OSCEOLA COUNTY FAIR & LIVESTOCK SHOW

It's hard to believe another year has passed and it's time again for the Osceola County Fair & Livestock Show. The Osceola County Fair offers something for everyone. Not only does this year's fair have fun rides and delicious food, but it also has many exciting events and exhibits that are supported by the Osceola County Master Gardeners, 4Hers, and Extension Services. These include demonstration gardens, arts and crafts, educational exhibits, and livestock shows.

The University of Florida/IFAS Osceola County Extension's Florida Yards and Neighborhoods program will have a demonstration garden at the fair, supported by the Florida Nurserymen, Growers, and Landscape Association. This exhibit will show how to create low maintenance, beautiful gardens in your own landscape. It features plants selected as "Florida Plants of the Year," from this year and previous years.

Master Gardener volunteers, will be on hand providing gardening tips and information to all attendees. Educational publications on landscaping will also be available, along with other material outlining the "Florida Friendly" landscape maintenance practices. The publications are from the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences and will be provided free of charge at the exhibit.

The demonstration garden is the entranceway to the three-dimensional "Extension House" exhibit. This interactive, walk-through exhibit covers many aspects of the educational topics the Extension Services has to offer.

Across from the "Extension House" exhibit is the "Farmer for a Day," exhibit. Come and try out being a farmer. Activities include milking a cow, harvesting vegetables, picking citrus, gathering eggs, and even dressing a scarecrow in the garden. It's a fun exhibit for all ages.

The "Osceola County 4-Hers are also present at the fair. The 4-H youths are at the fair showing off all their hard work that they've been working on since last year. Projects include artwork, woodwork, plants, bake goods, photography, clothing construction and animals.

They will show their livestock, such as hogs, sheep, and cattle, at numerous times during the fair. The 4-H'ers also have three food booths at the fair.

If you find yourself wanting a hot dog, cookie, or barbecue beef sandwich while at the fair, support your county 4-H'ers, and purchase food items from their booths.

The Osceola County Master Gardeners will still have their Plant Clinic during the fair. They are available to answer your gardening questions from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call them with all your plant questions at 321-697-3000.

Know anyone that may be interested in 4-H? Believe it or not, you do not have to live on a farm or be from a rural area to be a member of 4-H. There are events and projects in 4-H for everyone. Call the Osceola, County Extension Service for more information.

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