

Elkhart County 4-H
Dairy Feeder Calf Club

CARE CONTRACT

1. Calves should be kept clean.
If your calf lays in manure, get them cleaned off as soon as possible. If the wash racks are being used for show preparation by other clubs, spot wash the calf in the stall.
2. Calves should be given fresh food and water daily.
Give calves the amount of food they will readily clean up and remove the bucket from the stall. This keeps the bucket clean and food fresh. If hay is fed, keep it fresh and clean up any extra hay so that it is only directly in front of your calf. Water should be clean and clear of feedstuff. Make sure your calf is drinking water; water is your calf's most important nutrient as it cools and regulates digestion.
3. Keep the stall dry and free of manure.
The stall should be thoroughly cleaned daily removing all wet and dirty sawdust. Additionally, the stall should be maintained continually and manure removed each time your calf is checked on. Do not simply cover manure with fresh sawdust or pile it in the stall; remove it from the stall and dispose of it.
4. Calves must be tied with a halter and a neck rope at the proper length.
We do not want calves running loose. The ropes should be just long enough for calves to stand up and lay back down. When the rope is too long they can easily become tangled in their own ropes or the ropes of the neighboring calves. Also, calves given too much rope will move around more in their stall and make a bigger mess for you to clean up.
5. Stall dividers, aisles, and surrounding areas should be kept clean.
Both sides of the stall dividers should be kept clean and free of manure. If needed, they can be cleaned using a wet paper towel or a brush and mild soap. Aisles should be swept and free of clutter. This not only includes the area directly behind your calf and around your tack box, but also the main aisles throughout and in between the barns. When walking your calf outside of his stall (to the wash rack, the arena, around the barns, etc), clean up all messes that he makes. All of your trash needs to be put in the trash cans, and plastic bottles and cans are to be recycled in one of the recycling bins located near the barn. If we work together to keep the barn clean, it will be an easier task for everyone. Hundreds of people walk through our barns every day and what may seem like no big deal to you might be offensive to others. Remember, the public's image of agriculture is affected by our barn and our 4-H program.

I have read and agree to the above statements. I am aware that if at any point during the fair my calf is not properly taken care of, I will be given one warning and if I continue to neglect the care of my calf a Dairy Feeder Calf Club leader or advisory board member may ask me to remove my calf from the fairgrounds.

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____