

FAMILY GUIDE TO 4-H



New Member Guide to 4-H

Purdue Extension – Shelby County

20 W Polk Street, Suite 201

Shelbyville, IN 46176



Monday- Friday
8:00 AM to 4:00 PM



<https://bit.ly/ShelbyCo4>



317-392-6460

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What is 4-H?

4-H began over 100 years ago, and has since grown into the largest youth development program in the nation. 4-H prepares young people to be leaders in their community and around the world through hands-on experiences alongside their peers and caring adults. Backed by a network of more than 6 million youth, 540,000 adult volunteers, 3,500 professionals, and more than 60 million alumni; 4-H delivers research-based programming around positive youth development and can be found in all 92 counties as delivered through Purdue Extension. Community clubs, afterschool programs, school enrichment, camps/workshops, and special programs are all ways youth across Indiana can be involved with the 4-H program.

4-H can be found in all different types of communities including urban neighborhoods, suburban schoolyards, and rural communities. 4-H is open to all youth in grades 3-12 (Mini 4-H is offered to grades K-2 in most counties) without regard to race, religion, color, sex, national origin, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, or disability. 4-H is for everyone!

Name & Emblem

The official 4-H Emblem is a clover with four leaves and an “H” on each leaf. The clover’s stem must point to the right as you look at the image. The 4-H Emblem is not a plain four-leaf clover. The 18 USC 707 notice is part of the Emblem. The 4-H Name and Emblem are protected under federal statute.

Indiana’s 4-H Mission

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

Indiana’s 4-H Vision

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

Colors

The 4-H colors are green and white. Green, nature’s most prominent color, symbolizes growth. The white symbolizes purity and high ideals.

The 4-H Pledge

The pledge tells what 4-H is about. The 4-H goal is the four-fold development of youth: Head, Heart, Hands and Health. The pledge was adopted by the delegates of the 1927 National 4-H Club Camp in Washington, D.C. State club leaders voted for and adopted the pledge for universal use. The phrase “and my world” was added in 1973. The saying of the pledge has a prominent place in 4-H activities, at regular 4-H meetings, achievement days and other club events.

— I pledge —

my *head* to clearer thinking,
 my *heart* to greater loyalty,
 my *hands* to larger service,
 my *health* to better living,
 for my club, my community,
 my county, and my world.

Generalized 4-H Year

A new 4-H year starts October 1st of each calendar year and concludes with the Indiana State Fair in August.

October 1	4-H Enrollment Opens! (v2.4honline.com)
October - May	4-H Project manuals available for pickup at the Extension Office
January 15	<i>Preferred</i> 4-H enrollment deadline
January - June	4-H Club meetings, workshops, and other events are held for 4-H members
May 15	Enrollment Deadline, add/drop deadline for projects, animal enrollment due via 4-H online, livestock pen reservation form due to the Extension Office, Auction Form Due to the Extension Office
May 1 - May 21	FairEntry is open for 4-H member to enter the projects they will exhibit at the county fair
June	County Fair
August	State Fair

4-H Parent Purpose & Responsibilities

Purpose: As a 4-H parent/guardian, it is expected that you provide support to your youth in 4-H.

Responsibilities:

- Enroll youth in the 4-H program and select a suitable 4-H Club.
- Select one or more appropriate 4-H project(s) to complete via 4-H Online.
- Show your interest and enthusiasm for the projects selected.
- See that when a project is started, it is also completed.
- Ensure youth attends 4-H Club meetings.
 - It is expected they attend at least three (3) club meetings per year.
- Assist youth in completing any 4-H responsibilities they may have volunteered for, been elected to, or selected for.
- Help with at least one 4-H club activity during the 4-H year. Volunteer an activity/snack for example, don't wait to be asked.
- Support your youth's 4-H project work.
- Ensure youth attend any project workshops. Provide or arrange for transportation.
- Assist youth in gathering any materials needed.
- Assist youth in completing one or more articles for exhibit and make sure they can exhibit them at the County 4-H Exhibition. Rules/guidelines are in the 4-H handbook.
- Assist youth in completing, and turn in on time, 4-H project records. Be their *guide only*.
- Assist youth in finding a way to participate in special events that interest them such as county contests, camps, fairs, displays, or shows.
- Stay informed of 4-H deadlines, activities, and events by taking the time to read the bi-monthly newsletters, weekly emails, Facebook posts, the website, or any other form of communication from the local Extension Office.
- Remember that the real object of 4-H is to develop youth into outstanding citizens. The way they work on projects, participate in meetings, and conduct themselves at competitive events, etc., will help set work and character standards for the rest of their lives. The most important goal of 4-H is personal growth of the individual.

Questions? Who Should I Contact?

Do ask questions! 4-H has its own culture and language, so don't be afraid to ask questions. Utilize the following individuals to help answer any questions you may have.

- 4-H Club/Project Leader
- Extension Office 317-392-6460
- Experienced 4-H Parent/4-H Council Member

4-H Enrollment Fees

Enrollment in the 4-H program is a \$20 fee. Of the \$20 enrollment fee, \$15 is a state fee and \$5 is a county fee. The \$15 State Fee is transferred to Purdue to help fund 4-H insurance for members and volunteers and to help cover the cost of 4-H books and manuals. The \$5 county fee stays within the county to help cover cost of program needs throughout the year. The maximum amount per family will be \$60.

Enrollment in the Mini 4-H program is a \$5 fee for youth to join.

Fees can be paid online with a credit card or by cash or check in the Extension Office.

4-H Online

Membership in 4-H is gained by enrolling online through the 4-H Online enrollment system (<https://v2.4honline.com>). The enrollment period begins October 1st. The preferred enrollment deadline for all members is January 15th. Each member should enroll in the 4-H projects that would best suit their interest and potential for personal growth, and would enhance family involvement. Members and volunteers must re-enroll every year through the 4-H Online system.

Livestock information (animal, breed, premise ID, RFID tag number, county tag number, etc.) must also be entered into this system by May 15th. 4-H youth that intend on showing at the State Fair and not the county fair is still expected to enter all required livestock information in the 4-H Online system by May 15th. The poultry, dog, cat, and rabbit projects are the only exception where only the project is selected in 4-H Online and species-specific information are entered in FairEntry.

This system is also used to register for any events or trainings you may be interested in attending. You will register for those under the events tab in 4-H Online. Broadcast emails are sent through 4-H Online and will appear as an email from RegMax.

FairEntry

In addition to enrolling in 4-H with the 4-HOnline website, each member must also enter their projects on FairEntry (<https://shelbycountyin.fairentry.com>). Each member must select the 4-H projects that they will be entering for the 4-H Exhibition at the Shelby County Fair. FairEntry will open on May 1st and close on May 21st.

Should youth miss the May 21st FairEntry deadline they may still fully participate with some consequence. 4-H members will be ineligible to collect premium money on any project not entered in FairEntry.

4-H Clubs

4-H members can be in one or as many clubs as they wish! Clubs provide the opportunity for face-to-face project review or questions, community service, program updates, and much more. Club meeting attendance is not required to be in 4-H but we strongly encourage our members to attend their club meetings. There are fourteen (14) 4-H Clubs in Shelby County, each having at least one leader. The names of the clubs and their leaders are listed below.

Typically, 4-H clubs meet once or more each month, from October until the Fair in June.

Geographical location of one's residence does not restrict which clubs one can potentially join. 4-H youth may belong to any club in the county. Some youth belong to a club closest to where they live or attend school, while others prefer a specialty club that focuses on a specific project. Youth may change membership to another club if they wish. It is important to update your online enrollment, notify the Extension Office, 317-392-6460, and the leaders of both clubs (the one you are leaving and the one you are joining).

4-H Club	4-H Leader Name	4-H Leader Contact	General Area of County
Blue Ribbon 4-H Club	Dean Tyner	317-694-3026	Fountaintown
	Megan Ramsey	317-512-1486	
Brandywine Cloverleaf	Pam Robinson	317-835-7643	Fairland
	Laura Bridges	317-364-1013	
Junior Leaders	Erin Padgett	317-392-6460	Central (Shelbyville)
	Tatem Hodge	317-364-7045	
Noble Happy Harvester	Olivia Cassidy	317-695-3297	Waldron
	Peggy Cassidy	317-695-9643	
Shelby Gradatim	Julia Hamblen	317-604-8593	Shelbyville
	Madison Evans	317-447-9135	
	Frances Jackson	317-372-0724	
Southwestern Shamrocks	Hayley Clark	812 343-6419	Flat Rock
	Kristin Schoettmer	812 593-2532	
	Jill Zaring	812 344-1598	
	Michelle Tobias	812 343-9393	
	Becca Miller	317 642-6570	
	Amber Fiesbeck	317 474-8507	

The Survivors	Deana Thurston	317-445-0419	Boggstown
Triton Lucky Leaf	Christa Weaver	317-752-6898	Boggstown
	Katy Allen	317-512-2446	
Union Ags	Ashley Pine	317-753-1324	Shelbyville
	Jerry Pine	260-582-9331	
Mini Clovers 4-H Club	Tiffany Hamblin	765-438-1273	Shelbyville
	Abigail Bridges	317-642-6511	
*Hoosier Horseman	Jennifer Wright	317 937-4603	Shelbyville
	Patricia Weddle	317-937-4603	
*Sunset Llama	Vanessa Benagh	317-446-2888	Shelbyville
	Tatem Hodge	317-364-7045	
	Sara Schaefer	317-372-2594	
*Shooting Sports	Bill Claytor	812-350-0421	Shelbyville
	Donny Chambers	317-538-9370	
*Sheep & Goat	Trey Davidson	317-373-4913	Shelbyville
	Chastity Davidson	317-442-3621	
	Joel Parker	317 401-0449	

*Indicates specialty club

Communication

A bi-monthly newsletter is sent to every 4-H home in Shelby County. Please read your newsletter carefully and keep it handy for any future references to find out about club meetings, project workshops, and other timely 4-H news! Please note that the newsletter can also be found on the Purdue Extension-Shelby County website 4-H page under SC4-H News.

A weekly email sent from 4-HOnline (RegMax) comes to all 4-H Families. This email is known as the '4-H News and Notes'. This email often is sent on Friday and includes important information for the week(s) following.

There is a county wide 4-H calendar available on our website. Our office updates club meetings, junior leader events, IQLC trainings, and much more!

The easiest way to stay informed for all Shelby County 4-H events is by 'liking' our Facebook page. We update our Facebook page continuously with need-to-know information for volunteers, 4-H members, and Mini 4-H members.

- <https://www.facebook.com/shelbyco4h>

4-H Projects

Members have the opportunity to learn more about a subject matter that they choose to study through completing hands on activities. In order to enroll in a project, members must select projects at the time of enrollment via 4-H Online. Most projects have a manual that guides the youth through the learning process, as well as a set of guidelines that helps them meet the project requirements. These can be picked up at the Extension Office.

Often times, youth will exhibit and display their project at the county 4-H Exhibition, hosted in partnership with the Shelby County Fair, in order to show the community what they have learned. There is no limit to the number of projects youth can sign up for, however, we suggest starting out with one or two your first year. Shelby County offers nearly 75 projects for youth to partake in. Members may add or drop projects until May 15th via 4-H Online. To add or drop a project, please login to your 4-HOnline account and edit projects under the 'Projects' tab. Projects are often divided into two categories: livestock and static. Livestock projects are defined as any project that requires the management of a live animal during the program year for show. Static projects are defined as any non-livestock project. As you complete your projects you will use a 4-H-620-W "My Record of 4-H Achievement" sheet to keep detailed records of your exhibits. Record sheets, project manuals, and project guidelines can all be picked up at the Extension Office. Record sheets can be hand written or typed and should be filled out completely and accurately each year in order to document what you have done in 4-H and to apply for trips, awards and scholarships throughout youth 4-H career. The requirements for all projects are listed in our 4-H Handbook.

Projects-

- | | | |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| ➤ Aerospace | ➤ Consumer Livestock | ➤ Foods, Baked – All Levels |
| ➤ Arts & Crafts - General | ➤ Cookie Decorating | ➤ Foods, Preserved - All Levels |
| ➤ Beekeeping | ➤ Creating With A Mix | ➤ Forestry |
| ➤ Cake Decorating | ➤ Crops | ➤ Garden |
| ➤ Cat Poster | ➤ Cupcake Decorating | ➤ Genealogy |
| ➤ Ceramics | ➤ Do Your Own Thing | ➤ Geology |
| ➤ Child Development | ➤ Dog Poster | ➤ Gift Wrapping |
| ➤ Collections | ➤ Electric | ➤ Health |
| ➤ Computers | ➤ Entomology | ➤ Home Environment |
| ➤ Construction & Architectural Replica | ➤ Family Project | ➤ Horseless Horseman |
| ➤ Consumer Clothing | ➤ Fine Arts | ➤ Indiana Heritage |
| ➤ Construction Sets | ➤ Floriculture | |

- Llama/Alpaca Fiber Crafts
- Llama/Alpaca Poster
- Microwave
- Models
- Needlecraft
- Photography
- Poultry Poster
- Rabbit Poster
- Reading
- Recycling
- Robotics
- Scrapbook
- Sewing Construction
- Sewing For Fun
- Shooting Sports
- Small Animals
- Small Engines
- Soil & Water Science
- Sportfishing
- Sports
- Tractor
- Veterinary Science
- Wearable Art
- Weather And Climate Science
- Welding
- Wildflowers
- Wildlife
- Woodworking

4-H Project Judging

Projects exhibited at the 4-H Exhibition will be judged using the "Open Judging" method, which allows 4-H members to interact directly with the judge during the evaluation of their projects. This approach helps members gain valuable insights into the "dos and don'ts" relevant to their projects. Parents are not permitted to sit with their child during the judging process unless authorized by the 4-H Educator.

Open judging means that projects will be assessed in the presence of the youth who completed and officially checked in the project. Here are some questions you may be asked during the judging process:

- What new things did you learn?
- Have you taken this project before?
- How much time did you spend on the project?
- What were your goals for this project?
- What would you like to change about your exhibit?
- Do you have any questions?

The 4-H Handbook contains the schedule for General Project judging, which can be found at the front of the General Project requirements section. This schedule will also be included in the letter sent to you right after the May 21st deadline. Please check these schedules for judging dates and times. Note that any project submitted after the judging has concluded may still be displayed but will receive only a participation ribbon.

If you are unable to bring your 4-H member's projects to the fairgrounds during the designated judging times, you may drop them off at our office the week before judging, and we will ensure they are judged. It is not mandatory for the 4-H member to be present during the judging.

After judging, projects will be displayed in the 4-H and Brinson buildings at the fairgrounds. These buildings will be open in the evenings for you to view the projects.

AFTER THE FAIR- After the fair concludes, project pickup will take place the following Monday evening from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. At this time, you (or someone designated to help you) will need to come to the 4-H and Brinson buildings to retrieve the 4-H projects. Even if your project is selected as an entry for the Indiana State Fair, you must still pick it up. During this time, you will also be able to collect your Green Record Book, member pin, and premium money; this is the only opportunity to claim premium monies (includes livestock). If your project has a placing sticker instead of a ribbon, please be sure to pick up your ribbon at project check out.

Ribbons & Premium Money

Grand Champion	Highest award given to the most deserving in a project area
Reserve Grand Champion	Second highest award given in a project area
Champion	Highest award given to most deserving in a project area division, selected from honor group blue ribbon winners.
Reserve Champion	Second highest award given in a project area division
Honor Group	honorable mention, outstanding Blue-Ribbon Winners
Blue Ribbon	First place group in general projects, and first place winners in each livestock/animal class.
Red Ribbon	Second place group in general projects, and second place winners in each livestock/animal class.
White Ribbon	Third place group in general projects, and third place winners in each livestock/animal class.
Pink Ribbon	Fourth place winners in each livestock/animal class.
Yellow Ribbon	Fifth place winners in each livestock/ animal class
Green Ribbon	Sixth place winners in each livestock/animal class
Green Participation Ribbon	Given on projects not meeting requirements and/or late entries. (Projects are graded down one ribbon for each requirement which is not met. If more than two requirements are missed, a green participation ribbon will be awarded.) Also given in livestock/animal projects for exhibits placing below Sixth place.
Orange Ribbon	Denotes exhibits eligible for State Fair exhibition

PREMIUMS – Premiums will be paid only to members who have enrolled in the project by the deadline date, and have submitted their white "My Record of 4-H Achievement" card with their completed and signed project record sheet(s) by the deadline. Premiums will be paid to 4-H members on all eligible projects, including livestock/animals, after the county fair on the following Monday 5:00 to 7:00 PM. For general projects, the following premiums will apply: Blue = \$2.00; Red = \$1.50; and White = \$1.25. Livestock/animal premiums are listed in their respective sections of the 4-H handbook. If 4-H projects are not picked up by release time, premium money will be forfeited. For hardship, refer to Hardship Procedure.

State Fair Entries

If your general project has been selected as a state fair entry, you need to take it home from the Shelby County Fair. You will receive a letter with instructions as to how it can be taken to the Indiana State Fair and also a new exhibit tag to attach to your project.

Livestock entries for the Indiana State Fair must be completed through the ISF website.

<https://exhibitorscorner.indianastatefair.com/>

Materials to Pick Up

You will need any project manuals related to the projects you are enrolled in. If you are a first-year member, you will need to be sure you pick up a **Green Record Book**. This book will be used for your entire 4-H career. Be sure to turn this in each year with completed record sheets to get completion for your 4-H year. Record sheets -you will need 1 record sheet for each project that you will be exhibiting. This form is also available for digital use on our website. If you are exhibiting livestock/animals, please stop by the Extension Office to pick up lease forms, auction forms, and pen reservations forms.

Livestock & Animals

All livestock must be owned or leased by May 15th. Lease papers must be turned in to the Shelby County Extension office by 4:00 PM on May 15th.

ID DAYS

****Beef ID Day****: This event is typically held on a Saturday morning in March. All beef animals that require tagging must be brought to the Livestock Barn at the Shelby County Fairgrounds on this date. Please refer to the table in the 4-H Handbook, located at the front of the Livestock section, for tagging requirements.

****Sheep/Goat/Feeder Calf ID Day****: This event usually takes place on the first or second Saturday in May from 8:00 to 10:00 AM. Any sheep, goat, or feeder calf requiring tagging should be brought

during this time. For tagging requirements, please consult the table in the 4-H Handbook at the front of the Livestock section.

****Rabbit ID Day****: Starting in 2026, Rabbit ID Day will be held on the same day as Sheep, Goat, and Feeder Calf ID Day. Rabbits will be identified at the 4-H Building.

IQLC & YQCA

4-H members exhibiting Beef Cattle, Dairy Cattle, Dairy Goats, Meat Goats, Poultry, Rabbits, Sheep, & Swine must complete the Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care (IQLC) or the Youth for Quality Care for Animals (YQCA). 4-Hers completing YQCA must provide the Extension Office with a copy of their completion certificate by May 21st.

INDIANA 4-H QUALITY LIVESTOCK CARE (IQLC)-an alternative to the YQCA training 4-Hers will be offered this in-person training which will certify them for County and Indiana State Fair livestock shows. If you show in open shows, you will need to check the requirements for showing (they may require YQCA). **These are annual programs that must be completed to be eligible to show your animals.** More information about YQCA is available at <http://yqca.org>. Requiring this training should not be viewed as just another rule but rather as an important educational opportunity for 4-H livestock members. Making this an exhibition requirement is how we are ensuring that 4-H members learn about quality assurance, but it really has nothing to do with animal exhibition. The reason for this requirement is so youth learn best management practices with their animals. The Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care will be in-person and will cost \$3.00. The YQCA course must be completed online only for a fee of \$12.00. The goals of having 4-H members complete IQLC/YQCA program include ensuring that:

- Youth will be more prepared to be ambassadors for animal agriculture in their role as youth livestock exhibitors.
- Animals from youth livestock programs are treated with the utmost care.
- 4-H members are contributing to a safe, wholesome food supply.

Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care (IQLC) or YQCA needs to be completed by May 21st for Beef, Dairy Cattle, Goats, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep and Swine exhibitors. If you choose to complete the YQCA program, you must provide a copy of your completion certificate to the Extension Office by May 21st. **Failure to complete one of these programs will make the 4-Her ineligible to show their animal(s).**

Registering your Animals with the 4-H Program

Please be sure to go into your 4-H Online account to enter your animal information (Beef, Dairy, Dairy Goats, Horse & Pony, Llama/Alpaca, Meat Goats, Pygmy Goats, Sheep & Swine). The location for this is on the left side of your screen and is titled animals. This is for any animal that will be shown at the Shelby County Fair and the Indiana State Fair. The deadline for entering the animals is May

15th. You will need the animal identification as well as the Premise ID number for the location of your animal.

*If you do not have a Premise ID number, please email BOAH (animalID@boah.in.gov) to get this.

Once the animal is in 4-H Online, it will be transferred over to Fair Entry by the office staff. You will then need to go into the Fair Entry website and your animals will be there for you to select. (This must be done between May 1st through May 21st).

Forms Needed for Animals

LEASE PAPERS- If you will be leasing an animal, this form needs to be filled out by both parties. The deadline for turning this form in is May 15th. In Shelby County, you are allowed to lease any animal. For State Fair exhibition, the only animals allowed to be leased are Dairy Cattle, Llama/Alpaca and Horses.

PEN RESERVATION -This applies to Beef, Dairy Cattle, Dairy Goat, Llama/Alpaca, Meat Goat, Pygmy Goat, Sheep & Swine. You will need one form per Family. List all of the species you will be showing on this form along with the tack pen and how many pens you will be needing for your animals. For Swine exhibitors, please be sure to fill out the swine section at the bottom of the page. Turn the paper over to let us know where your animals are located and also if you will be putting any animals on the out truck (this does not include animals that will be going through the auction).

AUCTION - Having your animal participate in the Livestock Auction for 4-H animals is optional. This form plus the \$10.00 fee must be turned in to our office by 4:00 PM on May 15th. If it is turned in after that time, you must add a \$50.00 late fee for each form.

DNA Envelopes for Indiana State Fair

If you plan to show your animal at the Indiana State Fair (Beef, Dairy, Meat Goats, Sheep & Swine), you must pull DNA samples from your animal and place them in the DNA envelopes. They must be turned in to the Extension Office by 4:00 PM on May 15th. The Extension office provides these envelopes to you. No samples can be accepted after that time.

Events and Trips

Some 4-H members are eligible to apply for events that take place throughout the year. Information about upcoming events will be sent in a broadcast via 4-H Online. Registration for all events happens through the 4-H Online system. You must be an approved 4-H member to enroll for any event or trip.

Also, some 4-H members are eligible to apply for trips taken during the summer. Most of the trips take place in the spring/summer. Many of these are educational workshops at Purdue University's main campus.

Information on upcoming trips are explained in more detail in the winter SC4-H News.

4-H members can take part in short-term specific interest workshops that focus on anything from robotics to food science! 4-H members also have access to numerous scholarships, educational opportunities, and can build life skills through community involvement. Most of all, 4-H is real life experiences which are exemplified by our motto, "Learn By Doing". Additional opportunities for involvement include:

- Community clubs
- SPARK Clubs
- Day camps
- Volunteering
- Special programs
- Workshops
- School enrichment

4-H youth will have the opportunities to register for trips such as:

- Camps - during camp 4-H members participate in activities such as boating, swimming, crafts, and more!
- 4-H Round-Up - 4-H members can explore a variety of careers on the Purdue University campus.
- 4-H Academy - is held at Purdue University where participants can learn about science careers in a hands-on way!
- Citizenship Washington Focus - this is an exciting experience for 4-H members to visit the nation's capital.

4-H Definitions

4-H ENROLLMENT- Each 4-H member enrolls online at the beginning of the 4-H year to join a 4-H club. The 4-H projects to select for the year are listed on our website as well.

4-H CLUB- A 4-H Club is recognized as at least five eligible youth from at least three families that have completed the annual 4-H enrollment process. A 4-H club has by-laws, a constitution, club officers, and abides by Indiana 4-H policies.

4-H HANDBOOK- The book which lists the Shelby County guidelines for every project exhibit. A new book is published annually. It is very important that all 4-H families read and are familiar with the book available in January each year.

PROJECT MANUALS- 4-H member and leader guides are typically written by university specialists and serve as suggestions of areas to study in your 4-H projects.

RECORD SHEETS- Form submitted each year for project completion. All completed projects are listed on the form. Each project must have one record sheet.

GREEN RECORD BOOK - The green record book is a green folder given to all 4-H members in their first year of 4-H. This is a specific folder used to keep your record sheets and my record of achievement. 4-H members keep their 4-H records in an orderly fashion while also giving them an opportunity to reflect on what life skills they gained the past year in 4-H as well as create a memory book of sorts.

MY RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT- This page is for members to keep track of the projects they were enrolled in, exhibit placings, county 4-H activities, and 4-H club activities. It is important that this page be updated each year because when the 4-H member becomes older he or she will be eligible to apply for scholarships, trips, and awards not only in the county, but also those offered on a state and national basis.

NEWSLETTER (SC4-H NEWS)- The County 4-H newsletter, is mailed to every 4-H family bi-monthly. This gives information about county level 4-H meetings and activities offered to 4-H members, leaders, and parents. For most events, this will be your only source of information.

EXHIBITION- Exhibition in 4-H is the culmination of 4-H project work, often held in conjunction with the County 4-H Fair. Each project submitted for exhibition is evaluated on the degree to which it meets current year project guidelines.

COMPLETION- 4-H members complete their annual educational experience when they have met the following requirements:

1. They must finish the 4-H Member Enrollment process by the established deadline.

2. They need to have their participation in a 4-H educational experience verified by an officially recognized 4-H volunteer or Extension Educator. This verification can take the form of an exhibit, poster, report, presentation, etc. Alternatively, members can submit a completed record sheet instead of an exhibit to fulfill the requirements for their club- or fair-based 4-H project or subject. The record sheet should be based on the printed or web-based educational materials used by Indiana 4-H Youth Development and must be submitted by the established deadline.

While exhibiting at the county fair is not mandatory for project completion, it is encouraged as a valuable extension of the educational experience.

4-H MEMBER -Anyone in grades 3-12 who participated in a local 4-H group or activity.

4-H CLUB LEADER- A volunteer who is responsible for the organizational part of the club.

JUNIOR LEADER -A 4-H member who is in grades 7-12 and is willing to assume additional leadership and mentoring responsibilities within the 4-H program.

PARENTS OR CAREGIVERS -Parents are very important to the success their children will have in the 4-H Program. Parents are encouraged to attend monthly meetings and project workshops with their children. All countywide events are open and parents are encouraged to attend.

PROJECT RESOURCE LEADER -Adult Volunteer who agreed to share their knowledge of a specific project.

4-H ADVISORY COUNCIL This is the policy-making group, as well as the private funding source for a number of county level 4-H programs.

4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT EXTENSION EDUCATOR -Represents Purdue University Extension as the county-based professional responsible for the day-to-day operations and decisions of the county 4-H Youth Development Program. He or she helps interpret 4-H policies and works directly with volunteers in the development of the county 4-H program.

FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)

HOW DO I KNOW WHICH PROJECTS TO CHOOSE?

- Check out our project list and guidelines in the 4-H Handbook
- Find projects that relate to your child's interests
- Check out the 4-H Open House (typically held early November)
- Ask friends that are in various projects
- Talk with your club leader
- Be sure to look at the projects on display at the Fair each year!

HOW DO I KNOW WHAT TO DO FOR MY PROJECTS?

- 4-H handbook lists all the rules, requirements and guidelines for each project and the trade level/division
- Project Workshops - Time for hands-on learning and demonstration
- Project Leaders/Superintendents, Clubs, & Club Leaders - Provide guidance and support

HOW DO I EXHIBIT MY PROJECTS AT THE 4-H FAIR?

In order to exhibit at the fair, the online enrollment must be completed. The projects must be chosen within the online enrollments. The projects must also be entered into FairEntry. The Judging Schedule in the 4-H Handbook outlines the dates & times in which the projects are due for delivery to the Shelby County Fairgrounds for the Fair.

Shelby County Purdue Extension Staff

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