



April 22, 2026

Dear 4-H Beef Member,

Just a reminder that all **purebred registered heifers** and **cow calf pairs** you wish to show at the 2026 Hamilton County 4-H Fair must be enrolled by **May 15, 2026**. Beef steers, market heifers, and commercial heifers reminder: Steers and Heifers tagged at Beef ID must be entered in [in.4honline.com](http://in.4honline.com) by May 15, 2026. To enroll your registered beef heifers and cow-calf pairs you need to complete the 4-H Beef ID enrollment at [in.4honline.com](http://in.4honline.com). Enclosed are instructions.

4-H Beef purebred heifers must have an RFID tag. These can be picked up in the Extension Office. To enter your cow-calf pair online, you must have ear tags for the cow and calf and the breed and tattoo for the cow.

Pure Bred Registration papers: All purebred steers, heifers and cow-calf pairs must be registered in the 4-H'ers name by the breed registry. A paper copy of the breed registration certificate from the breed registry must be presented at the fair check-in.

The Board of Animal Health (BOAH) is not requiring participants to have animal health forms for the county and state fair. Animals will be physically inspected prior to entering the barn and may be rejected or removed due to health issues at any time during the fair.

**INDIANA 4-H QUALITY LIVESTOCK CARE:** 4-H'ers planning to exhibit beef cattle, dairy cattle, swine, sheep, meat goats, dairy goats, poultry or rabbits **MUST BE CERTIFIED** through Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care training (in-person option) **OR** Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Program (YQCA) (online option). 4-H'ers must be re-certified annually. See enclosed flyer for more information.

**FOR STATE FAIR ENTRIES ONLY:** 4-H'ers who plan to enter beef cattle at the Indiana State Fair must collect DNA hair samples on each beef animal they plan to enter for state fair. See enclosed "Beef Cattle DNA Hair Sample Instructions" for more information. Collection envelopes are available in the Extension Office. Collection envelopes must be hand carried to the Extension Office by May 15 for all beef cattle.

*All purebred/registered animals must have valid registration certificates from their national registry. Visit the Indiana State Fair website for state fair entry deadline for beef cattle.*

Please check your 2026 Hamilton County 4-H Handbook for a listing of the 2026 Livestock Rules. If you have any questions, contact the Extension Office (317-776-0854) or Beef Project Superintendent Kayla Tobias at 317-379-2853.

Sincerely,

Lisa Hanni  
Program Assistant  
Ag/Youth

Kathleen J. Bohde  
Extension Educator  
4-H Youth Development

KJB: lb  
cc :Kayla Tobias