

Special points of interest:

- Educational Workshops
- Volunteers Needed
- Indiana 4-H Scholarships
- Suggested Rule Changes
- Indiana 4-H Policy/Project Updates
- Ir. Leaders
- Important Dates for 2024

Volume 14, Issue 8 November 2023

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I'm a procrastinator by nature. I don't love that about myself, but it's true. This year will be the year to stay on top of things and NOT procrastinate for me, and likely for you, too. Switching to a June fair rolls many things forward by one month. Our family is already talking about when to secure sheep and cattle while possibly travelling for Spring Break, if we choose to do so. We're talking about the optimal time to complete record sheets because school will be letting out for the summer at about the same time. This will all take some adjusting, and with a baby steps, I think we'll all get there. So, let's start with step number one...

Visit v2.4honline.com to re-enroll.

Choose a 4-H Club (or call us to learn more about them).

Select Projects (check out project descriptions and record sheets at bit.ly/4hlandingpage) When you're ready, venture on to step number two...

Attend your 4-H Club meetings (see next page for dates).

Secure animals, if interested.

Learn at Project Workshops (dates will be shared in upcoming newsletters).

Begin learning about your projects by completing 4-H record sheets.

Explore new topics on 4-H trips with your friends.



Showcase your work at the 4-H Fair in June.

Visit the Indiana State Fair to gather ideas from fellow 4-H youth.

A look ahead at important dates:

November 9—State Purdue CARET

Conference, West Lafayette

November 13—Second Reading and Vote on Suggested Rule Changes

November 16—Chili Dinner Fundraiser for Purdue Extension programs

November 21—Jr. Leader Kick-off

November 23-24—Extension Office closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

November 24-28—National 4-H Congress

November 27—Get Your Happy On! Series Begins

December 20—Sweet Treats: Holiday Candy Making Workshop

December 25-26—Extension Office closed for Christmas Holiday

January 1—Extension Office closed for New Year's Holiday

January 9—Purdue CARET Legislative Luncheon, Indianapolis

January 15—Extension Office closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

January 21—Young Ladies in Agriculture

Forum, Purdue Fort Wayne

January 22—Extension Board Meeting

January 23—Barn Quilt Creation Series Begins

January 24—"Biology is a Hoot!" Workshop

February 1—4-H Camp Counselor

Applications Due

February 13—Indiana 4-H Day at the Statehouse

February 14—Canvas Painting Workshop

February 21—4-H Youth Development

Expansion and Review Luncheon

March 13-17—Ignite by 4-H Summit

May 15—Animal ID Due in 4HOnline

May 31—4-H Record Sheets Due

June 4—Add/Drop Due; FairEntry Due; QLC/YQCA Due

June 5-7—4-H Camp, Epworth Forest

June 21-27—2024 Steuben County 4-H Fair

August 2-18—Indiana State Fair (closed Mondays)



Club, Committee, and Board Happenings



4-H Bit and Bridle—The next meeting will be on November 6th at 6 pm at the Event Center at the County Park. The Council will meet November 8th.

4-H Explorers—The club will not meet again until January.

Flint Arrows—Good news! We have a potential new leader for you! We're working through the screening process and will let you know when they are an approved volunteer!

Fremont Ready Willing and
Able—The club will not meet again until January.

Hamilton Fighting 4-H'ers—If you know an individual who would make a great 4-H club leader, please contact Tami! The club will not meet again until a leader is secured.

Lucky Ducks—The next club meeting will be November 7th at 6:30 pm in the Community Center's Board Room.

Orland Creative Kids—Great news! Jennifer Holden is planning to lead your club in 2024! We have another volunteer application in process, and as soon as we wrap that up, we'll share more about your other leader.

Otsego Go-Getters—The club will meet again in January.

<u>The Conquerors</u>—The club will meet again in January.

<u>Tiny Clovers Mini 4-H</u>—The club will not meet again until next year, likely in January.



Jr. Leaders—Our kick-off meeting will be November 21st, 6:30-8 pm in the Board Room. Bring a friend, and invite your sixth grade acquaintances! On December 19th we will shop for those in need, 5:30-8 pm. The Jr. Leader Treasury will cover the cost of the gifts, but we invite you to bring an item to share for our annual Taco Bar.

4-H Fair Board—The next meeting will be November 13th at 6 pm (note time change!) in the Board Room. This will include the second reading and voting of rule changes.

Programs & Publicity

<u>Committee</u>—The next meeting will be November 13th at 5 pm in the Board Room. There will be snacks!

Awards Committee—Please plan to meet December 11th at 6 pm in the Board Room.

Newsletter Deadline

Please submit information you would like placed in the next newsletter by the 20th of the month.

This is Us

Steuben County 4-H is committed to creating a diverse, equitable, and accessible environment for all members, past, present, and future.

Special Accommodations

If you are in need of special accommodations for any and all 4-H or Purdue Extension programs and events, please call the Extension Office to give reasonable notices of the accommodations needed.







November 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6 Bit and Bridle, 6 pm, Event Cen- ter	7 Lucky Ducks 4- H Club, 6:30 pm Board Room	8 H&P Council, 6 pm, Event Cen- ter	9 State PCARET Conference, Beck Center	10 Extension Office Closed	11
12	13 Programs/ Publicity, 5 pm, Board Room 4-H Fair Board, 6 pm, Board Room	14	15	16 Purdue Exten- sion Chili Fund- raiser 5-7:30pm, Multi-Purpose Room	17 Get Your Happy On! Registration Due	18
19	20	21 Jr Leaders, 6:30- 8 pm, Board Room	22	23 Extension Office Closed	24 Extension Office Closed	25
26	27 Get Your Happy On! 4-5:30pm, YMCA	28	29	Grades K-12	4-H arollment Is Open! -	2



Green Record Books

Green record books and graded record sheets will be returned to you upon enrollment for the 2023-2024 program year. If upperclassmen need them for scholarships, feel free to ask! Otherwise, plan on receiving all of your old materials after enrollment. Enrollment is open at v2.4honline.com.

2023 4-H Fair Photos are Posted!!!

View the 2023 4-H Fair photos by visiting choicephotography.webmate.me/gallery. Choose 2023 Steuben County 4-H Fair.

Password: steuben4h2023



While many volunteers stay with us for years, when a volunteer signs on, they are only making a one year commitment that can be renewed or declined each year. Some volunteers don't even volunteer for a year...they volunteer in an "episodic" role where they help with a one-time project or a few weeks max. The volunteer year aligns with the youth program year, so each fall/winter, we ask volunteers to re-enroll in 4-H. If you haven't given 4-H volunteerism a try, consider these opportunities below. If after a year (or your episodic experience), you decide the role isn't for you, that's okay!

Club Leader Vacancies

• Hamilton Fighting 4-H'ers

Project Vacancies

- Air Rifle, training held in April or September
- Arts and Crafts Co-Superintendent
- Cat
- Crops
- Foods, Alternative Cooking
- Garden
- Genealogy
- Geology
- Sportfishing
- Vet Science
- Video Gaming and Computer Coding
- Woodworking

Required Volunteer Video Series

So that we can include you in the operation of our 4-H events and activities and the decisions related to the 4-H Program, we are inviting you to complete the 4-H Volunteer re-enrollment process at v2.4honline.com. After you have updated your profile, you will have the opportunity to complete three trainings. These can be completed on your laptop or similar device.

The topics are:

- 4-H Program Leader Welcome Message
- Orientation to Indiana 4-H Youth Development
- 4-H Volunteer Youth Protection Training

Why require some of your time? You are working with our most valued resource--our youth--and the videos will broaden your skills so that you will be better prepared to work with them. We are trusted with other people's kids, not just our own. Upon completion of all three trainings, you will be eligible to be placed in a 4-H Volunteer role in Steuben County.

Indiana 4-H Scholarships

Youth in grades 10-12 can apply for Indiana 4-H scholarships, due January 25th. Consider working on them now before we get too close to the holidays!



Senior Year Scholarship

able to 4-H members in their senior year of high school

Club Scholarship

Available to 4-H members entering Purdue University majoring in the College of Agriculture or select majors in the College of Health and Human Sciences

Purdue Horticulture & Landscape Architecture Scholarship Available to a 4-H member majoring in horticulture or landscape architecture at Purdue University and studied plant science in 4-H.

Accomplishment Scholarship

Available to 4-H members in grades 10-12 of high school and the year immediately following high school graduation. The purpose of the 4-H Accomplishment Scholarship is to recognize youth who have excelled in life skills development through their 4-H activities and involvement.

Categories: Animal Science—Meat and Milk Production; Animal Science—Companion and Small Animal Production; Citizenship; Communications; Engineering and Technological Science; Healthy Living, Food and Nutrition Science; Leadership Development; and Plant and Environmental Science Three additional categories are reserved for applicants demonstrating life skills development in more than one of the previously listed categories. Those are Premier Achievement, Premier Citizenship, and Premier Leadership.

Eligibility: Applicants must be in grade 10, 11, 12, or their first year immediately following 4-H enrollment eligibility at the time applications are due. While an applicant does not have to be a current 4-H member, they must demonstrate multiple years of involvement in Indiana's 4-H Youth Development Program.

Youth who have previously been awarded a \$1,000 accomplishment scholarship are only eligible to compete in the Premier Achievement, Premier Citizenship, and Premier Leadership categories. Youth who have previously been awarded a \$2,000 scholarship are no longer eligible to compete in any category.

Awards: A minimum of thirty \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to youth based on their demonstration of life skills development in these eight categories: Animal Science—Meat and Milk Production; Animal Science—Companion and Small Animal Production; Citizenship; Communications; Engineering and Technological Science; Healthy Living, Food, and Nutrition Science; Leadership Development; and Plant and Environmental Science.

A minimum of one \$2,000 scholarship will be awarded in each of these categories: Premier Achievement: Premier Citizenship; and Premier Leadership.





SUPERINTENDENTS, PLEASE RE-ENROLL IN 4HONLINE SUPER SOON SO WE CAN UPDATE YOUR INFO IN THE FAIR BOOK!

CLUB LEADERS, PLEASE RE-ENROLL SOON AND SEND YOUR MEETING DATES OUR WAY SO WE CAN COMMUNICATE WITH NEW FAMILIES!

V2.4HONLINE.COM

2024 Indiana State Fair

The 2024 Indiana State Fair dates and theme have been

released! Enjoy The Art & Nature of Fun, presented by Newfields, Friday, August 2nd - Sunday, August 18, 2024, closed Mondays. The preliminary livestock show schedule will be released during fall/early winter.



What projects can I work on this fall?

Want to get a head start on fair projects? You can complete or start working on a lot of projects early! Here are some examples:

- Take fall/winter photos for Photography.
- Practice cooking and baking for holiday meals.
- Work on collecting family history for Genealogy.
- Explore fallen leaves with Forestry.
- Learn about Indiana's wildlife before they go into hibernation or fly south.
- Teach yourself and educate others about animals for Animal Education.
- Start planning your Construction and Architectural Replica project - maybe request some parts as gifts!
- Spend rainy days inside sewing.
- Refinish or repurpose a furniture item for Home Environment.
- Explore your creative side with Fine Arts, Needle Craft, Model Craft, or other Arts & Crafts.

Changes to National Trips

National 4-H Council's Citizenship Washington Focus for youth in grades 9-12 conflicts with major Indiana 4-H educational programming, county fairs, and Indiana FFA Convention. As a result, Indiana 4-H will not be participating in the 2024 CWF program. In an effort to still provide an opportunity for high school students to experience high quality educational programming in Washington, DC the National 4-H Conference trip is being opened to any high school student wishing to participate. National 4-H Conference will be April 19-24, 2024. This conference is designed by USDA/NIFA and teaches youth advocacy. Youth will participate in issue groups working to develop ideas and solutions for a given topic then will present findings to federal agencies and legislative committees. Time will also be available in the schedule to tour monuments and explore Smithsonian museums or complete a community service activity. The state 4-H office will coordinate air travel and other arrangements. Cost to attend National 4-H Conference will be \$1,600.00 per delegate. This is very similar to last year's CWF registration. Registration is due Friday, December 1, 2023 by contacting Tami. Funding for this trip has not yet been secured by the 4-H Fair Board, so that exact cost is undetermined at this time, but assistance can be provided.

refined skills. Visit: https://extension.purdue.edu/4-H/getinvolved/national-programs/national-4-hconference.html

No Changes to Animal ID

Indiana 4-H announced in mid-September that there would be no changes to animal ID in 2024. So, plan on the same tags, tattoos, registrations papers, etc, in the coming year. As ID days become available, we will share those dates, but as a rule of thumb, plan on the following:

- Fat Cattle in March
- Small Calves in April
- Sheep & Goats in early May
- Self-tagging for Swine
- Supers/Volunteers to help tattoo Rabbits, as needed





2023-2024 Suggested Rule Changes

A summary of the suggested 2023-2024 rule change is shared below. Full suggestions are at www.bit.ly/4hlandingpage.

Voting for approval or disapproval of the suggestions will take place on Monday, November 13, 2023 at 6 pm as a part of the regular business meeting of the 4-H Fair Board. All those who submitted a rule change, or a like minded representative, must be present for the rule change to be considered. 4-H Fair Board meetings are open to the public, and we encourage you to attend if you have thoughts or opinions on the rule changes.

Please note: The suggested rules listed below are only suggestions at this point, offered by community individuals. Final rule changes will be posted in mid- to late November. In addition, some rules and requirements may change in the Fair Book at the request of greater entities, such as the Indiana Board of Animal Health and the Indiana 4-H Staff. Simply reviewing rule changes posted in the newsletter is not sufficient. Each 4-H member is responsible for reading rules that pertain to them when the 2024 Fair Books are posted.

GENERAL

Update record sheet submission deadline

Add statement about program fees to outline the cost of each type of member and state that the fees are non-refundable. Add statement that the Extension Office will not haul fragile items to the state fair (in addition to the already stated large items). Need to discuss Supreme Grand Champion Awards as a few projects are judged after the award recipients are selected.

MINI 4-H

Update two Mini 4-H project titles/descriptions, but no change to the actual projects/exhibits.

ANIMAL EDUCATION

Update number of exhibits so kids can represent more than one of the five animal posters offered at the state fair as all five are collapsed into one project at the county level.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Clarify the number of exhibits eligible. This is a state project, so we cannot change the primary content.

SCRAPBOOKING

Reduce the number of required pages and update the binding statement.

GENERAL ANIMAL GUIDELINES

Reduce extraneous rules that are common sense things and not really rules and/or get rid of rules that we are not actively enforcing.

Allow any Indiana 4-H member to help fit an animal for show.

Update pen/stall cleaning rule to read \$25 per pen/stall.

Delete early release of livestock for Indiana State Fair rule.

BEEF

Delete state fair info.

Update ID day protocols.

Reduce extraneous rules that are common sense things and not really rules and/or get rid of rules that we are not actively enforcing.

Drop vaccination requirements.

Split the Steuben County Born and Raised class into separate Breeding and Market classes.

CAT

Update kitten/cat ages.

DAIRY

Delete state fair info.

Move two rules. No change in wording...just moving them up in the project guidelines.

DAIRY BEEF

Delete state fair info.

Update ID day protocols.

Reduce extraneous rules that are common sense things and not really rules and/or get rid of rules that we are not actively enforcing.

Drop vaccination requirements.

DAIRY FEEDER STEERS

Combine Dairy Feeders and Started Calves into one project.

Delete state fair info.

Add a crossbred class.

Top weight at livestock check-in proposed for 600 lbs.

Update ID day protocols.

Drop vaccination requirements.

2023-2024 4-H FAIR BOOK UPDATE SUGGESTIONS

VOTE TO TAKE PLACE NOVEMBER 13TH



GOATS

Add tattooing option for LaMancha goats.

Make milk out contest information more generic.

Move birth dates by one month.

HORSE AND PONY

Change club sponsored award requirements.

POULTRY

Reduce extraneous rules that are common sense things and not really rules and/or get rid of rules that we are not actively enforcing.

Combine chicken/turkey and waterfowl showmanship into one showmanship competition for the entire poultry project. Update birth/hatch dates.

Combine exhibition goose and exhibition turkey into one class.

SHEEP

Move birth dates by one month.

SWINE

Move birth dates by one month.

AUCTION

Combine market rabbits (fryers, roasters, and stewers) into one sale category.

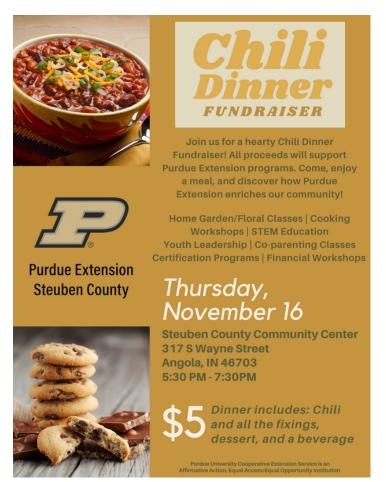
Sell only one animal through the livestock auction rather than two. Move to a premium sale (no floor price) where all animals are deemed "Keep by Exhibitor" and go home with the exhibitor rather than on a market truck or with the buyer.

Add "Back a 4-Her" work readiness program. Youth would choose only 1 support-type event...Back a 4-Her or the livestock auction, not both.



State Policy/Project Updates

- Policy updates can be found at https://extension.purdue.edu/4-H/about/policiesand-procedures
- Aerospace added drone exhibit suggestions.
- Communications deleted language about state fair achievement trip and added state fair Celebration of Champions information.
- Electric referred notebook/report exhibits to scorecard to learn what information needs to be included.
- Garden add any other single vegetable and any other herb as exhibit options. Removed Latin name requirement.
- Genealogy clarified divider tab language.
- Photography deleted display board as an exhibit option.
- Woodworking Techniques Combined Level 1 and 2.
- Added beekeeping two-honey product scorecard.
- Revised food recipe card.
- Added garden collection scorecard.
- Revised garden single vegetable scorecard.
- Revised genealogy judges checklist.



Jr. Leader Kick-off: 6th Graders Welcome!

If you are interested in exploring 4-H beyond the traditional 4-H fair and project exhibition, then maybe this leadership opportunity is the route for you! 4-H volunteers and Tami work with a group of teens and pre-teens nearly every month to do community service, to plan events and activities for the 4-H fair, to socialize, and to learn teamwork and leadership. These opportunities are perfect for youth seeking community service hours and volunteer opportunities! We usually meet once a month on a Tuesday, 6:30-8 pm, but it does vary at times. Join us on Tuesday, November 21 in the Community Center's Board Room, just down the hall from the Extension Office!

Donate to a State University: Make Your Giving Work For You

The end of year is a time that many begin to finalize tax considerations and reflect on the past calendar year. You may receive a return of a 50 percent direct credit to your tax bill when donating up to \$200 per individual and \$400 for couples filing jointly, given to an Indiana funded university. Because Purdue Extension is part of a state funded university, one can make a donation to the local Extension Office that would qualify. Therefore a \$100 contribution to Purdue Extension-Steuben County would cost one only \$50. You can also specify how you would like the money to be used (i.e. 4-H, afterschool programming, volunteer development, agriculture or natural resources programming, parenting classes, mental health programming, community development activities, etc.). Some limitations do exist. For example funds donated for awards or scholarships would not be eligible for the additional direct state tax deduction. Give the Extension office a call and ask about this excellent way you can support community programs for minimal cost to your pocket due to the additional state tax break. One can also make a donation to the Steuben County Master Gardeners and/or the Steuben County 4-H Fair Board. While this option is not eligible for the 50% state tax credit that a state funded university or college provides, it is a great option in that the these not-for-profit entities fall under the general state and federal income tax deduction via a reduction in taxable income. A donation to these entities not only helps the group, but allows for more education and events in our community.

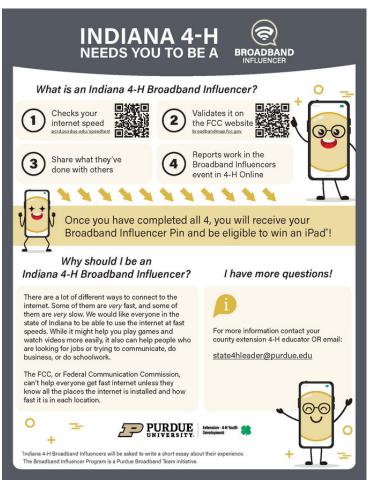
4-H Motto: To make the best better.

4-H Slogan: Learning by doing.

Indiana 4-H Mission: 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 Vision: Indiana 4-H Youth Development strives to be the premier, community-based program empowering young people to reach their full potential.

4-H is America's largest youth development organization—empowering nearly six million young people with the skills to lead for a lifetime. In 4-H, we believe in the power of young people. We see that every child has valuable strengths and real influence to improve the world around us.









Coming Soon! Barn Quilt Creation Workshops

Youth will get to claim the first seats, but adults are invited, too! Create your own colorful, geometric 2' x 2' piece to hang on a barn, a home, or a business. Boards, primer, tape, brushes, and up to 4 paint colors will be available for participants. Register on/before January 1. \$40 per person. Classes will be held January 23 and 30, and February 6 and 13, beginning at 5:30 pm.



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Don't Miss the Sign-up!

- Indiana 4-H Broadband **Influencer** - anytime in November! See page 9.
- Get Your Happy On! series -November 27, December 4, 11, and 18, 4-5:30 pm at the YMCA. \$10 (only \$5 for Y Members). Register by 11/17.
- **Sweet Treats: Holiday Candy** Making Workshop - December 20th in the Extension Kitchen. \$10. Register by 12/13.
- Barn Quilt Creation Workshop series - January 23 and 30, and February 6 and 13, beginning at 5:30 pm in the Extension Kitchen. \$40. Register by 1/1.







Important Dates for 2024:

Now through January 15 4-H Member Target Enrollment Window

May 15, 2024 Animal ID Due (v2.4honline.com)

May 31, 2024 Record Sheets Due (drop off at the Extension Office or email)

June 4, 2024 Project Add/Drop Due (by phone or email) Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care (or online YQCA)

Certification Due FairEntry Selections Due (steubencountyindiana.fairentry.com)

> June 21-27, 2024 Steuben County 4-H Fair

August 2-August 18, 2024 Indiana State Fair