

## DEPARTMENT – I-24 – Small Pets

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Entries must be completed online at [www.carrollcountyfair.com](http://www.carrollcountyfair.com) Entry fees need to be paid by credit card only. No late entries will be accepted.

**Due to proposed Maryland budgetary constraints that are beyond the control of the Carroll County 4-H/FFA Fair Board, Inc., the Board reserves the right to withhold a portion of premium monies, up to and including all of an exhibitors earned premium payment, for the 2025 4-H/FFA Fair.**

- Exhibitors in the Small Pets Department must be enrolled in a small pet's project or veterinary science project in order to enter this department at the Fair.

### RULES AND REGULATIONS – Small Pets Department

1. ALL SMALL PETS WILL BE RELEASED AFTER ALL JUDGING IS COMPLETED.
2. Display may only contain one species per display.
3. NOTE: DOMESTIC ANIMAL EDUCATIONAL EXHIBITS (posters, etc.) will be shown in General Department.
4. Entries will be judged on actual species displayed, with a focus on the exhibitor's knowledge of the animal's care and husbandry. The small pet must be taken care of majority by the exhibitor. The pet should have been in the exhibitor's care for at least three months before entry day. Accuracy of habitat will be considered for consultation judging only.
5. Animals shown in past years are still eligible to be shown if project growth is evident. Project growths include, but is not limited to upgrading the animal's home enclosure, breeding projects. Enrichment/training projects, etc.
6. The exhibitor will be responsible for feeding, watering, supplying ice to cool animals down in case of extreme heat.
7. Exhibits that require electricity must provide their own extension cord.
8. Exhibitors should bring a half page poster of their project which will stay on the shelf during the fair after the small pet goes home. The poster should contain photos of the animal, it's home enclosure, and any other pertinent photos. Posters should have a minimum of two photos, but no more than six photos. (Additional data may be displayed in the General Department.)
9. No poisonous or dangerous animals, reptiles, or threatened (controlled) species, etc., are to be on live exhibit. Exhibit must follow "A Guide to Processing, Breeding and Selling Native Reptiles and Amphibians in Maryland."
10. Cage doors and openings should be tightly secured to keep pets housed.
11. Pets are not to be taken from cages for handling by the general public. Pets maybe used for demonstrations with permission from the Superintendent.
12. Superintendents can request pets carrying diseases or parasites to be removed from the Fair.
13. Mammals and Bird Divisions – exhibitors must display animals in wire cages only. No habit trails or glass containers will be allowed.
14. Reptiles & Amphibians divisions – all terrariums must have secured wire covers.
15. Aquarium and Pond Divisions—If feasible, fish/inverts may be brought to the fair in an appropriate travel container. If the exhibitor is unable to bring their fish/invert due to undue stress on the animals (s), the exhibitor should instead bring a short 5- minute video of the animal (s) in their home enclosure. This video may be recorded on a phone/tablet/other device that the exhibitor is responsible for bringing in and sharing with the judges. Half page poster is still required in these divisions.
16. Premiums – Class Champion - \$5; Blue Award - \$4; Red Award - \$3.75, White Award- \$3.50

## **Section 001 – Small Pets**

<u>Jr. (8-10)</u>	<u>Int. (11-13)</u>	<u>Sr. (14-18)</u>	
1001	2001	3001	Animals – Mice
1002	2002	3002	Animals – Hamsters
1003	2003	3003	Animals – Gerbils
1004	2004	3004	Animals – Domestic Rats
1005	2005	3005	Animals – Hedge Hogs
1006	2006	3006	Animals – Sugar Gliders
1007	2007	3007	Reptiles & Amphibians – Lizards
1008	2008	3008	Reptiles & Amphibians – Snakes
1009	2009	3009	Reptiles & Amphibians – Turtles
1010	2010	3010	Reptiles & Amphibians – Frogs & Toads
1011	2011	3011	Birds – Canaries & Finches
1012	2012	3012	Birds – Parakeets
1013	2013	3013	Birds – Exotic Birds
1014	2014	3014	Aquariums – Tropical
1015	2015	3015	Aquariums – Coldwater (Goldfish, etc .housed in aquarium
1016	2016	3016	Aquariums – Saltwater
1017	2017	3017	Aquariums – Invertebrates (crayfish, hermit crab, species with more than four legs)
1018	2018	3018	Pond – Pond (Goldfish, Koi, etc. housed in an outdoor maintained pond
1019	2019	3019	Animal – Guinea Pig, no pedigreed Guinea pig, if you have a purebred, pedigreed Guinea pig it needs to be entered in Rabbit & Cavy Dept.
1020	2020	3020	Animals – Ferrets

## **Section 002 – Small Pet Special Awards**

Class 1029	Grand Champion & Reserve Grand Champion Small Pets Exhibit Jr. – rosette & rosette
Class 2029	Grand Champion & Reserve Grand Champion Small Pets Exhibit Int. – rosette & rosette
Class 3029	Grand Champion & Reserve Grand Champion Small Pets Exhibit Sr. – rosette & rosette
Class 4029	Grand Champion & Reserve Grand Champion Small Pets Exhibit – rosette & rosette