

CLAY COUNTY 4-H MEMBER HANDBOOK



18 U.S.C. 707

This book belongs to: _____

4-H Club: _____



Extension - Clay County

Provided by: Purdue Extension—Clay County
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Meet the Team

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WHAT IS 4-H?

4-H is the largest youth serving organization in the country. It is a volunteer led program that reaches youth in both rural and urban settings. Professional leadership is given by Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service. Local leadership is provided by 4-H Youth Extension Educators and 4-H Program Assistants. Support for 4-H programs is a joint effort of local county government, Purdue University and the USDA. 4-H programs are hands-on, age appropriate and university based. 4-H helps youth improve their self-confidence; learn subject matter; and develop important skills including leadership, citizenship communication and decision making that can be applied over a lifetime. 4-H is young people sharing, doing and learning together in all kinds of projects, events, activities and informal situations, with the guidance of their adult family members and other adult volunteer club leaders, members choose projects that fit them and where they live. Group activities and events such as talent contest, trips, camps, fairs, shows and workshops provide additional opportunities and learning experiences. 4-H is open to all youth, regardless of their ethnic background, race, religion, gender or personal creed. Most 4-H clubs have meetings once a month. During these meetings, decisions are made concerning group sponsored activities, community service efforts, project opportunities, fund-raising projects, etc.

WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT FROM MY 4-H CLUB AND ADVISORS?

- Notice of 4-H club meetings and/or a printed schedule of club meetings for the year
- Information provided at one of the first meeting:
 - 4-H Club Program, Calendar of Activities
 - Advisor Contact information
- Information provided at all meetings:
 - Review of the 4-H Calendar
 - Reminders of Upcoming Deadlines, Requirements, etc.
 - What's coming up in the Club & how can my child get involved?
- Help in selecting and receiving Project Books
- Hands-on learning experiences ... project work, demonstrations, livestock quality assurance and/or horse safety programs, field trips/tours, etc.
- Opportunity to give back to the community through service projects.
- Opportunity to build leadership skills through serving as a club officer, on a committee, leading the American or 4-H Pledges, etc.
- Opportunity to have FUN with friends (new and old) through recreational, social, educational and/or competitive activities
- A welcoming place to learn and grow through the 4-H Program and work together to "Make the Best Better"

WHAT DOES YOUR 4-H CLUB EXPECT FROM PARENTS?

- Help your child attend club meetings, activities and events. Notify the club advisor, if your child can't attend a meeting/activity
- Pay for your child's state 4-H dues and club dues (if applicable)
- Transport your child to all club meetings and activities
- Attend special events planned by the 4-H club
- Encourage and guide your child's project work.
- Read the 4-H newsletter, mailings, Project Requirement Sheets, Fair schedules and other information with your child. Use the county 4-H website to find project and fair requirements and find answers to questions
- Encourage your child to participate in club/county skillathons/project judgments, clinics/workshops, 4-H camp, public speaking opportunities and much more
- Encourage your child to keep up-to-date records and complete their project(s)
- Model a positive attitude, good sportsmanship, respect and cooperation
- Assist with 4-H club activities in your areas of interest and expertise...teach a project skill, help with a community service project, plan a field trip, assist with fundraising, etc.
- Help out the club...host a meeting, provide refreshments, sponsor an award
- Support the club by cooperating with club advisors and exhibiting a positive attitude towards your child's personal and club 4-H goals

WHAT DO I NEED TO “DO” AS A 4-H MEMBER?

For Your 4-H Club:

- Do a demonstration (if your club requires, most do)
- Participate in Club Activities:
 - Community Service
 - Fund Raising
 - Fairs/Trips/Outings
- Obtain your Project Book – check with your Advisor or the Extension Office
- Serve on committees
- Get to know fellow club members
- Know your advisors
- Ask questions

For Projects:

- Select one or more projects to complete
- Get and keep your project book(s) and materials
- Begin work early on your project; ask questions as needed of your advisor
- Complete all project requirements (see Project Terms & Conditions) and exhibit project at the Fair.
- Complete Project Record sheet, have it signed by a leader and submit it with project at check-in. If for some reason you are unable to submit a project, you can still submit the record sheet for project completion.
- Turn in you Record Of Achievement

Once you've done these things, you will have completed a year of 4-H membership

4-H PROJECT BOOKS AND MATERIALS:

Special Interest Projects, Clothing Projects, and Food & Nutrition Projects

“Special Interest” is the broad term we use in Clay County 4-H to describe all the 4-H projects that focus on a special interest. It includes pet animals, vet science, child development, creative arts, health, shooting sports, woodworking, etc. Each Special Interest Project has a project book/manual which outlines the learning experiences and activities a member will do in order to complete the project. Project books are available at the Extension Office and are free for Clay County 4-H Members. In addition, you will need to complete a Project Record Sheet for each project. All Project Terms and Condition and Record Sheets can be downloaded from the Clay County 4-H web site.

Livestock Record Sheets

In each 4-H livestock project, daily record keeping is a component of the project, an aspect of being a good livestock owner and a great idea to keep in your personal files. This will help you better care for your animals. Examples and suggestions on how to keep these records can be found in the projects books. Each 4-H livestock member will be expected to submit a general record sheet outlining the care of the animals and the work the goes into the project. You can download a Livestock Record Sheet for keeping annual project records from our county website or can be picked up at the Extension Office. This Clay County Livestock Record sheet should be used by each livestock project member for each species enrolled. This record sheet should be completed, signed by a leader and brought to the Extension Office before the end of Fair.



4-H TERMS TO KNOW:

- **Terms and Conditions**—All of the rules and requirements for the year, including project requirements. This is available on the website.
- **Completion**—This means a 4-H member completes their project and all membership requirements by the end of each 4-H year.
- **Green Folder**—This green folder is given to first year 4-H members. Your copy of Record of Achievement and project record sheets should be kept in this folder. You may add to this folder each year that you participate in 4-H. If you need a folder, please contact the Extension Office.
- **My Record of 4-H Achievement**—You can record your projects that you have done for the year on this record sheet. You can also record the activities, meetings and committees that you have participated in during the year. A copy of this record is kept in your green folder and is added to each year. Watch your newsletter for the date that your Record of Achievements need to be turned in by (usually the first Sunday of Fair). These are reviewed to help determine the Outstanding 4-H member awards.
- **Project**—A 4-H project is what a 4-H member learns, makes or does; for example: learn to grow a garden, make a lego model, or show a rabbit. 4-H members should take at least one project each year and complete records for that project. The 4-H members family should take an active interest in the project.
- **Project Manuals**—Project manuals are guides written by specialist that help you learn by leading you through activities and offering suggestions to help you complete your projects.
- **Project Record Sheet**—Your project record sheet helps you keep track of each of your projects during the 4-H year
- **Fairgrounds Clean-up**—Days set for the 4-H club leaders, 4-H Council members and 4-H Club members to clean and prepare the fairgrounds for the 4-H Fair.
- **Project Check-in and Check-out**—All 4-H exhibits are entered during this time before the 4-H Fair officially starts. See your monthly newsletter for accurate check-in and check-out times.
- **4-H Online**—This is where you will create an account for your family to share. This site is where you will enroll every year for the new 4-H year and register for projects, clubs & animals.
- **Fair Entry**—This is where you register what projects you are bringing to the Clay County Fair. You MUST have your projects entered here by the deadline to be able to bring your projects to the fair.
- **Open Judging**—We have an open judging policy here at the Clay County Fair. You bring your projects in and the judges are on hand to talk to you about your project. Time is limited as there are many projects to be judged that evening.

HELPFUL WEBSITES TO KEEP YOU INFORMED:

4-H Online: v2.4honline.com

Fair Entry: www.fairentry.com

Clay County Purdue Extension:

<https://extension.purdue.edu/county/clay/>

Clay County 4-H Facebook: [Clay County 4-H](#)

Instagram: 4hclayco



Instagram



4-H Projects

Projects are a great way for 4-H members and their families to learn something new or practice something they enjoy. What follows is a list of projects that Clay County offers. Remember to check out our project Terms & Conditions Handbook for a full description of each project! The handbook can be found on the Clay County 4-H website.

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|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| • Aerospace (Rockets)* | • Farm Scene* | • Rabbit* |
| • ATV Poster | • Fashion Review* | • Rabbit Poster* |
| • Beef* | • Floriculture* | • Recycling |
| • Beekeeping * | • Foods, Baked* | • Scrapbooking |
| • Cake Decorating* | • Foods, Preserved* | • Sewing, Wearable & Non-wearable* |
| • Cat * | • Forestry* | • Sheep* |
| • Cat Poster* | • Garden* | • Shooting Sports–Archery* |
| • Child Development* | • Genealogy* | • Shooting Sports-Firearms* |
| • Collections | • Geology* | • Small Engines* |
| • Communications* | • Gift Wrapping | • Soil & Water Conservation* |
| • Computer* | • Goat* | • Sportsfishing* |
| • Construction Toys-(LEGOs)* | • Goat Poster | • Strawberry |
| • Consumer Clothing* | • Health* | • Swine* |
| • Crafts* | • Home Environment* | • Tractor (Driving: Lawn, Zero Turn and Ag Tractor)* |
| • Create-a-Mix | • Horse & Pony* | • Tractor Poster (lawn poster or ag tractor poster)* |
| • Creative Writing* | • Junior Leaders* | • Vet Science* |
| • Cupcake Decorating | • Llama /Alpaca (Poster - Craft)* | • Weather* |
| • Crops | • Microwaving | • Wildlife* |
| • Dairy* | • Mini 4H (grades K-2) | • Woodworking* |
| • Dog* | • Pet Animal | |
| • Dog Poster* | • Photography * | |
| • Electric * | • Poultry* | |
| • Entomology* | • Poultry Poster* | |

* Eligible to be shown at the Indiana State Fair

Clay County 4-H Clubs

Once the club meetings dates are set for the year, we will communicate those with you through email and newsletters.

- | | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4-Ever Achievers - Led by Jim Smith, meets in Staunton • Busy Bees - Led by Whitney Whisler, meets at the Fairgrounds • Clever Clovers - Meets in Clay City, led by Jamie Booe • Harrison Handy Happy Helpers - Led by Jacinda Tucker, meets in Clay City • Jackson Township Farmhands - Led by Stephanie Schopmeyer, meets at the Fairgrounds • Laker Leaders - Led by Kenna Slough, meets at Shakamak School • Mini 4-H (Grades K-2) - Led by Natalie Korniak and the Junior Leaders, meets at the Fairgrounds • Van Buren Hustlers - Led by Marlene Halfhill, meets at the Fairgrounds • Archery - Led by Dan Wisely, meets at the Fairgrounds • Firearms - Led by Ron Hofmann, meets at the Lost Creek Conservation Club in Staunton | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Junior Leaders - Led by Stephanie Adams & Dustin Stevenson, meets at the Fairgrounds • Swine - Led by Jeff Miller, meets at the Fairgrounds • Goat - Led by Jessica & Amy Stagg, meets at the Fairgrounds • Poultry - Led by Mitch Riddell, meets at the Fairgrounds • Tractor • Dog - Led by Derik Tipton, meets at the Fairgrounds • Horse & Pony - Led by Travis Nuckols, meets at the Fairgrounds • Rabbit - Led by Dani Miller & Derrick Modesitt, meets at the Fairgrounds • Cattle - Led by Jason & Amanda Bosstick and Deedra Arvin, meets at the Fairgrounds • Sheep - Led by Laura Van Horn and Hannah Thompson, meets at the Fairgrounds |
|---|--|

The 4-H Emblem

The National 4-H emblem is a four leaf clover with the letter “H” on each leaf. The four “H’s” stand for: Head, Heart, Hands and Health. These for “H’s” represent the training and development in which 4-H members participate. The meaning of the four “H’s” is clearly shared in the 4-H pledge below.



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I PLEDGE

MY HEAD

TO CLEARER THINKING,

● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●

MY HEART

TO GREATER LOYALTY,

● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●

MY HANDS

TO LARGER SERVICE,

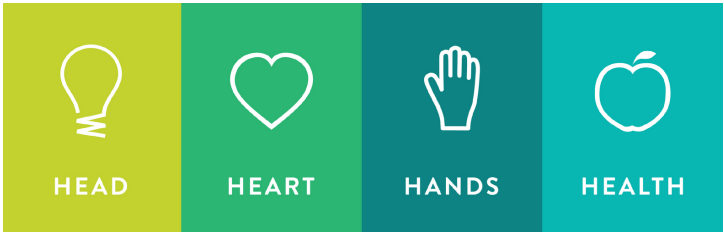
● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●

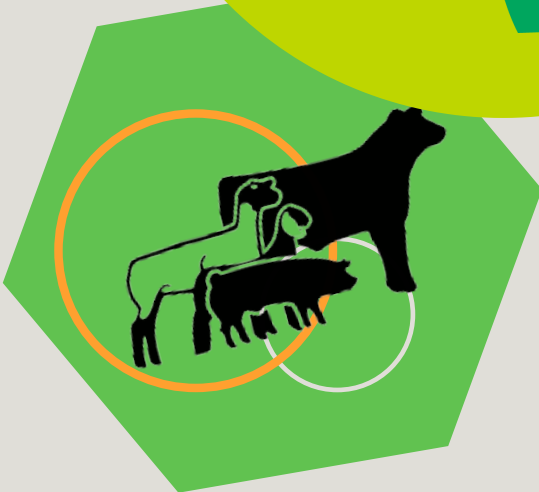
& MY HEALTH

TO BETTER LIVING,

● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●

FOR MY CLUB, MY COMMUNITY, MY COUNTRY AND MY WORLD





CLAY COUNTY 4-H

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