

# Pocket Caged Critters

Superintendent: Jenny Spicher

Phone: 574.320.7258

## State Fair Entry

Pocket Cages Critters is not eligible for State Fair

## Animal Check In

Wednesday, July 3, 2024  
5:30PM

4-H Office  
Kosciusko County Fairgrounds

## Show Day

Wednesday, July 3, 2024  
6:00PM

4-H Office  
Kosciusko County Fairgrounds

**Animal Identification** All participants must submit their animal identification form with a color picture to the Extension Office by May 15<sup>th</sup>.

A limit of one animal per category per 4-H member may be shown. Animals can only be shown in one project (for example a rabbit shown as a pet in Pocked Caged Critters may not also be shown in the Rabbit Project). To complete the Pocket Caged Critters, project a 4-H member must complete 2 activities in the pet's manual. A Pet Report is required for each animal entered into show. Pet Reports and manual activity completion is due at Pocket Caged Critters Show.

**Pet Report** 4-H'ers need to complete one report for each exhibited animal. Points will be deducted for duplicated reports and/or information. A three-ring binder is recommended, but not mandatory. As a minimum requirement, reports must contain information on the following: habitat, healthcare, how acquired, estimated annual costs of animal care, and report as designated below for Level:

**Level 1 Grades 3-5** A minimum one-page story of experiences with the pet.

**Level 2 Grades 6-8** A minimum two-page report of experiences with your animal.

**Level 3 Grades 9 & up** A minimum three-page report on one or more topics concerning the animal.

**Loss of pet** If a registered animal is unavailable (runs away, death, etc.), the 4-H'er must bring the following three items to the Pocket Caged Critters Show to be eligible for competition: Cage or habitat, Photos of registered animal and the Pet Report for registered animal.

## Show Divisions

Level 1 Junior Grades 3-5

Level 2 Intermediate Grades 6-8

Level 3 Senior Grades 9 and up

## Show Categories

- **Arachnid & Insect** Madagascar hissing cockroaches, millipedes, praying mantis, tarantulas, scorpions and walking sticks
- **Aquatic & Amphibians** Crabs, fish, frogs, mudpuppies, newts and salamanders
- **Birds** All pet birds
- **Mammals** Ferrets, guinea pigs, hedgehogs, pet rabbits, prairie dogs, gerbils, hamsters, mice, rats and sugar gliders
- **Reptiles** Lizards (non-poisonous), snakes (non-poisonous), turtles, etc.

**Exhibit** Pets must be brought to the show in a secure, solid bottom carrier or cage. All participants must provide and use waterless antiseptic hand cleaner and/or change gloves when handling their pet. During the show, animals must remain in their carrier/cage at all times. The only time an animal is removed from the carrier/cage is at the request of the judge. No 4-H'er should handle the pets of other 4-H'ers during the show. Animals must be removed from the building immediately following conclusion of the show-*no exceptions*. Please note that any animal removed from the contest site prior to end of show without approval of committee member, judge, or extension educator will automatically be disqualified.

**Judging** Judging will be on the following areas: Personal interview conducted by judge on knowledge of pet, appearance, cage conditions and ease of handling, and Pet Report.

**Veterinary Rules** All pets should be free from disease and/or parasites and fleas. Any animal showing signs of ANY infectious disease, parasites, or fleas will not be allowed to show. The 4-H'er will be asked to remove the animal from the show building as quickly as possible.

**Ferrets** To exhibit a ferret, rabies vaccinations are required within one year of the date of exhibition as per Indiana State Law. A *4-H 902 Certificate of vaccination* signed by a licensed, accredited veterinarian must be submitted at time of pre-registration. Tags will not be accepted for proof of vaccination.