

A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO 4-H



in Montgomery County



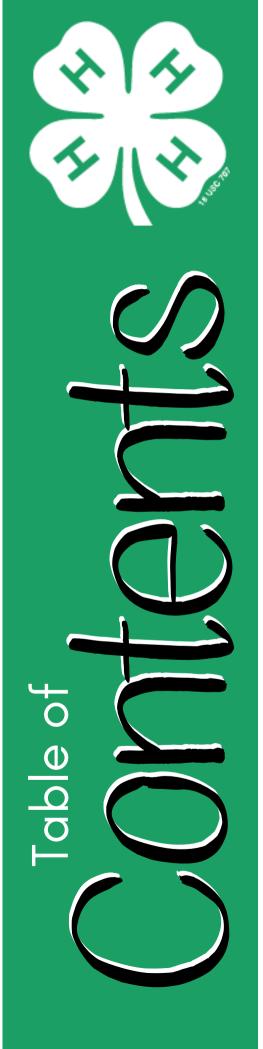






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The Indiana 4-H Youth Development mission is to provide real-life educational opportunities that develop young people who will have a positive impact in their communities and the world.

Indiana 4-H Youth Development strives to be the premier, communitybased program empowering young people to reach their full potential.

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WHAT IS 4-H? Indiana 4-H History

4-H began more than 100 years ago, and has since grown into the largest youth development program in the nation. 4-H prepares young people to be leaders in their community and around the world through hands-on experiences alongside their peers and caring adults. Backed by a network of more than 6 million youth, 540,000 adult volunteers, 3,500 professionals, and more than 60 million alumni; 4-H delivers research-based programming around positive youth development. 4-H is delivered through America's 109 land-grant universities and the Cooperative Extension Service —reaching every corner of our nation. In Indiana, 4-H can be found in all 92 counties as delivered through Purdue Extension.

Montgomery County 4-H History

The 4-H Pledge was composed and then adopted in June 1927 by a Montgomery County native named Otis Hall. Later the words "my world" was added in 1973 to recognize the commitment beyond the nation's boundaries.



4-H welcomes young people of all beliefs and backgrounds, giving kids a voice to express who they are and how they make their lives and communities better.



Why should I join 4-H?

4-H Opportunities

4-H members can take part in short-term specific interest workshops that focus on anything from robotics to food science! 4-H members also have access to numerous scholarships, educational opportunities, and can build life skills through community involvement. Most of all, 4-H is real life experience which is exemplified by our slogan "Learn by Doing."

Winning 4-H Plan

4-H welcomes all youth. We strive to make reasonable accommodations for youth with disabilities to participate at all levels of our 4-H program. Contact 4-H Extension Educator Abby Morgan at asweet@purdue.edu to set up a meeting to have a discussion on creating a winning 4-H plan with the 4-H member. Accommodations are

specific to the individual.

County 4-H Fair

The county fair is a CELEBRATION of the hard work done by 4-H members throughout the entire program year! A time to gather with friends and family and show off the projects. All 4-H members are encouraged to bring their completed projects to the fair for project judging and display.

Additional Opportunities for Involvement

- After-School Programs
- School Enrichment
- Project Workshops
- Awards Banquet at Fair
- Fashion Revue
- SPARK Clubs
- Day Camps
- 4-H Camp
- Volunteering
- Special Programs
- Career Development Events

4-H Trips

- Camps during 4-H Camp members participate in activities such as boating, swimming, crafts, and more!
- 4-H Round-Up 4-H members can explore a variety of careers on the Purdue University campus.
- 4-H Academy is held at Purdue
 University where participants can learn about science careers in a hands-on way!
- Citizenship Washington Focus this is an exciting experience for 4-H members to visit the nation's capital.









HOW DO I JOIN?

4-H enrollment opens on October 1st every year. Enroll online at <u>v2.4honline.com</u>.



Interested individuals can visit

v2.4honline.com to create a profile,
select a club(s), and sign up for
projects. For help selecting a club
check out the next section!

Returning members will log into your
v2.4honline.com account, register
for the upcoming year, and make
any necessary changes.

The 4-H program is open to any youth in grades 3-12 and has a \$15 state program fee, with a cap of \$45 per family. Mini 4-H is available to any youth in grades K-2 and there is not a fee to participate. If the fees pose a hardship please contact the Extension Office for a fee waiver request.

4-H Motto

To Make the Best Better

4-H Slogan

Learn by Doing

4-H Emblem

The National 4-H Emblem is a four-leaf clover with the letter H in each leaf.

4-H Colors

Green and white. Green symbolizes nature's most common color. Green represents life, youth, and springtime. White symbolizes purity.

MoCo 4-H Website

bit.ly/3CWKOLy

Online Registration











1 pleage

Head

to clearer thinking

Heart

to greater loyalty

Hands

to larger service

Health

to better living

For my club, my community, my country, and my world.

What is the difference between the 4-H Online and Fair Entry online systems?

v2.4honline.com is our online registration system for all youth who enroll in the 4-H program. 4-H Online enrollment opens on October 1st; this system will collect your enrollment fees and allows you to sign up for your 4-H projects. Members will also use their 4-H Online profile to submit scholarships and register for events, programs, and trips.

Fair Entry is a system we use to help organize the 4-H Fair, print exhibitor tags, and record results. Fair Entry tells us exactly what projects will be exhibited at the fair. The Fair Entry system opens in early June and closes before the fair. All members exhibiting at the fair have to login to Fair Entry and sign-up for the projects they are bringing to the fair. Livestock exhibitors will need to sign up their animals for their show classes.

4-H Online and Fair Entry do save your information and profiles, making it easier for returning members! Members can also add or drop projects every year.

If you need any assistance, or you are having difficulties with 4-H Online or Fair Entry, please do not hesitate to contact our office. We are here to help!

Which Club is Right for Me?





Clubs provide the opportunity for face-to-face project review / questions, community service, program updates, and much more. Club meeting attendance is not required to be in 4-H but we encourage our members to attend their club meetings.

All 4-H clubs will pass along important program updates. However, some are special interest clubs that provide further education for each specified project. Special interest clubs include Dog Obedience and Horse and Pony. If you are interested in any of these projects it is suggested you enroll in the corresponding club, as well as the main club you choose, if you have other projects.

Using the club locations and map on the next page, families can choose clubs that meet close to their preferred location.

Clubs can be switched at any time. Please contact the Extension Office for more details.

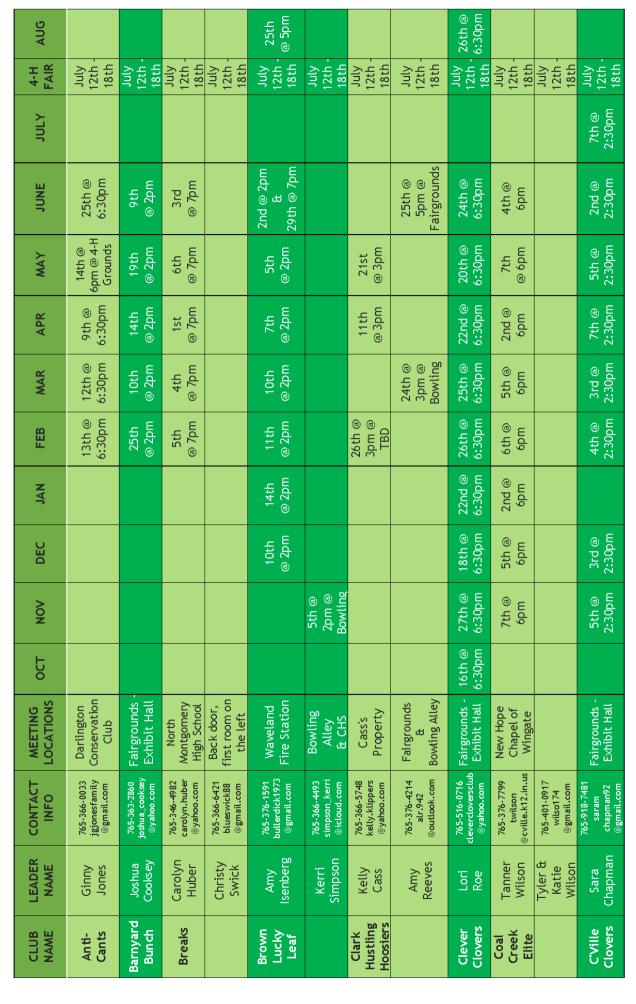
Scan for more Moco 4-H info, or visit bit.ly/3CWKOLy





Monthly Club Meeting Schedule











Monthly Club Meeting Schedule

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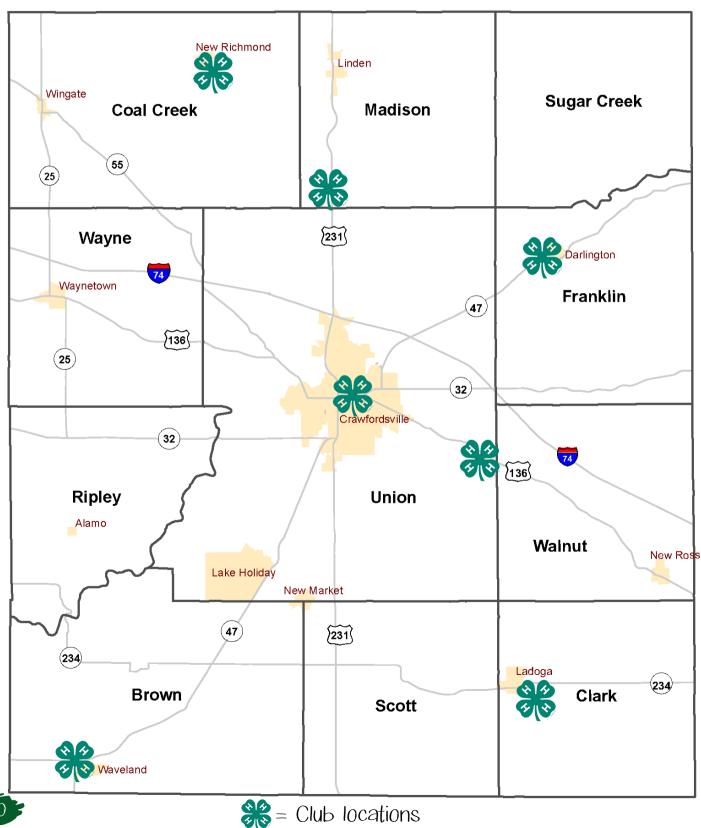


AUG											
4-H FAIR	July 12th - 18th	July 12th - 18th	July 12th - 18th	July 12th - 18th	July 12th - 18th	July 12th - 18th	July 12th - 18th	July 12th - 18th	July 12th - 18th	July 12th - 18th	July 12th - 18th
JULY		1st, 10th @ 6pm			3rd & 10th @6pm @4-H				7th @ 1:30pm		
JUNE		3rd, 12th, 17th, 26th ® 6pm			5th, 12th, 19th, 26th @ 6pm @ 4-H	TBD	TBD	23rd @ 3pm	2nd @ 1:30pm	9th @ 2pm	
MAY	1st @ 6pm @ 4-H	6th, 15th, 20th, 29th @ 6pm		13th @ 6:30pm	1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th @ 6pm @ 4-H	TBD	TBD	19th @ 3pm	5th @ 1:30pm	19th @ 2pm	
APR	3rd @ 6pm @ EH				3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th @6pm @ 4-H	TBD	TBD	21st @ 3pm		14th @ 2pm	
MAR	6th @ 6-8pm @ Bowling		11th @ 6:30pm		13th, 20th, 27th @ 6pm @ 4-H	TBD	TBD	17th @ 3pm	3rd @ 1:30pm	10th @ 2pm	
FEB	7th @ 6pm @ EH		12th @ 6:30pm		7tn, 14th, 21st, 28th @ 6pm	TBD	TBD	25th @ 3pm		25th @ 2pm	
NAL	3rd @ 6pm @ EH			10th @ 6:30pm	10th, 17th, 24th, 31st @ 6pm @ 4-H	TBD	TBD	21st @ 3pm			
DEC	6th @ 6pm @EH		6th @ 6:30pm			TBD	TBD				
NOV			13th @ 6:30pm			TBD	TBD	19th @ 3pm			
OCT						ТВD	ТВD				
MEETING	Fairgrounds - Exhibit Hall 4-H Building	MoCo 4-H Fairgrounds Open Arena	Fairgrounds - 4-H Building	Fairgrounds - Exhibit Hall	MoCo 4-H Fairgrounds- 4-H Building	MoCo 4-H Fairgrounds	C-ville Gun Club	MoCo 4-H Fairgrounds - Exhibit Hall	Mace Church	Fairgrounds - Exhibit Hall	
CONTACT	765-307-1856 makhaleayoung @outlook.com		765-364-6363 asweet @purdue.edu	765-918-3660 moswick49 @gmail.com	317-409-2393 mocodhdogclub @gmail.com	765-225-1245 drakedavis13 @gmail.com	765-366-2495 dma3cnnyi @gmail.com	765-376-0984 mcgaughey784 @sbcglobal.net	765-366-4678 asloan87 @gmail.com	765-918-6096 rivers0 @purdue.edu	765-366-0158 lizvickery822 @gmail.com
LEADER	Makhalea Whitehead		Abby Morgan	Morgan Swick	Amy Cox	Drake Davis	David Anderson	Alyssa McGaughey	Amy Sloan	Janet Rivers	Liz Vickery
CLUB	Horse and Pony		Junior Leaders		Krazy K-9s	Shooting Sports - Archery	Shooting Sports - Firearms	Shooting Stars	Walnut Willing Hands	Wayne Winners	

Club Meeting Map

Anti-Cants - Darlington Barnyard Bunch - Fairgrounds Breaks - NMHS Brown Lucky Leaf - Waveland Clark Hustling Hoosiers - Ladoga Clever Clovers - Fairgrounds

C'Ville Clovers - Fairgrounds Coal Creek Elite - New Richmond Horse and Pony - Fairgrounds Krazy K-9's - Fairgrounds Shooting Stars - Fairgrounds Walnut Willing Hands - Mace Wayne Winners - Fairgrounds



WHAT PROJECTS SHOULD I PICK?

OVER 50 PROJECTS TO CHOOSE FROM!

4-H Projects

A 4-H project is a learning experience for the 4-H member. Each member must take at least one project and complete the requirements for that project to count as a completed year in 4-H. The projects are judged and exhibited at the fair.

There are several projects for members to choose from. 4-H members are expected to complete all of the projects they enroll in. Projects provide the basis of 4-H by offering various educational experiences. The 4-H project is a teaching tool that can be used to develop many, valuable life skills in addition to the more evident project skills. Projects are real-life experiences that help 4-H members learn to make sound decisions. Projects also put the hands and minds to work.

For complete project guidelines, terms and conditions, and exhibit requirements as well as 4-H policies and procedures, be sure to see the current 4-H Info Book. Each family is provided one 4-H Info Book free of charge. Copies are available in the Extension Office, and also on our county website at bit.ly/3CWKOLy.

Livestock and animal projects have various enrollment deadlines and other special requirements; information on these deadlines and policy information can be found in the 4-H Info Book as well.

Project Selection

Parents and the member should know and fully understand what is expected of the 4-H member before they enroll in a project. Projects are selected by May 15th in the Indiana 4-H Online system. Usually, younger members should limit their selection to just a couple of projects. Older youth may be able to do several more. When helping a child select a project, parents and leaders should consider the following:





- Does the project meet the needs and interests of the member? It's important to remember that in many cases a child doesn't really know if he would like a particular project without first giving it a try.
- Does the project keep with ability of the member, yet provide a challenge? The amount of time a member has to work on the project and the amount of time required by the project.
- Does the project fit into the family needs and situation?
- How much will the project cost?
- Is there adequate space and equipment available?
- Is there opportunity for ownership and management responsibilities?
- Are club or project leaders willing to help, and likewise, are parents willing to help?

FAIR JUDGING AND RIBBONS

Fair Judging

Non-livestock projects to be exhibited at the 4-H Fair will be taken to the Fairgrounds on the designated project check-in days. Check your newsletter or contact the Extension Office or your Club Leader for information on when project check-ins will be held. Check-in and judging stations are placed throughout the 4-H Building and Exhibit Hall.

Montgomery County uses open judging; this means the judge will evaluate the project while the 4-H member is present. The 4-H member may be asked to explain how the project was created or what was learned during the process. Comment cards will be left from the judge after the completion of judging.

Members may also choose to complete an action demonstration. If this option is chosen, the member demonstrates an aspect of the project i.e., a game created for Child Development during the fair.

Fair Ribbons

4-H uses the Danish system of ribbon awards. Ribbons are awarded for projects judged and exhibited at the county fair as follows:

- Mini 4-H Ribbon Mini 4-H is considered cooperative rather than competitive, so every project receives a Mini 4-H ribbon.
- Purple Rosette Grand
 Champion Best overall in a particular project
- Lavender Rosette Reserve
 Grand Champion Second best overall in a particular project
- Purple Champion Best in project division
- Lavender Reserve Champion –
 Second best in project division
- Blue, Red & White Every project receives one of these ribbons.
- Green Completion



4-H Club

• A 4-H Club is recognized as at least five available youth from at least three different families that have completed the 4-H enrollment process. A 4-H Club has by-laws, a constitution, club officers, and abides by Indiana 4-H policies.

4-H Enrollment

• Each 4-H member enrolls online at the beginning of the 4-H year to join a 4-H club.

4-H Info Book

• The book which lists the Montgomery County rules and guidelines for every project exhibit. A new book is published annually. It is very important that all 4-H families read and are familiar with this book. It is usually available in January each year and one copy is free to each family.

4-H Project Workshop

 Workshops in 4-H are an opportunity to learn more about the skills needed to complete a project. You will not finish a project at the workshop, but gain knowledge and understanding of what is expected.

4-H Year

• The 4-H year is always the same, October 1st - September 30th every year.

Completion

• Completion in 4-H is achieved when a 4-H member enrolls in 4-H, selects and prepares a project, completes project manual activities, and submits a finished record sheet of his or her accomplishments.

Exhibition

• Exhibition in 4-H is the culmination of 4-H project work, often held in conjunction with the County 4-H Fair. Each project submitted for exhibition is evaluated on the degree to which it meets current year project requirements.

Fair Booklet

• Normally available about a month before the fair. They contain detailed information about the schedule of events during the fair and highlights the 10-year members.

Green Record Books

 Available at your County Extension Office; These are books to hold the "My Record of Achievements" and all of your completed record sheets. This book will be used for the entire 4-H career.

Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care (replacing YQCA)

• All 4-H members who exhibit livestock are required to have a current certificate. Information on training and registration will be sent to livestock exhibitors and will be in the newsletter.

"My Record of 4-H Achievement" Form

• This is a form on which the member records his or her projects and describes the member's experiences and knowledge gained. It is important that these be filled out accurately in order to remember what you have done in 4-H and to apply for trips, awards, and scholarships throughout your 4-H career. The "My Record of 4-H Achievement" is to be kept in the front of your 4-H Green Record Book, with your project record sheets. Be sure to update your information every year. An example and directions for completion are available in the 4-H Info Book or the County Extension Office.

Newsletters

 The county 4-H newsletter is emailed, or mailed, to every 4-H family. This gives information about county-level 4-H meetings and activities offered to 4-H members, leaders, and parents. For most events, this will be your only source of information.

Project Completion Card

Once you have your Record of 4-H Achievement and project record sheets completed and put in your Green Record Book, you will show your Green Record Book to your 4-H Club Leader at one of your regular club meetings. Your Club Leader will then provide you with a Project Completion Card that lists what projects you have completed for the year and will sign the card. Bring your signed Project Completion Card, along with your project(s), to your designated Project Check-in Day(s) to verify project completion.

Project Manuals

 4-H member and leader guides are typically written by university specialists and serve as suggestions of areas to study in your 4-H projects. These manuals generally contain a record sheet.

Project Record Sheets

4-H records should be filled out as completely and accurately as possible.
 Parents may oversee the child's work, but we expect the child to do his or her own writing. All completed project record sheets should be signed by the 4-H Club Leader.

Skills Card

• Not all, but some projects require a skills card. This is to be exhibited along with the project detailing the techniques and/or materials used. The projects specifically needing a skills card will be labeled in the 4-H Info Book.

Who's Who in 4-H?

Local Level

4-H Member

 Any youth in grades 3 – 12 who participates in a local 4-H group or activity.

Mini 4-H Member

 Any youth in grades K - 2 who participates in a local 4-H group or activity.

4-H Club Leader

• A volunteer who is responsible for the organizational part of the club.

Junior Leader

 A 4-H member who is in grades 7 - 12 and is willing to assume additional leadership and mentoring responsibilities within the 4-H program.

Parents

 Parents are very important to the success their children will have in the 4-H Program. Parents are encouraged to attend monthly meetings and project workshops with their children. All countywide events are open and parents are encouraged to attend.

SPARK Club Volunteer

 Coordinates a 6-hour experience for 4-H members based on a topic of interest to the members and within the volunteer's area of expertise.

County Level

4-H Inc.

• This is the short name for the Montgomery County 4-H Incorporated board. The 4-H Inc. board meets monthly and is the policy-making organization for Montgomery County 4-H. There are elected persons on this board and additional appointed members. Members are elected to three-year terms.

County 4-H Youth Development Extension Educator

• Represents Purdue University Extension as the county-based professional responsible for the day-to-day operations and decisions of the county 4-H Youth Development Program. He or she helps interpret 4-H policies and works directly with volunteers in the development of the county 4-H program.

Livestock Superintendent

 A volunteer who assists with the specific livestock project. They will check-in 4-H member's livestock at the fair and set-up for the show.

Extension Staff

 They are the professionals who guide, teach, and administer the Extension Programs. They help to manage all the paperwork and telephone communication with agriculture constituents, Extension Homemakers, and the 4-H members. They are staff members of Purdue University and Montgomery County Government.

Who's Who in 4-H?

State Level

Purdue University

 Purdue is a land-grant university that has the responsibility for taking education to the people of the state. The 4-H Youth Development Program is part of the directive in the State 4-H Office housed in the College of Agriculture.

Program Leader

 The State 4-H Youth Development Program Leader has the responsibility for 4-H programming at the state level.

State 4-H Specialists

 State Specialists have responsibility for the 4-H Youth Development Program on a statewide basis. Each specialist is responsible for a specific part of the total 4-H Program. They are based at Purdue University and are under the direction of the State 4-H Youth Development Program Leader.

Indiana 4-H Foundation

 This nonprofit organization works to provide additional resources for the 4-H Program. They sponsor scholarships, fund county and state programs, finance the State 4-H Volunteer recognition program, and support educational awards trips for outstanding youth on the state level.
 Forms for donations are available at the County Extension Office. They also sponsor the 4-H license plate program.
 Contact the Extension office for information about license plates for your vehicles.

National Level

National 4-H Council

 Cooperates with local and state 4-H programs as it provides funding for national initiatives. Located in Washington, D. C.





4-H Parents

How Can Parents Help?

Parents can be encouraged to share their different talents, means, and available time with the 4-H program. Not all people do the same things well. It takes some analysis to find who can and will do certain tasks. For example, the parent who will never appear in a public meeting may be willing to serve on a committee, help with fair set-up, etc.

The most successful 4-H members have the interest and support of their parents or another caring adult. Often parents are willing to help but are not sure how, when, or where they may get involved. Below are some suggestions for how parents can support 4-H members at home (1-9) and beyond (10-14).

- 1. Learn about 4-H, what it stands for; how it operates; how it is funded.
- 2. Advise your child in selecting 4-H projects. Help your child understand how many projects will be reasonable to complete in a given year.
- 3. Show your interest and enthusiasm for the projects selected. Find out what is suggested for the members to do and learn with them.
- 4. See that when a project is started, it is also completed.
- 5. Encourage your 4-H member when they succeed and even more when they fail. Help them see progress achieved and knowledge gained; not just the end result.
- 6. Be an example! Help your 4-H member be a good sport and appreciate the successes of others.
- 7. Stay informed about 4-H through information that comes to members of your family.
- 8. Make 4-H club work FAMILY work. Encourage youth to do their work and carry their own tasks to completion. Be their guide only.
- 9. Provide transportation to local meetings and county events in which your child and others of the club are interested. Or, provide refreshments for meetings or special functions. Don't wait to be asked, just volunteer this help!

- 10. Attend 4-H meetings and other special events.
- 11. Help your 4-H member find a way to participate in special events that interest them such as county contests, camps, fairs, displays, or shows.
- 12. Support your local 4-H volunteers. Get acquainted with them. Let them know you appreciate their efforts.
- 13. Offer your services to assist the local volunteer. You have knowledge and skills that are needed in 4-H.
- 14. If the need arises, help find local volunteers for your 4-H club. Several kinds of volunteers are needed: organizational, project, and activity volunteers. Consider helping in one of these ways yourself. Applications are available in your local Extension Office.

Remember that the real object of 4-H is to develop your children into outstanding, productive adults. The way they do their activities and projects and conduct themselves at competitive events and meetings will help set work and character standards for the rest of their lives.

Frequently Asked Questions

- Check out our project brochure, the 4-H Info Book, or our website for project guidelines to find projects that relate to your child's interests.
- Check to see if there are any project resources available.
- Ask friends who are in various projects.
- Talk with your Club Leader. Once you have decided, enroll the selected projects on <u>v2.4honline.com</u> by May 15!

How do I know which projects to choose?

How do we know what to do for our project?

- 4-H Info Book lists all of the guidelines for each project and the grade/level division, as well as our website.
- The Project Manual, if available Activities and requirements listed.
- Project Workshops Time for hands–on learning and demonstration.
- Clubs, & Club Leaders Provide guidance and support.

In order to exhibit at the fair, the online enrollment must be completed. The projects must be chosen within the online enrollment. The projects must also be entered into Fair Entry. The fair schedule outlines the dates in which the projects are due for delivery to the Montgomery County 4-H Fairgrounds for the 4-H Fair.

How do I exhibit my projects at the 4-H Fair?

What can Mini 4-H members do?

Mini 4-H is a program that has their own projects. Project manuals are available and outline the project requirements. Mini 4-H members can exhibit as many projects as they want. However they can only exhibit one option per project. An additional learning opportunity is Mini 4-H Day Camp in June for youth in grades K-2.

Online: bit.ly/3CWKOLy
Email: asweet@purdue.edu

Visit or call the Purdue Extension Montgomery County Office. The Info Book contains all the project requirements as well as contact information for all livestock superintendents and club leaders, and our website is a huge resource!

Where can I go for help?

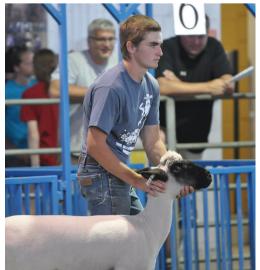
















Purdue Extension Montgomery County



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