

Show Pig Care

wendy.skrobarczyk@houstonisd.org

Budget:

- A minimum price for a show pig is usually \$500 or sometimes lower but can go up to \$750
- Feed could run an estimate between \$75 - \$175 a month depending on the stage of growth your animal is in and supplements you choose to purchase.

Supplies you need to properly care for your show pig:

- Feed and Feeder
 - Clip on plastic feeders hung on the fence work the best
 - Make sure they are hung at the right height where it is not too low and the pig is eating on the ground, and not too high where he/she has to put their feet in it to reach the feed. You will raise your feeders as your pig grows.
- Water with self dispenser
 - Automatic nipple waters are ideal
 - If you use tube waters or barrels with a nipple on them, BE SURE to clean them out weekly and that they are filled up every morning and every night.
 - Be sure water is cool, if you wouldn't drink it ...don't ask your pig to
- Medications
 - **DO NOT give your pig any medications unless they were authorized by Ms. Skrobarczyk or a vet.**
- Supplies
 - Rice Root Brush (for dead skin)
 - Soft Horse Hair Brush
 - Hair Care Supplies
 - Show Whip
 - Prolate Mite Spray
 - Green Gold Bond Powder (for mite bites)

Environment and Facilities for show pigs: (Swine Projects are Kept at the School Farm)

- Basic needs for pigs
 - Nutrition: Fresh supply of water and feed
 - Bedding: Concrete with plenty of shavings spray Prolate each time shavings are changed

- Individual Pens: Lessons the likelihood of one getting hurt and so you know exactly how much each pig is eating
- Cleaning and Disinfecting: It is essential to clean your pens every day, and keep shavings dry
- Must replace old dirty shavings with new minimum of once a week.

Daily Schedules with your pig:

- Feeding Routine
 - Single most important thing you can do to ensure success with your pig is feed your pig at about the same time every morning and every night.
 - Their body learns to expect to get fed at a certain time and they will get hungry and have a better appetite when they are on a routine. As well as digest the nutrients in feed better for great results in the show ring.
- Daily
 - Brush and work the skin/hair on your pig
 - One of the easiest ways for your pig to look “THE PART” in the show ring is to have impeccable skin and hair.
 - Only need to wash your pig with soap once a week (if it's not cold)
 - Need to wash them enough to keep them from getting stained, but over-washing will dry out their skin.
- Walking
 - Once you have your pig calmed down where you can approach him/her in the pen and brush them, then they are ready to take out of the pen and start training to show. Usually takes the first week of ownership to get calm.
 - If you take them out before you have them calmed down to this point, they will only be scared of you and will run away.
 - Pigs must be out of their pens and walked for a minimum of 30 minutes each day.
 - This will help build muscle, and help build up lungs for walking in the show ring.
- Feed:
 - Feed types are chosen based off of the weight and condition of your animal. It changes often.
 - Your Pigs must be weighed once a week so we can keep track of exactly how much they are gaining. This way your pig will not be too light or too heavy for the shows.



