



February 2, 2026

Dear 4-H Goat Member:

Welcome to the 2026 4-H Goat Project! We are looking forward to a great year. This letter contains important information about the goat project so please read all of the information and hold onto it for future reference.

Important Dates

May 2nd | *Goat ID Day* | 8:00 AM – NOON | Goat Barn
May 15th | *ALL livestock must be entered and identified in 4HOnline*
May 15th | *DNA hair sample due for State Fair (turn in at the Extension Office)*
June 12th | *All Livestock entered in Fair Entry (these are the specific animals you will be bringing to fair)*
June 12th | *Complete Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care or YQCA Online*
July 1st | *State Fair Entry Deadline*
July 10th | *Goat Check-In* | 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM | Goat Barn
July 11th to 18th | *LAPORTE COUNTY FAIR*
July 12th | *4-H Goat Show* | 8:30 AM | Livestock Arena Show
July 14th | *4-H Mini Goat Show* | 6:00 PM | Livestock Show Arena
July 14th | *4-H Goat Agility* | 7:00 PM | Livestock Show Arena
July 17th | *ALL DAY 4-H LIVESTOCK AUCTION*
July 17th | *Release of 4-H Goats* | 7:00 – 9:00 PM | Goat Barns
July 18th | *Release of 4-H Goats* | 8:00 – 10:00 AM | Goat Barns
August 7th to 23rd | *Indiana State Fair (closed Mondays)*

Workshop Dates

- ◆ Saturday, February 21, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. held in the Small Projects Building
- ◆ March 14th at 11:00 a.m. - workshop with Kalmbach Feed – Small Projects Building
- ◆ Saturday, May 2, 2026 I.D. Day from 8:00 a.m. to NOON held at the Goat Barn. Please use the Signup Genius for your time slots.
 - There will be an \$8.00 cost per head
 - This is the ONLY day to I.D. your animals!
- ◆ Saturday, May 16, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. held at the Livestock Show Arena
- ◆ Saturday, June 13, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. held at the Livestock Show Arena

Project Highlights

- ◆ ***All members must be enrolled in 4hOnline.***
- ◆ All goat project members should attend two (2) goat workshops each year.
- ◆ Members must have their goat in their possession by tagging day.
- ◆ **ALL GOATS** that are to be exhibited at the LaPorte County Fair must be micro-chipped.

- All doe's need to receive a micro-chip on I.D. Day. If your doe was previously micro-chipped, you do not need to bring her to ID day. If your doe is pregnant, you must declare that on the Goat ID Worksheet. Please make sure to list the micro-chip numbers on the worksheet as well.
- All bucks or males that are intact, must be castrated or banded before I.D. Day.
- All goats must be dehorned before I.D. Day with the exception of all percentage & registered Boer goats. You must show proof of registration papers in the 4-H'ers name or lease papers.
- All members will need to complete either Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock or YQCA by June 12th.
- All animals will need to be entered into 4hOnline by May 15th.

Goat ID Worksheet

Enclosed is a Goat ID Worksheet for your record keeping and to assist you while enrolling your animals in 4hOnline. This is **NOT** an animal enrollment form and does not count as enrolling your animal online. You must still ID your animals through 4-H Online. The worksheet is simply to assist you with inputting the information into the computer. You do not need to turn in the worksheet, nor do you need to bring it with you to the fairgrounds on ID Day unless you want to fill it out for your records.

- This is **NOT** an animal enrollment form nor does it enroll your animals!
- You will need to bring it with you to the fairgrounds on May 2nd.
- Your copy **MUST** come with you to check in at the fair.

YQCA or Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care (I4HQLC) Requirements

Each 4-H member who is participating in Beef or Dairy Feeder, Sheep, Goat, Swine, and Poultry projects will need to complete a quality assurance program by June 12th.

- The Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care program. These trainings will all be held in-person for the upcoming year and information will be posted when available.
- YQCA certification (online only) will be accepted. Please visit yqcaprogram.org to take the online training. Once completed it is your responsibility to send a copy of your certificate to the Extension Office so they have record of completion. Those certificates can be sent directly to mart2843@purdue.edu

Animal Enrollment Requirements

- Any youth that plans on exhibiting livestock this year at the county and/or State Fair will need to enroll their animals in the 4HOnline system.
- Animals will need to be enrolled online by the 4-H or family member by going to the following website address: <https://v2.4honline.com>.
- Animals can be enrolled in 4HOnline NOW! **Deadline to enter all Animals is May 15th!**

Fair Entry

- Fair Entry is the second step in being able to exhibit animals at the LaPorte County Fair.
- Declare the division (class) that you plan to show as on fair entry, these will be final and not changed at check-in. Not sure how old your goat will be try using the calculator website: <https://www.calculator.net/age-calculator.html>

- ◆ If there are questions about breed guidelines visit the state fair website specific to your breed, which is what we will be using if there are any questions at the fair.
- ◆ Deadline is June 12, 2026 by 4:00 P.M. CST
- ◆ You will use the same email and password that is used with 4hOnline when visiting <https://fairentry.com>

County Fair

- ◆ LaPorte County Fair dates for 2026 are July 11th – 18th.
- ◆ Check in will be on Friday, July 10th from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm
- ◆ 4-H Goat show will be held on Sunday, July 12th starting at 8:30 am in the Livestock Show Arena
- ◆ Wash racks will be available this year to wash your goats.

State Fair

- ◆ If you have any intentions of exhibiting at the 2026 Indiana State Fair:
 - Any Market Goat Wethers and Does will need to have an RFID tag.
 - Boer Goats females need a DNA hair sample.

Contact Mike Sommers at 219-508-1494 to let him know you plan to attend the State Fair.

- ◆ **May 2nd is the only day that you can tag animals going to the State Fair!**

Sincerely,

Mike Sommers
Goat Superintendent

Kelsey Guadarrama
4-H Extension Educator