The Nebraska State Fair’s Annual Community Decorating Contest is Back!

This year’s medium will be large wire cable reels.

Paint it, enhance it, add to it! Whatever Your Flavor, we want to see it!

Whatever Your Flavor Contest Timeline:

June 1st: Entries OPEN
July 21st: DEADLINE! ENTRIES CLOSE
July 28th: Entries NOTIFIED of reels selection by email
August 2nd, 3rd, 4th: Pickup of Reel and Signs: Selected groups will need to pick up their cable reel from the State Fair Office during regular business hours: 8:30am to 5:00pm
August 7th-9th: TIME TO DECORATE: Be sure to review all guidelines before decorating
August 10th & 11th: JUDGING Happens
August 21st: CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED!!!

- Prizes will be awarded to the top three (3) Reels, plus one (1) People’s Choice (PC determined by photo likes on the Nebraska State Fair Facebook page)

August 25th – September 4th: Nebraska State Fair! Come out and celebrate our great state!

Whatever Your Flavor Contest Judging Criteria:

- Eye appeal / Construction / Use of materials / Creativity
- Judges will deduct points for Contest Guideline violations within the display (Guidelines listed below)
- Judges will award extra points to groups who incorporate the 2023 Nebraska State Fair contest theme “Whatever Your Flavor”.

Whatever Your Flavor Contest Guidelines:

1. One (1) large sized cable wire reel will be provided to the selected thirty (30) contestants.
2. Entries are built on your own, using your own base materials and decorations, setting up, and displaying at your own location. Additional wire reels can be used, but will not be supplied by the State Fair.
3. The NSF contest wire reels must be picked up from the Nebraska State Fair Office on August 2nd, 3rd or 4th during regular business hours: 8:30am to 5:00pm. State Fair Staff team can assist with loading, but not with unloading.
4. Cable reels are NOT allowed to be turned on their side. They must be decorated flat side up and secured to the ground in the safest manner chosen by the NSF team.
5. Cable wire reels must be positioned within 6’ of a hard/concrete surface.
6. Cable wire reels need to be placed onto a very sturdy base/structure: Grass or pavement is preferred. Constructed or otherwise provided bases must be sound and secure.
7. Cable reels are not allowed to be stacked on top of one another due to safety concerns.
8. All Entries MUST be RAIN AND WIND TOLERANT...built to last at their location through Sept. 4th, 2023.
9. Paint may be applied to the cable wire reel only (Paint on concrete and/or grass is prohibited).
10. Use of business, organization, or civic group logo, slogan, and/or mascot will NOT be allowed within the design, NO commercial, business, or political signage of ANY KIND is allowed for the contest.
11. The Nebraska State Fair will install signage including Designing Business’ Name next to the entry.
12. Contestants are responsible for the all cleanup and disposal at their sites after September 4th. If entry is on fairgrounds, State Fair Operations will take care of disposal.