



2016 Martin County
4-H Pet Show
Wednesday, February 17
6:00pm • Extension Office

"Until one has loved an animal, a part of one's soul remains unawakened".

Anatole France

Thinking of getting a pet?

Take a look at the hundreds of wonderful pets available for adoption at the Treasure Coast Humane Society in Palm City. Save an animal, adopt a shelter pet!
For information on Pet projects, please contact your 4-H Leader or 4-H Agent.

4-H Pet Show Registration: A limit of two pets per 4-H member may be shown. A Pet Report for each animal entered in the show and completed Critter Quiz tests are required. All participants must register by Friday, February 6, 2015.

Show Award Categories:

Talent & Tricks, Best Costume, Funniest, Most Obedient, Cutest and Best of Show

Ribbon Awards: Each category will be awarded a Champion and Reserve Champion. Placement ribbons will be given in each category. A qualifying score on the judge's scorecard is required.

The Critter Quiz: These are fun tests that cover information related to animals and care. These tests are available in the Extension office and may be completed prior to the show.

Pet Report: 4-H youth participating in the pet show need to complete one report for each pet entered. Points will be deducted for duplicated reports and/or information. Photographs may be added to your report. A nice folder or report cover for presentation is recommended. Your pet reports must contain information on the following: habitat, healthcare, how acquired, estimated annual cost of the pet's care and additional fun facts about their pet.

Level 1—Grades 3 - 5: A minimum **one**-page story about your pet(s).

Level 2—Grades 6 - 8: A minimum **two**-page story about your pet(s).

Level 3—Grades 9 & up: A minimum **three**-page story about your pet(s).

Loss of pet: An animal that is unavailable due to loss may be replaced with any qualified animal provided the 4-H Pet Show facilitator or 4-H Agent is notified in advance of the show. A Pet Report must be submitted relating to the new animal. The 4-H youth must also bring the Pet Report for the original pet that was entered.

Eligible Pets: **Birds:** All pet birds, **Cats:** All pet cats, **Dogs:** All pet dogs, **Mammals:** Ferrets, guinea pigs, hedgehogs, rabbits, gerbils, hamsters, mice, rats and sugar gliders, **Reptiles (Non-poisonous):** Lizards, snakes, toads and turtles

Any other animal may be exhibited only upon approval of the 4-H Agent. If any category is unusually large, it may be subdivided.

Cloverbud Pet Showcase: This is a Cloverbud activity where 4-H youth in grades K-2 grades can participate. Each participant will be able to show up to two pets. The Showcase is strictly a “show & tell” opportunity. The Pet Showcase will run concurrently with the 4-H Pet Show. Participation ribbons will be awarded prior to the 4-H Pet Show awards. The same entry rules will apply to the showcase.

Cloverbud Pet Showcase Registration: All participants must register by Friday, February 17, 2014.

Entry Rules: Pets must be brought to the fair in a secure, solid bottom carrier or cage. Dogs must be on a leash at all times. All participants must provide and use waterless antiseptic hand cleaner and/or gloves when handling their pet. It is advisable that participants provide a small frozen water container for their animals to keep them cool, treats and a bowl/water bottle. During the show, animals must remain in their carrier/cage or under control at all times. No 4-H youth should handle the pets of other 4-H youth 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 their 4-H Club leader, a judge, or the 4-H agent will automatically be disqualified. Pets must be at least four months of age. No animals in season, known to be pregnant or nursing may be shown. All animals must be current on their vaccinations and health checked by a veterinarian within one year prior to the show. All dogs, cats and ferrets must be vaccinated for rabies and/or distemper. A health certificate is required for your pet when entering.

Judging: Judging will be on the following areas: interview during show on the youth’s knowledge of their pet, pet’s health and appearance, cage conditions, ease of handling, Pet Report and Critter Quiz.

Ribbon Awards: Each category will be awarded a Champion and Reserve Champion ribbon. Placement ribbons will be given in each category. A qualifying score on the judge’s scorecard is required.

Parents: We welcome all family members and friends to the show. During the show, all grooming, handling and showing of the animal must be done by the 4-H members.

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 youth will be asked to remove the animal from the show building.

Reference Materials: We do not recommend any extra 4-H materials besides the manuals listed below. However, we encourage our members to learn about their pets using books and Internet resources. 4-H youth need to know the basics about their pet. If you visit the public library, you will be able to find books, at your appropriate reading level, about your pet.

To find resources online, please type in the browser the kind of animal and care. For example: *cat care*

4-H manuals are available according to your school grade:

Pets 1: Pet Pals (Grades 3 to 5)

Pets 2: Scurrying Ahead (Grades 6 to 8)

Pets 3: Scaling the Heights (Grades 9 and up)