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## 4-H Engineering Design Challenge

### Guide to Bringing the EDC Machine to the State Fair

The Minnesota 4-H Engineering Design Challenge (EDC) State Showcase takes place at the 4-H Building at the Minnesota State Fair during each county's General Encampment. This guide contains important information about the experience, including prior, during and after the showcase.

#### How to participate in the EDC State Fair experience

All EDC Teams that complete the [Intent to Form an EDC Team](#) form by June 30 are eligible to participate in the EDC State Fair experience. Teams do not need to qualify at their local county fair in order to participate.

#### Registration

In order to participate in the EDC Showcase at the State Fair, all team members & volunteer coaches must complete the State Fair Registration forms as required by their county. Please check with your local 4-H Extension office for those details.

#### Video Submission

In addition to bringing the EDC machines to the State Fair, all teams must submit a video of their EDC machines working. Details on video submission can be found [here](#). Videos must be uploaded by the State Fair registration deadline at their local county

#### Transporting Machines

All EDC machines will be on display for the duration of the Minnesota State Fair. Machines must arrive prior to the start of the State Fair. Please work with your local 4-H Extension Educator to determine the transportation plan. If you will be transporting your exhibit on your own, you must inform local Extension staff.

If you will be transporting the machine on your own, you will be responsible for bringing the machine directly to the 4-H Building on the Minnesota State Fairgrounds during the following dates & times:

Thursday, Aug 14 from 8:30 AM - 6PM,

Friday, Aug 15 from 8:30 AM - 3 PM,

Monday, Aug 18 from 8:30 AM-3:30 PM,

Tuesday, Aug 19 from 7:30-11:30 AM.

The MN State Fairgrounds is located at 1412 Cosgrove St, Falcon Heights, MN 55108. Referencing [this State Fair map](#), enter Gate 7 on Como Ave or Gate 3 on Snelling Ave to enter the Fairgrounds. The 4-H

Building is located at "W-18" on [the map](#). Once you're at the 4-H Building, head to the north end of the Building, somewhat near the Kiwanis booth.

Be prepared: A driver's license or identification will be required by each person entering the fairgrounds. Individual vehicle inspections may occur at the entry gate.

## Preparation & Packing

**Packing:** As you prepare for the State Fair, make a packing list with the team. Make a list of every piece of the machine that needs to go with (include the quantity of each item). Next, pack up the EDC machine according to the list, and make sure to check it twice. This will reduce the chance of pieces being forgotten. Bring spare perishable items (strings that are cut, balloons that are popped, etc) so that you can run your machine multiple times. Plan for approximately 10 runs so that you have enough materials for set-up of your machine, testing & judging, and during the spotlight where the public may ask to view the machine.

- ✓ All exhibits should be labeled with the county name and the name of the EDC Team
  - If an exhibit has multiple pieces, each piece should be labeled with the county name and the name of the EDC Team
  - If an exhibit has multiple pieces, please label them 1 of 3, 2 of 3, 3 of 3, etc.
  - If there are any special instructions for the set-up of the exhibit, write out these instructions and include/attach with the exhibit and notify Exhibits staff when checking in the exhibit.

### Set-up:

EDC Teams will be able to set-up their machines when they arrive at the 4-H Building. Depending on the size of the machine, the machines may not be fully assembled until the day of EDC judging.

**Items provided:** Teams must provide all items needed in order to operate their EDC Machines, including a table to sit-on (if that's required of your machine)

**Emergency Kit:** Pack an emergency kit for your team with everything from tape, glue, scissors, markers, tool box and extra supplies. The important thing is to pack anything that will help your team fix their EDC Machine in case anything gets damaged en route.

## At the State Fair

Set-up and Judging times

EDC Machines will be judged on Day 3 of your county's General Encampment between 9am-11am. Teams will be assigned a 20 minute judging timeslot. Teams may start setting up their machines for judging as early as 8am. Teams may also set-up and test their machines from 8-9 PM the evening before judging. Please check in with 4-H Exhibit staff before this set-up can begin. Teams are required to be present for the entire judging time block. Awards will be given at the end of judging. Team videos will be shown on a video screen loop for the duration of the State Fair.

## After the State Fair

At the end of the State Fair, EDC machines will need to be transported home. Please work with your local Extension staff to coordinate this travel. If you transported your exhibit to the State Fair, you are responsible for picking up your exhibit at the 4-H Building during the following times.

- Tuesday, September 3, 8 a.m.-7 p.m.
- Wednesday, September 4, 8 a.m.-noon

## Questions?

If you have any further questions about the EDC Showcase at the Minnesota State Fair, please contact Anne Stevenson, [steve020@umn.edu](mailto:steve020@umn.edu) or Kelly Strei, [streio16@umn.edu](mailto:streio16@umn.edu)