues CDE are found on the National FFA website Career Development Event Handbook.

This Career Development Event provides students the opportunity to explore a **local** agricultural issue. As a team, FFA members research, plan and present an agricultural issue. Through this competition, students will need to contact local community leadership. They need to prepare a portfolio, conduct their presentation to local community groups and then compete at the State FFA convention. The state winning team will represent Wisconsin at the national competition.

Agricultural Issues Career Development Event Rules:

1. Each team will conduct a presentation on a **local** agricultural issue.
2. The local issue selected must come from the following categories:
 - a. Environmental Issues
 - b. Agricultural Technology Issues
 - c. Animal Issues
 - d. Agricultural Career Issues
 - e. Economy and Trade Issues
 - f. Agricultural Policy Issues
 - g. Food Safety Issues
 - h. Biotechnology

The student team will need to develop a portfolio - ten pages maximum. Four copies of the portfolio must be sent to the Wisconsin FFA Center postmarked May 25. The portfolio must contain:

- a. A maximum of two pages will include a summary of the issue, answering the questions that are most relevant to your topic:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| √ List course(s) in which instruction occurred. | √ Why is this issue important now? |
| √ What is the nature of the issue? | √ Who is involved in the issue? |
| √ How can the issue be defined? | √ What caused the issue? |
| √ What is the historical background of the issue? | √ What are the benefits? |
| √ What are the risks? | |
| √ Is there strong disagreement on how the issue should be solved? | |

- b. A bibliography of all resources and references cited which may include personal interviews and any other supporting materials.

- c. Documentation that a local forum occurred such as:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| √ Letter from organization | √ Photos (3 x 5 or 4 x 6) |
| √ New articles | √ Scrapbook |

4. Presentation may include official FFA attire, costumes, props, skits and other creative paraphernalia.
5. Time Limits. Five minutes allowed for set up. The presentation is a maximum of 15 minutes. A maximum of 7 minutes for questions and answers. Three minutes for take down.
6. Three to seven members can compete on the Agricultural Issues Team.

Each team must conduct presentations on their Agricultural Issues topic to local and area groups **before** competing in the state competition. A chapter must have a minimum of five high quality public forums prior to the state event. These forums can be presented to community groups. (i.e. Rotary, FFA Alumni, Commodity Groups, Chamber of Commerce, etc.) See National Rules for specific details

Entry forms are due postmarked **April 1**. The first ten teams to submit an entry form will be allowed to compete. Send your official entry form to the Wisconsin FFA Center, PO Box 110, Spencer, WI 54479. This entry form is only a notification to the State FFA Office that your FFA chapter will be competing. All other materials are due at a later time.

Agricultural Issues Forum

State Entry Form

*This entry form is only a notification to the State FFA Office that your FFA chapter wants to compete.
All other materials are due at a later time.*

Chapter: _____

Chapter Advisor (s): _____

Yes. We would like a team to compete in the Wisconsin FFA Agricultural Issues CDE.

Chapter Advisor's Signature

The first ten teams which enter to compete in this Career Development Event will receive further information about the competition.

Return Entry Form to:

**Wisconsin FFA Center
P.O. Box 110
Spencer, WI 54479**

Entry forms must be postmarked on or before April 1.

Marketing Plan CDE

The Wisconsin Association of FFA will conduct the State Marketing Plan Career Development Event at the State FFA Convention in Madison. **The CDE is limited to the first ten teams to submit an entry form.** The entry form is attached. Complete rules for the Marketing Plan CDE are found on the National FFA website Career Development Event Handbook.

Marketing Plan is designed to help students with developing practical skills in the marketing process through the development and presentation of a marketing plan. Student's research and present a marketing plan for an agricultural product, supply or service. It is intended as a competitive activity involving a team of three persons working for a local community agri-business to support the FFA's outreach mission. The state winning team will represent Wisconsin at the national competition.

Marketing Plan Career Development Event Rules: See National Rules for Complete Information

1. Teams wanting to compete in the State Marketing Plan CDE must submit an official entry form (attached) and be accepted as one of the first 10 chapters to enter in order to compete.
2. Three members can compete on the Marketing Plan Team, although this can be an entire FFA chapter project, specific class project or three-member team project. You are limited to three people as actual presenters. Members must appear on a chapter's official roster in order to compete and must be in complete official dress.
3. Select a local community agricultural business that services the community, and decide on the product or service for the marketing plan. Work with either existing or start-up situations. Do not use your chapter as a client.
4. Emphasis should be placed on the "value added" concept using marketing techniques to increase the value of products or services.
5. The project outline should include the following aspects of the marketing process:
 - Analysis of market – "Where are we now? Why were we hired?" (10 points)
 - Business Proposition – "Where do we want to be?" (5 points)
 - Strategies and Action Plan – "How and when will we get there?" (10 points)
 - Projected budget – "How much will it cost to get there?" (5 points)
 - Evaluation – "Did we get there?" (5 points)
6. Written Plan – Three copies of the Marketing Plan must be submitted to the Wisconsin FFA Center postmarked May 25. The document will not exceed 8 pages and must be ten points or larger type size.
 - a. title page – project title, team name, chapter and date
 - b. text – marketing plan (5 pages)
 - c. appendices – surveys, graphs, maps, promotion pieces, etc. (2 pages)

Each team will be allowed 5 minutes to set up for their presentation. The live presentation cannot exceed 15 minutes. Points will be deducted for time over 15 minutes. The presentation will be followed by five minutes maximum of "clarifying" questions with at least one question for each member of the team. Visual aids are only limited by your imagination. **Teams will be responsible for bringing in any equipment needed for their presentation.**

Entry forms are due postmarked **April 1**. The first ten teams to submit an entry form will be allowed to compete. Send your official entry form to the Wisconsin FFA Center, PO Box 110, Spencer, WI 54479. This entry form is only a notification to the State FFA Office that your FFA chapter will be competing. All other materials are due at a later time.

Marketing Plan Career Development Event

State Entry Form

*This entry form is only a notification to the State FFA Office that your FFA chapter wants to compete.
All other materials are due at a later time.*

Chapter: _____

Chapter Advisor (s): _____

Yes. We would like a team to compete in the Wisconsin FFA Marketing Plan CDE.

Chapter Advisor's Signature

The first ten teams which enter to compete in this Career Development Event will receive further information about the competition.

Return Entry Form to:

**Wisconsin FFA Center
P.O. Box 110
Spencer, WI 54479**

Entry forms must be postmarked on or before April 1.

Membership Recruitment Award

The Wisconsin Association of FFA encourages chapters to retain and recruit members into the FFA organization. More students need to learn about the opportunities that the FFA has to offer and wants those students to become involved in the FFA. This recognition program was created for chapter officers based on their accomplished goals for recruitment and retention of FFA members for their chapters.

The top 5 chapters will be recognized on stage at the Wisconsin State FFA Convention for their FFA Membership Recruitment and Retention activities. The recognition program will be based upon:

- * Completed application answering the questions below.
- * Application **MUST** be filled out by chapter officers.
- * Please include 3 pictures (3 1/2 x 5 or 4 x 6) with captions of 50 words or less.
- * Applications must be typed.

Application Deadline: Postmarked by May 1 to:

**Wisconsin FFA Center
PO Box 110
Spencer, WI 54479**

Chapter Name: _____

Chapter Advisor(s) _____

On one page or less per question (Double-spaced, 10 pt font size) please answer the following questions:

1. What are the goals of your chapter's membership recruitment and retention plan?
2. Describe your chapter's activities for Recruitment/Retention of FFA members.
3. What challenges has your team faced as you have implemented your Recruitment/Retention Program and how have you overcome those challenges?
4. What is the impact of your Recruitment/Retention program activities, how has your membership changed as a result of your activities?

Wisconsin FFA State Scrapbook Contest

General Overview:

A. Purpose: To serve as historical documentation for the chapter, but also act as a recruitment tool and ultimate sharing of chapter ideas.

B. Objective: Students will be able to:

- Develop a deeper understanding of the activities and committees in the Program of Activities
- Exercise creativity skills
- Create historical documents for use by the chapter in the future
- Develop powerful public relation tools

C. Guidelines:

All work is to be done by students – not by an adult or professional person.

- Two options for books:
 - 12 x 12 sold by any company w/page protectors
 - Traditional large album sold by National FFA (National FFA sells a 12x12 album as of fall 2007.)
- Contents must be contained in one scrapbook.
- Backside of last page can be blank or decorated.
- Remove all unused pages.
- The scrapbook must have an official FFA scrapbook title page. (If you're using a 12x12 book, design one of your own.)
- The scrapbook must have one Table of Contents located at the beginning of the book.
- Table of Contents should include all pages in the book – divided into sections following the overall organization of the book. (See below.)
- Items included in the book should be from previous year's State Convention to the current State Convention.
- The scrapbook must be organized in one of the following ways:
 - Chronological
 - Monthly
 - Sections – At least 5 sections
 - Community Service, Recreation
 - SAE, Monthly Mtgs, CDE's, Conferences/Conventions, Leadership, Local Activities, etc.
You could also make your own section heading to fit your needs.
- All media must be trimmed, permanently attached, identified, and dated. Nothing can extend beyond the page itself.

- News clippings should give source, page number, date, etc., and should be laminated for longer life – clippings only!!
- No pages should be entirely laminated.
- Collages can be used as art, but cannot be the only historical content on page.

D. Judging:

- Two of three judges will remain the same each year to provide consistency and clear expectations. The other judge will be chosen based on experience with the scrapbooking industry.

Tips For Success

- 12 x 12 can save you money!
- Laminate newspaper clippings for longer life – no other things need to be laminated.
- Get resourceful – contact local scrapbook shops, Jo-Ann's or Michael's, etc to get some supplies donated (Sunday newspapers usually have a 40% off coupon.) Contact local independent scrapbooking/stamping consultants from Close To My Heart, Creative Memories, or Stampin' Up to help you get ideas or donate supplies.
- Neatly handwrite or type captions – include first and last names of people because of the historical significance. It will help greatly in the future!
- Limit the thank you notes you include to the best quality – you probably don't need 45 cards per event.
- Create pocket pages to hold additional cards or noteworthy programs, etc.
- Maintain a consistent font and font size. Stay away from hard to read colors like yellow.
- Use enough adhesive on all items included in your book, and use the proper kinds of adhesive.
- Proper adhesives include: Tombow monoadhesive, photo splits (double sided sticky squares), double sided tape, archival glue sticks, archival liquid glue – NOT masking tape, scotch tape, duct tape, or liquid cement!
- Many scrapbooks have too many photos of a single event; four good photos that are well captioned tell more than ten mediocre photos without captions – plus using this tip saves you time and money!
- Don't be afraid of a two page spread if you have a group of really great photos! You don't have to cram it all onto one page.
- Be careful of WordArt – it's sometimes very hard to read! If you use it, just be conscious of font, font size and color!
- It's hard to read words on top of busy, patterned paper. Use a solid color photo mat in a matching color to help offset your captions or titles.

- Reflections through journaling is important! Use the photos to tell the story and then supplement them with words. These words should be typed if reading your handwriting is a problem.
- Don't reuse old pages. They sometimes have old adhesive stuck to them and it looks shabby and unprofessional.
- Make sure the pictures you use are current!
- Where to find ideas:
 - Magazines
 - Idea books
 - Online
 - People with experience
 - Contact local consultants for assistance
- How can you maximize the money your chapter spends?
 - Dollar Stores
 - Use coupons from the Sunday paper or sign up online – JoAnn's & Michael's (40% off)
 - Sign up for mailing lists for craft stores – they will send coupons
 - Archiver's and other craft store bargain bins
 - Clearance bins
 - Donations from local stores
- Websites for photo processing:
Most of us process digital prints. Check out online sources for processing as you can usually get great deals using special promotion codes. The prints will be shipped right to you!
 - Snapfish.com
 - Kodakgallery.com
 - Winkflash.com
 - Walmart.com
 - Walgreens.com

Stamping in your scrapbook:

- Use stamps to embellish your scrapbook pages. Using stamps can really save you money! You won't need to invest in so many stickers.
- Make your own background paper.
- Add interest to large spaces.
- Alpha – stamps instead of stickers can save you money!
- Stamping 101:
 - Be sure image is properly inked: all image parts covered; no excess inks that will smear.
 - Stamped images can run off of edges of paper – it encourages your brain and your eyes to work together!
 - Random stamping adds interest to your project.

Techniques to use in your scrapbook:

Sponging: Use sponge pieces to sponge ink onto paper.

Swiping: Slide paper across top of ink pad to add color.

2nd Generation Stamping: Stamp inked image once, then without reinking, stamp the image again for a faded and textured look.

Scissor Distressing: Slide edge of scissors across edge of paper with white core for a worn look.

Tearing: Tear edges of paper for a textured look and/or to expose white core for more depth.

Sanding: Slide sand paper across colored paper to expose white core and add a worn look.

Stipling: Dip stiple brush in ink pad and dab onto paper.

3-D Foam Dots: Add dimension and depth by attaching embellishments with 3-D dots.

If you have questions or concerns you can contact:

Becky Wirkus

Stratford FFA Advisor

Close To My Heart Consultant

www.rwirkus.myctmh.com

rebeccaw@stratford.k12.wi.us

tbtwirkus@netzero.com

Rachel Sauvola

New Richmond FFA Advisor

Close To My Heart Consultant

www.teacherscraps.myctmh.com

rachels@newrichmond.k12.wi.us

rachelzabel@yahoo.com

Wisconsin FFA Opening and Closing Ceremony Career Development Event

Official Entry Information and Form

Official Entry Information and Form

Wisconsin Association of FFA will conduct the State FFA Opening and Closing Ceremony Career Development Event at the State FFA Convention in Madison. **This CDE will be limited to the first 15 high school teams and first 15 junior high teams that submit an entry form.** The entry form is attached. The CDE will be held Wednesday of the State Convention at 8:00 a.m. in the Alliant Energy Center. Complete rules for the competition are listed below.

The objectives of the FFA Opening and Closing Ceremonies CDE are designed to develop public speaking skills and promote the proper use of the Official FFA Opening and Closing Ceremonies.

Opening and Closing Ceremony Career Development Event Rules:

1. Teams wanting to compete in the State Opening and Closing Ceremony CDE must submit an official entry form (attached) and be accepted as one of the first 30 chapters to enter in order to compete (15 high school teams and 15 junior high teams).
2. There will be two divisions: One for high school members and one for middle school members. A chapter may only have one team participating in each division. Each team will consist of six members (including President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter and Sentinel.) There must be the proper amount of students present in order to participate. The advisor part will be recited by one of the three judges.
3. Members of the state winning team of each division may not compete on a team in that same division in subsequent years. (Example: State winning middle school team may not compete in the middle school division again, but once those members are in high school they may compete in the high school division.)
4. Participating team members must all wear official FFA dress. The judges will use their discretion in penalizing a team for lack of official dress.
5. Each team member shall wear a card on which his/her officer title (for the contest) is legibly printed or written large enough so the name can be read by the judges. The card shall be worn on the FFA jacket in the place where the member's name is located.
6. The six officers shall consist of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter and Sentinel. Upon entering the room, the officers should take their place according to their stations.
7. After each officer is at their proper station, opening ceremonies should be performed. Once the meeting has been opened, the president should take a short pause before performing closing ceremonies. **NO BOOKS OR SCRIPT MAY BE USED.** The student should recite their parts from memory.
8. A gavel should also be used properly during the ceremonies. One tap signifies to adjourn or to sit. Two taps signifies the opening of the meeting. Three taps call for the presenters to stand in unison on the third tap.
9. After the last tap of the gavel, the team should exit the meeting room.
10. Advisors or their assistants will not be allowed to contact their teams after the contest begins. Advisors may be seated in the room, but back of the contest judges. No one except judges, hosts, state staff or assigned contest assistants may communicate in any way with the team waiting to participate after the contest has begun.
11. There is no time limit to this contest.

Wisconsin FFA Opening and Closing Ceremony Career Development Event

State Entry Form

This entry form is only a notification to the State FFA Office that your FFA chapter wants to compete. All other materials are due at a later time. Chapter:

Chapter: _____

Chapter Advisor (s): _____

Division: (Circle) High School Division Junior High Division

Yes. We would like a team to compete in the Wisconsin FFA Opening and Closing Ceremony Contest.

Chapter Advisor's Signature

The first 30 teams (15 high school and 15 junior high school) which enter to compete in this Career Development Event will receive further information about the competition.

Return Entry Form to:

Wisconsin FFA Center

P.O. Box 110 Spencer, WI 54479

Entry forms must be postmarked on or before April 1.