

PRESS RELEASE:

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GET YOURSELF REGISTERED FOR EXHIBITING IN THE FAIR!

(Hermiston) We have a good thing growing at the Umatilla County Fair and several ways to register open class exhibits, which is a good thing since there is an **early deadline of Thursday, July 26**. This early deadline aids the entry process and allows for preprinted display tags as well as early premium payments. **Floral and produce entries** are submitted at the same time as the actual exhibit is brought to the fairgrounds.

There is also a discount entrance fee as an added incentive for folks to participate in the annual August celebration. **Each person who exhibits in open class is entitled to purchase an \$11 season pass to the five-day fair**. Regular rates for season passes are \$25 for adults, \$20 for seniors, and \$15 for children.

Marking entries using the on-line computer program is the fastest way to get registered, according to fair officials. The keywords Umatilla County Fair will get you to the main fair page, or the direct address <http://fairmanager.com>. The process is fairly simple to navigate and any questions can be answered by fair staff at **567-6121**. Or, exhibitors can stop by the fair office at **515 W. Orchard Avenue** in Hermiston for assistance with registration.

Paper entry forms are another way to get registered for open class exhibits. There are blank entry forms at the back of the premium book. There are premium books and blank forms available at the Hermiston fair office along with the electronic version on the fair website.

An added bonus to the computerized registration system is the preprinting of exhibit tags. As people arrive with their articles on Sunday, August 8, or Monday, August 9 for floral and produce, each department superintendent will have the preprinted tags to match the registered entries. The early entry deadline translates into faster processing for exhibitors since there will be no need to hand write their information. Any exhibits brought in without prior registration will be marked for display only and not be judged.

For some folks, the early payday may be the best part of the computerized entry system. Blue, red, and white ribbons that are awarded to exhibitors mean cash in pocket. Premium money will be paid on Friday in the morning and Saturday afternoon of fair week in the fairgrounds main office. Payouts will also be made during exhibit pickup Sunday after fair closing. Remaining award monies will be mailed following the fair to those winners who didn't stop by the office as well as premiums for floral, land produce, and livestock departments.