

Medina County Home & Garden Show Amateur Backyard BBQ Cook-off

Saturday, February 28, 2026 Cook-off Rules

1. All teams must submit an entry form and pay the \$10 entry fee to compete.
2. Entry forms must be received by February 26, 2026
3. Each team will provide their own equipment and supplies including a grill/cooker and cooking equipment.
4. Each team will bring their own products, including raw, unseasoned meat and seasonings.
5. Each team will have a designated space to cook.
6. All marinating, seasoning, and cooking of the product shall be done within the confines of the team's assigned cooking space. No seasoning, marinating or cooking of any kind may begin before meat is inspected.
7. Contestants must adhere to all electrical, fire, health and other codes.
8. All contestants are expected to respect the rights of other teams. Profane language or infringement on another team's area will not be permitted.
9. Prizes will be awarded in the categories of chicken (entrant chooses which chicken parts to enter) and pork ribs.
10. All cook off areas must be cleaned and vacated by 6 pm on Saturday.

Set Up

1. Each team can find a space to set up on the north side of the Community Center – go through the gate on the east side of the building.
2. Teams must provide their own tent if needed.
4. Electricity will be provided.

Time Line – Saturday, February 28,, 2026

- 8:00 am – set up begins. You may drive up close to the cooking area, unload then remove your vehicle. Arrive anytime after 8 am. Someone from the show will come out and check in your meat. All meat must be raw and uncooked at check-in and presented for inspection in original packing from the store. Cooking can begin at your discretion.
- 4:00 – 4:15 pm – judging turn in time
- 4:45 pm – Winners announced

Judging

1. Blind judging containers will be handed out before judging. Nothing but the meat can be in the container when it is presented for judging.
2. Each team must prepare five (5) individual pieces of meat or servings in each category for the judges.
3. A representative will pick up all entries at 4:00pm for chicken and 4:20pm for ribs.
4. Entries will be judged by a team of three (3) judges.
5. Entries will be scored in the areas of Appearance, Tenderness and Taste on a 10 point scale, 10 being the best. Taste scores will be doubled.
6. Sauce is optional but if it is included it must be on the meat, not puddled in the container.
7. The decision of the judges is final.
8. You are welcome to hand out samples; however you are not allowed to accept any kind of payment for them.

Prizes

In each of 2 categories: chicken and pork ribs

1st Prize - \$100, a trophy, and bragging rights to the Best Backyard BBQ in Medina County

2nd Prize - \$50 and a trophy

3rd Prize - \$25 and a trophy

Medina County Home & Garden Show Amateur Backyard BBQ Cook-off Entry Form

Chief Cook _____

Team Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Please check categories you will be participating in:

- Chicken
- Pork Ribs

Tents, if needed, are not provided.

Please make check for \$10 payable to Creative Show Promotions and mail this form and check to:
Creative Show Promotions, LLC
5945 Clubhouse Pointe Dr.
Medina, OH 44256

For questions, contact
Linda Loveless, show promoter, at medinahomegardenshow@gmail.com

Release and Limitations of Liability

Medina County Home & Garden Show and the Medina County Fair Board are not responsible for theft, damage of personal property, or injury to any contestants, or to any contestant's family members or guests. By participating in the contest, entrants agree to release and hold harmless the Sponsor and Medina County Fair Board and each of their respective parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, advertising and promotion agencies, other companies associated with the contest and each of their respective officers, directors, employees, shareholders, representatives, and agents from and against any claim or cause of action arising out of participation in the contest or receipt or use of the prize including but not limited to any technical errors associated with the Contest.

Agreement to Official Rules

Participation in the contest constitutes entrant's full and unconditional agreement to and acceptance of these Official Rules and the decisions of the Sponsor, which are final and binding. Winning a prize is contingent upon being compliant with these Official Rules and fulfilling all other requirements set forth herein.

The undersigned agrees to the Official Rules and Limitations of Liability as stated above.

Signature Printed Name Date