HEALDSBURG FUTURE FARMERS COUNTRY FAIR

2026-2027

VINE PRUNING CONTEST

ENTRY AND RULES

The Healdsburg Future Farmers Country Fair (HFFCF) is open to members of the Alexander Valley, Gateway, Lytton Springs, and Warm Springs 4-H Clubs and members of the Healdsburg Future Farmers of America Chapter who reside in the Healdsburg, Geyserville, or Windsor High School Districts. Members residing on Shiloh Road are eligible to enter.

The HFFCF Vine Pruning Contest will take place on Saturday, December 12, 2026. Please meet promptly at 8:30 am @ Hoof Beat Park. There will be classes for FFA Novice, FFA Senior, 4-H Novice, and 4-H Senior. All contestants will be judged together and scores will be separated out in the above classes. **Awards will be given in the form of ribbons and cash prizes ($100 for first place in each class, additional $50 for overall winner).** An Overall Vine Pruning Champion winner will be announced for the individual having the highest score, regardless of class, in the contest. Awards will be presented at the Fair Awards Ceremony.

The contest will consist of a written multiple-choice test on Vine Pruning. This test will be administered before vines are pruned and will take approximately 15 minutes. Contestants will have a total potential score of 100 points for the written Pruning Test.

Each contestant will then have to prune a set of Cane Pruned vines and a set of Spur Pruned vines (each vine pruning set will be made up of two vines). Each contestant will have 15 minutes to prune the two vines in front of a judge. The judge will then ask questions of each contestant regarding their pruning decisions after each set. Contestants will have a total potential score of 100 points per class.

Each contestant will be responsible for bringing his or her own pruning equipment and safety glasses. If a contestant is unable to supply there own pruning equipment please contact the number below and we can arrange to bring equipment. No notes or talking between contestants will be permitted. All contestants will be required to be in dress uniform.

To ensure adequate training is provided, we will hold a **Vine Pruning Clinic on Saturday, December 5, 2026. Please meet promptly at 9:00 am 2 Hoof Beat Park. Participants who attend the clinic will receive 10 additional bonus points toward their final score.**

Each 4-H club and the FFA chapter will be required to organize and assist participating members from their clubs. Leaders are encouraged to attend the Vine Pruning Clinic. All contestants will be responsible for their own transportation to and from the Vine Pruning Clinic and Competition.We will meet at Hoof Beat Park and then drive to the vineyard site.

Competition registrations/entries MUST be emailed to dunkfam@sonic.net or submitted in-person at the Vine Pruning Clinic.

Please contact Nick Dunkel with any questions. 707-495-3992 or dunkfam@sonic.net.

Please Note: The HFFCF Vine Pruning Clinic & Competition are subject to cancellation at any time due to weather conditions, insufficient attendance, or at the discretion of the HFFCF Board of Directors. Thank you.

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HFFCF VINE PRUNING CONTEST 2026-2027 REGISTRATION

FORM Please email all entries to: dunkfam@sonic.net

Please print or type

Class (circle one): **4-H Novice** **4-H Senior** **FFA Novice** **FFA Senior**

Vine Pruning Contest - Saturday, December 12, 2026. Meet at Hoof Beat Park @ 8:30 am.

Vine Pruning Clinic - Saturday, December 5, 2026. Meet at Hoof Beat Park @ 9am.

_____
Last Name First Name Middle Initial

_____
Address

_____
City Zip Phone

_____

Participant's age as of Jan 1st

_____
Exhibitor Signature Date

Exhibitor and/or Parent or Legal Guardian relieves Healdsburg Future Farmer Country Fair from any liability associated with the use, transportation, or accidental misuse of any and all pruning equipment and activities.

_____
Project Leader Signature or Community Leader

_____
Parent or Guardian Signature

_____
Club Name