

2026 DEKALB COUNTY 4-H HANDBOOK

MASTER ACHIEVERS



TOPS IN 4-H



Subject to change without notification

4-H Club Officers

President _____

Vice-President _____

Secretary _____

Treasurer _____

News Reporter _____

Song _____

Recreation _____

Health & Safety _____

Community Improvement _____

Adult Leaders

Purdue Extension DeKalb County

County Office Building
215 E. 9th St., Suite 300
Auburn, IN 46706

Phone: (260) 925-2562
Fax: (260) 925-3130
Hours: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm (Mon-Fri)

Effie Campbell

4-H / Youth Development
Extension Educator

Elysia Rodgers

Agriculture & Natural Resources
Extension Educator
County Extension Director

Angela Sorg

Health & Human Sciences
Extension Educator

We are excited that your family has decided to join Indiana's premier (and largest) youth development program and look forward to working with your family to provide an excellent educational experience for you, the 4-H member!

4-H Mission & Vision

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

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

Pledge to the Flag

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

4-H Club Pledge

I pledge:

MY HEAD to clearer thinking,

MY HEART to greater loyalty,

MY HANDS to larger service, and

MY HEALTH to better living

for my Club, my Community, my Country, and my World.

4-H Motto

"To Make the Best Better"

4-H Colors

Green & White

FRONT COVER PHOTOS

Master Acheivers (left to right): Adyson Brown and Bridget Dunn

Tops in 4-H

Back row (left to right): Bridget Dunn, Adelina Harding, and Isaiah Hefty

Front Row (Left to Right): Callista Albaugh, Charlotte Albaugh, and Adyson Brown

It is the policy of the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service that all persons have equal opportunity and access to its educational programs, services, activities, and facilities without regard to race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, genetic information, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, disability or status as a veteran. Purdue University is an Affirmative Action institution. This material may be available in alternative formats.

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DEKALB COUNTY 4-H CLUBS & ADULT LEADERS

BUTLER / KEYSER TOWNSHIP

4-H Cloverleafs

Amy Sutton 260-302-6707
amysutton6937@icloud.com

Tonya Depew 260-582-1725
tdepew5@gmail.com

Keegan Knott 260-553-6034
k_lynn_knott@hotmail.com

CONCORD/SPENCER/NEWVILLE TOWNSHIPS

4-H Power

Jason & Karla Kreischer 260-927-4951
jkkreischer5@gmail.com

FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP

Fairfield Farmers

Charlotte Albaugh.....
charlotte06belties@gmail.com

Shannon Comment..... 260-668-0718
dsmnacoment@gmail.com

JACKSON TOWNSHIP

Jackson Blue Ribbons

Tonya Schlabach 260-494-9411
llamateacher@yahoo.com

McKenzie Shoudel..... 260-908-6755
m.heffley94@gmail.com

Holly Kline.....260-450-9339
hol21@hotmail.com

RICHLAND TOWNSHIP

Richland Cornhuskers

Janie Long..... 260-908-0966
janielong07@yahoo.com

SMITHFIELD / GRANT TOWNSHIPS

Smithfield Busy Bees

Stephanie Hine..... 260-316-4189
hine.stephanie@gmail.com

Carrie Dunn 260-927-5763
carriejodunn@yahoo.com

UNION TOWNSHIP

Cut-Ups

Melissa Crabill.....260-553-0836
jmcrabill052508@hotmail.com

Dusti Skeens.....260-413-9139
Chef_Dusti@yahoo.com

WILMINGTON / STAFFORD / TROY TOWNSHIPS

Nevershirk

Cassie Brown 260-908-0519
cbrownaj@aol.com

Ashley Brown 260-908-2032
babrown08@yahoo.com

ATV CLUB

Joni Blomeke 260-318-0404
jojo7089@gmail.com

Matt Blomeke 260-318-4309
mattblomeke9@gmail.com

DEKALB DOUBLETREES (Draft Animal)

Christy Kruckeberg260-417-8308
clkruck1@gmail.com

Lindsay Clifford260-570-7068
lclifford777@yahoo.com

HORSE & PONY CLUB

Marcee Fisher..... 260-927-5504
dekalb4horseandpony@gmail.com

SHOOTING SPORTS/HOT SHOTS

Tim Schlabach 260-570-5738
Tjschlabach@hotmail.com

Patrick Jessup 260-438-4289
patrickjessup@gmail.com

MINI 4-H

Cortney Albaugh 260-927-5453
ramalbaugh@metalink.net

Denise Grider 260-385-8467
dmgrider@gmail.com

JUNIOR LEADERS

Carrie Dunn260-927-5763
carriejodunn@yahoo.com

Cassie Brown 260-908-0519
cbrownaj@aol.com

Olivia Rigby..... 260-573-2561
origby18@gmail.com

Ryan DePew..... 980-228-6766
21ryandepe@gmail.com

Lane Sutton.....260-564-1325
lanesutton2004@icloud.com

Dog Club

Sarah Lehrman260-908-3430
slehrman8704@aol.com

Taya Fordanish260-573-6258
smittn02@gmail.com

COMMITTEES

AWARDS

Carrie Dunn (Chair)
Cassie Brown
Stacy Fillenwarth
Katelee Carnahan
Chelsea Handshoe
Pam Stritmatter
Rhonda Doster
Baylee Doster
Jessica Cottrell
Keegan Knott
Matt Taylor
McKenzie Shoudel
Jackie Hook

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT

Matt Blomeke (Chair)
Orie Foster
Sean Hartman
Matt Taylor
Joni Blomeke
Nick Johnson
Ryan Ridge
Carleigh Pearson
Guy Pearson
Jackie Hook

EXHIBIT HALL

Vacant (Supt./Chair)
Frank Nester
Matt Blomeke

FAIRENTRY

4-H Educator (Chair)
Stacy Thrush
Teresa Springer
CJ Tucker
Stephanie Taylor

FALL FAIR PLANNING

Kyle Yarde (Chair)
Orie Foster
Logan Rinehold
Guy Pearson

FINANCE

McKenzie Shoudel (Tres./
Chair)
Logan Rinehold
Carrie Dunn
Cassie Brown

FOOD STAND

Vacant (Supt./Chair)
Stephanie Hine
Keegan Knott
Tabby Warstler
McKenzie Shoudel
Chelsea Handshoe
Pam Stritmatter
Jessica Cottrell
Carrie Dunn

FUNDRAISING

Joni Blomeke (Chair)
Logan Rinehold
Cassie Brown

SHOW BARN

Carleigh Pearson (Supt.)
Guy Pearson
Tonya DePew
Baylee Doster
Rhonda Doster
Josie Rinehold
Logan Rinehold
Janet Ridge
Stefanie Rinehold
Mason DePew

SUMMER JUDGING

4-H Educator (Chair)
Stephanie Hine
Rhonda Doster
Baylee Doster
Carrie Dunn
Denise Grider
Kara Hankey

LOAD-IN/LOAD-OUT

Guy Pearson (Chair)
Kurtis Christlieb
Nick Johnson
Matt Taylor
Keegan Knott
Carleigh Pearson

BATTLE OF THE BARN

Carleigh Pearson (Chair)
Kurtis Christlieb
Katelee Carnahan
Rhonda Doster
Baylee Doster
McKenzie Shoudel
Jessica Cottrell
Nick Johnson
Ryan Ridge
Kara Hankey

Notes:

4-H AUCTION COMMITTEE

Township Chairmen

Butler/Keyser:

Julie Malcolm 357-6255

Concord/Spencer/Newville:

Melanie McClain..... 437-6172

Fairfield:

Tom Orwig 541-0068

Jackson/Union:

Mandy Young 908-1624

Richland:

Stephanie Haynes-Clifford 413-2904

Smithfield/Grant/Franklin:

Jessica Cottrell..... 927-5220

Wilmington/Stafford/Troy:

Abigail Capp 573-3741

Katelyn Sheppard..... 920-8260

Livestock Superintendents:

Beef - Ryan Ridge

Dairy - Katelee Carnahan

Dairy Feeder / Dairy Steer - Sean Hartman

Goat - Chelsea Handshoe & Carrie Dunn

Poultry - Tabitha Warstler

Rabbit - Tonya DePew

Sheep - Logan Rinehold

Swine - Kevin Days

Executive Committee:

Chairman: Jon Young

Vice Chairman: Julie Malcom

Secretary: Melanie McClain

Treasurer: Pat Imhoff

DEKALB COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL, INC,

President..... Kyle Yarde..... 260-226-1014
Vice-President Carrie Dunn 260-927-5763
Secretary Cassie Brown..... 260-908-0519

4-H COUNCIL TREASURER

McKenzie Shoudel 260-908-6755

EXEC. BOARD COUNCIL REP.

Rhonda Doster 260-908-1977

REP. TO FAIR BOARD EXEC. BOARD

Matt Blomeke 260-318-4309

BUTLER / KEYSER (4-H Cloverleafs)

Keegan Knott 260-553-6034

CONCORD/SPENCER/NEWVILLE (4-H Power)

Nick Johnson 260-414-8957

FAIRFIELD (Fairfield Farmers)

.....

JACKSON (Jackson Blue Ribbons)

Marcee Fisher 260-927-5504

MINI 4-H

Denise Grider 260-385-8467

Multi-Township

Kurtis Christlieb 260-541-0531

RICHLAND (Richland Cornhuskers)

Orie Foster 260-927-7083

SMITHFIELD/GRANT (Smithfield Busy Bees)

Jessica Cottrell 260-927-5220

UNION TOWNSHIP (Cut-Ups)

.....

WILMINGTON/STAFFORD/TROY (Nevershirk)

Ashley Brown 260-908-2032

JUNIOR LEADERS

.....

ATV

.....

DRAFT ANIMALS

Christy Kruckeburg..... 260-417-8308

HORSE & PONY

Jackie Hook 317-979-7662

SPECIES REPRESENTATIVE:

Beef - Ryan Ridge 260-908-4220

Dairy - Katelee Carnahan..... 260-908-4600

Dairy Beef - Sean Hartman 260-908-1428

Goat - Chelsea Handshoe..... 260-573-9495

Poultry - Tabitha Warstler..... 260-570-7239

Rabbit - Tonya DePew 260-582-1725

Sheep - Logan Rinehold..... 260-908-6343

Swine - Kevin Days 260-243-0266

BUILDING SUPERINTENDENTS/REPRESENTATIVES TO COUNCIL:

Exhibit Hall -

Food Stand - Pam Stritmatter (Rep.) 260-908-0734

Show Barn - Carleigh Pearson (Supt.) 260-318-2405

SHOOTING SPORTS

Patrick Jessup 260-438-4289

Dog

Taya Fordanish 260-573-6258

STATIC PROJECTS

Kara Hankey 260-909-0514

AUCTION COMMITTEE

Jon Young 260-927-4259

YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES

.....

AT-LARGE POSITIONS/FAIR BOARD

Frank Nester..... 260-760-3199

Matt Taylor..... 260-541-1001

Stacy Fillenwarth..... 260-433-1598

FAIR BOARD PRESIDENT

Eric Rowe 260-925-5980

FAIR BOARD REP TO COUNCIL

Guy Pearson 260-437-1892

OTHER SPECIAL GROUP REPRESENTATIVES ADULT LEADERS

.....

Stephanie Hine..... 260-316-4189

2026 SUMMER JUDGING SCHEDULE

NOTE: Projects listed by time and location. All dates/times subject to change with notification. Time listed indicates project judging start time; projects are due to that location by that time. If late, exhibit will be dropped a ribbon placing.

Saturday, July 11

8:00 am check-in Summer Goat Show (Breeding Goat Does, Showmanship, and Pack/Pleasure/Pet Goats)
1:00 pm DeKalb Doubletrees 4-H Draft Animal Completion show, Horse Arena

Sunday, July 12

4:00 - 6:00 pm Optional Project Check-in, (for those who cannot attend on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday)
FairEntry Tag Pick-Up, Middaugh Hall; Project Drop-off, Exhibit Hall

Monday, July 13

8-10 am Optional Project Check-in, Middaugh Hall; Project Drop-Off, Exhibit Hall
(for those who cannot attend on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday)
9 am Beekeeping, Genealogy / Veterinary Science, Exhibit Hall
9 am Foods / Food Preservation, Middaugh Hall
10 am Animal Education Posters, Electric, Child Development, Exhibit Hall
11 am Construction Architectural Replica, Exhibit Hall
11:30 am Garden Check-in, Middaugh Hall
12 pm Garden, Middaugh Hall
12 pm Collections, Exhibit Hall
12 pm Floriculture / Cake Decorating, Middaugh Hall

Tuesday, July 14

9 am Any Other Crafts, Fine Arts, Models, Needlecrafts, Exhibit Hall
9 am Scrapbooking / Woodworking, Middaugh Hall
10:30 am Aerospace, Exhibit Hall
11 am Gift Wrapping / Home Environment / Health, Exhibit Hall
11 am Modern Meals/ Recycling / Self-Determined, Middaugh Hall
11:30 am ATV Education/ Tractor Poster / **Wildlife**, Exhibit Hall
12 pm Forestry / Weather/ Entomology, Exhibit Hall
12:30 pm Sport Fishing / Shooting Sports, Exhibit Hall

Wednesday, July 15

8:30 am Consumer Clothing Check-in, Middaugh Hall
8:45 am Consumer Clothing Interviews, Middaugh Hall
9:00 am Geology; Photography **Level 1**, Exhibit Hall
9:00 am Photography **Levels 2&3**, Exhibit Hall
9:15 am Consumer Clothing Modeling/Senior Fashion Revue Check-in, Middaugh Hall
9:45 am Senior Fashion Revue Judging/Junior Fashion Revue Check-in/Junior Sewing Check-in,
Middaugh Hall
10:00 am BBQ/Small Pet, Exhibit Hall
10:15 am Senior Wearable & Non-Wearable Sewing Judging/Junior Fashion Review, Middaugh Hall
10:30 am Verbal Communications, Middaugh Hall
11:00 am Junior Wearable & Non-Wearable Sewing Judging, Middaugh Hall

Thursday, July 16

4-6:30 pm 4-H Open House; All projects (except State Fair projects) left from judging should be picked up
7:00 pm "Tops in 4-H" & Summer Awards Program & Live Auction, Middaugh Hall

Friday, July 17, 5:30 pm 4-H Horse & Pony Speed Show

Saturday, July 18, 9 am 4-H Horse & Pony Halter & Pleasure Show

4-H ATV Completion Ride, Fairgrounds. All ATV Club scheduled event dates and times will be handed out to all approved club members in their Welcome Packets and at the Safety Ride.

2026 DEKALB COUNTY FALL FAIR 4-H SCHEDULE

All dates/times subject to change with notice.

Sunday, September 20

1 pm - 4 pm Fair Clean-up, Set-up, and Project Drop Off Fairgrounds

Thursday, September 24

6 pm - 8 pm 4-H Exhibit Hall Projects Drop Off..... Exhibit Hall

Saturday, September 26

12 Noon - 3 pm 4-H Exhibit Hall Projects Drop Off..... Exhibit Hall

2 pm - 4 pm 4-H Rabbit Check-in Rabbit Barn

Sunday, September 27

8 am - 1 pm All large animals check-in Fairgrounds

1:30 pm - 3:30 pm 4-H Poultry Check-in Rabbit Barn

3 pm Crops Exhibit Judging..... Exhibit Hall

6:30 pm Battle of the Barns Horse Arena

Monday, September 28

8 am 4-H Rabbit Show..... Livestock Show Arena

10 am - 9 pm 4-H Exhibit Hall Open

5 pm 4-H Sheep Show..... Livestock Show Arena

Tuesday, September 29

10 am - 9 pm 4-H Exhibit Hall Open

8 am 4-H Swine Show Livestock Show Arena

4 pm 4-H Poultry Show..... Livestock Show Arena

Wednesday, September 30

9 am 4-H Dairy Feeder / Dairy Steer Show Livestock Show Arena

10 am - 9 pm 4-H Exhibit Hall Open

4 pm 4-H Beef Show..... Livestock Show Arena

Thursday, October 1

8:30 am 4-H Dairy Interviews Dairy Barn

11 am 4-H Dairy Show Livestock Show Arena

10 am - 9 pm 4-H Exhibit Hall Open

4 pm 4-H Goat Show (Market Does/Wethers/Showmanship)..... Livestock Show Arena

Friday, October 2

10 am - 9 pm 4-H Exhibit Hall Open

10:30 am 4-H Auction Introductions Livestock Show Arena

11 am 4-H Livestock Auction Begins..... Livestock Show Arena

7 pm Supreme Showman Contest..... Livestock Show Arena

Saturday, October 3

10:45 am Grand Finale Parade..... Downtown Auburn

12 Noon - 9 pm 4-H Exhibit Hall Open

1 pm Future 4-Her Show Livestock Show Arena

6 pm Premier Showmanship..... Livestock Show Arena

Sunday, October 4

8-10 am Load-out of livestock and Exhibit Hall projects released

9 am Exhibit Hall & Fairgrounds Clean-up

2026 4-H Deadline Schedule

May 15

_____ 4HOnline Animal ID for Beef, Registered and Unregistered Heifers, Dairy Steers, Horse & Pony, Draft Animals, and State Fair Animals (excluding rabbits & poultry)

July 1

_____ Project Add/Drop (Summer and Fall Projects)

_____ Fair Entry Deadline for Summer Projects

_____ 4HOnline entry for Fall Fair Animals

_____ 4HOnline entry for Summer Goats, FairEntry Class Selections for Summer Goats, Worksheets Due for Summer Goats (Extension Office), QLC/YQCA Due for Summer Goats

_____ Nomination Forms for Rabbit and Poultry due to Extension Office

_____ TOPS in 4-H and 10-year Display Boards due to Extension Office

September 8

_____ 4HOnline Entry for Beef Feeders, FairEntry Class Selections for Fall Fair Animals and Crop Exhibits, Battle of the Barns entries

_____ Worksheets due to Extension Office, QLC/YQCA Due

4HOnline

4HOnline is the website used by 4-H programs across the country to register/enroll, choose projects, identify animals, and register for 4-H events. The 4HOnline system also keeps track of how many years a 4-H member has been enrolled in the program. <https://v2.4honline.com/>

FairEntry

Through FairEntry, you will state what you are bringing to the fair and how many animals is that you ID will be coming to fair. FairEntry is used by the DeKalb County Extension Office and volunteers to make Show bills, judging lists, manage the auction, and input results from events.

<https://fairentry.com/Public/FindYourFair>



DeKalb 4-H Hub

The DeKalb 4-H Hub is the main location for many of the important documents and resources. Checklists for Summer Judging and Fall Fair are located here, so you can check what your 4-H members still need to complete before deadlines. The 4-H Handbook, monthly newsletters, applications for trips/events, instructions for 4-H Online and FairEntry, are also located on this site. <https://bit.ly/DeKalb4HHub>





Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care

All 4-H'ers enrolled in BEEF, DAIRY FEEDER / STEER, DAIRY, GOAT, POULTRY, RABBIT, SHEEP & SWINE must be Quality Livestock Care or YQCA certified.

If you choose to complete the YQCA option, you will register for the online course at <https://yqcaprogram.org/> Cost of the online YQCA course is \$12. After completing the course, you must email the 4-H Educator with your certificate to receive credit.

If you choose to take the **Quality Livestock Care** in-person training, register at this link: <https://DeKalb4-HQLC.4honline.com>
After attending the course, you will be marked complete in the DeKalb 4-H Hub

Quality Livestock Care training sessions are:

Saturday, February 21, 9:00 am
Monday, March 23, 10:00 am
Saturday, May 16, 9:00 am
Saturday, August 1, 10:00 am

Call the office for details!

GENERAL 4-H INFORMATION

4-H Council/Superintendent Responsibilities

1. County 4-H policy and rules are determined by the County 4-H Council, with the advice of the County Extension Educator, in conjunction with State Policies. In case of situations not covered by these rules, rulings will be made by the 4-H Council.
2. Changes in project rules or requirements shall be made by the 4-H Council in collaboration with Superintendents and the Extension Educator prior to the publishing of the 4-H Handbook each year. In addition, the Purdue Extension Office will align County Non-Livestock projects with the State Fair guidelines annually. Call the Extension Office for any project-related or specific questions.
3. The DeKalb County 4-H Council does not assume any liability for loss or damage to an exhibit. Attendants will use all precautions to prevent such loss or damage.

Enrollment

1. 4-H is open to any youth who will be in grades 3-12 during the 2025-2026 school year as per State Policy in this Handbook.
2. A \$25 program fee is required to join DeKalb County 4-H, with \$15 of this cost being a mandatory statewide program fee used by Indiana 4-H to enhance educational resources, and \$10 of this cost used to pay for project manuals and expenses at the county level. For families with four or more children, the fee is \$10 for each child after the third one (i.e. a family with four children will pay \$45 in state program fees and \$40 in county fees equaling \$85). Various clubs may require additional dues, and one may encounter some expense in purchasing project exhibit materials.
3. The 4-H enrollment goal date is January 15 (to be eligible for trips, camps, classes, etc.) or by May 15 at the latest. Members must enroll online at <https://v2.4honline.com>. In addition, those enrolling in beef, dairy, dairy beef, draft animals, goat, horse & pony, poultry, sheep, swine and rabbits must complete the online animal enrollment and class selections by specified deadlines for those projects. Those enrolling in poultry must complete a paper animal identification form by the specified deadlines for this project and must complete FairEntry selection by stated deadline.
4. Members have until July 1 (Summer projects) and September 8 (Fall projects) to drop or add projects by logging into the 4-H Online system and dropping or adding projects. The member is responsible for contacting the Extension Office to obtain the necessary manuals.
5. A 4-H member must belong to at least one organized 4-H Township or County club. Members enrolled in a county project club only (e.g. ATV, Horse & Pony, etc.) can only expect assistance in that particular project. For other projects, a member must gain assistance from other means such as parents, other members or leaders, county project workshops, etc.
6. 4-H clubs may be organized on a community, school

district, neighborhood or county basis and may have single or multi-project interests. These 4-H clubs shall have the following characteristics:

- Members enrolled in 4-H projects
 - Regularly scheduled meetings
 - Elected officers
 - One or more adult and/or Junior Leaders
 - Culminating activity (at the local or county level) such as an exhibit of a member's work or a demonstration of skills acquired
 - Five or more members
 - Meet the standards of National 4-H Council
7. A member may belong and exhibit in any given year, in another county, if a project is not offered in their own county, and the other county agrees.
 8. The 4-H club year is continuous and extends from one annual 4-H exhibit to the next. Enrollment must be reinstated annually by completing the 4-H enrollment process. All exhibits must be prepared during the current 4-H year.
 9. A 4-H member should enroll in grade level designated or if no specific grade level, then enroll in the division felt best qualified. Except for projects with specific grade limitations, a member may repeat a division until he/she gets a blue ribbon grade. A member may not enroll in more than one division of any one project. If a project offers categories within the division, a member may do all (i.e., Foods "Baked/Preserved", Sewing "Wearable/Non-Wearable", etc.). A 4-H member is to do their own project with only teaching assistance and guidance from parents, leaders or others.
 10. 4-H members are considered complete in their 4-H educational experience for the year when they have (1) completed the 4-H member enrollment process prior to the established and published date for enrolling; and (2) had an officially recognized 4-H volunteer/Extension Educator verify the existence of the completed project/subject or the member's participation in a 4-H educational experience – this could be in the form of an exhibit, poster, report, presentation, etc. Or, a member may choose to submit a completed record sheet in lieu of an exhibit to complete the club- or fair-based 4-H project/subject. The 4-H record sheet will be based on printed or web-based educational materials (used by Indiana 4-H Youth Development) and submitted prior to the established and published date. However, it is highly recommended that 4-H'ers complete all the projects in which they are enrolled. A 4-H Animal Possession Agreement, available at the Extension Office, must be completed for all animal projects not residing at the member's residence by May 15. Horse & Pony, Draft Animals, Llama, and Dairy are exempt from providing an Animal Possession Agreement.

STATE FAIR

STATIC STATE FAIR ENTRIES

1. Before a 4-H member may exhibit a non-animal 4-H project at the Indiana State Fair, the project must be exhibited and qualified at the DeKalb County 4-H Summer Judging.
2. 4-H members wanting to exhibit an animal at the Indiana State Fair, must have animals nominated and make their own entries by Indiana State Fair deadlines and requirements.
3. It is the responsibility of all 4-H members, regardless of the project, to read and comply by all Indiana State Fair rules. Rules may be obtained each year online at <https://www.indianastatefair.com/p/state-fair/competitions--contests/4-h-competitions-entry-information>
4. It is the responsibility of 4-H'ers having State Fair entries to provide transportation for their project(s) to and from the State Fair. Extension staff/volunteers will assist in the transportation of projects when possible. The 4-H Council and Extension Office will not assume responsibility for projects going to, displayed at, or returning from the State Fair. Members having projects that are large, heavy, fragile, require more than one person to carry or have excessive set-up, should arrange their own transportation. If the State Fair exhibitor is unable to show at the State Fair, the Extension Office should be notified immediately so an alternate may be sent.

LIVESTOCK STATE FAIR ENTRIES

1. Livestock Enrollment - 4-H members interested in showing animals at the 2026 Indiana State Fair must adhere to several rules and deadlines. Online enrollment must be completed for beef, dairy beef, dairy, goats, swine, sheep, and horse & pony by the following Online Enrollment Deadlines:
May 15 - Horse & Pony, Swine, Beef Heifers born on or after September 1, 2025; Dairy, Sheep, Registered Beef Heifers, and Goats
2. No pre-State Fair qualification is required to show in any animal project. HOWEVER, State Fair entries must be completed by June 1 or July 1 (depending on species) to avoid financial penalties. This is in addition to nomination forms. All forms must be completed with all pertinent information and signatures, with payment, to be accepted.
3. All steers and crossbred heifers are required to be weighed and identified at a central county location at the date and time announced each year. Purebred heifers must have proper registration papers only.
4. All wethers and non-registered ewes are also required to be identified at a central county location at the date and time announced. Purebred ewes must have registration papers.
5. RFID ear tags will be required for meat goat wethers. Animal ID will be required on pygmy and boer goat entries.
6. Animal Exhibition: 4-H animals exhibited after the animal enrollment deadline (May 15) at any show by anyone other than the person listed on the Indiana 4-H animal enrollment form will not be eligible to be shown in the 4-H show at the Indiana State Fair. This term/condition does not apply to siblings and parents, who may show each other's animals

at any show during the year without jeopardizing state fair eligibility. This policy applies to all 4-H animal projects. For animal projects without enrollment forms, the person who enters them in the Indiana State Fair 4-H show is the equivalent of the enroller of the animals.

7. Grooming and Clipping: 4-H exhibitors may receive clipping and grooming assistance from members of their family who are no more than 2 generations removed from the exhibitor or from a current, Indiana 4-H member. Temporary guardianships are not permitted and shall result in immediate disqualification.

For more complete details on State Fair Livestock Rules, contact the County Extension Office for a State Fair Premium Book or go online at www.indianastatefair.com for information.

INDIANA 4-H PROGRAM

THE INDIANA 4-H PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY & EXPECTATIONS

The Indiana 4-H program serves the youth of Indiana by providing a strong educational youth development program. This program delivers educational experiences in a variety of settings. Caring, capable, and contributing adults assist in the 4-H program as role models for youth. The rich heritage of the 4-H program is one to be valued and passed along to future generations.

The Indiana 4-H Youth Policies and Procedures Handbook includes certain standards and guidelines to assure that 4-H is a positive youth development program. County 4-H policy is guided by the county 4-H policy making or governing board (i.e., 4-H Council) as provided by the County Extension Board. Legal authority for the 4-H Program rests with the Director of Cooperative Extension Service at Purdue University. No county 4-H policy may conflict with state 4-H policy or federal guidelines and requirements. Deadlines for county and state participation should be carefully constructed so as to encourage rather than to discourage participation. Such deadlines should be well published. Members not complying with established and published dates and deadlines for exhibition may be denied the opportunity to exhibit.

It is the policy of 4-H to be an inclusive organization. No county policy or practice should be used to arbitrarily exclude youth from either membership or participation. Youth should participate in 4-H Youth Development opportunities at levels and times that best suit the youth's development and support family involvement.

4-H Mission and Vision

4-H Mission: The Indiana 4-H Youth Development mission is to provide real-life educational opportunities that develop young people who positively impact their community and world.

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 Club Membership

Youth may become 4-H members when they enter the 3rd grade and may continue their membership through the completion of grade 12. Each individual may continue membership for a maximum of ten (10) consecutive years. Exceptions:

(1) Youth who enroll in 3rd grade and are advanced academically (thus graduating early) may continue for a total of 10 years ONLY if the enrollment occurs in consecutive years.

(2) Those youth who are academically advanced and “skip” 3rd grade, may begin the program as a 4th grader and may continue for a total of 10 years ONLY if the enrollment occurs in consecutive years.

(3) Those youth who enroll in 3rd grade and are retained a grade in school may continue to progress through the 4-H Program by adding subsequent years of participation, but MAY NOT exceed 10 years of participation. For example, if a member is retained one year in public school, their final year of 4-H membership would conclude the summer following their junior year of high school.

(4) Those youth who entered the program in 3rd grade and for one reason or another leave formal education prior to the completion of 12th grade may continue for a total of 10 years ONLY if the enrollment occurs in consecutive years.

NOTE: 10 years of membership in the 4-H Youth Development Program is an opportunity—not an entitlement. Those youth who do not enroll as 3rd grade students or meet the exceptions above, conclude their involvement with the program during the summer immediately following the completion of their senior year in high school.

An individual’s 4-H grade is determined by the school grade in which he or she is classified at the time of year he or she enrolls in 4-H. A member does not advance a 4-H grade until he or she enrolls in 4-H for the subsequent year. Each member should enroll in the division of a project/subject that would best suit his/her interest and potential for personal growth and would enhance their family involvement.

Opportunities in the 4-H program are available to all Indiana youth as defined regardless of race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation or disability. Married young men and women of 4-H age may participate in any of the 4-H projects and activities. However, married persons must participate by the same terms and conditions and/or guidelines as unmarried participants. Membership in 4-H is gained by annually enrolling through a Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service Office located in each of Indiana’s 92 counties.

The Indiana 4-H Youth Development program year is October 1 to September 30 annually. Enrollment is an annual process attained by completing individual 4-H enrollment via the 4HOnline enrollment process. Statewide 4HOnline enrollment occurs annually October 1 through May 15.

Mini 4-H Non-Competitive Policy

Mini 4-H is a program designed to encourage positive development of children, Kindergarten through second grade. The goal of Mini 4-H is to help young children explore friendships outside the family; explore the way in which things work; practice both small and large muscle control; and think about the ways people work together on projects. The NON-COMPETITIVE learning environment for Mini 4-H includes:

1. Planned learning activities in which children are invited to be active and explore materials and ideas without the pressure of completing a specific product or exhibit.

2. Low adult/leader to child ratio that allows time for adults/leaders to provide individual, positive encouragement and assistance.

3. Simple, interesting activities that are fun.

4. Encouragement of children to participate in a group activity by sharing and/or displaying their activity projects.

5. Rewards that are identical and/or ribbons of the same color for everyone.

Behavioral Criteria for 4-H Events and Activities

To 4-H members, volunteers, parents and the public: When attending, participating or acting on behalf of the 4-H program, all persons are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with accepted standards of social behavior, to respect the rights of others, and to refrain from any conduct which may be injurious to the 4-H program. **The following actions constitute misconduct for which persons may be subject to disciplinary penalties and/or dismissal from the program:**

(a) Dishonesty in connection with any 4-H activity by cheating or knowingly furnishing false information.

(b) Alteration or unauthorized use of 4-H records.

(c) Obstruction or disruption of any 4-H activity or aiding and encouraging other persons to engage in such conduct.

(d) Failure to comply or aiding or encouraging other persons not to comply with specific terms and conditions of a given project, contest, or activity.

(e) Failure to comply with directions of 4-H officials acting in the proper performance of their duties.

(f) Inhumane treatment of 4-H animal projects.

There are many opportunities for 4-H members, volunteers, parents and the public to participate in 4-H events and activities. When involved in such experiences, members, volunteers, parents and the public are expected to follow all rules and regulations as outlined by those responsible for the specific program or activity. In all 4-H activities, the following constitute a violation of behavioral expectations:

(1) Possession or use of fire crackers, gun powder, firearms, chemicals or other materials that can be used to create an explosive mixture.

(2) Misuse of fire equipment or sounding a false fire alarm.

(3) Having a guest of the opposite gender in your sleeping quarters.

(4) Physical or verbal abuse of any person or conduct

which threatens or endangers the health or safety of any person.

(5) Theft of or malicious damage to property.

(6) Possession, use, or distribution of alcohol, illegal drugs, tobacco and tobacco-like products, or other dangerous substances.

(7) Inappropriate displays of affection towards another person(s).

(8) Inappropriate clothing or lack of clothing during the event or activity.

(9) Lewd, indecent, or obscene conduct.

(10) Unauthorized entry, use or occupancy of any facility.

(11) Any conduct which threatens or interferes with maintenance of appropriate order and discipline or invades the rights of others.

When violations occur at out-of-county, district, area, state and/or national 4-H events, the following procedures will be followed:

(a) The parents/guardians will be contacted to arrange transportation home for the violator(s) and

(b) The local extension educator will be notified.

Guidelines for Exhibition and Completion

Following are policies that govern exhibition and completion of 4-H Projects:

Exhibition: Exhibition of 4-H projects/subjects in local, county, or state exhibits/fairs, in person or virtually, is voluntary on the part of the exhibitor. The exhibition of 4-H projects/subjects provides 4-H members an opportunity to display their 4-H projects/subjects, enter into competition, and participate in an educational/social environment with peers. With exhibition also comes the responsibility for abiding by all the terms and conditions pertaining to the respective 4-H project.

Project Experience: A 4-H experience may include a variety of options and must not be misinterpreted solely as exhibition of a project at a local, county, or state fair. There are a number of ways that a young person may participate in the 4-H Youth Development Program in addition to the club-based option. Participating in these 4-H opportunities enable the youth to build skills that will serve them well throughout their adult lives.

Some of these participation options do not include the preparation of a specific exhibit by an individual that would be on display at a fair or similar event. In some cases, the youths' actual participation may be the final product that results in their completion of a year of 4-H. Some examples of this participation include working as a team to develop a robot for a workshop or challenge; participating in a Spark Club experience; participating in State 4-H Band or Chorus; taking part in a science training or experiment; participating in an after school 4-H experience; etc.

Language of "completing" a 4-H experience should be avoided or requiring a specific output. Every 4-H'er's experience may be different. 4-H members are considered complete in their 4-H educational experience for the year when they have (1) completed the 4-H member

enrollment process prior to the established and published date

for enrolling; and (2) had an officially recognized 4-H volunteer/Extension Educator verify the existence of the completed project/subject or the member's participation in a 4-H educational experience – this could be in the form of an exhibit, poster, report, presentation, etc. Or, a member may choose to submit a completed record sheet in lieu of an exhibit to complete the club- or fair-based 4-H project/subject. The 4-H record sheet will be based on printed or web-based educational materials (used by Indiana 4-H Youth Development) and submitted prior to the established and published date.

Though exhibiting in local, county, and state exhibits/fairs is not required for project completion, as it does not necessarily relate directly to content and skills learned in the development of the 4-H project, project exhibition is encouraged as a continuation of the educational experience.

Per state and federal guidelines, volunteers and Extension Educators may not require youth to attend 4-H club meetings in order to complete 4-H or exhibit their work, unless required by the state 4-H office for safety.

Guidelines for Animal Exhibits:

Each 4-H member shall own his/her 4-H exhibit. Ownership, personal possession, and regular care of the animal must be in effect on or before the county and state enrollment deadlines and continuously until after the 4-H show at the county and/or state fair.

1. For 4-H breeding animals: family corporations and/or partnerships of 4-H members with one or more parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, or legal guardians are acceptable.
2. For 4-H dairy cattle: family corporations and/or partnerships of the 4-H member with unrelated persons or dairy operations are also acceptable.
3. Dairy cows (as long as the animal is being shown by same 4-H'er from 2020 and forward) and heifers, horses, ponies, alpacas and llamas may be leased subject to approval of both the county 4-H dairy, horse and pony, or llama committee and the respective County Extension Educator. 4-H animals (horse and pony, dairy, alpacas and llamas) are only eligible to be leased by a single 4-H member in a 4-H program year.
4. 4-H animals are expected to be in the possession and regular care of the 4-H member who owns/leases them (unless other arrangements have been agreed upon by the County 4-H Extension Educator) from the animal ID deadline until the conclusion of the county and/or state fair.
5. 4-H market animals and commercial animals must be individually identified and verified under the supervision of the county 4-H program at county identification events by May 15 th each year (or the following business day if the 15 th falls on a weekend or holiday). These species include market lambs and commercial ewes, dairy wethers, dairy feeder steers, dairy

beef steers, beef steers, market and commercial heifers, meat goat wethers, and market wether dams.

6. 4-H animals purchased, sold or offered for sale after the ID deadline and prior to the Indiana State Fair (including animals that have gone through a “Premium Only Auction”), shall not be eligible to show in the 4-H show at the Indiana State Fair. Sale of products of animals (milk, cheese, wool, etc.) in lieu of the animal, are considered equivalent to a “Premium Only Auction.”

7. 4-H animals exhibited after the May 15 (or the following business day if the 15 th falls on a weekend or holiday) State 4-H animal ID deadline at any show by anyone other than the individual whose 4-H enrollment record is connected to the ID of the animal in Indiana 4-H Online will not be eligible to be shown in the 4-H show at the Indiana State Fair. This term/condition does not apply to siblings, who may show each other’s animals at any show during the year without jeopardizing State Fair eligibility. 4-H animals that are selected by 4-H Extension Staff or 4-H Adult Volunteers for use in supreme showmanship contests (Master Showmanship, Round Robin, etc.) may be used in those county events without jeopardizing State Fair eligibility. This policy applies to all 4-H animal projects. For animal projects without state ID deadlines, the person who enters them in the Indiana State Fair 4-H show is the equivalent of the owner of the animals.

8. Temporary guardianships established for the intent of animal exhibition or grooming purposes are not permitted and shall result in immediate disqualification.

PENALTIES

In the opinion of the 4-H Council, if evidence exists of any of the following:

- **alteration and/or unethical preparation**
- **misconduct based on behavioral expectations**
 1. **The exhibit and 4-H'er may be disqualified, and awards forfeited.**
 2. **Other related 4-H projects, events, activities, and person(s) may be subject to removal from the grounds.**
 3. **Further enforcement may be selective, which does not waive the 4-H Council’s right to enforce them at a future date based on appropriate circumstances.**

Notes:

OPPORTUNITIES

TRIPS

Trip details are outlined in the newsletter each year. 4-H members may apply for trips, and if selected, in general pay a portion of the trip's registration costs. Member selection is based upon interest, years in 4-H, and years in a project if related to the trip. Members may participate in a trip only once unless stated otherwise. Sponsorship of 4-H members by 4-H Council will be limited to 4-H related events/trips/activities.

4-H ACADEMY @ PURDUE

3-day workshop at Purdue; grades 9-12. Animal Science (Food Animal 1, Food Animal 2, Horse and Companion Animal, Animal Health, Animal Bio-Science), Exploring Health Careers, Journalism, Natural Resources, Electric, Intro to Emergency Medical Services, Food Science, Personal Finance, Computer Science, Flight, Engineering, Plant Science, and Civic Engagement

June 10-12

4-H CAMP

3 days at Epworth Forest in North Webster, IN. Grades 3-6. Extension educators and trained camp counselors conduct the camp. Youth have fun, meet new friends from the surrounding counties, and forge deep friendships with youth in their own county.

June 3-5

NATIONAL 4-H CONFERENCE

Delegates will not only learn while at the conference, but will have the opportunity to practice and apply in a real world setting their newly developed and refined presentation and advocacy skills. Delegates choose an important societal topic and in round table groups prepare a briefing. During the conference, groups present their briefing to federal officials around the Washington, D.C. area. 4-H members in grade 9-12 may attend

April 10-15

4-H ROUND-UP

3-day conference at Purdue; Grades 7-9. Stay in Residence Hall, and participate in career exploration classes. This is a one-time trip.

June 10-12

Teen Leadership Weekend

The Teen Leadership Weekend is an exciting opportunity for 4-H members to build their leadership skills, connect with peers from across the state, and prepare to make a positive impact in their communities. Held annually, this conference is designed for youth in grades 7-12 who are ready to take their leadership journey to the next level. Participants engage in hands-on workshops, interactive team activities, and inspiring sessions led by experienced mentors and fellow 4-H members. With a focus on personal growth, teamwork, and service, the weekend empowers youth to step into leadership roles, develop practical skills, and create lasting memories!

March 27-29

4-H DAY AT THE STATEHOUSE

Youth in 7th-12th grade will learn about their state government through a day full of civic engagement and leadership. Participants will tour the state house, meet representatives, and have the opportunity to serve as student pages.

February 10

2026 Alaska 4-H Trip

Join us for a cultural immersion and teaching experience that includes air travel, meeting Alaskan Natives, teaching a diverse group of youth in grades K-6, in-home cooking, living room chats, digital disconnection, water conservation, and so much more! This trip is not for the faint of heart and will require courage. The team is looking for enthusiastic teachers and cultural embracers. Trip is for youth in grades 9-12. Travel 3,300 miles from home to explore the tundra of Bethel and the majesty of Anchorage in Alaska.

August 2-9

The DeKalb County 4-H Council provides financial assistance for 4-H Trips and Camps! Financial need scholarships are also available. Please contact the 4-H Educator for further information and to see when registration begins for 4-H Trips and Camps.

You Could Be “Tops in 4-H” & Win a \$250 Award

...if you are a Sophomore or older!

The DeKalb County 4-H Council Awards Committee will select an indeterminate number of 4-H'ers from those members submitting a completed “Tops” application, which shows significant 4-H involvement during their tenure. Those selected as “Tops in 4-H” are required to be at the Summer Judging Awards Program for recognition and also to help with 4-H activities during the DeKalb County Fall Fair, and perhaps other activities throughout the year. Winners will receive awards and recognition at the Summer Awards program. Attendance is mandatory at the Summer Awards Program in its entirety to receive award money.

Master Achiever

For those selected as “Tops in 4-H”, two people will be selected each year as “Master Achievers” and win a \$250 award. A person can only be selected as a “Master Achiever” one time. However, Master Achievers can continue to be honored as “Tops in 4-H” throughout their 4-H career.

Selection Procedure

1. Applications are available at the Extension Office, DeKalb 4-H Hub: <https://bit.ly/DeKalb4HHub>, or on the website: www.extension.purdue.edu/dekalb.
2. Application deadline is May 29th in the Extension Office. The 4-H Educator will attach the applicant's record to the application for the Awards Committee once it is turned in. Applicant does not need to ask for this to be attached.
3. Applications are to be typed. NO handwritten applications will be accepted.
4. Applicants must be in good standing with the 4-H program (county and state) their entire tenure (no suspensions, etc.)
5. 4-H'ers will be notified mid-June, if they are chosen for “Tops.” Turning in an application does not guarantee selection.
6. After you receive a Tops award recipient letter, you will complete a “Display of Accomplishments” due in the Extension Office July 1st that will be used in the selection of “Master Achiever.” They will be displayed during Summer Judging and Fall Fair. Displays are standard sized tri-fold displays boards (any color) and should include a list of projects completed, any trips/scholarships attended/won, demonstrations completed, or other important information from the Application. Please include pictures.
7. The Awards Committee reserves the right to interview applicants (in early July) prior to the Summer Awards Program, if needed, to determine Master Achievers.

Judging is based on a completed application, 4-H record, leadership/citizenship/community service experience, and recommendation.

8. Please note a completed “Tops” application, contains most of the information needed to complete an Indiana 4-H Foundation Scholarship Application.

GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Records are an important part of 4-H club work. **Members are required to complete a Static Project General Record Sheet or Livestock Workshop/Worksheet. By turning in or completing those requirements, you have officially “Completed” that project. Exhibition of the project is a bonus.** Records will be checked for completeness. Check project guidelines for due date. Remember, too, that it is not so important whether your project was a success or a failure, or whether you made a profit or a loss. What you learned from your project is what counts. In addition to individual project records, members are encouraged to keep their own cumulative 4-H record on a copy of “Personal Record of 4-H Activities,” available online.
2. Manual Policy: First copy of manuals are covered by the program fee. If lost, replacement manuals can be obtained at the Extension Office and the 4-H member will be charged the replacement cost.
3. It is the 4-H member’s responsibility to pick up project manuals and record sheets from the 4-H club leader.
4. 4-H’ers may exhibit only those projects which they are officially enrolled in at the County Extension Office.
5. Project superintendents will be responsible for supervising the entry, judging, recording and check-out of 4-H exhibits. Superintendents reserve the right to change a project entry and put it in the correct division.
6. Project judging and exhibition schedules are as follows:
 - 4-H Summer Judging (July)** - All eligible static projects. Horse & Pony, Draft Animals, Dog, Small Pets, and Breeding Goat Does and Pet Goats will be exhibited.
 - County Fair (September)** - All livestock projects except those listed above. All summer projects will be returned for exhibition with the exception of Floriculture, Foods, Garden, Horse & Pony, Draft Animals, Breeding Goat Does and Pet Goats, and Dogs.
7. Awards are determined by 4-H Council.
8. 4-H members are to abide by all scheduled entry, exhibition and check-out times. Failure to abide by such times may mean automatic forfeiture of ribbons and awards.
9. Any questions or interpretations regarding the rules of a project will be determined by the Project Superintendent or Extension Educator. Any situation not covered by rules in this handbook should be referred to the respective project superintendents who may, if necessary, get a decision rendered by the DeKalb County 4-H Council, Inc. and the Extension Educator.
10. Judges’ decisions are final.
11. 10-year member Display Boards are due on July 1 to the Extension Office. All 10-year members will be notified about creating a Display Board in April. 10-year members that turn in a Display Board by July 1, will receive \$75 at the Summer Judging Awards Night.
 - Display Boards are standard sized Tri-Fold display boards (any color) and can be decorated in any way the 4-H member wishes to celebrate their years in the 4-H program. For example: pictures, what you most enjoyed about the 4-H program, favorite trips, etc.

STATIC PROJECTS

General Static Project Guidelines

1. All summer projects are judged using an open judging concept. This means that 4-H members may be present with the judge to listen and ask questions if they wish. It is optional, however, and those who are not present for judging will receive a graded scorecard instead. It is in the member’s best interest to be present at judging.
2. **All Static Projects must be entered in FairEntry by July 1st. If not entered by this date, the Extension Office will contact 4-H members to complete the missing entries. Please use the DeKalb 4-H Hub, Summer Checklist to make sure you are complete before the deadline).**
3. In lieu of record sheets for each individual project, DeKalb County has instituted a General Record Sheet. Each 4-H member of a static project will turn their General Record Sheet in at FairEntry check-in for Summer Judging. The record sheet is 1 per child, not 1 per project. This will count as Completion for that project. Exhibition does not equal completion.
4. Members **MUST** bring general record sheet to Summer Judging.
5. All 4-H exhibits will be judged according to the Danish Systems, which grade each project against an established standard of quality. Each exhibit will receive either a blue, red or white ribbon, depending on the quality of the exhibit.
6. No project will be altered in any way after it is placed on the holding table for judging.
7. All projects must be checked-in by designated time. Exhibits that are checked in late (“Late” is defined as “project arriving after project judging begins, not the particular division) or do not meet project requirements cannot receive higher than a red ribbon placing. Late projects will only be judged if the judge is still willing and able to do so.
8. Only a 4-H member may speak to the Judge concerning the evaluation or placing of a project. The only exception will be if there is a special need and prior approval is obtained from the Extension Educator.
9. All Static projects must be completed during the Current 4-H Year (October 1 – July)

The Danish System - How We Judge Projects

JUDGING OF 4-H EXHIBIT BUILDING STATIC PROJECTS

All Indiana counties and the Indiana State Fair use the Danish judging system for static 4-H projects. In the Danish system, exhibits are judged against a set standard for the specific competition and not judged against or ranked against other exhibitors (except when choosing champions/reserve champions or state fair entries/alternates). Instead, judges determine whether the exhibits meet or exceed standards. Score sheets help judges group exhibits consistently and provide written comments to the exhibitors. These score sheets are available from the Extension Office for any exhibitor to review prior to judging.

The Danish system is used in schools where letter grades are assigned, and multiple students can meet the standards for each grade level. This contrasts with the American judging system used in livestock and sports competitions. The American system is a rank-order system where the top exhibitor is 1st place, the next 2nd place, and so on. While the American system uses standards and requirements, it primarily uses the idea of competition between exhibitors to establish the rankings, and some exhibitors may not receive placings or ribbons.

One advantage of the Danish system is that every exhibitor whose work fulfills at least the minimum qualifications can receive a ribbon of recognition. Theoretically, if all entries are judged to be good, all would receive blue ribbons. If all entries are judged to be poor, all would receive white ribbons.

In the Danish system, ribbons signify levels of achievement, not placings, and it is not just about picking winners. Judges are never obligated to choose champion/reserve champions or state fair entries/state fair alternates in any division/project if none of the exhibits meets the standards expected for those levels of achievement.

Purposes of the Danish Judging System in 4-H

- Give youth a feel for their level of execution in a project/division
- Help youth improve the project skills
- Help youth recognize their own efforts and accomplishments
- Help youth develop standards for future self-evaluation
- Encourage youth to continue in the project

- Advise youth on what they might learn next
- ### Ribbons Awarded in DeKalb County

- Honor Group: The exhibit meets the highest standards, an excellent rating. A Honor ribbon does not indicate perfection or superiority. These exhibits are usually those considered for even higher placings, such as champions or state fair entries, but again, judges are not required to award these if none of the exhibits meets those standards.
- Blue (A Group): The exhibit meets high standards, a good rating. Blue ribbons are awarded to those who most nearly meet the highest standards established for the division and indicates a high degree of achievement toward the elements in the standards.
- Red (B Group): The exhibit meets minimum standards, a fair rating. Either the general level of the accomplishment is less than good or enough shortcomings are found to cause the placing to drop from good to fair.
- White (C Group): The exhibit meets less than the minimum standards, a poor rating. Improvement is needed in several or many criteria, and the level of accomplishment is below the standards for a fair rating.
- Green (Participation): The exhibit fails to meet the requirements for the division/project in any manner and/or cannot be judged for any reason (turned in late, entered in the wrong project/division, etc.).

Beyond these ribbons, there are various rosettes and larger ribbons used to designate division Champions/Reserve Champions, Grand Champions/Reserve Grand Champions, and State Fair entries.

4-H STATIC PROJECT INFORMATION

POSTER GUIDELINES

Requirements:

1. Poster Board - Use white when required; may use other colors when not required. All poster exhibits should be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally (like a dollar bill with long edge at the bottom).

2. Stiff Backing - Any material (22"x28") that will keep the poster from bending forward will work - examples: foam board, very stiff cardboard, masonite (1/8" thick), which could be used year after year.

3. Exhibit Labels - Placed in lower right corner of poster. **Labels are provided at FairEntry check-in. You must leave a vertical 3.5" x 5" space in the lower right-hand corner of your project to affix the label.**

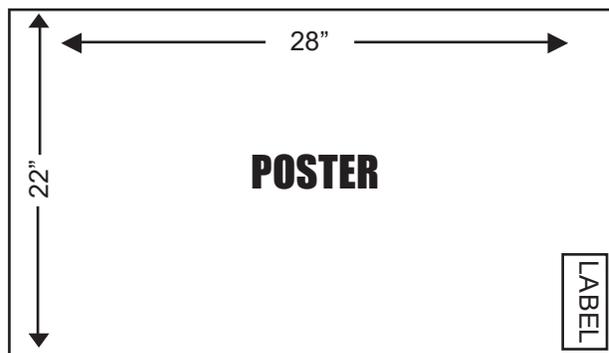
4. Plastic Covering - *required for all posters to protect during judging/exhibition at Fair. No plastic food wrap or frames.* Poster sleeves are available for purchase at the Extension Office.

Suggestions:

1. Lettering - Can be computer generated, stencils, self-adhesive, press-on, etc.

2. Colored Pencils - Soft leaded are best, easy to color and blend; hard leaded are less expensive, more difficult to use.

3. Mounting Adhesives - Rubber cement (leaves no marks, won't wrinkle paper); Double-sided tape (great for leaves); White glue (use only where wrinkling or damage will not show).



4. Plastic Tape - Not necessary, but makes attaching poster board to stiff backing easy; approximately 1 1/2" wide - gives the poster a border; available in many colors (cloth or plastic).

5. References - Not required by some projects, but recommend. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of the poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or included as part of the display visible to the public.

AEROSPACE

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

(Updated for 2026)

Beginner: Grades 3-5
Intermediate: Grades 6-8
Advanced: Grades 9-12

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used, with parent permission, when creating this exhibit and is to be documented as a reference. A majority of the work to create this exhibit is to be the 4-H member's original work. All posters, notebooks, and display boards must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H member's exhibit. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of a poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or included as part of the display visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for

the way references are listed.

Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. The poster must be mounted on a firm backing to add stiffness to the exhibit, for example: a foam core board. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using no more than 36" of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.

Judges evaluating exhibits should recognize individual differences and creativity, therefore using information in this document as a guide rather than a requirement.

"Ready to Fly" and E2X rockets are not permitted. Rockets may be exhibited with a base, but launch pads are not permitted. All rockets must weigh less than 3.3 pounds and considered an amateur rocket according to FAA regulations. Remote control aircraft or drones may be constructed from a kit or purchased ready-to-fly. The power source (rocket engine, battery pack, etc.) is to be removed before being placed in public exhibition.

Rockets will not be launched and remote control aircraft or drones will not be flown at state fair. Launching rockets and flying aircraft or drones at the county level is optional based on adult supervision experience.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Beginner (grades 3-5 suggested)

Construct a rocket of your choice designed for a new model rocket enthusiast with a difficulty level that is appropriate for the suggested grade level, or a poster or display board on any topic in the manual. Similar topics not included in the manual are permissible. Rockets cannot be ready-to-fly (RTF) or have plastic fins. Cluster engine rockets and rockets that take an engine D or above are not permitted in this level.

Learn to fly a remote control aircraft or drone of your choice that is age/grade appropriate and compliant with FAA regulations, federal and state laws, and local ordinances. This exhibit choice is to include a notebook or poster including how the aircraft/drone was used and aerospace skills learned. Displaying the aircraft or drone is optional. Other topics could include how a quadcopter operates, controls used to fly a quadcopter, UAV regulations administered by Federal Aviation Administration, commercial and emergency uses of UAVs, and more.

Intermediate (grades 6-8 suggested)

Construct a rocket of your choice designed for a model rocket enthusiast with some experience and with a difficulty level that is appropriate for the suggested grade level, or a poster or display board on any topic in the manual. Similar topics not included in the manual are permissible. Rockets cannot be ready-to-fly (RTF) or have plastic fins. Cluster engine rockets and rockets that take an engine E or above are not permitted in this level.

Construct or learn to fly a remote control aircraft or drone of your choice that is age/grade appropriate and compliant with FAA regulations, federal and state laws, and local ordinances. This exhibit choice is to include a notebook or poster including how the aircraft/drone was used and aerospace skills learned. Displaying the aircraft or drone is optional. Other topics could include interviewing a certified UAV pilot who works in law enforcement, EMS, fire, Purdue Extension, commercial or other application. Other options could include creating a flight plan or interfacing with other computer software.

Advanced (grades 9-12 suggested)

Construct a rocket of your choice designed for an experienced model rocket enthusiast and with a difficulty level that is appropriate for the suggested grade level, or a poster or display board on any topic in the manual. Similar topics not included in the manual are permissible. Rockets cannot be ready-to-fly (RTF) or have plastic fins. Cluster engine rockets and rockets that take an engine G or above are not permitted in this level.

Construct or learn to fly a remote control aircraft or drone of your choice that is age/grade appropriate and compliant with FAA regulations, federal and state laws, and local ordinances. This exhibit choice is to include a notebook or poster including how the aircraft/drone was used and aerospace skills learned. Displaying the aircraft or drone is optional. Other topics could include using "stitching" software to produce an orthomosaic map for a research purpose, identifying Department of Transportation Aeronautical Chart features and explain how these are important to a drone pilot, how to obtain a drone pilot license, or more. If

16 years of age or older the member could obtain a license by completing and passing the official FAA Part 107 UAV licensing test.

ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES (ATV)

ATV Club Leaders

Joni & Matt Blomeke

Phone: 260-318-0404, 260-318-4309

ATV Advisory Committee

Jason Brown

Nick Johnson

Robert Zollman

Eric Moughler

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

The ATV project will be open to any 4-H member grades 3-12. Enrollment should be made according to the years in ATV Club.

1. Members must have their own Appropriately Sized ATV. The How to "FIT" an ATV to a Rider form provided by Purdue Extension will be used as a guideline to help determine if the ATV is the proper size for the 4-H member. ATV Leaders have the responsibility and authority to make this determination for the safety of all members. Final approval will be at the descension of the Club Leader(s). All Decisions will be final.
2. Appropriate safety gear "MUST" be worn at all times, this includes when unloading/loading ATV's.
 - a. Gear Includes: US DOT Approved Helmet, Goggles, Gloves, Long Sleeve Shirt, Long Pants (Blue Jeans or Riding Pants, NO LEGGINGS), and Boots (above the ankle, hard sole, leather boots or Riding Boots, NO Rubber Chore/Muck Boots)
 - b. SAFETY IS FIRST AND FOREMOST!!!! No Personal safety equipment = No Riding, No Exceptions.
3. Release forms must be signed annually before participating in any club event including a safety course.
4. There will be club dues charged per member/family to be collected at the "Welcome" ATV Club Meeting prior to the Safety Ride. Club Dues are: \$15 per child or \$25 per family with 2 or more children enrolled in the program. (please bring the exact cash or check made payable to: DeKalb Co. 4-H ATV Club)
5. All ATV's are to have an annual certificate of inspection before being ridden at any club activity. This inspection form must be submitted to the Club Leader(s) and approved before an ATV may be used at any club activity. If for any reason anyone (Adult or Child) changes machines during the 4-H year you MUST have it inspected by a certified ATV Dealer and submit the approved inspection form to the Club Leader(s) prior to riding any events. All machines must be properly fitted to the rider per Rule #1 of the 4-H Handbook. NO INSPECTION FORMS / NO RIDING
6. Study all ATV Procedures given to each child/family upon enrollment at the ATV Welcome Meeting.
7. All Parents and 4-H Members are responsible to make sure their machines comply with the following procedures prior to each ride:
 - a. T-CLOC – Pre-Ride Inspections Checklist

- b. BONEC – Starting your ATV
- c. During All Rides Always follow the SIPDE Procedure Scan Trails and Make Riding Decisions
- 8. All New (1st & 2nd year members- regardless of age) will be required to attend the “Mandatory” Safety Training Class. This will take place in the Spring prior to the “Mandatory” Safety Ride.
- 9. All 4-H members “MUST” complete the “Mandatory” 4-H ATV Safety Ride Course. This event is scheduled in the Spring prior to all other ATV Club Rides. Members are not allowed to ride in any club rides or events without completing the Safety Course.
- 10. To fulfill the educational requirements all members must complete the following:
 - a. Mandatory ATV Safety Ride Course
 - b. Attend and ride a minimum of one additional scheduled ATV Club event
- 11. Attending the ATV Safety Ride Course and one additional scheduled ATV Club event will fulfill the educational requirement for project completion and allow youth to attend competitions and special events. To complete the project an ATV record sheet is required if you do not attend the ATV Safety Day Course. Record sheet(s) are due at the ATV September Ride or to the ATV Leader by September 30th.
- 10. Members are encouraged to participate in the ATV Exhibition Ride.
- 12. Awards will be given at the ATV Achievement Program.

ATV Educational Display

**MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)**

(Updated for 2026)

**Beginner: Grades 3-5
Intermediate: Grades 6-8
Advanced: Grades 9-12**

Exhibit Guidelines:

1. Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used, with parent permission, when creating this exhibit and is to be documented as a reference. A majority of the work to create this exhibit is to be the 4-H member’s original work. All posters, notebooks, and display boards must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H member’s exhibit. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of a poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or included as part of the display visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed.
2. Posters are to be 22”x28” and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. The poster must be mounted on a firm backing to add stiffness to the exhibit, for example: a foam core board. Display boards should be

designed to sit on a table using no more than 36” of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.

Beginner (grades 3-5 suggested)

Create an age/grade appropriate poster, notebook or display about ATV safety or maintenance.

Intermediate (grades 6-8 suggested)

Create an age/grade appropriate poster, notebook or display about ATV safety or maintenance.

Advanced (grades 9-12 suggested)

Create an age/grade appropriate poster, notebook or display about ATV safety or maintenance.

ANIMAL EDUCATION POSTERS

**MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)**

(Updated for 2026)

**STATE FAIR OPTIONS - Cat, Dog, Llama, Poultry,
Rabbit, Beef, Dairy, Goat, Horse & Pony (poster),
Sheep, Swine**

**COUNTY OPTIONS - Dairy Beef, Horse & Pony: Intro to
Horses**

**Beginner: Grades 3-5
Intermediate: Grades 6-8
Advanced: Grades 9-12**

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

Owning or showing an animal is not required. Members enrolled in any 4-H animal or livestock project can exhibit in this project and are to contact their county 4-H educator to learn if they are to also be enrolled in animal education.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used, with parent permission, when creating this exhibit and is to be documented as a reference. A majority of the work to create this exhibit is to be the 4-H member’s original work. All posters, notebooks, and display boards must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H member’s exhibit. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of a poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or included as part of the display visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed.

Posters are to be 22”x28” and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. The poster must be mounted on a firm backing to add stiffness to the exhibit, for example: a foam core board. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using no more than 36” of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Beginner (grades 3-5 suggested)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any specie related topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate. Check with the Purdue Extension office in your county to determine if enrollment is required in the species project you want to learn about. Owning or possessing an animal is not required.

Intermediate (grades 6-8 suggested)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any specie related topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate. Check with the Purdue Extension office in your county to determine if enrollment is required in the species project you want to learn about. Owning or possessing an animal is not required.

Advanced (grades 9-12 suggested)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any specie related topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate. Check with the Purdue Extension office in your county to determine if enrollment is required in the species project you want to learn about. Owning or possessing an animal is not required.

Horse and Pony: Introduction to Horses

The purpose of the "Horse & Pony: Introduction to Horses" project is to develop an appreciation of horses and the needs one requires when in ownership of a horse. Project members will learn about the history of horses, safety, breeds, grooming, nutrition, showmanship, as well as many other aspects of horse maintenance.

Project completion will be based on the completion of a Horse & Pony worksheet corresponding to the 4-H members grade level.

Project Guidelines:

1. Project members must attend a minimum of one (1) Horse & Pony clinics/workshops and attend at least two (2) "Introduction to Horses" workshops.
2. Each project member must complete the project test at the designated time and place. Extenuating circumstances must be approved by the project superintendent.
3. "Introduction to Horses" must abide by the Horse & Pony project rules, where applicable.
4. Complete a Horse & Pony worksheet corresponding to the 4-H members grade level.
5. All educational exhibits must follow the DeKalb County 4-H Poster policy and use the Exhibit Class guidelines for educational exhibits listed above for "Animal Education Projects".
6. All members will be given a "Beginning Horse Management" manual to be used to complete their worksheets.

ARTS & CRAFTS

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

Beginner: Grades 3-5
Intermediate: Grades 6-8
Advanced: Grades 9-12

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

1. 4-H member may enter no more than one (1) exhibit in each of the following categories: Fine Arts, Needlecraft, Model Craft and Arts & Crafts - General, but you will enroll in "Arts & Crafts" in 4HOnline.
2. To complete your Arts & Crafts project, follow Exhibit Requirements for the category selected.
3. If project is selected for State Fair, a 4-H Craft Information Card will be given to you to fill-out, prior to project going to State Fair.
4. All posters, notebooks and display boards must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H member's exhibit. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of the poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or included as part of the display visible to the public.
5. Each piece in your exhibit should be properly identified with your name.
6. For State Fair entries - If multiple pieces make up the exhibit, a photograph of the complete exhibit should be attached to the exhibit so the total exhibit can properly be displayed. For safety purposes, any craft exhibit that resembles a sword, knife, or look-a-like weapon will be judged but will not be displayed.

FINE ARTS

Artwork must be original. Oil, charcoal, pastels, pencil, ink, acrylic, watercolor or similar artistic work can be displayed on canvas, canvas board, or paper. All work must be framed as a picture and prepared for hanging. Canvas art on a wooden frame is considered prepared for hanging provided that frame has a hanger.

NEEDLECRAFT

Hand crafted knitting, embroidery, crocheting, needlepoint, crewel, candle wicking, chicken scratching, hand quilting, tatting, huck embroidery, and hemstitching are suggested exhibits. Entries may also include pulled, drawn and counted thread work and punch needle work. Needle craft exhibits do not include latch hook, plastic canvas, machine knitting, machine quilting, or arm knitting/crocheting.

MODEL CRAFT

Exhibits must be a small scale replica made of injected styrene plastics with approximately 25% of the surface painted. Wood, paper, clay die-cast, or snap together models are not permitted. Screws and pre-painted or pre-decaled factory models are not permitted. Exhibits made from building blocks (Lego) are not permitted.

If the model is being built from a kit, include a copy of the instructions with the information card. Original instructions should be kept by the exhibitor in a safe location at home.

ARTS & CRAFTS - GENERAL

Youth may exhibit any art or craft that does not meet exhibit requirements in Fine Arts, Needle Craft, Model Craft or Construction and Architectural Replica.

Exhibitors should be considerate of space. Exhibits too large to safely move or requiring lots of space should be exhibited using photographs and a description of work in a notebook.

BARBECUE

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

Beginner: Grades 3-5
Intermediate: Grades 6-8
Advanced: Grades 9-12

Purdue Extension Food Safety Policy:

For food competitions: Foods with a higher moisture content and water activity can be ideal growing conditions for food borne pathogens, even if the ingredient is part of a batter and baked. Additionally, raw milk, raw milk products or uncooked eggs/egg whites are not permitted. Eggs/egg whites that have been cooked to 160°F (i.e. pasteurized or included as part of a batter and baked) are acceptable. No home-canned fruits, vegetables, or meats are permitted in products. Recipes must be provided that show which ingredients were used in each part of the product. Contestants should carefully wash their hands and make sure that their hands do not have any open cuts before preparing foods. Contestants should not be preparing food exhibits for competition within 48 hours of recovering from any illness. Whenever possible, cooked products should be transported and stored in chilled coolers (41°F). Tasting of a food product is solely at the discretion of the judge.

PREPARING FOOD EXHIBITS FOR DISPLAY

1. Products are to be displayed on paper or foam plates, foil covered cardboard or disposable pie pans.
2. Recipe cards are required for all food exhibits and should be 4"x6" and covered in plastic or in plastic bag. Include the recipe source.
3. Since it is illegal in the State of Indiana for youth under the age of 21 to purchase or consume alcoholic beverages, 4-H

members are to use recipes that do not include an alcoholic beverage as an ingredient. A suitable non-alcoholic or imitation product may be substituted.

4. No project will be altered in any way after it is placed on the holding table for judging. All projects must be checked in by designated time.

5. All food exhibits must be covered or in a plastic bag.

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

1. Youth may exhibit 1 project in each category of Poster and/or Prepared Food in their age division.

2. Meat may be prepared on a grill, open fire, or smoker. Meat may NOT be prepared on the stove, in an oven (including Dutch Ovens), or any other appliance used in the house. Barbecue sauces to accompany meats may be cooked indoors.

Beginner

- Prepare a casing meat (ie. Hot dog, bratwurst, sausage)

Intermediate

- Prepare bone-out meat cut (ie. Skirt steak, pork loin, chicken breast).

Advanced

- Prepare bone-in meat cut greater than 8 oz in weight (ie T-bone steak, pork ribs, Cornish hen). Any species of meat may be used by youth – beef, pork, lamb, chicken, turkey, wild game, etc.

3. Meat must be prepared using foodsafety.gov safe internal temperatures:

Category	Food	Temp (F)	Rest Time
Ground Meat & Meat Mixtures	Beef, Pork Veal, Lamb	160	None
	Turkey, Chicken	165	None
Fresh Beef, Veal, Lamb	Steaks, roasts, chops	145	3 minutes
Poultry	Chicken & Turkey, Whole	165	None
	Poultry breasts, roasts	165	None
	Poultry thighs, legs, wings	165	None
	Duck, Goose	165	None
	Stuffing (cooked alone or in bird)	165	None

Pork & Ham	Fresh pork	145	3 minutes
	Fresh ham (raw)	145	3 minutes
	Precooked ham (to reheat)	140	None
	Egg dishes	160	None
	Casseroles	165	None
Seafood	Fin Fish	145 or cook until flesh is opaque and separates easily with a fork	None
	Shrimp, lobster, crab	Cook until flesh is pearly & opaque	None
	Clams, oysters, mussels	Cook until shells open during cooking	None
	Scallops	Cook until flesh is milky white or opaque & firm	None

Meat to be tasted by the judge must not remain in the food safety danger zone — between 40 °F and 140 °F — for more than 2 hours.

4. POSTER must be 22"x28" and follow poster guidelines for static projects stated at the beginning of the Static Project Rules. Poster must include photos of the 4-H member preparing a meat appropriate for their division, and the method used to prepare it. Board may also include suggested side dishes, BBQ rub recipes, and/or BBQ sauce recipe.

BEEKEEPING

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

(Updated for 2026)

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

1. Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used, with parent permission, when creating this exhibit and is to be documented as a reference. A majority of the work to create this exhibit is to be the 4-H member's original work. All posters, notebooks, and display boards must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H member's exhibit. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of a poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or included as part of the display visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed.

2. Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. The poster must be mounted on a firm backing to add stiffness to the exhibit, for example: a foam core board. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using no more than 36" of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.

Special Notes:

- There are no age/grade specifications for beekeeping exhibits. No bee hives may be brought to the State Fair.
- Honey water content will be measured.
- Fill level: the honey should be filled to the jar shoulder, not over, nor under
- Chunk honey should go in a wide-mouth jar, preferably one specially made for chunk honey (see beekeeping catalogs).
- Be careful to distinguish "chunk honey"(comb in jar) from "cut comb" (comb only in box). Honey (including chunk, cut comb and comb) must be collected since the previous county fair.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Educational Poster or Display (grades 3-12)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any beekeeping topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate. Youth can also design and complete an independent study activity.

Extracted Honey (grades 3-12)

Exhibit 2 one-pound jars, shown in glass or clear plastic, screw-top jars holding 1 pound of honey each. Each container is to have the 4-H member's name and county written using permanent marker.

Chunk Honey (grades 3-12)

Exhibit 2 one-pound jars (wide-mouth glass or clear plastic) with a comb in each jar. Each container is to have the

4-H member's name and county written using permanent marker.

Cut-comb Honey (grades 3-12)

Exhibit 2 one-pound boxes. Boxes are usually 4 1/2" x 4 1/2" in size. Each box is to have the 4-H member's name and county written using permanent marker.

Two Honey Product

Exhibit 4 containers total of two different honey products using extracted honey, chunk honey or cut-comb honey as described in each product above.

CAKE DECORATING

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

BEGINNER: Grades 3-5
INTERMEDIATE: Grades 6-8
ADVANCED: Grades 9-12

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

1. The cake decorating project provides skills-based educational experiences that provide an opportunity for mastery before building on that experience to develop more advanced skills. This subject area is divided into three levels: Beginner (Grades 3-5), Intermediate (Grades 6-8), and Advanced (Grades 9-12). While the defined grades are intended to be a guide, older youth enrolled in this subject for the first time may start in a lower grade skill level with permission by the county extension educator, followed by an appropriate level the following year.
2. Skills and techniques demonstrated should be age/grade appropriate. While it is not to say a beginner level member cannot master an advanced level skill, it would be rare and unique. Therefore, exhibited cakes must demonstrate the minimum five techniques from their given level outlined in Indiana 4-H Cake Decorating Skills and Techniques, 4-H 710A, but may also include higher/lower level techniques that have been mastered. Any higher/lower level techniques will not be counted as part of the minimum five, but nevertheless will be evaluated for quality.
3. All exhibited cakes must be created using a Styrofoam, foam, or other solid dummy. Unless otherwise stated, cakes are to be iced using royal icing or buttercream. Buttercream icing will not withstand environmental conditions and may become soft, melt, not withhold its shape, and colors may bleed when being displayed an extended period of time. When displaying a cut-up cake or tiered cake, the exhibitor must include a diagram and description indicating how the cake was assembled. This diagram and description can be attached to or written on the skills sheet. All exhibits must include a completed Cake Decorating Skills and Techniques Sheet (4-H 710) and must accompany the cake for the judge's reference during judging. Skills sheets are for judging purposes only and will not be returned to the exhibitor.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Beginner (grades 3-5 suggested)

A minimum of five beginner level skills are to be demonstrated. A list of skills to choose from can be found on the Indiana 4-H Cake Decorating Skills and Techniques, 4-H 710A sheet. Cakes must be on a cake board strong enough to support the cake (approximately 3/8" thick) and 2-4" larger than the cake. For example, if the cake is 8" in diameter, then the cake board must be 10-12" in diameter. The cake board must be neatly covered and well taped or otherwise attached underneath. Cakes exhibited in the beginner level are to be a single tier/layer, no more than 5" tall, and may be round, square, or rectangular and the cake board is to be no more 12"x12".

Intermediate (grades 6-8 suggested)

A minimum of five intermediate level skills are to be demonstrated and the cake may include additional skills from the beginner level. A list of skills to choose from can be found on the Indiana 4-H Cake Decorating Skills and Techniques, 4-H 710A sheet. Cakes must be on a cake board strong enough to support the cake (approximately 3/8" thick) and 2-4" larger than the cake. For example, if the cake is 9"x13" rectangular, then the cake board must be 11"x15" to 13"x17" rectangular. The cake board must be neatly covered and well taped or otherwise attached underneath. Cakes exhibited in the intermediate level are to be a single or double tier/layer, no more than 12" tall and may be any shape. Youth may choose to decorate an inverted (upside down) character pan or create a 3-dimensional cake. It is also permissible to cut-up pieces of Styrofoam, foam, or other solid material to create a new shape, like a butterfly or castle for example. The cake board is to be no more than 24"x24".

Advanced (grades 9-12 suggested)

A minimum of five advanced level skills are to be demonstrated and the cake may include additional skills from the beginner and intermediate levels. A list of skills to choose from can be found on the Indiana 4-H Cake Decorating Skills and Techniques, 4-H 710A sheet. Cakes must be on a cake board strong enough to support the cake (approximately 1/2" thick) and 4" larger than the base cake. For example, if the cake is 26" in diameter, then the cake board must be 30" in diameter. The cake board must be neatly covered and well taped or otherwise attached underneath. Cakes exhibited in the advanced level may be multiple layer and/or tiered and may include multiple cakes, like a wedding cake. Youth may choose to create a character or 3-dimensional cake by cutting-up pieces of Styrofoam, foam, or other solid material to create a new shape. Dowel rods, plates, etc. should be used to support multiple layers and tiers. Fondant icing, gum, and sugar paste is permissible. Cakes may be any shape, no more than 36" tall and the cake board is to be no more than 36"x36".

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

(Updated for 2026)

Level A: Grades 3-4
Level B: Grades 5-6
Level C: Grades 7-9
Level D: Grades 10-12

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

1. Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used, with parent permission, when creating this exhibit and is to be documented as a reference. A majority of the work to create this exhibit is to be the 4-H member's original work. All posters, notebooks, and display boards must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H member's exhibit. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of a poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or included as part of the display visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed.

2. Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. The poster must be mounted on a firm backing to add stiffness to the exhibit, for example: a foam core board. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using no more than 36" of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.

3. Activities may be designed to be displayed on the floor, but please be considerate of space availability. Each item is to be labeled with the 4-H member's name, county and club so fair staff can keep all components together if it needs to be moved after judging is complete.

Notebooks are to include the following:

- Identifications on the front showing 4-H member's name, county, club, grade and year in project.
- Title page naming the activity.
- Pages explaining how activity was developed and is to be used.
- Photographs showing how the activity was used along with assembly.
- Explanation of skills learned and any additional information to share with the reader.

Judges evaluating exhibits should recognize individual differences and creativity, therefore using information in this document as a guide rather than a requirement.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Level A (grades 3-4 suggested)

Exhibit a poster, display, or notebook about a manual activity. Other similar activities are permissible.

Level B (grades 5-6 suggested)

Exhibit a poster, display, or notebook about a manual activity. Other similar activities are permissible.

Level C (grades 7-9 suggested)

Exhibit a poster, display, or notebook about a manual activity. Other similar activities designed to help develop physical, emotional or cognitive skills are permissible.

Level D (grades 10-12 suggested)

Exhibit a poster, display, or notebook about a manual activity. Other similar activities designed to help develop physical, emotional or cognitive skills are permissible.

COLLECTIONS

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

No State Fair Entry

Beginner: Grades 3-5
Intermediate: Grades 6-8
Advanced: Grades 9-12

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

1. Start or add to a collection you have. In your first year you must have a minimum of ten (10) items in your collection. In order to exhibit the same collection a following year, you must add at least five (5) new items. If the value of your collection prohibits you from adding five new items, you must get prior approval from the Extension Office before exhibiting.

2. Exhibit a 3-ring binder notebook or scrapbook containing photographs of collection and **Project Inventory Records**. Photo quality will not be judged, but photos should be clear, sharp, and secured properly in notebook. Optional: Plastic sheet protectors, page decorations, binder cover decoration, etc.

3. When filling out **Project Inventory Records**, assign each article a number. Be sure to label photos with corresponding number.

4. With your collection you should have a story explaining such things as why you started this collection, why you enjoy collecting these items, how you have added to your collection, if you have more of this collection at home, and the history of the items.

5. The Collections project, judged at Summer Judging, will include an interview with the judge. The Notebook only exhibited at Fall Fair.

6. The DeKalb County 4-H Council will not assume any liability for loss or damage to any articles.

Collection Display Tips

1. Use standard 3-ring binder notebook or scrapbook. It is recommended to use page protectors to protect the photographs of your collection. Use your imagination and creativity to make the notebook look attractive.
2. Include photos of your collection and completed **Project Inventory Record** for current year, and a story about your collection as outlined in "Project Requirements."
3. Label each photo with article number, assigned on the **Project Inventory Record**.
4. Leave space on bottom right-hand corner of notebook for FairEntry Label received at Summer Judging check-in.
5. Type information whenever possible.
6. Keep good records of when and where you found the object.
7. Use library books or internet to find scientific names, obscure facts, etc., about objects. Cite sources used.

COMMUNICATIONS

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

Junior: Grades 3-8
Senior: Grades 9-12

Exhibit Guidelines:

Effective communication drives all aspects of day-to-day life. Youth are to learn about the process of communication, to learn about different modes of communication and to strengthen their own communication skills. As you explore the world of communication and the manuals, you will enjoy learning more about yourself and others. Youth completing this project are expected to participate in a variety of experiences allowing them to develop communication skills rather than create an exhibit to be displayed at the county or state fair.

A series of 4-H manuals are available with activities designed to develop communication skills at a specific grade level. Module 1 is for Beginner Level youth in grades 3-5. Module 2 is for Intermediate Level youth in grades 6-8. Module 3 is for Advanced Level youth in grades 9-12.

Suggested activities to develop communication skills include:

- Complete an activity from the grade appropriate manual.
- Give a demonstration or presentation at a club meeting.
- Participate in a verbal communication event. See verbal communication section below.
- Submit a news release to local news media about a 4-H event or topic.
- Participate in a radio interview.
- Present information about 4-H to a civic organization or similar group.
- Participate in the Indiana 4-H Spread the News workshop (Grades 9-12).
- Participate as an actor in a community theater.
- Other activities that demonstrate communication skill development.

Judges evaluating exhibits should recognize individual differences and creativity, therefore using information in this document as a guide rather than a requirement.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Verbal Communication Events

The following verbal communication events and activities are offered to 4-H members as a way to teach presentation and public speaking skill development.

They are often used in 4-H meetings, and a county 4-H youth development program may choose to offer these as competitive events. The demonstration, informative presentation, professional persuasive presentation and public speaking are competitive events at Indiana State Fair. Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used, with parent permission, when creating this speech or presentation and is to be documented as a reference. A majority of the work to create this speech or presentation is to be the 4-H member's original work.

The following apply to all state fair communication events:

- Members may use a PowerPoint, Prezi, or other digital presentation, signs, and other props that will enhance their presentation when giving their how-to demonstration to the audience from a stage or stage-like setting.
- If digital media will be used to enhance the presentation, contestants are encouraged to provide their own laptop computer. If the laptop is not equipped with a standard HDMI external video connection, the contestant will need to supply an appropriate adapter. While a standard PC laptop will be available, the quality and compatibility of the digital media cannot be guaranteed as PowerPoint will be the only digital media available at state fair.
- Live animals are not permitted at state fair.
- There is no interaction with the audience.
- Questions may be asked of the contestants by the judges following the presentation.
- Events that have a team category, it is for two (2) people and will be determined by the highest grade level of any member of that team.
- The top three senior individuals, top junior individual, top senior team, and top junior team will be recognized in Indiana State Fair Celebration of Champions.

Refer to the Indiana State Fair 4-H handbook for the date, time, and location of each event. Check with your county extension educator for information about entering these events.

Demonstration

- All 4-H members are encouraged to present a demonstration at their club or county level.
- This contest allows the 4-H member to show the audience step-by-step procedures how-to-do something related to any 4-H project.
- Examples of a demonstration include how to take a prize winning photograph, how to give an intramuscular antibiotic injection or shot, how to design a mini-barn blueprint, how to construct a garment, how to develop a wildlife rehabilitation plan, how to treat a cat for fleas, etc.
- Junior members (grades 3-8) have 5-7 minutes to

present their demonstration, while senior members (grades 9-12) will present their demonstration in 5-10 minutes.

- Categories will be Junior Individual, Senior Individual, Junior Team, and Senior Team.

Informative 4-H Presentation

- This contest allows the 4-H member to present a topic of their choice related to a 4-H event, project, or activity to the audience.

- Examples of an informative 4-H presentation include the benefits of attending 4-H Round-Up, State 4-H Junior Leader Conference, 4-H Academy, or Citizenship Washington Focus; the impact of a community service project on the 4-H members involved and their community; why a family should enroll their children in 4-H; how 4-H prepares a young person for the workforce or college, etc.

- Junior members (grades 3-8) have 5-7 minutes to present their informative presentation, while senior members (grades 9-12) will present their informative presentation in 5-10 minutes.

- Categories will be Junior Individual and Senior Individual.

Professional Persuasive Presentation

- Contestants will be required to research a public issue in their community, collect data showing how this issue is or could affect their community, formulate a plan to address this issue, and present it in a professional manner using electronic digital media such as PowerPoint, Prezi, etc.

- Contestants are to submit two (2) sets of accompanying handouts at registration. These handouts will be provided to the judges.

- It is suggested that youth practice by presenting their professional presentation to service clubs, 4-H council or fair board, government officials, or other boards.

- Examples of public issues could be the lack of accessibility to trails or public parks, congested traffic locations, public health issues, impoverished neighborhoods, school dropout rates, the size of farm machinery outgrowing the size of roads, etc.

- Junior members (grades 3-8) will present in 5-7 minutes and senior members (grades 9-12) will present their professional presentation in 5-10 minutes.

- Categories will be Junior Individual, Senior Individual, Junior Team and Senior Team.

Public Speaking

- This contest allows the 4-H member to give their prepared speech to an audience from a stage or stage-like setting.

- Props, signs, and PowerPoint presentations are not permitted.

- The topic can be of the 4-H member's choice.

- Junior members (grades 3-8) have 3-5 minutes to give their speech while senior members (grades 9-12) will give their speech in 5-7 minutes.

- Categories will be Junior Individual and Senior Individual.

Creative Writing

- This exhibit allows youth to express creativity while developing writing skills. Examples include a story,

autobiography, biography, , journal entry, poetry, children's story, skit or play, fiction in verse, alternative history, song lyrics, movie script, creative nonfiction and more. Writing must be authored by the 4-H member and can be fiction or non-fiction.

- Exhibits are to be displayed in a notebook or binder appropriately labeled on the front with the title, 4-H member's name, grade in school, club and county. The notebook or binder is to include a title page and authored work. While most creative writing exhibits will not require research, a bibliography giving credit to sources is to be included with any research article.

- Work can be handwritten or typewritten.

- Illustrations or photos may be included to enhance the writing.

- Writing should not include excessive blood, gore, violence or sexual themes and must be appropriate for all ages to read.

Creative Writing Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Beginner (grades 3-5 suggested)

Create and exhibit one age/grade appropriate item. While length or word count is not required, one-page or 250 words is appropriate for most beginners.

Intermediate (grades 6-8 suggested)

Create and exhibit one age/grade appropriate item. While length or word count is not required, two-page or 500 words is appropriate for most intermediate members.

Advanced (grades 9-12 suggested)

Create and exhibit one age/grade appropriate item. While length or word count is not required, more than three pages or more than 750 words is appropriate for most advanced members.

CONSTRUCTION & ARCHITECTURAL REPLICA

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)

JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

(Over-All Grand Champion is State Fair Entry)

Beginner: Grades 3-5

Intermediate: Grades 6-8

Advanced: Grades 9-12

CATEGORIES

- **Kit**
- **Original Design**

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

1. Exhibit may be of any design. Youth may exhibit 1 project per category. There are not a lot of guidelines within this project, which allows for creativity.

2. Set size limit—All Construction Toy Model Exhibits must be displayed on a sturdy base no larger than 32"x32".

3. All exhibits must include a 4-H Craft Information Card, 4-H 618A. This information card is to describe work completed so the judge can more accurately evaluate the exhibit. Craft

information cards are for judging purposes only and will not be returned to the exhibitor.

4. Lego kits and Compatible brand kits are built to instructions and will be judged individually in the Kit Category. Decals are permitted only if they came with the kit. Manuals must be included with the project at judging if exhibiting in the Kit Category. Exhibit is not a "Kit" if you put more than one together.

5. No PIECE may be glued or defaced. No decals, cutting, painting, filing, or using crayons, markers, etc., UNLESS in Original Design Class. Decals are permitted on kits if they came with the kit.

6. If multiple kits are used to create an original design, they will be judged together. It will be exhibited in the Original Design Category.

7. Original Design Category is designed to have no restrictions other than size requirements. In this category you can use any type of set and are given the option to deface, glue, mix sets, paint and use complete imagination and ingenuity.

8. Champion ribbon and trophy will be awarded in each category for each level. Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion will be chosen from the Champions and Reserve Champions from both the Kits category and Original Design category.

CONSUMER CLOTHING

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

State Fair Entry (3 Notebooks - 1 per level)

BEGINNER: Grades 3-5
INTERMEDIATE: Grades 6-8
ADVANCED: Grades 9-12

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

1. Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used, with parent permission, when creating this exhibit and is to be documented as a reference. A majority of the work to create this exhibit is to be the 4-H member's original work. All posters, notebooks, and display boards must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H member's exhibit. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of a poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or included as part of the display visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed.
2. The notebook is to include the following items and information:
 - Outside front cover – 4-H member name, county, club and level.
 - Photo of 4-H member wearing their purchased

outfit.

Narrative describing decision making process when purchasing this outfit and accessories, and how they complement your existing wardrobe.

One page or section outlining each of the five manual activities completed. Information is to include a description of the activity, skills learned, challenges completing the activity and how you worked to overcome each challenge, problems that occurred and how that problem was solved, how this activity will help you later in life and any other information.

Any additional information or documentation such as place of purchase, other vendors explored, how an adult mentor assisted and any other information. Receipts are not required, but if included be sure personally identifiable information such as mailing address, phone number, etc. are altered and not visible.

The notebook exhibit is not to include prior year(s) information.

3. Youth may choose to model their purchased outfit and accessories at the county level. Modeling at state fair is limited to only the advanced level and will be judged separate from the notebook.

Beginner (grades 3-5 suggested)

Complete five activities in the manual and share your results or answers in a notebook using exhibit guidelines above, labeling each activity. With help from a parent or mentor, With the help of a mentor or parent, purchase and accessorize an outfit of your choice. Accessories may be purchased or selected from what you currently have.

Intermediate (grades 6-8 suggested)

Complete five activities in the manual and share your results or answers in a notebook using exhibit guidelines above, labeling each activity. With the help of a mentor or parent, purchase and accessorize an outfit of your choice. Accessories may be purchased or selected from what you currently have.

Advanced (grades 9-12 suggested)

Complete five activities in the manual and share your results or answers in a notebook using exhibit guidelines above, labeling each activity. With the help of a mentor or parent, purchase and accessorize an outfit of your choice. Accessories may be purchased or selected from what you currently have.

Fashion Revue

Exhibit Guidelines:

All garments and outfits modeled in Consumer Clothing Fashion Revue must have been purchased by the 4-H member modeling that same garment or outfit.

DEFINITION OF AN OUTFIT: An outfit is a garment or garments that when put together make a complete look.

Judges evaluating exhibits should recognize individual differences and creativity, therefore using information in this document as a guide rather than a requirement.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Beginner (grades 3-5 suggested)

Model the garment or outfit purchased for the consumer clothing project. Accessories may be purchased or selected from what you currently have.

Intermediate (grades 6-8 suggested)

Model the garment or outfit purchased for the consumer clothing project. Accessories may be purchased or selected from what you currently have.

Advanced (grades 9-12 suggested)

Model the garment or outfit purchased for the consumer clothing project. Accessories may be purchased or selected from what you currently have.

CROPS

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
SEPT 8 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

Crops exhibits are due at the Exhibit Hall 30 minutes before the judging time.

Beginner: Grades 3-5
Intermediate: Grades 6-8
Advanced: Grades 9-12

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

ALFALFA

- Level 1—Grow not less than one acre of alfalfa. Level 2 & Level 3—Increase acreage as home conditions justify.
- Have soil tested and follow fertilization recommendations.
- Exhibit a slice of alfalfa hay, approximately 6 inches thick.

CORN

- Use a good fertility program.
- Plant a hybrid adapted to your location.
- Practice good weed control.
- Check your yield.
- Have your soil tested.
- Grow one or more acres of corn.
- Exhibit 1 stalk of corn with roots washed and ears attached.

SOYBEANS

- Have your soil tested.
- Follow approved practices.
- Exhibit one (1) of the following:
 - A. Three (3) soybean plants with roots washed
 - B. A 22"x28" poster, suggestions as explained in manual.

Crops Educational Display

(Updated for 2025)

Beginner: Grades 3-5
Intermediate: Grades 6-8
Advanced: Grades 9-12

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

1. All posters, notebooks, and display boards must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H member's exhibit. This reference list should include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of a poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or included as part of the display visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed.
2. Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using no more than 36" of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.

Beginner (grades 3-5 suggested)

Create an age/grade appropriate poster, notebook or display about Crops or Agronomy.

Intermediate (grades 6-8 suggested)

Create an age/grade appropriate poster, notebook or display about Crops or Agronomy.

Advanced (grades 9-12 suggested)

Create an age/grade appropriate poster, notebook or display about Crops or Agronomy.

ELECTRIC

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

(Updated for 2026)

Level 1: 1st year in project
Level 2: 2nd year in project
Level 3: 3rd year in project
Level 4: 4th year in project
Level 5: 5th year or more in project

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used, with parent permission, when creating this exhibit and is to be documented as a reference. A majority of the work to create this exhibit is to be the 4-H member's original work. All posters, notebooks, and display boards

must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H member's exhibit. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of a poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or included as part of the display visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed.

Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. The poster must be mounted on a firm backing to add stiffness to the exhibit, for example: a foam core board. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using no more than 36" of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.

Youth are encouraged to complete the activities as instructed in the manual or found on the 4-H electric web page.

Judges evaluating exhibits should recognize individual differences and creativity, therefore using information in this document as a guide rather than a requirement.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Electric Level 1 (1st year in Electric)

Exhibit one article of choice displaying proper wiring techniques, made during the current 4-H program year. It must demonstrate a minimum of five (5) or more of the appropriate level of "Skills to be Attained" items as outlined in the "4-H Electric and Electronic Skills & Knowledge Chart". A completed copy of the "Exhibit Skills & Knowledge Sheet" must accompany the project. Skills sheets are for judging purposes only and will not be returned to the exhibitor.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Circuit board – 6" by 6" of Series/Parallel Circuit
- Electromagnet
- Galvanometer
- Poster board (22" by 28")
- Display (appropriately sized for displayed equipment)
- Notebook/Report that covers any topic that is in the National 4-H Electric Curriculum Electricity Excitement Book 1 or Investigating Electricity Book 2, Purdue Extension website Level 1 activities/project sheets, or from the appropriate level of the Skills & Knowledge Chart. Refer to the Written Report Scorecard, 4-H 824, to determine expected items to be included.

Electric Level 2 (2nd year in Electric)

Exhibit one article of choice displaying proper wiring techniques, made during the current 4-H program year. It must demonstrate a minimum of five (5) or more of the appropriate level of "Skills to be Attained" items as outlined in the "4-H Electric and Electronic Skills & Knowledge Chart". A completed copy of the "Exhibit Skills & Knowledge Sheet" must accompany the project. Skills sheets are for judging purposes only and will not be returned to the exhibitor.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Magnetic Powered Shake Flashlight – with optional display
- Circuit board – 6" by 6" of Series/Parallel Circuit (with modifications if exhibited in Level 1)

- Electromagnet
- Galvanometer
- Electric Motor
- Poster board (22" by 28")
- Display (appropriately sized for displayed equipment)
- Notebook/Report that covers any topic that is in the National 4-H Electric Curriculum Electricity Excitement Book 1 or Investigating Electricity Book 2, Purdue Extension website Level 2 activities/project sheets, or from the appropriate level of the Skills & Knowledge Chart. Refer to the Written Report Scorecard, 4-H 824, to determine expected items to be included.

Electric Level 3 (3rd year in Electric)

Exhibit one article of choice displaying proper wiring techniques, made during the current 4-H program year. It must demonstrate a minimum of five (5) or more of the appropriate level of "Skills to be Attained" items as outlined in the "4-H Electric and Electronic Skills & Knowledge Chart". A completed copy of the "Exhibit Skills & Knowledge Sheet" must accompany the project. Skills sheets are for judging purposes only and will not be returned to the exhibitor.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Wiring Project – (ie. extension cord, trouble light, wire sizes and uses, plug configurations, test equipment, replace cord/cord end on a tool or piece of equipment, etc.)
- Electrical tool and supply kit
- Poster board (22" by 28")
- Display (appropriately sized for displayed equipment)
- Notebook/Report that covers any topic that is in the National 4-H Electric Curriculum Wired for Power Book 3, Purdue Extension website Level 3 activities/project sheets, or from the appropriate level of the Skills & Knowledge Chart. Refer to the Written Report Scorecard, 4-H 824, to determine expected items to be included.

Electric Level 4 (4th year in Electric)

Exhibit one article of choice displaying proper wiring techniques, made during the current 4-H program year. It must demonstrate a minimum of five (5) or more of the appropriate level of "Skills to be Attained" items as outlined in the "4-H Electric and Electronic Skills & Knowledge Chart". A completed copy of the "Exhibit Skills & Knowledge Sheet" must accompany the project. Skills sheets are for judging purposes only and will not be returned to the exhibitor.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Wiring – Wire a lamp. The lamp can be a re-wired lamp or one that is built new.
- Electrical tool and supply kit
- Poster board (22" by 28")
- Display (appropriately sized for displayed equipment)
- Notebook/Report that covers any topic that is in the National 4-H Electric Curriculum Wired for Power Book 3, Purdue Extension website Level 4 activities/project sheets, or from the appropriate level of the Skills & Knowledge Chart. Refer to the Written Report Scorecard, 4-H 824, to determine expected items to be included.

Electric Level 5 (5th year or more in Electric)

Exhibit one article of choice, displaying proper wiring

techniques, made during the current 4-H program year that demonstrates a minimum of five (5) or more of the appropriate level of “Skills to be Attained” items as outlined in the “4-H Electric and Electronic Skills & Knowledge Chart”. A completed copy of the “Exhibit Skills & Knowledge Sheet” must accompany the project. Skills sheets are for judging purposes only and will not be returned to the exhibitor.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Equipment Wiring – including but not limited to: parts identification, appliance repair, lamps and other lighting, equipment wiring, control system, security system, topic that covers safety, motors/generators, electric heating, heat pumps, AC, water heaters, and other electric equipment.
- Home Wiring – included by not limited to any circuits found in the wiring of a house or “barn”, service entrance, switching, receptacles, generator transfer circuit, safety, electrical math, and others.
- Electronic Equipment – Any project or kit containing transistors or integrated circuits or vacuum tubes such as radio, TV, computer, robot, cell phone, and others.
- Poster board (22” by 28”)
- Display (appropriately sized for displayed equipment)
- Notebook/Report that covers any topic that is in the National 4-H Electric Curriculum Entering Electronics, Purdue Extension website Level 5 activities/project sheets, or from the appropriate level of the Skills & Knowledge Chart. Refer to the Written Report Scorecard, 4-H 824, to determine expected items to be included.
- Video Presentation Create a video showing the work accomplished and skills learned. This video should include the same type of information as required in written notebook listed above. This video is to be no more than ten minutes in length and formatted as MP4 and submitted on a thumb drive. This video can also be uploaded to a YouTube account with the video being made public and the link submitted for evaluation.

ENTOMOLOGY

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

Gary Moughler, Superintendent - Phone: 260-553-1165
Email: garymoughler@gmail.com

(Updated for 2026)

Beginner (1st - 3rd Year in Project)
Intermediate (4th - 6th Year in Project)
Advanced (7th - 10th Year in Project)

Educational Exhibit Guidelines:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used, with parent permission, when creating this exhibit and is to be documented as a reference. A majority of the work to create this exhibit is to be the 4-H member’s original work. All posters, notebooks, and display boards must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete

the 4-H member’s exhibit. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of a poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or included as part of the display visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed.

Posters are to be 22”x28” and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. The poster must be mounted on a firm backing to add stiffness to the exhibit, for example: a foam core board. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using no more than 36” of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.

Collection Exhibit Guidelines:

Collections are to include the following:

- Title as Insect Collection Grade x (x is to be replaced with grade in school) year in Entomology
- Order – refer to ID-401, page 57.
- Display – mounted insects are to have been legally and personally collected in the United States and displayed in an 18”x24” collection box displayed horizontally. Collections including multiple boxes are to be numbered 1 of 3, etc. ID 401 A-F cards (for grades 3-8) and 401-I cards (for grades 9 - 12) are to be placed inside the display box in an attractive manner.
- Identification – Collection display boxes are expected to contain the specified number of insects, families, and orders specified. All insects must be in the adult stage and be properly mounted on insect pins or be contained in vials as directed.
- Pin Labels - Each pin or vial must contain two labels:
 1. Top label is to include collection date, location, and collector name.
 2. Bottom label is to include common name and other optional identification data.
- Box Labels – Box labels (computer generated or neatly printed) are used for orders and families as required and are to be placed flat against the bottom of the box. Insects must be properly grouped directly under the correct order and family box label. For example, all insects belonging to a particular order must be placed under that order label. Orders to be used are listed in the reference book ID- 401. If family level identification is required, the insects should be further grouped together under that the correct family label.
- Educational Box – One additional box (educational), based on the specific theme, is required for grades 9-12, in addition to the insect collection boxes. This box can be created in any manner chosen (without the mounting, pinning or identifying restrictions specified above).

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Beginner (1st-3rd Year in Entomology)

- Create a poster or display board about any manual or similar activity, or prepare an insect collection for your

grade level. Create a collection based on the year in Entomology or an educational exhibit.

- 1st year - 10 insects, identified and pinned on cards (ID 401A) - 1 Box
- 2nd year- 20 insects, mounted (pins or vials). Identify all insects by common name and identify five (5) to order. Include card ID 401B. – 1 Box
- 3rd year - 30 insects, mounted (pins or vials). Identify all insects by common name and identify 15 to order. Include ID 401C. – 1 Box

Intermediate (4th-6th Year in Entomology)

- Create a poster or display board about any manual or similar activity, or prepare an insect collection for your grade level. Create a collection based on the year in Entomology or an educational exhibit.
- 4th year - 40 insects, exhibit a minimum of 6 orders, mounted (pins or vials). Identify all insects by common name and order. Include ID 401D. – 2 Boxes
- 5th year - 50 insects, exhibit a minimum of 8 orders, mounted (pins or vials). Identify all insects by common name and order. Identify ten (10) to family. Include card ID 401E. – 2 Boxes
- 6th year - 60 insects, exhibit a minimum of 10 orders, mounted (pins or vials). Identify all insects by common name and order. Identify 30 to family. Include card ID 401F. – 2 Boxes

Advanced (7th-10th Year in Entomology)

- Create a poster or display board about any manual or similar activity, or prepare an insect collection for your grade level. Create a collection based on the year in Entomology or an educational exhibit. Advanced level insect collections are to also include an education box, for a total of four boxes. Advanced level youth may instead create an independent study topic of choice.
- 7th year - 70 insects, exhibit a minimum of 12 orders, mounted (pins or vials). Identify all insects by common name, order, and family. One educational box, theme: insect behavior. Include card ID 401I. (1-3 collection boxes plus 1 educational box*). Place ID 401I in first collection box only. – 3 Boxes
- 8th year - 80 insects, exhibit a minimum of 14 orders, mounted (pins or vials). Identify all insects by common name, order, and family. One educational box, theme: insect pest management. Include card ID 401I. (1-3 collection boxes plus 1 educational box*). Place ID 401I in first collection box only. – 3 Boxes
- 9th year - 90 insects, exhibit a minimum of 16 orders, mounted (pins or vials). Identify all insects by common name, order, and family. One educational box, theme: insects in the environment. Include card ID 401I. ((1-3 collection boxes plus 1 educational box*). Place ID 401I in first collection box only. - 3
- 10th year - 100 insects, exhibit a minimum of 18 orders, mounted (pins or vials). Identify all insects by common name, order, and family. One educational box, theme: benefits of insects. Include card ID 401I. (1-3 collection boxes plus 1 educational box*). Place ID 401I in first collection box only. – 3 Boxes

FLORICULTURE

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

(Updated for 2026)

Level A: Grades 3-4
Level B: Grades 5-6
Level C: Grades 7-9
Level D: Grades 10-12

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

1. Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used, with parent permission, when creating this exhibit and is to be documented as a reference. A majority of the work to create this exhibit is to be the 4-H member's original work. All posters, notebooks, and display boards must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H member's exhibit. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of a poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or included as part of the display visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed.
2. Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. The poster must be mounted on a firm backing to add stiffness to the exhibit, for example: a foam core board. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using no more than 36" of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.
3. Floral arrangements can be constructed using fresh flowers and greenery grown yourself or purchased, flowers and greenery dried yourself or purchased, or artificial flowers or greenery.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Level A (grades 3-4 suggested)

Floral Option - Create a simple bud vase (1-3 stems of main flower plus appropriate filler and/or greenery) or simple round arrangement (small, compact round cluster of flowers plus appropriate filler and/or greenery).

Educational Display Option – Create a poster, notebook or display about one of the following:

1. Chronicle your work in your flower garden (planning, planting, care, harvest, arrangement made with your flowers)
2. Describe how you planned or designed your garden, including how you chose the kinds of flowers.
3. Explain how you harvested your flowers, cared for them, and used them in an arrangement.
4. Explore and explain: pollination - what it is, why important, different ways it occurs or transplanting - what, how, things to watch out for; or role of insects with flowers

(good, bad or both).

5. Explore and explain seed germination.
6. Explore and explain how to care for a 'sick' plant.
7. Report on interview with a floriculture professional (what do they do, types of jobs, type of training, hours worked, etc.)
8. Describe an experiment you did and the results.
9. Describe a community service project you did related to your flowers project.
10. Another similar activity.

Level B (grades 5-6 suggested)

Floral Option – Create a mixed planter that includes 3 or more kinds of plants, make an item from dried plants, or display a house plant (flowering or non-flowering) you've grown.

Educational Display Option – Create a poster, notebook or display about one of the following:

1. Report how you harvested your flowers and/or herbs, cared for them, dried them, and used them.
2. Explore and explain: insects and your flowers and/or herbs.
3. Explore and explain: starting seeds indoors -- the process and pros and cons.
4. Explore and explain: perennials -- what are they, how are they used, benefits or drawbacks.
5. Investigate and describe a butterfly garden -- what types of plants, benefits to insects and butterflies, etc.
6. Describe how you planned or designed your garden, including how you chose the kinds of plants, any problems, successes.
7. Describe your houseplant - how you cared for, transplanted to larger pot, any problems, or successes.
8. Explore and explain: plant biology -- form and function, growth, photosynthesis, etc.
9. Explore and explain: how to grow plants indoors -- things to consider, common problems and solutions.
10. Explore and explain: environmental effects related to plants (such as light, water, soil, or temperature).
11. Describe an experiment you did and the results.
12. Explore and explain topics from "Imagine That" -- plants around the world, information about different cultural uses of plants, different ways you used your plants/herbs/flowers.
13. Another similar activity.

Level C (grades 7-9 suggested)

Floral Option – Create a terrarium, combination or European planter (3 or more kinds of plants), corsage, boutonniere, or specialty arrangement in a container (using dried flowers, roses, or lilies as the primary content).

Educational Display Option – Create a poster, notebook or display about one of the following:

1. Explore and explain: vegetative propagation -- how to, different types, problems and solutions, different uses of.
2. Explore and explain: plant nutrients -- what are they, why does the plant need them, what happens if the plant has too much or too little, planters or containers vs. garden.
3. Investigate the design of multiple plant containers -- how to, things to consider, selecting plant materials, uses of.
4. Describe how you created your corsage or boutonnieres; or dried arrangement. Be sure to include appropriate

information on design principles and how they are used to create your arrangement.

5. Explore and explain: floral tools and materials (how to use, what they are, care of tools, different uses of a tool or material).
6. Explore and explain: preserving cut flowers -- how, problems, uses of and/or diseases related to cut flowers.
7. Illustrate, explore and explain how you dry flowers or other plant materials and/or describe different methods and/or how, why use them.
8. Explore and explain: medicinal uses and toxicity of fresh and dried flowers and plants.
9. Describe an experiment you did and the results.
10. Describe a career exploration activity you did, such as job shadow, interview with a professional.
11. Describe a community service activity you did related to your flowers project -- what you did, why, results, etc.
12. Another similar activity.

Level D (grades 10-12 suggested)

Floral Option – Create a seasonal arrangement, modern or contemporary arrangement, bridal bouquet, special occasion centerpiece, or plant you have propagated and grown yourself.

Educational Display Option – Create a poster, notebook or display about one of the following:

1. Describe how you created your arrangement, include information on the design principles utilized.
2. Explore and explain how you utilize different flowers to make a similar style arrangement for different seasons (tulips in spring, mums in fall, etc.) or how to utilize similar flowers to make different styles of arrangements.
3. Explore and explain: the cost of arrangement and/or a cost comparison with flowers (different types flowers, different time year, etc.).
4. Explore and explain: forcing flowers (bulbs, branches, etc.).
5. Explore and explain: marketing in the floral industry (large or small business) and/ or a market survey and results, and how they can benefit the floral industry.
6. Explore and explain: how to start a business related to the floral industry and may include a business plan.
7. Explore and explain the origins of flowers and/or the floriculture industry around the world.
8. Explore and explain: tissue culture, biotechnology, or traditional breeding of new flower types -- what are they, how are they used, pros and cons.
9. Explore and explain: be a plant detective -- what kinds of problems might you have in growing and caring for flowers, and how to solve.
10. Describe an experiment you did and the results.
11. Describe a community service activity you did related to your flowers project: how, why, results.

12. Another similar activity.

FOODS-BAKED

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)

JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

(Updated for 2026)

Level A: Grades 3-4

Level B: Grades 5-6

Level C: Grades 7-9

Level D: Grades 10-12

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

1. Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used, with parent permission, when creating this exhibit and is to be documented as a reference. A majority of the work to create this exhibit is to be the 4-H member's original work. All posters, notebooks, and display boards must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H member's exhibit. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of a poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or included as part of the display visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed.

2. Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. The poster must be mounted on a firm backing to add stiffness to the exhibit, for example: a foam core board. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using no more than 36" of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.

Purdue Extension Food Safety Policy (revised 10/2022):
For Food Competitions: Fillings, frostings, glazes, and meringues are not permitted to contain cream cheese, sour cream, heavy cream, or whipped cream if they are not fully cooked/baked. These items are allowed as ingredients in food products IF the final product is cooked/baked. Additionally, raw milk, raw milk products or uncooked eggs/egg whites are not permitted. Eggs/egg whites that have been cooked to 160oF (i.e. pasteurized or included as part of a batter and baked) are acceptable. No home- canned fruits, vegetables, or meats are permitted as ingredients in food products.

Foods should be transported to the competition in a way that minimizes contamination and maintains the quality of the food (i.e. foods that are judged as frozen should remain frozen at all times).

Recipes must be provided that identifies all ingredients that were used in each part of the product. Any ingredient that could be a potential allergen must be clearly identified. Potential food allergens include, but are not limited to, milk, eggs, peanuts, tree nuts, fish, crustacean shellfish, wheat,

soy and sesame. Each food product must be labeled with the following information:

- Name
- Date the food product was made

Contestants should carefully wash their hands and make sure that their hands do not have any open cuts before preparing foods. If cuts are present, the wound should be bandaged and a single use food service glove worn on the hand during all stages of food production. Contestants should not be preparing food exhibits for competition within 48 hours of recovering from any illness. People experiencing symptoms of vomiting, diarrhea, fever, and/or jaundice should not be allowed to prepare food.

Judges and individuals who will consume products from county and/or state competitions should be informed that they are at risk for foodborne illness since the established policy cannot guarantee that an entry has been properly prepared or handled before, during or following the competition. The food products for competitions are home produced and processed and the production area is not inspected by the Indiana Department of Health. Tasting of a food product is solely at the discretion of the judge and consumers. Judges are NOT to taste any home preserved foods such as low-acid or acidified foods like green beans, tomatoes or tomato products, jams/jellies/fruit preserves or fermented products produced in the home.

3. Baked food products may be from a boxed mix following the instructions, a boxed mix with added ingredients, or ingredients combined from scratch. Youth are to place their name, county and club on the bottom side of their plate, pan or other container and the official entry tag provided will be placed with the exhibit.

4. A completed recipe card is to be submitted with each exhibit. Recipe cards are for judging purposes only and will not be returned to the exhibitor. Laminating, wrapping the recipe card in plastic, or placing it in a clear plastic bag is optional. Since it is illegal in the State of Indiana for youth under the age of 21 to purchase or consume alcoholic beverages, 4-H members are to use recipes that do not include an alcoholic beverage as an ingredient. A suitable non-alcoholic or imitation product may be substituted.

5. Baked food products should be covered during transport and displayed on a paper or foam plate, or another type of disposable container. Pies, casseroles and other similar items are to be baked in a disposable pan. Cakes and sticky items may be displayed on a cardboard strong enough to support the item and covered in foil, plastic, wax paper, or similar substance.

6. Perishable baked exhibits entered for state fair competition will not be displayed and instead will be donated to a central Indiana homeless shelter.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Level A (grades 3-4 suggested)

Choose one or more of the baked products below, or a similar baked product of choice. It is suggested a participant choose a different option each year, but this is not a

requirement. Exhibits entered at state fair will be donated to local homeless shelters after being judged and not displayed.

- Three uniced snack sized cookies.
- Three standard sized unlined muffins.
- Three standard sized unlined muffins containing an ingredient that is a source of Vitamin A or C.
- Three snack sized granola bars.
- Three snack sized brownies or blondies.
- An educational poster, notebook or display about a food or nutrition topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.
- Any other similar baked item.

Level B (grades 5-6 suggested)

Choose one or more of the baked products below, or a similar baked product of choice. It is suggested a participant choose a different option each year, but this is not a requirement. Exhibits entered at state fair will be donated to local homeless shelters after being judged and not displayed.

- A single layer cake without frosting.
- A single layer reduced-fat cake without frosting. Reduce the amount of fat in the recipe by using a fruit puree or baby food fruit product that does not contain yogurt.
- A standard loaf-sized quick bread.
- A standard loaf-sized quick bread containing an ingredient that is a source of Vitamin A or C.
- A coffee-cake.
- A coffee-cake containing an ingredient that is a source of Vitamin A or C.
- Three biscuits or scones that are plain, sweet or savory.
- Three biscuits or scones that are plain, sweet or savory using a whole grain flour mixture.
- Three biscuits or scones that are plain, sweet or savory containing an ingredient that is a source of Vitamin A or C.
- Three no-yeast, any shape pretzels (shaped, stick or nugget).
- Three no-yeast, any shape pretzel with a whole grain flour mixture (shaped, stick or nugget).
- Three no-yeast breadsticks.
- Three no-yeast cinnamon rolls or other flavored roll without icing or glaze.
- A no-yeast sweet bread without icing or glaze.
- An educational poster, notebook or display about a food or nutrition topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.
- Any other similar baked item.

Level C (grades 7-9 suggested)

Choose one or more of the baked products below, or a similar baked product of choice. It is suggested a participant choose a different option each year, but this is not a requirement. Exhibits entered at state fair will be donated to local homeless shelters after being judged and not displayed.

- Three yeast bread sticks or yeast rolls (any shape, medium size – not a sweet roll)
- Three (3) yeast bread sticks or yeast rolls (any shape, medium size - not a sweet roll), using a whole grain flour mixture. Participants are expected to learn how to knead bread dough by hand and allow it to rise appropriately. It is

NOT acceptable to use a home bread maker.

- A yeast bread loaf or braid. Participants are expected to learn how to knead bread dough by hand and allow it to rise appropriately. It is NOT acceptable to use a home bread maker.
- A yeast bread (can be loaf, braid) using a whole grain flour mixture such as whole wheat, rye, oat bran, etc. Participants are expected to learn how to knead bread dough by hand and allow it to rise appropriately. It is NOT acceptable to use a home bread maker.
- Homemade pizza using a yeast dough. Judges are not expecting this item to be presented hot out of the oven.
- One package of an, invented healthy snack (such as a granola bar, popcorn snack, trail mix, etc.). Your snack must include at least 2 food groups from MyPlate. Exhibit must include your snack product and a separate folder containing a marketing plan with product name, recipe, how it will be packaged, a package design, where it will be sold and suggested selling price. Style your snack for a photo shoot and include the picture in your marketing plan. Label should include product name, date, quantity, and serving size.
- Prepare an entrée casserole that meets three MyPlate requirements for a meal. Use care when transporting to prevent spoilage. Judges are not expecting this casserole to be presented hot out of the oven.
- An educational poster, notebook or display about a food or nutrition topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.
- Any similar baked item.

Level D (grades 10-12 suggested)

Choose one or more of the baked products below, or a similar baked product of choice. It is suggested a participant choose a different option each year, but this is not a requirement. Exhibits entered at state fair will be donated to local homeless shelters after being judged and not displayed.

- A single or double crust baked fruit pie (no graham cracker crust). (Note: Custards, cream, cream cheese frosting and fillings, and raw egg white frosting are not acceptable in an exhibit because they are highly perishable when left at room temperatures.)
- A baked food product for a catered meal or special event in which organizers have requested low fat and/or reduced sugar items. Exhibit will include your food product and a notebook outlining how this product is to be used at the event, menu, supplies to buy, preparation schedule, equipment, table layout, etc. A table display is optional.
- Select a condition in which people have to specifically modify their eating habits (diabetes, heart disease, Celiac disease, food allergies, etc.) Prepare a baked food product appropriate for someone with this condition. Exhibit will include your food product and a notebook summarizing the condition or allergy, nutrition considerations involved with the condition, a description of your baked item, and an explanation of how it fits within the nutrition considerations. Make sure to note any ingredients that could cause an allergic reaction.
- Prepare an entrée casserole that meets four MyPlate requirements for a meal. Use care when transporting to

prevent spoilage. Judges are not expecting this casserole to be presented hot out of the oven.

- An international or ethnic food of choice. This may be a cold or hot product. Use care when transporting to prevent spoilage. Judges are not expecting this product to be presented hot out of the oven.
- A specialty pastry.
- Create a baking mix and provide a sample of the baked product. Include an index card with instructions, wet ingredients needed, and baking instructions.
- An educational poster, notebook or display about a food or nutrition topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.
- Any other similar baked item.

FOODS - PRESERVED

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

(Updated for 2026)

- Level A: Grades 3-4**
- Level B: Grades 5-6**
- Level C: Grades 7-9**
- Level D: Grades 10-12**

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

1. Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used, with parent permission, when creating this exhibit and is to be documented as a reference. A majority of the work to create this exhibit is to be the 4-H member's original work. All posters, notebooks, and display boards must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H member's exhibit. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of a poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or included as part of the display visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed.

2. Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. The poster must be mounted on a firm backing to add stiffness to the exhibit, for example: a foam core board. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using no more than 36" of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.

Refer to the Purdue Extension Food Preservation web site for resources and Purdue Extension educators trained to answer food preservation questions.

Purdue Extension Food Safety Policy (revised 10/2022):
For Food Competitions: Fillings, frostings, glazes, and meringues are not permitted to contain cream cheese, sour cream, heavy cream, or whipped cream if they are not fully

cooked/baked. These items are allowed as ingredients in food products IF the final product is cooked/baked. Additionally, raw milk, raw milk products or uncooked eggs/egg whites are not permitted. Eggs/egg whites that have been cooked to 160oF (i.e. pasteurized or included as part of a batter and baked) are acceptable. No home- canned fruits, vegetables, or meats are permitted as ingredients in food products.

Foods should be transported to the competition in a way that minimizes contamination and maintains the quality of the food (i.e. foods that are judged as frozen should remain frozen at all times).

Recipes must be provided that identifies all ingredients that were used in each part of the product. Any ingredient that could be a potential allergen must be clearly identified. Potential food allergens include, but are not limited to, milk, eggs, peanuts, tree nuts, fish, crustacean shellfish, wheat, soy and sesame. Each food product must be labeled with the following information:

- Name
- Date the food product was made

Contestants should carefully wash their hands and make sure that their hands do not have any open cuts before preparing foods. If cuts are present, the wound should be bandaged and a single use food service glove worn on the hand during all stages of food production. Contestants should not be preparing food exhibits for competition within 48 hours of recovering from any illness. People experiencing symptoms of vomiting, diarrhea, fever, and/or jaundice should not be allowed to prepare food.

Judges and individuals who will consume products from county and/or state competitions should be informed that they are at risk for foodborne illness since the established policy cannot guarantee that an entry has been properly prepared or handled before, during or following the competition. The food products for competitions are home produced and processed and the production area is not inspected by the Indiana Department of Health. Tasting of a food product is solely at the discretion of the judge and consumers. Judges are NOT to taste any home preserved foods such as low-acid or acidified foods like green beans, tomatoes or tomato products, jams/jellies/fruit preserves or fermented products produced in the home.

3. A completed recipe card is to be submitted with each exhibit. Recipe cards are for judging purposes only and will not be returned to the exhibitor. Laminating, wrapping the recipe card in plastic, or placing it in a clear plastic bag is optional. Since it is illegal in the State of Indiana for youth under the age of 21 to purchase or consume alcoholic beverages, 4-H members are to use recipes that do not include an alcoholic beverage as an ingredient. A suitable non-alcoholic or imitation product may be substituted.

4. Preserved food products should be displayed in an appropriate container, preferably disposable. Containers will not be returned to the exhibitor.

5. Frozen exhibits entered for state fair competition will not be displayed and instead will be donated to a central Indiana

homeless shelter. Home-canned exhibits will be displayed but will be disposed at the state fair's conclusion.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Level A (grades 3-4 suggested)

Choose one or more of the preserved products below, or a similar preserved product of choice. It is suggested a participant choose a different option each year, but this is not a requirement. Exhibits entered at state fair will be donated to local homeless shelters and not displayed.

- A package of 3 baked or unbaked, snack-sized (approximately 2"-3" individual size) frozen cookies. Display in freezer bag or freezer container. (NOTE: Freezer containers will not be returned.) Include index card with recipe and instructions for defrosting or baking. Label with name of product, quantity, and date frozen.
- One package of frozen berries. Display in freezer bag or freezer container. (NOTE: Freezer containers will not be returned.) Include index card with recipe and instructions for cooking or defrosting. Label with name of product, quantity, and date frozen.
- One package of dehydrated fruit or vegetable. Display in an appropriate bag or container. Include index card with recipe and instructions for cooking or defrosting. Label with name of product, quantity, and date dehydrated.
- An educational poster, notebook or display about a food or nutrition topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.
- Any other similar preserved item.

Level B (grades 5-6 suggested)

Choose one or more of the preserved products below, or a similar preserved product of choice. It is suggested a participant choose a different option each year, but this is not a requirement. Exhibits entered at state fair will be donated to local homeless shelters and not displayed.

- One uncooked frozen mini-pizza using whole-grain pita bread, English muffin, bagel, or already prepared crust (no larger than 7" in diameter) with toppings of your choice. Include at least 4 MyPlate food groups on your pizza. Meat toppings such as hamburger, sausage, bacon, etc. must be cooked. Display on covered cardboard inside freezer bag. Include index card with recipe and instructions for cooking. Label with name of product, quantity, and date frozen.
- One package of any frozen vegetable or combination vegetables. Display in freezer bag or freezer container. (NOTE: Freezer containers will not be returned.) Include index card with instructions for defrosting and cooking. Label with name of product, quantity, and date frozen.
- One container of frozen fruit or vegetable juice. Include index card with instructions for defrosting and cooking. Label with name of product, quantity, and date frozen.
- One container of frozen soup. Include index card with recipe and instructions for defrosting and cooking. Label with name of product, quantity, and date frozen.
- A frozen ready-to-eat breakfast sandwich, burrito or similar item. Display on covered cardboard inside freezer bag. Include index card with recipe and instructions for cooking. Label with name of product, quantity, and date frozen.
- An educational poster, notebook or display about a food

or nutrition topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.

- Any other similar preserved item.

Level C (grades 7-9 suggested)

Choose one or more of the preserved products below, or a similar preserved product of choice. It is suggested a participant choose a different option each year, but this is not a requirement. Exhibits entered at state fair will be donated to local homeless shelters and not displayed.

- One (1) container of freezer jam. Include index card with recipe and instructions for storing. Label with name of product, quantity, and date frozen.
- One jar of a canned tomato product using the Hot Pack Method for a boiling water bath canner, such as tomato juice, catsup, barbecue sauce, or salsa. Include index card with recipe and instructions for cooking or using the product. Label with name of product, quantity, and date canned. Canned products must have the ring on the jar top to protect the seal. Note: Only food preservation products made using USDA approved recipes and techniques are acceptable.
- One jar of a canned pickled product or canned pickles. Include index card with recipe, processing, and storage instructions. (Products using a fancy pack are not accepted.) Label with name of product, quantity, and date canned. Canned products must have the ring on the jar top to protect the seal. Note: Only food preservation products made using USDA approved recipes and techniques are acceptable.
- Frozen yeast dough (bread loaf, roll balls, sticks, pizza, etc.). Include index card with recipe and instructions for defrosting and cooking. Label with name of product, quantity, and date frozen.
- An educational poster, notebook or display about a food or nutrition topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.
- Any similar preserved item.

Level D (grades 10-12 suggested)

Choose one or more of the preserved products below, or a similar preserved product of choice. It is suggested a participant choose a different option each year, but this is not a requirement. Exhibits entered at state fair will be donated to local homeless shelters and not displayed.

- One jar of pressure canned vegetables, meat or combination product, such as soup, stew, spaghetti sauce with meat, etc. Include index card with recipe and instructions for cooking or using the product. (Products using a fancy pack are not accepted.) Label with name of product, quantity, and date canned. Canned products must have the ring on the jar top to protect the seal. Note: Only food preservation products made using USDA approved recipes and techniques are acceptable.
- One package of a combination food frozen entree in freezer container. The combination food should contain 3 food groups from MyPlate. Exhibit should include an index card with recipe and instructions for reheating. Display in disposable containers. No containers will be returned. Label with name of product, quantity, and date frozen.
- A jar of cooked jam or a reduced-sugar fruit spread. Include recipe card. Label with name of product, quantity, and date made. Note: Only food preservation products

made using USDA approved recipes and techniques are acceptable.

- One container of a thaw and eat frozen prepared appetizer. Include index card with recipe and instructions for defrosting. Label with name of product, quantity, and date frozen.
- One container of a thaw and eat frozen prepared dessert. Include index card with recipe and instructions for defrosting. Label with name of product, quantity, and date frozen.
- An educational poster, notebook or display about a food or nutrition topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.
- Any other similar preserved item.

FORESTRY

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

(Updated for 2026)

Beginner: Grades 3-5
Intermediate: Grades 6-8
Advanced: Grades 9-12

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

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2. Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. The poster must be mounted on a firm backing to add stiffness to the exhibit, for example: a foam core board. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using no more than 36" of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Beginner (grades 3-5 suggested)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any forestry topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.

Intermediate (grades 6-8 suggested)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any forestry topic of choice that is age/

grade appropriate.

Advanced (grades 9-12 suggested)

1. Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any forestry topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate, prepare a herbarium collection that contains at least 25 native Indiana forest leaves, or prepare a herbarium collection that contains at least 25 native Indiana forest shrubs. Youth can also design and complete an independent study activity.

2. Herbarium Collections - Collect 25 terminal twigs and at least two leaves, if space allows (only one compound leaf is required), from native forest trees. Mount the specimens on 11 1/2" x 16 1/2" paper. One leaf on the twig must be mounted to show the back side of the leaf. Label each sheet with the following: common name, scientific name, where collected, county where collected, date collected, name of collector, and specimen number. Cover each specimen. There are no specific references given for these exhibits. Youth are encouraged to use Extension publications, the Internet, books, and forest specialists when collecting and identifying specimens. The herbarium collection must be accessible to the judges. Do not cover it under the plastic that covers your poster. Youth may want to attach a folder or other holder over your poster to hold the mounted, covered specimens.

GARDEN

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

(Updated for 2026)

Level A: Grades 3-4
Level B: Grades 5-6
Level C: Grades 7-9
Level D: Grades 10-12

PROJECT GUIDELINES

Exhibit Guidelines:

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Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. The poster must be mounted on

a firm backing to add stiffness to the exhibit, for example: a foam core board. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using no more than 36" of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.

Refer to Suggested 4-H Garden Exhibits, 4-H 970w, to learn about size, weight, and other suggested specifications.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Level A (grades 3-4 suggested)

Choose one or more options outlined below. All vegetable and herb exhibits must include common name and variety.

Level B (grades 5-6 suggested)

Choose one or more options outlined below. All vegetable and herb exhibits must include common name and variety.

Level C (grades 7-9 suggested)

Choose one or more options outlined below. All vegetable and herb exhibits must include common name and variety.

Level D (grades 10-12 suggested)

Choose one or more options outlined below. All vegetable and herb exhibits must include common name and variety.

Garden Collection Option

Create a 3-plate, 4-plate, or 5-plate collection display of vegetables you have grown and cared for from the single vegetable list. Display each vegetable on a disposable plate. Inclusion of flowers is optional.

Single Vegetable Option

Display from the list below vegetables you have grown and cared for on a disposable plate.

Vegetable	Plated Display Description
Asparagus	Asparagus, 5 spears
Beans	Cowpea, black-eyed pea, southern pea, etc., 10 pods or 1/2 cup shelled
Beans	Snap, Green or Wax, 10 pods
Beans	Lima - large or small - 10 pods or 1/2 cup shelled
Beans	Navy, Kidney, shell out, etc. - 1/2 cup shelled
Beets	Round, flat, and long types, 3
Broccoli	Broccoli, 1 head
Broccoli raab	Broccoli raab, 3 heads
Brussels sprouts	Brussels sprouts, 5 heads
Cabbage	Chinese type (bok choy or pak choi), 1 head
Cabbage	Chinese type (napa cabbage), 1 head

Cabbage	Round, Flat or Pointed type, 1 head
Carrots	Carrots, 3
Cauliflower	Cauliflower, 1 head
Celery	Celery, 1 bunch
Chard	Chard, 10 bundled leaves
Collards	Collards, 10 bundled leaves
Corn	Sweet-yellow, white or bi-color, 3 ears
Cucumbers	Dill, pickling, 3
Cucumbers	English or hothouse, 1
Cucumbers	Slicing with seeds, 3
Eggplant	Eggplant, 1
Kale	Kale, 10 bundled leaves
Kohlrabi	Kohlrabi, 3
Muskmelon	Muskmelon (cantaloupe), 1
Okra	Okra, 3 pods
Onions	Green, 5 onions in a bunch
Onions	Red, Yellow, or White, 3
Parsnip	Parsnips, tops off, 3
Peas	Peas, edible pod such as snow peas, 10 pods
Peas	Peas, unshelled, 10 pods
Peppers	Bell type, 3
Peppers	Chili type, 3
Peppers	Serrano type, 3
Peppers	Banana/Long/Wax/Hungarian type, 3
Peppers	Pimiento type (red), 3
Peppers	Cayenne type, 3
Peppers	Jalapeno type, 3
Peppers	Cherry type, 3
Peppers	New Mexican, long green, Anaheim type, 3
Peppers	Ancho type, 3
Peppers	Tabasco type, 3
Peppers	Habanero type, 3
Potato	Potatoes, any color, 3
Pumpkin	Pumpkin, (other), 1
Pumpkin	Table, Canning, or Ornamental, 1
Radishes	Radishes, 5
Rhubarb	Rhubarb, 3 stalks bundled
Rutabaga	Rutabaga, 3
Spinach	Spinach, 10 bundled leaves

Squash	Banana, or other large whinter squash type, 1
Squash	Buttercups, Turbans, 1
Squash	Butternut, 1
Squash	Cushaw, 1
Squash	Hubbards - blue, green or golden, 1
Squash	Acorn, 1
Squash	Zucchini or cocozelle, 1
Sweet Potato	Sweet potatoes, 3
Tomatillos	Tomatillos, 3
Turnips	Turnips, 3
Watermelon	Watermelon, 1

Herb Option

Display from the list below a single herb plant you have grown and cared for in an appropriate size pot that has a saucer bottom.

Herb Name and Description
Basil (<i>Ocimum basilicum</i>) "all edible types"
Catnip (<i>Nepeta cataria</i>) "all edible types"
Chamomile (<i>Chamaemelum nobile</i>) "all edible types"
Chives (<i>Allium schoenoprasum</i>) "all edible types"
Coriander or Cilantro (<i>Coriandrum sativum</i>) "all edible types"
Dill (<i>Anethum graveolens</i>)
French tarragon (<i>Artemisia dracunculus</i>)
Lavender (<i>Lavendula</i> sp.) "all edible types"
Mint (<i>Mentha</i> sp.) "all edible types"
Oregano (<i>Origanum vulgare</i>)
Parsley (<i>Petroselinum crispum</i>) "all edible types"
Rosemary (<i>Rosemarinus officinalis</i>)
Sage (<i>Salvia officinalis</i>)
Sweet Marjoram (<i>Origanum majorana</i>)
Thyme (<i>Thymus vulgaris</i>) "all edible types"

Potato Tray Option

Display from the list below approximately 30 potatoes you have grown and cared for in a 12 ½" x18" tray. A tray will be provided when checking-in potato exhibits at state fair.

Potato Description
Red (Norland, Triumph), etc.
Russett (Haig, Norgold, Superior), etc.
White, long type (Kennebec), etc.
White, oval type (Irish Cobbler), etc.
White, round type (Katahdin), etc.
Other (yellow, blue, etc.)

Tomato Plate Option

Display from the list below tomatoes you have grown and cared for on a disposable plate.

Tomato Description
Pink or purple, 3
Red (for canning), 3
Red (for market), 3
Roma or paste type, 3
Intermediate type, 10
Small Cherry or Pear, 10
Yellow or orange, 3

Educational Exhibit Option

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any gardening topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate. Youth can also design and complete an independent study activity.

GENEALOGY

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

EXHIBIT INTRODUCTION

Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used, with parent permission, when creating this exhibit and is to be documented as a reference. A majority of the work to create this exhibit is to be the 4-H member's original work.

Forms for this project are found on the Indiana 4-H Web site www.extension.purdue.edu/4-H click on "projects" and then on Genealogy to reach downloadable forms. This project is organized into divisions and not grades for a youth cannot start in Division 3 without first completing Division 1 and Division 2. This is a project that builds on the previous division information in order to be successful in building your family tree. If you are using a genealogical commercial software program, you may need to type in or hand write in information required by the Indiana 4-H genealogy project. See 4-H forms on the 4-H website linked above.

The exhibit will consist of no more than four (4) notebooks for Division 1-4 and first year Advanced Division. (If a notebook requires additional space, label it as notebook x, continued.) Those notebooks are:

- **Book #1** – Appropriate size notebook or binder, contains introduction sheet, pedigree charts and family group sheets
- **Book #2** – Appropriate size notebook or binder, contains additional information worksheets and diary of work
- **Book #3** – Appropriate size notebook or binder, contains supporting documents, pictures, etc.
- **Book #4** – Appropriate size notebook or binder, contains Advanced Division options only (Begin using this notebook in first year of the advanced division or the fifth year of project enrollment.)
- Another notebook should be maintained and kept in

a secure place at home to keep original personal and legal documents as well as previously exhibited work.

Note – Youth may consolidate information in order to have fewer notebooks. In this case indicate on the cover the notebook numbers included and use dividers to separate information by notebook number as well as contents as indicated below.

Notebooks should be tabbed and in the following order:

- Book #1 - Introductory Page; Pedigree Charts; Family Group Sheets
- Book #2 - Additional Information Worksheets; Diary of Your Work
- Book #3 - Any Other Documents (label with ancestor numbers on tab)
- Book #4 – Advanced Division Options (label each tab separately with the specific option); Diary of Your Work (this will be a second diary describing work done for each advanced division option)

Pedigree Charts, Family Group Sheets, Additional Information Worksheets, and Diary Sheets are to be placed in the notebook back-to-back in sheet protectors to save space, reduce the information being damaged, and reduce the number of sheet protectors required.

So the notebook exhibit can be displayed to the public and to minimize the potential of identity theft, original legal documents are NOT to be included in the exhibit notebook. Instead, a photocopy of any legal document is to be included in the notebook and all identifiable information (like social security numbers) except for names is to be completely marked out. Original legal documents are to be kept in a secure location by the 4-H member and his/her family.

All posters, notebooks, and display boards must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H members exhibit. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc.

Reference notations are to be made in the “source” column of the Family Group Sheet and on each document.

If information on a family member is unknown, an additional information worksheet for each required ancestor is still required. Write “unknown” or “NIA” (no information available) in PENCIL for each sheet of unknown ancestors or list several ancestors on a page and insert page in proper numerical order.

After exhibiting the 1st year of the ADVANCED Division, only the Advanced Division notebook (Book #4) with ALL OPTIONS (no pedigree charts, no family group sheets, no additional information sheets, no documents from Divisions 1-5) needs to be exhibited each year the genealogy project continues.

Suggested Genealogy Supply List:

- Four 3” -ring (D-ring type suggested) notebooks (Book #1, #3, #4 will be exhibited and the fourth 3” D-ring

notebook to maintain documents at home and NOT exhibited.)

- One 2” -ring (D-ring type suggested) notebook (Book #2)
- Computer or legible printing/handwriting (be consistent with method used)
- #2 lead pencil with soft eraser Black ink pen
- Yellow highlighter
- Notebook tabs AND acid free dividers (several tabs will be needed, be consistent with style used, should not appear past edge of notebook)
- Fine point permanent Black marker
- Acid free and non-glare sheet protectors Acid free paper
- Acid free glue stick
- Acid free satin Scotch tape Scissors
- Correction tape
- Lots of creativity to make the exhibit your own while still following the exhibit guidelines.
- Judges evaluating exhibits should recognize individual differences and creativity, therefore using information in this document as a guide rather than a requirement.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Division 1 (1st year in project suggested)

Exhibit notebook that includes the following:

Book #1

- An Introduction page with a recent photograph of yourself.
- Completed three-generation pedigree chart. This includes you, your parents, and your grandparents, ancestors #1 through #7. Put all surnames in capital letters and all dates in military form (12 July 1974). Give each person a number, as described in the “Recording the Information” section of the Indiana 4-H Genealogy Resource Guide 4-H 748. **You must use the pedigree charts listed at the www.extension.purdue.edu/4-H, 4-H 748Pc-W or 4-H 748Pbw-W or the commercial software forms, but not the old “packet” pedigree charts.**
- A Family Group Sheet for your parents and each pair of grandparents. Sources of information MUST be filled in on family group sheets (see section “Recording the Information”).

Book #2 (Ancestors 1-7 information)

- Four (4) “Additional Information Worksheets”: one(1) for you, the 4-H member
- one (1) for your parents
- one (1) for each set of grandparents (total = two worksheets)
- A diary of your work

Book #3 (Ancestors 1-7 information)

- Any documents or pictures pertaining to these three generations. Documents must be labeled with ancestor name and ancestor number. Pictures need to be labeled

with ancestor name, plus names of all known people, place and date picture was taken, as well as ancestor numbers.

Division 2 (2nd year in project suggested)

Exhibit notebook that includes the following:

Book #1

- Four-generation pedigree chart. This would include you, your parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents, ancestors #1 through #15. You must use the pedigree charts listed at www.extension.purdue.edu/4-H, 4-H 748Pc-W or 4-H 748Pbw-W or the commercial software forms, but not the old "packet" pedigree charts
- A Family Group Sheet for each pair of great-grandparents. Sources of information filled in on family group sheets (see section "Recording the Information" in the Indiana 4-H Genealogy Resource Guide 4-H 748).

Book #2 (Ancestors 8-15 information)

- An additional information worksheet for each set of great grandparents.
- A diary of your work

Book #3 (Ancestors 8-15 information)

- Any photographs taken of tombstones of your ancestors and their children. Please document location of tombstone(s) and label with ancestor name, ancestor number, and date photo was taken. Rubbings are acceptable in lieu of photographs.
- Any other documents or pictures pertaining to these generations, correctly labeled.
- Exhibit Book #1, Book #2, and Book #3. Books 2 and 3 should only include Division 2 ancestors 8-15 and related information.

Division 3 (3rd year in project suggested)

Exhibit notebook that includes the following:

Book #1

- Five-generation pedigree chart, ancestors #1 through #31. Computer programs do not generally print chart numbers, so if you are using a computer program, make sure you have the correct number of ancestors. If an ancestor is UNKNOWN, please indicate as UNKNOWN. You must use the pedigree charts listed at www.extension.purdue.edu/4h, 4-H 748Pc-W or 4-H 748Pbw-W, or the commercial software forms, but not the old "packet" pedigree charts
- Additional Family Group Sheets for generation five (5). Sources of information must be filled in on family group sheets (see section "Recording the Information" in Indiana 4-H Genealogy Resource Guide 4-H 748.).

Book #2 (Ancestors 16-31 information)

- Additional information worksheets
- A diary of your work

Book #3 (Ancestors 16-31 information)

- Write an autobiography, the story of your life. Include pictures, relevant dates, and important events. OR, write an essay about what your hopes and dreams are for the future, or about life goals you hope to attain.
- Any documents or pictures pertaining to these

generations, correctly labeled.

- Exhibit Book #1, Book #2, and Book #3. Books 2 and 3 should only include Division 3 ancestors 16- 31 and related information.

Division 4 (4th year in project suggested)

Exhibit a notebook(s) that includes the following:

Book #1

- Six-generation pedigree charts, ancestors #1 through #63. Computer programs do not generally print chart numbers, so if you are using a computer program, make sure you have the correct number of ancestors. You must use the pedigree charts listed at www.extension.purdue.edu/4-H, 4-H 748Pc-W or 4-H 748Pbw-W, or the commercial software forms, but not the old "packet" pedigree charts
- Additional Family Group Sheets for generation six (6). Sources of information must be filled in on family group sheets (see section "Recording the Information").

Book #2 (Ancestors 32-63 information)

- Additional information worksheets
- A diary of your work

Book #3 (Ancestors 32-63 information)

- A copy of a photograph or a story of a sixth-generation ancestor. Include information about the date when the photograph was taken, how or where you found it and what's happening in it or why it was taken. If this is unavailable, write a story about the historical period during which your sixth generation ancestor was living.
- Any documents or pictures pertaining to these generations, correctly labeled.
- Exhibit Book #1, Book #2, and Book #3. Books 2 and 3 should only include Division 4 ancestors 32- 63 and related information.

Advanced (5th year and above in project suggested)

Exhibit notebook that includes the following:

Book #1

- Seventh and eighth-generation pedigree charts, ancestors #64 through #255. If ancestry is unknown, please indicate as Unknown. Computer programs do not generally print chart numbers, so if you are using a computer program, make sure you have the correct number of ancestors.
- Your family group sheet for generations seven and eight.
- Sources of information filled in on family group sheets (see section "Recording the Information" in the Indiana 4-H Genealogy Resource Guide, 4-H 748).

Book #2 (Ancestors 64-255 information)

- Additional Information worksheets
- Diary of your work

Book #3 (Ancestors 64-255 information)

- Any documents or pictures pertaining to these generations; correctly labeled.

Book #4

- One new advanced level option (see below). Advanced division exhibitors must include ALL options submitted in prior years, with each option labeled with the year completed.

Pedigree charts are available on the Indiana 4-H Web site for your additional genealogy research. EACH YEAR

FOLLOWING, continue to add ancestors to your pedigree charts. In addition, choose one of the following options that has not been completed previously. Please identify, by letter, the option that you are completing (for example: Advanced Division, Year 1, Option A; Advanced Division, Year 2, Option C; etc.)

Advanced Division Year 2 and beyond – Exhibit Book #4 that contains advanced division options and a second diary of work. If additional ancestry information was found in the seventh and eighth generation, exhibit Book 1 noting ancestors completed this year along with Books 2 and 3 demonstrating this year's work.

EXPLAIN the information received as to how it relates to you and your ancestors. Copies of documents obtained in previous divisions are acceptable and should be utilized in the option chosen if needed.

A. A migration map of your eight-generation ancestors. You should have at least one map per family line with charts or explanations of the migrations.

B. A timeline historical report of a family line. Show how this family fits into history. Document your report as well as possible with dates, records, places or maps, pictures, etc. Be sure to include proper labels and sources.

C. A census history of a family line. Census abstract forms can be found on several websites. Download forms to abstract the census. Your notebook should contain copies of the census and the completed abstract form for each census.

D. A history of your family's religious background for any family line or lines. Include a brief history of the denomination. Include baptism, confirmation or profession of faith and membership records. Also include information or history of the congregations involved. Be sure to include proper labels and sources.

E. A history of your family's military service for a family line. Include supporting documents when possible. These documents could include military records, (muster rolls, discharge papers, etc.), pension records, and bounty land records, as well as maps and pictures. Be sure to include proper labels and sources.

F. A research paper on a famous ancestor. Prove your relationship to this person with documentation. Try to include pictures and anecdotes to enhance your paper.

G. Complete a family line or lines back as many generations as possible beyond eight generations (ancestors 256 and beyond). Include pictures, maps and documents. Be sure to include proper labels and sources.

H. A timeline historical report of another family line not previously completed. Document as well as possible as in Option B. You need to state at the beginning that this is a second family historical report on such ancestor.

I. A history of your family's military service for a family line not previously completed. Include supporting documents as in Option E. You need to state at the beginning that this is a second family military history report on such ancestor.

J. Family DNA history. (This can be a very expensive option) Please include charts and explanations.

i.e. use pie charts, ethnicity estimates, approximate percentage regionally, number of countries searched, genetic percentage, family tree, graphs, etc.

K. Any other genealogy related activity of choice.

GEOLOGY

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

(Updated for 2026)

Beginner: Grades 3-5
Intermediate: Grades 6-8
Advanced: Grades 9-12

This project introduces youth to the fascinating hobby of "rock hunting." Geology involves studying the earth's crust, its layers, and their history. Youth learn to identify Indiana rocks, minerals, and fossils.

EXHIBIT INTRODUCTION

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Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. The poster must be mounted on a firm backing to add stiffness to the exhibit, for example: a foam core board. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using no more than 36" of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.

Specimens may also be displayed in a collection box no larger than 24"x 18"x 3", displayed horizontally.

You may purchase your specimens and may display rocks, fossils, and minerals. If you purchase a specimen, indicate when and where you purchased it and the location where you would expect to find the specimen. If you collect a specimen, indicate the county and township where you found it.

Posters and display boxes will be exhibited "standing up" at the Indiana State Fair. Therefore, you need to mount your specimens securely. Subject matter experts suggest the following methods: soaking ½ cotton ball in Elmer's glue, hot glue, or clear tub sealant. Place the cotton ball in your box and put your rock (or fossil or mineral) on the cotton ball and let sit. It will take 1-2 weeks for Elmer's glue to fully harden. Specimens mounted with Elmer's glue can be removed by soaking the cotton ball in water. Glue remaining on the rock

may be brushed off with an old, damp toothbrush.

When exhibiting rocks show a fresh surface (recently cracked or broken surface) to help judges identify the rock. Labels - Include the specific geographical location where you would expect to find any specimens as well as where you actually acquired it (found, purchased, etc.).

Do not identify your specimens any further than phylum and class. There is one exception to this for fossils which are identified to phylum OR class. Class should only be used for fossils of mollusks, backboned animals, and arthropods. Judges evaluating exhibits should recognize individual differences and creativity, therefore using information in this document as a guide rather than a requirement.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Beginner (grades 3-5 suggested)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any geology topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.

Intermediate (grades 6-8 suggested)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any geology topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate, or collection of 8-16 minerals and/or fossils.

Advanced (grades 9-12 suggested)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any geology topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate, or collection of 15-25 minerals and/or fossils and/or jewel stones. Youth can also design and complete an independent study activity.

GIFT WRAPPING

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)

JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

(Grand Champion is State Fair Exhibit)

Level A: Grades 3-4

Level B: Grades 5-6

Level C: Grades 7-9

Level D: Grades 10-12

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

1. Package for exhibit should NOT contain a gift except Level D, Category B, (non-boxed gift).
2. One exhibit per person.
3. An exhibit card and gift wrapping information card must be attached to the package. If project is selected as Grand Champion, a 4-H Craft Information Card will be given to you to fill out, prior to the project going to State Fair.
4. Exhibits not to exceed 18" in length and width except Level D, Category B (non-boxed gift).
5. Use self-made bows - exhibits using purchased bows do not meet requirements.
6. Exhibit package must have been wrapped by 4-H'er since the end of the previous year.
7. Level A and Level B members must choose a different

theme for each year in their division. Level C and Level D members must choose a different category and theme each year in their division.

Themes

1. Recycling
2. Birthday
3. Baby Gift
4. Wedding/Bridal
5. Holiday
6. Miscellaneous—i.e. Prom, Anniversary, Moving, Vacations, Retirement, Father's/Mother's Day, Cartoon/Fictitious Characters, Graduation

Level A: Grades 3-4

1. Wrap at least four (4) rectangular or square packages of various shapes and sizes.
2. Make at least 3 self-made bows.
3. Exhibit one square or rectangular package using a theme from one listed above.
4. Use self-made bows and wrapping paper only.
5. Exhibit a 3-ring binder containing photos of other gifts wrapped.
6. Choose a different theme for each year in this division.

Level B: Grades 5-6

1. Wrap at least six (6) packages, three of which must be cylindrical.
2. Begin experimenting with bows using different ribbons, materials other than ribbon and other decorative items.
3. Exhibit one cylinder shaped package choosing a theme from one listed above. Use self-made bow and wrapping paper only.
4. Exhibit a 3-ring binder of previous years' photos plus current year's photos of other gifts wrapped.
5. Choose a different theme for each year in this division.

Level C: Grades 7-9

1. Wrap at least six (6) packages - 3 of which must be bottom and lid wrapped separately.
2. Continue experimenting with bows - use self-made bows only.
3. Practice properly folding inner lining.
4. Exhibit a 3-ring binder of previous years' photos, plus current year's photos of other gifts wrapped and one of the following categories:
 - A. Box & Lid wrapped separately
 - B. Wrapping other than paper
 - C. Gift Bag or Envelope Bag
5. Choose a different category and theme for each year in the division.

Level D: Grades 10-12

1. Wrap at least six (6) packages of which 3 must fit into the category you have selected to exhibit.
2. Exhibit a 3-ring binder of previous years' photos, plus

current year's photos of other gifts wrapped and one of the following categories:

- A. Self-made paper
- B. Non-boxed gift
- C. Wrapping other than paper
- D. Gift bag or envelope bag
- E. Tiered package - 2 or 3 wrapped packages

wrapped as one complete package using any shape package. Use self-made bows or decorations and commercial wrapping paper.

3. Choose a different category and theme for each year in the division.

HEALTH

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

(Updated for 2026)

Beginner: Grades 3-5
Intermediate: Grades 6-8
Advanced: Grades 9-12

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

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Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. The poster must be mounted on a firm backing to add stiffness to the exhibit, for example: a foam core board. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using no more than 36" of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Beginner (grades 3-5 suggested)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any health topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate. Another option is to create a family first aid kit, emergency kit, an emergency kit to take on a hiking, biking, skiing or similar trip, or another similar kit.

Intermediate (grades 6-8 suggested)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about

any manual activity or on any health topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate. Another option is to create a personal nutrition kit to use when doing physical activity like chores, working out at the gym, hiking, biking, skiing, or another similar kit.

Advanced (grades 9-12 suggested)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any health topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate. Another option is to create an activity or guide to help yourself or others become more aware of financial wellness, mental health, disease prevention, or other similar topic that promotes healthy habits. Youth can also design and complete an independent study activity.

HOME ENVIRONMENT

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

(Updated for 2026)

Beginner: Grades 3-5
Intermediate: Grades 6-8
Advanced: Grades 9-12

PROJECT GUIDELINES

Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used, with parent permission, when creating this exhibit and is to be documented as a reference. A majority of the work to create this exhibit is to be the 4-H member's original work. All posters, notebooks, and display boards must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H member's exhibit. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of a poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or included as part of the display visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed.

Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. The poster must be mounted on a firm backing to add stiffness to the exhibit, for example: a foam core board. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using no more than 36" of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Beginner (grades 3-5 suggested)

Choose one of the following options:

- Furniture Item and Notebook – create a wall hanging, storage organizer, a set of 3-5 accessory items or something similar for the home or similar activity.
- Design Board and Notebook – color a line drawing

from your manual and create three color schemes, color a line drawing from your manual and demonstrate dominant and supportive color, or display a line drawing showing where furniture would be placed in the room or similar activity.

- Portfolio – Collect different color schemes, magazines showing different furniture designs, or magazines/ photographs of formal vs informal balance, dominant and supportive colors, etc. or similar activity

Intermediate (grades 6-8 suggested)

Choose one of the following options:

- Furniture Item and Notebook – refinish or repurpose a piece or set of furniture, storage unit, or display a collection of 3-5 similar home accessory items, or similar activity.
- Design Board and Notebook – create a line drawing for a room in your home showing furniture layout, accessory items and fixtures or similar activity.
- Portfolio – display a sample of three different types of wall treatment with explanation of each, three different floor treatments with explanation of each, an energy plan for your home, or similar activity.

Advanced (grades 9-12 suggested)

Choose one of the following options:

- Furniture Item and Notebook – refinish or repurpose a piece or set of furniture, storage unit, or display a collection of 3-5 similar home accessory items, or similar activity.
- Design Board and Notebook – display a floor plan for any room of your house or the whole house or apartment, or similar activity.
- Portfolio –display a sample of three different lighting or window treatments with an explanation of each, interview an interior designer and prepare a report, a home energy saving proposal plan, or similar activity.

Exhibit Categories:

Furniture Item and Notebook

An actual piece of furniture accompanied by a standard notebook (3-ring binder) explaining the who, what, when, where, why, and how of the chosen project. We suggest including pictures showing where the item will be used. Also, we encourage 4-H members to include pictures of themselves doing the project, but this is not required. Always place your identification information in the notebook and on the furniture.

Design Board and Notebook

Standard 22" x 28" poster, displayed horizontally with a firm backing. Design boards must be covered with plastic to protect and help hold items in place. An identification name tag must be attached in the lower right corner. The notebook is to help explain the who, what, when, where, why, and how of the chosen design. This can be a "before and after project" or "plan in the future" project.

Portfolio

Standard notebook (3-ring binder). If 4-H members choose to do this option more than one year, we suggest that they keep the previous year's materials in the notebook. Place materials for the current year in the front, with the previous year's materials clearly marked or labeled at the back. Always place your identification information in the notebook.

JUNIOR LEADERS

MANUALS DUE AT OCTOBER MEETING

PROJECT GUIDELINES

1. Any 4-H'er who currently enrolled in Grade 6 or higher and is currently active in 4-H is eligible to participate. Junior Leaders is a club and a project.
2. 4-H'ers eligible to be a Jr. Leader will be notified of Kick-off meeting. Members need to sign-up for Jr. Leaders project in 4HOnline.
3. Project Objectives:
 - Provides an opportunity for personal growth and leadership development.
 - Encourages 4-H'ers to assist their local club leaders in 4-H programming at local club level and/or within the Jr. Leader's project.
 - Develop a better county-wide 4-H program through the support and fellowship of the Jr. Leader project.
4. County Jr. Leader meetings and activities will include opportunities to meet other county 4-H members, learn leadership skills, learn about the community and careers, participate in community service activities, assist with county 4-H events, and to have fun.
5. To prepare Jr. Leaders to become involved in 4-H as an adult, each member will have the opportunity to be involved with Summer Judging and Fall Fair on a different level. Besides exhibiting their projects, members may help with set-up, weigh-in/check-in, preparing for livestock shows (trophies and awards), announce shows, and help on an as-needed basis.
6. Jr. Leaders will be required to complete a record sheet listing the activities they participated in at both the local club and county levels to complete this project. Jr. Leader Manuals are due at the October meeting each year.

MODERN MEALS

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

(No State Fair Entry)

Level A: Grades 3-4

Level B: Grades 5-6

Level C: Grades 7-9

Level D: Grades 10-12

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

1. Read manual and **complete a minimum of three (3) activities** each from a different "Bite" category each year they are in the project. Within the two years of this division, members should have completed at least one activity in each "Bite" category. Bring completed General Record Sheet to Summer Judging with your exhibit.
2. Exhibits are to be displayed on paper or foam plates, foil covered cardboard, or appropriate display for snack, or as listed.
3. Include 4"x6" recipe card covered in plastic or plastic bag.
4. Baked items must be non-perishable. Filling, frosting, glazing, pie filling, and meringue, (whether cooked or uncooked) **are not permitted** to contain cream cheese, whipped cream, unpasteurized milk or uncooked eggs/egg whites (pasteurized eggs or eggs cooked to 160°F may be used).

Level A: Grades 3-4 - Bag of Tricks & Treats

Grade 3 Exhibit - Microwave Snack Mix

Grade 4 Exhibit - 6 pieces of Microwave Fudge

Activities focus on discovering how the microwave works, learning to use the microwave safely and preparing foods such as scrambled eggs, apples, popcorn treats, fudge, breakfast bits, chili dip and desserts.

Level B: Grades 5-6 - Micro Magicians

Grade 5 Exhibit - 6 Microwave Bar Cookies or Brownies

Grade 6 Exhibit - Microwave Upside Down Cake, displayed out of pan

Activities focus on understanding watts and preparing foods such as potatoes, vegetables, pudding, bar cookies, beans, upside down cake, brownies, cheesy macaroni, sloppy joes, and chicken nuggets.

Level C: Grades 7-9 - Amazing Rays

Grade 7 Exhibit - Microwave Fruit Crisp, displayed in baking dish.

Grade 8 Exhibit - Microwave Coffee Cake, displayed out of pan

Grade 9 Exhibit - 6 pieces of Microwave Candy, excluding fudge

Activities are more advanced and include microwave techniques like shielding, defrosting and browning. Will prepare foods such as casseroles, lasagna, chicken, pork chops, fruit crisp, coffee cake and candy.

Level D: Grades 10-12 - Presto Meals

Grade 10 Exhibit - Microwave Double-Layer or Bundt Cake, displayed out of pan

Grade 11 Exhibit - Microwave Fruit Pie, displayed in pan

Grade 12 Exhibit - Microwave Jam or Jelly, displayed in container

Activities focus on techniques such as adapting recipes for the microwave, blanching fruits and vegetables, and stacking whole meals. Will prepare jellies, double-layer and Bundt cakes, pies, stew, quiche, and casseroles.

PHOTOGRAPHY

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

(Updated for 2025)

Beginner: Grades 3-5

Intermediate: Grades 6-8

Advanced: Grades 9-12

1. Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used, with parent permission, when creating this exhibit and is to be documented as a reference. A majority of the work to create this exhibit is to be the 4-H member's original work.
2. Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. The poster must be mounted on a firm backing to add stiffness to the exhibit, for example: a foam core board. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using no more than 36" of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.
3. All images are to be original images taken by the 4-H member during the current program year. Captions are not recommended.
4. Print board exhibits are to include 10 photos mounted on a poster as described above, each no larger than 5"x7". Number each print 1-10. Prints may be a mix of digital and/or standard development. Create a title of choice for the print board exhibit. Space should be left in the lower right hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.
5. Salon prints are to be no larger than 11"x14", mounted on a standard 16"x20" salon mount, and displayed vertically. Salon prints are to be placed in a clear plastic sleeve and captions are not recommended. Space should be left in the lower right hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.
6. Images may be taken with a film camera, digital camera,

cell phone, or other electronic device. Replacing any pixels of the original digital image is to be entered in the creative/experimental category. This includes, but not limited to, using artificial intelligence (AI), any erasing tool, healing tool, patch tool, or any tool that replaces any of the original pixels. Creative/experimental exhibits must include the original photo on the back side of the board, a description of how the image was altered, and equipment/software used to alter the image.

7. Editing photos such as cropping, color adjustment, and other enhancements are considered to be part of the normal photography educational learning process and are permissible. So judges can better evaluate a photography exhibit, the 4-H member is asked to attach to the back of their salon or print board exhibit the make and model of camera used and a description of any editing.
8. A photo that has been modified to change the original intent, meaning or story captured should be entered in the creative or experimental class. Photos exhibited as creative or experimental are to attach to the back of their exhibit the make and model of camera used, software or other tools used to change the photo, a description of how the photo was changed, and copy of the original photo before editing.
9. Sepia tone photographs (mono chromatic) are to be entered as black and white photos.

Judges evaluating exhibits should recognize individual differences and creativity, therefore using information in this document as a guide rather than a requirement.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Beginner (grades 3-5 suggested)

Choose one or more of the following exhibits:

- Black and White Print Board
- Color Print Board
- Black and White Salon Print
- Color Salon Print
- Creative/Experimental Salon Print

Intermediate (grades 6-8 suggested)

Choose one or more of the following exhibits:

- Black and White Print Board
- Color Print Board
- Black and White Salon Print
- Color Salon Print
- Creative/Experimental Salon Print

Advanced (grades 9-12 suggested)

Choose one or more of the following exhibits:

- Black and White Print Board
- Color Print Board
- Black and White Salon Print
- Color Salon Print
- Creative/Experimental Salon Print

RECYCLING

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

(No State Fair Entry)

Level A: Grades 3-4

Level B: Grades 5-6

Level C: Grades 7-9

Level D: Grades 10-12

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

Note: Each year, in all levels, the 4-H'er must complete a different recycled article or poster and additional activities for their notebook. The 4-H'er must turn in a notebook each year with the exhibit. The notebook should include: the completed manual (three hole punch manual and place in notebook); current year and all previous years' work; the activity sheet from the manual (along with additional supporting materials, such as photographs, news articles, etc. for the activity); the Solid Waste checklist each year; and a description of your recycled project or poster topic.

You do not need to do all new activities each year, but may include activities that you completed for Level A or B in previous years to reach the required number for your grade. All activities must be chosen from the manual. You will complete ONE activity each year you are in the project.

One champion ribbon and trophy will be awarded for each level.

Level A (Grades 3-4) Exhibit one of the following:

1. Recycle an item by making it into something else you can use. Turn in a completed 3-ring binder that includes the Solid Waste checklist, a report on the required number of activities completed from the manual (one activity each year in project) and information about the article that you recycled.

OR

2. Prepare a poster (22" x 28") following poster requirements, showing something you learned about Recycling. This may be a topic from the activities you completed or another recycling topic. Turn in a completed 3-ring binder that includes the Solid Waste checklist, a report on the required number of activities completed from the manual (one activity each year in project) and information about your poster topic.

Level B (Grades 5-6) Exhibit one of the following:

1. Recycle an item by making it into something else you can use. Turn in completed 3-ring binder including Solid Waste checklist, a report on the required number of activities completed from the manual (1 activity for each year in the project) and information about the item that you recycled.

OR

2. Prepare a poster (22" x 28") following poster requirements, showing something you learned about Recycling. May be a topic from the activities you completed or another recycling topic. Turn in a completed 3-ring binder including Solid Waste checklist, a report on the required number of activities completed from the manual (1 activity for each year in project) and information about your poster topic.

Level C (Grades 7-9) Exhibit one of the following:

1. Recycle an item by making it into something else you can use. Turn in a completed 3-ring binder that includes the Solid Waste checklist, a report on the required number of activities completed from the manual (one activity each year in project), and information about the article that you recycled.

OR

2. Prepare a poster (22" x 28") following poster requirements, showing something you learned about recycling. This may be a topic from the activities you completed or another recycling topic. Turn in a completed 3-ring binder that includes the Solid Waste checklist, a report on the required number of activities completed from the manual (one activity each year in project), and information about your poster topic.

Level D (Grades 10-12) Exhibit one of the following:

1. Recycle an item by making it into something else you can use. Turn in a completed 3-ring binder that includes the Solid Waste checklist, a report on the required number of activities completed from the manual (one activity per year), and information about the article that you recycled.

OR

2. Prepare a poster (22" x 28") following poster requirements, showing something you learned about recycling. This may be a topic from the activities you completed or another recycling topic. Turn in a completed 3-ring binder that includes the Solid Waste checklist, a report on the required number of activities completed from the manual (one activity per year), and information about your poster topic.

SCRAPBOOKING

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)

JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

(Grand Champion is State Fair Entry)

Beginner: Grades 3-5

Intermediate: Grades 6-8

Advanced: Grades 9-12

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

1. Carefully read the project manual.
2. Complete required number of pages for each level: Level 1: 4 pages; Level 2: 6 pages; Level 3: 10 pages. Arrange scrapbook with the CURRENT YEAR on top for judging purposes.
3. Exhibits will be shown by Grade as follows:
 - Level 1: Grades 3-5 (2 pages of 4 to be judged)

- Level 2: Grades 6-8 (4 pages of 6 to be judged)
 - Level 3: Grades 9-12 (6 pages of 10 to be judged)
4. Journaling must be in own handwriting on at least half of the required pages.
 5. Each scrapbook album will have an exhibit label (attached to front or with string). This label will list page numbers to be judged. If not indicated, judge will start at page 1 and continue through the page number required for the division.
 6. If project is selected as Grand Champion, a 4-H Craft Information Card will be given to you to fill-out, prior to the project going to State Fair.

Beginner: Grades 3-5

1. Required Exhibit: 2 of 4 completed pages to be judged.
2. Suggested Layout: stickers and die-cuts can be used, but are not mandatory. Patterned paper can be used.
3. Suggested Cropping: Straight cutting of photos using regular scissors or paper cutter. Limited use of decorative scissors is suggested.
4. Suggested Journaling: Bullet labeling supplying only the basic information such as who, what, when and where. Other labeling can be typed on acid-free paper.

Intermediate: Grades 6-8

1. Required Exhibit: 4 of 6 completed pages to be judged.
2. Suggested Layout: More creative layout. Creative borders and lettering can be used. Patterned papers may be used.
3. Suggested Cropping: Use of circle, oval and other shape templates are suggested.
4. Suggested Journaling: Captions should be in form of sentences. Other labeling can be typed on acid-free paper. Be sure to include the who, what, when and where.

Advanced: Grades 9-12

1. Required Exhibit: 6 of 10 completed pages to be judged.
2. Suggested Layout: May include a pop-up page, pocket page or kaleidoscope-type layout, but not every page has to be these types. Use techniques you may have learned in previous divisions. Include a variety of layouts.
3. Suggested Cropping: Silhouette cropping can be used in addition to techniques you may have learned in previous divisions.
4. Suggested Journaling: Use bullets and captions, plus storytelling - writing your thoughts and feelings, and telling a complete story or memory on each page. Not every photo has a complete story; choose ones deserving of this when thinking of page designs. It is okay to put several photos on the page and use one of them to tell a story. Label or caption the others on the page. Other labeling can be typed on acid-free paper. Be sure to include the who, what, when and where.

SELF-DETERMINED

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)

JUNE 1 - Project Plan due to Extension Office

JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

(No State Fair Entry)

Beginner: Grades 3-5

Intermediate: Grades 6-8

Advanced: Grades 9-12

Sometimes the 4-H projects offered in DeKalb County do not match the current interests of the 4-H member. A self-determined project allows youth to explore almost any topic as his/her very own unique project. The 4-H'er decides what, when, where, why, and how to carry out a project of his/her own choice.

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

- To participate in this project, 4-H member must have completed two (2) years of 4-H before taking this project.
- 4-H member must "determine" their project and complete Page 15 of the manual and turn it into the Extension Office by June 1 for approval.

1. Completed manual and one of the following exhibit options:

- **Poster** - 22"x28" poster (See "Poster Guidelines" in this Handbook.
- **3-Ring Binder Notebook** - Exhibit a 3-ring binder notebook with exhibit label on front cover. Title page inside, naming activity, pages of activity and explanation to follow title page, photographs are helpful to show activity being used or assembled. Optional: Plastic sheet protectors, page decorations, binder cover decoration, etc.
- **Display Board** - May be table top or floor style, not to exceed 36"x36"x36", display may include item(s) made in the activities you completed this year, must be self-supporting to be viewed by the public.

SEWING

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)

JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

Level A: Grades 3-4

Level B: Grades 5-6

Level C: Grades 7-9

Level D: Grades 10-12

Wearable

Exhibit Guidelines:

1. Older youth enrolled in the 4-H sewing project for the first time may not feel comfortable demonstrating their assigned grade level skills. In this instance the county 4-H

youth development educator may, at the request of the 4-H member and parent, assign the member to a lower level grade level to develop fundamental skills.

2. Provide a completed sewing skills card (Project Exhibit Card) with the exhibit. Skills sheets are for judging purposes only and will not be returned to the exhibitor.

Junior Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Grade 3

Create one clothing article to be worn by the 4-H member or another person demonstrating at least 2 skills from Sewing Skills and Techniques, 4-H-925-SC-W.

Grade 4

Create one clothing article to be worn by the 4-H member or another person demonstrating at least 2 skills from Sewing Skills and Techniques, 4-H-925-SC-W, in addition to those learned in the prior grade.

Grade 5

Create one clothing article or a simple two piece outfit to be worn by the 4-H member or another person demonstrating at least 3 skills from Sewing Skills and Techniques, 4-H-925-SC-W, in addition to those learned in prior grades.

Grade 6

Create two garments that can be worn together to be worn by the 4-H member or another person demonstrating at least 4 skills from Sewing Skills and Techniques, 4-H-925-SC-W, in addition to those learned in prior grades.

Grade 7

Create an outfit that can be worn by the 4-H member or another person demonstrating at least 5 skills from Sewing Skills and Techniques, 4-H-925-SC-W, in addition to those learned in prior grades.

Senior Exhibit Category Class Guidelines (grades 8-12 suggested):

1. Youth may enter an exhibit in one or more categories. Create an outfit from one of the categories defined below that can be worn by the exhibitor or another person demonstrating at least 6 skills from Sewing Skills and Techniques, 4-H-925-SC-W, in addition to those learned in prior grades.

2. All senior sewing outfits exhibited in Fashion Revue must be made and worn by the exhibitor.

3. DEFINITION OF AN OUTFIT: An outfit is a garment or garments that when put together make a complete look - such as one or two piece dress, or one or two piece pant suit, or a three piece combination, such as pants, vest, and blouse or shirt.

Informal or Casual Wear:

A complete outfit of 1 or 2 pieces suitable for school, weekend, or casual, informal activities. In this category, a complete outfit is defined as a garment or garments that when put together make a complete look - such as one or two piece dress, or one or two piece pant suit, or a combination, such as pants, vest, blouse or shirt.

Dress Up:

This is suitable for special, church, or social occasions that are not considered to be formal. It may be an outfit of one or more pieces with or without its own costume coat or jacket (lined or unlined). This is not an outfit that would be worn to school, weekend, or casual, informal activities.

Free Choice:

A complete outfit comprised of garments that do not fit in the other classifications. A complete outfit is defined as a garment or garments that when put together make a complete look - such as one or two piece dress, or one or two piece pant suit, or a three piece combination, such as pants, vest, and blouse or shirt. Individual garment examples include: tennis wear, swim wear, athletic or sportswear, lounge wear, riding habits, historic, dance, theatrical, or international costumes, capes, and unlined coats.

Suit or Coat:

The suit consists of two pieces including a skirt or pants and its own lined jacket. It is not a dress with jacket as in "dress up wear". The coat is a separate lined coat. It will be judged separately as a coat with its own accessories.

Separates:

Consists of three garments that must be worn as a coordinated complete outfit. In this category, a complete outfit is defined as a garment or garments that when put together make a complete look - a three piece combination, such as pants, vest, and blouse or shirt. Each piece should be versatile enough to be worn with other garments.

Formal Wear:

This outfit may be one or more pieces suitable for any formal occasion, such as proms, weddings, and formal evening functions.

Non-Wearable**Exhibit Guidelines:**

1. Older youth enrolled in the 4-H sewing project for the first time may not feel comfortable demonstrating their assigned grade level skills. In this instance the county 4-H youth development educator may, at the request of the 4-H member and parent, assign the member to a lower level grade level to develop fundamental skills.
2. Provide a completed sewing skills card (Project Exhibit Card) with the exhibit. Skills sheets are for judging purposes only and will not be returned to the exhibitor.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:**Grade 3**

Create one non-wearable sewn item demonstrating at least 2 skills from Sewing Skills and Techniques, 4-H-925-SC-W.

Grade 4

Create one non-wearable sewn item, or set of items, demonstrating at least 2 skills from Sewing Skills and Techniques, 4-H-925-SC-W, in addition to those learned in the prior grade.

Grade 5

Create one non-wearable sewn item, or set of items, demonstrating at least 3 skills from Sewing Skills and Techniques, 4-H-925-SC-W, in addition to those learned in prior grades.

Grade 6

Create one non-wearable sewn item, or set of items, demonstrating at least 4 skills from Sewing Skills and Techniques, 4-H-925-SC-W, in addition to those learned in prior grades.

Grade 7

Create one non-wearable sewn item, or set of items, demonstrating at least 5 skills from Sewing Skills and Techniques, 4-H-925-SC-W, in addition to those learned in prior grades.

Grades 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12:

Create one non-wearable sewn item, or set of items, demonstrating at least 6 skills from Sewing Skills and Techniques, 4-H-925-SC-W, in addition to those learned in prior grades.

Fashion Revue**Exhibit Guidelines:**

All garments and outfits modeled in Fashion Revue, except consumer clothing entries, must have been constructed by the 4-H member modeling that same garment or outfit. Youth qualifying to exhibit the same garment or outfit in Indiana State Fair Sewing and Fashion Revue must choose which project they wish to participate as one cannot exhibit the same garment or outfit in both projects at state fair.

DEFINITION OF AN OUTFIT: An outfit is a garment or garments that when put together make a complete look - such as one or two piece dress, or one or two piece pant suit, or a three piece combination, such as pants, vest, and blouse or shirt.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:**Junior (grades 3-7 suggested)**

Model the garment or outfit constructed for the sewing project. Accessories may be purchased or selected from what you currently have. There is no junior class at state fair.

Senior Categories (grades 8-12 suggested)

Informal or Casual Wear: A complete outfit of 1 or 2 pieces suitable for school, weekend, or casual, informal activities. In this category, a complete outfit is defined as a garment or garments that when put together make a complete look - such as one or two piece dress, or one or two piece pant suit, or a combination, such as pants, vest, blouse or shirt.

Dress Up: This is suitable for special, church, or social occasions that are not considered to be formal. It may be an outfit of one or more pieces with or without its own costume coat or jacket (lined or unlined). This is not an outfit that

would be worn to school, weekend, or casual, informal activities.

Free Choice: A complete outfit comprised of garments that do not fit in the other classifications. A complete outfit is defined as a garment or garments that when put together make a complete look - such as one or two piece dress, or one or two piece pant suit, or a three piece combination, such as pants, vest, and blouse or shirt. Individual garment examples include: tennis wear, swim wear, athletic or sportswear, lounge wear, riding habits, historic, dance, theatrical, or international costumes, capes, and unlined coats.

Suit or Coat: The suit consists of two pieces including a skirt or pants and its own lined jacket. It is not a dress with jacket as in "dress up wear". The coat is a separate lined coat. It will be judged separately as a coat with its own accessories.

Separates: Consists of three garments that must be worn as a coordinated complete outfit. In this category, a complete outfit is defined as a garment or garments that when put together make a complete look - a three piece combination, such as pants, vest, and blouse or shirt. Each piece should be versatile enough to be worn with other garments.

Formal Wear: This outfit may be one or more pieces suitable for any formal occasion, such as proms, weddings, and formal evening functions.

SHOOTING SPORTS

HOT SHOTS CLUB & PROJECT

Tim Schlabach, Shooting Sports Coordinator

Phone: 260-570-5738

Patrick Jessup, Shooting Sports Coordinator

Phone: 260-438-4289

Email: dekalb.shootingsports@gmail.com

- The 4-H Shooting Sports teaches safe operation of firearms and archery equipment.
- Five projects/disciplines are offered at the county level: Air Rifle, Archery, Air Pistol, .22 Rifle, and Shooting Sports Project.
- Youth may enroll in one or more project(s)/discipline(s) depending on interest, age, and/or experience. Shooting Sports is offered as a county 4-H club.
- A program fee of \$25 (separate from 4-H enrollment) is due on the first night of each course. These fees go directly to the Club/Disciplines, and are used to purchase ammunition and course materials provided to the participants. Households with more than 1 member per course may receive a discount of \$5 for each successive member (i.e., \$25 for 1st member, \$20 for 2nd, \$15 for 3rd, etc.).

Club

- Club meetings throughout the year (scheduled separately from discipline courses).
- Held at Exhibit Hall, Fairgrounds (regular meetings) with alternate events based on interest.
- Guidance and opportunity for project preparation for entry and demonstration at county and state level fair(s).
- Additional topic/discipline learning, including Outdoor Skills and other topics based upon interest.

Air Rifle (Beginner and Advanced)

- Both are an 8-week course, one session per week, in separate 8-week segments (16 weeks total).
- Held at Exhibit Hall, Fairgrounds.
- Equipment, materials, and insurance provided.
- After completion of the Beginner course, members may participate in the Advanced course with additional shooting positions, skill instruction, and awards
- The Advanced course has space limitations, with preference given to those that completed the Beginner course in prior years and/or those with a demonstrated history of regular attendance.
- Members that complete an equivalent Beginner course in another county/state may be considered for enrollment directly in the Advanced course on a case-by-case evaluation based upon demonstrated competency in safety and beginner marksmanship skills.

Archery

- 8-week course, one session per week.
- Held at Exhibit Hall, Fairgrounds.
- Equipment, materials, and insurance provided.
- After completion of first course, second-year and beyond members (depending on skill) may bring their own equipment upon instructor approval.

Air Pistol (Beginner and Advanced)

- 8-week course, one session per week; Beginner and Advanced participate simultaneously in a single 8-week segment.
- Held at Exhibit Hall, Fairgrounds.
- Equipment, materials, and insurance provided.
- After completion of the Beginner course, members may participate in the Advanced course with additional shooting positions, skill instruction, and awards.
- Members that complete an equivalent Beginner course in another county/state may be considered for enrollment directly in the Advanced course on a case-by-case evaluation based upon demonstrated competency in safety and beginner marksmanship skills.

.22 Rifle

- Must complete both Beginner and Advanced Air Rifle.
- 6-week course, one session per week.
- Held at Auburn Conservation Club.
- Equipment, materials, and insurance provided.
- Members may bring their own equipment upon instructor approval.

Muzzleloader

- Not currently offered. Future availability dependent on Volunteer and Certified Instructor participation.

Shotgun

- Not currently offered. Future availability dependent on Volunteer and Certified Instructor participation.

SHOOTING SPORTS COMMITTEE

Chair: Tim Schlabach, Patrick Jessup

Treasurer:

4-H Council Rep: Patrick Jessup

Program Representatives:

Air Rifle: Patrick Jessup, Clay Provines

Air Pistol: Joyce Williams, Clay Provines

Archery: Tim Schlabach

.22 Rifle: Patrick Jessup

Muzzleloader:

Shotgun:

Certified Instructors: Matt Blomeke, Laura Freeze, Phil Jennings, Patrick Jessup, Kim Johnson, Teresa Johnson, Jeremy Odell, Tim Schlabach, Clay Provines, Joyce Williams

SHOOTING SPORTS PROJECT

(Updated for 2026)

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)

JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

Beginner: Grades 3-5

Intermediate: Grades 6-8

Advanced: Grades 9-12

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

1. Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used, with parent permission, when creating this exhibit and is to be documented as a reference. A majority of the work to create this exhibit is to be the 4-H member's original work. All posters, notebooks, and display boards must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of a poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or included as part of the display visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed.
2. Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. The poster must be mounted on a firm backing to add stiffness to the exhibit, for example: a foam core board. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using no more than 36" of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.
3. Live ammunition may not be exhibited (no powder

or primer). Firearms or ready to shoot bows may not be exhibited. Unstrung bows are permitted.

4. An arrow with its arrowhead attached must be displayed in a secure case. An arrowhead without the arrow attached must be displayed in a secure case. An arrow may be displayed unsecured if its arrowhead is removed. Modern broadhead arrows may not be exhibited.

5. Displays involving firearms or bows may be exhibited as a photographic display on a poster or in a notebook following grade level guidelines. Handmade items must include information explaining how the item was made and its intended use. Photos are encouraged.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Beginner (grades 3-5 suggested)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about a shooting sports topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.

Intermediate (grades 6-8 suggested)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about a shooting sports topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate. Another option is to create an item to be used when developing shooting sports skills.

Advanced (grades 9-12 suggested)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about a shooting sports topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate. Another option is to create an item to be used when developing shooting sports skills. Youth can also design and complete an independent study activity.

SPORTFISHING

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)

JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

(Updated for 2026)

Beginner: Grades 3-5

Intermediate: Grades 6-8

Advanced: Grades 9-12

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used, with parent permission, when creating this exhibit and is to be documented as a reference. A majority of the work to create this exhibit is to be the 4-H member's original work. All posters, notebooks, and display boards must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H member's exhibit. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of a poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or included as part of the display visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed.

Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. The poster must be mounted on a firm backing to add stiffness to the exhibit, for example: a foam core board. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using no more than 36" of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Beginner (grades 3-5 suggested)

- Create an educational poster, notebook or display about a sportfishing topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.

Intermediate (grades 6-8 suggested)

- Create an educational poster, notebook or display about a sportfishing topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate. Another option is to create an item to be used when developing sportfishing skills.

Advanced (grades 9-12 suggested)

- Create an educational poster, notebook or display about a sportfishing topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate. Another option is to create an item to be used when developing sportfishing skills. Youth can also design and complete an independent study activity.

TRACTOR POSTER

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

(Updated for 2026)

Level A: Grades 3-4
Level B: Grades 5-6
Level C: Grades 7-9
Level D: Grades 10-12

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

1. Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used, with parent permission, when creating this exhibit and is to be documented as a reference. A majority of the work to create this exhibit is to be the 4-H member's original work. All posters, notebooks, and display boards must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H member's exhibit. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of a poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or included as part of the display visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed.

2. Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. The poster must be mounted on a firm backing to add stiffness to the exhibit, for example: a foam core board. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using no more than 36" of tabletop space. Space

should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.

3. Youth may exhibit in the operator skills option, educational exhibit option or both. Youth choosing to exhibit in the lawn and garden tractor, tractor, or zero-turn mower operator skills driving option must select one, but may be enrolled in all three projects.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Level A (grades 3-4 suggested)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any tractor safety, maintenance, operating system or operation topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.

Level B (grades 5-6 suggested)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any tractor safety, maintenance, operating system or operation topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.

Level C (grades 7-9 suggested)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any tractor safety, maintenance, operating system or operation topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.

Level D (grades 10-12 suggested)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any tractor safety, maintenance, operating system or operation topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate. Youth can also design and complete an independent study activity.

VETERINARY SCIENCE

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

(Updated for 2026)

Beginner: Grades 3-5
Intermediate: Grades 6-8
Advanced: Grades 9-12

EXHIBIT REQUIREMENTS

1. Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used, with parent permission, when creating this exhibit and is to be documented as a reference. A majority of the work to create this exhibit is to be the 4-H member's original work. All posters, notebooks, and display boards must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H member's exhibit. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of a poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or included as part of the display

visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed.

2. Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. The poster must be mounted on a firm backing to add stiffness to the exhibit, for example: a foam core board. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using no more than 36" of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Beginner (grades 3-5 suggested)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any veterinary science topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.

Intermediate (grades 6-8 suggested)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any veterinary science topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.

Advanced (grades 9-12 suggested)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any veterinary science topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate. Youth may also choose to develop a teaching aid, develop a project in conjunction with a veterinarian and present a report about that project and its findings, or another report of your choosing.

WEATHER AND CLIMATE SCIENCE

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

(Updated for 2026)

Beginner: Grades 3-5
Intermediate: Grades 6-8
Advanced: Grades 9-12

EXHIBIT REQUIREMENTS

1. Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used, with parent permission, when creating this exhibit and is to be documented as a reference. A majority of the work to create this exhibit is to be the 4-H member's original work. All posters, notebooks, and display boards must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H member's exhibit. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of a poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or included as part of the display visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed.
2. Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. The poster must be mounted on a firm

backing to add stiffness to the exhibit, for example: a foam core board. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using no more than 36" of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Beginner (grades 3-5 suggested)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any weather and climate topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.

Intermediate (grades 6-8 suggested)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any weather and climate topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.

Advanced (grades 9-12 suggested)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any weather and climate topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate. Youth can also design and complete an independent study activity.

WILDLIFE

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

(Updated for 2026)

Beginner: Grade 3-5
Intermediate: Grade 6-8
Advanced: Grade 9-12

EXHIBIT REQUIREMENTS

1. Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used, with parent permission, when creating this exhibit and is to be documented as a reference. A majority of the work to create this exhibit is to be the 4-H member's original work. All posters, notebooks, and display boards must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H member's exhibit. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of a poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or included as part of the display visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed.
2. Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. The poster must be mounted on a firm backing to add stiffness to the exhibit, for example: a foam core board. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using no more than 36" of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Beginner (grades 3-5 suggested)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any wildlife topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.

Intermediate (grades 6-8 suggested)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any wildlife topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.

Advanced (grades 9-12 suggested)

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any wildlife topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate. Youth can also design and complete an independent study activity.

WOODWORKING

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)
JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

(Updated for 2026)

Level 1: Grades 3-4

Level 2: Grades 5-6

Level 3: Grades 7-9

Level 4: Grades 10-12

EXHIBIT REQUIREMENTS

1. Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used, with parent permission, when creating this exhibit and is to be documented as a reference. A majority of the work to create this exhibit is to be the 4-H member's original work. All posters, notebooks, and display boards must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H member's exhibit. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of a poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or included as part of the display visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed.

2. Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. The poster must be mounted on a firm backing to add stiffness to the exhibit, for example: a foam core board. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using no more than 36" of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Level 1 (grades 3-4 suggested)

Exhibit one article of choice made during the current 4-H program year demonstrating a minimum of five (5) techniques outlined in the Indiana 4-H Woodworking

Tools, Techniques and Skills Chart 4-H 6875C-W. Exhibits may also include higher level techniques that have been mastered. Any higher level techniques will not be counted as part of the minimum five, but nevertheless will be evaluated for quality. A woodworking skills sheet is to be submitted with the exhibit for judging. Skills sheets are for judging purposes only and will not be returned to the exhibitor. Youth may also choose to create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any woodworking topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.

Level 2 (grades 5-6 suggested)

Exhibit one article of choice made during the current 4-H program year demonstrating a minimum of five (5) techniques outlined in the Indiana 4-H Woodworking Tools, Techniques and Skills Chart, 4-H 6875C-W. Exhibits may also include lower and/or higher level techniques that have been mastered. Any lower/higher level techniques will not be counted as part of the minimum five, but nevertheless will be evaluated for quality. A woodworking skills sheet is to be submitted with the exhibit for judging. Skills sheets are for judging purposes only and will not be returned to the exhibitor. Youth may also choose to create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any woodworking topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.

Level 3 (grades 7-9 suggested)

Exhibit one article of choice made during the current 4-H program year demonstrating a minimum of five (5) techniques outlined in the Indiana 4-H Woodworking Tools, Techniques and Skills Chart, 4-H 6875C-W. Exhibits may also include lower and/or higher level techniques that have been mastered. Any lower/higher level techniques will not be counted as part of the minimum five, but nevertheless will be evaluated for quality. A woodworking skills sheet is to be submitted with the exhibit for judging. Skills sheets are for judging purposes only and will not be returned to the exhibitor. Youth may also choose to create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any woodworking topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.

Level 4 (grades 10-12 suggested)

Exhibit one article of choice made during the current 4-H program year demonstrating a minimum of five (5) techniques outlined in the Indiana 4-H Woodworking Tools, Techniques and Skills Chart, 4-H 6875C-W. Exhibits may also include lower level techniques that have been mastered. Any lower level techniques will not be counted as part of the minimum five, but nevertheless will be evaluated for quality. A woodworking skills sheet is to be submitted with the exhibit for judging. Skills sheets are for judging purposes only and will not be returned to the exhibitor. Youth may also choose to create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual activity or on any woodworking topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.

LIVESTOCK PROJECTS

GENERAL RISK MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR LIVESTOCK EXHIBITIONS

4-H Exhibitors should apply the following principles to all livestock exhibitions in DeKalb County:

1. The exhibition organizer should:
 - a. Establish a relationship with a veterinarian who will serve as the show veterinarian or that is willing to be on-call for show related veterinary needs.
 - b. Work with show veterinarian to develop a plan for identification of a response to illness in animals or exhibitors. The plan should include a protocol to communicate with exhibitors before, during and after the show.
2. The following should be discouraged:
 - a. Eating, drinking and smoking in animal areas.
 - b. Exhibitors and their families will not be permitted to prepare food in any animal area (livestock barns and show barn).
 - c. Bringing pacifiers, baby bottles, drink cups and other eating or drinking utensils into animal areas.
 - d. Sleeping in the animal areas.
3. Barn hygiene should be monitored and maintained. Special attention should be paid to areas where the public may have access.

Guidelines for Animal Exhibits Animal Destination Cards

Every 4-H member must complete an Animal Destination Card for each animal specie brought to the Fair.

Animal Destination Cards do the following things:

1. Superintendents can account for all animals at Check-out, as to whether they are going home, to a packer or will be sold at auction; and are to be shipped accordingly.
2. Allows Livestock Show secretary to know which animals are going through the auction so that the appropriate lists can be generated for the sale bill.
3. Verifies that you plan to sell or not sell any given market animal.
4. Completed animal destination/information cards will be due with a parent or guardian signature at the scales when your animals are checked in according to the Check-in schedule. All destinations will be posted in the Show Barn for review. Any corrections will be due on Wednesday of the Fair by 4:30 pm. Any auction scratches need to be in the office on Wednesday of the Fair by 4:30 pm.
5. All destination declarations must be made at the scales at check-in. All information on Animal Destination Card is final when turned in at check-in unless a member wins Grand or Reserve Grand champion in another specie that is not marked for auction. In this case, the member can change their auction designation up to one hour after the completion of the show the animal has won in. Changes need to be initialed by a parent or guardian. As a courtesy to members, a list of all destinations will be posted in the Show Barn on Monday. If an error is found the member may request a change up until Wednesday at 4:30 pm. Changes after Wednesday will only be allowed for Grand or Reserve Grand champions as outlined above. No changes will be made on auction day to any destination.
6. The following information will be provided at the scales:
 - Member claims ownership of each nominated animal.
 - Designates if member wishes to move from nominated breed to crossbred/commercial.
 - Animal Weight

2026 LIVESTOCK PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

Youth planning to exhibit livestock at the Summer Shows or the Fall Fair have the option to attend either a hands-on workshop OR complete the livestock worksheet.

Beef, Dairy, Dairy Beef, Goat, Horse & Pony, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep and Swine projects have the following two options to complete their educational requirements. **(NOTE: Draft Animals and Llama projects will follow current project requirements.)**

Worksheet Option:

Worksheets will be due to Extension Office by **September 8**. Youth, who choose to complete the worksheet, instead of attending a specie-specific workshop, will need to earn a 70% or higher grade.

NOTE: If a 4-H member only exhibits at the Summer Goat Show, their record worksheets will be due to the Extension Office by July 1.

If the 70% grade has not been met, the worksheet will be returned to the exhibitor. The exhibitor will need to fix the incorrect answers and return the revised worksheet to the Extension Office by publicized date.

Workshop Option:

Youth who choose to attend the specie-specific workshops on the publicized dates will have the opportunity to learn various topics relating to their project, such as animal anatomy, quality assurance, record keeping, etc.

All virtual workshops will be approved by the 4-H Educator and to receive credit for attending, email the 4-H Educator by 1 week after the workshop date with a description of what you learned. 1-2 paragraphs.

*****All youth enrolled in a livestock project (Beef, Dairy Beef, Dairy, Rabbit, Poultry, Goat, Sheep, and Swine) must be Quality Livestock Care or online Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) certified also.**

GENERAL ANIMAL GUIDELINES

1. **Livestock Workshop** - Specie specific workshops will be held on publicized dates for 4-H members to have the opportunity to learn various topics relating to their project. If 4-H members attend the workshop relating to their project, a project worksheet will not need to be completed.

2. **County Livestock Enrollment** - All species are required to be nominated on a County Livestock Enrollment Form. Ownership of each animal must be declared at time of check-in at Fair. Livestock that is not nominated on the County Livestock Enrollment Form will not be permitted to remain on the fairgrounds for either the Summer Fair or Fall Fair. No livestock with non-nominated offspring still at its side will be permitted at either the Summer Fair or Fall Fair.

ALL SPECIES EXCEPT POULTRY, must be identified online by the stated deadlines, using the 4HOnline system at v2.4honline.com. (For State Fair Deadlines see "State Fair Entries".) Animals entered in the 4HOnline system are considered cross-nominated between the 4-H members sharing the same online family profile, so each individual animal is to be entered only once.

COUNTY LIVESTOCK ENROLLMENTS DUE

a. ID Day - Market Steers, Registered Beef Heifers, Crossbred Beef Heifers, Dairy Cattle, Dairy Steers, Dairy Feeder Calves, Sheep, Goats (Goat Does/Pleasure/Pack Goats will be identified via paper form due before or at Goat ID and on 4HOnline and FairEntry by published date), Beef Feeder Calves, Swine. After ID Day, you will be required to enter the animal's information online via the 4-H Online system you used to enroll in 4-H.

b. **May 15 (4HOnline Enrollment Deadline)** - Beef Steers, Dairy Steers, Registered and Unregistered Heifers, Draft Animals, Horse & Pony, any animals headed to State Fair.

c. **July 1 - 4HOnline and FairEntry Enrollment Deadlines - Summer Goat Doe/Pleasure Pet Goat Exhibition Animals**

d. **July 1 (4HOnline Enrollment Deadline)** - Dairy, Dairy Feeder Calves, Fall Goat Exhibit Animals, Sheep, Swine, Rabbits

e. **July 1**- Poultry and Rabbit Nomination forms due in Extension Office

f. **August 22** - Poultry ID Day

g. **September 8** - Rabbit Meat Pen and Fryers nomination forms due in Extension Office

h. **September 8** - 4HOnline and FairEntry Enrollment Deadline - Beef Feeder Calves

i. **September 8** - FairEntry Enrollment Due for ALL fair exhibition animals.

j. **September 8** - Fall Fair Livestock Worksheets due in Extension Office

All Livestock Projects must be entered in FairEntry by September 8th. If not entered by this date, the Extension Office will contact the 4-H members who need to complete

the missing entries. Please use the DeKalb 4-H Hub, Fall Checklist, to make sure you are complete before the deadline)

***All 4-H Beef Steers and Heifers (including purebred heifers) and Dairy Steer animals, except dairy feeder calves and beef feeder calves, are required to be brought to the Fairgrounds for weighing and ID on date announced (February/March) each year. Purebred heifers will be tagged with an 840 RFID tag.

All animals may be photographed, nose-printed, inserted with RFID, retinal scanned, or subject to any other identification program.

4-H members and parents are responsible to see that tagging and enrollment is taken care of for their animals via advertised county-wide ID Days. Leaders will not be held responsible for the failure of a 4-H member to inform them of his or her desire to enroll in a livestock project.

3. All animals must comply with State Livestock rules and any County and State 4-H rules above and beyond.

4. In the event that a nominated animal dies after the nomination deadline, there are to be no replacements. However, credit will be given for completed records.

5. Animals will be weighed only once at Fair Check-in unless an immediate re-weigh is requested.

6. Pen assignments for all animals will be made by superintendents.

7. Superintendents and committees reserve the right to adjust classes based on animals not exhibiting breed characteristics.

8. County Born Livestock Classes: For all species—Eligibility to show in County Born class must be declared at specie ID Day. DeKalb County breeder name, address, and township of residence must be provided in addition to required specie specific identification information. Superintendents reserve the right to verify information with breeders.

9. Animals brought to the Fair dirty (as in caked on mud and feces) are subject to being refused at entry. (Wash rack facilities at the Fair are intended for final show preparations only.)

10. All animals must be shown by the 4-H member making the project enrollment, except when a member exhibits more than one animal in a particular class, in which case the additional animal(s) may be shown by another 4-H member enrolled in DeKalb County. Any other exceptions to this rule will be made only by the superintendent.

11. Exhibitors will furnish feed and bedding for their own animals and are expected to see to the care of their animals during the Fair. Failure to do so will result in a \$50 penalty. **NO STRAW WILL BE ALLOWED AS BEDDING IN ANY OF THE BARNs.**

12a. Black ribbons may be tied to pens to notify 4-H member to check-in with Superintendent or the 4-H Office on the fairgrounds.

12b. Clean Pens - All exhibitor livestock pens are to be kept clean during Fair Week. Black ribbons will be tied to pens that need cleaning. All exhibitor livestock pens must be

cleaned on last day of Fair. Failure to clean one's pen(s) will result in a \$50 penalty to be deducted from your auction/consignment check. If 4-H member does not have any auction/consignment animals, and does not pay \$50 penalty, 4-H member will not be allowed to show any livestock the next year until \$50 fee is paid.

13. No livestock may leave the fairgrounds prior to check-out time on the last day of the fair, unless authorized by a vet and the superintendent. Unauthorized departure could result in disqualification of future exhibition.

14. All animals at the Fair will be fed and cared for the entire week by each enrolled 4-H member or the member's immediate family (parent, legal guardian, brother, sister) or DeKalb County 4-H member.

15. No youth 4-H member shall remain unsupervised in the barns after 11 pm. Night watchmen will be provided.

16. The DeKalb County 4-H Council will not be held responsible for articles or exhibits left after project check-out.

17. During Fair week, no medication or injection can be given to any 4-H animal unless a Vet Treatment Record Form is completed and on file at the 4-H Office on the fairgrounds.

18. Livestock Grooming - At the Fairgrounds, during Fair week, all animals are to be groomed by the 4-H member who is enrolled in the respective DeKalb County 4-H livestock project. Grooming is defined as preparing an animal for show and does not apply to general care.

Additional help will be allowed by the member's immediate family (parent, legal guardian, siblings, aunt/uncle, grandparents)

OR Listed species committee members, DeKalb County 4-H leader, DeKalb County 4-H member, parent of another DeKalb County 4-H'er, DeKalb Big Brother-Big Sister, and the 4-H Educator.

OR An approved member of the Indiana 4-H program. This 4-H member MUST be enrolled for the current 4-H year and in good standing with the program (enrollment paid). All 4-H members from outside DeKalb County that wish to help groom at the DeKalb County Fair must submit their name and county to the Extension Office by September 8th. The assistant MUST also be checked-in by the 4-H Educator (or representative) on the day of the specific species exhibition. Upon approval, the member will identify themselves with a specific identifier for the duration of the exhibition and uphold the values of the 4-H program.

Section B: Consequences of failing to follow the guidelines will first result in a documented verbal warning. Further violations will result in disqualification of the animal, and the offender being escorted off the fairgrounds. This is to be enforced by superintendents and their species committee.

Section C:

All grooming tents or structures may have no more than three (3) sides covered. Grooming and clipping practices are subject to inspection by the superintendent at all times.

19. An exhibitor number will be assigned to each livestock exhibitor and this number must be worn each time the exhibitor shows an animal.

20. No automatic waterers will be allowed in the Beef, Dairy, and Dairy Feeder barns.

21. Large Animal Tack Drop-off: Chutes CAN be brought to the Barns on the date specified in the Fall Livestock Newsletter, at the scheduled times corresponding to your years in 4-H. The oldest 4-H member in your family determines drop-off time. All immediate family will go together in the oldest current 4-H members' time slot. There will be spray-painted areas to put tack, please stay inside those areas.

- No saving spaces
- No early entry
- If you break the rules, your family's time will get pushed to the 1:00 PM time slot.
- No staking. Sandbags or concrete blocks only.

This will be monitored. Please be respectful and courteous to the times and people monitoring. This is to help with traffic flow, fairness, and help to prevent chaos during tack drop off.

22. Showmanship - Any exhibitor wishing to participate in showmanship competition may do so in their species. Participants must show their own animals. The following divisions will be provided for Beef, Dairy Beef, Swine, Sheep, Dairy, Dairy Goat, Meat Goat, Poultry, and Rabbit Showmanship:

- a. Junior—Grades 3-5
- b. Intermediate—Grades 6-8
- c. Senior—Grades 9-12
- d. Premier—All former Senior winners still in 4-H and current year senior winner

Previous winners in all of the above categories will automatically move up to the next division the following year, regardless of winner's grade, with the exception of the current year senior winner.

To participate in showmanship, members must sign-up at the time designated by the superintendent. A Supreme Showman Contest will be held.

23. Show Attire - Appropriate show attire is required at all times in the show arena. This includes the auction, as well as when animals are being judged. Superintendents reserve the right to address the situation and dismiss anyone who does not follow this guideline. Appropriate Show Attire must NOT include the following (specific species may have further dress code rules designated in their section):

A. Holes in clothing, including jeans. Clothing should be free from rips, tears or holes. Holes must be covered up with a permanent patch. (Wearing clothing underneath the rips, tears or holes is not acceptable.)

B. Halter tops, camis, spaghetti strap clothing, tank tops, see-through tops or midriffs are not acceptable for showing. All tops must have sleeves. Spaghetti and bra straps should not be seen through clothing.

C. Advertising other than 4-H or Club affiliations.

BOAH Premise ID

If you are showing cattle, swine, sheep, goats, rabbits, or poultry you are required by law to apply for a Premise ID number from the Indiana Board of Animal Health (BOAH). You will need this number to nominate your animals, so get your number at <https://www.in.gov/boah/2700.htm>

4-H ANIMAL PROJECTS - SUMMER

DOG

Sarah Lehrman, Club Leader

Phone: 260-908-3430

Taya Fordanish, Club Leader

Phone: 260-573-6258

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

1. All youth must meet educational requirements by attending one (1) specie specific workshop or complete a specie specific Livestock Record Worksheet.

Completed worksheets will be due on the publicized deadline, the week after Labor Day.

2. Manuals will be given one (1) per family and are to be used throughout the project.

3. Complete one of the exhibit requirements.

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

Educational Poster

1. You do not need an animal to participate. Refer to "Animal Educational Posters" and "Poster Guidelines" in the Static Projects setion of this handbook for further information.

2. Posters will be judged at the "Animal Educational Posters" judging (see Summer Judging Schedule).

Live Animal

1. All 4-H dogs must be accompanied by the current year's 4-H 671 Certificate of Vaccination (original only, no photocopies) signed by a licensed, accredited veterinarian indicating the dog has been vaccinated for rabies, distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus, leptospirosis, and kennel cough. Vaccinations will not be administered to dogs at trainings or show. Dates must be included for each vaccine. All information must be completed on the vaccination certificate or the animal will be sent home. Dogs that are vaccinated at home must provide an original receipt for the vaccine and attach the receipt and label for the vaccine on the vet form; in addition to putting the date of vaccination and the name of the person who administered the vaccines on the form.

2. A dog being shown in this project must belong to the exhibitor or to a member of immediate family or household. The exception to this is assistance animals raised to assist those with disabilities. The dog is to be fed, trained and cared for by the 4-H member.

3. To begin obedience training in the First Division, the dog should preferably be at least six (6) months old (weaned) and not over two (2) years old. This is not required, however.

4. Any breed or mix of dog breeds is welcome.

5. All 4-H Dog project members are eligible to compete at the State Fair in addition to the DeKalb County Dog Show, providing they have signed-up for the project in the county by May 15. In a given year, a 4-H member must show at the same level at the State Fair as he/she was entered in the

county 4-H Dog program.

6. 4-H dogs must wear well-fitting slip collars of leather, fabric or chain in any obedience class. The leash may be of fabric or leather and shall be six (6) feet in length. Variable length leashes, such as flexi-leads, are not permitted.

7. Female dogs in heat are not eligible to attend training classes or show. Under unusual conditions, such as a dog which is too powerful for the boy or girl, the decision of whether or not it shows will be left to the discretion of the trainer and/or judge for the well-being of all concerned.

8. All 4-H members will be expected to clean up after their dogs.

9. Tied scores in obedience classes will be broken as follows: Scores will be decided as to placement from comparative scores, beginning with the first exercise on the score sheet, then proceeding down the score sheet through the successive exercises. If the scores are tied in each exercise, the first exercise on the score sheet will be repeated in its entirety in order to determine a winner. Tied scores in showmanship and drill teams will be broken by the judge(s).

10. The following judging classes or divisions will be offered at the County and State Fair 4-H Dog Shows:

Class 1A: (Score Sheet #4-H 498) For 4-Hers with no previous formal dog training experiences with a dog which has received no obedience training prior to October 1 (repeatable for exhibition only).

Class 1B: (Score Sheet #4-H 580) For 4-Hers with previous dog training experience with a new, untrained dog; or for 4-Hers with no experience whose dog has had training; or for 4-Hers and dogs with previous training experience, including showing in 1A, or for 4-Hers with no experience whose dogs have had training which disqualifies them from 1-A. (repeatable for exhibition only)

Class 2A: (Score Sheet #4-H 499) For 4-Hers and dogs which have completed 1A or 1B (repeatable for exhibition only)

Class 2B: (Score Sheet #4-H 712) For 4-Hers and dogs which have completed 2A. May repeat until ready for 3A.

Class 3A: (Score Sheet # 4-H 500A) For 4-Hers and dogs which have mastered Class 2 work. (repeatable for exhibition only)

Class 3B: (Score Sheet #4-H 500B) For 4-Hers and dogs which have been in 3A but are not ready for Class 4 work. (may repeat)

Class 4A: (Score Sheet #4-H 501A) For 4-Hers and dogs which have mastered Class 3 work. (repeatable for exhibition only)

Class 4B: (Score Sheet #4-H 501B) For 4-Hers and dogs which have been in 4A but are not ready for Class 5 work. (may repeat)

Class 5A: (Score Sheet #4-H 502A) For 4-Hers and dogs which have mastered Class 4 work. (repeatable for exhibition only)

Class 5B: (Score Sheet #4-H 502B) For 4-Hers and dogs which have been in Class 5A, but are not ready for Class 6

work. (may repeat)

Class 6A: (Score Sheet #4-H 581) For 4-Hers and dogs which have mastered Class 5 work. (repeatable for exhibition only)

Class 6B: (Score Sheet #4-H 581B) For 4-Hers and dogs which have been in 6A. (may repeat)

Veterans (Score Sheet #4-H 870) see definition of #9 above.

State Aggressive Dog Policy

The safety and well-being of 4-H members and volunteers is a primary concern with all Indiana 4-H Program opportunities. Families should err on the side of caution in selecting a dog for the 4-H member to exhibit. A dog that has a known history of aggression or biting is not appropriate for involvement in the 4-H Program. On occasion, the 4-H member may have difficulty managing their dog within the 4-H Program. The following guidance has been provided for the Indiana 4-H Dog Program as the owner/exhibitor of the dog bears responsibility for the dog's actions. In the subsequent policy, the term "4-H Dog Personnel" will include County 4-H Volunteers, County Extension Educators, State 4-H Staff and appropriate County and State Fair Directors.

A dog that bites a human or another dog at any 4-H Dog Event must be immediately removed from that event by the 4-H member and will subsequently be excused from the 4-H Program. The member should be directed by 4-H Dog Personnel on-site to remove the dog if the member does not do so willingly. If a determination is made by the 4-H Dog Personnel that a dog bit in self-defense, it may be allowed to remain at the 4-H Dog Event.

Dogs that display other signs of aggression, including but not limited to barking and standing ground, growling, lunging and snapping will be given one verbal warning. They will be removed from the event after the second violation at the same event. To be removed from a 4-H Dog Event, there must be two violations at the same event.

Any dog that is removed from a 4-H Dog Event due to aggressive behavior will be placed on probation for 2 weeks. Written notification of the probation will be given to the 4-H member. The 2-week period will start upon written notification to the 4-H member. While on probation, the 4-H Dog Personnel and the 4-H member and parents will work together to determine the best course of action for the dog. This may include (but is not limited to) working individually with the dog and 4-H member, asking the 4-H member to use a different dog or having the 4-H member attend events without their dog. At the end of the designated probation period, 4-H Dog Personnel will make a determination regarding the dog's return to 4-H Dog Events.

Dogs that are removed from a 4-H Dog Event twice will be immediately excused from the 4-H program and will not be allowed to re-enter. Excusing a dog from the 4-H Program is rare but could be necessary for the safety of 4-H members, volunteers and other participating dogs. Should a dog be excused from the program, it must be remembered that the

action is against the dog and not the 4-H member. 4-H Dog Personnel should look at many solutions and encourage the 4-H member to attend classes without their dog while training it at home or potentially bringing another dog to 4-H events. 4-H members will always be welcome in every other part of the dog project.

In the event that a dog is removed from a 4-H Dog Event or excused from the 4-H Program, 4-H Dog Personnel should report such to the State 4-H Office so that the information is available to all county 4-H dog programs and the Indiana State Fair.

HORSE & PONY

MAY 15 - 4HOnline Animal ID (v2.4honline.com)

Horse & Pony Advisory Committee

Marcee Fisher (Pres)	Mandy Dale (VP)
Trina Heisler (Treas)	Sarah Lehrman (Sec)
Jackie Hook (CR)	Wendy Shull

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

- All youth must meet educational requirements by attending one (1) specie specific workshop or complete a specie specific Livestock Record Worksheet.** Completed worksheets will be due on the publicized deadline
- Manuals will be given one (1) per family and are to be used throughout the project.
- Horse & Pony: Introduction to Horses educational exhibits will be judged at time of "Animal Educational Posters" judging (see Summer Judging Schedule). Rules for this project are located in the "Animal Educational Posters" section.

EXHIBIT REQUIREMENTS

Educational Poster

- You do not need an animal to participate. Refer to "Animal Educational Posters" and "Poster Guidelines" in the Static Projects section of this handbook for further information.
- Horse & Pony: Introduction to Horses educational exhibits will be judged at time of "Animal Educational Posters" judging (see Summer Judging Schedule). Rules for this project are located in the "Animal Educational Posters" section.

Live Animal

- 4-H horses and ponies exhibited must meet current Indiana State Animal Health Regulations. Please read that section in this handbook and be sure you comply. Any questionable animals may be removed by a licensed veterinarian.
- The Official Handbook of the Indiana 4-H Horse and Pony Program (4-H 661) will serve as the official rule book for all Indiana 4-H horse shows. (Copies of this handbook are available in the County Extension Office and 4-H members are strongly encouraged to read it.) This rule book will be strictly followed at State Fair, but the DeKalb County 4-H Horse and Pony leaders and Advisory Committee and/or local 4-H Educator reserve the right to have the final say in using or changing these rules for county shows, except in

the case of safety rules. This includes all protective helmet, vest, and boot rules.

3. Each 4-H member must belong to the DeKalb County 4-H Horse and Pony Club to exhibit a horse or pony in the DeKalb County 4-H program.

4. Exhibitors must be enrolled in the 4-H project for the current year to exhibit. Any required forms must be signed before riding at any 4-H event.

5. Any animal exhibited must be shown and owned by the contestant, or owned in partnership with the contestant's father, mother, brother, sister, grandparent or legal guardian. Note: Exception - leased animals may be shown subject to the approval of the County 4-H Horse and Pony Advisory Committee.

6. Animals must be in the 4-H member's possession and records started by May 15. Absolutely no animal may be substituted or traded for the original animal after May 15. Official Indiana 4-H Horse and Pony Enrollment must be completed on **4HOnline** and on file by May 15 to show at County or State Fair shows.

7. At the county show, members may only show two animals (2 horses, 2 ponies, or 1 of each).

8. Registered and/or grade animals may be shown in all classes.

9. 4-H members in 3rd-12th grades, as of January 1 of the current year, and in good standing are eligible to show their enrolled horse at the State Fair. Entries must be made by July 1 to avoid financial penalties.

10. For show purposes, grade divisions for members are determined as follows:

Junior Division – Grades 3-5

Intermediate Division – Grades 6-8

Senior Division – Grades 9-12

11. The age of an animal shall be computed on the basis of a calendar year starting on January 1 of year foaled. For example, an animal foaled at any time in 2020 is considered to be one year old on January 1, 2021, two years old on January 1, 2022, etc.

12. Any 4-H Horse or Pony, 56 inches and under, must be measured by certified measurer at the county level. Horses over 56 inches do not need measured.

13. All 4-H members are required to wear a properly fitted ASTM or SEI standard F1163 (or above) certified equestrian helmet whenever mounted, or driving, at a 4-H horse and pony event, show, or activity. The member is responsible to see this specified headgear is properly fitted with the approved harness fastened in place whenever mounted.

DRAFT ANIMALS

MAY 15 - 4HOnline Animal ID (v2.4honline.com)

Christy Kruckeburg, Superintendent

Phone: 260-417-8308

Lindsay Clifford, Superintendent

Phone: 260-570-7068

DeKalb Doubletrees Advisory Committee

Terry King

Cali King

PROJECT GUIDELINES

Livestock Record Worksheet - All youth participating in the Draft Animal Project must meet educational requirements by attending **(1) specie specific workshop or complete a specie specific Livestock Record Worksheet for their grade level based on the project manual.** If a Worksheet is required, it must be completed and submitted to the 4-H Leader or a member of the Advisory Committee prior to the date of the Exhibition Show. Youth do not need to own an animal to participate in the project.

Live Animal

1. Each 4-H member must belong to the DeKalb County Doubletrees Club to exhibit a horse, pony, mule, or donkey in the DeKalb County 4-H program.

2. Exhibitors must be enrolled in the 4-H project for the current year to exhibit. All required forms must be signed.

3. All Draft Club animals must be enrolled in DeKalb County 4-H and shown only in this county for 4-H.

4. To show at the Exhibition Show, members must bring their horse, pony, mule or donkey to a minimum of two of the club meetings held prior to the Exhibition Show.

5. Members may show one or two draft horses, draft ponies, mules or donkeys. A member may also show other equine that are trained and broke to cart or wagon with approval of the Advisory Committee. Classes will be offered in halter, hitch, ground driving and under saddle. Driving classes are optional. If a member has two animals in the same halter class, a parent or responsible adult may assist with one, but the 4-H member must show the animals. A non-project animal may be substituted for the driving classes with prior approval of a Doubletrees Leader.

6. If participating in Exhibition Show, a halter class is required.

7. Members will declare in **4-H Online** by May 15 which animal(s) they will show at that year's Exhibition Show and all meetings and workshops where animals are required.

8. No animal may be substituted or traded for the original project animal after May 15.

9. Animal leasing is optional. Lease Agreements may be obtained from the Extension Office and must be completed and signed by both parties prior to exhibiting the animal(s).

10. Stallions are not eligible as 4-H projects, unless they are under one year of age.

11. Animals may be rejected from exhibition/competition by the Advisory Committee if they are deemed to be unfit or unsafe. The project may still be completed by submitting a completed Livestock Record Worksheet..

12. Members must be accompanied by an adult in all driving classes. Riding and hitch classes require the wearing of an ASTM or SEI Standard F1163 (or above) certified equestrian helmet.

13. Members will wear their assigned numbers at all times when entering the showing during Exhibition Show.

14. Boots or hard soled shoes (no gym shoes) and long pants will be worn at all club activities where animals are present. All members participating in the Exhibition Show will be required to wear appropriate show ring attire.

15. Judges' decisions are final in all classes during the Exhibition Show. Members will be judged solely on the

performance of the individual member and their project animal without additional merit based on the type of equipment, harness, wagon or other miscellaneous tack presented at the show.

16. All members may be required to pay club dues prior to August 1, unless prior arrangements made.

17. Youth must have fun at all times!

SMALL PET

MAY 15 - Project Drop/Add Deadline (v2.4hOnline.com)

JULY 1 - FairEntry Deadline (faireentry.com)

Beginner: Grades 3-5

Intermediate: Grades 6-8

Advanced: Grades 9-12

1. Youth will exhibit 1 or more caged pets of the same species that are caged together on a daily basis and are legal to own in the state of Indiana. Please note that in Indiana it is illegal to own wildlife without a permit. See https://www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/files/fw-WAP_Laws.pdf for a list of classes of wild animals for which a permit is required.
2. This project is limited to animals that live their lives in cages. This includes, but is not limited to: gerbils, rats, mice, hamsters, guinea pigs, hedgehogs, ferrets, birds, turtles, lizards, fish, tarantulas, giant African millipedes, and frogs.
3. Youth may exhibit crossbred rabbits, but these rabbits may not be shown in both the small pet and rabbit projects.
4. Animals must live their life in a cage. Dogs, cats, pygmy goats, potbelly/mini pigs, etc. are not suitable for this project.
5. 4-H member must have cared for the small pet for a minimum of 30 days prior to exhibition.
6. The youth is responsible for providing all care and items the animal needs while on display at Summer Judging and the Fall Fair (ie. Cage, food, water, cage cover, cage misting, etc.).
7. To accompany the exhibit, youth must complete a 1 page information sheet that includes:
 - Animal name
 - Common name (ie hamster, hedgehog)
 - Scientific name
 - Animal age
 - Animal diet (what it eats)
 - When it sleeps
 - Housing needs
 - How long owned by 4-H'er
 - Why this animal is the best pet

Notes:

4-H ANIMAL PROJECTS - FALL FAIR

For livestock check-in times, please see the Fall Fair schedule on page 9

BEEF

MAY 15 - 4HOnline Animal ID for Steers, Registered and Unregistered Heifers

SEPT 8 - 4HOnline Animal ID for Beef Feeders

SEPT 8 - FairEntry class section deadline for Beef Steers, Heifers, and Feeders,

SEPT 8 - Worksheets and QLC/YQCA due

Ryan Ridge, Superintendent

Phone: 260-908-0734

Email: ridgeryan0@gmail.com

Dairy Beef Facebook:

DeKalb County 4H Beef/Dairy Beef

Beef Advisory Committee

McKenzie Shoudel

Clint Stemen

Chris Heffley

Sean Hartman

Julie Malcolm

Janet Ridge

James Clifford

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

1. All youth must meet educational requirements by attending one (1) specie specific workshop or complete a specie specific Livestock Record Worksheet.

Completed worksheets will be due on the publicized deadline.

Online nomination via v2.4HOnline.com with premise ID number is required by stated deadline. Online entry into FairEntry is also required by stated deadline.

2. Manuals will be given one (1) per family and are to be used throughout the project.

3. To exhibit this species, 4-H members must be certified through the Quality Livestock Care in-person course or certified through the online only Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) program (must submit their completion certificate). For more information on training, contact the County Extension Office.

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

Educational Poster

1. You do not need an animal to participate. Refer to "Animal Educational Posters" and "Poster Guidelines" in the Static Projects section of this handbook for further information.

2. Posters will be judged at the "Animal Educational Posters" judging (see Summer Judging Schedule).

Live Animal

Read the section on Animal Health Requirements and comply. Animal health papers are not required.

Nomination Requirements

1. All animals are automatically cross-nominated between siblings within the same 4HOnline Family

Profile. Ownership of each animal must be declared at time of check-in at Fair.

2. Each 4-H member may nominate up to a combination of six (6) market Animals or Breeding Heifers and six (6) Prospect Animals, but may only show up to three (3) from each category.

Weigh-In / ID Information

1. All cattle must be dehorned and broke to lead.

2. All market steers, market heifers, and breeding heifers must be brought to winter ID day. Beef steers and market heifers must declare their breed(s) at winter ID Day. Members must declare the breed they choose to enter the animal in at the scales during Fair Check-in. Purebred steers will be required to have papers by Fair Check-in. Any steer not having registration papers and a legible tattoo at Fair Check-in will be moved to the Crossbred class.

3. Breeding heifers will show by breed. Purebred breeding heifers must have registration papers and a legible tattoo at Fair Check-in. Any breeding heifer not having registration papers and a legible tattoo at Fair Check-in will be placed into the Crossbred class. Breeding heifers must be born between January 1 and December 31 of the previous year.

4. All market animals (steers and heifers) are eligible for Rate-of-Gain competition. Animals will be weighed once with the exception of an immediate re-weigh if requested at Fair Check-in only. Upon re-weigh request, the weight displayed for the re- weigh will be the weight used.

5. Prospect steers are to weigh no more than 650 pounds and prospect breeding heifers are to weigh no more than 700 pounds at Fair Check-in. If your prospect steer (651 or over) or prospect breeding heifer (701 or over) weigh over the weight limit, you will be eligible for the Exhibition only class. You WILL NOT be able to participate for champion Prospect Market Animal or prospect breeding heifer. Prospect steers and prospect breeding heifers are ineligible for the auction. All Prospect calves (steers and heifers) are to be nominated on an enrollment form due on ID Day. Beef Prospect ID Day will be held on a date announced by the Superintendent.

6. All Prospect Heifers will need to decide whether they show as a Prospect Breeding Heifer or a Prospect Market Heifer at September ID day and will not be able to change after the FairEntry Deadline for Fall Fair.

Exhibition Guidelines

1. Market Steers and Market Heifers will be shown by Breed and Weight. Market Heifers are not eligible to participate in the auction or be consigned unless pregnancy checked open by a DVM up to two weeks prior to the fair. A written document must be provided from the DVM by the 4-H member to the beef committee to enable the heifer for auction or consignment. An animal can only be exhibited one time per entry in either market or breeding animal.

2. Prospect Steers and Prospect Market Heifers will be shown by weight.

3. Prospect breeding heifers will be shown by weight.
4. Superintendents will determine appropriate class sizes depending on numbers to be shown.
5. If a steer or heifer was born in DeKalb County, it is eligible for a County Born class. However, it must be declared as such on ID Day. You must declare if the steer or heifer will show as a County Born animal or switch to the other declared breed at Fair Check-in.
6. Awards will be presented for each champion and reserve champion represented. A Grand Champion, Reserve Grand Champion, 3rd Overall, and 4th Overall Market Steer and Breeding Heifer, and Prospect Breeding Heifer, and Prospect Steer will be selected also.

7. **Beef Herdsman Award**

A. There will be 3 Beef Herdsman awards presented at the Fall Fair.

B. A Senior Beef Herdsman award will be given to a Beef member who is in grades 9-12; Intermediate Beef Herdsman award who is in grades 6-8; a Junior Beef Herdsman award will be given to a Beef member who is in grades 3-5.

C. Beef Herdsman award winners will be chosen at the discretion of the Beef Superintendent and the Beef Committee. Qualities that we will be looking for are members that exhibit great character throughout the year at 4-H functions. Members that are willing to help other 4-H members by helping clean the barn, keeping a tidy area, and overall wanting to promote the beef project.

D. The winners of the Beef Herdsman award will be announced prior to the start of the Beef species at the DeKalb County 4-H Livestock Auction at the Fair.

8. Classes will be posted in the Beef Barn by Tuesday. There will be a breed class for any single entry, registered steer or heifer. Order of Breed classes will be determined by the superintendents. The breed classes will follow the breed percentage requirements as set by State Fair for both steers and heifers. Prospect Breeding Heifers will be shown as their own show, by weight class.

Heifer Classes

Beef Prospect Breeding Heifer classes (to be shown by weight)

Light Weight Prospect Breeding Heifer

Medium Weight Prospect Breeding Heifer

Heavy Weight Prospect Breeding Heifer

Grand Champion, Reserve Grand Champion, 3rd & 4th overall Beef Prospect Breeding Heifer

Purebred Breeding Heifer classes (shown by breed/birthdate)

Commercial Heifers (shown by weight)

County Born Heifer (shown by weight)

Grand & Reserve, 3rd and 4th overall Champion Heifer

Prospect Steer Classes

Beef Prospect Steers (to be shown by weight)

Prospect Market Heifers

Light Weight Prospect Steers

Medium Weight Prospect Steers

Heavy Weight Prospect Steers

Grand & Reserve Champion, 3rd and 4th overall Beef

Prospect

Beef Steer Classes

Market Steers and Market Heifers

Purebred Market Steers (shown by breed/weight)

Crossbred Market Steers (shown by weight)

Market Heifers (shown by weight)

Grand & Reserve Champion, 3rd and 4th overall Steers and Market Heifers

Grooming Guidelines

1. Any product administered internally or used externally to alter the conformation and/or appearance of an animal for exhibition is prohibited.

2. Grooming chutes will not be allowed in the barn.

3. No pumping nor drenching of bovines will be allowed without pre-approval by Beef Committee.

Showmanship Classes

1. Steers, heifers or feeder calves may be shown for showmanship, but 4-H members must show their own animals. Grade is determined by previous school year, not current school year.

BEEF CARCASS EVALUATION

1. Animals must meet all requirements above.

2. Carcass Evaluation will be done by scanning at the Fair at the scales in the Beef Barn. See current year's schedule for date and time.

3. All beef and dairy steer animals are eligible to be scanned.

4. Animals should be signed up by announced date and time.

5. There is a charge for the ultrasound scan for each animal, payable at time of scan.

6. Animals will be ranked using an adjusted yield grade. The information includes:

- Hot Carcass Weight: 62% of live weight
- Backfat: Ultrasound measurement backfat between 12th and 13th rib
- Ribeye Area: Ultrasound measurement ribeye area between 12th and 13th rib
- Yield Grade: The yield grades of beef carcasses are calculated using backfat, ribeye area, hot carcass weight and an average kidney, pelvic and heart fat of 3.5%.
- Quality Grade: Percent intramuscular fat determined by ultrasound

7. Results will be announced at the Auction. Trophies will be presented for Champion and Reserve Champion Carcass.

DAIRY

JULY 1 - 4HOnline Animal ID, Nomination forms due to Extension Office

SEPT 8 - FairEntry class section deadline, Worksheets and QLC/YQCA due

(Updated for 2026)

Katelee Carnahan, Superintendent

Phone: 260-908-4600

Facebook page:

DeKalb County 4H Dairy

Dairy Advisory Committee

Mike & Cindy Snyder

Pam Stritmatter

Adam McCartney

Ashley Auld

Jason Carnahan

David & Kim Brand

Justin May

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

1. All youth must meet educational requirements by attending one (1) specie specific workshop or complete a specie specific Livestock Record Worksheet. Completed worksheets will be due on the publicized deadline. **Online nomination via v2.4HOnline.com with premise ID number is required by stated deadline. Online entry into FairEntry is also required by stated deadline.**

2. Manuals will be given one (1) per family and are to be used throughout the project.

3. To exhibit this species, 4-H members must be certified through the Quality Livestock Care in-person course or certified through the online only Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) program (must submit their completion certificate). For more information on training, contact the County Extension Office.

EXHIBIT REQUIREMENTS

Educational Poster

1. You do not need an animal to participate. Refer to "Animal Educational Posters" and "Poster Guidelines" in the Static Projects section of this handbook for further information.

2. Posters will be judged at the "Animal Educational Posters" judging (see Summer Judging Schedule).

Live Animal

Read the section on Animal Health Requirements and comply. Animal health papers are not required.

Ownership Requirements

1. Any animal competing must be owned by the exhibitor or family entirely or in part, or leased. Lease dairy animals from within DeKalb County or County of residence.

2. There is no limit on the number of dairy animals or breeds which can be shown by any one member.

Nomination Requirements

1. Dairy animals may be any one of the following breeds: Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Holstein, Jersey or Milking Shorthorn.

2. All 4-H Dairy projects, owned or leased, must be nominated. See "Important Dates" for this year's nomination date.

3. All animals are automatically cross-nominated between siblings within the same 4HOnline Family Profile. Ownership of each animal must be declared at time of check-in at Fair. For State Fair, animal ownership must be declared at time of enrollment.

4. Those members leasing animals must complete the appropriate leasing forms and contracts, as well as Dairy enrollment forms, and turn them in at the Extension Office by July 1.

5. Only dairy heifers, that will be less than two-years-of-age at the time of DeKalb County Fair 4-H Dairy Show, may be leased. An individual may exhibit a milk cow if that individual has exhibited the same animal for two years as a non-milking animal. That milk cow may only be exhibited by that individual. Siblings do not qualify to exhibit that milk cow.

6. Exhibitors who lease a dairy animal will be allowed to sell a dairy product in the livestock auction.

7. All Dairy animals must have RFID tags in their ears as a way of identification. If the animal does not have an RFID tag in their ear at check in they will not be permitted to show.

8. To ensure all Dairy animals are properly ID by the Nomination deadline there will be a Dairy ID Day, date to be determined by the superintendent, where all animals will have their RFID tags verified based on their enrollment paperwork.

Exhibition Information

1. 4-H dairy animals will be shown by breed according to the following classes:

- **Class 1:** Spring heifer calf born March 1, 2026 to May 15, 2026
- **Class 2:** Winter heifer calf born December 1, 2025 to February 28, 2026
- **Class 3:** Fall heifer calf born September 1, 2025 to November 30, 2025
- **Class 4:** Summer yearling heifer born June 1, 2025 to August 31, 2025
- **Class 5:** Spring yearling heifer born March 1, 2025 to May 31, 2025
- **Class 6:** Winter yearling heifer born December 1, 2024 to February 28, 2025
- **Class 7:** Fall yearling heifer born September 1, 2024 to November 30, 2024

Class 8: Junior Champion and Reserve Junior Champion for each breed selected from 1st and 2nd place from each class 1-7

Class 9: Overall Junior Champion Dairy and overall Reserve Junior Champion Dairy will be selected from the breed champions and reserves.

*To qualify for one of the following classes an animal must have calved.

- **Class 10:** Junior 2 year old cow born March 1 2024 to August 31, 2024
- **Class 11:** Senior 2 year old cow born September 1, 2023 to February 28, 2024
- **Class 12:** Junior 3 year old cow born March 1, 2023 to August 31, 2023
- **Class 13:** Senior 3 year old cow born September 1, 2022 to February 28, 2023
- **Class 14:** 4 year old cow born September 1 2021 to August 31, 2022
- **Class 15:** 5 year old cow born September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2021
- **Class 16:** Aged cow six years and older born prior to September 1, 2019
- **Class 17:** Aged cow dry born prior to September 1, 2021
- **Class 18:** 3 or 4 year old dry cow born September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2022

Class 19 Champion Cow and Reserve Champion Cow for each breed selected from 1st and 2nd place from each class 10-18

Class 20 Overall Champion Dairy Cow and overall Reserve Champion Dairy Cow will be selected from the breed champions and reserves.

Class 21: Grand Champion Dairy and Reserve Grand will be selected from the Overall Junior Champion Dairy, overall Reserve Junior champion Dairy, overall Champion dairy cow and overall Reserve Dairy Cow.

2. Members are required to take part in the Dairy Interviews, held prior to the Dairy Show, to exhibit in the show. Members that are attending college at the time of Fair are exempt from participation in Dairy Interview.

3. It is recommended that 4-H members wear white shirts or blouses in the showing. 4-H emblems and/or breed insignias are permissible. Blue Jeans are acceptable to be worn in the show ring.

4. There will be a Herdsman Award given to the exhibitor who displays the best animal care, care of pens and surrounding area, participates in workshops, participates in barn set-up/clean-up, and knowledge of specie (based on the exhibitor's level). Herdsman will be chosen at the discretion of the specie Superintendent and the specie Committee.

5. In Showmanship, grade is determined by previous school year, not current school year.

DAIRY FEEDER / DAIRY STEER

DAIRY CROSS FEEDER / DAIRY CROSS STEER

MAY 15 - 4HOnline Animal ID for Steers
JULY 1 - 4HOnline Animal ID for Feeders
SEPT 8 - FairEntry class section deadline, Worksheets and QLC/YQCA due

(Updated for 2026)

Sean Hartman, Superintendent
Phone: 260-908-1428
Remind: @dc4hbdb
 Dairy Beef Facebook:
 DeKalb County 4H Beef/Dairy Beef

Dairy Steer & Feeder Advisory Committee

Shannon Berryhill	Tyler & Kylee Draper
Montana Tiernan	Ryan Ridge
Matthew Beckmann	

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

1. All youth must meet educational requirements by attending one (1) specie specific workshop or complete a specie specific Livestock Record Worksheet. Completed worksheets will be due on the publicized deadline. **Online nomination via 4HOnline.com with premise ID number is required by stated deadline. Online entry into FairEntry is also required by stated deadline.**

2. Manuals will be given one (1) per family and are to be used throughout the project.

3. To exhibit this species, 4-H members must be certified through the Quality Livestock Care in-person course or certified through the online only Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) program (must submit their completion certificate). For more information on training, contact the County Extension Office.

EXHIBIT REQUIREMENTS

Educational Poster

1. You do not need an animal to participate. Refer to "Animal Educational Posters" and "Poster Guidelines" in the Static Projects section of this handbook for further information.

2. Posters will be judged at the "Animal Educational Posters" judging (see Summer Judging Schedule).

Live Animal

Read the section on Animal Health Requirements and comply. Animal health papers are not required.

Nomination Requirements

1. **All animals are automatically cross-nominated between siblings within the same 4HOnline Family Profile.** Ownership of each animal must be declared at time

of check-in at Fair.

2. For State Fair, animal ownership must be declared at time of enrollment.

3. Each 4-H member may nominate up to six (6) dairy steers and six (6) dairy feeders, but may only show up to three (3) from each category.

Animal ID Requirements

1. All Dairy Steers and Dairy Feeders must have both testicles banded (castrated/neutered). Dairy Feeders are to be castrated no later than August 1st. Both Dairy Feeders and Dairy Steers must be dehorned. No more than 1/2" of horn will be allowed at fair check-in. The Dairy Steer and Feeder advisory committee and superintendent reserves the right to disqualify an animal if it doesn't meet requirements listed above. All decisions will be final.

Weigh-IN / ID Day Information

1. All animals must be broken to lead.

2. Dairy steers will show by weight only according to the following four weight divisions:

Dairy Feeders—calves weighed at ID Day

- ID Day will be May 30th

Dairy Cross Feeders (not eligible for State Fair) - calves weighed at ID Day

- ID Day will be May 30th

3. All Dairy Feeder/Dairy Cross Feeder calves must be weighed and ear tagged at the June ID Day and not weigh more than 250 pounds. Anything over 250 pounds at the June weigh-in will be put in the Dairy Steer Show. All feeders will be weighed once with the exception of one immediate re-weigh if requested. All other Dairy Steers must be weighed and ear-tagged at winter ID day. If the animal is bumped up to a featherweight steer class, it is not eligible to return the following year to show as a steer.

4. At ID Days the 4-H member will declare which class the animal will show in dairy beef feeder, dairy beef cross feeder, dairy beef steer, or dairy beef cross steer. All dairy feeders (dairy cross-feeders) will be genomically tested to determine breed composition based on the percentage of dairy breed genetics and beef breed genetics. Testing media will consist of a tissue or hair sample. The test will identify Dairy Breed-Based Representation (BBR) and Beef Breed-Based Representation by the percentage of the following approved dairy beef breeds: Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Holstein (red and white OR black and white), Jersey, and Milking Shorthorn. Testing will also give the percentage of Beef Breeds, for the dairy beef cross breeds, based on the following breeds: Angus, Red Angus, South Devon, Hereford, Simmental, Gelbvieh, Limousin, Charolais, Brahman, and Nelore.

Dairy beef steers & dairy beef cross steers from the previous year will not be tested. If a steer did not receive testing from the previous year it will need to be tested at the ID Day in order to show.

BBR results are as follows:

- Dairy BBR at 87% and higher, animals will show in traditional respective dairy beef class
- Dairy BBR results from 45% to 86.9%, animals will show in

dairy beef cross-class

- Dairy BBR results 44.9% and lower will show in beef cross-class

The tester, the Dairy Beef Superintendent/4-H Educator and 4-H member representative will verify the sample was from their animal, via signature. Access to the results of genomic testing will be available to the 4-H educator and the Dairy Beef Superintendent. If an animal's BBR results are in a different class than what 4-H member has declared, the 4-H member will be contacted about the BBR results and made aware of the new class the animal is assigned. Animals only need to be tested once. If a feeder is genomically tested one year and comes back the next year, we will use the test from the previous year to determine where your animal will show at the fair.

*****All Steers and Feeders will be tested for 2025*****

5. All dairy feeder calves going to auction, or consignment will provide proof of Bovine Respiratory Disease vaccine, unless the animal is an auction member keep. You may choose to waive the vaccine, but you must sign a waiver agreeing that the animal will not be allowed to sell in the auction or be consigned to sell. One of the forms will need to be uploaded into FairEntry by September 8. Acceptable documentation will be a veterinarian invoice or receipt of vaccine purchase and date of administration.

6. Any feeder which does not have at least a 100-pound weight gain between June ID Day and Fair, will not be allowed at the Fair.

Exhibition Guidelines

1. The 4-H Dairy Steer and Dairy Feeder Show will be held separate from the regular 4-H Beef Show and will have its own showmanship classes.

2. Dairy Steers and Feeders are to be shown with a show stick and appropriate attire for the exhibitor. Grooming of animal for show will consist of a clean, well-washed animal. Clipping includes the face, ears, and tail.

3. The Dairy Steer/Dairy Cross Steer and Dairy Feeder/Dairy Cross Feeder Show will be divided into classes with each having their own Grand and Reserve Grand Champion. The Grand and Reserve Grand Champion Dairy Steer will not compete with the regular beef champion. Dairy Cross Steer will not compete with regular beef steer classes nor the standard Dairy Steer show but will show for champion Dairy Cross Steer/Dairy Cross Feeder following the Grand Champion selection of Dairy Steer and Dairy Feeder.

4. Champion Rate-of-Gain and Reserve Champion Rate-of-Gain awards will be given for feeders/cross-feeders as well as heavyweight dairy steers/cross-dairy steers. The cross-class will compete with only cross animals.

5. Heavyweight Dairy Steers are also eligible for the beef carcass evaluation program. For more details on this program, refer to the Beef Carcass Evaluation section.

6. Dairy Feeders/Dairy Cross Feeders may either be sold in the 4-H auction, sold on the market, or returned to the farm to be brought back to the Fair the following year.

7. There will be 3 Dairy Beef Herdsman Awards given to the exhibitors who display the best animal care, care of pens and surrounding area, participates in workshops, participates in

barn set-up/clean-up, and knowledge of specie.

- A Senior Dairy Beef Herdsman award will be given to a Dairy Beef member in grades 9-12; Intermediate Dairy Beef Herdsman award who is in grades 6-8; a Junior Dairy Beef herdsman award will be given to a Dairy Beef member in grades 3-5.

- Herdsman will be chosen at the discretion of the specie Superintendent and the Dairy Steer and Feeder advisory committee. Qualities that we will be looking for are members that exhibit great character throughout the year and 4-H functions. Members that are willing to help other 4-H members by helping clean the barn, keeping a tidy area, and overall wanting to promote the dairy beef project.

- The winners of the Herdsmen awards will be announced at the 4-H Livestock auction prior to the Dairy Beef species at the DeKalb County Fair.

8. Classes will be posted in the Dairy Beef barn by Tuesday. Order of classes will be determined by the superintendents.

Dairy Feeder Classes (shown by weight)
Grand & Reserve, 3rd & 4th overall

Dairy Feeder Cross Class (shown by weight)
Grand & Reserve Champion Dairy Feeder Cross

Dairy Steer Classes (shown by weight)
Grand & Reserve, 3rd & 4th overall

Dairy Steer Cross Class (shown by weight)
Grand & Reserve Champion Dairy Steer Cross

Showmanship Classes

1. Dairy Beef Steers (or Cross Steers) and Dairy Beef Feeders (or Cross Feeders) may be shown together for Dairy Beef Showmanship. 4-H members must show their own animals. Classes are Junior (Grades 3-5), Intermediate (Grades 6-8), and Senior (Grades 9-12). Grade is determined by previous school year, not current school year.

GOATS

July 1 - 4HOnline Animal ID for Summer Goats and Fall Fair Wethers/Market Does, Nomination forms due to Extension Office

**July 1 - FairEntry class selection for Summer Goat, Worksheets and QLC/YQCA due for Summer Goat
SEPT 8 - FairEntry class selections for Wethers/Market Does, Worksheets and QLC/YQCA due for Fall Fair**

(Updated for 2026)

Chelsea Handshoe, Superintendent

Phone: 260-573-9495

Carrie Dunn, Superintendent

Phone: 260-927-5763

Remind: @4hgoatsd

Facebook group: 4-H Goats DeKalb Co.

Goat Advisory Committee

Frank Nester	Doug & Tonya DePew
Cassie Brown	Jared Malcolm
Rhonda Doster	Baylee Doster
Matthew Beckmann	

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

1. All youth must meet educational requirements by attending one (1) specie specific workshop or complete a specie specific Livestock Record Worksheet. Completed worksheets will be due on the publicized deadline. **Online nomination via v2.4HOnline.com with premise ID number is required by stated deadline. Online entry into FairEntry is also required by stated deadline.**

2. Manuals will be given one (1) per family and are to be used throughout the project.

3. To exhibit this species, 4-H members must be certified through the Quality Livestock Care in-person course or certified through the online only Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) program (must submit their completion certificate). For more information on training, contact the County Extension Office.

Summer Goat Show Ownership Requirements

1. Any animal competing in the Summer Goat Show must be owned by the exhibitor or family entirely or in part, or DOES ONLY can be leased from within DeKalb County or County of residence.

2. Those members leasing SUMMER DOES must complete the Leasing forms and contracts, as well as the Summer Goat Show Enrollment forms and turn them in to the Extension Office by the June Goat ID Day.

EXHIBIT REQUIREMENTS

Educational Poster

1. You do not need an animal to participate. Refer to "Animal Educational Posters" and "Poster Guidelines" in the Static Projects section of this handbook for further information.

2. Posters will be judged at the "Animal Educational Posters" judging (see Summer Judging Schedule).

Live Animal

1. Read the section on Animal Health Requirements and comply. Animal health papers are not required.

Nomination Requirements

1. **All animals are automatically cross-nominated between siblings within the same 4HOnline Family Profile.** Ownership of each animal must be declared at time of check-in at Fair.

2. Exhibitors must submit a completed county nomination form for Summer Goat Show does/pleasure animals and Fall Fair market wethers/does. Nomination forms are due prior to or at the mandatory market animal weigh-in in June; date to be announced each year. **These animals must be nominated in 4HOnline by July 1 for Summer Goat Show animals and July 1 for Fall Fair market wethers/does.**

Animal ID Requirements

1. All goats must have Scrapie tags at ID Day and at both summer and fall shows. The only exception will be a registered animal with legible tattoos accompanied by registration papers and the Indiana Board of Animal Health registration.
2. No bucks allowed. Superintendent will make the final decision. Some animals may have undescended testicles (cryptorchidism) when castrated. They will still be a buck, but their testicles will be undetected by a physical exam.
3. All Dairy market goats (wethers) will be sifted according to the breed characteristics established by their respective scorecards (ADGA- Dairy Wethers) by the goat Superintendent(s) and committee at the June ID Day. Any Dairy wethers exhibiting meat characteristics, will show in the Meat Wether classes. ALL dairy market wethers must attend ID day for Superintendent(s) and committee approval.

Weigh-In / ID Day Information

1. Market Goats (wethers/does) must be enrolled in 4HOnline by a specified date and attend the Goat ID Day. Goat Does/Pleasure Goats are to be enrolled in 4HOnline by July 1 and the Summer Goat Show form submitted at the June Goat ID Day or before at the Extension Office.
2. Market Wether/Doe ID and Weight Gain Requirements—see Fall Show section.

Check-in / Fair

1. Animals will be weighed only once at Fair Check-in unless an immediate re-weigh is requested.
2. Every goat must wear a collar and have a lead available. Proper goat collars, leads, halters, etc. must be used (no twine or string). Only goats which are being shown are allowed on the grounds.
3. All dairy goats must be dehorned.
4. All market goats (meat and dairy wethers, market meat does) must be presented slick shorn (with no more than ½ inch of hair) for inspection at arrival, or animals will not be permitted to enter the barn. Entry will be permitted at the discretion of the Goat Superintendent and Goat Committee.

Grooming Guidelines

1. No body clipping during the Fair, only touch-ups.
2. **Dairy Goats (Does and Wethers) will have no more than 1 inch of horn by check-in for the Summer Doe show or the Fall Fair Market Wether show.**

Exhibition Information

1. An individual animal may only be shown once except for group and showmanship classes.
2. The Superintendent has the discretion to combine single entry classes where appropriate at either the Summer or Fall Show.
3. Dress Code: Summer Goat Show Dairy Breeds - White button up shirt and good jeans. Meat Breeds - Western attire. Fall Fair - Western attire for everyone.
4. County Born Class - Animals must be identified as County Born including name and address of breeder at the State Fair ID Day or County ID Day. Those animals identified

as such on ID Day will then have to be declared in either a MARKET WEIGHT CLASS OR COUNTY BORN at Fair check-in.

5. There will be a Herdsman Award(s) given to the exhibitor who displays the best animal care, care of pens and surrounding area, participates in workshops, participates in barn set-up/clean-up, and knowledge of specie (based on the exhibitor's level). Herdsman will be chosen at the discretion of the specie Superintendent(s) and the specie Committee. **The Herdsman(s) award will be presented at the beginning of the Goat section of the 4-H Auction.**

SUMMER DOE SHOW/PLEASURE GOAT/ SHOWMANSHIP SHOW

All Does will be shown by categories, breed, and age as indicated in this section. Each breed will be judged by its respective scorecard as developed by its breed association and/or registry. Breed scorecards can be obtained from the Breed registries. Superintendent has final breed determination.

Show Categories

1. Dairy Breed Does (Alpine, LaMancha, Nigerian Dwarf, Nubian, Saanen, Toggenburg, Oberhasli, Grade, Guernsey)
2. Boer Does
3. Percentage Boer Does
4. Pygmy Does
5. Other Breed Does (Angora, Mytonic, Spanish, Kiko, Kinder, Pygmy Cross, Nigerian Dwarf Cross, etc)
6. Group Classes
7. Pleasure (cart/harness, pack, pet, Pygmy Wether, Nigerian Dwarf Wether, Pygmy or Nigerian Dwarf Cross Wethers)

A Senior and Junior Champion and Reserve Champion will be awarded for each of the above categories 1-5. Banners will be awarded to all Grand and Reserve Grand Champions Overall for each of the above categories 1-5. Best of Show will be chosen from the Grand Champions of categories 1-5. Ribbons will be awarded to all Champions and Reserve Champions in each breed class.

Dairy Breed Doe Classes

All Senior Does competing for championship honors may be required by the judge to be milked out.

Junior Doe (never freshened)

DA. Junior Kid - born on or after April 1st of the current calendar year

DB. Intermediate Kid - born March 1st to March 31st of the current calendar year

DC. Senior Kid - born January 1st to February 29th of the current calendar year

DD. Dry Yearling - Under 2 years old and never freshened

Senior Doe (freshened, dry milker, or precocious milker)

DE 1 year and under 2 years old

DF 2 years and under 3 years old
DG 3 years and under 5 years old
DH 5 years old and over

GB Best 3 Females
GC Get of Sire (3 Does/Same Sire)
GD Produce of Dam (2 Does/Same Dam)

Boer Doe Classes

Junior Doe (2 years old & under with no offspring)

MA Under 3 months old
MB 3 months to under 6 months old
MC 6 months to under 9 months old
MD 9 months to under 12 months old
ME 12 months to under 2 years old

Senior Doe (must have produced offspring)

MF 1 year to under 2 years old
MG 2 years to under 3 years old
MH 3 years to under 5 years old
MJ 5 years old and over

Percentage Boer Classes

Junior Doe (never freshened)

PMA Under 3 months old
PMB 3 months to under 6 months old
PMC 6 months to under 9 months old
PMD 9 months to under 12 months old
PME 12 months to under 2 years old

Senior Doe (freshened, dry milker, or precocious milker)

PMF 1 year to under 2 years old
PMG 2 years to under 3 years old
PMH 3 years to under 5 years old
PMJ 5 years old and over

Pygmy Doe Classes

Junior Doe (2 years old & under with no offspring)

PA Under 3 months old
PB 3 months to under 6 months old
PC 6 months to under 9 months old
PD 9 months to under 12 months old
PE 12 months to under 2 years old with no offspring

Senior Doe (freshened, dry milker, or precocious milker)

PF 1 year and under 2 years old
PG 2 years and under 3 years old
PH 3 years and under 5 years old
PJ 5 years and over

Other Classes

Any other classes will be tailored to each specific breed by the superintendent, in accordance with that breed.

Group Classes

Animals shown in Group classes will be shown by type. All animals shown in Group classes must have been shown in their respective individual classes. Individual entries must be the same breed, and must be owned and shown by the same exhibitor.

GA Mother & Daughter

PLEASURE SHOW CATEGORIES

Any breed of Doe or Wether may be shown. One (1) animal per division.

1. Cart / Harness

CA. Kid born during current calendar year. Kid must be halter broken and led with a lead line.

CB. Goat 1 year and under 2. Yearling must be in harness pulling an empty cart, led in.

CC. Goat 2 years and over. Goat must be in harness pulling a cart driven by the exhibitor.

2. Pack: Must complete an obstacle course set up by the Superintendents and/or Goat Advisory Committee.

LA. Kid born during current calendar year. Led in—no pack.

LB. Goat 1 year and under 2. Led in with pack.

LC. Goat 2 years and over. Led in with pack filled equal to 10% of goat's body weight.

3. Pet: Animal will be judged according to appropriate scorecard.

FA. Pet

4. Pygmy Wether: Animal will be judged according to appropriate scorecard.

HA. Pygmy Wether

5. Nigerian Dwarf Wether

6. Any cross of Pygmy or Nigerian dwarf with another breed.

Summer Doe Showmanship Classes

Classes will be held at the **end** of the show. Member may show one (1) nominated doe. Classes are Junior (Grades 3-5), Intermediate (Grades 6-8), and Senior (Grades 9-12). Grade is determined by previous school year, not current school year. Member may show one (1) nominated doe in each showmanship division – Meat Goat Does and Dairy Goat Does. Classes are Junior, Intermediate, and Senior. The Senior Showman winners will participate in the Premier Goat Showman class at the Fall Fair. Animals will be provided for the Summer Doe winner, if that exhibitor is not also showing a fall wether. Any provided animals will be selected by the superintendent. See Showmanship Rules under General Animal Project Rules.

FALL FAIR MARKET WETHER / MARKET DOE & SHOWMANSHIP SHOW

1. Pens will be assigned at the discretion of the superintendent and the goat committee.

2. All market animals must be born during the current calendar year and all males must be castrated at least six weeks before the Fall Fair check-in date.

3. All market animals (wethers/does) must be weighed and permanently identified at the mandatory June Weigh-in, and therefore, all are eligible for Rate-of-Gain. It is mandatory for market animals (wethers/does) to be ID'd by a DeKalb 4-H ear tag except for LaManchas, which must have legible tail tattoos. All animals may be photographed, nose-printed,

inserted with RFID, retinal scanned or subject to any other identification program.

4. All animals will be weighed at weigh-in only once with the exception of an immediate re-weigh if requested.

5. All market wethers and all market does must weigh a minimum of 50 pounds and a maximum of 120 pounds to be consigned, auctioned, and to stay at the fair. Any animal between 45-49 pounds may be eligible to remain for exhibition only and return home after Fair at the Superintendent(s) discretion and will not be eligible for consignment or auction.

6. Youth may nominate four (4) meat wethers, four (4) meat market does, and four (4) dairy wethers, but only show six (6) goats total. Youth may show up to three (3) goats in each category.

7. No goats are to be brought to the Fair on show day.

8. No hay bags allowed at the Fair.

9. Auction: Members may sell a wether they have shown in a Market Class. For more details on auction rules, please refer to that section.

SHOWMANSHIP

1. Classes will be held at the end of the show. Member may show one nominated animal in each showmanship division (Meat Goat Wethers/Meat Market Does and Dairy Goat Wethers).

2. The Summer Senior Showmanship winner will participate in the Premier Goat Showman class at the Fall Fair. An animal will be provided and selected by the Superintendent(s) for the Summer Doe Winner if they do not have a fall fair animal.

3. Classes for Meat Wether/Market Doe Goat Showmanship and are Junior (Grades 3-5), Intermediate (Grades 6-8), Senior (Grades 9-12), and Premier. Grade is determined by previous school year, not current school year. **If youth only have Market Does at the fair they will be in showmanship with the meat wethers.

MARKET WETHER & MARKET MEAT DOE CATEGORIES

(To be judged by meat market goat judging guidelines. Market Meat Does will be shown with wethers and follow all of the same guidelines as wethers.)

1. Dairy Breeds to include Alpine, LaMancha, Nubian, Saanen, Toggenburg, Oberhasli, Dairy-type Grade, Guernsey. Cannot exhibit Meat Breed or Nigerian Dwarf Characteristics.

2. Meat Breeds to include Boer Wether and Boer Market Doe. All other meat breeds (Kiko, Spanish, Myotonic, Percentage Boers, Kinder, Meat-type Grade)

A Champion and Reserve Champion will be awarded for each of the above categories. Banners will be awarded to all Grand and Reserve Grand Champions Overall for each of the above categories. Ribbons will be awarded to all Champions and Reserve Champions.

MARKET WETHER & MARKET MEAT DOE CLASSES

Market goats will show by Weight or as County Born and Raised as follows:

WA. Light Weight

WB. Light Medium Weight

WC. Medium Weight

WD. Heavy Medium Weight

WE. Heavy Weight

WF. County Born & Raised

1. All market wethers and does will be assigned classes according to the above list. For each show category, the actual number of classes and their weight ranges will be determined by the superintendent according to the total number of wethers brought to the Fair for that show category. If a youth has two (2) goats in the same weight class, another 4-Her may show one (1) of the entries for them.

2. A Champion and Reserve Champion will be awarded for each of the above classes in each show category. Ribbons will be awarded to all Champions and Reserve Champions. In the Grand Drive for Dairy and Meat type market animals, the top five (5) will be awarded placing per each category.

POULTRY

JULY 1 - Nomination forms due to Extension Office
SEPT 8 - FairEntry class selections, Worksheets and QLC/YQCA due

(Updated for 2026)

Tabby Warstler, Superintendent

Phone: 260-927-5553

Remind: @hak73ea

Poultry Advisory Committee

Charlotte Albaugh

Courtney Albaugh

Stacy Fillenwarth

Doug DePew

Tonya DePew

Carrie Dunn

James Clifford

Julie Black

Lexy Black

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

1. All youth must meet educational requirements by attending one (1) specie specific workshop or complete a specie specific Livestock Record Worksheet. Completed worksheets will be due on the publicized deadline. **Online entry into FairEntry is also required by stated deadline.**

2. Manuals will be given one (1) per family and are to be used throughout the project.

3. To exhibit this species, 4-H members must be certified through the Quality Livestock Care in-person course or certified through the online only Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) program (must submit their completion certificate). For more information on training, contact the County Extension Office.

EXHIBIT REQUIREMENTS

Educational Poster

1. You do not need an animal to participate. Refer to “Animal Educational Posters” and “Poster Guidelines” in the Static Projects section of this handbook for further information.
2. Posters will be judged at the “Animal Educational Posters” judging (see Summer Judging Schedule).

Live Animal

Read the section on Animal Health Requirements and comply. Animal health papers are not required.

Nomination Requirements

1. All Poultry are to originate from National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) sources or have a negative blood test to comply with State BOAH regulations. Blood testing of poultry will be done at ID day by a member of the current poultry committee.
2. All poultry except broilers/roasters must be under the ownership and care of the 4-H member by July.
3. Broilers should be in the member's possession 6-8 weeks prior to the Fair, and Roasters 8-12 weeks. See information under commercial classes for ages and weights.

Weigh-in / ID Day Information

1. Banding/ID Day—All birds except for Broilers and Roasters will be brought to the fairgrounds on published date prior to the Fair (date determined by Superintendent). All birds will be banded on this day. At Banding/ID Day, there will be several forms to fill out. FairEntry nomination must be completed by September 8. Blood draws will be done as needed. 4-H'ers will determine the appropriate class for their birds using the American Standard of Perfection for Poultry, and the Poultry Committee will verify the appropriate class.
2. Birds showing symptoms of disease, lice, or mites, or lack of cleanliness will be sent home at the discretion of the poultry superintendent.

Check-in / Fair

1. Correct transporting cages with clean bedding need to be used when bringing poultry to the Fair.
2. 4-H Poultry members must check-in with the Poultry superintendent immediately upon arrival to the Fair, prior to penning birds. Pens will be assigned. Check-in will be conducted in the show barn.
3. 4-H members must provide feed and water throughout the Fair—feed and water containers will be provided with the poultry pens, and only initial bedding will be supplied. Bedding must also be used and kept clean throughout the Fair. All show equipment (feed, buckets, etc.) must be stored in the designated area(s). No buckets or items will be allowed to be stored on top of or behind cages. Black ribbons (\$50 fines) will be given if necessary.

Exhibitor Information

1. There are fifteen (15) categories available to exhibit in at the Fair. You may show a total of nine (9) exhibits in any combination of the 15 categories. The classes are listed below.

2. The Poultry Superintendent reserves the right to limit the number of poultry each exhibitor may show, if cage space becomes a problem.
3. If the breed you are trying to exhibit is not in the standard of perfection (poultry standard) for a recognized breed, they will not be able to show in the exhibition and will be moved to commercial in which they will have to be paired.
4. 4-H youth (or anyone else) raising game birds (ring-necked pheasant or bobwhite quail, including their subspecies and color phases), must follow the Indiana Department of Natural Resources regulations. Wild turkeys and ruffed grouse may not be raised in captivity in Indiana.
5. Awards will be given for Commercial species and Exhibition species. A Champion and Reserve Champion will be awarded.
6. Exhibitor must be able to handle all birds, as they show in the show ring. Except for Pigeon and Exotic, which would be judged in the poultry barn, due to flight risk. If a member has two (2) or more birds in the same class, they may have another 4-H member show one (1) of the birds for them. Only 4-H exhibitors will be allowed in the show ring.
7. Auction Animals ONLY!—Broiler, Roaster, Commercial Hen, Commercial Pullet, Commercial Turkey, Commercial (heavy weight) Duck, and Commercial (heavy weight) Goose.
8. There will be a Herdsman Award given to the exhibitor who displays the best animal care, care of pens and surrounding area, participates in workshops and in barn set-up/clean-up. Herdsman will be chosen at the discretion of the specie Superintendent and the specie Committee.
9. All birds must be properly groomed for the show with feet, wattles, comb, and feathers cleaned.
10. Appropriate long sleeve show attire is required for the show. No ball caps will be allowed.
11. Zip tie bands will be used to properly ID birds. Poultry Superintendent must be contacted immediately if a band falls off between ID day and Fair check-in. No bands will be replaced at Fair check-in and poultry will be sent home and not able to be shown if they do not have a band. Only bands accepted will be the ones supplied by the Poultry Superintendent. No band = no show!

Commercial Information and Classes

1. Commercial poultry classes will be judged with special attention given to growth, development and production qualities, and according to the American Standard of Perfection as authorized by the American Poultry Association.
2. Commercial Hens, Pullets, Broilers, and Roasters are penned two (2) per pen and shown as one exhibit. Must be same breed and same sex.
3. Only (1) exhibit per commercial class.
4. Commercial birds may not exceed 2 years of age.

Classes

1. BROILERS - Exhibit two (2) of the same sex and same breed birds, 6-8 weeks old. Not over 5 1/2 lbs., at check-in. Auctioned as a pair.
2. ROASTERS - Exhibit two (2) of the same sex and same breed birds, 8-12 weeks old. Weighing 5 1/2 lbs. to 10 pounds at check-in. Auctioned as a pair.

3. COMMERCIAL PULLETS - Exhibit two (2) female birds of the same breed, less than one (1) year old. Hatched between January 1st and May 15th of current year. Pullets will be placed in one of the following classes: White egg laying, brown egg laying, tinted egg laying, or colored egg laying. Auctioned as a pair.
4. COMMERCIAL HENS - Exhibit two (2) female birds of the same breed, one (1) year old or more. Hatched prior to January 1st of current year. Hens will be placed in one of the following classes: White egg laying, brown egg laying, tinted egg laying, or colored egg laying. Auctioned as a pair.
5. HEAVY WEIGHT DUCK - Breeds include: Appleyard, Aylesbury, Muscovy, Pekin, Rouen, and Saxony
6. HEAVY WEIGHT GOOSE - Breeds include: African, Embdem, and Toulouse
7. COMMERCIAL TURKEY - Breeds include: Broad Breasted Bronze and White
8. EGG DISPLAY - Exhibit six (6) eggs in foam carton.
 - A. White eggs
 - B. Brown eggs
 - C. Tinted eggs (cream colored)
 - D. Colored eggs (blue, green, pink)
5. TURKEY - 1 Exhibit = 1 male or female
 - A. Heavy Weight
 - B. Medium Weight
 - C. Light Weight
6. PIGEONS - Will be penned two (2) per pen but shown individually. These will be shown in the poultry barn due to flight risk.
 - A. Fancy
 - B. Sporting/Performance
 - C. Utility
7. EXOTIC - This class includes Guineas, Quail, Pheasants, or any unusual breed not fitting into one of the above categories. These will be shown in the poultry barn due to flight risk.
8. BREEDING PAIR - Exhibit one (1) male and one (1) female of the same breed and variety, shown by the same exhibitor. Exhibitors may use a male and/or female shown in the Exhibition show. Note: This class is not eligible for Best of Show

Showmanship Classes

1. There will be a Poultry Showmanship for Junior (grades 3-5), Intermediate (grades 6-8), and Senior (grades 9-12) 4-H members. Grade is determined by previous school year, not current school year. Exhibitors' knowledge of their bird, exhibitors' appearance and attitude, exhibitors' bird's cleanliness, and how the exhibitor handles their bird at the table will all be at the decision of the judge.

Exhibition Information and Classes

1. Exhibition chickens, ducks, turkeys, geese, and exotic birds will be judged according to the American Standard of Perfection as authorized by the American Poultry Association.
2. Poultry and Waterfowl in the following Exhibition categories (Bantams, Large Fowl, Ducks, Geese, Turkeys, Exotics and Pigeons) can show in any combination. Refer to complete list of Exhibition birds.
3. You may exhibit up to 4 per class, not exceeding 9 exhibits including commercial exhibits. For example: You may show 4 birds of any variety of ages in a class.

Classes

1. EXHIBITION BANTAM CHICKENS - 1 Exhibit = 1 male or female
 - A. Clean Legged Bantam (Single comb, Rose comb, all other combs)
 - B. Feather Legged Bantam
 - C. Game Bantam (Modern, Old English)
2. LARGE FOWL/CHICKEN - 1 Exhibit = 1 male or female
 - A. American
 - B. Asiatic
 - C. Continental
 - D. English
 - E. Mediterranean
 - F. A.O.V.
3. DUCKS - 1 Exhibit = 1 male or female
 - A. Heavy Weight
 - B. Medium Weight
 - C. Light Weight
 - D. Bantam Duck
4. GOOSE - 1 Exhibit = 1 male or female
 - A. Heavy Weight
 - B. Medium Weight
 - C. Light Weight

RABBITS

JULY 1- 4HOnline Animal ID for Breed Rabbits, Roasters and Stewers, Breed Rabbit Nomination forms due to Extension Office

SEPT 8 - FairEntry class selections, Worksheets and QLC/YQCA due

SEPT 8 - Meat Pen & Fryer Nomination forms due in Extension Office

(Updated for 2026)

**Tonya DePew, Superintendent
260-582-1725**

tdepew5@gmail.com

Remind: @dekalbhops

Facebook group: 4-H Rabbits DeKalb Co.

Rabbit Advisory Committe

Doug & Tonya DePew	Janalle Pfefferkorn
Deanna Dunn	Stacy Fillenwarth
Cassie Brown	Chelsea Handshoe
Jennifer Rigby	Carrie Dunn
Olivia Rigby	Leah Henderson
Montana Tiernan	

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

1. All youth must meet educational requirements by attending one (1) specie specific workshop or complete

a specie specific Livestock Record Worksheet. Completed worksheets will be due on the publicized deadline. **Online nomination via 4HOnline.com with premise ID number is required by stated deadline. Online entry into FairEntry is also required by stated deadline.**

2. Manuals will be given one (1) per family and are to be used throughout the project.

3. To exhibit this species, 4-H members must be certified through the Quality Livestock Care in-person course or certified through the online only Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) program (must submit their completion certificate). For more information on training, contact the County Extension Office.

EXHIBIT REQUIREMENTS

Educational Poster

1. You do not need an animal to participate. Refer to "Animal Educational Posters" and "Poster Guidelines" in the Static Projects section of this handbook for further information.

2. Posters will be judged at the "Animal Educational Posters" judging (see Summer Judging Schedule).

Live Animal

Read the section on Animal Health Requirements and comply. No animal health papers are required.

Nomination Requirements

1. Members exhibiting at the Fall Fair must complete county nomination forms. Nomination forms must be turned in by July 1 to the County Extension Office and animals entered in 4HOnline by that date.

2. Only Roaster or Stewer rabbits nominated on July 1 are eligible to sell in the auction. All Stewers must have been born in the current calendar year.

3. Meat Pen and Fryer rabbits must be nominated by September 8 and are not eligible for auction. Nomination forms are available at the Extension Office or from the Rabbit Superintendent.

4. A member may nominate up to twelve (12) breed rabbits, three (3) roasters, three (3) stewers, three (3) fryers, two (2) meat pens, and one (1) litter pen for litter class. Members may only exhibit six (6) breed rabbits, one (1) roaster, one (1) stewer, one (1) fryer, (1) meat pen, and one (1) litter pen.

5. If an exhibitor nominates a meat rabbit they wish to show (roaster, stewer, meat pen or fryer), they must also nominate and show a 4 or 6-Class rabbit. Thus, each 4-H'er must exhibit a minimum of two (2) rabbits, if one is a meat rabbit meant for commercial breed classes.

6. If a rabbit dies after the nomination deadline, there will be no substitutions. The member may complete their project by completing and submitting their Livestock Record worksheet or attending a rabbit workshop.

7. Show remark cards must be completed with accurate breed and variety of rabbit and match nomination forms or animal will not be permitted to exhibit. Both Show Remark Cards and Pen Reservations must be completed prior to fair check-in.

8. Auction rabbit needs to be identified before the final check-in station at the Superintendent's table during fair check-in.

Animal ID Requirements

1. Stewer and Roaster rabbits must have county tattoo along with existing tattoo in left ear on announced date in order to show at Fall Fair.

Check-in / Fair

1. All rabbits must be weighed at check-in. In the event rabbit exceeds acceptable weight range published in the American Rabbit Breeders Association Book of Standards may be moved UP to appropriate class, i.e., Junior Buck may move to Senior Buck, but not vice versa.

2. Official auction animals weight will be determined at the Superintendent's station at Fair Check-in. Only Nominated Roaster or Stewer rabbits that meet their weight requirement may be eligible to go through the auction.

3. Unsportsmanlike behavior or cruelty will not be tolerated.

4. Pens and initial bedding will be provided. No locks will be permitted on cages unless the superintendent has the lock combination. Only locks with combinations or zip ties will be allowed. No Key Locks will be allowed.

5. All Rabbits will be required to use the cages provided by the Rabbit Barn. If you need Rabbit cages, please contact the Rabbit Superintendent.

6. Only hay cubes will be permitted. No water bottles. Must use feed and water dishes supplied.

7. Feed supplies must be in a labeled container (no buckets) under cages or in designated area(s) in the rabbit barn.

8. Only superintendent and committee members are permitted in the show ring during the show.

Exhibition Information

1. Members must check-in with the Rabbit Superintendent and/or Committee upon arrival at the Fall Fair for animal health checks and approval before putting the rabbits into cages.

2. No entries will be accepted without legible, permanent tattoo in left ear.

3. All rabbits are to be a recognized breed and will be judged by the American Rabbit Breeders Association Book of Standards. Animals will be sifted by the Rabbit Superintendent and Rabbit Committee. All decisions are final.

4. If a member has two (2) or more rabbits in the same class, they may have another 4-H member show one of the rabbits for them.

5. All 4-H rabbit exhibitors must wear long sleeve show attire when showing. White lab coat or aprons are recommended.

6. Awards will be presented for Champion Roaster, Champion Stewer, Champion Fryer, Champion Meat Pen, Best Six Class, Best Four Class, Best 4 and 6 Class Litter, and Best of Show.

7. Awards will be given for each Best of Breed and Best Opposite Sex. Otherwise, the award is a champion ribbon.

8. Does with litters will not be accepted unless exhibiting in litter class.

9. There will be a Herdsman Award given to the exhibitor who displays the best animal care, care of pens and surrounding area, participates in workshops, participates in barn set-up/clean-up, and knowledge of specie (based

on the exhibitor's level). Herdsman will be chosen at the discretion of the specie Superintendent and the specie Committee.

10. The following classes will be offered at the Fair for each breed:

6-Class Class No.

- 1 Senior Buck (over 8 months)
- 2 Senior Doe (over 8 months)
- 3 Intermediate Buck (6-8 months)
- 4 Intermediate Doe (6-8 months)
- 5 Junior Buck (4-6 months)
- 6 Junior Doe (4-6 months)
- 7 Meat Pen (3 rabbits, may nominate 6)
- 8 Stewer (1 rabbit, may nominate 3)
- 9 Roaster (1 rabbit, may nominate 3)
- 10 Fryer (1 rabbit, may nominate 3)
- 11 Litter and Doe

4-Class Class No.

- 12 Senior Buck (over 6 months)
- 13 Senior Doe (over 6 months)
- 14 Junior Buck (under 6 months)
- 15 Junior Doe (under 6 months)
- 16 Litter and Doe

4 and 6 Class Breed Chart

4 CLASS BREEDS	
Small (2-6 lbs)	Medium (over 6 lbs - up to 10.5 lbs)
American Fuzzy Lop	American Sable
Britannia Petite	Belgian Hare
Dutch	Blue Holicer
Drawf Hotot	Czech Frosty
Dwarf Papillon	English Angora
Florida White	English Spot
Havana	French Angora
Himalayan	Harlequin
Holland Lop	Lilac
Jersey Wooly	Rex
Lionhead	Rhineland
Mini Californian	Satin Angora
Mini Lop	Silver Martin
Mini Rex	Standard Chinchilla
Mini Satin	
Netherland Dwarf	
Polish	
Silver	
Tan	
Thrianta	

6 CLASS BREEDS	
Large (over 9 lbs- up to 11 lbs)	Giant (over 11 lbs)
American	Checked Giant
American Chinchilla	Flemish Giant
Argente Brun	French Lop
Beveren	Giant Chinchilla
Blanc de Hotot	Giant Angora
Californian	
Champagne D'Argent	
Cinnamon	
Creme D'Argent	
English Lop	
New Zealand	
Palomino	
Satin	
Silver Fox	

Meat Classes: Meat Classes are for 6-Class Rabbits Only.

Roaster: A rabbit weighing 5 to 8 lbs., and less than 6 months of age at show day.

Stewer: A rabbit weighing 8 lbs., or more, and 6 months of age or more at day of show. All Stewers must have been born in the current calendar year.

Fryer: A rabbit weighing 3 to 5 lbs., the day of show and not over 10 weeks old. This rabbit cannot be from an exhibiting Meat Pen, it must be a separate exhibit.

Meat Pen: A rabbit 10 weeks old; consisting of three (3) rabbits - all of the same breed and variety, minimum weight of 3 lbs. each - maximum weight of 5 lbs., each. Do not necessarily need to be from the same litter. All Meat Pens must be weighed in the presence of the judge.

Litter Class: Litter classes are for 4-Class and 6-Class Rabbits

Litter Class: A doe and her complete litter owned by the exhibitor. Exhibit must contain doe and all kits born to the doe with no kits added. Kits are to be 5-7 weeks old during Fair and must still meet ARBA standards. Doe must be tattooed at ID Day. Litter class nominations will be due on at Show Remark Card Workshop on date to be announced each year. Exhibitor must show at least one (1) more rabbit of the same breed as the litter, but not a rabbit from the litter class.

Showmanship Classes

Rabbit Showmanship will be held at the Fall Fair. Classes are: Junior (Grades 3-5), Intermediate (Grades 6-8), Senior (Grades 9-12) and Premier. Grade is determined by previous school year, not current school year. Previous winners in either of the above categories will automatically move up to the next division the following year, regardless of winner's grade.

SHEEP

JULY 1- 4HOnline Animal ID, Nomination forms due to Extension Office
SEPT 8 - FairEntry class selections, Worksheets and QLC/YQCA due

Logan Rinehold, Superintendent
Phone: 260-908-6343
Remind: @dekalbshee

Sheep Advisory Committee

John Slentz	Madison Haynes
Adam McCartney	Erik Thrush
Jeff Nelson	

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

- 1. All youth must meet educational requirements by attending one (1) specie specific workshop or complete a specie specific Livestock Record Worksheet.** Completed worksheets will be due on the publicized deadline. **Online nomination via v2.4HOnline.com with premise ID number is required by stated deadline. Online entry into FairEntry is also required by stated deadline.**
2. Manuals will be given one (1) per family and are to be used throughout the project.
3. To exhibit this species, 4-H members must be certified through the Quality Livestock Care in-person course or certified through the online only Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) program (must submit their completion certificate). For more information on training, contact the County Extension Office.

EXHIBIT REQUIREMENTS

Educational Poster

1. You do not need an animal to participate. Refer to "Animal Educational Posters" and "Poster Guidelines" in the Static Projects section of this handbook for further information.
2. Posters will be judged at the "Animal Educational Posters" judging (see Summer Judging Schedule).

Live Animal

Read the section on Animal Health Requirements and comply. Animal health papers are not required.

Nomination Requirements

1. All animals are automatically cross-nominated between siblings within the same 4HOnline Family Profile. Ownership of each animal must be declared at time of check-in at Fair. For State Fair, animal ownership must be declared at time of enrollment.
2. A member may nominate up to six (6) market wethers or market ewe lambs and exhibit three (3) including Pen of Two, in the Fall Fair Sheep Show. There is no limit on Breeding Ewes shown. Ewe lambs can be cross nominated as both market ewes and breeding ewes at the nomination deadline, but market lambs will not exceed six (6) total. Exhibitor must

declare market ewe or breeding ewe at check-in Fair Week.

Weigh-in / ID Day Information

1. County Born Class: Animals must be identified as County Born including name and address of breeder at the State Fair ID or County ID Day. Those animals identified as such on ID Day will then have to be declared in either a BREED CLASS OR COUNTY BORN CLASS at Fair check-in. Breeds will be in alignment with Indiana State Fair Guidelines.
2. All market lambs must be under (1) year-of-age on show day and still have their lamb's teeth intact. Ewe lambs must have been born after October 1st of the previous year. Yearling Ewes must have been born before October 1st of the previous year, but not more than 12 months prior to October 1st of the previous year.
3. Breeding ewes are not required to be county ear-tagged or to have registration papers.

Check-In / Fair

1. Market lambs will be weighed upon arrival at the Fairgrounds. A minimum weight of 90 pounds is required to be able to show or sell. If under 90 pounds and the exhibitor's only animal of any species, will show in an underweight class with a participation ribbon and animals are not eligible to be sold in the auction or consigned.
2. Animals will be weighed only once at Fair Check-in unless an immediate re-weigh is requested.

Exhibition Information

1. All market lambs are eligible for Rate-of-Gain competition. Animals will be weighed at ID Day prior to July 1 nomination deadline. Rate-of-Gain animals must then be exhibited in the Fall Fair 4-H Sheep Show to complete their eligibility.
2. In the breeding classes, breeding ewes will show by the ages shown below and in alphabetical order by breed with the commercial classes showing last. Cheviot, Columbia, Corriedale, Dorset, Hampshire, Katahdin, Montadale, Natural Color, Oxford, Rambouillet, Shropshire, Southdown, Suffolk, Black Faced Commercial and White Faced Commercial.

Breeding Ewe Classes

- Ewe Lamb
 - Pair of Two Ewe Lambs
 - Yearling Ewes
 - Pair of Two Yearling Ewe Lambs
3. In the breeding classes there will be a Champion and Reserve Champion Ewe selected in each breed
 4. Market lambs will be shown as County Born or by breeds in alignment with the Indiana State Fair Standards. Animals will be sifted by the Sheep Superintendent and Sheep Committee. All decisions will be final. A "Pair of Two Market Lambs" class will show after a Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion lamb are selected.
 5. In the Market classes, there will be a Champion and Reserve Champion in the Pair of Two Market Lambs class, as well as in each breed class. Class divisions will be established at the discretion of the Sheep superintendent.

6. In the Grand Drive for Ewes and the Grand Drive for Market Lambs, the top five (5) Ewes and top five (5) Market Lambs will be awarded placings.
7. Both animals in any Pair of Two classes must be owned by exhibitors of the same immediate family limited to siblings.
8. There are to be no more than 15 animals in any class in the showing.
9. There will be a Herdsman Award given to the exhibitor who displays the best animal care, care of pens and surrounding area, participates in workshops, participates in barn set-up/clean-up, and knowledge of specie (based on the exhibitor's level). Herdsman will be chosen at the discretion of the specie Superintendent and the specie Committee.
10. In Showmanship, grade is determined by previous school year, not current school year.

Grooming Guidelines

1. All wool breed market lambs must be presented slick shorn (with no more than ¼ inch of wool) for inspection at arrival, or animals will not be permitted to enter the barn. Entry will be permitted at the discretion of the Sheep Superintendent and Sheep Committee.
2. All breeding ewes must be presented with clean wool (washed and free of debris) for inspection at arrival, or animals will not be permitted to enter barn. Entry will be permitted at the discretion of the Sheep Superintendent and Sheep Committee.

SWINE

JULY 1- 4HOnline Animal ID, Nomination forms due to Extension Office
SEPT 8 - FairEntry class selections, Worksheets and QLC/YQCA due

Kevin Days, Superintendent
Phone: 260-243-0266
 Remind: @kevinday

Swine Advisory Committee

Brett Munsey	Gabe Pranger
Chad Days	Matt Taylor
Brent McHenry	Daniel Days
Curtis Christlieb	

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

1. **All youth must meet educational requirements by attending one (1) specie specific workshop or complete a specie specific Livestock Record Worksheet.** Completed worksheets will be due on the publicized deadline. **Online nomination via v2.4HOnline.com with premise ID number is required by stated deadline. Online entry into FairEntry is also required by stated deadline.**
2. Manuals will be given one (1) per family and are to be used throughout the project.
3. To exhibit this species, 4-H members must be certified through the Quality Livestock Care in-person course or

certified through the online only Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) program (must submit their completion certificate). For more information on training, contact the County Extension Office.

EXHIBIT REQUIREMENTS

Educational Poster

1. You do not need an animal to participate. Refer to "Animal Educational Posters" and "Poster Guidelines" in the Static Projects section of this handbook for further information.
2. Posters will be judged at the "Animal Educational Posters" judging (see Summer Judging Schedule).

Live Animal

Read the section on Animal Health Requirements and comply. Animal health papers are not required.

Nomination Requirements

1. **All animals are automatically cross-nominated between siblings within the same 4HOnline Family Profile.** Ownership of each animal must be declared at time of check-in at Fair. For State Fair, animal ownership must be declared at time of enrollment.
2. A member may nominate up to six (6) animals (barrows and/or gilts) by July 1, however only three (3) swine animals may be shown at Fair.

Animal ID Requirements

1. All swine, barrows and gilts, must be tagged with approved ear tag. Swine must be present on designated ID Day, recorded on the county swine nomination form, **and entered in 4HOnline by July 1.** All Swine must be ear notched before the July ID Day.
2. Purebred Barrows must have registration papers and must meet breed characteristics or will have to be shown in the Crossbred Class. Market barrows will show by breed with classes divided according to weight and number of animals to be shown.
3. Purebred Gilts must have proper registration papers from the Breed Association or National Swine Registry in order to show in a Breed Class. Purebred gilt classes will be divided by breed and by weight. Crossbred gilt classes will be divided by weight and number to be shown.

Check-In / Fair

1. All pigs (gilts & barrows) are to be farrowed on or after February 1 of the current calendar year.
2. Market Barrows must weigh between 220-290 pounds, or go home. No under/over weight class. Breeding Gilts weighing between 220-290 pounds at weigh-in will be allowed to be consigned. Gilts under 220 pounds at weigh-in **MUST** be taken home after the fair by the exhibitor. **Gilts weighing less than 200 pounds will not be allowed to exhibit at the fair.** Animals will be weighed only once at Fair Check-in unless an animal is over/under weight, in which case an immediate re-weigh will be conducted.

Exhibition Information

1. A member may show more than one (1) animal in any one class. Additional animals are to be shown by another

Notes:

4-H member.

2. For both market barrows and breeding gilts, the order of breeds for the 4-H show classes will be determined by the 4-H Swine Advisory Committee. A barrow class will be provided for any breed having three (3) or more animals. Any breed with less than three (3) animals will be shown in an "All Other Breeds" class. A crossbred class will also be provided for barrows and gilts.

3. The Order of Show at the Fair will be as follows:

Breeding Gilts

Purebred Gilts (shown by breed and weight)

Crossbred

Market Barrows

Purebred Barrows (shown by represented breeds)

Crossbred Barrows (shown by weight)*:

Light Weight (220-230 lbs.)

Light Medium Weight (231-245 lbs.)

Medium Weight (246-260 lbs.)

Heavy Medium Weight (261-275 lbs.)

Heavy Weight (276-290 lbs.)

***Superintendent will modify the class weight ranges if needed**

4. In the Grand Drive, the top five (5) barrows and the top five (5) gilts will be awarded placings.

5. There will be a Herdsman Award given to the exhibitor who displays the best animal care, care of pens and surrounding area, participates in workshops, participates in barn set-up/clean-up, and knowledge of specie (based on the exhibitor's level). Herdsman will be chosen at the discretion of the specie Superintendent and the specie Committee.

Showmanship Classes

1. To participate in Showmanship, the member must sign-up at before the Swine Show in FairEntry or on an official, posted showmanship sign-up sheet. Grade is determined by previous school year, not current school year.

SUPREME SHOWMAN CONTEST

1. Premier Showman winners from Beef, Dairy, Dairy Feeders and Steers, Meat Goats, Dairy Goats, Rabbits, Poultry, Sheep and Swine are eligible to compete.
2. Supreme Showmen are eligible to return the following year, if they earn the right to participate by winning a premier showman of a specific specie the following year.
3. If no Premier Showman is selected for a specie, the Senior showman winner for that specie will represent that specie in the Supreme Showman Contest.
4. In case one person wins more than one Premier showman specie, that person will represent the first specie won and the second specie's Premier runner-up will represent the second specie.
5. Nine (9) classes will be set-up using animals which have been shown at the Fair. There will be one (1) class each of Beef, Dairy, Dairy Feeders and Steers, Meat Goat Wethers, Dairy Goat Wethers, Rabbits, Poultry (structure of Rabbits and Poultry classes will be determined by the show committee), Sheep and Swine.
6. Participants will all show the same species at the same time, with contest order to be determined by the contest judge.
7. Barn superintendents will select the animals of each species to be used in the contest. The show host will provide the necessary equipment needed for that specie for all contestants (show sticks, brushes, etc.).
8. Any grooming done shall be the responsibility of the Premier Showman of that specie. All seven (7) animals shall be prepared equally.
9. Contestants will draw numbers to determine the animal used for each specie as the specie enters the ring. Contestants may not draw their own animal, if it is used in the contest.
10. Each specie will be shown under the appropriate guidelines of that specie.
11. All show procedures are at the discretion of the show committee and the judge.
12. An award will be presented to the first place individual. Other awards to all contestants may be presented.
13. The Supreme Showman Contest will be held on Friday of the Fair in the Show Arena at the published time.

LIVESTOCK AUCTION

1. All 4-H members, who wish to sell animals through the Livestock Auction, must be a member of one of the following township clubs: 4-H Cloverleaves, 4-H Power, Fairfield Farmers, Jackson Blue Ribbons, Richland Cornhuskers, Smithfield Busy Bees, Cut-Ups, or Nevershirk.
2. Each 4-H livestock member may sell any one (1) of the following through the auction at the County Fall Fair: market lamb, market barrow (220-290 lbs.), beef market project (steer or heifer), dairy steer, dairy feeder, dairy product, rabbit (roaster or stewart), goat market project (dairy or

meat), poultry (broiler, roaster, commercial hen, commercial pullet, commercial turkey, commercial heavy weight duck or commercial heavy weight goose). If a 4-H animal was not shown (i.e., animal becomes injured, ill, unruly, is sent home, etc.), it will not be eligible to go through the Auction. No animal that was shown in an "exhibition only" class may go through the auction. In addition, other non-livestock entities may auction an item that has prior approval by the 4-H Council with funds going to an approved 4-H purpose.

3. Members may choose to mark their animal as a "member keep" while still entering the animal in the Auction. This determination will be done at check in and may only be changed in the event of a Grand or Reserve Grand placing 1 hour following the respective show. Members are responsible for transportation of any "member keep" at the load out time designated by the respective superintendent.
4. Weight of the animal at the time of entry on check-in day will be the sale weight of the animal.
5. There are several restrictions on the use of medicated feeds. Check with your supplier about required withdrawal periods, prior to the sale of any animals in the 4-H Auction.
6. 1% of both auction and consigned animals will be deducted from the auction check to defray costs of conducting the sale (i.e., postage, checks, booster cards, sale cards, etc.).
7. 2% of both auction and consigned animals will be deducted from the auction check for a Capital Improvement Fund for livestock at the fairgrounds.

8. The Sale Order will rotate each year. The 2026 Order of Sale:

1. Sheep
2. Rabbits
3. Summer Judging Item
4. Swine
5. Dairy Product
6. Pink Panther
7. Beef
8. Poultry
9. Goats
10. Horse & Pony Item
11. Dairy Beef

9. The Auction is scheduled to begin each year at the published time on Friday of the DeKalb County Free Fall Fair.

10. The Order of Sale within each species will be determined in part by show placings. Grand and Reserve Grand Champion animals will sell first, followed by breed champions. The order for all other entries will be organized by the FairEntry Committee and Youth Extension Educator.

11. Prior to the Auction, animals will be appraised by a market buyer and a fair market price will be established. This price is known as the support price. **If an animal is a "member keep" no price will be assigned.**

12. Any individual, group or business is eligible to purchase livestock at the Auction. Those considering purchasing an animal for their personal use may do so, however, trucking, handling and/or slaughtering arrangements must be taken care of by the buyer.

13. During the 4-H Auction, each buyer has the following options:

MINI 4-H

(Updated for 2026)

A. **Sell**—This means the packer (or market) pays the support price and you only pay the premium you bid. The animal is sold to the packer. Example:

Sale Premium Price: \$1,000 for a steer

Market/Support Price: \$60/cwt. X 1000 lb. steer = \$600

Buyer pays: \$1,000

B. **Keep**—Unless designated as a “member keep” buyer may keep the animal. This means you want to keep the animal for personal use and you will pay the total price. Example: From above example, you would pay all of the \$1,600.

C. **Donate**—If the animal is donated back to the 4-H'er or any other organization, the full price of the animal plus premium will be paid by the buyer.

Township Auction Committees cannot keep animals at the Auction for any reason. Example: Same as Keep.

14. Auction animals may be purchased through funds collected by township 4-H buyer committees, who solicit money from various businesses and individuals prior to the auction. It is also sometimes advantageous for several buyers to pool their funds in purchasing animals. These buyer groups must obtain a bidder number and a designated person is responsible for paying the bid amount.

15. Bidders described above are known as “Friends and Family” bidders. Funds for these bids are encouraged to be paid on Friday at the conclusion of the auction and must be paid within 14 days of the auction. Members checks will not be released if a “Friends and Family” bid has not been paid.

4-H Members Selling in Auction Agreement

4-H MEMBERS SELLING IN 4-H AUCTION AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS & CONDITIONS:

1. The member or representative must be in attendance with their animal as it goes through the auction ring.
2. Ownership of Animals Following Auction: At the time the gavel drops “Sold” for an animal, unless designated as a “member keep”, the auctioneer will ask the buyer whether it is a “consign” or “keep.” Whatever is said at that time is final and “keep” or “consign” will NOT be changed after the time. A member may not decide at this time to change the animal to a “member keep”. This must be done in the timeframe listed in item 3.
3. Thank You's will be required to be written and given to Township Auction Chairman prior to receiving full check. If Thank You's are not received by December 1, checks will be issued for market price of animal only with premium reverting to respective 4-H Auction Township committees.
4. Members cannot receive payment for auction animals until buyers or buyer committees pay the Auction Treasurer and those checks have cleared. If auction checks are lost, members will pay stop check charges for a new check to be written. See item 16 above regarding checks with unpaid “Friends and Family” bids.
5. Auction checks will only be sent to the 4-H member at the address on the member's 4-H enrollment.

1. Mini 4-H is open to any child who is in Kindergarten or First or Second grade as of January 1.
2. The Mini 4-H Club is a county-wide club and all Mini members will be a member of the club.
3. The Mini 4-H Club will have at least 4 monthly meetings per year.
4. Mini 4-H dues are \$5.00
5. Mini 4-H animal projects do not involve live animals, only posters.
6. Posters are to be 14”x22” (horizontally), with stiff backing and covered with plastic.
7. Complete at least three (3) activities in project manual; may do all. Bring completed manual to judging in September – this is your record sheet.
8. Projects will not be judged for placings, but will be gone over with the member by the adult leaders or designated adults.
9. All completed projects will receive a Mini Participation ribbon.
10. Completed projects will be kept after the last meeting and displayed during Fall Fair. Projects may be picked up at the end of Fair, during the check-out time for the other 4-H projects in the Exhibit Hall.
11. No Mini projects may be exhibited at the State Fair.
12. It is recommended that the Mini member take only one or two projects from the following list. These projects are for Mini members only and are not regular 4-H projects. Since this is an opportunity to learn new things, and there is only one manual per project, it is recommended that projects not be repeated.

A. Bugs

- Poster of an insect or spider with body parts labeled.
- Poster of a butterfly. Be sure to make the designs on the wings symmetrical.
- Poster showing some of the ways bugs help people (i.e. honey)
- Poster showing several kinds of bugs on one half and several kinds of spiders on the other half. May want to draw the pictures or may want to cut them from magazines.
- Five (5) insects with common names, pinned on styrofoam, in a shoebox with removable lid.

B. Collections

- Poster of 5-10 collection items
- Shoebox with 5-10 collection items

C. Crafts

- Splatter Painting- Dress the Clown
- Beaded Necklace- Hand Print
- Decoupage- Seed Picture
- Drawing- Gift Bag
- Craft Kit- Your Creative Craft

GLOSSARY

4-H TERMS USED IN DEKALB COUNTY

Adult Volunteer: A person who volunteers their time to recruit, plan, organize, counsel, taxi, encourage, nag, compliment, redirect, and whatever else it takes to make sure members have a great 4-H experience. These people are not paid, so please be considerate of their time and let them know how much they are appreciated!

Animal ID Day: Most animal species must be brought to a central location to be identified for 4-H.

Extension Edge Newsletter: This newsletter from the Extension Office is the main source of communication, filled with very important information on all program areas.

Fair Association: The DeKalb County Fair Association is a separate entity from 4-H and Extension. They plan and organize the entire fair, from the carnival events to Open Class judging, while the 4-H Council and the Extension Office are responsible for the 4-H part of the fair.

4-H Council: Each club has 2 representatives who serve on the 4-H Council. This group meets monthly to make decisions concerning the administration of the DeKalb County 4-H program.

4-H Handbook: This book describes all projects (non-livestock & livestock) and their rules, judging information, activities and awards. A reference for throughout the year.

Open Judging: A type of judging where 4-H members talk directly with the judge while their project is being evaluated. Parents may attend Open Judging, but are not allowed to speak to the judge.

Premise ID Number: The Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) requires all property sites associated with the sale, purchase or exhibition of livestock be registered and issued a Premise ID number. The premise number is linked to a physical piece of property and will remain with it, regardless of ownership of the animals present. Wherever your animals are located, is the Premise ID number that you will need to use on your livestock paperwork.

Project Manual: Most projects have manuals that provide educational material, learning activities, and questions to complete.

Project Superintendent: Projects may have a volunteer who is in charge. They plan workshops and work with the judge during exhibition. They are also available to answer any specific questions you have about project activities and requirements.

D. Farm Animals

- Poster of animal with body parts properly labeled
- Poster of consumer products derived from the animal

E. Flowers & Gardening

- Three (3) cut flowers in a vase
- Flowering potted plant
- Potted houseplant
- Cacti
- Poster showing different parts of a plant
- Plate with maximum of three (3) different vegetables

F. Foods

- Three (3) no-bake cookies on a disposable plate, covered with clear plastic wrap and labeled. Include the recipe.
- Popcorn snack in small plastic sandwich bag
- Three (3) marshmallow treat squares on disposable plate, covered with clear plastic wrap and labeled. Include the recipe.

G. Forestry

- Poster with 5-7 items (see manual)

H. Health

- Poster on proper handwashing

I. Horse & Pony

- Poster of horse with body parts labeled
- Poster of uses for the horse in today's world

J. Llama

- Poster of animal with body parts properly labeled
- Poster of consumer products derived from the animal

K. Models

- One model of your choice. May use snap together kit, Legos, K-Nex, Lincoln Logs, etc. No larger than 18"x18"x10".

L. My Pet & Me (includes Rabbit)

- Scrapbook or Poster about your special pet

M. Photography

- Poster with five (5) pictures (variety—some animal, some people, some scenery); number each picture 1 to 5; title of choice

N. Recycling

- One (1) item made of recycled materials

O. Sewing

- Sewing Kit- Kool Cat or Honey Bear
- Pin Cushion- Throw Pillow

P. Wildlife

- Birds of Indiana Poster
- Bird Watching chart poster
- Animal Characteristics poster
- Bird Feeder

Thank You to 2025 Award Sponsors! Gold Clover Club (\$250 and up)

DeKalb County Extension Homemakers
DeKalb Farm Mutual
Raymond & Pat Malcolm & Families
Jeff & Cindy Campbell
Butler Mill Services
Kendallville Animal Hospital, PC
Maniac's Mulch and More
Kimmel Farms-Larry & Deb Kimmel
Auburn Alterations and Spencerville Eastern Star
Donut Trailer
Shull Machine & Firearm Service, Inc
Bralin Laser Services

Pat Erwin
J & S Harrison Farms
Hine Farms
Sechler's Pickles, Inc.

Silver Clover Club (\$50 to \$249.99)

Richard Kummer
Sue Wiese
Days Farms
Pearson Property Management
Effie Campbell
Garrett State Bank
Healing Hands Massage by Faith
Nevershirk 4-H Club
Schlatter Lawn & Landscape
Vulcraft
Kara and Kylie Wiegand - In Memory of our cousin, Whitney Pfefferkorn
Steve & Rosemary Hartman
Cassie & Jason Brown Family
Warren & Penny Wiedenhoft
J L Brown Excavating
Logan, Stefani & Kaycee Rinehold
Rinehold Tack & Western Wear
Brian & Stephanie Clifford & Family
Palm & Ledger Bookkeeping
Hartman Farm to Table, LLC
Michelle Snyder, North Eastern Group Realty
The Albaugh Family
Tyson & Chelsea Handshoe
Nolan & Shirley Johnson & Family
Scott & Patti Warstler
Weller Farms
Custer Ag Supply
Joyce Hollinger & Daughters
Lockwood Welding
Myra Maldeney & Cecil Freeburn
Northeast Allen Veterinary Services, Inc (AKA Grabill Veterinary Clinic)
Funk Family Farm
Angel Wings Vet Services -Dr. Lauren Kruse
Ron & Linda Hefty
Richard & Diane Smith
Gail Bratton
Bruce & Ellen England

Larry & Teresa Springer
Weller Electric
Eric & Chris Rowe
Brand Dairy Farm
Kenny & Cindy Furnish
Credent Wealth Management
Kelham Family Farms- Steven and Kathy Kelham
Kruse & Kruse PC
John Scoville Family
Superior Dairy Farm
Justin & Rebecca Hoover
William E. Johnson
John & Sue Stoops
Albaugh Family
James N. Bauman, Sr.
Steve/DeAnna Dunn
GEM Center
Global Archery Products Inc
Justin Hoover
Nester Construction
Precision Graphics
Rinehold Tack & Western Wear
Kyle & McKenzie Shoudel
Ed & Deanna Shull
Bernie & Jamie Sukala
Bill VanWye & Family
Rory & Diana Walker
Wayne Trace Farms
Workers World
Yarian Farms
Dennis Zeisloft Family
Hannah & Orie Foster
Mike & Diane Heffley Family
Larry & Cheryl Kummer & Family
Glen & Julie Malcolm & Family
Jeff & Mandy Washler
Psi Iota Xi - Alpha Rho Chapter
Jeff Beerbower
Jeff & Carrie Dunn Family

Silver Clover Club (\$50 to \$249.99) Continued

Cindy D. Kern & Jamey W. McMillen
In Memory of Don VanWye
Ryan & Jama Wallace
Beckmann Family
Krafft Water Solutions LLC
Dr. Handyman
Earl Goldsmith, Sr. Family
H & H Farms of DeKalb County
James Freed Excavating Construction Inc.
Brechtbill Farms, Inc
DeKalb County SWCD
Brian & Samantha Dunn
Lyle & Sherry Holman
Greg & Karin Hook
Roger & Judy Moughler
The Sarll Family
Town & Country Extension Homemakers Club
4-H Power Club
Mike and Pam Benbow
Jim Brand
Brandon and Ashley Brown family

Todd & Mandy Dale
Jim & Bonnie Deetz
Randall Deetz
DeKalb Co 4-H ATV Club
Rhonda & Baylee Doster
Everett Freed & Sons
The Max Filbrun Family
Jake & Heather Ford
Lon & Kay Fritz & Family
Steven Guinn
Micah Hefty Family
Hydrovac Site Solutions
Kraffts Works LLC
Kreischer Family
Dale Moughler
Eric & Whitney Moughler
Janalle Pfefferkorn & Family
P.H.E., LLC
Provines Farms
Roland and Teresa Seiler
In Memory of Robert Slentz

Emerald Clover Club (Up to \$49.99)

Cut-Ups 4-H Club
Joni & Matt Blomeke and Family
Joshua Charles Clifford Memorial Foundation
Mark & Donna Crow
Craig & Anita Harris
Andy & Melissa Jagoda - Wible Realty
Moughler Bros, Inc. & Moughler Show Cattle - In
Memory of Larry Moughler
Rinehold Tack & Western Wear - In Memory of
Dale Rinehold
Sewing Club
Jerry & Meredith Storer Family
Wilks
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Yarde
K D Carnahan Farms, Inc.
Nathan Carthen & Family
Martha & John Close
Paul & Inger Friend - In Memory of Larry Friend
The Rex Fuller Family
Allen Haynes
Fay Holbrook
The Luchauer Family
Never Idle Extension Homemakers Club
Pfef's Pals Rabbitry
Linda Pfierman
Dave & Ann Prosser
Red Barn Rabbitry
Ridge Farms
Tim Rinehold Family
In Memory of Dorothy Ross (Ronald Ross,
Roxanne & Anna Becker)

The Rowe Family - In Loving Memory of
Josh Clifford
The Schlabach Family
Bradd & Wendy Shull
Mike, Kathy & Jesse Smith-Smith Show
Pigs
Springer
Myron & Mary Jane Stackhouse
Sheryl Thrush
Jack Wappes Family
Jerry & Alice Weller Family
Auburn Home Extension Homemakers
Hartman
Hollinger
Joan Hursh
Swygart
Wilmington Twp Extension Homemakers

FORMS

Grievance/Appeal Guidelines for County 4-H Program Issues: (Activities, Programs, Projects)

The grievance procedures outlined in this document are utilized as part of an internal process of the Indiana 4-H Youth Development program when grievances of 4-H members, their parents/guardians, or 4-H volunteers cannot be resolved via reasonable conversation. This policy affords the opportunity in those unique situations to allow voice or opinion to be heard when there is a dispute regarding 4-H participation, activities or programs. This is not a mechanism for complaints against individual 4-H members (or their families), 4-H volunteers, judging officials for competitive events, or Purdue Extension staff. All resulting decisions will be made in accordance with the Indiana 4-H Program's stated mission to be an inclusive organization designed to encourage and maximize youth participation. The rights of the individual filing the grievance are limited to those provided by Indiana 4-H Program policy.

Purdue University, as the Land Grant University in Indiana, is charged (by the United States Department of Agriculture) with implementing the 4-H Program in communities across the State of Indiana. Purdue Extension Educators in each Indiana county represent the university in local communities and have the responsibility of assuring all 4-H volunteers meet basic university criteria as they serve as representatives of the university. Purdue Extension Educators additionally provide oversight to 4-H volunteers including the assurance that Indiana 4-H Policies and Procedures are appropriately implemented in 4-H Program delivery.

Individual county 4-H policies and procedures should be created and reviewed to assure they do not contradict established statewide 4-H policies and procedures. If a contradiction is discovered during the grievance process, Indiana 4-H Program policy shall be followed in determining the grievance outcome.

Grievances are made by completing the Indiana 4-H Grievance/Appeal form with the burden of proof being the responsibility of the individual filing the grievance. The completed grievance/appeal form and supporting documentation shall be presented to the president of the 4-H policy-making body (e.g., 4-H Council) or the Purdue Extension Educator who works with the 4-H Program. (NOTE: concerns regarding staff, volunteers, members, or other individuals are not issues for which a grievance may be filed. 4-H volunteers are assigned by the 4-H Extension Educator. Concerns regarding 4-H volunteers, members, or other individuals should be addressed directly with the Purdue 4-H Extension Educator.)

Grievances pertaining to 4-H activities, programs or projects shall be filed within 14 days of an incident or occurrence. Grievances pertaining to county fair related issues are

often time-sensitive and must be filed within 24 hours of the incident.

The grievance process occurs in the county where the issue or concern arises and offers two opportunities for a concern to be heard and reviewed.

1. The grievance is initially heard by an unbiased, representative grievance sub-committee of approved 4-H Volunteers. It is the Purdue Extension Educator assigned to 4-H Programming who shall annually work with the chair of the county 4-H Council to determine this committee's membership to include a combination of 3-6 of the following individuals: one representative of the 4-H Council; two 4-H volunteers serving as a 4-H club organizational leader; one member of the County Extension Board; one 4-H volunteer knowledgeable in the subject matter (project) of concern (this individual will vary dependent on the issue raised with the grievance); one youth representative; and up to three community leaders. The Purdue Extension Educator assigned to 4-H shall convene the group.

2. The person filing a grievance may appeal a decision of the 4-H Grievance Committee to the State 4-H Program Leader or designee. The Program Leader or designee will review the facts in evidence and render a decision. This is the second and final level in the appeal process.

** The intent of a two-level process is to assure different individuals have the opportunity to hear and act on the grievance. ALL individuals involved at any level of the grievance procedure are reminded of the importance of keeping discussions regarding grievances confidential.

To maintain the confidentiality of the parties involved, the grievance hearings at each level will be closed to the public. Only the individuals who have filed the grievance, the members of the grievance committee, and the Purdue Extension Educators will be present during each level of the grievance process, ***The grievance process is internal to the Indiana 4-H Youth Development Program and meetings of the grievance committees are not subject to Indiana's Open Door Policy.

The Purdue Extension Educator assigned to work with the 4-H Program has the obligation to inform all parties that there is a grievance procedure if there are disagreements with policies.

The practice of charging fees from those filing grievances shall be eliminated and all counties will utilize the Indiana 4-H Grievance/Appeal Form as part of the grievance process.

The Purdue Extension Educator assigned to work with the 4-H Program has the obligation to inform all parties that there is a grievance procedure if there are disagreements with policies.

The practice of charging fees from those filing grievances shall be eliminated and all counties will utilize the Indiana 4-H Grievance/Appeal Form as part of the grievance process.

Indiana 4-H Grievance/Appeal Form

WARNING: You must read and initial this section before proceeding to complete this document.

- _____ 1. I understand and agree that filing a grievance that alleges
- A. facts that are not true, or
 - B. facts that I know are not true, or
 - C. facts I should know are not true: will be considered a violation of the 4-H behavioral expectations.
- _____ 2. I understand and agree that all statements made herein by me are subject to the pains and penalties of perjury and I hereby affirm that my statements herein are true.
- _____ 3. I understand that perjury is a crime in Indiana.
-

I, the undersigned, allege that the following term(s) and condition(s) have been violated:

The facts which support this allegation are set out as follows:

(If needed, additional sheets may be attached.)

I swear or affirm under the penalties of perjury ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ that I have read, understand, and accept the above statements to be true, accurate, and complete.

Signed: _____ Date: _____ Time Submitted: _____

Print your name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Oath ⁽³⁾

Before me, _____ A Notary Public in and for _____ County, State of Indiana, personally appeared _____ and he/she being first duly sworn by me upon his/her oath, says that the facts alleged in the foregoing instrument are true.

(signed) _____ My commission expires: _____

(SEAL)

1. Perjury –making a false, material statement under oath or affirmation, knowing the statement to be false or not believing it to be true. In Indiana, a person who commits perjury commits a Level 6 felony,⁽⁴⁾ which may be punishable by imprisonment, fine, or restitution (Indiana Code 35-44.1-2-1 and 35-50-2-1)
2. Prosecution for violations of Indiana law will be referred to the proper authorities.
3. Oath – An affirmation of truth of a statement before an authorized person.
4. Felony – A crime of graver or more serious nature than those designated as misdemeanors.

FORM MUST BE TURNED IN TO 4-H FAIR OFFICE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING TREATMENT

VETERINARY TREATMENT RECORD FORM

Date: _____

Cattle

Swine

Sheep

Goat

Rabbit

Poultry

Owner:

Address:

ID Tag(s):

Pen/Stall:

Premise ID:

Exam Findings:

Diagnosis:

Treatment:

Slaughter Withdrawal Time: _____ Milk Withdrawal Time: _____

Remarks:

Does the treatment of this animal affect the ability to release this animal with other livestock intended for transport to slaughter (i.e. withdrawal time will not be met)? YES or NO

Has the owner been informed of and acknowledge that this treatment makes the animal ineligible for sale to the packer; and the owner is solely responsible for its removal from the fairgrounds? YES or NO

4-H Member Signature

4-H Parent/Guardian Signature

Barn Superintendent/Representative Signature

4-H Council Representative Signature

Veterinarian Signature

4-H Extension Educator Signature

DEKALB COUNTY 4-H
General Record Sheet

*Only one (1) General Record Sheet per member is required each year,
no matter how many projects you complete.*

IMPORTANT! Please use the following checklist to ensure project completion:

- October 1 - May 15 — Enroll in 4HOnline and pay enrollment fee.
- June 1 - July 1— Complete FairEntry registration.
- Bring this completed General Record Sheet to project judging.

Name: _____ Grade (as of last January): _____

Club: _____ Years in 4-H: _____

1. What was your favorite project this year and why?

2. What was your most challenging project this year and why?

3. What is the most important thing you learned this year in 4-H?



Extension
DEKALB COUNTY



Please circle the life skills you have learned or improved this year in 4-H:

LIFE SKILLS							
RELATING	CARING	GIVING	WORKING	BEING	LIVING	THINKING	MANAGING
Communication	Concern for Others	Community Service & Volunteering	Marketable Skills	Self Esteem	Healthy Lifestyle Choices	Learning to Learn	Goal Setting
Cooperation	Empathy	Leadership	Teamwork	Self Responsibility	Stress Management	Decision Making	Planning/ Organizing
Social Skills	Sharing	Responsible Citizenship	Self Motivation	Character	Disease Prevention	Problem Solving	Wise Use of Resources
Conflict Resolution	Nurturing Relationships	Contribution To Group Effort	Punctuality	Managing Feelings	Personal Safety	Critical Thinking	Keeping Records
Accepting Differences	Showing Kindness	Self Sacrifice	Asking Questions	Self Discipline	Doing Your Best	Service Learning	Resiliency

Please list two (2) life skills you worked on the most and how did you improve those life skills this year:

Life Skill #1: _____ How I improved: _____

Life Skill #2: _____ How I improved: _____

4-H Member Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

SERVE  **GROW**  **THRIVE**  **MAKE** 

DeKalb County 4-H Deadlines at a Glance

May 15, 2026

- ✿ - 4HOnline Animal ID for Beef, Registered and Unregistered Heifers, Dairy Steers, Horse & Pony, Draft Animals, and State Fair Animals (excluding rabbits & poultry)

July 1, 2026

- ✿ - Project Add/Drop
- ✿ - Fair Entry Deadline for Summer Projects
- ✿ - 4HOnline entry for Fall Fair Animals
- ✿ - 4HOnline entry for Summer Goats, FairEntry Class Selections for Summer Goats, Worksheets Due for Summer Goats (Extension Office).
- ✿ - YQCA Due for Summer Goats
- ✿ - Nomination Forms for Rabbit and Poultry due to Extension Office
- ✿ - TOPS in 4-H and 10-year Display Boards due to Extension Office

September 8, 2026

- ✿ - 4HOnline Entry for Beef Feeders, FairEntry Class Selections for Fall Fair Animals and Crop Exhibits.
- ✿ - Battle of the Barns entries
- ✿ - Worksheets due to Extension Office, YQCA Due

 **MAKE**  **THRIVE**  **GROW**  **SERVE**



4-H GROWS HERE