

# STATE FAIR

OF VIRGINIA AT THE MEADOW

[www.statefairva.org](http://www.statefairva.org)

**For Immediate Release**

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## **2009 State Fair of Virginia Facts**

On Thursday, September 24, SFVA begins an important new chapter in the State Fair of Virginia's 155-year history, with the opening of the State Fair's new home at *The Meadow Event Park*, a 360-acre property 20 miles north of Richmond and 30 miles south of Fredericksburg in Doswell, Virginia. This year, Virginians young and old will experience this longstanding Virginia tradition in a beautiful, rural setting, with open grassy fields and views of rolling hills and forest. The State Fair continues its mission of showcasing the best of Virginia's animals and agriculture, while offering families a fun, safe experience with competitions, exhibits, shows and rides.

Each year, approximately 250,000 visitors – mostly families with children – experience this annual Virginia tradition where they can enjoy the Best of Virginia. Nearly 15,000 students and their teachers annually visit "Virginia's Largest Outdoor Classroom" through school tours. Students also can compete in 33 youth competition categories awarding scholarships. Since 1989, the State Fair has awarded 2,074 scholarships and has dedicated over \$1.7 million through the State Fair Scholarship Program.

**WHERE:** The Meadow Event Park – Doswell, Va. (I-95/exit 98, next to Kings Dominion in Caroline County)

**WHEN:** Thursday, September 24 – Sunday, October 4, 2009

Ticket Sales	Daily	10 am – 9 pm
Exhibit Buildings	Mon – Thurs	10 am – 9:30 pm
	Fri – Sat	10 am – 10 pm
	Sunday	10 am – 9 pm
Kidway and Midway	Sun – Thurs	11 am – 11 pm
	Fri – Sat	11 am – midnight

**WHAT'S NEW: Attractions, Competitions, Entertainment & many returning favorites!**

**NEW The Magic of Lance Gifford** – On a large stage, this fast-paced and highly entertaining magical illusion show will keep audiences riveted as they perform the world's most modern and intriguing illusions – many with rabbits, doves and snakes!

**NEW World Record Balloon Stunt Show** – It's a Bubble-licious crowd-pleaser! Watch as comedian and stunt artist James Johnson steps inside a giant 6-foot latex balloon. Fairgoers, beware: You might get asked to help break his world record of 18 adults!

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- NEW FMX Freestyle Moto-X (Sept 29 - Oct. 1)** – This high-flying show of dirt bikes is the best in extreme entertainment! Professional riders launch from take-off ramps and perform flips and other stunts high in the sky!
- NEW Tundra Tough Trucks Bull Riding (Sept. 29-30)** – Cowboys meet bulls in this extreme spectator sport! Marvel at the **One Arm Bandit Halftime Show** where buffalo are rounded onto the top of a trailer!
- NEW Fire Training Show** – Young fairgoers can live their dream of being a real firefighter in this family-oriented entertainment show! Here, kids can learn and practice life saving skills used by real firefighters – which may save a life in the future!
- NEW Lumberjack Show** -- This action-packed show features champion lumberjacks demonstrating their unique skills of log rolling, chopping, sawing, axe throwing, dragster chainsaw and tree climbing. Audience participation encouraged!

### Returning Favorites!

- Barnyard Animals!** Farm favorites – goats, cows, pigs, rabbits, llamas, chicks and more – in livestock pavilions and Young McDonald’s Farm. See calves born daily!
- Rosaire’s Racing Pigs** – a Fair favorite!
- State Fair of Virginia Demolition Derby Championships (Oct. 2-4)** – Always a rumblin’ good time – with drivers vying for the state championship event!
- Extreme Canines Stunt Dog Show** – America’s favorite high-flying, fast-paced dogs return to entertain audiences with agility, Frisbee catching, high jumps and more!
- Masters of the Chainsaw** – The world’s finest professional chainsaw sculptors return, using speed and artistic ability to create collectible art.
- Great American Duck Race of New Mexico** — These adorable ducks return in an ever-popular, educational show – with audience participation, everyone’s a winner!
- Mutton Bustin’ (Sept. 26-27)** – Cheer on brave kids straddling wooly bucking sheep to see who can stay a-top for the longest qualified time!
- Cowboy Mounted Shooting (Sept. 26-27)** -- Raw horsepower returns with cowboy-clad riders competing at shooting at balloon targets. Come watch!
- Tractor Pulls (Sept. 25-27)** – in the new Thrill Pit area!
- Tundra Tough Trucks High School Rodeo (Oct. 3-4)**  
Enjoy **over 40 Midway rides** and a **Kidway** with kids’ rides and entertainment!

### Competitions!

- Nothing is more coveted at the State Fair than a blue ribbon! With hundreds of competitions, there is something for every creative hobby! Competitions include Arts & Crafts, Livestock & Small Animal, Equine, Crops & Vegetables, and more!
- NEW King Arthur Flour Baking Contest**
- NEW Table Setting For Two** – This year’s theme – “Triple Crown” – takes cue from the historic nature of The Meadow Event Park and horse racing! Judge the entries!
- NEW Search for the Best Angel Food Cake** – Sponsored by the Virginia Egg Council – it’s *egg-stravaganant!* Cake winners from local fairs across Virginia are invited to compete for the Grand Prize when the State Fair hosts the State Championships!
- NEW State Fair of Virginia Scholarship Program expands with new youth scholarships** in 4-H Dog Show, 4-H Equine, FIRST Robotics, and SkillsUSA – cosmetology.

### Food!

**Taste many Fair delights:** Turkey Legs, Elephant Ears, Italian Sausages, Philly Cheese Steaks, Barbeque, Pizza, Funnel Cake, Fried Oreos and more! **Eat Healthy** with Roasted Chicken, Fruit Smoothies, Cajun Shrimp, Greek Salad, Chicken Kebobs, Soy Doughnuts and more!

### Science & Technology!

**FIRST Robotics** – See teams of Virginia high school students compete for State Fair scholarships while using technology and engineering studies to build amazing robots. (Oct. 1-4)

## Living History!

Step back in time in Heritage Village. It's entertaining – and educational!

**Hitch a wagon ride from great Oxen** – visit the **Oregon Trail Exhibit**

**African-American Cultural Exhibit** – historical figures and storytellers.

**Civil War Re-Enactments** – See – and hear - firings of mortars, pistols and muskets.

## Music!

**Theater Stage** – Enjoy daily live performances of the **new Magic of Lance Gifford**, as well as a variety of live music – country, rock, Celtic, folk, roots and more – daily. Visit [www.statefairva.org](http://www.statefairva.org) for a schedule of performing acts.

**NEW Enjoy the FREE Toyota Tacoma Concert Series at the Festival Stage** – located adjacent to the Ticket Plaza at front entrance – included in your State Fair admission. Bring or rent a chair – or just hang out on the lawn and enjoy the show!

Thurs	Sept 24	7 pm	Jason Michael Carroll w/ Dean Brody
Fri	Sept 25	7:30 pm	Colgate Country Showdown
Sat	Sept 26	12 noon	Radio One Step Show & Competition
		7:30 pm	Percy Sledge
Sun	Sept 27	3 pm	Praise Palooza Gospel Show
Tues	Sept 29	1 pm & 6 pm	James River Ramblers
Thurs	Oct 1	7 pm	Plain White T's
Fri	Oct 2	7:30 pm	Randy Houser
Sat	Oct 3	7:30 pm	Luke Bryan with Tailgate Down
Sun	Oct 4	3 pm	V Factory & Joey Page

## Admission!

**Walk Around Tickets (1-Day Fair admission).** See all the animal shows, thrill shows, competitions and free entertainment. Does not include rides. Available prior to Fair through the State Fair ticket office and during the Fair at Gate.

Weekdays after 5 pm Monday – Friday:	\$8
Weekdays Monday – Friday:	\$11
Saturday and Sunday:	\$13
Ages 2 and under	FREE

### **Walk Around Season Pass (11-day Fair admission, does not include rides):**

Through Sept 23, 5 pm	\$19
At the Fair	\$26

**Parking:** \$5 per vehicle, cash only

Fair admission can be purchased at Fair or in advance – call 1-800-LUV-FAIR or (804) 994-2900. There is a \$3 per transaction fee for all phone orders.

## Rides! 2 Ways to Ride!!

**Ride Tickets:** \$1 per ticket. Each ride requires 2 to 6 tickets.

**Share rides with friends and family!** Ride Tickets can be used any day of 2009 fair and by multiple riders.

**Save on Ride Tickets** -- visit [www.statefairva.org](http://www.statefairva.org) to learn how, with **discount coupons**, and **advance sale vouchers!**

**Ride Wristbands** for **Ride Enthusiasts** who want *unlimited* rides – all day – one wristband per rider. Available at Fair.

Ages 7-59	\$19
Ages 3-6, 60+ and disabled	\$15
Ages 2 and under	FREE w/ complimentary wristband

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