



**2026**

**Wabash County  
4-H Fairbook**



**Illinois Extension**  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

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# 2026 Wabash County 4-H and Junior Fair Schedule

<b>Tuesday, July 7</b>	5 p.m.	Fair cleanup day
<b>Friday, July 10</b>	3:30 p.m.	Junior Small Animal Show
	4 p.m.	4-H Dog Care Show, followed by 4-H Cat Care Show
	6 p.m.	4-H Horse Show, followed by Junior Horse Show
<b>Saturday, July 11</b>	9 a.m.	4-H General Projects, Food, and Clothing Show
	6 p.m.	Farmyard Wipeout
<b>Sunday, July 12</b>	1:30 p.m.	Animals must be on the fairgrounds
	2 p.m.	Livestock weigh-in and check-in
	2-5:30 p.m.	Anderson Building open for non-perishable, pre-registered Junior Fair entries to be placed
	6 p.m.	Ice cream social and entertainment: The Bates Girls
	7 p.m.	Fair Queen and Princess crowning
<b>Monday, July 13</b>	8-10 a.m.	Junior Fair projects moved in
	1 p.m.	Junior Beef Show
	1 p.m.	Junior Ag products, Education & Natural History, Fine Arts & Crafts, and Clothing judging
	2 p.m.	Junior Foods judging
	2:30 p.m.	Junior Floriculture judging
	3:30 p.m.	4-H Rabbit Show, followed by Junior Rabbit Show
	7 p.m.	Battle of the Barns
	<b>Tuesday, July 14</b>	8 a.m.
10 a.m.		4-H Sheep Show
12 p.m.		4-H Beef Show
2 p.m.		4-H Poultry Show, followed by Junior Poultry Show
3 p.m.		Junior Vocational judging
6 p.m.		Dodgeball Tournament
<b>Wednesday, July 15</b>	8:30 a.m.	Junior Swine Show
	12 p.m.	4-H Dairy Cattle Show, followed by Junior Dairy Cattle Show
	2 p.m.	4-H Goat Show
	5 p.m.	Pee Wee Showmanship, followed by Master Showmanship & Family Fun Night

<b>Thursday, July 16</b>	8 a.m.	Junior Sheep Show, followed by Junior Goat Show
	4:30 p.m.	Pork chop dinner
	6:15 p.m.	Parade of Champions, followed by Livestock Auction
<b>Friday, July 17</b>	8 a.m.	Fairground cleanup
	10 a.m.	All Junior Fair entries must be off fairgrounds
	7 p.m.	Go-Kart racing (registration 5:30-6:30 p.m.)

All shows are open to the public and will be held at the Wabash County Fairgrounds unless otherwise noted. The Wabash County Junior Fair schedule is coordinated by the Wabash County Youth Exhibition

## Contact Information

### **Illinois State 4-H Office**

801 N. Country Fair Drive

Champaign, IL 61821

Phone: (217) 333-0910

Fax: (217) 333-9287

University of Illinois Extension

### **Wabash County Extension Office**

738 N Market

Mt. Carmel, IL

Website: <https://go.illinois.edu/WabashHandbook2025>

Phone: (618) 262-5725

### **Illinois Extension serving Edwards, Lawrence, Richland, Wabash, Wayne counties Staff**

Tori Thompson, Wabash County 4-H Program Coordinator

Carrie Tennis, Wabash County Office Support Associate

Tara Buerster, County Director

Samantha Gaither, Youth Development Educator

### **Wabash County Fairgrounds**

Address: 15039 Four H Center Lane in Mt. Carmel, IL

All shows are open to the public and will be held at the Wabash County Fairgrounds unless otherwise noted. The Wabash County Junior Fair schedule is coordinated by the Wabash County Youth Exhibition

College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences. University of Illinois, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Local Extension Councils Cooperating. University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate, please contact Tori Thompson at [torit03@illinois.edu](mailto:torit03@illinois.edu). Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time to meet your needs.

# Wabash County 4-H Clubs and Leaders

For contact information for the Wabash County leaders, please contact the Extension office.

**Club Name: Allendale Twisters**

Leaders: Lauren Russell and Amanda Medler

**Club Name: The Sprouts (Cloverbuds)**

Leaders: Karmen Macke and Jana Marriott

**Club Name: Country Cousins**

Leaders: Nathan and Katrina Glick, Billie Pohl

**Club Name: Hi Flyers**

Leaders: Justin and Ashley Swanson

**Club Name: Town & Country 4-Hers**

Leaders: Kevin and Debra Broster. Kristina James

## Supplemental 4-H Show Information

Supplemental information concerning exact times of 4-H Shows and exact locations, along with check in times and other details associated with the 4-H shows, will be in the Wabash County 4-H newsletter sent to each Wabash County 4-H Family in June. Extension Staff reserve the right to make any changes or additions at any time and will notify families in a reasonable time.

# Illinois 4-H Participant & Family Code of Conduct

The opportunity to participate in or attend 4-H activities is a privilege and not a right. All 4-H participants – youth and families who participate in or attend any activity or event sponsored by the University of Illinois 4-H Youth Development program are expected to uphold the values of the Illinois 4-H program and conduct themselves according to the following standards. These standards also apply to online 4-H activity, including social media and internet presence.

As a 4-H Youth Development program participant and family, I agree I will:

- Represent University of Illinois 4-H program with dignity and pride and be a positive role model.
- Conduct myself in a manner that reflects honesty, integrity, self-control, and self-direction. Accept the results and outcomes of Extension contests with grace and empathy for other participants. Accept the final opinions of judges and evaluators. Be open to innovative ideas, suggestions, and opinions of others.
- Create a Welcoming Environment for All. Encourage everyone to fully participate in 4-H program. Recognize that all people have skills and talents that can help others and improve the community. Though we will not always agree, we must disagree respectfully. When we disagree, try to understand why. Our first priority is to create a safe, inclusive space for learning, sharing and collaboration that is welcoming to people from diverse backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives. Diversity includes, but is not limited to race, color, religion, political beliefs, national or ethnic origin, immigration or citizenship status, sex, gender identity and expression, transgender status, sexual orientation, age, marital or family status, educational level, learning style, pregnancy, physical appearance, body size, and individuals with disabilities.
- Comply with University of Illinois equal opportunity and antidiscrimination policies, as well as all federal, state, and local laws.
- Honor Diversity - Respect the privacy of persons involved with Extension programs and hold in confidence sensitive, private, and personal information.
- Create a Safe Environment. Not carelessly or intentionally harm or intimidate anyone in any way (verbally, mentally, physically, or emotionally). Not engage in romantic displays or sexual activities in either public or private situations at any Extension sponsored activity or event. Be kind and compassionate toward others. Not insult, harass, or bully others or engage in other hostile behaviors. Be considerate and courteous of all persons and their property.

- Be a Team Player. Work cooperatively with all individuals involved in Extension programs and activities. Be responsive to the reasonable requests of the person in charge. Respect the integrity of the group and the group's decisions.
- Be a Positive Role Model. Act in a mature, responsible manner, recognizing I am a role model for others and that I am representing both myself and the University of Illinois 4-H programs. Be responsible for my behavior, use positive and affirming language, and uphold exemplary standards of conduct at all 4-H activities.
- Participate Fully. Participate in and contribute to planned programs, be on time and follow through on assigned tasks/responsibilities in a manner that fosters the safety, well-being, and quality of the educational experience for myself and others. Have fun!
- Obey the Law. Obey the laws of the locality, state and nation, University of Illinois and University of Illinois Extension policies and guidelines. Commit no illegal acts.
- Will not possess, offer to others, or use alcohol, illegal drugs, marijuana, or tobacco products, which include e-pens, e-pipes, e-hookah, e-cigars, JUULs, vapes, vape pens or other electronic nicotine delivery systems at 4-H activities or events. Will not attend Extension activities under the influence of alcohol, illegal substances, or marijuana.
- Will not possess or use weapons or firearms except as expressly permitted as part of supervised 4-H shooting sports programming
- Not retaliate against individuals, including minors, families, parents, guardians, University of Illinois Extension staff members or other volunteers, who report allegations of inappropriate conduct(including but not limited to abuse; neglect; assault; harassment; sexual assault, abuse, or harassment; possessing child pornography or providing it to a minor; furnishing alcohol, drugs, or sexual materials to a minor; and violations of the University of Illinois antidiscrimination policy).
- Uphold and support the responsible use of social media. In so doing, I will not create or post social media content about Illinois Extension that is abusive, threatening, defamatory, obscene, harassing, or creates a hostile environment.
- Recognize University of Illinois Extension has the responsibility and authority to remove individuals who are disruptive to the University of Illinois Extension programs, violate the University of Illinois 4-H Code of Conduct, state, or local laws, or for any other reason the University of Illinois Extension deems appropriate.
- Humane Treatment of Animals. Treat animals humanely and teach 4-H youth to provide appropriate animal care.
- Mindful Attire. The dress code is designed to promote safety and inclusion for all. Wear clothing suitable for the activity in which you will participate. Clothing that displays or promotes violence, obscenity, illegal activities, discrimination, or intimidation is prohibited.

Private areas must be covered with an opaque fabric, and clothing must cover undergarments; waistbands and bra straps excluded.

It is expected that all University of Illinois Extension participants and families comply with the University of Illinois 4-H Code of Conduct. Failure to comply with any component of the Code or participation in other inappropriate conduct as determined by University of Illinois Extension representatives may lead to removal from the University of Illinois 4-H program.

I have read and I understand this Code of Conduct. I further agree to abide by the conditions of this document. I understand that my failure to comply with these expectations may result in consequences outline below.

## Consequences

Any of the following may be used, depending on severity of the situation:

- Participant will receive a verbal warning.
- Participant may remain at the event/activity, but may be barred from future events.
- Participant may be asked to leave the event/activity. If the participant is a youth, the parent(s) will be called and the youth will be sent home at family's expense.

## Junior livestock exhibits at the Illinois State Fair

- All State Fair Premium Books and livestock entry forms will ONLY be available via the State Fair website: <http://www.agr.state.il.us/isf/>
- State Fair entries will need to be approved by County Extension Staff. Entries need to be made at the site listed above, online, before July 15. ***Please inform Extension Staff by July 13 if you have entries that need approval.***

Entry Deadlines: State Fair entries are due in Springfield, IL by:

- June 15 for Horse entries, lease forms and photos (signed by Extension Staff)

July 15 for all other livestock

# Risk Management Plan for Wabash County 4-H Fair

**Date Created:** 12/6/2023, **Reviewed:** 1/20/25

**Name:** Tori Thompson and Carrie Tennis

## **Extension Office Contact Information:**

Wabash County Extension Office

738 N Market

Mt. Carmel

618-262-5725

**Event or Activity:** Wabash County 4-H Fair

**Location and Coordinates:** 15039 4H Center Ln, Mt Carmel (38°26'25.4"N 87°47'04.8"W)

## **Extension Contact Information (Chain Of Command)**

### **Office Support Associate**

Name: Carrie Tennis

Address: 738 N Market, Mt. Carmel, IL 62863

Office Phone: 618-262-5725

Email: cmtennis@illinois.edu

### **4-H Program Coordinator**

Name: Tori Thompson

Address: 738 N Market, Mt. Carmel, IL 62863

Office Phone: 618-262-5725

Email: torit03@illinois.edu

### **4-H Program Coordinator's Supervisor**

Name: Tara Buerster

Address: 7 N 5th, Albion, IL 62806

Office Phone: 618-445-2934

Email: buerste2@illinois.edu

## **Health And Safety**

Emergency Phone

Person Responsible for Calling: 4-H Program Coordinator or another Extension Staff Member

EMT: 911

Fire: 911

Law Enforcement: 911

Poison Control: 800-222-1222

Closest Hospital: Wabash General Hospital, 1418 College Dr, Mt Carmel, IL 62863

Hospital Phone: 618-262-8621

## **Injury, Medical Emergency or Death**

(These may be done simultaneously with adults helping, document who did each step to ensure all steps were completed.)

1. Call for help and secure immediate help for the injured party.
2. Secure safety of others in the area
3. Notify an Extension Staff Member
  - a. Notify Emergency contact
4. Notify Chain of Command List
5. Write incident report
6. Share incident report with Chain of Command
7. Notify American Income Life of situation (if reimbursement will be requested)
8. Debrief with volunteers, staff, and youth.

## **For Weather**

- Weather Watches – Jessica Simpson will be the point of contact and keep an eye on the weather for any sudden changes by sight and sound, as well as electronically. She will notify the Extension Program Coordinator Ryan Littlejohn of the changes warrant or give 30-minute interval updates if conditions are not changing.
- Weather Warnings
  - If the 4-H event has started, secure all to a safe area 4-H Building or Flora Hall. Invite all adults to the safe area or instruct where to go for safety.
    - Debrief with all volunteers, staff, and youth.
  - If an event has not started, cancel the event or postpone until the warning has concluded.
- Lightning Delay
  - Secure all to an enclosure to protect from lightning in the 4-H Building or Flora Hall.
  - Wait 30 minutes after a lightning strike is visible to the eye or thunder is heard by the ear.
- Flooding
  - Assist youth in getting to higher ground immediately.
  - If life jackets are available, distribute immediately.
  - Notify emergency personnel or contacts where the group is moving to.
  - Avoid rushing waters and try to secure objects likely not to move in a flood.
- Rain Delay
  - Help all secure rain gear especially in cold weather.

- If the rain hinders the youth vision for sight related activities, postpone or cancel until youth can be reasonably safe.
- If the rain hinders movement or creates an additional slip hazard, postpone or cancel until youth can be reasonably safe.

## Lost Group Member

If a group member is missing take the following steps.

- Ask each person individually if they have seen 'Chris Clover'. Or the last time they saw them. (do not ask as a group as some people may not be attentive to the question).
- Notify another adult that a person is missing. Have them enlist help in looking.
- Check the common places first – bathrooms, classrooms, or sleeping rooms.
- Set up a grid to look for the person with all people either within arm's reach or eye contact as the grid is searched.
- If a person is not found, call law enforcement for assistance.
  - At this point, follow the procedure for injured party reporting.
  - Debrief with all volunteers, staff, and youth.

## Fire

For a person

- Stop, drop, roll
- Limit oxygen to the fire (do not allow to run or move)
- Clear the area of people
- Treat burns according to First Aid Kit directions
- Call 911 for severe burns
- Notify parent or family member of incident
- Debrief with youth who witnessed event
- Fill out incident report form and send to Chain of Command

For an item

- Clear the area of people
- Use a fire extinguisher, aim at base of fire in a sweeping motion.
- If fire continues, call 911
- Fill out incident report form and send to Chain of Command

For a facility

- Clear the area of people.
- Use a fire extinguisher, aim at base of fire in sweeping motion.
- If fire continues, call 911 and notify the facility owner/management.
- Fill out incident report form and send to Chain of Command
- Debrief with those who witnessed event.

# Intruder (or active firearm)

(written in conjunction with advice from the county sheriff's department)

- Stay calm
- Dial 911 while you:
  - Secure your safety (you cannot help youth if you are not safe yourself)
  - Secure the safety of youth and other people
  - Cover and conceal the group from the threat by fleeing first, if possible.
- As law enforcement arrives
  - LISTEN, don't argue
  - Put your hands up above your head
  - Follow Directions, do not try to talk to law enforcement
  - If you are in cover – wait for 'all clear' before coming out.
  - Adapt to your surroundings.
  - Don't hold any item that could appear to be a weapon
- Check-in with the coordinator/staff and law enforcement before leaving with your parent/family member.
- Fill out incident report (and/or obtain for law enforcement)
- Notify the Chain of Command

**Do NOT try to be a hero! "Flight before Fight"**

# Wabash County 4-H Guidelines

## Character of A 4-H Member

- **TRUSTWORTHINESS - includes honesty, promise keeping and loyalty.**
  - Plans and completes goals.
  - Adheres to enrollment and entry deadlines.
  - Develops project exhibits that show originality and creativity.
- **RESPECT – includes courtesy and proper treatment of people and things.**
  - Listens and follows advice of leaders.
  - Helps others in the project and gives positive feedback (encouragement).
- **RESPONSIBILITY – includes the pursuit of excellence, accountability and perseverance.**
  - Enrollment and entry deadlines observed.
  - Willingly plans and makes exhibit for project.
  - Cleans up when done.
  - Works at fairgrounds to prepare and clean up fair.
  - Voluntarily participates in varied 4-H activities.
  - Works independently with leader/parent guidance.
- **FAIRNESS – involves consistently applying rules and standards appropriately for different age groups and ability levels.**
  - Accepts winning and losing with grace.
  - Follows rules and regulations for showing.
  - Recognizes each project has different rules and standards.
- **CARING – promoting the well-being of people and things in a person’s world. It denotes action and not just feelings.**
  - Willingly assists wherever needed.
  - Exhibits projects which are well-planned and constructed.
  - Shares knowledge with others.
  - Demonstrates positive behavior towards others.
  - Demonstrates kindness and concern for others.
- **CITIZENSHIP - includes making the home community and county a better place to live for themselves and others.**
  - Shows leadership with younger 4-H members
  - Models’ good sportsmanship
  - Works at County/State events and activities.
  - Is involved in community activities.

# Judging

## Judging Philosophy for Members and Parents

Have you developed your own philosophy for judging? Do you know why your work is judged at fairs and other 4-H events? Do you know why certain people are asked to be judges? Do you accept the awards you get gracefully whether it is blue, red or white?

If your answer is “yes” to all these questions, you need to read no further. BUT many 4-H members and parents do not know all the answers.

WHY DO WE JUDGE? The two major purposes in judging are: (1) to determine the worth of a piece of work, how well it was done, and how closely it conforms to standards of quality; (2) to contribute to the growth and development of 4-H members and others concerned with helping boys and girls learn.

WHO ARE THE JUDGES? Judges are people! They are people who want to help 4-H members learn! They are asked to be judges because they have special training and background in certain subject matter areas. Not all judges have the same training and the same background in the same subject matter area, and that is why judges sometimes differ in their opinions and ideas as to how something should be done. If you understand this, it may help you to gracefully accept the award they give.

The process of judging will never be perfect. Judges can evaluate only what they see. They cannot know how hard one member has worked or what obstacles another may have had to overcome. So, they must judge just what they see according to a standard. They can guess a little about what they see according to a standard. They can guess a little about what to expect from members of a certain age or years of experience, but even here there may be a difference of opinion. We must learn to accept judging for the best it can do for us and reconcile ourselves to some of the faults that are impossible to overcome. Learn what you can from judging, but don't take it too seriously. Don't make it a matter of life or death. Consider judging an adventure to stimulate you to greater achievement.

### **To All 4-H Exhibitors, Parents and Leaders:**

- All 4-H exhibitors, parents and leaders are expected to show respect and courtesy to the judges, superintendents, and Extension staff. They are also expected to display *sportsmanlike* conduct towards other exhibitors. Everyone is reminded to keep the true purpose of 4-H in mind: youth development. Violations may result in disqualifying the exhibitor.
- PARENTS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED IN THE JUDGING AREA UNLESS PERMISSION HAS BEEN GIVEN BY THE EXTENSION STAFF.

Exception: Youth identified by Extension Staff as “children with special needs” may have another person with them during judging. Please notify the Extension staff if you feel your child may fall into “children with special needs” so a pre-determined decision can be made.

## **Conference Judging**

Conference Judging is the process used for all non-livestock exhibits at county shows to evaluate 4-H’ers exhibits.

### **A Message to the 4-H Member:**

Judging is a learning experience from which you can learn what you did well and how you could improve in the future. An exhibit does not measure all that you have learned, but it is an example of what you have done.

- During conference judging, the judge will encourage you to talk about your project exhibit.
- You will be asked some question about your exhibit, so you should be prepared to tell what you were trying to do in your project (goals and objectives) and be able to describe the methods and processes used to produce the exhibit.
- Read and follow the rules and requirements for your project carefully.
- Learn good sportsmanship.
- Listen carefully to the judge so that you can accept constructive criticism and learn from it.
- Remember, judging comments can be helpful, but they are only one person’s evaluation.
- Realize that people sometimes make mistakes.

### **A Message to Leaders and Parents:**

Each child is an individual of utmost importance. Keeping this in mind, the leader should try to make 4-H a positive learning experience. Part of this experience is the 4-H exhibit. The 4-H exhibit is not an end, nor does it measure all the learning that takes place in the 4-H project. The exhibit is only one measure of success. Self-recognition, self-satisfaction, and the learning from completing the project are important rewards.

- Discuss the purpose of judging with 4-H members & their parents:
  - To evaluate the exhibit, which is an example of the child's work.
- Help the child set realistic goals for himself/herself according to his/her own age and experience.
- Be sure that your goals are in line with the child's age and experience.
- Recognize good work. Give constructive criticism.
- Be familiar with the requirements or criteria of the 4-H project that is to be judged.
- Be familiar with several methods of accomplishing the desired result.
- Regardless of who does the judging there are some basic points to keep in mind:
  - The development of young people is our first consideration in 4-H work.
  - We are really concerned more about what the 4-H'er learns than with the exhibit.
  - Projects are a means to an end – not an end in themselves.

- Projects are evaluated, not members. All completed projects meeting show requirements will receive a Blue, Red or White rating.
  - Blue .....meets requirements/standards, good exhibit
  - Red .....needs some improvement
  - White.....needs much improvement
- Stress that judging comments can be helpful, but that they are only one person's evaluation.
- In competition, avoid overemphasis of the winner. Help the child accept the results of the competition and realize that through his/her own accomplishments everyone is a winner.

## **Tips for a Successful 4-H Show**

- Read your specific project exhibit requirements in the 4-H Handbook. You must follow the project requirements exactly.
- Review your 4-H manual and be certain you have all the materials needed to complete your project.
- Get help now! Call your leaders or the Extension Office if you have questions about exhibit requirements. Do not wait until the day before or the day of the show.
- Be sure to write the date and time of your judging events on your family calendar.

## **4-H Show Attire**

The 4-H Show can be so much fun that sometimes we forget how important it is to look our best when exhibiting our project(s). This does not mean that you need to be in new or dressy clothing.

This means:

- Take hats off while showing projects (Judges like to see faces when they are speaking to you)
- Be neat and clean
- Have hair combed
- Have shirts tucked in and shoestrings tied
- Have hands washed
- Wear closed-toed shoes (no sandals)
- Wear a nice pair of jeans (no shorts)
- Wear shirts with sleeves (no spaghetti strap tops)

Neat appearance will not only make you feel better, but it will also impress the judges too. Let's try to look our best, learn all you can and have fun when showing projects.

## **Cannot attend a show (absentee form)**

Excused absence from the county general projects show is due to conflicts with a 4-H event, school-related activity, or church event. If any of the above conflicts pertain to you, 4-H'ers can be excused from showing static projects and still be eligible to receive premiums and be State Fair eligible.

**General Projects** - If a 4-H member is unable to attend a general project show due to a conflict listed above, they may seek approval from Extension Staff to have their static project judged in their absence by submitting an Excused Absence Form by July 1. Extension staff will review the request and notify the 4-H member of approval or denial within 48 hours.

**Livestock Projects** - Due to liability risks, livestock projects are not eligible for excused absence waivers. However, special requests may be considered under extenuating circumstances—such as an injury during fair week where the member is present on the fairgrounds but unable to physically accompany their animal in the show ring. Only youth with an excused absence will be allowed for another 4-H member to show their livestock project. Extension staff will then review the request and notify the 4-H member, within 48 hours of approval or denial. The livestock project is eligible for sale at the Livestock Auction, but the member must be present to sell.

You must do the following:

- Submit an Excused Absence Form
- Submit a brief written report talking about the project (what you did).
- Submit the project goal sheets.
- Submit project at the Registration Desk on the day of the show

# Excused Absence Form

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, will be unable to attend

\_\_\_\_\_ show on \_\_\_\_\_.

My Projects are:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Due to:  4-H Event  School Related Activity  Church Event

Reason for Absence \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4-H Member who will be exhibiting your project \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

4-H Member

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Extension Staff

Contact Information for University of Illinois Extension - Wabash County

738 N. Market St

Mount Carmel, IL 62863

Samantha Gaither, Extension Educator 4-H Youth Development

Email: [sgaither@illinois.edu](mailto:sgaither@illinois.edu)

Office phone: 618-262-5725

For Office Use Only:

Received on: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved (Y/N):

Responses to Family Communicated on: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Extension Staff

**Form must be received at the Extension Office by July**

# Awards

## Ribbon Awards

Conference judging allows 4-H'ers to hear the judge's comments directly and to ask questions on how to improve. Premium money may also accompany the ribbon award at some 4-H exhibit opportunities.

All exhibits are judged in two ways:

First: Individually against project standards

Second: Competitively against all others in the same class.

- Individually: The exhibit is first judged against standards. The judge may use a score sheet to determine to what degree the standards have been met. A ribbon is then awarded as follows:
  - Blue -- "A" -- Project meets standards, good exhibit
  - Red -- "B" -- Project needs some improvement
  - White -- "C" -- Project needs much improvement
  - Cloverbud (White) – Acknowledges Cloverbuds' participation in the event
- Competitively: The exhibit is judged against others in the same class to determine which projects can advance to the State Fair (general projects), Best of Show (general projects & livestock), and Showmanship (livestock). State Fair selection (general projects) is awarded as follows:
  - State Fair Delegate
    - Only the best item(s) in each category will be chosen to exhibit at the State Fair. It is not required for the judges to send the quota per category or any at all if the projects do not show State Fair quality. Cloverbud projects are not eligible to advance to the State Fair. For a project to be judged at the State Fair, the youth exhibiting it must accompany the project to the State Fair and be present for conference judging.
  - State Fair Alternate
    - Exhibits may be chosen as alternates for exhibition at the State Fair. Alternates are not required to be chosen if exhibits are not of State Fair quality. If any of the selected State Fair delegates choose not to exhibit their projects at the State Fair, then the alternate will be given the opportunity to exhibit at the State Fair.
  - 4-H Special Clover
    - General projects are eligible for this award. This is given to 4-H members whose projects are part of a project area that is not eligible to advance to the State Fair level but are of exceptional quality. There is no limit for these awards. This award is the judge's choice, and he or she may choose as many or as few (or none) as he or she desires.

## **Tax Implications for Prizes, Gifts or Awards**

Program Participants (including minors) will be required to provide their social security number or foreign national tax ID number prior to receiving a prize, gift or award to ensure proper IRS reporting as required by law. This sensitive information is kept confidential and handled through security protected software (PEAR). Participants will not be eligible for prize, gift or award if social security or foreign national tax ID information is not provided.

## **Premiums**

- The exhibitor will receive one premium per class exhibited.
- Premiums are only paid on State-approved projects. No premium will be paid on non-State approved county projects (Bicycle, Exploratory, lego projects).
- The total dollars available for premiums will be awarded by using the “X-Factor”.
- The amount may vary according to the rating received and State Funding.
- Premiums, if available, will be picked up at the Extension Office
- Premiums will be paid on projects (exhibits) as follows: Blue (A) = 3X, Red (B) = 2X, White (C) = 1X

## **IDOA Disclaimer Statement:**

*“The Department of Agriculture shall use its best efforts to secure sufficient appropriations to fund premiums. In any year for which the General Assembly of the State of Illinois fails to make an appropriation sufficient to pay such premiums, premium amounts may not be accurately reflected in this Premium Book.”*

## **Remember To Say “Thank You”**

Remember to take time to say “Thank You” to the sponsors of the awards following the 4-H shows. Saying the words is nice but taking time to write a short note is best. These notes help our sponsors realize that award sponsorship really means something to 4-H’ers. Last, but not least, you will probably feel pretty good about the extra effort it takes to write a short note. Just a simple “Thank You for Sponsoring the Award” is all it takes. Livestock project members also need to remember to write a “Thank You” note to the buyer of their animal

# General Project and Small Animal Awards

Special awards are presented to 4-H'ers showing outstanding project work.

## **Dog Show – Best of Show**

- Dog Care (Beginner & Advanced)

## **Cat Show – Best of Show**

- Cat Care

## **General Projects Shows – Best of Show**

- Clothing & Textiles
- Clothing – Shopping
- Public Presentations
- Floriculture
- Mechanics (Aerospace, Electricity, Small Engines, Tractor, Welding, Woodworking)
- Technology (Computer Science, Robotics, UAV/Drones, Video/Filmmaking)
- Photography
- Visual Arts
- Food Decorating
- Personal Development (College and Career Readiness, Communications, Creative Writing, Exploratory, Leadership, Theatre Arts)
- Plants and Soils (Plants and Soils, Crops, Cover Crops)
- Horticulture: Vegetable Gardening
- Animal Science (Vet Science, Animal Science)
- Community Involvement & Global Awareness (Civic Engagement, Intercultural, Journalism)
- Environment and Natural Resources (Entomology, Entomology Beekeeping, Forestry, Geology, Natural Resources, Weather, Nature: Fishing & Wildlife)
- Beginner Foods and Nutrition (Cooking 101, Cooking 201, Food Science 1, Food Science 2)
- Advanced Foods and Nutrition (Cooking 301, Cooking 401, Food Science 3, Food Science 4, Food Preservation, Foods Innovation, Foods Nutrition Ready4Life Challenge, Foods Maker)
- Home and Family (Child Development, Family Heritage, Interior Designs, Health, Consumer Education)

# WABASH COUNTY 4-H GENERAL PROJECT EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

## 4-H MEMBER REQUIREMENTS AND ELIGIBILITY

- Each exhibitor in the Wabash County 4-H shows must be officially enrolled in a Wabash County 4-H club in the current 4-H Year.
- A youth that enrolls in a 4-H club/group **MUST ATTEND 4 MEETINGS OF CLUB/GROUP** that he/she is enrolled in before the 4-H show of the current 4-H year and **GIVE A PROJECT TALK/DEMONSTRATION** in order to show in the Wabash County 4-H Fair. The 4-H Club Leader will verify the meeting attendance and talk requirement of each 4-H member to the Extension Office by July 1. It will be left to the club leaders' discretion on what constitutes a club meeting. In order for youth to take part in any 4-H exhibitions (which includes the Illinois State Fair – Livestock and General Projects), receive 4-H premiums, or other 4-H awards and recognitions, he or she must meet the requirements of this attendance policy.
- As a Wabash County 4-H member enrolled in a 4-H project, you are invited to exhibit a project(s) at the 4-H shows at the Wabash County Fair held in July as long as ALL the requirements are met. All members participating in an exhibit opportunity, except for Cloverbuds, are eligible to receive premiums as appropriated by the Illinois 4-H Premium Fund, if funding for these premiums will have been made available.
- For any project class that has a requirement regarding the age of the exhibitor, the exhibitor's "4-H age" will be used in determining eligibility to participate in that class. This is the age that the exhibitor was as of September 1, 2025.
- Dog & Cat record forms must be up-to-date and approved by the Extension Program Coordinator and presented at the designated judging times.

## Entries

- **Fair Project Entries** – All 4-H exhibitors (livestock and general projects) must inform the county 4-H staff of which projects they intend to exhibit at the fair. This is to be undertaken by all exhibitors via the FairEntry system. This must have been completed **no later than June 1, 2026**.
- **Entry Deadlines** – All fair project entries must be done **no later than June 1, 2026**. Anyone who has not submitted entries by this time will not be allowed to exhibit.
- **Entry Fees** – The 4-H shows require no entry fees.

**Entry Rules** – Entries may be made only in project areas in which the 4-H member is enrolled. All entries must be the current work (made within the current 2024-2025 4-H year) of the member making the exhibits or entries. Entry tags to label exhibits will be provided to the 4-H'ers upon registration for conference judging.

# 4-H GENERAL PROJECT EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

Exhibiting in the 4-H Exhibit is a privilege. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to follow the general rules of this division and the exhibit requirements for the specific class entered. The University of Illinois Extension personnel or their assigned agents do not assume liability for loss, theft, or damage to any exhibit. To see the complete list of rules for the Illinois State Fair General Project Show, please visit the Illinois State Fair page on the Illinois 4-H Website:

[go.illinois.edu/4HGeneralProjectGuidelines](http://go.illinois.edu/4HGeneralProjectGuidelines)

## EXHIBITORS:

- Exhibitors must be currently enrolled as a 4-H member and have been at least 8 years old as of September 1, 2025. Parents and leaders should make provisions for the adequate care and supervision of exhibitors. Exhibitors must be enrolled in the project or have participated in the activity in which they are exhibiting during the current year. Due to the nature of the conference judging process, exhibitors must be present.
- For youth and families: Conference judging is not about preparing a presentation. Judging is meant to be a conversation between the judge and 4-H member (or group) about the project and the learning experience. You may bring notes if you wish. Tips on creating an engaging display board are available at [go.illinois.edu/4HDisplayTips](http://go.illinois.edu/4HDisplayTips).
- Accommodation requests must be received in advance by contacting your local Extension office.

## GENERAL EXHIBIT GUIDELINES:

- All exhibits must be products of the current 4-H year (September 1, 2025 - August 15, 2026).
- Exhibits illustrating inappropriate subject matter and/or graphics are not acceptable. The Superintendents reserve the right to remove exhibits deemed inappropriate or dangerous for youth audiences. The content of any 4-H competitive presentation does not necessarily reflect the beliefs or views of the Illinois State Fair or the University of Illinois Extension 4-H program.
- Some exhibit areas may have size limitations. Read the descriptions carefully. Please choose a display size which is most appropriate for the exhibit you are bringing. Larger does not always mean better; use good judgement in creating your exhibit. Exhibitors will need to carry their project from the distant parking lots on the fairgrounds. **TABLES ARE PROVIDED. Do not bring your own.**
- **INNOVATION CLASSES** are open to all 4-H members in the project areas listed. Members choosing to exhibit in the Innovation class may be enrolled in any level of the project they are studying. Members choosing to exhibit in the Innovation class decide the best way to show off their project mastery and knowledge for the year in that project category. Some suggestions are provided for each category, but members may choose any method they want for demonstrating project learning as long as it does not fit in any

other class in that category. Only selected projects categories have an Innovation option.

- **GROUP PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES HAVE EXPANDED.** They include Civic Engagement, Diversity and Cultural Awareness, Leadership, Passport to the World, Service Learning, and Video.
- **Project Manuals:** Some projects require a project manual, book, workbook, or guide. These are indicated with a book icon. .

## **COPYRIGHT AND CLOVER USAGE:**

- **Copyright Reminder:** It is illegal for youth to use an image or brand that someone else owns as part of their 4-H project exhibit without the permission of the copyright/trademark holder.
  - Copyrighted or trademarked designs are not acceptable; this includes team logos, school logos, and/or characters from television, movies such as Disney characters, Iron Man etc.
  - More details in the new "Copyright Guidelines Tipsheet": [go.illinois.edu/IL4HCopyrightGuidelines](https://go.illinois.edu/IL4HCopyrightGuidelines).
- **Use of the 4-H Name and Emblem:** Chartered 4-H Clubs and enrolled 4-H members are authorized to use the 4-H Name and Emblem. This includes permission for an enrolled 4-H member to use the 4-H name and emblem in exhibits you create for personal use as part of 4-H sponsored events. This includes 4-H decorated cookies, a 4-H Clover printed out for use in a scrapbook, etc.
- **Please note:** Any use of the 4-H name and emblem on items intended as gifts or for sale require prior permission using this [UNIVERSITY AGREEMENT](#) . This should be signed by the County Director. Any uses of the 4-H name and emblem for sale or promotion online, and/or in statewide events should be signed by the Illinois 4-H Director ([illinois4H@illinois.edu](mailto:illinois4H@illinois.edu)).
- Use of the green clover shaped image is not protected. The 4-H Emblem is distinguished by the four H's that signify Head, Heart, Hands, and Health. No creative rendering, changing in color or shape of the official 4-H emblem is allowed.

# **AEROSPACE**

Each county may send 2 entries total from 50130 and 50131.

## **Model Rocketry (SF 50130)**

**Open to youth in Aerospace 1, Aerospace 2, Aerospace 3, and Aerospace 4**

Exhibit one model rocket assembled or made by the member. The exhibit will be a static display. The model rocket should be in good flying condition. DO NOT include the rocket engine with your exhibit. The rocket will not be launched. Attach the printed directions for construction of the rocket if any were used.

## **Aerospace Display (SF 50131)**

**Open to youth in Aerospace 1, Aerospace 2, Aerospace 3, and Aerospace 4**

Prepare a display related to the aerospace project that does not fit in the model rocketry class. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters that you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

## AGRONOMY

Each county may submit 3 entries total from 50170, 50171, 50172, 50173, 50191.

### **Soybeans (SF 50170) Record Book – Required**

Exhibit five fresh plants (include root system that is washed) that are representative of member's 4-H project field; **OR** exhibit an experimental or educational project related to one experience from your project. Include explanation of the project in a report for public understanding. Include the member's crop records with the exhibit, such as the 4-H crop record found online at [go.illinois.edu/4HCropsRecord](http://go.illinois.edu/4HCropsRecord), or an FFA crops record.

### **Corn (SF 50171) Record Book – Required**

Exhibit two fresh plants of field corn (include root system that is washed) that are representative of member's 4-H project field; **OR** exhibit an experimental or educational project related to one experience from your project. Include explanation of the project in a report for public understanding. *Sweet corn should be exhibited in Vegetable Gardening unless being raised under commercial contract by the exhibitor.* Include the member's crop records with the exhibit, such as the 4-H crop record found online at [go.illinois.edu/4HCropsRecord](http://go.illinois.edu/4HCropsRecord), or an FFA crops record.

### **Small Grains (SF 50172) Record Book – Required**

Exhibit one gallon of the current year's crop of oats, wheat, rye, or barley that is representative of the member's 4-H project field; **OR** exhibit an experimental or educational project related to one experience from your project. Include explanation of the project in a report for public understanding. Include the member's crop records with the exhibit, such as the 4-H crop record found online at [go.illinois.edu/4HCropsRecord](http://go.illinois.edu/4HCropsRecord) or an FFA crops record.

### **Hay (SF 50191) Record Book – Required**

Exhibit one flake from a small bale (or the equivalent volume from a large or round bale) of dry hay in a clear plastic box with a lid or heavy-duty clear bag of the current year's hay crop that is representative of the member's 4-H project field; **OR** Exhibit an experimental or educational project related to one experience from your project. Include explanation of the project in a report for public understanding. Include the member's crop records with the exhibit, such as the 4-H crop record found online at [go.illinois.edu/4HCropsRecord](http://go.illinois.edu/4HCropsRecord) or an FFA crops record.

### **Agronomy Innovation Class (SF 50173)**

#### **Open to youth enrolled in any Agronomy project**

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the Agronomy project. This could be related to, but not limited to crop production, crop utilization or topics of interest to the member related to agronomy. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or

posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

## **ANIMAL SCIENCE**

**For youth enrolled in Beef, Cat, Dairy Cattle, Dog, Horse, Goat, Llama/Alpaca, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep, Small Pets, and Swine.** Youth participating in the Animal Science General Project Show are not required to complete QAEC or YQCA.

Each county may submit 1 entry from 50133a and 1 entry from 50133b

### **Animal Science 1 (SF50133a)**

For youth enrolled in this project 1-2 years.

Prepare a display focusing on any activity related to an animal project. Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the animal project you studied. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition.

Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. Live animals are not permitted as exhibits in this area. For safety reasons, exhibits cannot include glass, syringes with needles, or any other sharp objects.

### **Animal Science 2 (SF50133b)**

For youth enrolled in this project 3 or more years.

Prepare a display focusing on any activity related to an animal project. Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the animal project you studied. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition.

Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. Live animals are not permitted as exhibits in this area. For safety reasons, exhibits cannot include glass, syringes with needles, or any other sharp objects.

## **BABYSITTING**

Each county may submit 3 entries total from 50141a or 50141b.

### **Babysitting Display (SF 50141a)**

Prepare a display that demonstrates the skills and knowledge you have gained studying babysitting. Topics might include, but are not limited to, selecting age-appropriate toys and activities, explaining child behavior, or recognizing child safety concerns. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters that you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. For safety reasons, exhibits cannot include glass, syringes with needles or any other sharp objects.

### **Babysitting Video Tutorial (SF 50141b)**

Create a short (1-5 minute) tutorial video intended for internet publishing that teaches the general public about a topic you learned about in your project learning. Topics for the tutorial video might include, but are not limited to, preparing healthy snacks for kids, looking for hazards in the home, things to avoid when selecting toys for kids, age-appropriate games or activities to use when babysitting, how to change a diaper, basic child first aid, etc.

As part of the video, youth must cite the sources of the information they present (either vocally or on screen as text). Videos should not include video or photo content not recorded by the 4-H'er. Videos should not promote any products and should follow all copyright guidelines. Videos in this category will be judged on the quality and accuracy of the information shared, as well as clarity of presentation, and how engaging they are to a general audience (not on filmmaking techniques).

Youth should have a signed model release for anyone appearing in the video besides themselves, and those should be brought to judging. Forms are available at [go.illinois.edu/modelrelease](http://go.illinois.edu/modelrelease).

You must furnish any equipment you need to show your video to the judge (laptop, tablet, etc.). Internet service is not guaranteed, so please have a hard copy of the video downloaded to your device to play. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. All Exhibitors should also bring a copy of their video to be judged on a USB flash drive and saved in .MP4 format as a backup. In order for something to be on display at your local fair or show, fill out the video information sheet and bring it with you to judging: [go.illinois.edu/4HBabysittingVideo](http://go.illinois.edu/4HBabysittingVideo). *Note: While exhibitors are encouraged to*

*post their video on YouTube.com in advance of the fair, they are not required to do so. If they choose to upload to YouTube they may choose whether to make the video “public” (the video is searchable on the site), or “public, unlisted” (someone must have the link to view it). This will allow fairgoers to view the exhibits on display. Youth ages 13 to 17 should only be posting content to the internet with parental permission. Youth under 13 would need their parents to post the video for them.*

# CAT

CAT SHOW (county only – i.e. does not advance to State Fair)

The following classes will be judged at the Cat Show on Friday, July 10 at 4 PM – location to be determined.

Cat Care – Cat (over 8 months of age): Basic judging is on the overall condition of the cat. The cat should be in good weight for its size and age. Cleanliness, grooming, condition, and health are the important criteria for judging all cats.

Cat Care – Kitten (4-8 months of age): Basic judging is on the overall condition of the cat. The cat should be in good weight for its size and age. Cleanliness, grooming, condition, and health are the important criteria for judging all cats.

## Cat Show Rules:

- Exhibitor must be enrolled in the Cat 4-H project area.
- Project Record Sheet – A completed up-to-date Record Sheet is required for judging.
- Quality Assurance and Ethics Certification: First time exhibitors of Cat, Dog, Horse, Poultry, or Rabbit projects complete the Quality Assurance and Ethics Certification (QAEC) in order to be eligible to exhibit an animal(s) at the Wabash County fair, as well as at the State Fair. This is an online training. The deadline for completion is June 1, 2026.
- The cat must be exhibited by the 4-H member (owner).
- The cat may be either a purebred or a household pet.
- The cat must be fed and cared for by the 4-H member.
- The cat must be kept under control at all times and not be allowed to run loose.
- The cat must have a proof of inoculation, or it will not be allowed to show. The cat must show proof of vaccination for Distemper, Rhinotrachetis, Calici Virus and Rabies. Vaccinations must be within one year of the Show.
- It is suggested that cats be collared and on a leash for the show. It is suggested that cats be brought in a well-ventilated box or carrier.
- All 4-H cats must have their toe nails clipped for exhibit for safety reasons.
- Each cat's ears must be free of mites and infections. Ears should be cleaned.
- Each cat must be free of fleas and skin disorders. Cats should be bathed.
- Any cat that is pregnant or that has had a litter within the last 3 months will not be eligible to show.
- No female cat may be shown if she is in season at the time of the show.

# CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Each county may submit 2 entries from 50365

## **Build Your Future (SF 50365) Build Your Future Notebook – Required**



Develop a career portfolio which includes the items listed below. Members are encouraged to spend more than one year involved in this project, so they have time to thoroughly explore the learning modules and develop a greater understanding of planning and preparing for their future and develop a comprehensive career planning portfolio. The original OR photocopies of the completed activities from the project manual should be included in the portfolio. Each year enrolled in the project should build on the previous year's learning experiences.

- **First Year** – Complete a minimum of Activities 1-4 from the Build Your Future project manual which includes: Skills...Choices...Careers; Making Career Connections; Build Your Future Through Portfolios; and Education Pay\$.
- **Second Year** – Complete a minimum of Activities 5-7 from the Build Your Future project manual which includes: Career FUNds; Turn Your 4-H Passion Into Profit; and Pounding the Pavement.
- **Third Year** – Complete a minimum of Activities 8-9 from the Build Your Future project manual which includes: Putting the Pieces Together: Goals for the Future; and Pathways to Success.

## **CIVIC ENGAGEMENT**

Each county may submit 2 entries total from classes 50145, 50146, 50147, 50148. **Due to space restrictions, exhibits are limited to 36” x 48” and 15” deep.**

### **Civic Engagement 1 (SF 50145)**

Exhibit a display illustrating one of the following options: 1) personal information about yourself – who you are, things you like to do, things you are good at, your favorites; 2) your feelings and how you handle these feelings; 3) your family, their responsibilities, how you work together.

### **Civic Engagement 2 (SF 50146) Citizenship: Level 2 – My Neighborhood – Required**

Exhibit a display illustrating one of the following options: 1) your neighborhood; 2) how you were a good neighbor or led a service project for your community; **OR** 3) a Citizenship Challenge that you helped organize and lead (see the project book for details).

### **Civic Engagement 3 (SF 50147) Citizenship: Level 3 – My Community and Me – Required**

Exhibit a display illustrating one of the activities that you completed within your project as it relates to one of the following categories in the manual: 1) Government; 2) Business and Industry; 3) Transportation, Communication & Utilities; 4) Culture & Heritage; 5) Natural Resources & Environment; 6) Education; 7) Organizations within your community; 8) Tourism; **OR** 9) Support Systems within your community.

### **Civic Engagement Group Exhibit (SF 50148)**

**Open to groups whose members are enrolled in any Civic Engagement project.**

Exhibit a display illustrating how your group led a service project in your community. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. The display must be accompanied by at least 3 and no more than 10 4-H members at the time of the judge's critique. Groups wishing to include more than 10 members must ask for an accommodation, one week prior to judging. Group-members should make a 5- to 10-minute presentation to the judge. All group members present for the judge's critique should be able to discuss the project and answer questions. Only

group members present for judging who participate in the actual critique and presentation are eligible for ribbons and premiums.

## CLOTHING & TEXTILES

Each county may submit 3 sewing entries total from 50151 a-b, 50152 a-b, 50153 a-b; 2 shopping entries from 50154, 50155, 50156, 1 total costume design entry from 50157 a-b, and 1 total clothing embellishment entry from 50158 a-c.

### Costume Design & Clothing Embellishment

All exhibits entered in the Costume Design & Clothing Embellishment projects will be judged based on their creativity, planning, and execution. Exhibitors bringing garments should not wear their garments when they arrive for judging. The garment will be reviewed by the judges for construction first. Exhibitors will be asked to change into the garment as the second step of the judging process. For complicated costumes, judges may decide to waive the requirement to try on the outfit if they feel photos included in the Costume Design Workbook show the fit. If the garment was created for another individual, that person can come to judging to model the outfit, or photos of that person in the outfit can be supplied. (Only the exhibitor who made the garment is eligible for ribbon and premium.) If a pattern was used to make the item, the pattern instructions, either written or electronic, are to be included with the exhibit. Exhibit tags should be attached to the garment (preferably with a safety pin and string), not to the hanger. Garments may be worn before exhibiting but should be in good, clean condition. Both projects require youth to complete a project workbook and bring it to judging.

All clothing projects in these categories should follow copyright guidelines. See project resource guides for additional details.

Costume design members wishing to be judged primarily on the sewing construction techniques and fit of their costume should consider entering the Sewing projects instead of Costume Design. The level to be entered will depend on the sewing techniques used.

### COSTUME DESIGN

#### **Costume Design (SF 50157a, 50157b) *Costume Design Workbook – Required***

Exhibit one costume, created by the member. The costume may contain multiple items. The costume may include supporting accessory pieces (shoes, jewelry, hats, etc.) that complete the look. Accessory items will not remain on display. If the member created any prop weapons as part of their costume (e.g. swords, firearms, bows, etc.) they may not bring them to judging. Those props can be included in the photographs of the completed look in the Illinois 4-H Costume Design Workbook. Bring a completed copy of the Costume Design Workbook ([go.illinois.edu/4HCostumeWorkbook](http://go.illinois.edu/4HCostumeWorkbook)) to show your project journey. Youth should enter the class that aligns with their experience with costume design in any form (including outside of 4-H).

**Costume Design Beginner (SF 50157a) – For members with 2 or less years of experience in costume design (including this year)**

**Costume Design Advanced (SF 50157b) – For members with 3 or more years of experience in costume design (including this year)**

## **CLOTHING EMBELLISHMENT**

**Clothing Embellishment (SF 50158a, 50158b, 50158c) *Clothing Embellishment Workbook – Required*** 

Exhibit one look or outfit, consisting of no more than three coordinated pieces that have been embellished with 1 or more clothing embellishment techniques. Bring a completed copy of the Clothing Embellishment workbook ([go.illinois.edu/4HEmbellishmentWorkbook](http://go.illinois.edu/4HEmbellishmentWorkbook)) to show your project journey. No accessory items (such as shoes, jewelry, hats, etc.) should be brought to judging (they can instead be used in the final look photos in the project workbook). Youth should enter the class that aligns with the technique(s) used in their outfit.

### **Clothing Embellishment Applied (SF 50158a)**

Decoration is attached by gluing, fusing, or painting. Examples: jewels, puff paints, appliqués, tie dye.

#### **Clothing Embellishment Stitched (SF 50158b)**

Decoration is hand-or machine-stitched. Examples: machine or hand sewing, such as adding a collar or skirt, appliqué, satin stitch, embroidery, quilting, beading, knitting or crochet (4-H'er does not need to create the knit or crochet piece themselves, it could be purchased or made by others but attached by the 4-H'er).

### **Clothing Embellishment Combination (SF 50158c)**

Decoration includes any combination of both applied and stitched techniques across the outfit.

## **Sewing 1-3**

All exhibits entered in Sewing 1-3 will be judged based on their construction and fit (if applicable). Exhibitors bringing garments should not wear their garments when they arrive for judging. The garment will be reviewed by the judges for construction first. Exhibitors will be asked to change into the garment as the second step of the judging process. If the garment was constructed for another individual, that individual must be present to wear the garment for the judge. (Only the exhibitor who made the garment is eligible for ribbon and premium.) Construction and appearance will both be considered during judging. If a pattern was used to make the item, the pattern instructions, either written or electronic, are to be included with the exhibit. Exhibit tags should be attached to the garment, not to the hanger.

Members wishing to exhibit knitted items should enroll in Visual Arts Fiber (if original) or Visual Arts Heritage Arts (if made from a pattern). **We strongly encourage youth interested in pursuing quilting to enroll and exhibit in the Visual Arts Quilting project area.** Youth may still exhibit quilts in any level of Sewing as a “Sewn Non-Clothing” item, but these quilts will be judged using the Sewing rubric that evaluates the sewing skills and construction of the item. If exhibiting quilts in the Sewing area, all work on the quilt **MUST** be completed by the 4-H member. You cannot exhibit a quilt that was quilted by someone else. Quilts can be hand OR machine quilted as long as ALL work is completed by the exhibitor.

## **Sewing 1 (SF 50151a, 50151b)**

*Exhibits in Sewing 1 must be made from medium weight woven fabrics that will sew and press smoothly, flannel/fleece is acceptable. Solid color fabrics or those having an overall print are acceptable. We strongly advise youth do not select fabrics with plaid or stripe patterns as judges will expect stripes to match at seams, which is a more advanced-level skill. NO NAPPED or JERSEY KNIT fabric. Patterns should be simple WITHOUT DARTS, SET-IN SLEEVES, and COLLARS. Raglan and loose flowing sleeves are acceptable.*

Exhibit one of the following in either the Non-Clothing, or Clothing exhibit divisions:

### **Non-Clothing Exhibits (SF 50151a)**

Exhibit one of the following sewn items:

- Pillowcase
- Simple Pillow – no larger than 18” x 18”
- Bag/Purse – no zippers or button holes
- Other non-clothing item using skills learned in project manual

### **Clothing Exhibits (SF 50151b)**

Exhibit one of the following sewn items:

- Simple top
- Simple pants, shorts, or skirt – no zipper or button holes
- Simple Dress – no zipper or button holes
- Other – other wearable item using skills learned in project manual (apron, vest, etc.)

## **Sewing 2 (SF 50152a, 50152b)**

Exhibit one of the following in either the Non-Clothing, or-Clothing exhibit divisions:

### **Non-Clothing Exhibits (SF 50152a)**

Exhibit one of the following sewn items:

- Recycled Clothing Accessory – Create a clothing accessory made from a used item. The item must be changed in some way in the redesign process. The finished accessory must

reflect at least one skill learned in the project and exhibitor should be able to identify the skill used. A before picture and a description of the redesign process must accompany the exhibit. Clothing accessory may include: hat, bag, scarf, belt, etc. **OR**

- Non-Clothing Item OR Clothing Accessory – Create a non-clothing item or clothing accessory using at least one skill learned in this project. Exhibitor should be able to identify the skill used.

### **Clothing Exhibits (SF 50152b)**

Exhibit one of the following sewn items:

- Recycled Clothing – Create a garment from used textile-based items. The original used item must be redesigned (not just embellished or decorated) in some way to create a new wearable piece of clothing. The finished garment must reflect at least one skill learned in this project and exhibitor should be able to identify the skill used. A before picture and a description of the redesign process must accompany the exhibit. **OR**
- Constructed Garment – Any garment with facings or curves. Should use at least one skill learned in this project and exhibitor should be able to identify the skills used. Garment should be appropriate for the age and experience of the member.

### **Sewing 3 (SF 50153a, 50153b)**

Exhibit one of the following in either the Non-Clothing, or Clothing exhibit divisions:

#### **Non-Clothing Exhibit (SF 50153a)**

Exhibit one of the following sewn items:

- Recycled Clothing Accessory – Create a clothing accessory made from a used item. The item must be changed in some way in the redesign process. The finished accessory must reflect at least one skill learned in the project and exhibitor should be able to identify the skill used. A before picture and a description of the redesign process must accompany the exhibit. **OR**
- Non-Clothing Item OR Clothing Accessory – Create a non-clothing item or clothing accessory using at least one skill learned in this project. Exhibitor should be able to identify the skill used.

#### **Clothing Exhibit (SF 50153b)**

Exhibit one of the following sewn items:

- Recycled Clothing – Create a garment from used textile-based items. The original used item must be redesigned (not just embellished or decorated) in some way to create a new wearable piece of clothing. The finished garment must reflect at least one skill learned in this project and exhibitor should be able to identify the skill used. A before picture and a description of the redesign process must accompany the exhibit. **OR**
- Constructed Garment – Any garment constructed by the member which is appropriate for the age and experience of the exhibitor. Should use at least one skill learned in this project and exhibitor should be able to identify the skills used. Possible examples are wool

garment, dress or jacket with set in sleeves and zipper or buttons and button holes, suit, evening gown or sport outfit.

## **Shopping in Style (SF 50154, 50155, 50156) *Shopping in Style Digital – Required*** 📖

Members are encouraged to spend more than one year involved in this project, so they have time to learn what clothing styles look best on them while they also gain skills in building a versatile wardrobe and staying within their budget. Each year enrolled in Shopping should build on previous year's learning experience. For all levels of this project, participants should bring a garment to display and model for the judge.

Exhibit one of the following options that align with the Shopping in Style level:

### **Shopping in Style: Beginning (Levels 1 & 2) (SF 50154) *Shopping in Style Digital – Required*** 📖

Choose **one** of the following activities from Unit 1 or Unit 2 of the project book to exhibit:

- Exhibit should consist of a garment that reflects your personal style along with a poster or report that 1) explains how this garment reflects your style and how it influences what others think of you; **OR** 2) how your personal style either aligns or contradicts what is “in style” today. **OR**
- Exhibit should include a garment you purchased along with a poster or report that explains or illustrates how this garment is either 1) a modern version of a fad or fashion from an earlier decade; **OR** 2) how this garment reflects a different ethnic or cultural influence. Exhibit should include garment you purchased along with a poster or report that provides 1) a body shape discussion and how body shape influences clothing selections; **OR** 2) a color discussion that provides an overview of how different colors complement different hair colors and skin tones and how that influenced garment selection. Poster or report may include pictures from magazines, the internet or actual photos of garments. **OR**
- Exhibit should include garment you purchased along with a poster or report that 1) explains how this garment uses the principles of design lines to create an illusion to alter appearance; **OR** 2) explains how color and texture of fabrics can complement or enhance appearance. Poster or report may include pictures from magazines, the internet, or actual photos of garments.

### **Shopping in Style: Intermediate (Levels 3 & 4) (SF 50155) *Shopping in Style Digital – Required*** 📖

Choose **one** of the following activities from Unit 3 or Unit 4 of the project book to exhibit:

- Exhibit should include two clothing items that were previously a part of your wardrobe that still fit but you don't wear anymore and pair them with something new to make them wearable again. Also include a report that explains why the garment was not being worn and what you did to transform it into a wearable garment again. **OR**
- Exhibit should include at least five pieces of clothing that exhibitor can mix and match to

create multiple outfits. Include a poster or report that includes a clothing inventory AND describes what you have learned by completing this activity. Please bring at least one complete outfit from the selected clothing to display and model for the judge. **OR**

- Exhibit should include garment you purchased along with a poster or report that 1) includes a wardrobe inventory which indicates why you selected the garment you did, clothing budget, and cost of garment; **OR** 2) explains how advertising influences clothing purchases making a distinction between wants and needs; and how the purchase of this garment complements and/or extends your wardrobe. **OR**
- Exhibit should include garment you purchased along with a poster or report that 1) describes a cost comparison of this item completed by the exhibitor when purchasing the garment; should include variety of shopping options and/or price tracking at stores over a period of time; **OR** 2) provides a quality comparison rating the specific clothing item purchased based on care, construction, cost and unique features; should include construction quality details, design features that influenced selection, cost per wearing, and garment care.

### **Shopping in Style: Advanced (Level 5 & 6) (SF 50156) *Shopping in Style Digital – Required***

Choose **one** of the following activities from Unit 5 or Unit 6 of the project book to exhibit:

- Exhibit should include garment you purchased along with a poster or report that summarizes care requirements not only for this garment but also for garments made of other natural and synthetic fibers; exhibit should also include a care cost analysis for garments of different fibers. **OR**
- Exhibit should include garment you purchased which you have repaired or altered along with a poster or report that provides a clothing inventory list which includes cost savings for repaired items as compared to purchasing replacement garments. **OR**
- Exhibit should include multiple garments you purchased along with a poster or report that provides plans and commentary for a fashion show that would capture the attention of an audience. Fashion show plans should identify target audience, include show venue, purpose of the show, and logistical plan for the fashion show. This should also include a financial plan. Exhibitor should be prepared to demonstrate modeling skills and bring at least one garment to display and wear.

## COMMUNICATIONS

Each county may submit 2 entries total from 50368, 50369

### **Communications 1, 2, 3 (SF 50368) Communications Module 1, 2 or 3 – Required**

For 1<sup>st</sup> year enrolled in project: Exhibit a binder portfolio showcasing at least three activities from the project manual. Show basic activities and anything that extended lessons. For 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> years in project: Include everything from earlier years' work and add a section showcasing at least four additional activities per year.

### **Journalism, News & Social Media (SF 50369) Journalism, News & Social Media – Required**

Exhibit a binder portfolio showing the results of the appropriate year's activities noted below:

- **Year 1:** Results of doing a minimum of 5, 2-star activities, answering all the questions in the activities.
- **Year 2:** Results of doing a minimum of 5, 2-star activities, answering all the questions in the activities.
- **Year 3:** Results of doing a minimum of 5, 3-star activities. One of the activities must include writing an advance story, a follow-up story, or a feature story.
- **Year 4:** Results of doing at least 2, 2-star activities and 3, 3-star activities. If the activities include making an audio or videotape, State Fair will provide a way for the judge to view or listen to it.

# COMMUNICATIONS: PUBLIC SPEAKING

Counties may **advance a total of 3 entries** from any category to the state contest.

Enrollment in the Public Presentations project is required to participate in this section. No live animals are allowed in speeches. **Counties may advance a total of 3 speech entries from any category to the state contest.** A 4-H member may advance in one individual category and one team category. **Participating** youth turning 14 years of age on or before **September 1, 2025, must** enroll as advanced.

## Resources:

Youth looking for resources to help prepare for this contest can reference the following:

- [Finding your Voice: Public Speaking made Easy](#) (Public Speaking)
- Refer to the AI policy at [go.illinois.edu/4hai](http://go.illinois.edu/4hai) for Public Speaking specific guidance

## Formal Speech

**Self-written | Notes Allowed | No props | Individual | 4-5 minutes for beginners; 5-6 minutes for advanced**

Formal Speech - Original Beginner Ages 8-13 (SF 50501A)

Formal Speech - Original Advanced Ages 14 & Up (SF 50501B)

Formal Speeches share the presenter's own unique view and are intended to motivate, persuade, or inform an audience and may include a call to action. Youth may deliver a speech on any topic they wish.

## Illustrated Speech

**Self-written | Notes Allowed | Illustrations Required | Individual | 4-5minutes for beginners; 5-6 minutes for advanced** Illustrated Speech - Beginner Ages 8-13 (SF 50503A)

Illustrated Speech - Advanced Ages 14 & Up (SF 50503B)

Illustrated Speeches may be used to inform, persuade, or motivate the audience while using a visual aid. Visual aids may be two dimensional, three-dimensional, or digital. Youth may include audience participation. Digital visual aids must be stored on a USB flash drive. Illustrated speeches may be:

- How-to demonstrations which show the audience how to do something.
- Object lessons which use objects as metaphors to share a message.
- Educational models where drawings or diagrams help explain a topic.

## **Original Works**

**Self-written | Notes Allowed | Props and Costumes Allowed | Individual or 2-Person Team | Youth must provide manuscripts to judge | 4-6 minutes**

Original Works – Individual (SF 50504)

Original Works – Team (SF 50505)

Original works must be written entirely by the presenter. It may be presented as an individual or a two-person team entry. Manuscripts must be brought to the contest. Presentations may be designed for TV, radio, or online media and must be presented live. The types of entries could include:

- Prose and Short Stories
- Poetry/Spoken Word
- Broadcast Media Program
- Theatrical
- Combined Program: Combine any number of the above elements along with other creative presentation forms

## **Oral Interpretation**

**Published Work | Props and Costumes Allowed | Individual or 2-Person Team | Youth must provide manuscripts to judge | 4-6 minutes**

Oral Interpretation – Individual (SF 50506)

Oral Interpretation – Team (SF 50507)

Presentations in Oral Interpretation must be published works, and manuscripts or transcripts must be brought to the event. They may be presented as an individual or a two-person team entry. The types of entries could include:

- Prose and Short Stories
- Poetry
- Theatrical Interpretation
- Published Speech Recitation: Excerpt from a spoken presentation delivered by a public figure, such as Winston Churchill, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., or Maya Angelou
- Combined Program: Combine any number of the above elements along with other creative presentation forms

# **COMPUTER SCIENCE**

Each county may submit 3 entries total from 50135, 50136, 50137, 50138, 50139.

Exhibitors may bring computer equipment for demonstration purposes. Computers will not be furnished. Internet connections are not available for use by exhibitors. Any member found to be using computer software in a manner that infringes on copyright laws will be disqualified.

## **Beginning Visual Programming (SF 50135) Open to youth in Computer Science Visual Based Programming.**

Exhibit a simple program using Scratch (or other simple visual programming language). The program should include 8 different commands including looping and getting input from the keyboard and mouse. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a poster or printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

## **Intermediate Visual Programming (SF 50136) Open to youth in Computer Science Visual Based Programming.**

Exhibit a program using Scratch (or other simple visual programming language) that you have downloaded from the internet and modified. Compare the two programs and demonstrate the changes you made to the original program; **OR** create an animated storybook using Scratch (or other simple graphical programming language). All exhibits must include something visual, such as a poster or printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

## **Advanced Visual Programming (SF 50137) Open to youth in Computer Science Visual Based Programming.**

Exhibit a video game you have created in Scratch (or other simple visual programming language). All exhibits must include something visual, such as a poster or printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

## **Website Design (SF 50138) Open to youth in any Computer Science Project Area.**

Exhibit an original website that you have designed using a programming language such as HTML (cannot be made with website builder like Wix or Squarespace). Internet access will not be

provided, so exhibitors must supply their own internet hotspot or the website must be hosted on the exhibitor's computer. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a poster or printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

## **Text-Based/Open Source Computer Science (SF 50139)**

### **Open to youth enrolled in any Computer Science or Robotics project**

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the Computer Science project using a text-based programming language (Python, Java, C, etc.). The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. Exhibits in this class may also demonstrate successful application of open source (publicly available) computing software and/or hardware, such as Raspberry Pi and Linux, to accomplish a task. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a poster or printed copy of a digital presentation or programming flowchart, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Exhibits in this area will be judged on the computer science programming. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. Exhibits in this class must be able to fit on no more than a 3' x 2' space (or ground footprint).

## CONSUMER EDUCATION

Each county may submit 2 entries total from 50166, 50168, 50169.

### **Entrepreneurship: Be the E! (SF 50166) Be the “E” Entrepreneurship Guide – Required**

Exhibit a binder portfolio or display that includes the results of at least two completed activities from each year the exhibitor has been enrolled in the project. Completed activities from previous years should be included.

### **My Financial Future 1 Beginner (SF 50168) My Financial Future Beginner Youth Notebook – Required**

Develop a Financial Planning portfolio which includes the items listed below. This project can be completed all in one year; or a member may take several years to explore each of the activities and develop a more detailed financial plan. The original OR photocopies of the completed activities from the project manual should be included in the portfolio. Each year enrolled in the project should build on previous year’s experiences.

- **First Year** – Complete a minimum of Activities 1-6 from the My Financial Future – Beginner project manual which includes: Who Needs This?; Let’s get SMART; Bringing Home the Bacon; Managing Your Money Flow; My Money Personality; and Money Decisions.
- **Second Year and Beyond** – Complete a minimum of Activities 7-11 from the My Financial Future – Beginner project manual which includes: Banking your \$\$\$\$\$; Charging it Up; Check it Out; Better than a Piggy Bank!; and My Work; My Future.

### **My Financial Future 2 Advanced (SF 50169) My Financial Future Advanced Notebook – Required**

Building on your previous work in My Financial Future – Beginner project, continue adding to your Financial Planning portfolio which includes the items listed below. Members are encouraged to spend more than one year involved in this project, so they have time to thoroughly explore the learning modules and develop a greater understanding of financial literacy, planning for their future, and develop a comprehensive career and financial planning portfolio. The original OR photocopies of the completed activities from the project manual should be included in the portfolio. Each year enrolled in the project should build on previous year’s learning experiences.

- **First Year** – Complete a minimum of two activities from Module 1: Earning Income and Career Planning and Module 2: Organizing Your Flow.
- **Second Year** – Complete all activities not previously completed in Module 1: Earning Income and Career Planning and Module 2: Organizing Your Flow; **AND** a minimum of two of the activities from Module 3: Working with Banks and Credit Unions: Bank on It and Module 4: Making Your \$ Work 4 U.
- **Third Year and Beyond** – Complete all activities not previously completed in Module 3:

Working with Banks and Credit Unions: Bank on It and Module 4: Making Your \$ Work 4 U;  
**AND** a minimum of two activities from Module 5: Credit and Consumer Breadcrumbs.

# CREATING WITH BUILDING BRICKS

Each county may send 3 building brick entries total from 50101, 50102, 50103, 50104, 50105, 50106, 50107, 50108, 50109

All exhibits entered in the Creating with Building Bricks project must follow these guidelines:

- All projects must be original designs by the exhibitor built entirely with building brick elements (no kits or following build directions created by others are allowed). Exhibitors can use techniques learned from kits, build directions, and guides to create their own original designs.
- All projects should follow copyright guidelines. No re-creating copyrighted characters or logos out of bricks. No recreating copyrighted images in brick form, including as mosaics. Legally sourced branded items can be used as part of the exhibit (i.e. licensed minifigures and licensed printed parts). See project resource guide for additional details at [go.illinois.edu/4HBuildingBrickResources](http://go.illinois.edu/4HBuildingBrickResources).
- All physical builds (with the exception of hangable art) must be 30" by 30" (table space length and width) or less (i.e. 4 total of the 48 by 48 stud baseplate in a square formation or smaller). Pieces of the build should not extend horizontally beyond the maximum size. There is no height limit. Mosaics or other entries in the art category that are intended to be hung from a wall have a maximum size of 32" by 42" and a depth no greater than 3 inches. Virtual builds have no size restrictions.
- Builds should be 4-H appropriate and aligned with principles in the 4-H Code of Conduct.
- Youth should exhibit in only one build category.

## **Creating with Building Bricks: Art (SF 50101)**

Exhibit one visual art piece created with building bricks as the medium. This includes things like sculptures and mosaics. Pieces in this category are judged on art principles.

## **Creating with Building Bricks: Building (SF 50102)**

Exhibit one building constructed with building bricks, such as a house or skyscraper. Replicas of existing buildings, such as a personal home, are allowed in this category.

## **Creating with Building Bricks: Creature (SF 50103)**

Exhibit one real or imaginary animal, monster, or person created with building bricks. This category includes domestic animals (like pets and farm animals), wild animals (current or extinct), as well as fantasy creature builds (like dragons, aliens, monsters, and unicorns. All creatures must be brick built (no mixed and matched minifigures are allowed).

## **Creating with Building Bricks: Functional (SF 50104)**

Exhibit one non-mechanical item built from building bricks that can be used in the real world, like a jewelry box, pencil cup, or phone charging stand. Bring a printed picture of the build in use.

## **Creating with Building Bricks: Mechanical (SF 50105)**

Exhibit one device constructed with building bricks, which includes mechanical movement to accomplish a real-world task. Use of gears and technic style elements is encouraged. Example builds include a functioning clock, candy vending machine, etc. Mechanical builds will frequently combine various simple machines like levers, pulleys, screws, and axles to achieve tasks. Mechanical builds can use motor elements.

## **Creating with Building Bricks: Object (SF 50106)**

Exhibit one full-size or scaled (shrunk down or enlarged) replica of a real-world object, like a food item, household object, or plant, built from building bricks. Leave any brand logos off your replica. Bring a printed picture of the item you are replicating to judging so judges can compare your build to the real thing.

## **Creating with Building Bricks: Scene/Storytelling (SF 50107)**

Exhibit one scene that tells a story built with building bricks. Scenes will typically display some type of action (or implied action). Scenes can be realistic or set in imaginary worlds. Builds can incorporate items from the other exhibit categories (such as creatures, buildings, and vehicles) as well as minifigures.

## **Creating with Building Bricks: Vehicle (SF 50108)**

Exhibit one vehicle built with building bricks. This category includes things like cars, boats, trains, airships, and spaceships.

## **Creating with Building Bricks: Virtual (SF 50109)**

Create an original build using virtual building brick software such as BrickLink Studio, MecaBricks Workshop, or LeoCAD. Exhibits in this category can be of anything that would fit in any of the other build categories but are instead built digitally. Export or screenshot a minimum of 6 images of the entire build from different angles (top, bottom, both sides, front, and back images are required) and bring printed copies of the images in a standard size pocket folder or 3-ring binder. Youth may include additional images (beyond the required 6) from different angles that they feel help capture the entirety of the build and may include shots focused on important build details that are not easy to see in the required images. Please label each image (i.e. “front view”, “back view”, “bottom view”, “detail of front” etc.). Youth should be prepared to discuss what software they used with the judge.

## CREATIVE WRITING

Each county may submit 2 entries total from 50367, 50371

### Creative Writing (SF 50367)

Submit one of the following. The entry is to be typewritten on 8 ½ x 11 paper and include exhibitor's name. Entries must be original and **written for the 4-H project**. Stories should be double-spaced. If you want to be judged on the artistic aspects of your graphic novel, this project should be entered in Visual Arts: Chalk, Carbon, Pigment.

- **Short Story** – A fiction piece comprised of three basic elements: a theme, a plot, and characters. Submit one story, maximum length – 2,000 words.
- **Essay** – A short nonfiction composition in which a theme is developed, or an idea is expressed. Submit one essay, maximum length – 500 words.
- **Feature Story** – Nonfiction human-interest story judged on interest to readers, writing style, readability, and thoroughness of coverage. Submit one story, maximum length – 1,000 words.

**State Level Creative Writing: If promoted to state, follow the instructions below to submit your entry by August 1 to the State 4-H Office.**

- Members are strongly encouraged to upload their submission to the State Communications Box folder by August 1, prior to the beginning of State Fair. Members need to include their name and county in the title of the file. Upload files to: [go.illinois.edu/StateFairSubmissions](http://go.illinois.edu/StateFairSubmissions)
- Members are also required to bring a hard copy of their project to drop off the morning that their county is exhibiting at the state fair.

### Poetry (SF 50371)

Submit one of the following. The entry is to be typewritten on 8 ½ x 11 paper and include exhibitor's name. Entries must be original and **written for the 4-H project**. Poems may be single-spaced. The entries should be submitted by August 1 to the state 4-H office.

- **Rhymed Poetry** – An interpretation of a subject in rhymed verse. Submit a collection of three poems.
- **Free Style Poetry** – An interpretation of a subject in unrhymed verse. Submit a collection of three poems.

## **DOGS**

The following classes will be judged at the Dog Show on Friday, July 10th at 4 PM – location to be determined:

Dog Care: Dogs will be judged on appearance and care.

### **Dog Show Rules:**

- Exhibitor must be enrolled in the Dog 4-H project area.
- Project Record Sheet – A completed up-to-date Record Sheet is required for judging.
- Quality Assurance and Ethics Certification: First time exhibitors of Cat, Dog, Horse, Poultry, or Rabbit projects must complete the Quality Assurance and Ethics Certification (QAEC) in order to be eligible to exhibit an animal(s) at the Wabash County fair, as well as at the State Fair. This is an online training. The deadline for completion is June 1, 2026.
- The dog must be exhibited by the 4-H member enrolled in the project.
- Dogs may be owned or leased by June 1 of current 4-H year. At this time, no paperwork is required to be on file.
- Dogs may be any breed, mixed or purebred.
- Dogs must have proof of rabies vaccination. Other vaccinations may be recommended by your veterinarian.
- Dogs that cannot be controlled by their handler will be excused from the show.
- Dog must be on a leash and restrained. The dog must be kept under control at all times and not be allowed to run loose.

### **Dog Show Award:**

Best of Show – Beginner Dog Care (exhibitors aged 12 and under as of sept 1, 2025)

Best of Show - Advanced Dog Care (exhibitors aged 13 and over as of sept 1, 2025)

## **DRONES: Unmanned Aerial Vehicles/Systems**

Each county may submit 2 entries total from 50375, 50376.

Choose one of the following classes based on your interest and skill level. Each exhibitor must complete the first 2 sections, and at least 3 Real World Missions in the Quads Away Curriculum and display a completed mission logbook.

### **UAV Display (SF 50375) Unmanned Aerial Vehicles/Systems: Drones – Required**

Prepare a display related to the Drones/UAV project on the topic of your choosing. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. Non-UAV/ Drone projects should not be entered in this class (see Aerospace Display).

### **UAV Unmanned Aerial Systems (SF 50376) Unmanned Aerial Vehicles/Systems: Drones – Required**

Exhibit one unmanned aerial vehicle and associated system assembled or made by the member. UAV or drone exhibits in this class must be either originally designed or built from a kit of reconfigurable parts and components. These displays are limited to multicopters (tri, quad, hex, and octocopters), as well as FPV airplanes and flying wings with wingspans up to 36". A detailed build log with pictures, as well as a mission logbook must be included. The UAV MUST have a flight controller and utilize a camera/video transmission system. The exhibit will be a static display. The drone should be in good flying condition with batteries fully charged, and all UAS components (including video system) ready to demonstrate. DO NOT display your UAV with the propellers on, but rather on the table to the side of your UAV. The drone will not be flown. Attach the printed directions/instructions of the UAV if any were used.

# **ELECTRICITY**

Each county may submit 3 entries total from 50177, 50178, 50179, 50180.

## **Electricity 1 (SF 50177)**

*May only be battery-powered projects using battery components and wiring.* Exhibit a momentary switch, simple switch, basic circuit, electromagnet, galvanometer, **OR** an electric motor. All projects must include a report explaining how the project was constructed and the principles demonstrated. Projects using paper clips, cardboard, thumbtacks, and brads are not eligible for state fair exhibits in electricity. Members wishing to exhibit these types of projects should consider exhibiting in Junk Drawer Robotics 1 or 2.

## **Electricity 2 (SF 50178)**

*May only be battery-powered projects using battery components and wiring.* Exhibit a circuit board demonstrating parallel and series switches, including a circuit diagram; 3-way or 4-way switch circuit using DC/battery; **OR** a basic electrical device (examples: rocket launcher, burglar alarm, etc.). All projects must include a report explaining how the project was constructed and the principles demonstrated. Projects using paper clips, cardboard, thumbtacks, and brads are not eligible for state fair exhibits in electricity. Members wishing to exhibit these types of projects should consider exhibiting in Junk Drawer Robotics 1 or 2.

## **Electricity 3 (SF 50179)**

Exhibit a 120V lighting fixture or other appliance that uses a switch; **OR** two electrical household circuits using 120V materials to comply with National Electrical Code, one with a simple on/off switch to control bulb, and one using 3-way switches to control light from two locations; **OR** other project which demonstrates principles in the *Wired for Power* book. All electricity projects must include a report, explaining how the project was constructed, and principles for its operation.

## **Electricity 4 (SF 50180)**

Exhibit any electronic or solid-state appliance. Exhibitor must be able to explain how the project was constructed, how it is to be used and how it works. When a project is being constructed, general safety and workmanship should be considered. All Electricity 4 projects must include a report explaining how the project was constructed, and principles for its operation.

# ENTOMOLOGY

## GENERAL

Each county may submit 2 entries total from 50183, 50184, 50185, 50186.

Size and number of exhibit cases should relate appropriately to the number of insects being displayed for a specified class. Cases should be no deeper than 4". Exhibitors should note that Entomology exhibits may be placed UPRIGHT for display. All displays should be comprised of non-living specimens properly prepared for display. Rules for pinning and labeling insects are available at the following site: <https://extension.entm.purdue.edu/401Book/default.php?page=home>. Projects focused on Arachnids (Spiders) should be displayed in Nature: Natural Resources & Outdoor Adventures in the Exploring Your Environment (50257a or 50257b) class.

### **Entomology 1 (SF 50183) Teaming With Insects 1 – Required**

Exhibit 15-29 or more species representing four or more orders. The collection must be accurately labeled. Exhibitors must also include the Entomology 1 project manual, *Teaming With Insects 1*, with at least one completed activity for each year enrolled. For youth exhibiting the same collection over multiple years, at least 25% of the specimens in the collection must have been collected in the current 4-H year.

### **Entomology 2 (SF 50184) Teaming With Insects 2 – Required**

Exhibit 30-59 or more species representing eight or more orders. Collection must be accurately labeled. Exhibitors must also include the Entomology 2 project manual, *Teaming With Insects 2*, with at least one completed activity for each year enrolled. For youth exhibiting the same collection over multiple years, at least 25% of the specimens in the collection must have been collected in the current 4-H year.

### **Entomology 3 (SF 50185) Teaming With Insects 3 – Required**

Exhibit 60 or more species representing twelve or more orders. Collection must be accurately labeled. Exhibitors must also include the Entomology 3 project manual, *Teaming With Insects 3*, with at least one completed activity for each year enrolled. For youth exhibiting the same collection over multiple years, at least 25% of the specimens in the collection must have been collected in the current 4-H year.

### **Entomology Display (SF 50186)**

**Open to youth enrolled in Entomology 1, 2 or 3.**

Exhibit any activity or display related to Entomology that does not fit into Entomology Classes 1, 2 or 3 above. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations,

digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

## BEEKEEPING

Each county may send 2 entries total from classes 50188, 50189, 50190.

Create an exhibit that shows the public what you learned in the beekeeping project this year. **Note:** No beehives may be exhibited. Honey moisture content will be measured at the State Fair for Level 2 & 3. Fill level: the honey should be filled to the jar shoulder, not over, nor under. Chunk honey should go in a wide-mouth jar, preferably one specially made for chunk honey (see beekeeping catalog [HillCo LLC Beekeeping Equipment Catalog](#)). Be careful to distinguish “chunk honey” (comb in jar) from “cut comb” (comb only in plastic box). *Honey exhibited (including chunk, cut comb, and sections) must be collected since the previous year’s fair.*

### **Beekeeping 1 (SF 50188) Exhibit an educational display for one (1) of the following:**

- Flowers used to make honey. Display pressed flowers from ten (10) different Illinois plants that bees use for making honey.
- Uses of honey and beeswax.
- Setting up a beehive.
- Safe handling of bees.
- Equipment needed by a beekeeper.

### **Beekeeping 2 (SF 50189)**

Exhibit one (1) of the following:

- Extracted honey: Three (3) pint jars (glass, screw-top), holding 1lb. of honey each.
- Chunk honey (comb in jar): Three (3) pint jars (wide-mouth, glass).
- Cut-comb honey: Three (3) 1lb. boxes (boxes are usually 4 ½” x 4 ½” in size).
- Section honey: Three (3) sections of comb honey (in basswood boxes or Ross rounds).
- Working with honey bees. Present a topic from your manual to teach fairgoers about working with honey bees. Use your knowledge and creativity to display this information on a poster or in a notebook.

### **Beekeeping 3 (SF 50190)**

Exhibit three (3) of the five (5) kinds of honey listed below (#1-5) or prepare an educational display about honey bees or beekeeping (#6).

- Extracted honey: Three (3) pint jars (glass, screw-top), holding 1 lb. of honey each.
- Chunk honey (comb in a jar): Three (3) pint jars (wide-mouth, glass) .
- Cut-comb honey: Three (3) 1 lb. boxes (boxes are usually 4 ½” x 4 ½” in size).

- Comb honey: Three (3) sections (honey built by bees in frames of wood commonly called “sections”) (boxes are usually 4 ½” x 4 ½” in size).
- Section honey: Three (3) sections of comb honey (in basswood boxes or Ross rounds) **OR**
- Prepare an educational display about honey bees or beekeeping.

## ESPORTS

Each county may submit 3 entries from 50378.

All exhibitors must complete all activities in the Illinois 4-H eSports Curriculum.

### **Esports (SF 50378) Illinois 4-H Esports Curriculum – Required**

Compete in at least 1 ranked tournament online or in person (either as a team or solo), and fully document your progress throughout. Any game with a documentable bracket system, and at least 3 rounds counts. Be sure to include a description of the tournament, your match information, your win-loss record, and description of the game and platform being used to play the game (RAM requirements/capabilities of your machine, video card specs., etc.). Prepare a PowerPoint presentation describing your journey through Esports (including your 1 mandatory tournament), what you have learned about gaming/Esports, and why you think more youth should be involved. Also include a detailed description of your most important win, explaining your strategy in that victory. Be sure to include screenshots and video, if possible. Load your presentation to a USB drive. Must include a visual presentation.

## **EXPLORATORY (not eligible for state fair)**

### **Exploratory - *Welcome to 4-H* - Required** **(not eligible for state fair)**

Youth ages 8 – 10 may exhibit a display on one of the following topics from the project book:

- Windowsill gardening; **OR**
- 4-H animals; **OR**
- 4-H family; **OR**
- Coat of arms

### **Collectibles *My Favorite Things (Collectibles)* - Required** **(not eligible for state fair)**

Bring your completed project book and your collection or examples of your collection (if it's too large to bring) with pictures of total collection, OR an exhibit or poster illustrating one feature of the project.

## **FAMILY HERITAGE**

Each county may submit 1 entry from 50197.

### **Family Heritage (SF 50197)**

Prepare an exhibit of items, pictures, maps, charts, slides/tapes, drawings, illustrations, writings or displays that depict the heritage of the member's family or community or 4-H history. Please note: Exhibits are entered at 4-H'ers own risk. 4-H is not responsible for loss or damage to family

heirloom items or any items in this division. **Due to space restrictions, exhibits are limited to 36" x 48" and 15" deep.**

## FOODS & NUTRITION

Each county may submit 7 entries total from any of these food classes: 50200 a-c, 50201 a-c, 50202a-e, 50203a-d, 50209a-e, 50211. Each county may submit 2 entries from the food science classes: 50204, 50205, 50206, 50207, 50208.

### **4-H Cooking 101 (SF 50200a, 50200b, 50200c) 4-H Cooking 101 – Required**

Using the recipes included in the project manual (*which are also available at [go.illinois.edu/Cooking101Recipes](http://go.illinois.edu/Cooking101Recipes)*), prepare an exhibit for **one** of the classes below. No icing should be on any products. **No ingredient additions or substitutions should be made to the recipes**, unless they are to accommodate food allergies, sensitivities, or special diets (i.e. nut allergy, gluten intolerance, vegetarian/vegan diet, etc.). If you make changes to the recipe due to the reasons listed above, bring a copy of the recipe with your changes and be prepared to discuss them with the judge. Bars, coffeecake, or cookies should be displayed on a disposable plate placed in a zip-sealing plastic bag. In addition to your food exhibit, complete the What's on Your Plate? Activity on pages 10-11 in the 4-H Cooking 101 project manual (*and for download at [go.illinois.edu/Cooking101Activity](http://go.illinois.edu/Cooking101Activity)*). Bring a document with printed pictures of your 3 or more plates and the answers to questions 1-7 to remain on display with your project. The words on the plates must be legible and clearly visible in the picture. Pictures, graphics or photos are acceptable. Due to space limitations at State Fair, the size of the activity document should be no larger than an 8 ½" x 11" binder or folder.

- **Cereal Bars** (SF 50200a) - 3 cereal marshmallow bars
- **Coffeecake** (SF 50200b) - ¼ of 8" square or round coffeecake
- **Cookies** (SF 50200c) - 3 cookies

Youth interested in exhibiting a food item from the project book not listed above, making changes to the provided recipes, or exhibiting a display related to information in the project manual should investigate the Foods Innovation class.

### **4-H Cooking 201 (SF 50201a, 50201b, 50201c) 4-H Cooking 201 – Required**

Using the recipes included in the project manual (*which are also available at [go.illinois.edu/Cooking201Recipes](http://go.illinois.edu/Cooking201Recipes)*), prepare an exhibit for **one** of the classes below. **No ingredient additions or substitutions should be made to the recipes**, unless they are to accommodate food allergies, sensitivities, or special diets (i.e. nut allergy, gluten intolerance, vegetarian/vegan diet, etc.). If you make changes to the recipe due to the reasons listed above, bring a copy of the recipe with your changes and be prepared to discuss them with the judge. Bread, biscuits, or scones should be displayed on a disposable plate placed in a zip-sealing

plastic bag. In addition to your food exhibit, complete Experiment with Meal Planning Activity on page 91 in the 4-H Cooking 201 project manual (*and for download at [go.illinois.edu/Cooking201Activity](http://go.illinois.edu/Cooking201Activity)*). Bring either page 91 with your completed answers or a document with the answers to remain on display with your project along with a picture of the meal you prepared. You do not need to complete the Challenge Yourself section on page 91. Due to space limitations at State Fair, the size of the activity document should be no larger than an 8 ½" x 11" binder or folder.

- **Biscuits** (SF 50201a) - 3 rolled biscuits
- **Scones** (SF 50201b) - 3 scones
- **Nut Bread** (SF 50201c) - ½ loaf (9" x 5") of basic nut bread (no variations)

Youth interested in exhibiting a food item from the project book not listed above, making changes to the provided recipes, or exhibiting a display related to information in the project manual should investigate the Foods Innovation class.

### **4-H Cooking 301 (SF 50202a, 50202b, 50202c, 50202d, 50202e) 4-H Cooking 301 – Required**

Using the recipes included in the project manual (*which are also available at [go.illinois.edu/Cooking301Recipes](http://go.illinois.edu/Cooking301Recipes)*), prepare an exhibit for **one** of the classes below. If icing is used on the tea ring or sweet rolls, the recipe for the icing must also come from the book. The yeast bread/roll dough may be prepared in a bread making machine; however prepared mixes are not permitted. **No ingredient additions or substitutions should be made to the recipes**, unless they are to accommodate food allergies, sensitivities, or special diets (i.e. nut allergy, gluten intolerance, vegetarian/vegan diet, etc.). If you make changes to the recipe due to the reasons listed above, bring a copy of the recipe with your changes and be prepared to discuss them with the judge. Display exhibit on a disposable plate or pie tin and place in a zip-sealing plastic bag. In addition to your food exhibit, complete one of the six experiments: Experiment with Flour p. 33-34, Experiment with Kneading p. 35-36, Experiment with Yeast p. 37-38 or 39, Experiment with Butter p. 62-63 or Experiment with Cheese p. 104-105. Copies of all experiments are available to download at [go.illinois.edu/Cooking301Experiments](http://go.illinois.edu/Cooking301Experiments). Bring a document with a printed picture of your experiment and the answers to the experiment questions to remain on display with your project. Due to space limitations at State Fair, the size of the experiment document should be no larger than an 8 ½" x 11" binder or folder.

- **Dinner Rolls** (50202a) - 3 dinner rolls
- **Yeast Bread** (50202b) - loaf of yeast bread
- **Tea Ring** (50202c) - 1 tea ring
- **Sweet Rolls** (50202d) - 3 basic sweet dough rolls
- **Cake** (50202e) - one layer of a rich white cake or rich chocolate cake, top side up (*without*

frosting)

Youth interested in exhibiting a food item from the project book not listed above, making changes to the provided recipes, or exhibiting a display related to information in the project manual should investigate the Foods Innovation class.

## **4-H Cooking 401 (SF 50203a, 50203b, 50203c, 50203d) 4-H Cooking 401 – Required**

Using the recipes included in the project manual (*which are also available at [go.illinois.edu/Cooking401Recipes](http://go.illinois.edu/Cooking401Recipes)*), prepare an exhibit for **one** of the classes below. **No ingredient additions or substitutions should be made to the recipes**, unless they are to accommodate food allergies, sensitivities, or special diets (i.e. nut allergy, gluten intolerance, vegetarian/vegan diet, etc.). If you make changes to the recipe due to the reasons listed above, bring a copy of the recipe with your changes and be prepared to discuss them with the judge. Display exhibit on a disposable plate and place in a zip-sealing plastic bag. In addition to your food exhibit, pick one of the recipes from Cooking 401 that is not a choice for exhibit. Make the recipe and take a picture of the results. Bring a document with a printed picture of the food you made from the recipe and the answers to the following two questions: 1.) If you made this recipe again, what would you do differently? 2.) What did you learn that can help you in other ways besides preparing food? Due to space limitations at State Fair, the size of the activity document should be no larger than an 8 ½” x 11” binder or folder.

- **Focaccia Bread** (50203a) - ¼ of a 15” x 10” loaf of focaccia bread (do not include dipping oil)
- **Pie Shell** (50203b) - one baked pie shell – traditional, oil, or whole wheat (no graham cracker)
- **Sponge Cake** (50203c) - ¼ golden sponge cake, top side up, without frosting
- **French Bread** (50203d) - ½ loaf French bread

Youth interested in exhibiting a food item from the project book not listed above, making changes to the provided recipes, or exhibiting a display related to information in the project manual should investigate the Foods Innovation class.

## **Food Preservation (SF 50209a, 50209b, 50209c, 50209d, 50209e)**

Prepare an exhibit using ONE of the following food preservation methods: canning; drying; pickles/relishes; jams, jellies and preserves **OR** a combination of these (see Preservation Combination option below). Be sure to review all of the Food Preservation rules that follow the class list so you can follow all exhibit requirements.

## **Fruits/Vegetables (SF 50209a)**

The exhibit should include two different canned foods in appropriate jars for the products. Food may be fruit, vegetable, or tomato product (i.e. salsa, juice, etc.).

## **Drying (SF 50209b)**

Exhibit two (2) different dried foods packed in plastic food storage bags. Choose from fruit, vegetable, fruit leather or meat jerky.

## **Pickles and Relishes (SF 50209c)**

Exhibit two (2) pint jars of different recipes of pickles and/or relishes made from produce.

## **Jams, Jellies, and Preserves (SF 5020d)**

Exhibit two (2) half-pint jars of two different jams, jellies, and/or preserves. **Freezer jams are not permitted.**

## **Preservation Combination (SF 50208e)**

Exhibit two (2) different preserved food products from two different categories above, in appropriate jars/packaging (Drying). For example, exhibit 1 jar of tomatoes (Fruits/Vegetables) and 1 half-pint of jelly (Jams, Jellies, and Preserves).

All preserved products should be prepared and processed according to the current USDA/Extension information. USDA information on preserving food, including recipes, can be found at: [www.homefoodpreservation.com](http://www.homefoodpreservation.com) or <https://extension.illinois.edu/food-preservation/food-preservation>.

Recipes must be processed in a water-bath or pressure canner. Per the 4-H general show rules, entries must be produced (preserved) this 4-H year (between September 1, 2025 and August 31, 2026).

**All food preservation exhibits must be labeled with:** 1) The name of the food; 2) The date preserved; 3) Appropriate method(s) of food preservation (For canned projects: boiling water bath or pressure canner; For drying projects: Specify equipment used (food dehydrator, oven, etc.)).

Examples:

- Strawberry jam, boiling water bath. July 13, 2026.
- Green beans, pressure canner. July 13, 2026.
- Beef jerky, food dehydrator and oven. July 13, 2026.

All food preservation exhibits must be accompanied with the recipe(s) – typed or written, with the source of the recipe(s) listed. Required recipes and sources for food preservation exhibits – all food preservation recipes must be from an approved source. Those sources are:

- PUT IT UP! Food Preservation for Youth website or manuals
- National 4-H Home Food Preservation Project Manuals
- U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- National Center for Home Food Preservation
- Ball/Kerr Canning (recipes after 1985)
- Mrs. Wages

DO NOT BRING RECIPES FROM: Magazine or newspaper clippings, Pinterest (unless it is from a source listed above), a recipe from a family member or friend without a source, cookbooks (excluding the Ball, Kerr, Put It Up!, and 4-H Home Food Preservation books).

**Canning Equipment Requirements:** All canned products must be canned in clear, standard jars in good condition (no chips or cracks). Jars must be sealed using two-piece canning lids (flat lid and band). Must use a new, unused flat lid. Bands must not be rusty or severely worn.

Youth interested in exhibiting a food item from the project book not listed above, making changes to the provided recipes, or exhibiting a display related to information in the project manual should investigate the Foods Innovation class. Freezing exhibits, including freezer jams, should be entered in Foods Innovation.

### **Global Gourmet (SF 50205) *Global Gourmet – Required*** 📖

Prepare a display, digital presentation, or poster exhibit that demonstrates the knowledge and understanding gained through the completion of the Global Gourmet project. Your exhibit should include at least two activities to highlight what you learned from completing this project. Be ready to answer questions about how you shared the information you learned with others. Examples include talks and demonstrations and hosting or assisting with a workshop. Be sure to bring your completed project guide for others to see and for you to share as needed during the conference judging.

### **Kitchen Boss (SF 50206) *Kitchen Boss – Required*** 📖

Prepare a display, digital presentation, or poster exhibit that demonstrates the knowledge and understanding gained through the completion of the Kitchen Boss Gourmet project. Your exhibit should include at least two activities to highlight what you learned from completing this project. Be ready to answer questions about how you shared the information you learned with others. Examples include talks and demonstrations and hosting or assisting with a workshop. Be sure to bring your completed project guide for others to see and for you to share as needed during the conference judging.

The Chicagoland Food Science Foundation will be providing a \$50 Amazon Gift Card to the overall Food Science winner in each county

## **Science Fun with Dairy Foods (SF 50207) Science Fun with Dairy Foods – Required**

Prepare a display, digital presentation, or poster on one of the activities you completed from the manual. Share 1) the topic you investigated; 2) process used to conduct the experiment; 3) results and observations; 4) what you learned; and 5) how you have applied this information. You must furnish any equipment you need for the exhibit. Internet service is not provided. Be ready to answer questions about how you shared this information with others. Examples include talks and demonstrations and hosting or assisting with a workshop. Be sure to bring your completed project guide for others to see and for you to share as needed during the conference judging.

## **Science Fun with Kitchen Chemistry (SF 50208) Science Fun with Kitchen Chemistry – Required**

Prepare a display, digital presentation, or poster on one of the activities you completed from the manual. Share 1) the topic you investigated; 2) process used to conduct the experiment; 3) results and observations; 4) what you learned; and 5) how you have applied this information. You must furnish any equipment you need for the exhibit. Internet service is not provided. Be ready to answer questions about how you shared this information with others. Examples include talks and demonstrations and hosting or assisting with a workshop. Be sure to bring your completed project guide for others to see and for you to share as needed during the conference judging.

## **What’s on Your Plate, Exploring Food Science 1-4 (SF 50204) What’s on Your Plate? Unit 1-4 Youth Science Journal – (Choose appropriate Level) - Required**

Prepare a display, digital presentation, or poster on one of the food science experiments from the manual that you completed. Share 1) the food science question you investigated; 2) process used to conduct the experiment; 3) results and observations; 4) what you learned; and 5) how you have applied this information. You must furnish any equipment you need for the exhibit. Internet service is not provided. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation. Electronic equipment will only be used during your judging time and will not remain on display during the exhibit period. Be sure to bring your completed project guide for others to see and for you to share as needed during the conference judging.

## **Foods Innovation Class (SF 50211)**

**Open to youth enrolled in any Foods project.**

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the project. The exhibit may include, but isn’t limited to, original recipes, results of experiments not in the foods project books, variations on recipes or experimenting with unique cooking or baking methods. Your work can be displayed by a food product, demonstrations, digital presentations, performances, or posters

which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. If you bring a food product, the food will NOT be tasted.

## FORESTRY

Each county may submit 2 entries total from 50212, 50213, 50214, 50215

### **Forests of Fun 1 (SF 50212) Level 1: Follow the Path – Required**

Exhibit any product or display illustrating an activity from the book. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition.

Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

### **Forests of Fun 2 (SF 50213) Level 2: Reach for the Canopy – Required**



Exhibit any product or display illustrating an activity from the book. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition.

Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

### **Forests of Fun 3 (SF 50214) Level 3: Explore the Deep Woods – Required**

Exhibit any product or display illustrating an activity from the book. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition.

Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

### **Forestry Innovation Class (SF 50215)**

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through your Forestry project. Exhibit may be the result of knowledge gained from project manuals; independent study, interaction with natural resource or conservation professionals. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to,

original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

## **GEOLOGY**

Each county may submit 3 entries total from 50218, 50219, 50220, 50221, 50222.

The size and number of exhibit cases should relate appropriately to the number of specimens being displayed for a specified class. Specimens are not limited to Illinois locations. All levels of Geology use the same manual, *Geology-Introduction to the Study of the Earth*. Do not identify your specimens any further than phylum and class. There is one exception to this for fossils that are identified to phylum OR class. Class should only be used for fossils of mollusks, back-boned animals, and arthropods.

### **Pebble Pups 1 (SF 50218)**

Display 8 to 19 rocks and mineral specimens with three minerals in the collection. Collection may include duplications that show variations. Label collection and note where found. For youth exhibiting the same collection over multiple years, at least 25% of the specimens in the collection must have been collected in the current 4-H year.

### **Pebble Pups 2 (SF 50219)**

Display at least 20, but no more than 29, rocks and mineral specimens with seven minerals in the collection. Collection may include duplications that show variations. Label collection and note where found. For youth exhibiting the same collection over multiple years, at least 25% of the specimens in the collection must have been collected in the current 4-H year.

### **Rock Hounds 1 (SF 50220)**

Display at least 30, but no more than 40, rocks and mineral specimens with ten minerals in the collection. Rocks should include at least three igneous, two metamorphic, and three sedimentary groups. Label collection and note where found. For youth exhibiting the same collection over multiple years, at least 25% of the specimens in the collection must have been collected in the current 4-H year.

### **Rock Hounds 2 (SF 50221)**

Display no more than 50 specimens that have been selected to illustrate a specific theme of the exhibitor's choosing. Be creative. Sample categories could include (but are not limited to): industrial minerals and their uses; a specific rock group and the variety that occurs in that group, including some minerals that occur in that environment; select fossils traced through the geologic ages; minerals and their crystal habits; rocks and minerals used in the lapidary arts.

## **Geology Innovation Class (SF 50222)**

**Open to youth enrolled in Geology.**

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the Geology project. Exhibit may be the result of knowledge gained from project manuals; independent study about Illinois rock(s) and mineral(s), interaction with geology professionals; and/or individual exploration in the area of geology. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

## HEALTH

Each county may submit 3 entries total from 50226, 50227, 50228, 50229, 50230.

All display boards must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H member's exhibit. This reference list should/might include website links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. This reference list should be attached to the back of a poster or display board or included as part of the display visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed. Display boards should be no larger than 36" x 48" and 15" deep.

### **Everyday Food and Fitness (SF 50226) Replaces Health 1-3 *Everyday Food and Fitness* – Required**

Prepare a display, digital presentation, or poster exhibit that demonstrates the knowledge and understanding gained through the completion of the Everyday Food and Fitness project. Your exhibit should include at least two activities to highlight what you learned from completing this project. You may also include live demonstrations of physical activities. Do not bring food made using the recipes but consider adding pictures of the completed recipes to your exhibit. Be ready to answer questions about how you shared the information you learned with others. Examples include talks and demonstrations and hosting or assisting with a workshop. Be sure to bring your completed project guide for others to see and for you to share as needed during the conference judging.

### **Sports Nutrition: Ready, Set, Go (SF 50228) *Sports Nutrition: Ready, Set, Go* - Required**

Prepare a display, digital presentation, or poster exhibit on one of the activity chapters in the manual that you completed. The activity chapters are listed by page number in the table of contents. Your exhibit should include, at minimum, information on one physical fitness component and one food/recipe component from the activity chapter.

- Example A: Make a video of yourself practicing flexibility, strength and endurance physical fitness activities and making pasta salad with different vegetable, pasta and dressing ideas. Bring a screenshot and brief description of your video to leave on display.
- Example B: Make a poster of pictures of flexibility, strength and endurance physical fitness activities and information on the results of making the spinach and mandarin orange salad. Include answers to the questions in the book.

The exhibit should include the project manual with the pages of the activity completed. You may also include live demonstrations of physical activities. Do not bring food made using the recipes but consider adding pictures of the completed recipes to your exhibit. You must furnish any equipment you need for the exhibit. Internet service is not provided. All exhibits must include

something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation. Electronic equipment will only be used during your judging time and will not remain on display during the exhibit period. Be sure to bring your completed project guide for others to see and for you to share as needed during the conference judging.

### **Your Feelings Matter – Navigating Mental Health (SF 50229) *Your Feelings Matter Guide – Required***

Prepare a display, digital presentation, or poster exhibit that demonstrates the knowledge and understanding gained through the completion of the *Your Feelings Matter Member Project Guide*. Your exhibit should include at least two activities to highlight what you learned from completing this project. Be ready to answer questions about how you shared information you learned with others. Examples include talks and demonstrations and hosting or assisting with a workshop. Bring your project guide for others to see and for you to share as needed during conference judging.

### **Your Thoughts Matter – Navigating Mental Health (SF 50230) *Your Thoughts Matter Guide – Required***

Prepare an exhibit that demonstrates the knowledge and understanding gained through completion of the *Your Thoughts Matter Member Project Guide*. Exhibit the following 1) a poster or display that highlights activities and knowledge gained as you completed any two of activities 1 – 9 included in the curriculum; AND 2) the item you created in Activity 10 - the flyer, website, video, or other promotional tool that points individuals to the resources you found. Bring your project guide for others to see and for you to share as needed during conference judging.

### **Health Innovation Class (SF 50227)**

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the Health project. **Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project.** The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

## **HORTICULTURE: FLORICULTURE**

Each county may submit 2 Entries from classes 50111-50114, 1 entry from classes 50115-50116, 2 entries from classes 20117-50121, 1 entry from classes 50122-50123, 2 entries from classes 50124-50128, and 1 entry from class 50129

**For youth in any level of Floriculture.**

### **FLORAL DESIGN**

Each county may submit 2 Entries from classes 50111, 50112, 50113, 50114.

The art of arranging flowers and plant materials in a creative and visually pleasing way. Learn about color, balance, and shape while making beautiful arrangements for a variety of occasions. Flowers used can be purchased or harvested by the exhibitor.

#### **Round Arrangement (SF 50111)**

Exhibit a round fresh flower arrangement no larger than 12"x12"x15". Arrangement should be viewable from any side.

#### **Wearable Flowers (SF 50112)**

Exhibit a wearable fresh flower arrangement such as a corsage, boutonniere, pocket square flowers, floral crown, or other. The piece should demonstrate skills in wiring or gluing flowers appropriately.

#### **Wedding Bouquet (SF 50113)**

Exhibit a fresh wedding or special event bouquet at least 8" in diameter. A bouquet can be hand-tied or created using a foam holder. The bouquet should be finished and ready for use by the bride. The bouquet should be displayed in a clear vase with water accessible to the stems (if not in a foam holder).

#### **Centerpiece Display: Live activity (SF 50114)**

Exhibitor must make two arrangements suitable for use as a centerpiece(s) within one hour in front of the judge. Arrangements can be made from fresh and/or dried materials. No silks are permitted. The centerpiece should follow a cohesive theme. Final arrangements must fit on a tabletop and not exceed 2.5 ft x 2.5 ft. Exhibitors are not allowed to interact with anyone other than the judge and superintendent during the judging process. The judge may choose to ask the exhibitor about their process and other questions during the design time. The exhibitor is responsible for furnishing their own flowers, containers, and other supplies. Exhibitor is responsible for cleaning up their workspace at the end of judging. Table will be provided.

### **LANDSCAPE DESIGN**

Each county may submit 1 entry from class 50115 and 50116.

Recommended for ages 14 and up

### **Small Landscape Design (SF 50115)**

Develop a landscape design/drawing for a 10'x15' garden bed. Hand drawing is to be completed in top view (plan view) at a 1 in = 1 ft scale. Plan must include a title block showing: designer, scale, north arrow, sun exposure, numbered plant list of plants and shrubs/trees, and how many of each plant were used. Example: 1-Rose (6), 2-Hydrangea (3). The bed can be designed for a sunny, part-sun, or shady application.

### **Large Landscape Design (SF 50116)**

Develop a color landscape design/drawing for a residence using required basemap. Residence basemap drawing will be provided for youth via the state 4-H website. Hand drawing is to be completed in top view (plan view) at a 1 in = 10 ft scale. Drawing must include 2 hardscape elements. Walkways should be 3 - 5 ft wide. Plan must include a title block showing: designer, scale, north arrow, sun exposure, numbered plant list of plants and shrubs/trees, and how many of each plant were used. Example: 1-Rose (6), 2-Hydrangea (3). The bed can be designed for a sunny, part-sun, or shady application.

### **PLANT PROPAGATION**

Each county may submit 2 entries from classes 50117, 50118, 50119, 50120, 50121.

### **Photo Collage (SF 50117)**

Create a photo collage or a collection of pictures of flowers that you have raised. Label your flowers by name and tell if you started with a seed, cutting, or transplants. Mount pictures on a poster board.

### **Cut Flower Specimens (SF 50118)**

4-H members must bring 3 containers, each featuring a different flower variety.

Each container must include:

- 3 stems of the same flower variety (unless specimen list states otherwise)
- All stems must match in variety, color, shape, and size
- Keep natural foliage attached (foliage below waterline may be removed)
- Flowers must be grown by the exhibitor from seed, seedlings, bulbs, or rhizomes

#### **Specimen List:**

Bachelor Buttons-3 stems

Cockscomb-1 bloom

Celosia-3 plumes

Coneflower-3 stems

Cleome-1 bloom

Dahlia-1 large bloom

Dahlia-3 small blooms

Daisy-3 blooms

Gladiola-1 spike

Lilies-1 stalk- Remove 1/3 of the foliage before exhibiting.

Marigold (dwarf)-3 stems

Marigold (large)-3 stems

Petunia (double)-3 stems

Petunia (single)-3 stems

Phlox-1 stalk

Rose-1 bloom

Rudbeckia-3 stems

Snap Dragons-3 stems

Sunflower-1 bloom

Zinnia (large)-3 stems

Zinnia (small)-3 stems

Other small bloom (not listed above)-3 stems or 3 blooms

Other large bloom (not listed above)-1 stems or 1 blooms

### **Propagated Plants Cuttings/Layer/Division/Seed (SF 50119)**

Exhibit a plant that you propagated from cuttings, layering, or division, or started from seed.

Create a photo board showing the progression of growth. Tips for vegetative propagation of houseplants can be found in the University of Illinois Extension Gardener's Corner ([go.illinois.edu/gardenerscorner](http://go.illinois.edu/gardenerscorner)). Any type of house plant or outdoor plant is appropriate here.

### **Forced Bulbs (SF 50120)**

Create an exhibit of forced bulbs in a pot. Bulbs should be budding out or in bloom at the time of the exhibition.

### **Plant Propagation Poster (SF 50121)**

Poster on a topic related to plant propagation. Such as: Kinds of propagation, propagation methods, etc

## **FLOWER PRESERVATION**

Each county may submit 1 entry from classes 50122-50123.

### **Posterboard - Dry/Preserve Flowers (SF 50122)**

Create a display focusing on an aspect of drying/preserving flowers. Topics may include, but are not limited to, different drying/preserving methods, tools used in preservation, experiments you completed & results.

### **Artistic Display - Dried Flowers/Herbs (SF 50123)**

Create an artistic display using dried flowers or herbs. The dried material used must have been dried by the exhibitor. Be prepared to discuss the drying process behind your piece.

## **ORNAMENTAL DISPLAYS**

Each county may submit 2 entries from classes 50124, 50125, 50126, 50127, 50128.

### **Fairy Garden (SF 50124)**

Create an artistic mini garden of plants, flowers and/or herbs. Explain the process you utilized to prepare your fairy garden. Label your plants by name and explain how the plants were chosen to fit the theme. Fairy gardens must not exceed 18" x 18" x 18". Exhibitor responsible for transporting the planter to indoor judging space.

### **Outdoor Mixed Planter (SF 50125)**

Display a mixed planter that may include herbs with foliage plants and/or flowering plants. The planter should include three or more kinds of plants. Include a list of the names and varieties of all plants used. The container exhibit space must be larger than 18"x18" and not exceed 3' x 3'. Exhibitor responsible for transporting the planter to indoor judging space.

### **Indoor Mixed European Planter (SF 50126)**

Display a mixed European planter (mostly green plants/ house plants). The planter should include three or more kinds of plants. Include a list of the names and variety of all plants used. The container exhibit space must not exceed 18" x 18" x 24". Exhibitor responsible for transporting the planter to indoor judging space.

### **Closed Terrarium (SF 50127)**

Create a terrarium. Selected plants should be started by the exhibitor from cuttings or seeds, or purchased plugs. The terrarium must be cared for by the exhibitor for at least 5 months. Exhibitor should be able to explain the different plant, soil, and environmental needs and watering requirements of a closed system. The container exhibit space must not exceed 18" x 18" x 24". Exhibitor responsible for transporting the planter to indoor judging space.

### **Ornamental Poster (SF 50128)**

Poster explaining the process of creating a terrarium/mini garden/or other related topic

### **Floriculture Innovation (SF 50129)**

Each county may submit 1 entry from class 50129.

Present an exhibit of the member's choice that focuses on some aspect of floriculture that does not fit in the categories above. The exhibit may include, but is not limited to, dish gardens, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters that you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will

only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

# HORTICULTURE: VEGETABLES, HERBS & FRUITS

Each county may submit 3 entries total for 50313, 50314, 50315, 50316, 50317.

## For youth in any level of Vegetable Gardening.

All exhibits must have been grown by the exhibitor as part of their current gardening 4-H project. Exhibitors should be knowledgeable about various aspects of the produce, including but not limited to different varieties, soil testing, fertilizers used, etc. Exhibits should be prepared according to the Illinois Vegetable Garden Guide: [go.illinois.edu/4HVegetableGuide](http://go.illinois.edu/4HVegetableGuide).

Waxes and oils may not be used on vegetables or fruits. Any plant infested with insects will be removed from the exhibit area and will not be eligible for champion awards. General gardening advice and information can be found at: <https://extension.illinois.edu/gardening>.

## Herb Container Display (SF 50313)

Herbs should be grown in pots (8" maximum diameter). Categories: Mint, Oregano, Rosemary, Sage, Thyme, and all other herbs. Herbs should be labeled with common and Latin names. Herbs should be in your care for a minimum of three months for state fair exhibits. Remove dead leaves from plants and check that the soil is clear of debris such as dead leaves. When exhibiting herb plants, be sure to grow the plants in the container to be displayed to avoid transplant shock. Exhibits will be evaluated based on cleanliness, uniformity, condition, quality, and trueness to variety. Additional herb resources are located on the project resources section of the Illinois 4-H website.

- Display must include 4 or more different kinds of herbs. There may not be more than 2 different varieties of any herb. For example, peppermint and chocolate mint would be classified as two different herb varieties.
- In instances where containers display more than one variety of herb, special care should be taken that each distinct variety is accessible and clearly visible to the judges to ensure full points for cleanliness.

## Vegetable/Fruit Display (SF 50314)

- This class is allowed a 2'6" x 2'6" space for each display.
- Display must include 6 or more different kinds of vegetables or fruits. There may not be more than 2 different varieties of any vegetable/fruit. For example, red and white potatoes would be classified as two different varieties. Acorn squash and zucchini would be classified as two different vegetables.
- The number and type of vegetables/fruits used must conform to the Vegetable/Fruit Plate/Display List. *Fruit Plate list is below Vegetable Plate list.*
- Exhibitors must provide the name and variety of all vegetables/fruits used. (i.e. Cabbage – Golden Acre; Cucumber, slicing – Straight Eight; Tomatoes, slicing – Rocky Top; Snap Beans – Contender, etc.).

## Vegetable Plates (SF 50315)

- Exhibit must include 2 single vegetable plates. (Exhibitor will furnish the disposable plates.)
- Exhibitors must provide the name and variety of all vegetables/fruits used. (i.e. Cabbage – Golden Acre; Cucumber, slicing – Straight Eight; Tomatoes, slicing – Rocky Top; Snap Beans – Contender, etc.). Number of vegetables on plates must conform to plate list below.
- Only one variety on each plate.
- An exhibitor cannot show two plates of the same type vegetable. (i.e.: Cannot exhibit red *and* white potatoes or zucchini *and* straightneck summer squash.)

## VEGETABLE PLATE/DISPLAY LIST

When selecting vegetables for exhibition, keep in mind that the judge will evaluate them on the basis of cleanliness, uniformity, condition, quality, and trueness to variety. (*Lists are provided by UI Extension Horticulturists; Items are listed according to the correct definition of vegetables*)

Asparagus (5 spears)	Parsnips (5)
Beans, Lima (12 pods)	Peas, (12 pods)
Beets (5)	Peppers, large fruited (bell/banana) (5)
Broccoli (1 head)	Peppers, small fruited (chili/cherry) (12)
Brussels sprouts (12 sprouts)	Popcorn (5)
Cabbage (1 head)	Potatoes (any variety) (5)
Cauliflower (1 head)	Pumpkin (1)
Carrots (5)	Rhubarb, trimmed stalks (3)
Cucumber, pickling or slicing (5)	Rutabaga (5)
Eggplant (1)	Salsify (5)
Garlic (5)	Squash, summer (any variety) (3)
Kohlrabi (5)	Sweet corn, in husks (5)
Lettuce (1 head or plant)	Tomatoes, slicing (5)
Muskmelon incl. cantaloupe (1)	Tomatoes, small fruited (12)
Okra (12)	Turnip (5)
Onions, large, dry (5)	Watermelon (1)
Onions, green or set (12)	

Squash, winter (Acorn, butternut, buttercup, spaghetti, Hubbard, Turks's Turban) (1)

Beans, Snap, Green Pod or Golden Wax (12 pods)

Greens (collard, endive, escarole, kale, mustard, spinach, Swiss chard) (1 plant)

Horseradish Root (1 marketable root specimen harvested this year)

## **Vegetable Gardening Display - Other (SF 50316)**

Present an exhibit of the member's choice that focuses on some aspect of vegetable gardening which does not fit in the categories above. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

## **Fruit Plates (SF 50317)**

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- Exhibit must include 2 single fruit plates. (Exhibitor will furnish the disposable plates.)
- Exhibitors must provide the name and variety of all fruits used. Number of fruits on plates must conform to plate list below.
- Only one variety on each plate.
- An exhibitor cannot show two plates of the same type fruit. (i.e.: Cannot exhibit Gala & Jonathan Apples, Mazzard & Gisela Cherries, etc.)

## **FRUIT PLATE LIST**

Fruit will be judged using the same general criteria used for vegetables. Fruit will be judged for the stage of maturity normal for that season and growing location. Emphasis will be placed on how well fruit approaches market quality. When selecting fruits for exhibition, keep in mind that the judge will evaluate them on the basis of cleanliness, uniformity, condition, quality, and trueness to variety. *(Lists are provided by UI Extension Horticulturists; Items are listed according to the correct definition of fruit varieties at [go.illinois.edu/fruittrees](http://go.illinois.edu/fruittrees).*

Apples – 5

Grapes – 2 bunches

Pears – 5

Strawberries (Everbearers) – 1 pint

Wild Plums – 1 pint

Other Small Fruit or Berries (Do not duplicate entries from the above fruits) – 1 pint

Other Fruits or Nuts (Do not duplicate entries from the above fruits) – 5

## INTERCULTURAL

Each county may submit 1 individual entry from 50233a; 1 individual entry from 50234a; 1 group-entry from 50233b and one from 50234b. **Due to space restrictions, exhibits are limited to 36" X 48" and 15" deep.**

### **Passport to the World, Individual (SF 50233a) *Passport to the World – Required*** 📖

Prepare a display illustrating what you have learned about a country. This might include topics such as-geography, economy, agriculture, people, language, housing, culture, music, crafts, clothing, environment, or holidays. Exhibits can focus on one or two topics in depth or cover more topics in brief. Exhibit should be educational in nature and should not promote one's beliefs over another person's beliefs. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. Tips on creating an engaging display board are available at [go.illinois.edu/4HDisplayTips](http://go.illinois.edu/4HDisplayTips). In addition to their display, youth should bring a copy of their Passport to the World project manual to judging. Sections of the book related to what they focus on in their display should be completed. **Please note:** judging for the individual project should **not** include a planned presentation about the chosen country. Judging is meant to be a conversation between the judge and member about the project and the learning experience.

### **Passport to the World, Group (SF 50233b) *Passport to the World – Required*** 📖

Exhibit a display illustrating what your group has learned about a country. This might include topics such as-geography, economy, agriculture, people, language, housing, culture, music, crafts, clothing, environment, or holidays. Exhibits can focus on one or two topics in depth or cover more topics in brief. Exhibit should be educational in nature and should not promote one's beliefs over another person's beliefs. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will

remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. Tips on creating an engaging display board are available at [go.illinois.edu/4HDisplayTips](http://go.illinois.edu/4HDisplayTips). In addition to their display, groups should bring a copy of their group's Passport to the World project manual to judging. Sections of the book related to what the group focuses on in their display should be completed. The display must be accompanied by at least 3 but no more than 10 4-H members at the time of the judge's critique. Groups wishing to include more than 10 members must ask for an accommodation, one week prior to judging. Group members should prepare a short (5 minutes maximum) presentation about their learning for the judge. The presentation should focus on key concepts learned and takeaways from the project experience. All group members present for judging should be able to discuss the project and answer questions. Only group members who participate in the judging are eligible for ribbons and premiums. Presentations will occur in the space designated by the fair or show. Groups should not bring extra tables or items (beyond those that fit within the exhibit size requirements) for their presentation.

### **Diversity & Cultural Awareness, Individual (SF 50234a) *Diversity: The Source of Our Strength – Required***

Create a display or binder portfolio that illustrates the results of a minimum of three (3) completed activities from the project book.

### **Diversity & Cultural Awareness, Group (SF 50234b) *SEEING i2i Adventures – Required***

Exhibit a display illustrating the steps that the group has completed on the project selected for the year, including reflection on activities completed. Include a written outline or report of accomplishments and future goals. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what the group members have learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. The display must be accompanied by at least 3 or no more than 10 4-H members at the time of the judge's critique. Groups wishing to include more than 10 members must ask for an accommodation, one week prior to judging. Group members should make a 5-7-minute presentation to the judge. All group members present for the judge's critique should be able to discuss the project and answer questions. Only group members present for judging

who participate in the actual critique and presentation are eligible for ribbons and premiums.

# **INTERIOR DESIGN**

Each county may submit 2 entries total from 50242, 50243, 50244, 50245.

All interior design divisions (beginning, intermediate, and advanced) are required to provide visual documentation of their project process. This can include photos or videos showing the steps they took to create, refinish, or redesign their furniture items.

## **Design Decisions, Beginning (SF 50242)**

*For members with 2 or less years of experience in project area or related experiences.*

Any exhibit must have been created or redesigned by the exhibitor as part of their current Interior Design 4-H project. Exhibitors should be knowledgeable about various aspects of the project. Exhibits could include items such as, but not limited to, comparison studies of different products or techniques; made accessories, wall-hangings, window coverings, or furniture items; refinished or redesigned furniture; or a plan to solve some type of interior design problem

## **Design Decisions, Intermediate (SF 50243)**

*For members with 3 to 4 years of experience in project area or related experiences.*

Any exhibit must have been created or redesigned by the exhibitor as part of their current Interior Design 4-H project. Exhibitors should be knowledgeable about various aspects of the project. Exhibits could include items such as, but not limited to, comparison studies of different products or techniques; made accessories, wall-hangings, window coverings, or furniture items; refinished or redesigned furniture; or a plan to solve some type of interior design problem.

## **Design Decisions, Advanced (SF 50244)**

*For members with 5 or more years of experience in project area or related experiences.*

Any exhibit must have been created or redesigned by the exhibitor as part of their current Interior Design 4-H project. Exhibitors should be knowledgeable about various aspects of the project. Exhibits could include items such as, but not limited to, comparison studies of different products or techniques; made accessories, wall-hangings, window coverings, or furniture items; refinished or redesigned furniture; or a plan to solve some type of interior design problem.

## **Interior Design Innovation Class (SF 50245)**

**Open to youth enrolled in Interior Design.**

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the Interior Design project. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

# LEADERSHIP

Each county may submit 3 entries total from 50249, 50250, 50251, 50252 and 2 entries from 50254.

Due to space limitations, exhibits are limited to 36" X 48" and 15" deep.

## Leadership 1 (SF 50249) Skills You Never Outgrow 1 – Required

Create a binder portfolio with a minimum of four (4) completed activities each year from the areas noted below. Build upon your previous year's work. Photocopies or original pages of the completed activities from the book should be included in the portfolio.

- **First Year** – One activity from each of the following sections: Understanding Self; Communication; and Getting Along with Others, plus one activity of exhibitor's choice from the manual.
- **Second Year** – One activity from each of the following sections: Getting Along with Others; Learning to Learn; and Making Decisions, plus one activity of exhibitor's choice from the manual.
- **Third Year** – One activity from each of the following sections: Making Decisions; Managing; and Working with Groups, plus one activity of exhibitor's choice from the manual.

## Leadership 2 (SF 50250) Skills You Never Outgrow 2 – Required



Building upon your previous work, continue adding to your binder portfolio with a minimum of four (4) completed activities each year from the areas noted below. Photocopies or original pages of the completed activities from the book should be included in the portfolio.

- **First Year** – One activity from each of the following sections: Understanding Self; Communication; and Getting Along with Others, plus one activity of exhibitor's choice from the manual.
- **Second Year** – One activity from each of the following sections: Getting Along with Others; Learning to Learn; and Making Decisions, plus one activity of exhibitor's choice from the manual.
- **Third Year** – One activity from each of the following sections: Making Decisions; Managing; and Working with Groups, plus one activity of exhibitor's choice from the manual.

## Leadership 3 (SF 50251) Skills You Never Outgrow 3 – Required



Building upon your previous work, continue adding to your binder portfolio with a minimum of four (4) completed activities each year from the areas noted below. Photocopies or original pages of the completed activities from the book should be included in the portfolio.

- **First Year** – One activity from each of the following sections: Understanding Self; Communication; and Getting Along with Others, plus one activity of exhibitor’s choice from the manual.
- **Second Year** – One activity from each of the following sections: Getting Along with Others; Learning to Learn; and Making Decisions, plus one activity of exhibitor’s choice from the manual.
- **Third Year** – One activity from each of the following sections: Making Decisions; Managing; and Working with Groups, plus one activity of exhibitor’s choice from the manual.

## **Leadership Innovation Class (SF 50252)**

**Open to youth enrolled in Leadership 1, 2, or 3.**

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the Leadership project.

**Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project.** The exhibit may include, but isn’t limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you’ve learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

## **Leadership Group Exhibit (SF 50254)**

**Open to groups whose members are enrolled in any Leadership project.**

Exhibit a display illustrating how your group has used the Teens As Leaders model effectively in your club, community, school, or state. Leadership activities might include planning, advising, promoting, mentoring, teaching or advocating for change. The exhibit may include, but isn’t limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you’ve learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. The display must be accompanied by at least 3 or no more than 10 4-H members at the time of the judge’s critique. For a larger group please reach out to staff with an accommodation request at least one week prior to the exhibit event. Group members should make a 5- to 10-minute presentation to the judge. All group members present for

the judge's critique should be able to discuss the project and answer questions. Only group members present for judging who participate in the actual critique and presentation are eligible for ribbons and premiums. More information on Teens as Leaders Model found here: [go.illinois.edu/4-HLeadershipModel](http://go.illinois.edu/4-HLeadershipModel)

# MAKER

Each county may submit 3 entries from 50400.

**Maker (SF 50400) [go.illinois.edu/DIYMakeBuild](https://go.illinois.edu/DIYMakeBuild) – Required**   
**Open to youth in all projects.**

Exhibits in this category are designed to be multi-disciplinary in nature, innovative, and must not fit into any other exhibit category. To qualify for this category, your project **MUST** abide by the following guidelines:

- Exhibitors must complete at least two activities in the DIY Make & Build Curriculum and answer all the questions at the end of each lesson. You must display your answers to these questions, as well as your Maker Log from the DIY Make and Build curriculum.
- Exhibits must be an object or device that has an intended purpose and uses technology in either a mechanical way, digital (computer) way, or combination of the two. Your device or object **cannot** be one of the included activities in the DIY Make and Build Curriculum.
- The device must be something that can be used in everyday life by multiple people (a target audience), and **MUST** be manufactured/built by the exhibitor (If not fully manufactured by the exhibitor, the device **MUST** be modified structurally or be reprogrammed to perform a different function other than what it was designed to do).
- Exhibits **MUST** be able to interact with the outside world. (e.g. an on off switch, input sensors, feedback, etc.)
- Exhibits **MUST** include a detailed build log with instructions on how to make or build the exhibit, **AND** contain either a 3D rendering or detailed and labeled sketches of the device/product.
- All parts and software used in the design/build **MUST** be listed in a detailed Bill of Materials including cost per item and total cost. Total time spent on the build must be documented in your build log.

In addition, exhibitors are **HIGHLY** encouraged to use tools such as 3-D printers, laser cutters, routers and/or other hand/power tools to help in the manufacturing process **(NOTE: Simply 3-D printing or laser cutting an object without the other specifications does not qualify as a Maker Project)**. It is also **HIGHLY** encouraged that exhibits use Open Source software and/or hardware in the build.

## NATURE: FISH AND WILDLIFE

Each county may submit 3 entries total from 50260, 50261, 50262, 50263, 50264, 50265, 50266

### **Sportfishing 1 (SF 50260) Level 1: Take the Bait – Required**

Exhibit a product or display made to complete an activity in the *Take the Bait* project manual. This could include, but is not limited to, displays on: different types of fishing tackle, identifying different baits and their uses (no actual bait, please) or identifying the anatomy of a fish. For safety reasons, lures must be placed in a plastic case.

### **Sportfishing 2 (SF 50261) Level 2: Reel in the Fun – Required**

Exhibit a product or display made to complete an activity in the *Reel in the Fun* project manual. This could include, but is not limited to, displays on: different types of knots or rigs and their use; a collection of fishing lures, labeled with their use; or information on preparing and cooking fish (not recipes). For safety reasons, lures must be placed in a plastic case.

### **Sportfishing 3 (SF 50262) Level 3: Cast Into the Future – Required**



Exhibit a product or display made to complete an activity in the *Cast into the Future* project manual. This could include, but is not limited to, displays on: making artificial flies and lures; researching effects of water temperature; sportfishing careers; or identifying insects that fish eat. For safety reasons, lures must be placed in a plastic case.

### **Wildlife 1 (SF 50263) Wildlife Science Level 1 Digital – Required**



Exhibit any activity developed from the project manual. Be able to explain the importance of and concept behind the exhibit.

### **Wildlife 2 (SF 50264) Wildlife Science Level 2 Digital – Required**



Exhibit any activity developed from the project manual. Be able to explain the importance of and concept behind the exhibit.

### **Wildlife 3 (SF 50265) Wildlife Science Level 3 Digital – Required**



Exhibit any activity developed from the project manual. Be able to explain the importance of and concept behind the exhibit.

### **Fish and Wildlife Innovation Class (SF 50266)**

**Open to youth enrolled in any Sportfishing or Wildlife project.**

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through your Sportfishing or Wildlife project. Exhibit may be the result of knowledge gained from project manuals; independent study, interaction with natural resource or conservation professionals. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

# NATURE: NATURAL RESOURCES AND OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

Each county may submit 3 entries from 50256, 50257a, 50257b, 50258.

Electricity and water are NOT available for these displays. All displays should be comprised of non-living specimens properly prepared for display.

## **Exploring Your Environment 1 (SF 50257a) Exploring Your Environment - Ecosystem Services – Required**

Exhibit any item, project, or display made as it relates to an activity in the *Exploring Your Environment - Ecosystem Services* project manual. The display should demonstrate an understanding of natural and/or manmade environments, how humans affect the environment, or how the environment affects our lives. Include your project manual that documents activity recordkeeping, your answers to activity questions, and details personal thoughts and ideas.

## **Exploring Your Environment 2 (SF 50257b) Exploring Your Environment – Earth’s Capacity – Required**

Exhibit any item, project, or display made as it relates to an activity in the *Exploring Your Environment – Earth’s Capacity* project manual. The display should demonstrate an understanding of one of the following: stewardship of natural resources, investigating greenhouse effects on living organisms, methods of reducing or managing waste in your home or community, or calculating your ecological footprint. Include your project manual that documents activity recordkeeping, your answers to activity questions, and details personal thoughts and ideas.

## **Outdoor Adventures 1-3 (SF 50256) Choose the correct level project manual – Level 1: Hiking Trails, Level 2: Camping Adventures or Level 3: Backpacking Expeditions – Required**

Exhibit a display illustrating an activity completed from the project manual.

## **Natural Resources or Outdoor Adventures Innovation Class (SF 50258)**

**Open to youth enrolled in any Natural Resources or Outdoor Adventures project.**

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through your Natural Resources or Outdoor Adventures project. Exhibit may be the result of knowledge gained from project manuals; independent study, interaction with natural resource or conservation professionals. The exhibit may include, but isn’t limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you’ve learned.

Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

# PHOTOGRAPHY

Each county may submit 3 entries total from 50268, 50269, 50270, 50271

ALL photos in exhibits must have been taken by the exhibitor. Photo/Model releases from individuals pictured in the exhibitor's photographs are required unless the photograph is of a group in a public place where identification would not be an issue. Metadata must be included on the back of the picture. The photo release and metadata tip sheet can be obtained at: [go.illinois.edu/PhotographyProject](http://go.illinois.edu/PhotographyProject). Photos may be taken with a camera, an electronic tablet (i.e. iPad), or a cell phone.

**ALL** photos must be accompanied by details of the camera settings that include:

- Camera/device used
- Aperture (F-stop)
- Exposure time (shutter speed)
- ISO (film/sensor sensitivity)
- Lighting used (flash, artificial, sunlight, other)
- Lens Filters (Ultra-Violet, Polarizing, etc.) if used.

Additional details required for Photo Editing ONLY:

- Photo editing software/application used (required for ALL edits and retouches except for cropping)
- Filters used (lens filters and or digital/software filters)

Members are allowed to shoot on a camera's automatic setting but should be able to find the metadata information on the photo to discuss the information above.

All exhibitors must include unframed (taped to the back of the framed exhibit or attached to the project booklet) **original or un-edited** versions of either the same subject or the examples of the same technique that the framed image represents. This will assist the judge in understanding the choices made by the photographer to build the exhibited composition.

**NOTE:** Images taken with devices that apply an automatic filter will not be eligible for award.

## Photography 1 (SF 50268) Level 1: Photography Basics – Required



Exhibit one framed photo which demonstrates your understanding of a technique you learned from your Photography 1 project manual. No photo editing is allowed in this class except cropping and red eye removal. Be prepared to show the page in the manual of the

technique you are demonstrating. Exhibits for this class should be a framed 5”x7” or 8”x10” picture.

## **Photography 2 (SF 50269) Level 2: Next Level Photography – Required**

Exhibit one of the options listed below:

- Exhibit one framed 8” x 10” close-up photograph using the skills learned on pages 58-61(section: Bits and Pieces) of the project manual titled *Level 2 Next Level Photography*. No photo editing is allowed in this class except cropping and red eye removal. Be prepared to show the page in the manual of the technique you are demonstrating. **OR**
- Exhibit one framed 8” x 24” or smaller panorama photograph using the skills learned on pages 62-65(section: Panorama) of the project manual titled *Level 2 Next Level Photography*. No photo editing is allowed in this class except cropping and red eye removal. Be prepared to show the page in the manual of the technique you are demonstrating. **OR**
- Exhibit one framed 8” x 10” photo which demonstrates your understanding of a technique you learned from your Photography 2 project manual. No photo editing is allowed in this class except cropping and red eye removal. Be prepared to show the page in the manual of the technique you are demonstrating.

## **Photography 3 (SF 50270) Level 3: Mastering Photography – Required**

Exhibit one of the options listed below:

- Exhibit one framed 8” x 10” still-life photo that demonstrates good composition, including color, form, texture, lighting and depth of field. No photo editing is allowed in this class except cropping and red eye removal. Be prepared to show the page in the manual of the technique you are demonstrating. **OR**
- Exhibit one framed 8” x 10” photo which demonstrates your understanding of a technique you learned from your Photography 3 project manual. No photo editing is allowed in this class except cropping and red eye removal. Be prepared to show the page in the manual of the technique you are demonstrating.

## **Photo Editing (SF 50271)**

**Open to members in Photography 1, Photography 2, and Photography 3.**

Exhibit one framed 8” x 10” photo that has been altered using digital photo-editing techniques (beyond cropping and red-eye reduction). Include a print of the original photo(s), taped to the back of the photo frame. Photos in which an automatic filter was applied at the time the photograph was taken will not be eligible for award.

## PLANTS & SOILS

Each county may submit 3 entries total from 50280, 50281a, 50281b, 50281c.

### Cover Crops (SF 50280)

Exhibit an experimental or educational activity related to one experience from your project; **OR** prepare a display focusing on any activity related to the cover crops project. This could be related, but not limited, to plant growth & development, cover crop benefits, land management, sustainability, or other topics of interest to the member related to cover crops. A cover crop might include any plant that is sown in between primary production crops for the benefit of overall farm health rather than crop yield (examples: pennycress, clover, radish, annual ryegrass, etc.). The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

### Plants & Soils 1 (SF 50281a) *It's More Than Just Dirt* – Required

Prepare a 36" X 48" display or a poster no larger than 36" X 48" and 15" deep that illustrates an activity from the project manual. The display should demonstrate an understanding of environmental and internal factors that affect plant growth and the function and characteristics of soil. Include your project journal that documents activity recordkeeping requirements, answers activity questions, and details personal thoughts and ideas in response to each activity.

### Plants & Soils 2 (SF 50281b) *Stems and Stamens* – Required

Prepare a 36" X 48" display or a poster no larger than 36" X 48" and 15" deep that illustrates an activity from the project manual. The display should demonstrate an understanding of the composition of plants, the functions of individual plant parts, plant life cycles, and the many ways plants reproduce. Include your project journal that documents activity recordkeeping requirements, answers activity questions, and details personal thoughts and ideas in response to each activity.

### Plants & Soils 3 (SF 50281c) *Sprouting Out and Growing UP* – Required

Prepare a 36" X 48" display or a poster no larger than 36" X 48" and 15" deep that illustrates an activity from the project manual. The display should demonstrate an understanding of

the relationship between soil and other cycles found in nature. Displays should also provide an example of a leadership or service learning experience focused on environmental stewardship. Include your project journal that documents activity recordkeeping requirements, answers activity questions, and details personal thoughts and ideas in response to each activity.

## **READY4LIFE**

Each county may send 2 entries from 50366a and 2 entries from 50366b.

### **Ready4Life Career (50366a)**

**Open to 11- to 18-year-olds in all projects.**

Exhibits in this category must include the following: a) a physical representation of the career such as a model, prototype or display/portfolio that includes images of accomplished work; b) verbal or written explanations that demonstrate knowledge of the related career or business fields, potential careers, and the appropriate requirements for achievement in those fields. The judging criteria for this class values thoroughness of career exploration and pursuit above the workmanship of the physical specimen on display.

### **Ready4Life Entrepreneurship (50366b)**

**Open to 11- to 18-year-olds in all projects.**

Exhibits in this category must include the following: a) a physical representation of the business product such as a model, prototype or display/portfolio that includes images of accomplished work; b) verbal or written explanations that demonstrate knowledge of the related business fields, potential business opportunities, and the appropriate requirements for achievement in those fields. The judging criteria for this class values thoroughness of the business exploration and pursuit above the workmanship of the physical specimen on display.

# ROBOTICS

Each county may submit 3 entries total from 50285, 50286, 50287, 50288, 50289, 50290, 50292.

**NOTE:** If applicable for their class and display, exhibitors must bring their own computers for demonstration purposes; computers will not be provided. Exhibits in classes 50285, or 50286 are designed to be used with LEGO Mindstorms (NXT, EV3, Lego Inventor, Lego Spike Prime).

- Any other programmable robot kit such as Arduino or Raspberry Pi, should be exhibited in Robotics 3 (50292).
- Members should bring their robot to the fair.

## **Robotics 1 (SF 50285) Robotics 1 with EV3 or [go.illinois.edu/RoboticsActivities1](https://go.illinois.edu/RoboticsActivities1) – Required**

Exhibitors will design, build and program a robot that uses at least one sensor to autonomously follow a path, respond to and/or avoid obstacles. **The robot must be autonomous and cannot be controlled remotely.** Exhibitors in this class must use at least one sensor in their robot design. Exhibiting youth must complete and display a build log which contains a diagram (drawing or 3D rendering) of their robot with each of the key components labeled, an explanation of why they made the design/programming decisions they made, and a short journal sharing what they learned about the engineering design process and programming throughout their work in the project (as well as while preparing the exhibit). In addition, each youth must bring their program code (on laptop or on paper), and their robot to demonstrate. The robot and obstacles must be able to fit on a 4' x 8' robotics table when being judged, and a 2' x 2' area when being displayed.

## **Robotics 2 (SF 50286) Robotics 2: EV3 N More or [go.illinois.edu/RoboticsActivities2](https://go.illinois.edu/RoboticsActivities2) – Required**

Exhibitors will design, build and program a robot that uses sensors and programming to complete two of the selected challenges from the 2025 4-H State Robotics Challenge. **The robot must be autonomous and cannot be controlled remotely.** Eligible challenges will be marked in the Challenge Documents and on the Illinois 4-H Robotics website

([go.illinois.edu/4HRoboticsProjectPage](https://go.illinois.edu/4HRoboticsProjectPage)). Exhibiting youth must complete and display a build log which contains a diagram (drawing or 3D rendering) of their robot with each of the key components labeled, an explanation of why they made the design/programming decisions they made, and a short journal sharing what they learned about the engineering design process and programming throughout their work on the project (as well as while preparing the exhibit). In addition, each youth must bring their program code (on laptop or on paper),

and their robot to demonstrate. The robot and obstacles must be able to fit on a 4' x 8' robotics table when being judged, and a 2' x 2' area when being displayed.

### **Robotics 3 (SF 50292)** [go.illinois.edu/4HRoboticsProjectPage](http://go.illinois.edu/4HRoboticsProjectPage) – **Required**

Open to youth enrolled in Robotics 3, but may also include youth in Robotics 1 or 2 if the exhibit meets the guidelines.

Exhibit an original robot, either homemade or a kit that does not fall under Robotics 1 or 2 that can complete a task using MULTIPLE sensors. **The robot must be autonomous, Text Based (Python, C etc.) and cannot be controlled remotely.** If a robot kit is used, then some parts of the robot must be built using other components such as wood, plastic or metal. The robot can include any type of motors, pneumatics or sensors. This class can also be used for LEGO Mindstorms/Spike Prime, etc. or Vex kits where the exhibit does not fall under Robotics 1 or 2 exhibit options. Autonomous control of the robot may also be achieved using an “open source” platform such as Arduino or Raspberry Pi and can be programmed using a coding language that is publicly available. Exhibitors must complete and display a build log which contains a diagram (drawing or 3D rendering) of their robot with each of the key components labeled, an explanation of why they made the design/programming decisions they made, and a short journal sharing what they learned about the engineering design process and programming throughout their work in the project (as well as while preparing the exhibit). In addition, each youth must bring their program code (on laptop or on paper), and their robot to demonstrate. Exhibits in this class must be able to fit on no more than a 6' x 2' table (or ground footprint) and must be fully assembled 15 minutes prior to the judging start time. No exceptions.

### **Junk Drawer Robotics**

All exhibits should be original designs made with everyday objects and materials. Exhibits with purchased kits will not be accepted. Exhibitors are also required to bring their Junk Drawer Robotics Youth Robotics Notebook with the sections completed for the project they are exhibiting, including the sections leading up to the activity they are exhibiting. For example, if a youth is bringing Activity E from Junk Drawer Level 1, they should have Youth Robotics Notebook sections A-E completed. For Innovation Class, all sections should be completed for your level.

### **Junk Drawer Robotics 1 (SF 50287) Junk Drawer Level 1: Give Robotics A Hand project book & Youth Robotics Notebook – Required**

Exhibit any item from the “To Make” activity from the Junk Drawer Robotics Level 1 project book. Be sure all robotics notebook sections within the module being exhibited are filled in.

### **Junk Drawer Robotics 2 (SF 50288) Junk Drawer Level 2: Robots on the Move project book & Youth Robotics Notebook – Required**



Exhibit any item from the “To Make” activity from the Junk Drawer Robotics Level 2 Book. Be sure all robotics notebook sections within the module being exhibited are filled in.

### **Junk Drawer Robotics 3 (SF 50289) Junk Drawer Level 3: Mechatronics project book & Youth Robotics Notebook – Required**

Exhibit any item from the “To Make” activity from the Junk Drawer Robotics Level 3 Book. Be sure all robotics notebook sections within the module being exhibited are filled in.

### **Junk Drawer Innovation Class (SF 50290) Junk Drawer project book from appropriate level & Youth Robotics Notebook – Required**

**This class is open to any youth in Junk Drawer Robotics 1, 2, or 3.**

Exhibit any item that incorporates two or more activities into a single robot/machine to accomplish a task. There must be a clear task being accomplished with an end goal in mind. Feel free to think outside of the box as you find ways to combine the principles and mechanics to make something new. You will be judged on your creativity and ability to explain your design choices in addition to the construction and performance of your robot.

## **SERVICE LEARNING**

Each county may submit 2 entries total from classes 50150a, 50150b, 50149. **Due to space restrictions, exhibits are limited to 36" X 48" and 15" deep.**

### **Service Learning 1 (SF 50150a)**

Exhibit a binder portfolio to reflect what the exhibitor accomplished in the four steps of service learning. This should include researching the need of the community and steps taken to serve that need. If exhibitor has been enrolled in project for multiple years, the binder portfolio should include previous years' work. Use of page protectors is recommended. A display board may accompany the portfolio:

### **Service Learning 2 (SF 50150b)**

Exhibit a binder portfolio to reflect what the exhibitor accomplished in the four steps of service learning. This should include a walk-about to observe needs, assessment of needs and assets in your community, surveys/interviews conducted to identify needs and the solution. If exhibitor has been enrolled in project for multiple years (including Service Learning 1), the binder portfolio should include previous years' work. Use of page protectors is recommended. A display board may accompany the portfolio:

### **Service Learning Group Exhibit (SF 50149)**

**Open to groups whose members are enrolled in any Service Learning project.**

Due to space limitations, exhibits are limited to 36" X 48" and 15" deep. Group members should be enrolled in Service Learning – Agents of Change (Level 1) and/or Raise Your Voice (Level 2). Register community project at [go.illinois.edu/4HCommunityProjectRegistration](http://go.illinois.edu/4HCommunityProjectRegistration), additional resources located on site.

Exhibit should be educational in nature and should inform others of steps taken to engage group members in **1)** identifying a local need, conducting a local needs assessment to find a need that is already visible in the community; **2)** determine types of activities group members can/want to do; **3)** List all of the activities, projects, or needs identified to review with group members; **4)** create a plan and timeline for completing the service project (including-project goals; tasks involved; time commitment; permission needed from community stakeholders; a budget, a source for securing those funds; insurance needs; equipment and supplies; publicity; potential partners if additional help is needed; a risk management plan; and a process for evaluating the project; **5)** prepare for group members to engage in the service project which may include instruction on completing specific tasks and/or educating members on how the project will benefit the community; **6)** complete the project; **7)** documentation of service experience with photos, videos; or written reports; **8)**

once project is completed, reflect on success and/or challenges encountered during execution of the service project; consider what you might do differently in future service projects.

Create a display which will educate the public regarding the impact of the service project for both the community and the group members. The display must be accompanied by at least 3 but no more than 10 4-H members at the time of the judge's critique. Groups wishing to include more than 10 members must ask for an accommodation, at least one week prior to judging. Group members should make a 5-10 minute presentation for the judge. Group members should create a display which showcases the service project and the steps needed to complete it. Only group members present for the judging and who participate in the critique and presentation are eligible for ribbons and premiums.

# SHOOTING SPORTS

Each county may submit 2 entries total from 50380, 50381, 50382, 50384.

Participants must be a member of an approved 4-H Shooting Sports Club to exhibit. Age restrictions apply to the different Shooting Sports disciplines and apply to exhibits. All exhibits should be posters or stand-alone items suitable for display to the general public. Stand-alone items have the intent to enhance the discipline such as a quiver, gun case, gun sling, locking cabinet, gun or target stand, sporting clays equipment wagon, etc. Exhibits deemed to be inappropriate by a superintendent will not be displayed.

NOTE: Shooting Sports Displays have the following prohibitions:

- No live ammunition.
- Sharp items, such as knives, field points, hunting broadheads, etc. may be included if displayed securely and enclosed to prevent handling; unsafe entries may be removed at staff discretion.
- No functional or non-functional bows, firearms or firearm parts that could be reassembled are allowed.
- No humanoid shaped targets or reference to paintball, laser tag, air-soft, or pointing of any type of firearm or bow toward another person is allowed.
- No display involving primarily tactical design firearms (i.e. AR platform or military type firearms).
- No reference or use of the word “weapon” should be used in a display.
- Make sure there are no safety violations in your display. (Example: no earplugs or safety glasses in a picture of a person shooting a firearm.).

## **Shooting Sports: Archery Display (SF 50380)**

Exhibit a poster or stand-alone display depicting safe archery handling, range safety, the parts of the bow, tracking the target, target sighting, or another topic you have learned through the 4-H Shooting Sports program.

## **Shooting Sports: Rifle Display (SF 50381)**

Exhibit a poster or stand-alone display depicting safe firearm handling, range safety, the parts of the rifle, tracking the target, target sighting, or another topic you have learned through the 4-H Shooting Sports program.

## **Shooting Sports: Shotgun Display (SF 50382)**

Exhibit a poster or stand-alone display depicting safe firearm handling, range safety, the parts of the shotgun, tracking the target, target sighting, or another topic you have learned through the 4-H Shooting Sports program.

## **Shooting Sports: Pistol Display (SF 50384)**

Exhibit a poster or stand-alone display depicting safe firearm handling, range safety, the parts of the pistol, tracking the target, target sighting, or another topic you have learned through the 4-H Shooting Sports program.

## SMALL ENGINES

Each county may submit 1 entry total for 50294.

Small Engine displays must be no larger than 4' x 4' display board. Exhibits must be portable. No complete engines, lawn tractors, tillers, chainsaws, etc. are permitted for display. No electrical power is available for displays/exhibits.

### Small Engines 1-3 (SF 50294)

Exhibit a display, selecting one of the following items:

- **Ignition/Electrical System:** Identify the parts of the Ignition System and explain how magnetic energy is produced through the ignition system to ignite the spark plug; **OR**
- **Compression System:** Explain how heat energy is produced and engine power is measured by an engine and/or converted into mechanical energy through transmissions; **OR**
- **Heat Transfer:** Explain how heat is transferred through the cooling and lubrication system of an air cooled or water cooled engine; **OR**
- **Filter Maintenance:** Explain the proper maintenance and cleaning of the air, fuel and oil filters of an engine; **OR**
- **What does a serial number reveal?:** Explain the various information that can be learned from the serial number or identification number stamped on the shroud of a Briggs & Stratton engine; **OR**
- **Tools to do the job:** Identify and explain the function(s) of different specialty tools needed for small engine work; **OR**
- **Experimentation:** Explain through illustration an experiment you conducted from the project manual showing the results of your work.

# THEATRE ARTS

Each county may submit 3 entries total for 50299, 50300, 50301, 50302.

## Theatre Arts 1 (SF 50299)

Exhibit one of the following items:

- **Portfolio of acting activities** completed during the current year. This should include at least 3 of the following: list of roles/performances, pictures or description of hair or makeup, pictures or description of a favorite costume, pictures or description of a particular set piece or prop, ticket stubs or marketing materials, playbill, description of audition process, highlights of acting skills honed (such as stage directions, auditioning, projection, diction, character development, physicality, vocal expression, facial expressions, memorization, understanding of how to read a script, ability to take direction, confidence, collaboration with scene partners etc.) *Note: A video of performances is not considered a portfolio and will not be accepted for exhibit.* **OR**
- **Display illustrating a picture story** developed by the exhibitor. Your picture story should include a minimum of 3 boxes with a character, problem, and solution. **OR**
- **Write a personal monologue.** Create a character, decide what your character wants, what are the obstacles, and create your character's thoughts and struggles.

## Theatre Arts 2 (SF 50300)

Exhibit one of the following items:

- **Block a scene.** Choose a scene from a published play and become the director. Clearly mark stage directions, blocking, entrances and exits, and any additional notes you would want to share with the actors. **OR**
- **Write a scene.** Create a scene that includes at least 2 characters, has an established setting, plot, and time, and include stage directions. **OR**
- **Create a mask** that either represents a character of your choice or models a mask from a given historical time period integral to the history of theatre.

## Theatre Arts 3 (SF 50301)

Exhibit one of the following items:

- **Portfolio of activities** for set design; make-up; or sound, props, or costuming completed during the current year. This should include pictures of activities, information on the show or performance, details on your involvement. **OR**
- **Display that includes** sound, props and costume charts appropriate for a selected scene from a story or play (limited to no more than 8 items). **OR**
- **Display a scenic design model** to depict a scene from a script; **OR**
- **Display illustrating a character** with make-up drawn or colored in. Include a photograph of a person wearing the make-up and information on the character's personality or part in the play.

## **Theatre Arts Innovation Class (SF 50302)**

**Open to youth enrolled in Theatre Arts.**

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through Theatre Arts project. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

# TRACTOR

Each county may submit 2 entries total for 50306, 50307, 50308, 50309, 50310.

## **Tractor A (SF 50306) Level A: Starting Up – Required**

Exhibit a display or poster that illustrates one of the following topics: tractor safety; care and maintenance; the tractor as a valuable farm machine; or an activity listed in the 4-H project manual.

## **Tractor B (SF 50307) Level B: Tractor Operation – Required**

Exhibit a display or poster that illustrates one of the following topics: cause and prevention of rollovers; diagram how an air cleaner works; diagram and identify an engine cooling system; regulations for battery & oil disposal; or another activity listed in the 4-H project manual.

## **Tractor C (SF 50308) Level C: Moving Out – Required**

Exhibit a display or poster that illustrates one of the following topics: wagon and bin hazards; diagram and identify open and closed hydraulic systems; mower types and safety features; conveyor types and safety features; or another activity listed in the 4-H project manual.

## **Tractor D (SF 50309) Level D: Learning More – Required**

Exhibit a display or poster that illustrates one of the following topics: method of winterizing a tractor; chemical uses and required safety equipment; parts and process of internal combustion engine; procedure for cleaning and flushing tractor radiator; or another activity.

## **Tractor Innovation Class (SF 50310)**

**Open to youth enrolled in Tractor A, B, C or D.**

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the Tractor project. This could be related to, but not limited to, advancements in technology, enhancements to crop production, or a topic of interest to the member related to tractors or farm machinery. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

## **VETERINARY SCIENCE**

Each county may submit 1 entry from 50320a and 1 entry from 50320b.

### **Veterinary Science 1 (SF 50320a)**

**Open to youth in Veterinary Science 1, 2, and 3. For youth enrolled in this project 1-2 years.**

Prepare a display focusing on any activity related to the veterinary science project. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. Live animals are not permitted as exhibits in this area. For safety reasons, exhibits cannot include glass, syringes with needles or any other sharp objects. Exhibits may include activities from Veterinary Science projects OR from any other Animal project area.

### **Veterinary Science 2 (SF 50320b)**

**Open to youth in Veterinary Science 1, 2, and 3. For youth enrolled in this project 3 or more years.**

Prepare a display focusing on any activity related to the veterinary science project. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. Live animals are not permitted as exhibits in this area. For safety reasons, exhibits cannot include glass, syringes with needles or any other sharp objects. Exhibits may include activities from Veterinary Science projects OR from any other animal project area.

## VIDEO

Each county may submit 3 entries total from 50324 a & b, 50325 a & b, 50326 a & b, 50327 a & b, 50328 a & b.

**All Exhibitors must bring their video to be judged on a USB flash drive and saved in .MP4 format at the State Fair. Wireless Internet access is not necessarily available.**

Exhibitors are encouraged to post their video on YouTube.com in advance of State Fair. Exhibitors may choose whether to make the video “public, unlisted” (someone must have the link to view it), or “private” (only people you choose may view it). This will allow fairgoers to view the exhibits on display. There will be TV monitors at the exhibit table for viewing videos so exhibitors will NOT need to bring a laptop or device for viewing at the State Fair. However, at the county level, you need to bring your own device (including a way for your judge to hear your video) for viewing. All Video/Filmmaking exhibitors must include a printed copy of materials which will remain on display.

### **Requirements that apply to ALL video classes:**

- Videos can be produced as an individual or a group of up to 5 members.
- Video submissions should be no longer than five (5) minutes in length (unless noted differently in class description).
- Videos are to be original and a result of the member’s current year’s work.
- Image and sound quality will be considered in relation to equipment available to and used by exhibitor.
- All videos should comply with copyright regulations and display an image that is appropriate for 4-H audiences.
- No time or date should be imprinted on the video footage.
- All videos should include an opening title screen, as well as closing credits which include date of production, name of video exhibitor and research sources if appropriate.
- All videos should include (1) Evidence of story line; (2) Use of camera angles; (3) Use of zooming techniques; and (4) Smoothness of scene changes.
- Photo/Model releases from individuals appearing in the videos are required unless the video is of a group in a public place where identification would not be an issue. Youth should have a signed model release for anyone appearing in the video besides themselves, and those should be brought to judging. Forms are available at [go.illinois.edu/modelrelease](http://go.illinois.edu/modelrelease).

### **Commercial or Promotional Video Individual (SF 50324a) Group (SF 50234b)**

Prepare a short video (30 seconds to 1 minute in length) that promotes an event, advertises a specific project/product, or is a public service announcement. The video should demonstrate skills in making and editing video.

### **Animated Video Individual (SF 50325a) Group (SF50325b)**

Video in this class should represent creative animation of original artwork created by the exhibitor and may include stop motion techniques. Media might include images created with graphics software or hand-drawn images.

### **Documentary Individual (SF 50326a) Group (SF 50326b)**

Video in this class should represent a research-based investigation into a topic of choice. Video credits should list research sources and may include paper or electronically published materials, as well as interviews with experts or constituents related to the topic of investigation.

### **Short Story or Short Narrative Individual (SF 50327a) Group (SF50327b)**

Prepare a short video that tells a story. The video should demonstrate skills in making and editing video.

### **Video/Filmmaking Innovation Class Individual (SF 50328a) Group (SF 50328b)**

**Open to youth enrolled in Video/Filmmaking.**

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the Video project. **Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project.** The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

# VISUAL ARTS

## Fine Art and Design

This category showcases original, expressive work created through hands-on techniques and personal design. A wide range of materials and methods, encouraging youth to explore traditional and contemporary forms of visual storytelling, is included in this category.

**Each county may submit ONE entry from each of these projects:**

- Chalk/Carbon/Pigment (Drawing and Painting) on Canvas, Division A 50336a
- Chalk/Carbon/Pigment (Drawing and Painting) on Paper, Division B 50336b
- Chalk/Carbon/Pigment (Drawing and Painting) on Clay, Glass, Wood, Metal, or Textiles Division C 50336c
- Clay 50337
- Computer-Generated Art 50338
- Computer-Generated Art – Graphic Design 50370
- Metal 50342
- Three-Dimensional Design/Mixed Media 50348
- Wood 50349

**Each county may submit TWO entries from:**

- Glass & Plastic (2 total from 50340a and 50340b)
- Open Form and Emerging Techniques SF 50350

## Artisan Crafts

This category honors the intersection of craftsmanship, tradition, and personal creativity. It includes original and patterned work across a wide range of materials and techniques.

**Each county may submit ONE entry from each of these projects:**

- Fiber 50339
- Heritage Arts 50341
- Leather 50321
- Nature 50343
- Paper 50344Aa
- Paper 50344Bb
- Quilting – You Can Quilt 50331
- Quilting – Quilting the Best Better 50331b
- Three-Dimensional Design/Mixed Media: Diorama (SF 50351)

**Each county may submit TWO entries from:**

- Food Decorating (2 total from 50332, 50333, 50334, 50335)
- Scrapbooking (2 total from 50345, 50346, 50347)

Exhibitors must be enrolled in the Visual Arts project category in which they are exhibiting. Exhibitors are encouraged to date the project when it is made. Exhibitors must be able to carry or cart their exhibits across the fairgrounds from the parking lots. All visual arts exhibits are evaluated using a visual arts rubric, which considers correct use of design elements, craftsmanship, and creativity.

Articles exhibited must be an original design created by the exhibitor (except in Heritage Arts, which may follow a pattern). Copyrighted or trademarked designs are not acceptable; this includes team, school logos, and/or characters from movies such as Mickey Mouse, Iron Man, etc. Kits and preformed molds are not considered original and are not acceptable in any Visual Arts Class. Combining parts of different patterns (pictures, photographs, images from the internet or a magazine) with the member's own ideas can result in an original design, but simply changing the color, pattern, and/or size of a pattern does NOT make the design original. This also applies to ideas found on a site such as Pinterest. If you see something on Pinterest that you like, you can use that idea as your inspiration; however, create something that is fundamentally different. It **MUST NOT BE AN EXACT REPLICA OF** something the judge can search for and find on Pinterest. The exhibit may combine parts of different patterns and/or ideas with the concepts of the member; however, changing the color or changing the size of the item or pattern used does NOT make it original. If you create an exact replica of what you see somewhere else, it is not your original design. If a photo, sketch, or other idea source was used, submit it with your entry, firmly attached to your exhibit. Be prepared to explain how and where you got the idea for this project.

When utilizing repurposed materials, source wisely to avoid materials from old furniture, painted wood, or metal objects that may contain lead-based paint. Items manufactured before 1978 are particularly risky. If you are unsure, lead testing kits to check painted surfaces are available at hardware stores. Consider safely stripping or sealing unknown paint with a non-toxic barrier to prevent exposure.

### **Use of the 4-H Clover:**

Chartered 4-H clubs and enrolled 4-H members are authorized to use the 4-H Name and Emblem. This includes permission for an enrolled 4-H member to use the 4-H name and emblem in exhibits created for personal use and as part of 4-H sponsored events. This includes 4-H decorated cookies, a 4-H clover printed for use in a scrapbook or included as part of any other 4-H exhibit. Use of the green clover shaped image is not protected. The 4-H “emblem” is distinguished by the four H’s that signify Head, Heart, Hands and Health. **No creative rendering, changes in color or shape of the official 4-H emblem is allowed.**

NOTE – Any use of the 4-H name and emblem on items intended as **gifts or for sale locally** requires prior permission from your local Extension office. Your Extension office will be able to provide you with the form which must be signed by the Extension County Director. Any uses of the 4-H name and emblem for sale or promotion **online, and/or in statewide events** should be signed by the Illinois 4-H Program Leader ([Illinois4H@illinois.edu](mailto:Illinois4H@illinois.edu)).

Quilts entered in Visual Arts should **ONLY** be entered in the Quilting Project area in either Level 1 *You Can Quilt* (SF 50331) OR Level 2 *Quilting the Best Better* (SF 50331). All work on the quilt **MUST** be completed by the 4-H member. You cannot exhibit a quilt that was quilted by someone else.

Unless otherwise noted, due to space limitations, projects should be no larger than 48” x 48”.

## **Fine Art and Design**

### **Visual Arts Chalk/Carbon/Pigment (Drawing and Painting): Division A, B, or C**

Enter the division based on the type of material on which the art was created.

#### **Chalk/Carbon/Pigment (Drawing and Painting): Division A: Canvas (SF 50336a)**

Any original artwork created on canvas using traditional materials such as pencils, chalk, pens, ink, paint, charcoal, or dyes. All artwork must be either framed, matted, or otherwise prepared for display. Oil and acrylic paintings may be exhibited without glass or matting and are acceptable unframed if the canvas edges are finished and the piece is ready to hang. Watercolor, chalk, pen and ink, and similar media require protective covering, such as glass or a clear sleeve. Gallery-style frames and matted-only presentations are both acceptable, provided the piece is equipped for hanging. If the artwork is not designed to hang, exhibitors must include a photo showing how it will be displayed (e.g., on a stand or easel). There is no restriction on the type of mat used.

#### **Chalk/Carbon/Pigment (Drawing and Painting): Division B: Paper (SF 50336b)**

Any original artwork created on paper using traditional materials such as pencils, chalk, pens, ink, paint, charcoal, or dyes. All artwork must be either framed, matted, or otherwise prepared for display. Oil and acrylic paintings may be exhibited without glass or matting and are acceptable unframed if the piece is ready to hang. Watercolor, chalk, pen and ink, and similar media require protective covering, such as glass or a clear sleeve. Gallery-style frames and matted-only presentations are both acceptable, provided the piece is equipped

for hanging. If the artwork is not designed to hang, exhibitors must include a photo showing how it will be displayed (e.g., on a stand or easel). There is no restriction on the type of mat used.

### **Chalk/Carbon/Pigment (Drawing and Painting): Division C: Clay, Glass, Wood, Metal, Textiles (SF 50336c)**

Any original artwork created on clay, glass, wood, metal, or textiles using traditional materials such as pencils, chalk, pens, ink, paint, charcoal, or dyes. Original glaze painting on pre-formed clay surfaces is acceptable, provided the design demonstrates creativity and artistic effort. Simply adding a single color or minimal decoration, for example, painting a frog entirely green, does not meet the criteria for original artwork. All artwork must be either framed, matted, or otherwise prepared for display. If the artwork is not designed to hang, exhibitors must include a photo showing how it will be displayed (e.g., on a stand or easel). There is no restriction on the type of mat used. If you are painting on clothing, consider entering your work in the “Clothing Embellishment” project, “Applied” class.

### **Visual Arts Clay (SF 50337)**

Any original item made of clay may be fired or unfired, hand-formed or thrown on a wheel. Ceramics, oven-cured, cornstarch, air-dry/self-hardening, and fire-cured clays are acceptable. Modeling clay is not recommended as it does not harden and risks melting. Items can include, but are not limited to, clay statues, bowls, jewelry, etc. Pre-formed ceramics should refer to Visual Arts Chalk/Carbon/Pigment for guidance.

### **Visual Arts Computer-Generated Art (SF 50338, SF 50370)**

- **Computer-Generated Art (SF 50338)**

Any original artwork created using any software package, where all pixels must be entirely original. Exhibits may not contain scanned images, clip art, downloaded content, imported graphics, or photographs. Photo mosaics are not permitted. Wood and metal pieces created through laser cutting software should be entered in this class, as should plastic artworks produced with a 3-D printer if they have an artistic focus. If the artwork is designed to hang, it must include protective covering, such as a glass frame, and be prepared for hanging. Laser-cut pieces not intended for hanging do not require protective covering or hanging hardware.

- **Graphic Design (SF 50370)**

Any original art created in any software package that displays visual information, such as an advertisement, publication, website, or any other type of visual communication, by effectively combining text and graphics. If using clip art,

downloaded images, imported images, or photographs, they must be either royalty-free or owned by the exhibitor.

## **Visual Arts Glass & Plastic (SF 50340a, 50340b)**

Any original item made of glass or plastic.

- **Glass 50340a**

Possible items to exhibit include stained glass, etched glass (original design), mosaics made of glass, and glass beading.

- **Plastic 50340b**

Possible items to exhibit include plastic jewelry (friendly plastic); recycled plastic art; plastic that can be molded into 3D shapes.

Stepping stones can be entered as a Visual Arts exhibit in Glass & Plastic, however, they must have an intentional design created using glass and/or plastic, and the exhibitor must be prepared to discuss the design elements associated with their exhibit.

## **Visual Arts Metal (SF 50342)**

Any original item made of metal, such as a sculpture, a tin punch, an engraved metal, or jewelry. Items intended for industrial use (such as tools and/or shop items) are not considered part of this Visual Arts project and are not eligible for entry. Metal items that have been partially or totally created using laser cutting programs/devices should be entered in Computer-Generated Art.

## **Visual Arts Open Form and Emerging Techniques (SF 50350)**

Any original artwork that explores unconventional formats, mixed media, or emerging creative technologies that reflect technique or design. Materials must be safe and age-appropriate. This project encourages experimentation while upholding elements and principles of design. Exhibitors are encouraged to include a brief artist statement describing their technique, inspiration, and creative process. This category is ideal for youth blending disciplines or exploring new artistic technologies. If a project fits more clearly within an existing category, it should be entered there instead.

## **Visual Arts Three-Dimensional Design/Mixed Media (SF 50348)**

Art pieces in this class must be comprised of **at least three different media**. To ensure a true mixed media composition, no single medium should dominate the piece. As a guideline, each medium should contribute roughly equally to the overall design. One material should not appear to be the main focus or make up the majority of the work. The piece should **be either freestanding or should be prepared to be hung**, and viewable

from at least three different sides. Originality and design are important concepts. Craft kits, preformed, or assembled projects are not acceptable. Due to space limitations, any single exhibit in the Three-Dimensional Design/Mixed Media project should NOT exceed 48" x 48".

### **Visual Arts Wood (SF 50349)**

Any original item made of wood (wood carving, sculpture, collage, wood burning, etc.). Utilitarian wood items made from patterns or kits (outdoor or indoor furniture, shelves, etc.) should be entered in woodworking, **NOT** Visual Arts. Popsicle stick crafts are not acceptable for State Fair entry. Wood items that have been partially or totally created using laser cutting devices or programs should be entered in Computer-Generated Art. All Visual Arts Wood exhibits **MUST** have an artistic element that the exhibitor can explain. If the exhibit is a piece of furniture, it should be entered in Woodworking unless the primary focus is an artistic element, such as wood carving or wood burning. Exhibits will be judged using a Visual Arts Rubric and not a woodworking construction rubric.

### **Artisan Crafts**

#### **Visual Arts Fiber (SF 50339)**

Any original item made of fiber. Examples include but are not limited to fabric collage, soft sculpture, stitchery, weaving, embroidery, cross-stitch, wearable art, hooking, braiding, duct tape artistry, string art, and baskets. **Original** cross-stitched, knitted, or crocheted items belong in this Fiber class. **Non-original** cross-stitched, knitted, or crocheted items should be entered in Heritage Arts. Machine-knit items are not appropriate for this class.

#### **Visual Arts Food Decorating (SF 50332, SF 50333, SF 50334, SF 50335) – for more information about cake decorating techniques: [go.illinois.edu/caketechniques](http://go.illinois.edu/caketechniques)**

Visual Arts Food Decorating Beginning (SF 50332)

Exhibit one of the following:

- Exhibit four decorated cookies, using a minimum of four different Level 1 techniques. Exhibit may use cookies OR cookie forms.
- Exhibit four decorated cupcakes, using a minimum of four different Level 1 techniques. Exhibit may use cupcakes OR cupcake forms.
- Exhibit a single-layer decorated cake, using a minimum of four different Level 1 techniques. Exhibit may use cake OR cake form.

#### **Visual Arts Food Decorating Intermediate (SF 50333)**

Exhibit one of the following:

- Exhibit four decorated cookies, using a minimum of five Level 2 techniques. Exhibit may use cookies OR cookie forms

- Exhibit four decorated cupcakes, using a minimum of five Level 2 techniques. Exhibit may use cupcakes OR cupcake forms.
- Exhibit a single-layer or two-layer cakes, using a minimum of five Level 2 techniques. Exhibit may use cake OR cake forms.

### **Visual Arts Food Decorating Advanced (SF 50334)**

- Exhibit a decorated, stacked or multi-layer cake; or a tiered cake, using a minimum of four Level 3 techniques. Exhibit may use cake OR cake forms.

### **Visual Arts Food Decorating Master (SF 50335)**

Exhibit an original design decorated cake using more than five techniques. Exhibit may use cake OR cake forms. In addition, include a one-page written description of your project, including goals, plans, accomplishments, and evaluation of results. Up to four pictures of your accomplishments may be included in the description.

### **Visual Arts Heritage Arts (SF 50341)**

Heritage Arts includes any *traditional* artwork learned from another person or created using a *pattern*, excluding kits. Eligible items include non-original cross-stitched, knitted, and crocheted pieces (original versions should be entered in Fiber Arts), as well as needlepoint, counted cross-stitch, crewel, embroidery, cut work, hardanger embroidery, macramé, blacksmithing, pysanki (decorated eggs), baskets made from traditional patterns, handmade dolls with handmade costumes, and soaps or candles made using natural dyes. **Exhibitors must bring a copy of the pattern used and be prepared to explain the traditional origins of their art.** Forged knives may be included if displayed securely and enclosed to prevent handling; unsafe entries may be removed at staff discretion. Youth who would have previously shown under Non-Original Fiber (age 8-10) should enter this class instead.

### **Visual Arts Leather (SF 50321)**

Exhibit one of the following options using leather:

- **Leather Stamping:** Must feature one or more stamping techniques. Examples include belts, coasters, bookmarks, key chains, and wrist bracelets. **OR**
- **Leather Carving or Tooling:** Should use swivel knife tooling, either simple or patterned. Examples include belts, pictorial carvings, and key cases. **OR**
- **Leather Lacing:** Must incorporate stamping and/or carving along with lacing techniques. Examples include wallets and purses. **OR**
- **Leather Stitching:** May include stamping, carving, and/or lacing, and must feature hand or machine stitching completed by the exhibitor. Projects may be leather items or apparel.

## **Visual Arts Nature (SF 50343)**

Any original item made of natural material, such as wreaths, cornhusk dolls, and similar creations. Items should be made of natural materials, but securing elements such as glue and wire may be used in the inner construction as long as they do not detract from the overall "natural" appearance. Engineered wood may be utilized as part of the exhibit to adhere natural materials, not as an element of the design. Articles such as dried pressed flowers may be displayed under glass if viewed as necessary for the protection/preservation of the natural materials. Candles and baskets are not suitable as entries and instead should be entered in Heritage Arts.

## **Visual Arts Paper (SF 50344a & SF 50344b)**

Any original item made of paper. Exhibitors should create an exhibit that aligns with one of the following categories:

- **Two-Dimensional Paper Art (SF 50344a)**

Exhibits should be a 2-dimensional image. Paper art, which falls into the 2-dimensional category, includes: Greeting Cards, paper-cut designs, hand-made paper, paper collage, and quilling.

- **Three-Dimensional Paper Art (SF 50344b)**

Exhibits should be a 3-dimensional image. Exhibits in the 3-dimensional category must have multiple layers and/or levels. This is defined as more than 3 layers, so the image truly has dimensions that can be viewed from at least three sides, or is at least ½" tall. Paper art which falls into the 3-dimensional category includes but is not limited to: Origami; Paper Mache; Paper models of architecture, paper-cut designs; quilling.

### **PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:**

- Paper-cut designs and quilling have the potential, depending on the design, to align with either of the categories. The key design element is whether the design is 2-dimensional or 3-dimensional.
- Paper twist articles made from a kit or directions in a craft book or store ARE NOT original and not appropriate in the Visual Arts Paper exhibit area. Scrapbooks are also not eligible in Visual Arts Paper but should be exhibited in Visual Arts Scrapbooking.
- If creating origami, folded pieces should either be used to create a bigger project, such as a mobile or wreath, or multiple pieces of origami should be displayed. Exceptions would be if the exhibitor created their own folding pattern.

## **Visual Arts Quilting – You Can Quilt (Level 1) (SF 50331a)**

Exhibit one of the following quilting options. All exhibits should include a card which 1) Identifies the item as an original design created by the exhibitor; as a pattern created by someone else; OR as a pattern that has been adapted by the exhibitor. AND 2) Identifies the type of batting used. The item may be quilted using any method – tie, hand, or machine quilted. **All work must be completed by the 4-H member.** Exhibit one of the following:

- A Doll Quilt (maximum size of 24" x 30"); **OR**
- A Baby Quilt (maximum size of 48"x 48"); **OR**
- A Quilted Table Runner (maximum size of 18" x 36");**OR**
- A small Wall Hanging (square or rectangular, maximum size of 36" x 36"). Hanging should include tabs or a pocket on the back for it to be hung.

## **Visual Arts Quilting – Quilting the Best Better (Level 2) (SF 50331b)**

Exhibit one of the following quilting options. All exhibits should include a card which 1) Identifies the item as an original design created by the exhibitor as a pattern created by someone else; OR as a pattern that has been adapted by the exhibitor; 2) Identifies the type of batting used; AND 3) Provides details on any special techniques that were used (applique, embroidery, free-motion quilting, etc.). The item may be quilted using any method – tie, hand, or machine quilted. **All work must be completed by the 4-H member.** Exhibit one of the following:

- A Lap Quilt (width ranging from 42" – 58" length ranging from 56" – 70"); **OR**
- A Large Quilted Wall Hanging (can be rectangular or square, sized larger than 36" x 36"). Hanging should include tabs or a pocket on the back for it to be hung; **OR**
- A Quilt that fits any size bed (Twin, Double, Queen or King).

## **Visual Arts Scrapbooking, Beginning (SF 50345)**

Exhibit one album or notebook, either 8 ½" x 11" or 12" x 12", with a front and back cover. The album/notebook must have a minimum of 4 pages (front and back, making it 8 sides), exhibited in page protectors. **NOTE – the front and back album covers are NOT part of the "page" count.** Scrapbooks may be created using traditional or digital methods. Digital scrapbooks must be printed and displayed in a physical album or notebook, following the same size and page requirements. All scrapbook entries must be original in design; use of pre-made templates or auto-generated layouts from websites or design software (e.g. Canva, Shutterfly, Adobe Express, etc.) is not permitted. Exhibitors must create their own layouts, embellishments, and design elements to reflect personal creativity and intent. "Embellishments" are defined as the decorations or special details and features that add to a page and make it more visually appealing. Embellishments may include, but are not

limited to, ribbon, clips, stickers, special lettering, borders, textures, or graphic elements. Beginners must use a **minimum of four embellishments** in their 4 scrapbook pages (a minimum of four embellishments on the 4 required scrapbook pages, not four per page), 8 sides and tell a story with pictures

### **Visual Arts Scrapbooking, Intermediate (SF 50346)**

Exhibit one album or notebook, either 8 ½” x 11” or 12” x 12”, with a front and back cover.

The album/notebook must have a minimum of 6 pages (front and back, 12 sides), exhibited in page protectors. **NOTE – the front and back album covers are NOT part of the “page” count.** Scrapbooks may be created using traditional or digital methods. Digital scrapbooks must be printed and displayed in a physical album or notebook, following the same size and page requirements. All scrapbook entries must be original in design; use of pre-made templates or auto-generated layouts from websites or design software (e.g. Canva, Shutterfly, Adobe Express, etc.) is not permitted. Exhibitors must create their own layouts, embellishments, and design elements to reflect personal creativity and intent.

“Embellishments” are defined as the decorations or special details and features that add to a page and make it more visually appealing. Embellishments may include, but are not limited to, ribbon, clips, stickers, special lettering, borders, textures, or graphic elements. Intermediate level exhibitors must use a **minimum of eight embellishments** in their 6 scrapbook pages (a minimum of eight embellishments on the 6 required scrapbook pages, not eight per page), 12 sides and tell a story with pictures and journaling.

### **Visual Arts Scrapbooking, Advanced (SF 50347)**

Exhibit one album or notebook, either 8 ½” x 11” or 12” x 12”, with a front and back cover.

The album/notebook must have a minimum of 8 pages (front and back, 16 sides), exhibited in page protectors. **NOTE – the front and back album covers are NOT part of the “page” count.** Scrapbooks may be created using traditional or digital methods. Digital scrapbooks must be printed and displayed in a physical album or notebook, following the same size and page requirements. All scrapbook entries must be original in design; use of pre-made templates or auto-generated layouts from websites or design software (e.g. Canva, Shutterfly, Adobe Express, etc.) is not permitted. Exhibitors must create their own layouts, embellishments, and design elements to reflect personal creativity and intent.

“Embellishments” are defined as the decorations or special details and features that add to a page and make it more visually appealing. Embellishments may include, but are not limited to, ribbon, clips, stickers, special lettering, borders, textures, or graphic elements. Advanced level exhibitors must use a **minimum of 12 embellishments** in their 8 scrapbook pages (a minimum of twelve embellishments on the 8 required scrapbook pages, not twelve per page), 16 sides and tell a compelling story with pictures, journaling, and other media.

## **Visual Arts Three-Dimensional Design/Mixed Media - Diorama (SF 50351)**

Exhibit a model representing a scene with three-dimensional figures. The display must be built on rigid wood (i.e., plywood). Exhibits may include but are not limited to, farm displays, historical events, landmarks, habitats, or scenes from a book. Exhibits may include pre-manufactured items such as tractors, animals, or figurines, but should also include artistic elements where possible. Due to space limitations, any single exhibit in the Three-Dimensional Design/Mixed Media: Diorama project should NOT exceed 48" x 48".

# WEATHER

Each county may submit 1 entry total 50392, 50393, 50394.

## **Weather and Climate Science 1 (SF 50392) Level 1: Weather and Climate Science – Required**

Exhibit any product or display illustrating an activity from the book. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

## **Weather and Climate Science 2 (SF 50393) Level 2: Weather and Climate Science – Required**

Exhibit any product or display illustrating an activity from the book. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

## **Weather and Climate Science 3 (SF 50394) Level 3: Weather and Climate Science – Required**

Exhibit any product or display illustrating an activity from the book. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

## WELDING

Each county may submit 2 entries total from 50353.

### **Welding (SF 50353) Arcs and Sparks – Required**

Exhibit one weldment/item demonstrating the skill level of the exhibitor. Members new to the project should select a weldment from the *Weldment List* found on page 43 of *Arcs and Sparks*. **This class is for industrial welding only.** (Members that wish to use welding to create objects with an artistic appeal should enter in Visual Arts – Metal class.) Exhibits must be portable and cannot be exhibited on a trailer.

# WOODWORKING

Each county may submit 2 entries total from 50357, 50358, 50359, and 50360

There are four reference books for this project in the *Woodworker Wonders* series:

Level 1, *Measuring Up*, for grades of 3-4; Level 2, *Making the Cut*, for grades 4-6; Level 3, *Nailing It Together*, for grades 6-8; and Level 4, *Finishing It Up* for grades 9-12. Note: these reference books may be used by youth of any grade based on their prior knowledge of woodworking. These project guides are suggested reference materials but are not required.

Woodworking exhibits may display any item made of wood constructed by the 4-H member appropriate for their age, skills, and abilities. Youth pick what level to enter based on experience and skills demonstrated. Exhibits must be portable and cannot be exhibited on a trailer. Ability to discuss safety concerns and techniques of all tools, equipment and supplies utilized required as part of project.

Refinishing an existing wood item may be part of the project exhibit, but refinishing an item without performing additional woodworking skills to improve or repair the item would make it ineligible to show as a woodworking project.

## **Woodworking 1 (SF 50357)**

Create an item focusing on measuring, squaring & cutting boards with hand tools, driving nails, and/or screws as appropriate for a beginner's skill level project.

## **Woodworking 2 (SF 50358)**

Create an item including basic skills outlined in Level 1 with the addition of safely utilizing basic power tools (i.e. electric drill or vibrating sander), utilizing glue and clamps, applying a basic finish coating, and use of additional fasteners (i.e. bolts, staples, etc.) where appropriate relating to the specific item displayed.

## **Woodworking 3 (SF 50359)**

Create an item including skills outlined in Levels 1-2 with the addition of measuring angles, cutting dado and rabbet joints, dowel joints, and smoothing lumber with planes, and use of stain and finish coats where appropriate relating to the specific item displayed. Additional knowledge of tools, skills, and safety equipment utilized at this level may include power saws, sanders, and/or table routing as appropriate to project.

## **Woodworking 4 (SF 50360)**

Create an item including all skills from Levels 1-3 with the addition of utilizing a freehand router, planer and jointer, lathe, complex miters, use of blind mortise and tenon joints,

dovetail joints, or various chemical wood strippers and/or finishes (including spray finishes) when and where appropriate relating to the specific item displayed.

## 4-H Livestock Shows

### Quality Assurance and Ethics Training

Deadline to complete: June 1, 2026

Website: [4h.zsuite.org/](http://4h.zsuite.org/)

The Quality Assurance and Ethics Certification have been developed to review what is expected of youth when preparing for and exhibiting animals in competition.

#### **Who is required to complete this certification?**

All 4-H Youth enrolled in a livestock project area or animal science project will be required to complete this online course one time in order to stay enrolled in a livestock project area.

**Species:** Cat, Dog, Horse/Pony, Poultry, Rabbits, and Llamas/Alpacas.

**Certification:** It will be required for the 2025 County 4-H Shows and the Illinois State Fair Junior Show that any new youth enrolled in one of the livestock project areas (listed above) complete the Quality Assurance and Ethics Certification.

### Youth For The Quality Care Of Animals (YQCA)

Deadline to complete: June 1, 2026

Website: <https://yqcaprogram.org/>

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) is a national multi-species quality assurance program for youth ages 8 to 21 with a focus on three core pillars: food safety, animal well-being, and character development. YQCA includes information for youth showing the following food animals: pigs, beef cattle, dairy cattle, sheep, goats, market rabbits, and poultry. YQCA will be offered at 4-H Club Meetings in 2025.

**Required Species:** Dairy Cattle, Beef Cattle, Swine, Sheep and Goats

If you choose to take the online version, it is the responsibility of the youth to provide a copy of the YQCA certificate of completion to the extension office by the June 1 deadline. Failure to provide the certificate of completion could result in removal from the livestock project area and not allowed to show in the county 4-H Fair or Illinois State Fair Junior Show.

**THESE TRAININGS MUST BE DONE IN ORDER TO STAY ENROLLED IN THE LIVESTOCK PROJECT AREA. IF IT IS NOT COMPLETED BY THE DEADLINE, YOU WILL BE PULLED FROM THE LIVESTOCK PROJECT AREA AND THEREFORE WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO EXHIBIT AT THE COUNTY 4-H FAIR OR THE ILLINOIS STATE FAIR JUNIOR SHOW.**

# Livestock Health Requirements County Fairs

Illinois Department of Agriculture

2026 Exhibition Livestock Health Requirements

## General Requirements

- These Exhibition Health Requirements apply to all livestock present on County Fairgrounds, including livestock that are not entered in competitive events. Species specific information follows the general requirements.
- Exhibitors are required to familiarize themselves with all rules applicable to their exhibits.
- All out-of-state animals must have an entry permit. Entry permit numbers are available online at <https://entrypermit.agr.illinois.gov/Login.aspx>.
- All animals, except as noted in species specific information below, shall be accompanied by a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI).
- All animals must be officially identified.
- All livestock shall be subject to examination upon entry to County Fairgrounds. Examination may include but is not limited to ultrasound, urine testing, blood testing, and similar actions.
- Definitions, abbreviations, and administration:
  - The Illinois Department of Agriculture may be referred to as “Department” or “IDOA”
  - The Department contains a Bureau of Animal Health and Welfare, which receives all CVIs.
  - Department or IDOA staff, as used in this document, includes all Bureaus
- IDOA will continue to monitor state and federal trends in animal health as it relates to this document. Any updates to these requirements will be posted on our website.

## Certificate of Veterinary Inspection Requirements

- Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) means a legible record, made on an official form from the state of origin, containing an accurate description or identification of the animal including age, sex, breed, health status, and vaccination information.
- The CVI must be signed, dated, and issued by a licensed and accredited veterinarian in that state.
- Submitted CVIs must be as originally issued by the veterinarian; no CVIs with alterations, edits, or changes, will be accepted. The CVI must show that the animal meets all health requirements for the State of Illinois (species specific information noted later in this guidance)

- CVI must show the name and address of the animal's owner or exhibitor.
- CVI must include the animal's Animal Identification Number. a. Animal identification number (AIN): A numbering system for the official identification of individual animals in the United States that provides a nationally unique identification number for each animal. The AIN consists of 15 digits, with the first 3 being the country code (840 for the United States or a unique country code for any U.S. territory that has such a code and elects to use it in place of the 840 code).
- If one CVI is used for multiple animals, each animal identification must be made on a separate line.
- Exhibitors are strongly encouraged to obtain electronic CVIs whenever possible; IDOA is moving toward only accepting electronic CVIs.
- Exhibitors shall make CVIs available to Department of Agriculture and County Fair staff on request. a. If an official electronic CVI is utilized, the exhibitor should be able to log on and show County Fair staff or Bureau of Animal Health and Welfare Personnel the completed CVI.
- If animals are from tuberculosis accredited, brucellosis certified, pseudorabies qualified, or brucellosis validated herds, the identifying herd number(s) along with the date of the last herd test(s) shall appear on the CVI.
- CVIs for out-of-state livestock shall be void thirty (30) days after issuance.
- CVIs for Illinois-origin livestock shall be void ninety (90) days after issuance.

## **Quarantine and Removal**

- Quarantine shall be at the animal owner (or exhibitor) risk and expense. Quarantine and removal from the Fairgrounds shall be as determined appropriate by the County Fair Veterinarian, State Veterinarian, or their designee(s).
- Quarantine will be required until the animal has been properly treated and recovered, or the animal can be released to return to the owner's premise, both in the opinion of the County Fair Veterinarian, State Veterinarian, or their designee(s).
- Any animal presenting with a condition that would subject it to quarantine must be withdrawn from any/all entered competitions and are not permitted to exhibit.
- Any condition meriting quarantine may also result in required removal of the animal from the Fairgrounds, as determined appropriate by the County Fair Veterinarian, State Veterinarian, or their designee(s).
- Conditions subject to quarantine (not an exhaustive list)
  - Any animal showing evidence of infectious, contagious or communicable diseases shall be held in quarantine.

- Any livestock infected with scabies, mange, active lesions of ringworm, soremouth, or multiple warts which are easily visible without close examination
  - Sheep and goats with caseous lymphadenitis as evidenced by draining abscesses
  - Suspicion of or diagnosis of a foreign animal disease, emerging animal disease, or other actionable disease, animals may be subject to quarantine on the fairgrounds until such time that it is determined that the disease is no longer a threat.
- 26. Any Illinois cattle, bison, cervidae or goats being exhibited in non-accredited free states must be isolated from the remainder of the herd/flock upon return to Illinois and retested for tuberculosis 60-120 days post-entry back into the state.

## Wabash General Livestock Rules

- Animal exhibits are limited to two entries per class.
- There is no limit to the number of animals members may nominate during the winter/spring weigh-in. However, at the 4-H show, members may weigh and exhibit up to 2 steers, 2 market pigs, 2 market lambs, and/or 2 goat wethers.
- All 4-H Show livestock entries are due to the Extension Office at the same time as other general project 4-H Show entries. The entries are **due June 1, 2026**, submitted online at [fairentry.com](http://fairentry.com) (date subject to change)
- All animals must have been owned and personally cared for by the exhibitor by the required starting dates.
- All animals must be exhibited in the judging ring by the 4-H member (owner). **If you have two entries in the same class, you are responsible for finding a Wabash County 4-H'er to show your other entry for you.** Failure to do so extension staff has the right to only allow you to show your one entry. Extension staff can grant special permission for another Wabash County 4-H exhibitor to show the animal if the exhibitor becomes ill while at the fair.
- Exhibitors may be asked by extension staff to show proof of ownership of animals exhibited.
- Exhibitors of Beef, Dairy, Goats (both Meat and Dairy), Sheep, and Swine animals must have completed the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) certification in order to be eligible to exhibit their animal(s) at the Wabash County Fair, as well as at the State Fair.
  - Two options for completion are available: live, in person trainings or online at [yqcq.org](http://yqcq.org)
  - The YQCA certification must be completed by June 1, 2026.
  - THIS CERTIFICATION MUST BE DONE IN ORDER TO STAY ENROLLED IN THE LIVESTOCK PROJECT AREA. IF IT IS NOT COMPLETED BY THE DEADLINE, YOU WILL BE PULLED FROM THE LIVESTOCK PROJECT AREA AND THEREFORE WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO EXHIBIT AT THE COUNTY 4-H SHOWS OR THE ILLINOIS STATE FAIR JUNIOR SHOW.
- First-time exhibitors of Cat, Dog, Horse, Poultry, or Rabbit animals must complete the
- Quality Assurance and Ethics Certification (QAEC) in order to be eligible to exhibit an animal(s) at the Wabash County fair, as well as at the State Fair. This is an online training.
  - “Once you complete this program, you will earn your certificate of completion for the Quality Assurance and Ethics Certification requirement and will be eligible to show your livestock and stay in your 4-H project area.”
  - To undergo the training, complete the following procedure: Visit the website and begin progressing through the steps.
  - Participants will be required to register their first and last names and enter the county where they are enrolled in 4-H.

- After completing the registration, exhibitors will receive an ID number or “token”. If training is not completed in one setting, they will need this “token” to re-enter the training.
- Exhibitors will receive training on several different sections.
- After this, they will receive training in one or more of the seven species sections. NOTE: Exhibitors are only required to complete a species training for ONE species which they are planning to exhibit, even if they are planning to exhibit multiple species. After completing the training for one specie, they are not required to go back and complete it for other species that they are planning to exhibit.
- Upon the completion of the training, exhibitors will be added to the QAEC database.
- Exhibitors should print their certificate of completion.
- The training takes approximately 30-45 minutes to complete.
- The deadline for completion is June 1, 2026.
- THIS CERTIFICATION MUST BE DONE IN ORDER TO STAY ENROLLED IN THE LIVESTOCK PROJECT AREA. IF IT IS NOT COMPLETED BY THE DEADLINE, YOU WILL BE PULLED FROM THE LIVESTOCK PROJECT AREA AND THEREFORE WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO EXHIBIT AT THE COUNTY 4-H SHOWS OR THE ILLINOIS STATE FAIR JUNIOR SHOW.
- Any exhibitor who cannot adequately control and show his or her animal will be asked to leave the ring.
- Animals exhibited in purebred breeding classes must be purebred and should be registered with their respective breed associations. **Registration papers will be requested by Extension staff at the time of check-in.** Exhibitors must have the original registration certificate on each animal available for inspection at the show if the Extension staff calls for them. Failure to show proof of registration papers your livestock will be placed in a commercial/crossbred class.
- All livestock and poultry entries must comply with the health requirements set forth by the Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Animal Health. See the “Livestock Health Requirements” section. **It is suggested that health certificates be kept at the livestock stalls at all times during the fair. A veterinarian WILL be checking them. If health certificates are not presented, the animals will not be permitted to show.**
- 4-H’ers may be assisted by a family member (mother, father, brother, sister, grandparent or legal guardians) or by another 4-H’er from Wabash County.
- Professional fitters will not be allowed to assist in the 4-H fair. Definition of a professional fitter:
  - An individual who has much experience and great skill in a specific role preparing meat and milk species for the show ring.
  - An individual who is engaged in a specified occupation for pay or means of livelihood.

- An individual who is sought out by others because of this extraordinary ability to perform one or more specific functions.
- The project animal being at a professional fitter's for more than one day duration is cause for disqualification.
- Preparation and grooming of animals at the fair are to be done by the 4-H member with help from other 4-H'ers and limited adult intervention. Most preparation should be done before show day. Professional help is not allowed anytime during the 4-H shows.
- At no time before a show shall an exhibitor, an exhibitor's family members, audience members, or any other bystanders approach the judge in an attempt to do any of the following:
  - Influence the judge's ratings or decisions regarding the exhibitors or their projects in the show
  - Influence the judge's ratings or decisions regarding the exhibitors or their projects in any future shows for which he or she will serve as judge
- Failure to comply with this rule will result in disqualification from participation in or receiving ratings for projects exhibited in the show.
- At no time during or following a show shall an exhibitor, an exhibitor's family members, audience members, or any other bystanders approach the judge in an attempt to do any of the following:
  - challenge or protest the judge's ratings or decisions
  - ask the judge to explain his or her ratings or decisions
  - intimidate the judge
  - influence the judge's ratings or decisions regarding a future show for which he or she will serve as judge
  - otherwise influence the judge
  - Failure to comply with this rule will result in disqualification from participation in or receiving ratings for projects exhibited in the show.
- 4-H exhibitors are not required to stay at the fair with their project animals, but they must adequately care for their animals. Each 4-H'er must furnish his or her own feed, bedding, and equipment. The Extension office does not assume liability for loss, theft, or damage to any exhibit.

## **Move In Deadline**

Livestock must be in place at the Wabash County fair by 2 pm on Sunday July 12, 2026. Members who do not comply with these deadlines will be disqualified from exhibiting.

## **Ownership Of Animals**

All 4-H animals exhibited at the fair must be owned and cared for by the 4-H member by the starting date set forth by the Extension office. Check each species' section of handbook for starting dates.

## Off-Premise Form

In certain instances, members may keep their livestock on property other than their own. The member is required to submit a livestock Off-Premises Form to the Extension office for approval (including horses). This form will indicate where the animal is being kept and must be signed by the 4-H member, the member's parent, the property owner, the 4-H club leader, and an Extension 4-H staff person. As noted on the form, the 4-H member is responsible for the daily care and feeding of his or her animal project. This form must be submitted to the extension office by June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026.

## Livestock Health Requirements

Exhibitors are required to familiarize themselves and comply with all health requirements applicable to their livestock exhibits.

If an exhibitor has any questions, he or she may contact the Wabash County Extension office or call the Illinois Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Animal Health and Welfare at 217-782-4944. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to make sure these requirements are met. All exhibitors will need to make their own arrangements for testing.

## Livestock Record Books

ALL 4-H members taking a livestock project are REQUIRED to complete a 4-H Livestock record for the following species: beef, dairy, swine, sheep, poultry, rabbit, horse, and goats. **These records (up to date) must be presented at check-in. NO PROJECT RECORD BOOK—NO SHOW!**

## Livestock Premises Identification Number

A Premises ID Number is not required for entry of any animal for the 2025 Wabash County 4-H livestock shows.

## Livestock Identification

All livestock except rabbits, poultry, & horses are required to have some form of identification tag for their livestock. A scrapie tag or a tattoo that matches an official registration paper are acceptable for sheep and goats. Cattle and swine are required to have a USDA official animal identification number ear tag, ("840" tag). The 840 tags must be able to be read both visually and electronically.

## Livestock Auction Information

The livestock sale is only open to market animals carried in the individual's 4-H or FFA project in Wabash County. Please check the Wabash County Youth Exhibition (Junior Fair) book for more details.

## Judging And Protests

- All exhibitors, leaders, and parents are expected to show respect and courtesy to judges. Violations may result in disqualifying the exhibitor. Qualified judges will judge all exhibits. Decision of the judge is final.
- Extension staff can make any changes to classes, weights, etc. as they deem necessary. In regards to a question concerning interpretation of the rules and regulations, the Extension staff will make the decision.
- If anyone contests any classification or regulation, they must bring it before the attention of the **Extension staff** for consideration **BEFORE** the show begins.
- **PROTESTS** - All protests of eligibility of exhibitor or animal must be filed in writing at least 12 hours before the show begins or within 12 hours after the conclusion of the show. A deposit of \$50.00 must accompany the protest. The deposit will be returned to the person filing the protest and if the protest is proven, the exhibitor found in violation will forfeit all premium money due that animal. If the protest is found to be invalid or unproven, the protestor will forfeit the deposit.

## Showmanship

Showmanship classes will be offered in the following species:

Beef, Dairy, Goat, Sheep, Rabbits, Poultry, Swine

Participants may compete and win unlimited times in each age group.

- Judging of Showmanship classes will be based on:
- Showing and appearance of animal (45%)
- Knowledge of species (20%)
- Courtesy to judge and other exhibitors (20%)
- Dress of exhibitor (10%)
- Equipment in show ring (5%)

No boars, bulls, rams, or bucks are allowed in the showmanship classes.

## Livestock Ownership Deadlines

All Animals must be on the property of the member exhibiting them and have an 840 tag they will be subject to an identifying check. Penalty for falsification will result in banning the member from competition in any class at the show for the current year. 4-H officials reserve the right to spot check and verify ownership of animals by required ownership date.

## **Beef Rules And Exhibit Classes**

Weigh-in date: February 14<sup>th</sup> 2-4 p.m.

Show date: July 14<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m.

4-H Superintendent: Mary Sweppy

### **State Health Requirements:**

**Identification:** Individual identification of each animal shall be by a USDA official animal identification number ear tag, (“840” tag). The identification tag must be able to be read both visually and electronically.

#### **Illinois Cattle:**

- Illinois is a Bovine Brucellosis Class-Free State and an Accredited Tuberculosis-Free State. Brucellosis and Tuberculin testing are not required for Illinois cattle.
- Illinois calves under 6 months of age are not required to have a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection.

### **Ownership Dates:**

Market Animals: January 1, 2026

Heifer or Bull Calf: May 1, 2026

Breeding Heifers: May 1, 2026

Cow: January 1, 2026

### **The following rules apply to all beef classes:**

- All animals should be broke to lead. Extension Staff reserves the right to dismiss any animal disrupting the class from the show.
- All animals must comply with general health and eligibility rules.
- All animals must comply with Wabash County Livestock Show Policies and Health Regulations.
- A market animal cannot be shown in a breeding class.
- All animals must meet state fair breed eligibility requirements.

### **Beef Market Show:**

- Animals must have been calved on or after January 1, 2025
- Animals must have been the exhibitor’s property by January 1, current year, and weighed and identified at a designated time & place set by the local extension office.
- All steers should be dehorned. Any steer deemed hazardous will not be allowed to show.

- Market animal classes will be determined by weight. Market beef will be weighed in on Sunday and divided into weight classes. Market steers should meet ideal weights.
- The first-place animal of each weight class will show for Grand Champion Market Animal Overall.
- Market heifers CANNOT be shown as a breeding heifer in the breeding class.
- Must weigh at minimum 800lbs

### **Rules for Beef Breeding classes:**

- Registered heifers and bull calf must be identified with an ear tattoo that is recorded and matches the tattoo number on the registration papers. Animals will be shown according to their birth date that is recorded on the registration papers.
- Purebred or Grade/Commercial breeding heifers cannot be shown as a market heifer in a Market class.
- All purebred beef will be shown separately by breed if there are at least 2 entries in the class. If your breed does not have at least 2 at the fair, you will be put in an AOB class.
- Heifers should be owned and personally cared for by exhibitor since May 1, 2026 (with the exception of Junior Heifer and Bull Calf)
- Performance Cows should be owned and personally cared for by exhibitor since January 1, 2026.

### **Rate of Gain (Market) Requirements:**

- ENTRY: Each exhibitor will be allowed to enter one market animal in the Rate of Gain Contest. A market animal entered in this class may also be the entry for the regular market show.
- WEIGHING: All market animals will be weighed during a designated date set by the Extension Office for Beef. Extension Staff will do the weighing. Final weigh-ins will be made Sunday of the fair.
- IDENTIFICATION: All market animals in this program will be tattooed and/or ear tagged at the weigh in date designated by the Extension Office.

## **Classes**

### **Purebred:**

- Purebred Junior Heifer Calf- Calved after January 1 of current year
- Purebred Senior Heifer Calf-Calved between September 1 and December 31<sup>st</sup> of previous year. (2025)
- Purebred Summer Yearling Heifer-Calved between May 1 and August 30 of previous year (2025)
- Purebred Junior Yearling Heifer- Calved between January 1 and April 30<sup>th</sup> of previous year (2025)

- Purebred Senior yearling Heifer- Calved between September 1 and December 31<sup>st</sup> of 2 years previous (2024)
- Purebred Cow- 2 years and older
- Purebred Bull Calf- Under 1, over 6 months

### **Commercial:**

- Commercial Junior Heifer Calf- Calved after January 1 of current year
- Commercial Senior Heifer Calf- Calved between September 1 and December 31<sup>st</sup> of previous year. (2025)
- Commercial Summer Yearling Heifer- Calved between May 1 and August 30 of previous year (2025)
- Commercial Junior Yearling Heifer- Calved between January 1 and April 30<sup>th</sup> of previous year (2025)
- Commercial Senior yearling Heifer- Calved between September 1 and December 31<sup>st</sup> of 2 years previous (2024)
- Commercial Cow- 2 years and older
- Commercial Bull Calf- Under 1, over 6 months

### **Cow/Calf:**

- Calf must be born after January 1 of current year

### **Bottle Calf:**

- Calved after January 1 of current year, but not after May 1<sup>st</sup> of current year

**Market:** *(Born after January 1, 2025)* \*\*Will be divided by weights depending on # of animals shown.

- Market Steer
- Market Heifer

### **Rate-of-Gain:**

- First weight will be taken in February (Current 4-H year), second in July at the fair.

### **Showmanship:**

- Senior Showmanship – exhibitors aged 13 and over as of September 1, 2025
- Junior Showmanship – exhibitors aged 12 and under as of September 1, 2025

### **Awards**

- Grand Champion Overall Female
- Grand Champion Cow/Calf Pair
- Grand Champion Bottle Calf
- Grand Champion Overall Bull Calf
- Grand Champion Dairy Steer
- Grand Champion Market Steer

- Grand Champion Rate of Gain
- Grand Champion Junior Showmanship
- Grand Champion Senior Showmanship

### **Wabash County 4-H Cattle Herdsman Award**

***The Herdsman Award is designed to recognize the outstanding cattle exhibitor in each age group that shows responsibility, work ethic, commitment and knowledge of their cattle project, sportsmanship to others, as well as love for their animals.***

The award is for 4-H Beef and Dairy Exhibitors combined

Junior (ages 8-12)

Senior (ages 13-18)

(Ages are as of Sept. 1, 2025)

The award is sponsored by RT Farms Ag, LLC

# Goat Rules And Exhibit Classes

Show date: July 15<sup>th</sup> 2 p.m.

4-H Superintendent: Alice Marriott

## State Health Requirements:

### Identification

- Individual identification of each animal shall be by an ear tattoo or official metal or plastic tag. A microchip ID is acceptable if the owner provides the reader.
- Tattoos may be used when a registration certificate, listing the tattoo number, accompanies the animal. If the tattoos are not visible, another form of official identification must be presented.
  - Ears should be used for tattooing when possible. If there is no space in the ear, the flank or tail fold may be used.
- When using ear tags, the tag must indicate the premises ID and state of origin. The tag number must be assigned by a state or APHIS representative and recorded in the Scrapie Record Database.

**Scrapie:** Goats originating from a herd that has previously been classified as either an infected or source herd can be exhibited in Illinois upon the completion of an approved herd plan.

**CVI** must include the herd of birth and the herd of origin, if different.

### The following rules apply to all Goat classes:

- All animals must comply with general health and eligibility rules
- All animals must comply with the livestock show policies and health regulations.
- All animals must meet state fair breed eligibility requirements.
- Age requirements are listed with class descriptions.
- Animals with active fungus and/or sore mouth will be disqualified and removed from the fairgrounds.
- Wethers must be castrated at least 60 days before the show.
- Does can be shown as a market goat, however they cannot be shown in BOTH the breeding AND market classes

**Dairy goats:**

- Kids and Yearlings not in milk must be owned by exhibitor only by May 1, 2026.
- Milking Does must be owned by exhibitor only by January 1, 2026.

**Meat goats**

- All meat goats (market and all breeding animals) are to be owned by exhibitor only by May 1, 2026 and born on or after January 1, 2026

**Novelty goats:**

- Animals in these species that are to be exhibited at the ISF Jr. Show must be owned by the exhibitor as indicated: Does -- By June 1 of the year exhibiting; All others -- Out of stock owned by the exhibitor prior to June 1, 2026

**Classes:**

- Dairy Goat – Doe – 0 to 6 months of age
- Dairy Goat – Doe – 6 months to 1 year of age
- Dairy Goats – Doe – over 1 year of age
- Dairy Goats—Buck—0 to 6 months
- Meat Goats – Doe – 0 to 6 months of age
- Meat Goats – Doe – 6 months to 1 year of age
- Meat Goats – Doe – over 1 year of age
- Meat Goats – Buck – 0 to 6 months
- Novelty Goats – Doe – 0 to 6 months of age
- Novelty Goats -Doe - 6 months to 1 year of age
- Novelty Goat – Doe – Over 1 year of age
- Novelty Goats - Buck – 0 to 6 months of age
- Market Goat – Less than 45 pounds – any breed born on or after January 1, current year
- Market Goat – 45 pounds or more – any breed born on or after January 1, current year

**Showmanship:**

- Senior Showmanship – exhibitors aged 13 and over as of September 1, 2025
- Junior Showmanship – exhibitors aged 12 and under as of September 1, 2025

**Awards:**

- Grand Champion Overall Doe
- Grand Champion Overall Buck
- Grand Champion Market Goat
- Junior Showmanship
- Senior Showmanship

## Horse Rules And Exhibit Classes

Show date: July 10<sup>th</sup> 6 p.m.

Rain date: July 13<sup>th</sup> 5 p.m.

4-H Superintendent: Regan Wright

### State Health Requirements:

#### Equine Infectious Anemia

- All horses and other equidae, twelve (12) months of age and older entering the Fairgrounds, shall be accompanied by a negative test for equine infectious anemia (EIA) conducted within the last twelve (12) months.
- A copy of this test shall accompany the animal.
- AGID (Coggins) or ELISA tests are accepted.

**Illinois Equine:** A CVI is not required for Illinois equine.

**Starting Dates:** All animals must be in exhibitor's care by May 1, 2026

**Identification of Horse Animals:** Wabash County 4-H Certificate of Ownership and/or lease papers for all horse animals that the 4-H member plans to exhibit at the Wabash County 4-H shows must be placed on file at the Wabash County Extension office by May 3, 2026. In addition to the ownership/lease papers, two photos (one of each side) of the animals will be mandatory for all horse and ponies, grade and registered animals. **THESE ARE NOT KEPT FROM YEAR TO YEAR. New papers need to be completed and turned in each year, even if you have the same horse. \*This is a state fair rule\***

**Coggins Test:** Exhibitors must have had a Coggins test, with a negative result, conducted for each animal within one year prior to the show date. The paper verifying the negative result is to be turned into the Extension office no later than June 1, 2026. Papers will be checked by a veterinarian.

### 4-H Horse Show

**The following rules apply to all horse show classes:**

- Cannot share animals with siblings. Animals may be owned by immediate family member or may be leased (i.e. Mother, Father, Brother, Sister, Grandparent).
- **Exhibitors must have had Coggins test, with a negative result, conducted for each animal within one year prior to the show date.**

- ***Helmets must be worn:*** All 4-H members are required to wear a properly fitted ASTM or SEI standard F1163 (or above) certified equestrian helmet whenever mounted or driving at all 4-H horse and pony events, shows, activities, or practices. Original tags must be present in all approved helmets. The 4-H member is responsible to see that this specified headgear is properly fitted with the approved harness fastened in place whenever mounted. Helmet policies apply to all county, area, and state 4-H horse and pony events, shows, and activities.
- 4-H show will be conducted according to the standards as stated in the “Guidelines for 4-H Horse Shows in Illinois
- Proper Western attire and tack are required.

### **Horse show classes**

- Horse Halter – Over 2 years (in-hand)
- Hunter Under Saddle (English Discipline)
- Horse/Pony – Over 2 years – Walk-Trot
- Western Horsemanship (Ridden Pattern)
- Egg & Spoon
- Junior Trail
- Senior Trail
- Ranch Riding

### **Awards**

- Best of Show

## **Poultry Rules And Exhibit Classes.**

Show date: July 14<sup>th</sup> 2 p.m.

4-H Superintendent: Anna Schwarzlose

All Birds – June 1, 2026

### **State Health Requirements:**

- All entries (except waterfowl, i.e., domesticated fowl that normally swim, such as ducks and geese) in a show or exhibition shall have originated from a U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean or equivalent hatchery or flock OR have a negative pullorum-typhoid test within 90 days prior to exhibition. Exhibitor shall show proper information as to name and address of owner or exhibitor, name and address of the authorized testing agent, date of the testing and the number, breed, and species of those tested.
- Prior to being used to transport poultry to a show, all crates, boxes, containers and vehicles shall be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.
- Any poultry vaccinations must be performed at least 4 weeks prior to delivery to the show.
- Upon admission to a show, all entries shall be examined by the State Veterinarian or their designee or qualified state personnel who shall also receive and examine all certificates necessary for admission of birds to a show. Birds not in show condition will be removed from exhibition and must be removed from the Fairgrounds.
- Any fowl showing signs of illness during the Fair will be removed from the Fairgrounds.
- All out-of-state turkeys must originate from flocks that are officially classified as U.S. Mycoplasma Gallisepticum Clean in accordance with the provisions of the National Poultry Improvement Plan or be negative to a test for Mycoplasma gallisepticum within 30 days prior to entry.

### **The following rules apply to all Poultry classes:**

- All animals must meet state fair breed eligibility requirements.
- All animals must comply with the livestock show policies and health regulations.
- All animals must comply with general health and eligibility rules for county fairs as set forth by the Illinois Department of Agriculture.
- Bedding, feed and water containers must be furnished by the exhibitor. Each exhibitor is responsible for keeping pens and area around pens clean.
- All animals must have been regular 4-H project during current 4-H year.
- Pens will be furnished for all poultry exhibits. But NO animals are to be put in show cages at the fair until the veterinarian checks them and they are approved for showing.

- Market birds cannot be used in the Breeding show; Breeding birds cannot be used in the Market Show.

### **Poultry:**

- Animals in these species that are to be exhibited at the ISF Jr. Show must be owned by the exhibitor as indicated: Does -- By June 1 of the year exhibiting; All others -- Out of stock owned by the exhibitor prior to June 1, 2026

Due to the ongoing Avian Influenza (Bird Flu) situation, a live poultry show may not be possible due to biosecurity concerns and the need to protect the health and safety of poultry flocks. Members enrolled in the poultry project will still have an opportunity to participate in a live show or an alternative exhibition experience. The Extension Office will keep families informed as updates are released by the Illinois Department of Agriculture. For resources and additional information about Avian Influenza, please visit: <https://agr.illinois.gov/animals/animalhealth/highly-pathogenic-avian-influenza.html>

### **Classes:**

- **CHICKEN** – 1 male or female chicken, any age
- **CHICKENS - BREEDING PEN-** 1 male and 2 females, any age
- **CHICKENS- BROILER-FYER MARKET PEN-** Shall consist of 3, each weighing under 4 pounds.
- **CHICKENS- ROASTER MARKET PEN-** Shall consist of 3, each weighing over 4 pounds
- **CHICKEN EGGS-** One dozen. (Has to show in a production class to show eggs)
- **BANTAM** – 1 male or female bantam, any age
- **BATAM – BREEDING PEN** – 1 male 2 females any age
- **OTHER FOWL** – 1 male or female duck, goose, guinea, or turkey, any age
- **BREDDING PAIR OF OTHER FOWL** - 1 male & 1 female (same species) duck, goose, guinea, or turkey.

### **Showmanship:**

- Senior Showmanship – exhibitors aged 13 and over as of September 1, 2025
- Junior Showmanship – exhibitors aged 12 and under as of September 1, 2025

### **Awards:**

- Grand Champion Chicken
- Grand Champion Pen Overall
- Grand Champion Chicken Egg Production
- Grand Champion Bantam
- Grand Champion Other Fowl Overall
- Grand Champion Junior Showmanship
- Grand Champion Senior Showmanship

# Rabbit Rules And Exhibit Classes

Show date: July 13<sup>th</sup> 3:30 p.m.

4-H Superintendent: Phillip Potts

All rabbits – June 1, 2026

## State Health Requirements:

There are no requirements governing the movements of rabbits within or into Illinois.

## The following rules apply to all Rabbits classes:

- Rabbit projects do not require a health certificate.
- No dirty, unkempt and/or sick animals may be entered.
- Bedding, feed and containers must be furnished by the exhibitor. Each exhibitor is responsible for keeping pens and area around pens clean.
- Exhibitors are responsible for feeding, watering, and providing any other care for their animal(s). If an exhibitor needs assistance from the superintendents regarding any of this, he or she must tell the superintendents.
- **If you want to sell your rabbit in the auction it must be entered as a market animal.**
- If you do not know if you rabbit breed is an ARBA Four Class or ARBA Six Class, use this link to look at their I.D. Guide: <https://go.illinois.edu/ARBAbreedIDguide>

## Rabbits

- Animals in these species that are to be exhibited at the ISF Jr. Show must be owned by the exhibitor as indicated: Does -- By June 1 of the year exhibiting; All others -- Out of stock owned by the exhibitor prior to June 1, 2026

## Classes:

- **NOVELTY RABBITS - (Breeds that are ARBA Four Class)**
  - **JUNIOR BUCK** – Under six months.
  - **SENIOR BUCK** – Six months and older.
  - **JUNIOR DOE** – Under six months.
  - **SENIOR DOE** – Six months and older.
- **COMMERCIAL RABBITS – (Breeds that are ARBA Six Class)**
  - **JUNIOR BUCK** – Under six months.
  - **SENIOR BUCK** – Six months and older.
  - **JUNIOR DOE** – Under six months.
  - **SENIOR DOE** – Six months and older.
- **MARKET RABBIT** – One, 7-12 week old rabbit – not to exceed 5.5 pounds (**Must be a rabbit not previously shown in any class other than a market class.**)
- **MARKET PEN** – 7-12 weeks old- not to exceed 5.5 pounds (**Must be a rabbit not previously shown in any class other than a market class.**) A pen consists of 3 rabbits.

**Showmanship:**

- Senior Showmanship – exhibitors aged 13 and over as of September 1, 2025
- Junior Showmanship – exhibitors aged 12 and under as of September 1, 2025

**Awards:**

- Grand Champion Buck Overall
- Grand Champion Doe Overall
- Grand Champion Market Pen
- Grand Champion Market Rabbit
- Grand Champion Junior Showmanship
- Grand Champion Senior Showmanship

# Sheep Rules And Exhibit Classes

Show date: July 14<sup>th</sup> 10 a.m.

4-H Superintendent: Kim and Lou Anna Racster

## State Health Requirements:

### Identification

- Individual identification of each animal shall be by an ear tattoo or official metal or plastic tag. A microchip ID is acceptable if the owner provides the reader.
- Ear tattoos may be used when a registration certificate, listing the tattoo number, accompanies the animal. If the tattoos are not visible, another form of official identification must be presented.
- When using ear tags, the tag must indicate the premises ID and state of origin. The tag number must be assigned by a state or APHIS representative and recorded in the Scrapie Record Database.

**Market Lambs:** All market lambs must be slick shorn (show ring ready) before weigh-in so that show lamb fungus can be identified

**Scrapie:** Sheep originating from a flock that has previously been classified as either an infected or source flock can be exhibited in Illinois upon the completion of an approved flock plan.

**CVI** must include the flock of birth and the flock of origin, if different.

### Market Lambs

- All market lambs must be slick shorn (show ring ready) before weigh-in so that show lamb fungus can be identified.
- Must weigh a minimum of 80lbs
- Ownership Deadline is May 1, 2026

### Illinois Sheep

- Sheep originating from a flock that has previously been classified as either an infected or source flock can be exhibited in Illinois upon the completion of an approved flock plan.
- The CVI must include the flock of birth and the flock of origin, if different.

## The following rules apply to all Sheep classes:

- Exhibitors must comply with the ownership date and age requirements regarding their animals.
- All animals must comply with show policies and health regulations.

- All animals must comply with general health and eligibility rules for county fairs as set forth by the Illinois Department of Agriculture.
- All animals must meet state fair breed eligibility requirements.
- Animals with active fungus and/or sore mouth will be disqualified and removed from the fairgrounds.
- **Note:** Sheep exhibitors should make sure that a scrapie tag is in their animal's ear when they bring it to the fair. This will be checked by the fair veterinarian when the animal is inspected at the fair. See the sheep section in the yellow pages in the back of this manual.

### **Rules for Sheep Market Classes:**

- All lambs must be docked.
- The same animal showing in the market class cannot be shown in the breeding class.

### **Rules for Sheep Breeding Classes:**

- The same animal showing in the breeding class cannot be shown in the market class.
- Ewes and Rams should all be owned and personally cared for by exhibitor since May 1, 2026

### **Sheep Showmanship**

- Senior Showmanship – animals **MUST** be shown off halter.

### **Classes**

#### **Purebred Sheep:**

- Purebred Ewe Lamb – 0 to 6 months
- Purebred Ewe Lamb – 6 months to 1 year
- Purebred Ewe – Over 1 year
- Purebred Ram Lamb – 0 to 6 months

#### **Commercial Sheep:**

- Commercial Ewe Lamb – 0 to 6 months
- Commercial Ewe Lamb – 6 months to 1 year
- Commercial Ewe – Over 1 year
- Commercial Ram Lamb – Under 6 months

#### **Market Sheep:** *(Born on or after January 1, 2026)*

- Single Market Lamb (no rams)
  - For the 4-H show the market class will be divided into light, medium, and heavy weight classes.

**Showmanship:**

- Senior Showmanship – exhibitors aged 13 and over as of September 1, 2026
- Junior Showmanship – exhibitors aged 12 and under as of September 1, 2026

**Awards**

- Grand Champion Ewe overall
- Grand Champion Overall Ram
- Grand Champion Market Lamb
- Junior Showmanship
- Senior Showmanship

# Swine Rules And Exhibit Classes

Show date: July 14<sup>th</sup> 8 a.m.

4-H Superintendent: **Kyle and Kurt Broster**

## State Health Requirements:

**Identification:** Individual identification of each animal shall be by a USDA official animal identification number ear tag, (“840” tag). The identification tag must be able to be read both visually and electronically.

**Illinois Swine:** Brucellosis and Pseudorabies testing are not required for Illinois swine.

## The following rules apply to all Swine classes:

- Exhibitors must comply with the ownership date and age requirements regarding their animals.
- All animals must comply with the show policies and health regulations.
- All animals must comply with general health and eligibility rules for county fairs as set forth by the Illinois Department of Agriculture.
- All animals must meet state fair breed eligibility requirements.
- Age requirements are listed with class descriptions.
- You cannot show the same gilt in both the market and breeding classes, you must pick if your gilt is a market gilt or a breeding gilt.

## Classes

### Purebred Breeding:

- Gilt – Farrowed on or after January 1st of the current year

### Crossbred Breeding

- Gilt – Farrowed on or after January 1st of the current year

### Market Pig:

- Barrow or Gilt – Farrowed on or after January 1st of the current year
- Must weigh at minimum 170 lbs
- Ownership deadline is May 1 ,2026

### Showmanship:

- Senior Showmanship – exhibitors aged 15-18 as of September 1, 2025
- Intermediate Showmanship – exhibitors aged 12-14 as of September 1, 2025
- Junior Showmanship – exhibitors aged 8-11 as of September 1, 2025

### Awards

- Grand Champion Purebred Gilt
- Grand Champion Crossbred Gilt
- Grand Champion Market Pig

- Junior Showmanship
- Intermediate Showmanship
- Senior Showmanship

# Dairy Cattle Rules and Exhibit Classes

Show date: July 15<sup>th</sup> 12 p.m.

4-H Superintendent: **Jason Tennis**

## State Health Requirements

**ALL Dairy Cattle (In-State and Out-of-State):** A rRT-PCR test for Influenza A virus (IAV) on milk from lactating dairy cattle present at the Illinois or Du Quoin State Fair shall be conducted prior to livestock arriving on the fairgrounds. The animals must be sampled no more than seven (7) days prior to the date of arrival, and a negative test record must be presented to Department staff

## The following rules apply to all Dairy classes:

- Exhibitors must comply with the ownership date and age requirements regarding their animals.
- All animals should be broke to lead. Extension staff reserves the right to dismiss any animal disrupting the class from the show.
- All animals must comply with the above Wabash County livestock show policies and health regulations.
- All animals must comply with general health and eligibility rules for county fairs as set forth by the Illinois Department of Agriculture.
- All animals must meet state fair breed eligibility requirements.

## Rules for Dairy Breeding classes:

- Purebred animals – Extension staff have the right to request breed registration papers on all breeding stock at any time during fair week.
- Commercial classes – animals may be crossbred, unregistered purebred or mixed.
- Animals must be shown according to their birth date.
- The first-place animal of each breeding class will show for Grand Champion Breeding Female and Grand Champion Commercial Female.

## Ownership Deadline

### Dairy – cows and heifers:

- Calves and Heifers – Owned since May 1, 2026
- Cows – Owned since January 1, 2026

## **Classes:**

### **Purebred:**

- Purebred Cow – 2 years and Older
- Purebred Heifer – Over 1 year and under 2 years
- Purebred Heifer – Under 1 year, over 6 months
- Purebred Bull Calf – Under 1 year, over 6 months
- Purebred Heifer/Bull Calf – Under 6 months (must be from owner's project cow)

### **Commercial:**

- Commercial Cow – 2 years and Older
- Commercial Heifer – Over 1 year and under 2 years
- Commercial Heifer – Under 1 year, over 6 months
- Commercial Bull Calf – Under 1 year, over 6 months
- Commercial Heifer/Bull Calf – under 6 months (must be from owner's project cow)

### **Showmanship:**

- Senior Showmanship – exhibitors aged 13 and over as of September 1, 2025
- Junior Showmanship – exhibitors aged 13 and over as of September 1, 2025

### **Awards**

- Grand Champion Purebred Breeding
- Grand Champion Commercial Breeding
- Grand Champion Pair of Females
- Grand Champion Best Udder
- Junior Showmanship
- Senior Showmanship

# Llamas

Show date: Friday July 10<sup>th</sup>

4-H Superintendent: TBD

Department 800 – Llama/Alpaca

## State Health Requirements:

There are no requirements governing the movement of llamas within Illinois. A permit and health certificate is required for out-of-state llamas. Entry permit numbers are available online at <https://entrypermit.agr.illinois.gov/Login.aspx>

## Rules

- All Illinois 4-H General Exhibition Rules and Animal Department Rules apply.
- Animals must be owned or leased by June 1, 2026, with paperwork filed at the Extension office.
- Award structure: Fastest Obstacle Course Time and Best Costume
- Animals arrive day of the show and leave after the show.
- Animals must be stalled only in assigned areas.
- Exhibitors may bring a maximum of 1 llama or Alpaca to be stalled and shown.
- Exhibitors must clean up all grooming materials and waste.
- No companion animals (crias, buddies, or nursing mothers) may enter the show ring.
- Exhibitors under the age of 12 may not show intact males older than 36 months of age.
- Costume class: exhibitor and animal in costume; no riding; no additional live animals allowed.
- Judge's decisions are final.
- Performance classes are designed to present or stimulate conditions and obstacles that would be encountered in certain situations when llama/alpacas are requested to perform. These classes demonstrate the intelligence and versatility of the llama/alpaca.
  - *Obstacle*-To be judged on the willingness of llama/alpaca to follow handler, rapport, mutual confidence, and trust between the animal and handler. The animal should work on a loose lead, while being allowed the freedom to look at each obstacle for itself.

- The Costume class is for fun and is a great opportunity to draw the public to a greater understanding of the Llama/Alpaca Project. Different themes could be adopted, such as sports, storybook characters, Beyond Ready, etc. Judging criteria should include originality, training, time, energy involved, etc. The handler is usually in costume as well.

## **Llama/Alpaca Classes**

801 Obstacle Course

802 Costume Contest