

Vernon County Fair

Fairest of the Fair (Applications Packet)



“The Mission” of the Fairest of the Fair:

Is to promote Vernon County and its agricultural, educational, social, cultural, commercial and tourism opportunities and to support the mission of the Vernon County Fair.

If you are selected to be the “Fairest of the Fair”:

You will embark on a yearlong experience filled with a lot of wonderful memories that you can treasure for a lifetime. As the Fairest of the Fair, you will have the opportunity to learn valuable life skills like public speaking, interviewing and networking. You will gain a better understanding of the fair, meet with local business and community leaders and engage with others in the community (schools, clubs, nursing homes). At the annual State Fairest of the Fair convention and Fairest of the Fair contest you will have the opportunity to meet business leaders from across the state in a variety of industries. Most importantly you will have the opportunity to establish lifelong friendships with the other Fairest of the Fair contestants and the state Fairest of the Fair organizers.

Application Deadline - March 27th, 2026

(No late applications will be accepted)

Applicant Information

(Please read, understand and initial each section)

Requirements:

- Must be a Wisconsin resident for at least one year prior to applying.
- Must be a Vernon County resident or belong to an approved Vernon County Ag Society organization.
- Must be 18 years old at the time of the contest.
- Must have a valid driver's license and have access to a car.*
- Must give permission to have their name and photo published on or in:
 - The Vernon County Fairs (website, social media platforms, Official Premium List, promotional material and any future Fair and Fairest of the Fair material).
 - Standard Outlets (Newspapers, Radio, Television, etc.).
 - Along with other media outlets where information about the fairest is requested or required.

Desired Attributes:

- Someone who is polite, professional, and has a positive attitude.
- Someone who is reliable, punctual, flexible and resourceful.
- Someone who has good communications skills (reading, writing and speaking).
- Someone who can speak in public.
- Someone who is a "Team Player".

As Fairest of the Fair you will be working with a lot of other people and groups, the Fair Board, the Fairest of the Fair Committee, Mentors and others.

Please note:

The Fairest of the Fair Committee, the Fair Board, Mentors and others will work with you to further develop these attributes, if you are selected as the "Fairest of the Fair".

Sponsor Information:

- You need to find a business, civic group, youth organization or individual (non parent) to sponsor you for the contest.
- **The sponsorship fee is \$50.00.**
- Checks should be written to the "Vernon County Ag Society".
- If a sponsor would like to support the Fairest of the Fair program further, please have them contact Angie Hornby (Coordinator) at (608) 606-3167 or by email angie.hornby0219@gmail.com or Kris Weis (Committee Member) at (608) 317-3793.

Contestant Information Meeting (Mandatory):

- This meeting is mandatory for contestants (and parents if they are required).
- This informational meeting for contestants will be held on **Thursday, March 26th, 2026 at 6:00pm** at the Vernon County Fairgrounds in the Fair office. This meeting will cover contest expectations, judging criteria, overview of the responsibilities and answer any questions you may have.

Contest Information:

- The contest will be at Viroqua Church of Christ in the Fellowship Hall on **Saturday, April 11th, 2026.**
- Social Hour starts at 12:00pm, with appetizers and refreshments.
- The Fairest of the Fair program starts at 1:00pm.
- We will announce the new "**Fairest of the Fair**" at the end of the program.

“Fairest of the Fair” Expectations (if you are selected)

(Please read, understand and initial each section)

As the Fairest of the Fair you will be required to:

- Attend the Vernon County Fair and serve as the official hostess.
- Attend events required by the Fairest of the Fair committee.
- Represent Vernon County at the State Fairest of the Fairs convention.
- Compete in the State Fairest of the Fair contest at convention.
- Present yourself in a proper appearance; professional attire wearing your sash and tiara at events and appearances, unless otherwise directed.
- Be knowledgeable about the fair, the events, the history and the current projects.
- Represent yourself in a professional manner at the Vernon County Fair and official events.
- Keep a written record with photos of the events and appearances that you attended throughout the year.
- Perform other duties as requested/expected of you by the Fairest of the Fair committee.

Required Events:

- | | | | |
|---|-----------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| ● Aug 10 th , 2026 | (Monday) | State Fairest Reunion | Milwaukee |
| ● Sept 16 th - 20 th , 2026 | (Wed-Sun) | Vernon County Fair | Viroqua |
| ● Jan 10 th -13 th , 2027 | (Sun-Wed) | State Fairest of the Fairs Contest | Wisconsin Dells |

Other Events/Activities you may be asked to attend or participate in:

- These will be discussed during the mandatory “Contestant Meeting” and again if you are selected as the “Fairest of the Fair”.

Code of Conduct:

- Must present yourself in an appropriate and professional manner at all times.
- Work positively and cooperatively with the Fairest of the Fair coordinator and committee members.
- Must represent yourself and Vernon County with positive actions, words, and social media presence (Fair and Personal Posts).
- No smoking, drinking or drug use during your reign.

Note:

The Vernon County Fair Board reserves the right to ask the Fairest representative to step down from their position if their behavior and actions do not portray a positive image for the Vernon County Fair.

Exhibiting during fair:

- Your role as Fairest of the Fair will take up most of your time during fair hours.
- You can enter competitive exhibits, as long as they do not require you to be present for judging.
- We will be discussing the ability to exhibit animals during the Fairest of the Fair contestant meeting.

This is an incredible opportunity, so please enjoy the experience and Have Fun!

Checklist and Signatures

(Please read, understand and initial each section)

- _____ Read through the entire “Fairest of the Fair Packet” and initial each section.
- _____ Complete and sign the “Fairest of the Fair Application”.
- _____ Find a sponsor (a business, civic group, youth organization or individual (non parent)).
- _____ Complete this “Checklist”.
- _____ Enclose or attach the following items when submitting your application (originals not a photocopy).
 - The Packet.
 - Cover Page.
 - Applicant Information.
 - “Fairest of the Fair” Expectations.
 - Checklist and Signatures.
 - “Fairest of the Fair” Application.
 - Contestant Questions.
 - One photo for use in publications (newspaper, website, social media, etc.).
 - Your sponsorship donation check (\$50.00).
- _____ Submit the completed “Fairest of the Fair Packet” to:
 - **Mail it to Angie Hornby, E7104 Traastad Road, Viroqua, WI 54665 or**
 - **Email it to angie.hornby0219@gmail.com**

Your packet must be submitted or postmarked by March 27th, 2026 @ 11:59pm.

*If you are mailing your packet, note the post office now requires “same day postmarks” to be done at the post office.

*If you are submitting your “Fairest of the Fair Packet” through email, the file must be submitted as a PDF.

- _____ Your photo **must** be emailed to angie.hornby0219@gmail.com

I have read and understand all the information in this Fairest of the Fair packet:		
Print:	Sign:	Date:

If you have any questions about the application or the Fairest of the Fair.

Please contact me Angie at (608) 606-3167 and leave a message

or

email me at angie.hornby0219@gmail.com.



Fairest of the Fair Application



Applicant Information			
First	Last	Middle	Date of Birth#
Address		City	State Zip Code
Phone #	Email Address		
Are you at least 18 years old?	Yes	No	
Do you have a valid driver's license?	Yes	No	
Do belong to an approved Vernon County Ag organization. (Examples - 4-H, FFA, Junior Dairy, etc.)	Yes	No	

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Information (required if you are under 18 years old)			
Names	Phone #		
Address		City	State Zip Code
Signature	Date:		

Sponsor Information			
Sponsor Name	Contact Person	Phone #	
Address		City	State Zip Code
Signature	Date:		

Education/Work History			
Dates (years)	High School	City/State	Graduated?
Dates (years)	College/Other	City/State	Degree Graduated?

Dates (years)	Company	City/State	Job Title	Reason for Leaving	Phone Number	Contact?
						Yes No
						Yes No



Fairest of the Fair Application



Clubs/Organizations/Activities/Honors/Awards

Dates (years)	High School Clubs & Organizations
Dates (years)	College/Other Clubs & Organizations
Dates (years)	Honors or Awards
Dates (years)	Community Activities
Dates (years)	Fair Activities
Dates (years)	Other activities (music, dance, theatre, etc.)
Dates (years)	Hobbies and Special Interests

Contestant Questions

Please answer the following questions on a separate piece of paper.

Must be type and be five sentences or less per question.

The use of AI tools like ChatGPT should be use for reference only. These answer should reflect who you are.

- What do you feel is the role of the Fairest of the Fair?
- Why do you feel it is important for a fair to have a Fairest of the Fair?
- How would you approach the role of Fairest of the Fair?
- Why should we select you as the next Fairest of the Fair?
- Do you see yourself involved in our fair in the future?
- How does being Fairest of the Fair align with your career goals?