



FOODS

Department 27—Open Show

Amount Offered: \$1,500.00

Entry Fee: \$1.00 per entry (3 entries per Class maximum)

Late Entry Fee – Approval Required: \$25.00 per entry

Judging Time: Tuesday, August 4th, 2026, at 2:00 pm

Location: Building E

Superintendent: Sue Gundrum..... 630-532-1818

Assistant Superintendents:

Rules and Regulations

NEW THIS YEAR: Curfew Enforced – Quiet time and curfew is 12:00am midnight – 5:00am.

All exhibits are closed. This includes grandstands, midway, barns and campgrounds. Anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult during these times.

1. Entries must be filed with the fair office by 2:00 pm on July 19, 2026, **online entries are due at midnight. LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. WE HIGHLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU REGISTER ONLINE!**
2. All exhibitors are required to purchase a week long exhibitor pass.
3. Home Arts General Rules apply.
4. Bring entries to **Building E** on **Tuesday, August 4th, 2026, between 10:00 am and 1:00 pm**. No entries accepted outside of those times.
5. Home Art exhibits will be released on the **SUNDAY of fair week between 6 pm and 8 pm OR MONDAY AFTER FAIR (AUGUST 10th) from 11 am-1 pm, exhibits may not be removed before then**. Ribbons and exhibits will be available for pick up at these time slots only. Any exhibits that remain unclaimed after 4 pm on the Friday following the Fair will be donated or discarded.
6. Food products (excluding decorated cakes and jars) must be exhibited on an appropriate **white Styrofoam plate inside a Clear Plastic Zip-Lock bag**. No twist ties or rubber bands.
 - a. Decorated cakes are to be displayed on an appropriate board.
 - b. Preservations must be sealed without paraffin and in a standard canning jar processed in a hot water bath or pressure cooker. No freezer Jam or Jelly allowed.
7. Commercial mixes allowed only if used as an ingredient in your recipe.
8. **Important:** An exhibitor may entry ONLY 3 items in any class if: (1) they pay the Division entry fee for each entry and (2) they use recipes for non-similar types of products for each Division.
9. Food entries NOT made by the exhibitor WILL BE DISQUALIFIED. Any two exhibits that match by two different exhibitors will be disqualified.
10. Due to health hazards, no foods will be returned, except for decorated cakes made from Styrofoam.
11. All items will be exhibited until the end of the fair.
12. All canned goods must be canned in the last 12 months.
13. Top 5 entries will receive ribbons.
14. The decision of the judge is final.
15. Exhibitors are encouraged to contact Superintendent(s) with any questions or to define categories if needed.

Premiums First-\$5; Second-\$4; Third-\$3

Best of Show (one for each Division): Rosette

Amounts to be Displayed: (entries not following these guidelines WILL be disqualified).

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| <p>Biscuits: 3</p> <p>Bread/Quick Bread (Large > 6"): ¼ of loaf including end</p> <p>Bread/Quick Bread (Small <6"): ½ of loaf including end</p> <p>Cake (Angel or Bundt): ¼ of tube cake, without frosting</p> <p>Cake (any other): 4"x4" piece or equivalent, without frosting</p> <p>Cake (Layer-type): ¼ of one 8" or 9" round 2-layer cake with frosting</p> <p>Coffee Cake: ¼ of ring or 4"x4" with an end included</p> <p>Candies/Confections: 3 pieces, uniform size</p> <p>Cookies: 3, uniform size (rolled & rolling pin/cutout; Drop/from spoon; Pressed/cookie press (spritz); Molded/hand formed)</p> | <p>Dehydrated food: Appropriate size canning jar with lid and ring for resealing (NO plastic bags), labeled with contents on top</p> <p>Dinner Rolls: 3</p> <p>Donuts: 3, uniform size</p> <p>Muffins: 3</p> <p>Preservations: One jar with lid, include ring for resealing. Must be labeled with contents on top.</p> <p>Pies: 1/6 of a 9" pie (no dairy products)</p> <p>Pretzels: 3, uniform size</p> <p>Sweet Rolls: 3</p> |
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| Division | Class | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| A Specialty | <table border="0"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>1 Decorated cake</p> <p>2 Ginger bread structure</p> <p>3 Decorated cutout cookie (1 large)</p> <p>4 Decorated cupcake (quantity 3)</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>5 Mix in a jar; cookies, granola, or anything</p> <p>6 Ethnic – any type – provide history and list of Ingredients</p> <p>7 Dog Treats – provide list of ingredients – judged on appearance and texture</p> </td> </tr> </table> | <p>1 Decorated cake</p> <p>2 Ginger bread structure</p> <p>3 Decorated cutout cookie (1 large)</p> <p>4 Decorated cupcake (quantity 3)</p> | <p>5 Mix in a jar; cookies, granola, or anything</p> <p>6 Ethnic – any type – provide history and list of Ingredients</p> <p>7 Dog Treats – provide list of ingredients – judged on appearance and texture</p> |
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|--|---|---|
| G Pies | 1 Blueberry 2 Cherry 3 Apple 4 Peach | 5 Pecan 6 Rhubarb 7 Gluten free -any 8 Any other fruit (including raisin) not listed – specify type of filling |
| H Preservatives/ Vegetables | 1 String beans 2 Wax beans 3 Beets 4 Carrots | 5 Corn 6 Tomatoes 7 Salsa – no meat 8 Any other not listed – specify type |
| Division | Class | |
| I Preservatives/ Fruits or Berries | 1 Apples 2 Applesauce 3 Cherries 4 Peaches 5 Pears | 6 Plums 7 Rhubarb sauce 8 Blueberries 9 Raspberries 10 Other fruits & sauces – specify type |
| J Preservatives/ Relishes | 1 Pepper 2 Cucumber 3 Tomatoes 4 Green Tomatoes | 5 Cranberry 6 Corn 7 Chow Chow 8 Other – specify type |
| K Preservatives/ Jams | 1 Apricot 2 Cherry 3 Peach 4 Grape 5 Rhubarb 6 Strawberry | 7 Rhubarb + Strawberry 8 Blackberry 9 Black Raspberry 10 Red Raspberry 11 Other – specify type |
| L Preservatives/ Jellies | 1 Crabapple 2 Cherry 3 Currant 4 Grape 5 Rhubarb 6 Mint | 7 Blackberry 8 Black Raspberry 9 Red Raspberry 10 Strawberry 11 Other – specify type |
| M Preservatives/ Pickled | 1 Bean 2 Beet 3 Bread + Butter Pickles 4 Dill Pickles | 5 Sweet Cucumber 6 Cauliflower 7 Hot Peppers 8 Other – Specify Type |
| N Preservatives/ Other | 1 Fruit Butter 2 Fruit Pie Filling 3 Fruit Juice 4 Dehydrated Food in a jar, Two pieces. i.e.: Jerky, fruit, etc. | 5 Sauces – specify type 6 Syrup – any type 7 other – specify type |
| O Fair Theme | 1 Decorated cake | 2 Decorated cupcake |
| P Little Chefs with a Little Help (ages 7 and under with a little adult help). | 1 Cookies 2 Quick bread 3 Easy-bake oven 4 Molded candy (melted candy in molds) | 5 Gram cracker/pretzel structure 6 Recipe Collection of my favorite foods – decorated box, binder or album. Minimum 3 recipes. |

Foods Open Entry Form

- Register online at www.mchenrycountyfair.com or in the office at 11900 Country Club Road, Woodstock, IL 60098 on Monday – Tuesday from 9 am – 2 pm. In person registration dates: Tuesday June 2nd, Tuesday July 7th 2-7 pm and July 19th 11 am-2pm ONLY.
- Entries must be filed with the fair office by 2:00 pm on July 19, 2026, **online entries are due at midnight. LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. WE HIGHLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU REGISTER ONLINE!**
- Entries will NOT be taken by phone, fax, or email. NO REFUNDS!
- One entry per line. Note changes in Division and Class numbers!

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

| | Dept. Number | Division Letter | Class Number | Description of Entry |
|----|--------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------------|
| 1 | | | | |
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I have read and understand, and in consideration for being permitted to exhibit at the 2026 McHenry County Fair, agree and consent to abide by the rules of the competition. This includes the McHenry County Rules and Regulations and the Home Arts Department Rules as stated in the Rule section in the McHenry County Fair Book and on the Website: mchenrycountyfair.com

Exhibitor (Owner/Exhibitor) Date

Guardian/Parent of Exhibitor (if under 18 years of age) Date

| # | Fee | Total |
|---|---|-----------|
| | \$1.00 per Open entry | |
| | \$25.00 Late Entry Fee – per entry | |
| | \$15 Exhibitor Pass (one required per Exhibitor) | |
| | Total | \$ |