

CARBON COUNTY HEIFER PROGRAM RULES
2024/2025 PROGRAM

1. Any 4-H or FFA member passed their 13th birthday, but not their 17th birthday as of **1/1/2023** is eligible for the Carbon County Heifer Program if they have successfully completed a 4-H or FFA Beef, Sheep, Swine, Goat or Horse project. If a calf is received, the member must enroll in the Breeding Beef Project in either organization.
2. Applications are due in **the Fair Office by October 1, 2023**
3. Those receiving a heifer are expected to show their animal and offspring at the 2024 and 2025 Carbon County Fair.
4. The number of calves presented will depend upon the number of donors. An alternate will receive a calf only if the winner cannot keep their obligation or comply with the rules of this program.
5. A drawing will be held to determine the match between the member and the donor.
6. Those receiving heifers must feed them as a breeding beef project during the 2024–2025 project years and show them at Fair as such.
7. Feeding will be under the direction of the Fair Board members, FFA Advisor, UW Program Associate or other person(s) as the Board sees fit.
8. **At any time the Board decides that the member is not taking proper care of or feeding the heifer correctly, they reserve the right to return the calf to the donor(s).** No feed or other expenses will be refunded to the member if the heifer is returned to the donor. Unforeseen circumstances not the fault of the member will be given consideration.
9. Donors will provide a signed bill of sale with the member's name omitted. Upon completion of the two year commitment, the Board will fill in the name and forward the A Form to the member. This is done in case an animal is returned from a member who fails to meet the requirements.
10. A written report will be written **each month** on the progress of the heifer and her calf and will be sent to the donor(s) during **each** of the project years. **The letters must be sent to the Carbon County Fair Board, P.O. Box 1414, Rawlins, WY 82301-1414 with a stamped envelope addressed to the donor.** The fair board will then forward the letters to the donors.
11. Each member and one parent or guardian must sign the attached agreement before application can be made to the Heifer Program.
12. If more applications are received than donors available, younger members will be placed on the alternate list. These members will be eligible for future programs.

KEEP THESE RULES FOR FUTURE REFERENCE—SEND ONLY APPLICATION AND AGREEMENT FORMS BACK TO CARBON COUNTY FAIR BOARD, P.O. BOX 1414, RAWLINS, WY 82301-1414

7. How much do you expect her to weigh when you have her bred? Why is this important?
8. What kind of bull do you plan to use to breed her? Why does it matter what bull you breed to?
9. When do you want her to calve? _____ When do you plan to breed her? _____
10. How do you plan to gentle and/or break her to lead?
11. What other communication avenues would you use to maintain contact with your donor?
12. Do you have someone you can quickly refer to as a mentor with questions or problems you may encounter during this program? _____ If yes, who? _____

HEIFER PROGRAM AGREEMENT

MEMBER:

I hereby agree to enter the donated heifer at the 2024 Carbon County Fair as a yearling, and the 2025 Carbon County Fair as a “cow/calf” project. I agree to feed and care for the heifer as a “Breeding Beef Project” under the direction of my 4-H leader, FFA advisor, UW Program Associate and/or the Fair Board Members. I understand and agree that the sponsors reserve the right to take the calf back, returning none of the feed or other expenses I have incurred, should I fail to feed or care for the heifer properly.

Member Signature: _____

Date: _____

PARENT/S:

I hereby agree to allow my son/daughter to enter the 2023 Carbon County Heifer Program. I also have read and agree with the rules of this program.

**Parent
Signature:**

Date:

Carbon County Donor Heifer Program List of requirements and suggestions

Requirements:

- A) Enroll in the Breeding Beef project in your Club or Chapter, and then before deadline in July enter her in the appropriate division and class for Fair. We encourage SHOWMANSHIP as well.
- B) Write 12 mandatory letters to your Donor : DONOR RELATIONS(30pts)
 - 1) Must send two (2) Copies each time to the Fair Office (PO Box 1414, Rawlins WY. 82301)
 - a) Original copy in an envelope addressed to your Donor (with stamp)
 - b) Copy for Fair Board records on file.
 - 2) Please make special effort to keep in contact with your Donor. (Other than the required times.)
 - a) Find out what breed she is.
 - b) What vaccinations has she had, and what would they recommend for follow-up, and when.
 - c) When was she born? Etc
- C) Record Book: (30pts)
 - 1) Fill out required Record Book. (Use your imagination for Record Book Cover)
 - 2) Use Record book to maintain records of:
 - a) Veterinary
 - b) Feed
 - c) Equipment
 - d) Travel
 - e) Anything else that pertains to the growth and development of her.
- D) Prepare yourself throughout the year for an interview at fair time about your project:
 - a) What have you learned?
 - b) What are you feeding her, and how much?
 - c) When was your heifer bred? When will she calve?
 - d) What preparations have you made in case there is difficulty during calving?
 - e) What are some vaccinations that should be given to your heifer before breeding and calving?
 - f) What vaccinations should be given to the calf?
- E) The week of Fair:
 - 1) We will try to have pens inside as well as the outside but try your best to get her halter broke so that you can lead her in and around the other animals, as well as show her.
 - 2) First phase projects will be entered and shown according to the breeding classes set up in the Fair Book.
 - 3) Second phase projects will be shown as cow/calf pair, on halter or in the pen.

4) All project animals will be evaluated when you pick them up and then each year at fair. They will be scored according to how well they developed from heifer to replacement heifer and then to cow. (20 pts heifer phase, Cow/calf phase- 20 pts Cow and 10 pts. Calf)

5) Second phase you are expected to enter your calf in the feeder calf classes listed in the Fair Book.

6) Herdsmanship (20 pts) Keep your pen clean. Put up pictures and extra recognition of your Donor. Check on your project throughout the day, being available to answer questions that people walking through might have about the program, as well as keeping your pen clean and animal presentable.

7) Providing that you took proper care and met the requirement set forth by the Carbon County Fair Board, you will receive the A Form (Title of ownership) to your Cow during the fair. If there is question or reason to believe that total attention was not given to the project at anytime during the program the heifer will be returned to the Donor and no compensation for your time and expense will be reimbursed to you.

F) New Rule:

1) The fair board will be visiting the applicant's facilities to be sure they are suitable for this program and that. They will also be making visits throughout the two year span to check on the health and welfare of the heifer. Donors may or may not be present as well.

2) In the event of a death of your heifer or calf you must notify the Fair Board within 72 Hours.

Good Luck with your Heifer and never be afraid to call upon someone for help. That is the primary reason for this program, and the reason there are so many willing Donor Ranches. They want to see you succeed and have the opportunity to learn.

Please remember that this is an educational project and we encourage anyone who wants to participate but also remember that you are responsible for a living, breathing animal that depends on you for everything. If you are not willing or able to commit to taking exceptional care of her then please wait to apply for this program. The Fair Board does not want to be forced to take a heifer away from a child because her health and welfare are below acceptable conditions.

We will be having an educational visit with the vets and possibly a feed nutritionist on the day the heifers are given. Anyone is welcome to join the talk and learn more for future years.

Heifer Project Information Sheet

This is a resource to help you develop a quality heifer so she will produce a healthy offspring.

- Time frame for breeding/calving
 - Calve in February—begin breeding in mid-May
 - Calve in March—begin breeding in June
- Depending on breed of heifer, her weight at breeding time should be around 625-650 + lbs. This will allow her to be a healthy sized heifer at calving to aid in calving ease and help ensure a good calf size.
- We have given you approximately 6 months to get your heifer up to breeding weight. Keep in mind that her average daily gain should be around 1.0 – 1.2 lbs. per day. To achieve this daily gain a heifer must have:
 - 10-15 lbs. of good quality alfalfa or alfalfa/grass mix or even good quality grass hay could be sufficient
 - 8-12 lbs. of alfalfa and 1 lb. of grain, corn or commercial cake
 - 12-16 lbs of forage (pasture or range feed)Water –provide clean fresh water at all times!! Water is the most essential nutrient in any animal’s diet. Be sure she always was good water and feed.
- Feeding Program: What cattle need and where they get it
 - Carbohydrates – forage and grains
 - Protein – quality hay
 - Vitamins – fresh green feed and good quality feed/hay
 - Minerals – forage, grains and supplements
 - You can provide a loose mineral and salt block for the best mineral consumption. Be sure to keep an eye on these things and don’t let her run out of either of these.
 - It is very important to watch the Calcium/Phosphorus ratio as these two minerals go hand in hand in the development and health of the heifer.

You can see that cattle fed strictly on alfalfa or forage don’t get daily supplements they need; a combination of the two will. Forage and grains contain many of the same supplements but not all. This is why it can be very beneficial to the heifer to get some portion of grain or cake even if it is the slightest amount. Don’t be afraid to ask questions of the board, your donor, community leader etc. Do some research and prepare yourself.

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