



MEDIA RELATIONS DEPARTMENT
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2020 Dutchess County Fair Cancelled Amid COVID-19 Public Health Concerns

June 03, 2020

Rhinebeck, NY –Due to the evolving COVID-19 situation and unprecedented challenges, the 2020 Dutchess County Fair has been canceled.

The safety of the Dutchess Fair’s visitors, participants, and community is the highest priority in producing the annual fair. Contact with county government agencies and the Health Department was sought and it became clear that cancellation was the most sensible choice for the fair to do its part to improve community health and safety and reduce the cycle of infection. The 175th Dutchess County Fair will return on August 24 – 29, 2021.

“We explored all options. This was a very emotional and difficult decision to make. We know that the impact of the fair’s cancellation will be felt far beyond the loss of our annual celebration,” said Andy Imperati, President/CEO. “We are heartbroken for the small businesses, family farms, competitors and exhibitors and communities who rely on the income and exposure the Dutchess County Fair brings them.”

“We have one chance to do it right and if we cannot present the best of the best to our fairgoers, then we will not do it. The fair industry is resilient and adaptable. We will meet again to celebrate what will be the 175th celebration of the Dutchess County Fair and all that is exceptional in the Hudson Valley,” Andy said. “We hope you are staying safe and healthy and know that we are thinking of you.”

All other non-fair events scheduled on the fairgrounds will be looked at on a per-event basis with fairgrounds management and the promoter. If guidelines cannot be met, the event will be canceled, postponed, or rescheduled.



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The fairgrounds is dedicated to using its facilities and resources to support and serve the community. Currently, there is a drive-up food pantry on the grounds on Saturdays between 10am – 1pm. The American Red Cross is scheduled for a blood drive on the fairgrounds on Monday, June 15th from 10am – 5pm. Discussions regarding various graduation and moving up school ceremonies are ongoing.

Please check the fairgrounds website www.dutchessfair.com and social media for updates.

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