

2024

RABBIT HIGHLIGHTS



Welcome

Welcome to the 2024 4-H Rabbit Project. We are excited about the upcoming year and want your family to have a great experience learning about rabbits. Questions this year can be directed to committee members, Purdue Extension office or our Facebook page at La Porte Co 4-H rabbit project. Please read the information in this booklet and keep it in a safe place as it contains information for the entire 2024 4-H Program year.

2024 Rabbit Committee Members

Matt Mueller	(219) 380-4672	Co-4-H Project Superintendent
Kim Saylor	(574) 952-1104	Co-4-H Project Superintendent & Rabbit Education
Sally Dipert		Food Stand
Mindy Heidel	(337) 842-3882	Rabbit Ambassador & Judging
Tammy LaGard	(219) 898-5365	Pen Reservations
Shana Mueller	(219) 380-2519	Showmanship / Costume
Angie Rose		Food Stand
Jody Rose	(219) 608-4372	Food Stand
Tim Rozinski		Project Check-in
Lane Thomas		Food Stand
Nancy Williamson	(219) 369-9314	Judges, Workshops & Fair Board Superintendent

Scholarship Opportunities

The Rabbit Committee offers a \$250 scholarship to graduating senior Rabbit Project participants. Application may be found here:

bit.ly/20214HRabbitScholarship

What are the requirements?

- Must have completed 6 years in the Rabbit Project
- Must complete an essay
- Must fill out application and turned in at Rabbit Check-in
- Applications must be typed
- Must be continuing their education in a technical school, trade school, college, or university
- If awarded, must be used during the first year of post high school education

How are winners selected?

- 25% participation in Rabbit program
- 25% Leadership abilities/citizenship
- 25% Essay (used to break a tie)
- 25% Need

Once selected, how will I receive the scholarship?

After proof of successful completion of the first semester is provided to the Purdue Extension–LaPorte County office, the award money will be provided directly to the participant.

Entry Details

4HOnline: Rabbits must be owned and cared for by 4-H members, and only shown by the exhibitor, from May 15th through to fair. You must ID your animals in 4HOnline by May 15th.

Tattooing Sessions: All rabbits exhibited must have a tattoo in the rabbit's left ear. There is a \$1.00 charge per rabbit at select workshops. Tattooing will not take place during fair. Note: The Committee cannot be held responsible for injury or death of rabbit as a result of tattooing.

Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care Requirements: Each 4-H member who is participating in Beef or Dairy Feeder, Sheep, Goat, Swine, Poultry

and Rabbits projects will need to complete the Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care Program. These trainings will all be held in-person for the upcoming year. Register for a session through 4HOnline, under events. The cost is \$3. You may still complete YQCA online however, you must send a copy of your completion certificate to 4-H staff at woznia11@purdue.edu.

FairEntry: All rabbits that are to be shown at fair exhibition will need to be entered into FairEntry by the June deadline date.



Fair Details

Pen reservations: \$10.00 per member are to be turned in to Rabbit Committee Treasurer, no later than June 15th. No exceptions to the deadline. Substitutions at entry time only in same class.

- Printed reservation form must be complete with sex, color, age, and ear numbers (no blank ear numbers)
- Confirm your rabbit is sexed correctly. If it is entered into the wrong class, it will not be shown.
- You can scratch a rabbit due to illness, death, molt, etc. or if you chose to not bring it for whatever reason. You can substitute rabbits if they are in the same class (breed, sex, age, and color) as the original rabbit. If rabbits are tattooed just before fair, the ink must be removed in order for the numbers to be read.

Fair Set-up/tear-down: Families that volunteer to help with the set-up and tear-down of the rabbit barn, help support the Rabbit Committee and the youth involved in the project.

Fair Concession/Food Stand: Members working shifts in the food stand financially supports the 4-H Rabbit program.

- Each year, the food stand buys rabbits from members, creating a market for our members to sell their rabbits. We will buy all breeds at \$1.00 per pound live weight.

The more food stand shifts that a 4-H member works, the more opportunity they will have to earn more money in the auction. If you wish to sell rabbits, contact Jody Rose at 219-608-4372 or Nancy Williamson at 219-369-9314.

- We need help deboning the rabbits. These steps are very easy to learn and if everyone would offer to help, it would lighten the load for all. Our theory is, “come when you can and leave when you have to.”
- Any one that helps with deboning will be compensated with “Bunny Bucks” that can be redeemed at the food stand during fair. The more that you work the more you earn for auction, if you are selling in auction.
- Processing dates will be announced at the workshops.

Fair Check In: Upon arrival to fair you will be given entry cards. This is the time to confirm they are correct and match your pen reservation.

- Nails should always be trimmed before check in to avoid excess scratches to the volunteers.



Important Dates

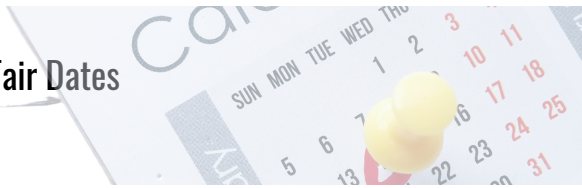
<p>Wednesday, March 13th 5:30 p.m. 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Small Projects Bldg., Fairgrounds Rabbit Ambassador Workshop Workshop 1 of 4: Breeding, Equipment, Housing, Rabbit Ambassador Judging & Rabbit Education</p>
<p>Friday, March 29th</p>	<p>Meat Pens/Single Fryers/Carcass, Breeding Date</p>
<p>Wednesday, April 17th 5:30 p.m. 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Small Projects Bldg., Fairgrounds Rabbit Ambassador Workshop Workshop 2 of 4: Kindling Process, Selection of animal, Doe & Litter Breeding, Tattooing, Gender Determination & 4HOnline</p>

Important Dates continued

Wednesday, April 17th	Doe & Litter Breeding Date
Saturday, April 27th	Rabbit Auction/Sale @ Small Projects Building
<p>Wednesday, May 15th</p> <p>5:30 p.m. Rabbit Ambassador Workshop</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Tattooing</p> <p>6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Workshop 3 of 4: Food Stand Promotion, Health & Rabbit Races.</p> <p>*Mindy Heidel will be available to help with nail clipping.</p>	<p>Rabbit Ownership Deadline (4HOnline)</p> <p>Small Projects Bldg., Fairgrounds</p>
Friday, June 14th	Fair Entry Deadline
<p>Saturday, June 15th</p> <p>8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Pen Reservations & Entry Fees are Due</p> <p>Rabbit Barn, Fairgrounds</p> <p>Workshop 4 of 4: Rabbit Races, Mock Show, Jeopardy, Workday/Pen clean up, Supplies and Gray's cage dealer.</p>
<p>Friday, July 5th</p> <p>4:00 - 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Rabbit Barn, Fairgrounds</p> <p>Rabbit Check-In</p>
Saturday, July 20th	Barn Clean-up & Cage Cleaning - Your entry fee will be returned if you spend at least two hours helping
Sunday, July 21st	Rabbit Achievement Dinner & Banquet - please bring a dish to share.

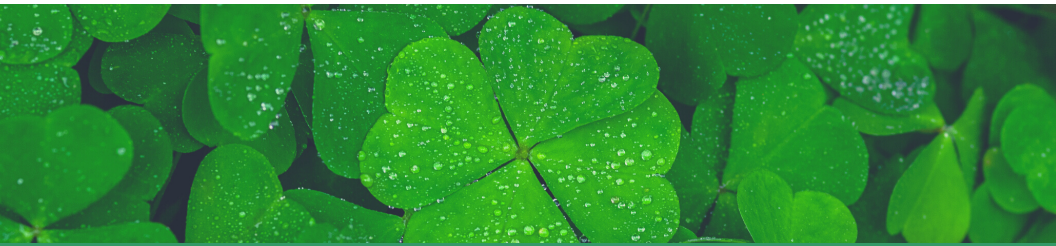


Fair Dates



Wednesday, July 3rd 5:00-7:00 p.m.	Small Project Building Rabbit Education Posters check in
Friday, July 5th 4:00-7:00 p.m.	Rabbit Barn Rabbit check-in
Saturday, July 6th 8:00 a.m.	ARBA Open Class Show Rabbit Barn Rabbit Judging Contest
Sunday, July 7th 10:00 a.m.	Rabbit Barn Rabbit Ambassador & Rabbit Showmanship
Monday, July 8th 11:00 a.m.	Rabbit Barn Rabbit Fun Photo Contest Judging Announcement of 4-H Rabbit Ambassador Winners Rabbit Judging – Meat classes and Doe & Litter
Tuesday, July 9th 9:00 a.m.	Rabbit Barn Rabbit Judging - 4 Class
Wednesday, July 10th 9:00 a.m.	Rabbit Barn Rabbit Judging - 6 Class
Friday, July 12th 3:15 p.m.	Livestock Show Arena Rabbit Auction Release of auctioned rabbit meat pens
Saturday, July 13th 10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 2:00 p.m.	Rabbit Barn Pee-Wee Rabbit Show Rabbit Barn Closes Rabbit & Rabbit Education Release

Notes:



LaPorte County Purdue Extension

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Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
<https://extension.purdue.edu/laporte>**



Extension - 4-H Youth
Development



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