



## Beef Northwest Youth Livestock Program – Student Expectations

The Beef Northwest Youth Livestock Program is crafted for 4-H and FFA students who, due to lack of access or experience, are unable to participate in exhibiting livestock at the Morrow County Fair. Through this program, we are offering high-quality steers to eligible students, providing them not only with the livestock needed for participation but also with a valuable educational experience in cattle care and showmanship.

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The following items are **mandatory** for the student to participate in. Exceptions only granted in extreme and extenuating circumstances.

1. Attend beef field day hosted by Morrow County Extension.
2. Attend the Desert Classic or Tygh Valley jackpot show and pursue other similar local opportunities.
  - a. These experiences allow students to create a vision of proper showmanship, hair care, and animal behavior to work towards for county fair.
3. Identify goals
  - a. At the beginning of the season, students identify goals that they hope to achieve during the program. Goals are frequently discussed and referred to throughout the season and reflected on at the end-of-the-year interview.
4. Follow clear directions on feeding
  - a. Purchase feed from the feed store set up by Beef Northwest, and follow instructions on the *type* and *amount* of feed that is recommended by the program coordinator.

5. Students will participate in weekly or biweekly check-ins, depending on their individual progress and their steer's development. As the county fair approaches, the frequency of check-ins may increase. Check-in dates ***will be set prior*** to the steer being taken home by the student. A third-party ***must*** be present at all check-ins, such as a parent, guardian, advisor, or 4-H leader.
  6. When Beef Northwest hosts presentations by their nutritionist or veterinarian, student attendance is ***mandatory***. These sessions provide valuable hands-on learning, and dates will be communicated well in advance to allow students to adjust their schedules accordingly.
  7. Students ***must*** send buyer letters at least one week prior to county fair move-in. These letters are an important tool for building relationships with community members and agricultural leaders while also helping to maximize the final sale value of the steer.
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The following is an outline of the anticipated time required to fulfill necessary duties and responsibilities; time required may vary based on the progress of both the steer and student.

*Breakdowns are based on a daily schedule.*

**Feeding (2x/day):** 30 mins.

*The program coordinator will be in constant contact with the student to ensure the right feed, in the right amount, is being delivered to the steer at the right time.*

**Cleaning pen:** 30 mins.

**Showmanship/halter breaking:** 1 hr.

*The program coordinator will assist the student in understanding how to properly show the steer, and will work with the student during check-ins to ensure appropriate progress is being made.*

**Washing:** 30 mins.

*The program coordinator will assist the student in understanding how to properly wash the steer, and the frequency at which it should be done.*

**Working hair:** 30 mins.

*The program coordinator will assist the student in understanding how to properly wash the steer, and the frequency at which it should be done.*