



# 4-H Family Handbook





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

# What is 4-H?

4-H welcomes young people of all beliefs and backgrounds, empowering them to create positive change in their communities.



## 4-H HISTORY

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. 4-H is delivered through America's 109 land-grant universities and the Cooperative Extension Service—reaching every corner of our nation. In Indiana, 4-H 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.

# Why should I join 4-H?

## 4-H OPPORTUNITIES

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 experience which is exemplified by our motto, "Learn by Doing."

### Additional Opportunities for Involvement

- Community Clubs
- After School Programs
- School Enrichment
- Workshops
- SPARK Clubs
- Day Camps
- Volunteers
- Special Programs

### 4-H Trips

Youth will have an opportunity to register for trips such as:

- **Camps** - during camp 4-H members participate in activities such as boating, swimming, crafts, and more. (3rd-6th grade with High School Counselors)
- **4-H Round Up** - participants can explore a variety of careers for three days on the Purdue University campus. (7th-9th grade)
- **4-H Academy** - held at Purdue University for High School students to learn about a variety of careers in a hands-on way (9th-12th grade)
- **Citizenship Washington Focus** - exciting experience for members to visit the nation's capital (9th-12th grade)

### Winning 4-H Plan

4-H welcomes all youth. We strive to make reasonable accommodations for youth with disabilities to participate at all levels of our 4-H program. Contact 4-H Extension Educator Kati Sweet at [kasweet@purdue.edu](mailto:kasweet@purdue.edu) to set up a meeting to have a discussion on creating a *winning 4-H plan* with the 4-H member. Accommodations are specific to the individual.



**4-H SLOGAN**  
Learn by Doing

**4-H MOTTO**  
To Make the Best Better

**4-H COLORS**  
Green  
&  
White

## HOW DO I JOIN?

4-H enrollment opens on October 1 every year. Enroll online at [v2.4honline.com](http://v2.4honline.com).

Interested individuals need to visit [v2.4honline.com](http://v2.4honline.com) to create a profile, select a club(s), and sign up for projects. For help selecting a club check out the next section! Returning members will log into your [v2.4honline.com](http://v2.4honline.com) account, register for the upcoming year, and make any necessary changes.

The 4-H program is open to any youth in grades 3-12 and has a \$15 Program fee. Mini 4-H is available to any youth in grades 1-2 and has no fee to enroll. Scholarships are available for families that need financial assistance. Please contact the Extension Office to request assistance.

## **4-H EMBLEM**

The National 4-H Emblem is a four-leaf clover with the letter H in each leaf.

## **HENDRICKS CO. 4-H**

WEBSITE

[HTTP://BIT.LY/HENDRICKSCOUNTY4H](http://bit.ly/hendrickscounty4h)





# ONLINE REGISTRATION



*I pledge  
my:*  
*Head*  
to clearer thinking  
*Heart*  
to greater loyalty  
*Hands*  
to larger service  
*Health*  
to better living  
For my club,  
my community,  
my county, and  
my world.

## What's the difference between v2.4honline.com and FairEntry online systems?

v2.4honline.com is our online registration system for all youth who enroll in the 4-H program. v2.4honline enrollment opens October 1st annually. This system will collect your program fees and allow you to sign up for your 4-H projects and clubs. Members will also utilize their 4honline profile to submit scholarships and to register for events, programs, and trips.

FairEntry is a system we use to help organize the 4-H Fair, print exhibitor labels, and make show bills. FairEntry tells us exactly what projects will be exhibited at the fair. The FairEntry program opens in early June and closes before the fair. All members exhibiting at the fair have to login to FairEntry and sign-up for the projects they are bringing to the fair for judging and exhibit. Livestock exhibitors will need to sign-up their animals for their show classes.

4honline and FairEntry do save your information and profiles making it easier for returning members! Members can also add or drop projects every year.

If you need any help, are having technical difficulties with 4honline.com or FairEntry please do not hesitate to contact our office. We are here to help!

# 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 the 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. Clubs may be community clubs, which cover several educational topics over the year, or specialty clubs, which have programs focused on a certain area over the year.

## 4-H Project Workshop

- Workshops in 4-H are an opportunity to learn more about the skills needed to complete a certain project. You may not finish a project at the workshop, but will gain knowledge and understanding of what is expected.

## 4-H Handbook

- The handbook lists the rules for Hendricks County 4-H Projects for every exhibit. A new book is published annually. It is very important that all 4-H families read and are familiar with this book in order to create projects that follow the guidelines for exhibition if intending to exhibit at the 4-H Fair each July.

## Project Manuals

- 4-H member and leader manuals are typically written by university specialists and serve as suggestions of areas to study within your 4-H projects. These manuals typically contain a record sheet with a set of questions for the member to record his or her experiences in the project. Project manuals will be reviewed by your Club Leader if required per 4-H Handbook.

## Newsletters - Clover Connection

- The County 4-H Newsletter, Clover Connection, is emailed to every 4-H family once a month. This gives information about county and state-level 4-H programs and activities offered to 4-H members, leaders, and parents. For many events, this will be your only source of information.

## "My Record of Achievement" White Cards

- This is a form on which members record their projects and describe their experiences within a 4-H year. Members record activities, meetings, and committees they have participated in during the year. Think of these as your "permanent record" for 4-H. They are submitted each year around Fair to your club leader.

## Exhibition at Fair

- Exhibition in 4-H is the culmination of the 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 requirements. In order to exhibit at the County Fair, members must complete requirements listed in the Handbook.

## YQCA - Youth for the Quality Care of Animals

- All 4-H members who exhibit livestock (except Cats, Dogs, Little Critters, Horse & Pony, and Llama/Alpaca) are required to have a current YQCA certificate. Information on training and registration will be sent to livestock exhibitors and will be in the newsletter. Members may take the training in person when available or online at any time.





# WHAT CLUB IS RIGHT FOR ME?

4-H members can be in one or as many clubs as they wish! Clubs provide the opportunity for face-to-face project review/questions, community service, program updates, and much more. Club meeting attendance is not required to be in 4-H but we encourage our members to attend their club meetings. Starting in 2020, several clubs offer a virtual and in-person option.

All 4-H Clubs will pass along important program updates. However some clubs are dedicated to special interest areas and others are general community clubs. Special Interest clubs include Beef, Dog, Horse & Pony, Rabbit, Shooting Sports, Sheep, and Swine. If you are interested in any of these projects, it is suggested you also enroll in the corresponding club. Special Interest Clubs' program education is typically focused on those specific areas, whereas a Community Club may offer a wide range of educational programs.

Use the club locations and map on the next two pages to help families choose a club that meets their needs. For more details about each club, contact the Purdue Extension - Hendricks County office at 317-745-9260 or email [hendrces@purdue.edu](mailto:hendrces@purdue.edu).

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**PICK A CLUB THAT FITS YOUR SCHEDULE**

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**PICK A CLUB THAT FITS YOUR INTERESTS**

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**PICK A CLUB THAT IS CLOSE TO HOME OR SCHOOL**

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# HENDRICKS COUNTY 4-H CLUB INFORMATION

## 4-H Club Meeting Locations & Map

1. The following clubs meet in the Amo/Stilesville Area:

Amo Aces

2. The following clubs meet in the Avon Area:

Clever Clovers

Washington Winners

3. The following clubs meet in the Brownsburg Area:

Bulldog Clovers

Clover Club

Hoosier 4-Hers

Sodbusters

4. The following clubs meet in the Clayton Area:

Working Wonders

5. The following clubs meet in the Danville Area:

Center Stage

Discovery Club

Gifted 4-Hers

Happy Farmers

6. The following clubs meet in the Lizton Area:

4-Leaf Clovers

7. The following clubs meet in the North Salem Area:

Country Clovers

8. The following clubs meet in the Pittsboro Area:

Guys and Gals

Pittsboro Trailblazers

9. The following clubs meet in the Plainfield Area:

4-H Explorers

Lucky Clovers

10. The following clubs are Special Interest Clubs. They meet at various locations:

Beef Club

Bridle Bunch (Horse & Pony)

Happy Heelers (Dog Club)

Outdoor Skills/Shooting Sports

Rabbit Club

Sheep Club

Swine Club



# HENDRICKS COUNTY 4-H CLUB MAP

Hendricks  
County,  
Indiana

## Special Interest Clubs:

1. Beef Club
2. Bridle Bunch (Horse and Pony)
3. Happy Heelers (Dog Club)
4. Outdoor Skills/Shooting Sports
5. Rabbit Club
6. Sheep Club
7. Swine Club

## North Salem Area:

1. Country Clovers (Marion and Eel River Townships)

## Lizton Area:

1. 4-Leaf Clovers (Union Township)

## Pittsboro Area:

1. Pittsboro Trailblazers
2. Guys and Gals (Middle Township)

## Brownsburg Area:

1. Bulldog Clovers
2. Clover Club
3. Hoosier 4-Hers
4. Sodbusters (Lincoln and Brown Townships)

## Danville Area:

1. Gifted 4-Hers
2. Happy Farmers
3. Discovery Club
4. Center Stage (Center, Marion, Middle Townships)

## Avon Area:

1. Washington Winners
2. Clever Clovers (Washington Township)

## Amo/Stilesville Area:

1. Amo Aces (Clay and Franklin Townships)

## Clayton Area:

1. Working Wonders (Liberty Township)

## Plainfield Area:

1. 4-H Explorers
2. Lucky Clovers (Guilford Township)

5 mi  
5 km



Purdue Extension-  
Hendricks County



@hendrickscs4h



HCPurdueExt



SCAN ME



# 4-H PROJECTS

## More than 70 projects available!

There is no limit to the number of projects a youth can sign up for, but start slow. We suggest starting out with one or two your first year. The projects listed below are for youth in grades 3-12. For Mini 4-H projects (grades 1-2) please see next page.

### 4-H Projects Include:

AEROSPACE  
ARTS & CRAFTS/MODELS  
ASTRONOMY  
BEEKEEPING  
BICYCLE  
CAKE DECORATING  
CAMPING  
CHILD DEVELOPMENT  
COLLECTIONS  
COMMUNICATIONS  
COMPUTER  
CONSUMER CLOTHING  
CREATE YOUR OWN THING  
CROPS  
ELECTRIC  
ENTOMOLOGY  
FLORICULTURE  
FOOD PREPARATION  
FOOD BAKED/PRESERVATION  
FORESTRY  
FUN WITH FOOD MIXES  
GARDEN  
GENEALOGY  
GEOLOGY

GIFT WRAPPING  
HEALTH  
HOME ENVIRONMENT  
HORSE LOVERS  
JUNIOR LEADERS  
LLAMA POSTER & CRAFT  
LAWN & GARDEN SAFETY &  
OPERATOR SKILLS  
OUR ENVIRONMENT  
PHOTOGRAPHY  
ROBOTICS  
SCRAPBOOKING  
SEWING  
SHOOTING SPORTS  
SMALL ENGINES  
SOIL & WATER SCIENCE  
SPORTFISHING  
SPORTS  
TOY SCENE  
TRACTOR SAFETY & OPERATOR SKILLS  
VETERINARY SCIENCE  
WEATHER & CLIMATE SCIENCE  
WILDFLOWERS  
WILDLIFE  
WOODWORKING

### 4-H Animal Projects Include:

BEEF  
CAT  
DAIRY  
DOG  
GOAT  
HORSE & PONY  
LITTLE CRITTERS  
LLAMA/ALPACA  
POULTRY  
RABBIT  
SHEEP  
SWINE

ADD OR CHANGE  
PROJECTS AT:  
[v2.4Honline.com](http://v2.4Honline.com) by  
MAY 15th!



# MINI 4-H PROJECTS



It's time to enroll in

## Mini 4-H!



Grades 1-2  
FREE TO PARTICIPATE



Enroll today at: [v2.4honline.com](http://v2.4honline.com)



-Arts & Crafts-



-Bugs-



-Collections-



-Cookie Decorating-



-Dinosaurs-



-Farm Animals-



-Foods-



-Gardening-



-Models-



-Nature, Plants & Trees-

OR

Farm Animals – Livestock



-Oceans-



-Pets-



-Sewing-



-Sun, Stars & Space-



- Wildlife-

### #InspireKidstoDo

Purdue Extension – Hendricks County  
1900 E. Main St. | Danville, IN 46122  
317-745-9260

<http://bit.ly/hendrickscounty4h>



Purdue Extension-  
Hendricks County



@hendricksco4h



HCPurdueExt

Scan for  
more info  
or  
visit



<http://bit.ly/hendrickscounty4h>

Purdue University is an equal opportunity/  
equal access/affirmative action institution.

# PEOPLE IN 4-H

## LOCAL LEVEL

### 4-H Member

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

### Mini 4-H Member

- Anyone in grades 1-2 who participates in local Mini 4-H group or activity.

### 4-H Club Leader

- A volunteer who is responsible for the organizational part of a 4-H Club.

### Jr. 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. These youth typically meet once a month and engage in monthly community service projects.

### Mission Coordinators

- Volunteers who help coordinate programs, events, and activities related to the Mission Areas of 4-H (STEM, Healthy Living, and Civic Engagement).

### 4-H Project Leader/Advisor

- A volunteer who is responsible for organizing and conducting activities related to a certain project.

### SPARK Program/Club Volunteer

- Coordinates a minimum of 6 hours of education for youth based on a topic of interest to the members and within the volunteer's area of expertise.

### Teens as Teachers

- Youth in grades 8-11 who have been trained to teach their peers on a specific topic.

### Screened Volunteer

- Adult who has successfully completed the necessary application and screening procedure to help in a volunteer role within the 4-H Program.

## COUNTY LEVEL

### 4-H Youth Council

- This is the policy-making group and governing body of 4-H at the local level. This group also oversees spring flower sales, 4-H trips, 4-H awards, and ensures 4-H programs are following local, state, and national guidance.

### 4-H Fairboard

- This group oversees the coordination, management, and fundraising efforts related to the 4-H County Fair. Additionally, they manage the Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds' facilities.

### Adult Leaders Group

- This group meets 3-4 times a year to support volunteers in leadership roles through education, planning, and resources. This group works closely with Fairboard and Council and oversees T-shirt sales and the 4-H Open House.

### County 4-H Youth Development Extension Educator

- Represents Purdue University Cooperative 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.

### Purdue Extension - Hendricks County

- The connection to Purdue at the local level. In addition to the 4-H Youth Development Extension Educator, Hendricks County Extension also has an Agricultural and Natural Resources/Community Development Educator and a Health and Human Sciences Educator. These two Educators conduct programming in their major topic areas. Our Community Wellness Coordinator is involved with changing policies at the county level in order to encourage healthy lifestyle changes. Our County Staff members are professionals who guide and help the general public related to all areas of Extension.

# PEOPLE IN 4-H

## STATE LEVEL

### Purdue University

- Purdue is a land-grant university that has the responsibility for taking education to the people of the state. The 4-H Youth Development Program is part of the directive in the State 4-H Office, housed in the College of Agriculture.

### Program Leader

- The State 4-H Youth Development Program Leader has the responsibility for the 4-H Programming at the state level.

### State 4-H Specialists

- State 4-H Specialists have responsibility to the 4-H youth Development Program on a statewide basis. Each specialist is responsible for a specific part of the total 4-H Program. They are based at Purdue University and under the direction of the State 4-H Youth Development Program Leader.

### Indiana 4-H Foundation

- This nonprofit organization works to provide additional resources for the 4-H Program. They sponsor scholarships, fund county and state programs, finance the State 4-H Volunteer recognition program, and support educational award trips for outstanding youth on the state level. They also sponsor the 4-H license plate program. Contact the Extension Office for information about license plates for your vehicle.

## NATIONAL LEVEL

### National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)

- A federal agency within the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and is a part of USDA's Research, Education, and Economics (REE) mission area. The agency administers federal funding to address the agricultural issues impacting people's daily lives and the nation's future.

### National 4-H Council

- Cooperates with local and state 4-H programs as it provides funding for national initiatives. Located in Washington, D.C.



## 4-H TRIPS

Youth can attend several trips during their time in the 4-H Program at a local, state, and national level. A few trips that youth qualify for include:

### 4-H Camp

- For grades 3-6 - 3 days at Shakamak State Park (Camp Counselors are trained 4-H members in 9th-12th grades)

### 4-H Round Up

- For grades 7-9 - 3 days at Purdue University participating in career exploration and interactive education

### 4-H Academy

- For grades 9-12 - 3 days at Purdue University participating in a more in-depth career exploration and interactive education than Round Up

### National 4-H Congress

- For grades 10-12 - 6 days in Washington, D.C. working with federal officials and learning, practicing and applying skills to make positive changes in society.

For more about trips visit:

<https://extension.purdue.edu/4h/Pages/workshops.aspx>

# 4-H PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Parents can be encouraged to share their different talents, means, and available time with the 4-H Program. Not all people do the same thing well. It takes some analysis to find who can and will do certain tasks. For example, the parent who will never appear in a public meeting may be willing to build a booth or float, etc.

The most successful 4-H members have the interest and support of their parents or another caring adult. Often parents are willing to help, but are not sure how, when, or where they may get involved. Below are some suggestions for how parents can support 4-H members at home (#1-9) and beyond (#10-14).

1. **Learn about the 4-H Program** - what it stands for, how it operates, how it is funded.
2. **Advise your child** in selecting 4-H projects. Help your child understand how many projects will be reasonable to complete in a given year.
3. **Show your interest** in and enthusiasm for the projects selected. Find out what is suggested for the members to do and learn in that project(s).
4. **See that when a project is started, it is also completed.**
5. **Be an example!** Help your 4-H member be a good sport and appreciate the successes of others.
6. **Encourage your 4-H member** when they succeed and even more when they fail. Help them see progress achieved and knowledge gained, not just the end result.
7. **Stay informed about 4-H** through information that comes to members of your family. Be a 4-H booster in your community.
8. **Make 4-H club work FAMILY work.** Encourage youth to do their work and carry their own tasks to completion. Be their guide only.
9. **Provide transportation** to local meetings and county events in which your child and others of the club are interested. Or, provide refreshments for meetings or special functions.
10. **Attend 4-H meetings** and other special events.
11. **Help your 4-H member find a way to participate in special events** that interest them such as county contests, camps, fairs, displays, shows, etc.
12. **Support your local 4-H volunteers.** Get acquainted with them. Let them know you appreciate their efforts.
13. **Offer your services** to assist the local volunteer. You have knowledge and skills that are needed in 4-H.
14. If the need arises, **help find local volunteers for your 4-H club.** Several kinds of volunteers are needed: organizational, project, and more. Consider helping in one of these ways yourself. Applications are available in your local Extension Office.

**Remember that the real objective of 4-H is to develop your children into outstanding, productive adults. The way they do their activities and projects and conduct themselves at competitive events and meetings will help set work and character standards for the rest of their lives.**





# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## What do I need to do to be a member?

To be an active 4-H member simply complete your online registration in the October 1st- Jan 15th window, pay the associated fees, and complete your online profile! You do not have to exhibit at the fair to be considered an active 4-H member and attendance at club meetings, while recommended, is not required. 4-H members can attend a one-time workshop, participate in trips, or simply join to make new friends!

There are over 70 projects you can complete! There is even a self determined category for any projects that may not fit into a predetermined category.

## How do I know what projects to choose?

## What do I need to exhibit at the fair?

To exhibit at the fair 4-H members need to have completed their 4-H online profile within the October 1- Jan 15th enrollment window. 4-H members will select the projects they are interested in in 4-H online. In June, the Fair Entry program will open. Members will log into Fair Entry through their 4Honline account and register for the projects they are bringing to the fair.

Mini 4-H members can exhibit two projects at the fair and can choose from: arts & crafts, bugs, collections, cookie decorating, dinosaurs, farm animals, foods, gardening, models, nature, plants & trees, oceans, pets, sewing, sun, stars & space, and wildlife. Contact our office or go online to get a copy of our mini 4-H member guide. Mini 4-H members can also attend club meetings and mini day camp and other great activities!

## What can Mini 4-H members do?

## Where can I go for help?

If you have any questions you can call the Extension Office at 317-745-9260 or email [kasweet@purdue.edu](mailto:kasweet@purdue.edu). Every year the handbook is published online and contains all the project requirements as well as contact information for all project superintendents and club leaders. We are all here to help!



# Purdue Extension

## *Hendricks County*



**Kati  
Sweet**

**Hendricks County  
4-H Educator**



### **Contact Our Office**

**Call:**  
317-745-9260

**Stop By:**  
1900 E. Main St.  
Danville, IN 46122

**E-mail:**  
kasweet@purdue.edu

# NOTES

## Do you know . . .

1. Your 4Honline username? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Your 4Honline password? \_\_\_\_\_
3. The name of your club? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What is your club meeting schedule? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What projects are you taking this year? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
6. When are your project workshops? \_\_\_\_\_

**4-H Web Address: [v2.4honline.com](http://v2.4honline.com)**

**Additional Notes:**

