



2025 Bale Decorating Contest

****Disclaimer: All activities and details are subject to change****

Setup: October 1 st -31 st , 2205 Monday/Wednesday/Friday from 9:00am-3:00pm	Removal: Bales will need to be removed as soon as weather permits after 1/1/26.
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CONTACT INFORMATION			
Name		Business Name	
Email		Phone	
Address		City/State/Zip	

Description of Decorating Theme

I acknowledge the Rules (signature):	
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www.CalhounCountyFairgrounds.com

Phone: (269) 781-8161

Email: CCAISOoffice@gmail.com

Eligibility and Entry

- **Open to various groups:** CCAIS and the Merry Mile committee welcomes individuals, groups, companies, and non-profit organizations.
- **Entry forms:** Participants need to submit entry forms by September 21st, 2025, with a sketch or diagram of the planned decoration.
- **Theme selection:** Our theme this year is ***"Country Christmas"***
- **Entry fees:** Sponsorship opportunities available, donations are welcome; volunteers needed (please check with the Fairground's office on dates/times needed).

Hay Bale and Decoration

- **Hay or straw bale type:** Round or square bales can be used.
- **Materials** used MUST withstand the weather for our month-long event, and include paint, fabric, organic materials, and more.
- **Size limitations:** A minimum of 3 round bales, maximum of 8; More information to be provided once a sketch is received.
- **Safety and appropriateness:** Decorations should not be vulgar or pose a safety hazard.
- **Stabilization:** Participants might need to stabilize the bales to prevent tipping or rolling.
- **Display area:** Designated areas will be provided for participants to set up their hay bales.

Judging Criteria

- **Creativity and originality:** Reward for unique and imaginative designs.
- **Visual appeal and impact:** The overall look and feel of the display is an important factor.
- **Construction and craftsmanship:** The quality of the work and the way the hay/straw bales are transformed are evaluated.
- **Adherence to the theme:** Is required but other ideas will be considered.
- **Use of materials:** How effectively and creatively the use of materials is considered.
- **Sustainability:** Sustainability is a judging criterion.
- **The judging will take place on November 1st, 2025.**

Other Rules

- **Signage:** Participants may provide a sign with information about their organization and the display.
- **Set-up and removal times:**
 - **Set up:** October 1st-31st, 2205: Monday/Wednesday/Friday from 9:00am-3:00pm
 - **Removal:** Would like bales removed as soon as weather permits after 1/1/2026.

