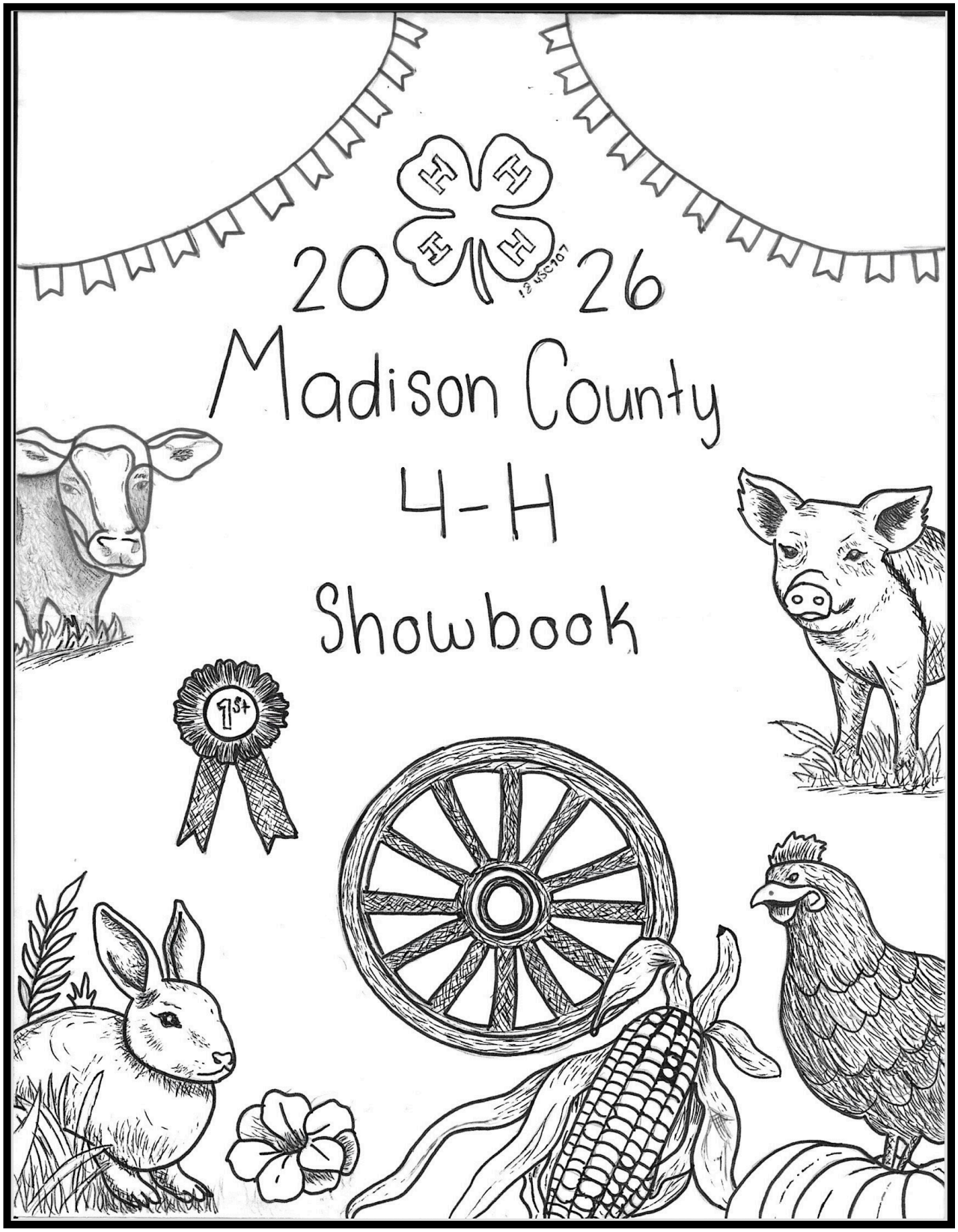

4-H Showbook Cover created by Alyssa Elliott from St. Jacob 4-H Club

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Alhambra Morning Glories, Brier Bank, Cloverleaf Ag, Fosterburg Ag, Good Producers, Grant Prairie, Marine Stars Jr. Ag, New Douglas Cloverbuds, Pin Oak Progressors, Prairie Youth, Quercus Grove, St. Jacob, Willoughby Wanderers, Iron Sight Shooting Sports, Open Sight Shooting Sports, Staunton Road Rangers Shooting Sports, And Grant Prairie Shooting Sports, Dog Obedience Training SPIN Club, NCA Horse SPIN Club, Rabbit Enthusiasts 4-H SPIN Club, and Madison County 4-H Teens as Teachers

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Table of Contents

Madison County 4-H Event & Show Schedule..... 1
Madison County 4-H Event & Show Schedule Continue 2
2026 4-H General Project Show Club Schedule 0
Project drop and judging are during your club's timeslot..... 0
Dear 4-H Members, Leaders, and Parents:..... 1
4-H PROGRAM CODE OF CONDUCT 2
Madison County 4-H Show Guidelines..... 5
COPYRIGHT AND CLOVER USAGE:..... 7
Absentee Exhibitor Form..... 9
2026 Illinois State Fair..... 10
COMMUNICATIONS: PUBLIC SPEAKING..... 14
4-H Mini Fair..... 16
DOG SHOW..... 16
CATS 21
SMALL PETS 23
4-H Food Show 25
FOODS & NUTRITION..... 25
Visual Arts Food Decorating 28
Procedures for General Project Judging 30
CLOVERBUDS 31
General Show Projects 32
AEROSPACE 32
AGRONOMY 33
ANIMAL SCIENCE 34
BABYSITTING 35
BEEF 36
CAREER DEVELOPMENT 36
CAT..... 36
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT 37
CLOTHING & TEXTILES 38
CLOTHING EMBELLISHMENT 39
COMPUTER SCIENCE 43
CONSUMER EDUCATION 45
CREATING WITH BUILDING BRICKS 46
CREATIVE WRITING..... 48
DAIRY CATTLE..... 49
DOG 49
DRONES: Unmanned Aerial Vehicles/Systems..... 49
ELECTRICITY 50
ENTOMOLOGY 51
ESPORTS..... 53
EXPLORATORY (not eligible for state fair) 53
FAMILY HERITAGE 54
FOODS & NUTRITION..... 54
FORESTRY 57
GEOLOGY 58
HEALTH..... 60
HORSE..... 62
HORTICULTURE: FLORICULTURE 62
HORTICULTURE: VEGETABLES, HERBS & FRUITS 66
INTERCULTURAL..... 68
INTERIOR DESIGN 70
LEADERSHIP 71
MAKER 73
NATURE: FISH AND WILDLIFE 74
NATURE: NATURAL RESOURCES AND OUTDOOR ADVENTURES..... 75
PHOTOGRAPHY 76
PLANTS & SOILS 78
POULTRY 79
RABBITS..... 79
READY4LIFE 79
ROBOTICS 80
SERVICE LEARNING..... 82
SHEEP 83
SHOOTING SPORTS..... 83
SMALL ENGINES 85
SMALL PETS..... 85
SWINE 85
THEATRE ARTS 86
TRACTOR 87

VETERINARY SCIENCE 88
VIDEO 89
VISUAL ARTS 90
WEATHER 99
WELDING 100
WOODWORKING 100
LIVESTOCK SHOW RULES & PROCEDURES.... 104
ANIMAL SHOW RULES 108
MADISON COUNTY YOUTH LIVESTOCK AUCTION 110
4-H HORSE SHOW 113
4-H Unit Horse Show - Permission to Participate 115
BUCKET/BOTTLE CALF CLASS BEEF OR DAIRY 116
RABBIT CLASSES 120
POULTRY AND OTHER FOWL .....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
POULTRY CLASSES 123
Madison County Master Showmanship Contest..... 127
GOAT.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
DAIRY/PYGMY/MEAT GOAT CLASSES 128
SWINE .....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
SWINE CLASSES 131
BEEF .....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
BEEF CLASSES 134
SHEEP .....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
SHEEP CLASSES 137

Madison County 4-H Event & Show Schedule

All 4-H events are open to the public.

Date	Time	4-H Event	Location
Monday, March 23	6 pm	4-H Public Speaking	Madison County Farm Bureau 900 Hillsboro Ave. Edwardsville, IL 62025
Saturday, May 9	9 am	Unit 4-H Horse Show	Monroe County Fairgrounds 4177 IL-156, Waterloo, IL. 62298
Sunday, June 1		Project & Livestock Registration Deadline	Fair Entry https://fairentry.com/Fair/SignIn/23039
Saturday, June 20	8 am Dog 10 am Cat 11 am Small Pets	Mini Fair	Madison County Farm Bureau 900 Hillsboro Ave. Edwardsville, IL 62025
Tuesday, June 23	6 pm	Food Show	Madison County Farm Bureau 900 Hillsboro Ave. Edwardsville, IL 62025
TBD	TBD	4-H Poultry Testing	Madison County Fairgrounds 2025 Park Hill Drive Highland, IL. 62249
Wednesday, July 15	6 pm	4-H Set Up Night	Madison County Farm Bureau 900 Hillsboro Ave. Edwardsville, IL 62025
Monday, July 20	5:30 pm	4-H General Project Show	Madison County Fairgrounds Expo Hall 2025 Park Hill Drive Highland, IL. 62249
Tuesday, July 21	10 am	4-H Bottle Bucket Calf Show	Madison County Fairgrounds 2025 Park Hill Drive Highland, IL. 62249
Tuesday, July 21	Following Bottle Bucket Calf Show	4-H Dairy Show	Madison County Fairgrounds 2025 Park Hill Drive Highland, IL. 62249

Madison County 4-H Event & Show Schedule Continue

Date	Time	4-H Event	Location
Wednesday, July 22	6 pm	4-H Rabbit Show	Madison County Fairgrounds 2025 Park Hill Drive Highland, IL. 62249
Thursday, July 23	9 am	4-H Poultry Show	Madison County Fairgrounds 2025 Park Hill Drive Highland, IL. 62249
Thursday, July 23	12 pm	4-H Swine Weigh-in	Madison County Fairgrounds 2025 Park Hill Drive Highland, IL. 62249
Thursday, July 23	2 pm	4-H Beef Weigh-in	Madison County Fairgrounds 2025 Park Hill Drive Highland, IL. 62249
Thursday, July 23	3:30 pm (could change due to weather)	4-H Master Showmanship	Madison County Fairgrounds 2025 Park Hill Drive Highland, IL. 62249
Thursday, July 23	5:30 pm	4-H Goat Show	Madison County Fairgrounds 2025 Park Hill Drive Highland, IL. 62249
Friday, July 24	8 am	4-H Swine Show	Madison County Fairgrounds 2025 Park Hill Drive Highland, IL. 62249
Friday, July 24	12 pm	4-H Beef Show	Madison County Fairgrounds 2025 Park Hill Drive Highland, IL. 62249
Friday, July 24	7 pm	Youth Livestock Auction	Madison County Fairgrounds 2025 Park Hill Drive Highland, IL. 62249
Saturday, July 25	9:30 am	4-H Sheep Show	Madison County Fairgrounds 2025 Park Hill Drive Highland, IL. 62249
Sunday, July 26	11 am – 1 pm	4-H General Project Pick Up and State Fair Information	Madison County Fairgrounds 2025 Park Hill Drive Highland, IL. 62249
Saturday, August 15	TBD	Illinois State Fair for Madison County 4-H	Illinois State Fairgrounds

2026 4-H General Project Show Club Schedule

Project drop and judging are during your club's timeslot.

Big projects that need to come early, please notify 4-H Staff ahead of time by emailing uie-mms@illinois.edu. If you need accommodations, please email us at uie-mms@illinois.edu

Cloverbud times are set for the same time as their regular club (unless otherwise noted).

Drop-Off & Judging Time	Clubs
5:30 pm	4-H Members who are Superintendents
6:00 pm	Willoughby Wanderers, Good Producers, Fosterburg Ag
6:25 pm	Pin Oak Progressors, Marine Stars Jr. Ag, Quercus Grove
6:45 pm	St. Jacob, Brier Bank, Grant Prairie, New Douglas Cloverbuds,
7:15 pm	Alhambra Morning Glories, Prairie Youth, Cloverleaf Ag.

Please do NOT come 10 or 15 minutes early.

When you arrive, your club will have a table labeled where you will check in with your leader this year. Your leader will give you your exhibit tag. Please tape the tag to your projects before entering the judging area.

Parents are **prohibited** from entering the judging area. 4-H Teens as Teachers and 4-H Staff will help assist 4-H members to the judging area with their projects.

Madison County

Dear 4-H Members, Leaders, and Parents:

The 2026 4-H Shows offer new challenges within the project areas. We appreciate your diligence in preparing your projects for the show. It's a time to celebrate your accomplishments!

The 4-H Show Book contains all class exhibit information and requirements. **Because some changes have been made this year, please review your specific project area(s) carefully.** It is essential that you follow the criteria for judging to be evaluated appropriately. Please plan to exhibit **all your projects** at the 4-H Shows.

Madison County 4-H members' projects are judged on a one-to-one communication between the member and judge as well as the presentation of the project itself. Below is a sample of the types of questions you may expect to be asked:

- What is your name, age, and number of years in this project?
- Why did you enroll in this project?
- What did you like most or least?
- What was the easiest and hardest part of your project?
- What gave you the most problems? If something failed, be honest.
- Who helped you with your project?
- How did you make this? or How did you care for this?
- What kinds of equipment did you use?
- How would you change what you've done?
- Do you plan to take this project again? If yes, what might you do to improve for next year?

Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in the 4-H members' projects. During shows, however, only superintendents and those working at the show are allowed in judging areas. All others are asked to remain outside of the judging area and help us maintain appropriate behavior while the judging is going on.

As you prepare projects for the Madison County 4-H shows, keep foremost in your thoughts, "To Make the Best Better". If you need reasonable accommodation to participate in any 4-H program, please call the Extension office at 618-344-4230.

Sincerely,

Meghan Cope
4-H Educator

4-H PROGRAM CODE OF CONDUCT

As a participant in the University of Illinois Extension 4-H Youth Development Program, you have the responsibility of representing yourself in a positive manner to the public. You are expected to conduct yourself in a manner that will bring honor to you and your family, as well as to 4-H. This Code of Conduct has been approved for use by the University of Illinois Extension Administration.

ALL participants are responsible for their conduct to Extension personnel and/or volunteers supervising the event. This responsibility is necessary for the health, safety, and welfare of the participants, and will be rigidly adhered to and uniformly enforced. The participant should acknowledge his/her wrongdoing by providing an apology to the affected party(ies) and work to provide restitution, that is, restore to the previous state or position, to the rightful owner, something that has been taken away, lost, or surrendered. When restitution is not appropriate, community service is an option. When criminal acts are committed, the appropriate law enforcement officials will be involved.

The following conduct is not allowed and is subject to disciplinary action:

Category 1

A. Possession, use, or distribution of alcohol, and other drugs, including tobacco products. *(Ex. Prescription drugs must be listed on the participant's Emergency Medical Form.)*

B. Willful theft and destruction of public or private property. *(Ex. Participants will be responsible for paying for any damage to premises or personal property).*

C. Involvement in sexual misconduct or harassment. *(Ex. Participants may not be in housing for members of the opposite sex. They are also expected to exhibit dignified and restrained actions in expressing affection toward others.)*

D. Possession or use of dangerous weapons or materials, including fireworks.

E. Fighting or other behaviors that endanger the safety of yourself or others.

In addition, 4-H representatives reserve the right to inspect items brought by participants, such as backpacks, purses, luggage, etc. when there is reason to believe that Category 1 violations have been committed. Such inspections will be conducted in a reasonable manner by two or more representatives and limited in scope to such areas or items necessary based upon the information leading to the inspection. Participants and their parent/guardian consent that the participant's personal items may be inspected by 4-H officials, as a condition of participating in the 4-H program and agree to cooperate with such inspections.

Category 2

A. Willfully breaking curfew. *(Ex. Participants are to adhere to the published schedule for events and activities.)*

B. Unauthorized use of vehicles. *(Ex. Participants who drive cannot use their vehicles*

once the event has started without written permission from 4-H Staff in charge of the event.)

C. Participation in gambling.
D. Leaving the site of the activity or event without informing or receiving permission from the adult in charge. *(Ex. participants are to attend and participate in all planned activities.)*
E. Intentionally interfering with or disrupting the activity or event.
F. Use of profanity and/or abusive language.
G. Disregard for public or personal property.
H. Public displays of affection and other inappropriate actions.
I. Failure to comply with the direction of Extension personnel, including designated adults acting within their duties and guidelines.

Consequences

University of Illinois Extension reserves the right to restrict participation in future activities for those individuals who have been removed from an activity for behavior, as outlined in Category 1 or 2. In all cases, the participant will be responsible for retribution of any damages incurred by his/her actions.

Category 1

When notified of any of the actions under Category 1, the adult in charge will ascertain the relevant facts, and, with concurrence from University of Illinois Extension staff, will notify the affected participant of the action and any supporting evidence. The participant will be allowed an opportunity to answer the allegations and, if necessary, law enforcement officials will be notified. While facts are being verified, the participant will be removed from the 4-H activity/event and be under direct supervision of more than one adult chaperone, when possible. The parent/guardian will also be notified of the actions of the participant. If the allegations are found to be true, the participant will be removed at the parent/guardian's expense.

Documentation must be completed on an "Incident Report Form".

Category 2

When notified of any of the actions listed under Category 2, the adult in charge will ascertain the relevant facts, and with concurrence from University of Illinois Extension staff, will notify the affected participant of the action and any supporting evidence. The participant will be allowed an opportunity to answer the allegations and, if necessary, law enforcement officials will be notified. While facts are being verified, the participant will be removed from the 4-H activity/event and be under direct supervision <u>of more than one adult chaperone, when possible</u>.

The parent/guardian of participants who violate curfew or use vehicles without authorization, as outlined in Category 2, a., and b., will be notified of the actions of the

participant, and must immediately remove the participant from the activity, at the parent/guardian's expense. Participants who willfully disobey the code of conduct as described in Category 2, c. through i., will receive verbal warning for the **first commission** and the adult in charge will make a written notation of the warning (initialed by the adult and the participant). Upon receiving a **second warning**, the parent/guardian will be notified of the behavior and must make arrangements for removal of the participant from the activity, at the parent/guardian's expense.

Documentation must be completed on an "Incident Report Form".

Madison County 4-H Show Guidelines

DISCLAIMER

"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 the Premium Book."

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

Premium Guide: Projects are valued on a point system based on ratings of Blue, Red, and White. Some more difficult and time-consuming projects are given higher values. The dollar amount is then calculated using an X Factor, which depends on the total premium dollars allowed by the State of Illinois.

- 4-H Shows are open to all enrolled 4-H club members for the current 4-H year who:
    - **Are age 8 but not yet age 19 by September 1st of the previous year.**
    - **Have enrolled by January 15, 2026.**
    - **Have attended at least four (4) club meetings during the project year prior to a show.**
    - **Presented a talk and/or demonstration at a club meeting during the project year.**
    - **Youth enrolled in a livestock market class must turn in a livestock record book by September 15. If not completed by September 15, the youth cannot participate in a livestock market class the following year.**
- All exhibitors must be currently enrolled in the project for which they are exhibiting.
- 4-H members are responsible for exhibiting ALL of their projects and are expected to be present while their project is evaluated. If a 4-H member must be absent for a 4-H show, they should consult the 4-H club leader or County Extension office. If a youth is unable to attend the County Show and speak in-person with a judge, they are required to fill out the Absentee Exhibitor Form on page 7 to aid in the explanation of their project.

The absentee form is also available on the Extension website:

https://extension.illinois.edu/sites/default/files/absent_from_judging_form_fillable.pdf

- **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 project 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.
- Youth must bring project(s) at designated judging times to ensure proper judge is present.
- Exhibits illustrating inappropriate subject matter and/or graphics are not acceptable. Extension Staff reserves 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 of the University of Illinois Extension program or the Illinois State Fair.
- 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.**
- NO EQUIPMENT WILL BE PROVIDED FOR ANY EXHIBITS. This includes Computers, DVD/CD players, etc. Exhibitors MUST furnish any equipment they feel is necessary to properly critique their exhibit. Video/Filmmaking exhibitors must follow the guidelines provided to show their project (i.e. YouTube, DVD, USB, laptop, etc.)
- All exhibits must remain in place until the time specified. All exhibits are open for public viewing.
- 4-H members enrolled in livestock projects are eligible to exhibit TWO entries per class.
- 4-H members are not allowed to wear business promotional clothing when showing projects. Members are encouraged to dress in neat and clean attire.
- All exhibits must be products of the current 4-H year, excluding livestock.
- The Danish system of awards will be used for all 4-H exhibits awarding **Blue, Red and White** ribbons, according to merit.
- Premiums will be paid using the X factor. X will be determined by dividing the funds

received by the number of 4-H exhibits.

  - General Projects, Public Speaking Rabbits, Poultry, Dog, Cat, and Small Pet: Blue (4), Red (3), White (2)
  - Horse, Beef, Dairy, Goat, Sheep, Swine: Blue (5), Red (4), White (3)

- 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.
- **Inspire ribbon** is an award given to exhibitors who present unique, innovative, or inspirational exhibits. The award is not based on points, but rather on the judge's discretion. This award cannot be given to State Fair Alternates or Delegates.
- Members must also be eight years old as of September 1 of the previous year to be eligible to advance to the State Fair in a general project.
- 4-H members MUST follow the project requirements as stated in this 4-H Showbook for general projects to be eligible for the State Fair.
- 4-H members are required to be present during a County 4-H Project Show to be eligible for State Fair consideration. If you need reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, please contact the Extension office at 618-344-4230. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time to meet your access needs.

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 .
- **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).
- 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.

Absentee Exhibitor Form

Name:_____ **4-H age (by Sept. 1)**:_____ **Club**:_____

Project:_____

*Please answer at least 4 of the questions below. Use additional sheets if necessary.

Why did you decide to enroll in this project?

_____

_____

_____

How did you come up with the idea for your project?

_____

_____

What did you want to achieve?

_____

_____

How did you do it (processes, steps, plans)?

_____

_____

_____

Did you have any problems?

_____

_____

What changes would you make if you did it again?

_____

_____

What did you learn by making this exhibit? How can you use those skills in the future?

_____

_____

Did you experiment with different techniques?

_____

_____

2026 Illinois State Fair
4-H General Project Exhibit Guidelines

Participating in a 4-H Show 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.

4-H GENERAL RULES

EXHIBITORS:

1. Exhibitors must have been pre-selected by their county 4-H Extension program as a state fair exhibitor.
2. 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.
3. Exhibitors must be enrolled in the project or have participated in the activity in which they are exhibiting during the current year.
4. Due to the nature of the conference judging process, exhibitors must be present with the exhibit on their assigned county exhibition day. Scheduling adjustments for religious reasons may be requested by contacting your local Extension Office and they will submit the request to the Illinois 4-H Office by July 31, 2026.
5. Exhibitors must be present for judging. If a 4-H member needs a reasonable accommodation to participate in the General Project Show, please contact your local Extension Office and they will submit the request to the Illinois 4-H Office by July 31, 2026.
6. A 4-H member may enter only one Individual exhibit and one Group exhibit in the 4-H General Project Show.
7. 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.

ENTRY PROCEDURE:

8. Local Extension offices will make all entries for their 4-H members via Fair Entry.
9. Each county may make the number of entries allowed in each project area as stated. Counties with more than 500 members are allowed 12 additional exhibits/exhibitors for the state fair. These additional exhibits may be entered in a class/classes of the county's choosing. Current enrollment figures should be used to determine entry numbers. Multi-county Extension units have the option of combining enrollments from

all counties within the unit to determine a total number of entries, using the quota systems. This procedure, if used, must be used for ALL State Fair class entries from that multi-county unit.

GENERAL EXHIBIT GUIDELINES:

10. All exhibits must be products of the current 4-H year (September 1, 2025 - August 15, 2026). The same product that is selected at the county level must be the one exhibited at the State Fair (except for Food & Nutrition – must be the same recipe; Crops, Floriculture, and Vegetable Gardening exhibits – must be the same species/type i.e. tomatoes, snap beans, onions, etc.).
11. 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 Illinois Extension 4-H program.
12. 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.**
13. **GROUP PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES HAVE EXPANDED.** They include Civic Engagement, Diversity and Cultural Awareness, Leadership, Passport to the World, Service Learning, and Video.
14. **Project Manuals:** Some projects require a project manual, book, workbook, or guide. These are indicated with a book icon. . Project books can be purchased from shop4-h.org or in some cases, have a free PDF resource available on the project's page on the Illinois 4-H website.

EXHIBIT JUDGING PROCEDURE & SCHEDULE:

15. Every exhibit must have an exhibit tag. Please leave the tag from the county exhibition on the project when you bring it to the state fair. If you do not have a tag, the project assistant in the project area will give you a blank one to fill out and attach. The entry tag should be filled out completely and securely attached to the exhibit.
16. All exhibitors from a county will exhibit the same day (see the schedule below). A 4-H member may also show in the junior livestock show, but they must be present at the required time for their general project judging. If possible, attempts will be made to accommodate livestock exhibitors within the judging time span, but no premium will be awarded if the exhibitor misses their judging time.
17. The General Project Exhibit will be held in the Orr Building of the state fairgrounds. Members must drop off their projects any time from 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. All projects should be in place by 9:00 a.m. Judging is scheduled throughout the day. The judging

schedule will be posted in each project area. Members should check the judging schedule and return to the judging area 15 minutes before their scheduled judging time. **No projects will be released prior to 1 p.m**. After 1 p.m. projects may be released once all projects in that class have been judged. Announcements will be made on the 4-H Now app. All projects must be removed no later than 4:30 p.m. daily. If you cannot pick up your project, you may make arrangements with another person from your county to pick up your project on your behalf.

18. Exhibitors and their families can receive alerts and updates about adjustments to judging schedules and notifications about project release times via the 4-H Now app.

RECOGNITION:

19. All exhibitors will receive a ribbon for participating. Additional awards may be given at the judges' discretion and will be listed on the 4-H State Fair Website. Judges take into account the display and information provided during the interview in determining awards. Exhibitors who do not follow the exhibit class guidelines and requirements are ineligible to receive advanced awards. The judge's decision that is posted on the official judge's class list is final unless it has been determined that an exhibitor has not followed the guidelines or rules for that exhibit class.
20. Premium checks may be awarded to exhibitors. The amount of the individual premium is determined by the X factor and the total number of awards given. Exhibits must remain on display until the posted release time or when the superintendent releases the project area, to be considered for a premium. Awards and premiums are as follows:
    a. Every exhibitor receives a participation ribbon & exhibitor button.
    b. Top score in each class receives CHAMPION MEDAL and receives 2X value premium money.
    c. Second highest score in each class receives RESERVE CHAMPION MEDAL and receives 1X value premium money.
    d. Exhibitors who present inspirational, innovative, or unique exhibits receive the INSPIRE AWARDS. (This is not 3rd place.) Champion and reserve champion projects are not eligible for Inspire Awards.

Premiums offered by the Illinois State Fair in the 4-H division total $15,000*. Note: 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 reflect in this document*.

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 "Copyright Guidelines Tipsheet: 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 from the County Director. Your local county staff will provide the required University Agreement. 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).
- 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.

STATE FAIR EXHIBIT SCHEDULE 2026

Friday, August 14:
Christian, Clark, Clay, Cook, Crawford, DeKalb, DuPage, Edgar, Effingham, Fayette, Franklin, Jackson, Jasper, Jersey, Johnson, Kane, Kendall, Livingston, Logan, Macoupin, Massac, McLean, Menard, Montgomery, Ogle, Perry, Pulaski-Alexander, Randolph, Sangamon, Union, Williamson, Woodford

Saturday, August 15:
Adams, Bond, Brown, Calhoun, Cass, Clinton, Edwards, Gallatin, Greene, Grundy, Hamilton, Hancock, Henderson, Jefferson, Kankakee, Knox, Lake, Lawrence, **Madison**, Marion, McDonough, McHenry, Monroe, Morgan, Pike, Pope-Hardin, Richland, Saline, Schuyler, Scott, St. Clair, Wabash, Warren, Washington, Wayne, White, Will

Sunday, August 16:
Boone, Bureau, Carroll, Champaign, Coles, Cumberland, DeWitt, Ford, Fulton, Henry, Iroquois, Jo Daviess, LaSalle, Lee, Macon, Marshall-Putnam, Mason, Mercer, Moultrie-Douglas, Peoria, Piatt, Rock Island, Shelby, Stark, Stephenson, Tazewell, Vermilion, Whiteside, Winnebago

4-H Public Speaking Show

March 23, 2026, at 6:00 pm

Location: Madison County Farm Bureau Auditorium 900 Hillsboro Ave, Edwardsville, IL 62025

Open to the public

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 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

4-H Mini Fair

June 20, 2026

Includes Dog, Cat, and Small Pets (each show starts at a different time)

Location: Madison County Farm Bureau Auditorium 900 Hillsboro Ave, Edwardsville, IL 62025

Open to the public for viewing

DOG SHOW

Superintendent: Mattie Lively (618-973-3663)
Check-In time 7:30 a.m. — Start time 8:00 a.m.

MADISON COUNTY 4-H DOG OBEDIENCE SHOW RULES:

1. All dogs must be trained by the 4-H member. Handlers must be at least 8 years old and not yet 19 as of September 1, 2025.
2. Proof of rabies vaccination must be shown at check in.
3. Exhibitors shall be limited to one entry/dog in each obedience class. The same dog can be entered once in each show discipline; Obedience, Showmanship, and/or Rally Obedience if the dog has qualified at the county level. A 4-Her may show multiple dogs.
4. **If participating in the 2026 dog show, youth must participate in the 4-H Dog Obedience Training SPIN Club.**
    a. Youth wishing to participate in the 4-H Dog Show must **attend 4 out of the 6 training sessions.**
    b. Dates on the training will be sent out in February.
5. **The Canine Good Citizen (CGC) is required for the youth and dog to be completed before the county show. If the CGC is not completed, the youth and dog are not eligible to participate in the 4-H county or state show.**
6. All participants must use appropriate show equipment. Acceptable leashes are a maximum of 6 ft. (can be shorter in advanced classes) of leather, nylon, or canvas. No prong or electronic collars will be allowed on the grounds. No identification tags on collars used in the show ring. Harnesses or other training aids such as a gentle leader are not acceptable show equipment.
7. Any dog showing uncontrollable behavior, lameness, or excessive aggressiveness may be disqualified by the Superintendent and/or the Judge at the county show for the safety of all involved.
8. All dogs must be leashed or crated while on the grounds. Dogs must always be under the exhibitor's supervision.

9. A dog that is not under the control of the exhibitor, or shows viciousness toward its handler, judge, or other dogs will be excused from further competition.
10. If a female comes in season, she is unable to participate in the show.
11. All ribbons and State Fair qualifiers will be determined at the County Show. To be eligible for State Fair, a dog must have a qualifying score of 170 or above in Obedience and 70 or above in Rally Obedience at the county show. In showmanship, the winner of junior and senior are eligible to participate in the State Showmanship.
12. All exhibitors must have completed the Quality Assurance and Ethics Certification and are expected to be familiar with and abide by both the principles of that certification and the Illinois Humane Care for Animals Act.
13. The judge's decision is final.

Awards will be presented for the following:

Beginner Novice I Grand & Reserve Champion
Beginner Novice II Grand & Reserve Champion
Pre-Novice Grand & Reserve Champion
Novice Grand & Reserve Champion
Graduate Novice Grand & Reserve Champion
High in Trial Obedience (highest score of all classes)
Rally Novice Grand & Reserve Champion Rally
Intermediate Grand & Reserve Champion Rally
Advanced Grand & Reserve Champion Rally
Excellent Grand & Reserve Champion Rally
High in Trial Rally (highest score of all classes)
Jr. & Sr. Grand & Reserve Showmanship

Non-Dog Participation in Dog Project

- 4-H'ers who want to exhibit in a Cat project but don't have cat or don't wish to participate in the cat show may exhibit a poster describing cat care, cat science, or any other topic related to cats.
- Projects will be judged with other projects at The General Project Judging on July 20 and will be entered in the Animal Science area.

NOVICE

Beginner Novice I Class
(For inexperienced handlers and inexperienced dogs)

1. Heel on Leash (forward, halt, right turn, left turn, about turn, slow, normal, and fast). The last order signifies that the handler and dog must break pace. These orders will be given by utilizing posted signs……. Maximum points 40
2. Figure Eight (on leash) .....Maximum points 40
3. Sit for Exam (on leash) .....Maximum points 40
4. Sit Stay (walk around ring) .....Maximum points 40
5. Recall (off leash front/no finish) ..... Maximum points 40

Beginner Novice II Class
(For experienced handlers and inexperienced dogs or experienced dogs and inexperienced handlers.)

1. Heel on Leash (forward, halt, right turn, left turn, about turn, slow, normal, and fast). The last order signifies that the handler and dog must break pace. These orders will be given by utilizing posted signs……. Maximum points 40
2. Figure Eight (on leash) .....Maximum points 40
3. Sit for Exam (on leash) .....Maximum points 40
4. Sit Stay (walk around ring) .....Maximum points 40
5. Recall (off leash front/no finish) ..... Maximum points 40

Preferred Novice Class

1. Heel on Leash and Figure 8…..Maximum points 40
2. Stand for Examination (off leash) ..... Maximum points 30
3. Heel Free (off leash) .....Maximum points 40
4. Recall (off leash with finish).....Maximum points 30
5. Sit or Down Stay (walk around the ring) ..... Maximum points 30
6. Sit Stay-Get Your Leash (off leash)..... Maximum points 30

Novice Class

1. Heel on Leash and Figure 8 (on leash).....Maximum points 40
2. Stand for Examination (off leash) ..... Maximum points 30
3. Heel Free (off leash) .....Maximum points 40
4. Recall (off leash) .....Maximum points 30
5. Sit Stay – Get your leash (off leash).....Maximum points 30
6. Group Exercise – Sit & Down Stay (on leash) .....Maximum points 30

Graduate Novice Class

1. Heel Free and Figure 8 (off leash).....Maximum points 40
2. Drop on Recall.....Maximum points 40
3. Dumbbell Recall.....Maximum points 30
4. Dumbbell Recall over High Jump ..... Maximum points 30
5. Recall over Broad Jump ..... Maximum points 30
6. Stay-Get your leash (sit, Down) ..... Maximum points 30

High in Trial Obedience award will be given to the dog and exhibitor team with the highest obedience score. If there is a tie, the judge will ask each exhibitor a question about the AKC Obedience rules. Each exhibitor will be asked the same question. If all tied exhibitors get the question right, another question will be asked until there is one exhibitor left.

RALLY OBEDIENCE

1. Dog/Handler team must receive a qualifying score of 70 out of 100 to compete at the state level.
2. The event will be timed. In the event of a tie score, the fastest time will break the tie.
3. A Dog/Handler team ***should*** receive 3 qualifying scores before advancing to the next level.
4. Rally rings will be at least 2000 - 3000 square feet with a minimum width of 30 feet.

Rally Novice

10-15 signs are used (not including start and finish). 3-7 of the signs must be “stationary” signs. Performed on leash. In the Novice class, the handler may speak to the dog, pat their leg, or clap their hands to encourage.

Rally Intermediate

12-17 signs are used (not including start and finish). 3-7 of the signs must be “stationary” signs. At least 3 “advanced” signs. Performed on leash.

Rally Advance

12-17 signs are used (not including start and finish). 3-7 of the signs must be “stationary” signs. At least 3 “advanced” signs. Dog must jump once. Performed off leash. Cannot pat leg or clap hands for encouragement.

Rally Excellent

15-20 signs are used (not including start, finish, or call marker). Dog must jump twice. 2 or more of the signs must be “advanced” signs. 3 or more of the signs must be “excellent” signs. Must include a “Sit Stay” sign. Performed **off leash.** Cannot pat leg or clap hands for

encouragement.

High in Trial Rally award will be given to the dog and exhibitor team with the highest obedience score. If there is a tie, the judge will ask each exhibitor a question about the AKC Rally rules. Each exhibitor will be asked the same question. If all tied exhibitors get the question right, another question will be asked until there is one exhibitor left.

Showmanship

1. A county may be represented by one junior showmanship dog/handler team and one senior showmanship dog/handler team who have earned/won their county competition. If a county-winning team(s) cannot attend, alternate team(s) may be entered. (Limited to 1 junior and 1 senior team.) Handlers must be members of the county they are representing. A dog may compete in only one showmanship class.
2. Exhibitors will be judged on handling skill, knowledge of breed standards of their dog, dog show terminology and elementary dog anatomy. The judge has the right to question exhibitors in one or all of these areas.
3. Dogs will be judged on cleanliness, general health, and grooming.
4. Purebred and non-purebred dogs are eligible for this class. The breed of dog has no bearing on judging or placement.
5. A dog eligible for Showmanship that must be withdrawn for good and sufficient reason (a female in season or veterinarian excuse) may be replaced by another dog owned by the handler or the family. This must be in writing (giving the reason) at the beginning of the show.
6. Judges' decisions are final.

Junior Showmanship

Participants aged 8-13 as of Sept. 1, 2025

Senior Showmanship

Participants aged 14-18 as of Sept. 1, 2025

CATS

Superintendent: Michelle & and Bailee Dorsey (618-447-4548)
Check-in time 9:30 a.m. — Start time 10 a.m.

1. All 4-H exhibitors must be present for judging.
2. A 4-H exhibitor can only show one cat **OR** one kitten in the cat show. The same animal must be used for Showmanship competition. The exhibitor must care for the cat (kitten) for at least three months before the show. Kittens should be four months old by May 15; to insure they can be vaccinated for rabies.
3. All cat exhibits must be in their cages and ready to be judged by 10 a.m.
4. **All cat exhibits will be released following the cat show and must always be attended.**
5. Exhibitors are **required to provide** clean water and a leash to control the cat. The exhibitor is required to clean their cage until exhibit is released, or a deduction in grade will occur. It is recommended (**not required)**, to provide clean litter for the cat.
6. Cages can be decorated and will be judged in two categories: Jr. (8-13) and Sr. (14+) classes.
7. All cats must be vaccinated for rabies. Proof of vaccination by a certified vet must be submitted with the show entry form. It is recommended to vaccinate the cat against feline distemper.
8. The divisions are as follows:
    a. Junior (ages 8-13 as of September 1, 2025)
    b. Senior (ages 14 and 18 as of September 1, 2025)
9. Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion ribbons will be awarded based on the overall condition of the cat.
10. Showmanship Grand Champion and Reserve Champion ribbons will be awarded based on answers to the judge's questions and the exhibitor's performance during the Showmanship competition. There is no limit as to how many times an exhibitor may win these awards.
11. Exhibitors found breaking any of the above rules, either prior to entering the show or during the show, the 4-H'er will be asked to do the following:
    i. **IMMEDIATELY EXIT THE SHOW.**
    ii. **FORFEIT ALL PREMIUMS FOR CAT DIVISION**
12. If a problem arises, 4-H staff and the superintendent will make any decision necessary.

Awards will be presented for the following:

Pee-Wee, Jr., & Sr. Champion & Reserve Showmanship

Jr. & Sr. Champion & Reserve Cat

Jr. & Sr. Champion & Reserve Decorated Cage

Non-Cat Participation in Cat Project

- 4-H'ers who want to exhibit in a Cat project but don't have cat or don't wish to participate in the cat show may exhibit a poster describing cat care, cat science, or any other topic related to cats.
- Projects will be judged with other projects at The General Project Judging on July 20 and will be entered in the Animal Science area.

Cat Classes

Class Number	Class Name	Participants Age
CA 01	Junior 4-Her – Cat	8-13 years old
CA 02	Senior 4-Her – Cat	14-18 years old
CA 03	Pee-Wee Showmanship	8-10 years old
CA 04	Junior Showmanship	11-14 years old
CA 05	Senior Showmanship	15-18 years old
CA 06	Best Decorated Cage Junior 4-Her	8-13 years old
CA 07	Best Decorated Cage Senior 4-Her	14-18 years old

SMALL PETS

Check-In time 10:30 a.m. — Start time 11 a.m.

RULES:

1. Check-in time is at 10:30 a.m.
2. Members must contain their own animals and are responsible for all clean-up. No pens will be provided.
3. Members will be judged on their knowledge and care of pet.
4. Small pets must be owned by the member since **April 1, 2026**.
5. Members are limited to 3 entries – ONLY ONE entry per species.
6. Extension Office reserves the right to disqualify entries which are inappropriate for this category. Contact the office in advance for further clarification of this class.
7. The new class this year is the decorated small pets cage. If you sign up for this class, you are to decorate the cage with a theme that is appropriate for 4-H.
8. Members who have game birds (grouse, quail, partridge, pheasant, wild turkey, brant, wild ducks, wild geese, swans, rails, gallinules, coots, crows, pigeons) must be enrolled in Poultry and have the proper Illinois Dept. of Conservation Permits. The Permit should be brought with the animals to the Poultry Show. Game birds will be shown at the Poultry Show during the County Fair. Any birds raised as pets or that don't fit the poultry show criteria should still be shown at the small pets' show. Rabbits are to be shown in the pet class at the 4-H Rabbit Show during the County Fair.

Awards will be presented for the following:

Champion & Reserve Small Pet

Champion & Reserve Decorated Cage

Small Pet Classes

Class Number	Class Name
SP1	Small Pet
SP2	Best Decorated Pet Cage

Non-Small Pet Participation in Small Pets Project

- 4-H'ers who want to exhibit in a small pet project but don't have a small pet or don't wish to participate in the small pet show may exhibit a poster describing a small pet care, science, or any other topic related to small pets.

- Projects will be judged with other projects at The General Project Judging on July 20 and will be entered in the Animal Science area.

Animals or pets that do not fit the criteria of livestock or other animal classes may be entered in the Small Pets class. Guinea pigs, lizards, turtles, hedgehogs, fainting goats, etc. are examples of the types of animals and pets intended for this class.

4-H Food Show

June 23, 2026

Check-in time 5:30 pm to 6 pm

Location: Madison County Farm Bureau 900 Hillsboro Ave, Edwardsville IL 62025

Open to the public for viewing

* Visual Arts Food Decorating will be a part of the Food Show on June 23, 2026

*Food Preservation, Food Science, Foods Innovation Class, Global Gourmet, Kitchen Boss, Science Fun with Dairy Foods, and Science Fun with Kitchen Chemistry will be a part of the **General Show on July 20, 2026.**

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)*, 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)*. 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)*, 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)*. 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)*, 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. 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)*, 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.

Visual Arts Food Decorating

(SF 50332, SF 50333, SF 50334, SF 50335) – for more information about cake decorating techniques: 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.

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 .

- **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).
- 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.

Procedures for General Project Judging

Monday, July 20, 2026

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

1. All exhibits must be completed during the current year by the 4-H'er beginning on September 1, 2025 and finished no later than the 2026 show date.
2. **Projects will be checked in during the designated time slot for the club. See page 4**
3. Project areas are labeled with signs.
4. If your name is not on the judges list, please see an Extension Staff member.
5. All projects must be complete and must be identified with an official entry tag.
6. Conference judging will begin during the designated time slot for each club. See page 4
7. All 4-H'ers are to bring their exhibit for conference judging, where the judge will speak one on one with the 4-H member and ask them questions regarding what they learned in their project and how they completed it. All exhibits will be rated accordingly: Blue, meaning product met standards; Red, needs some improvement; or White, needs much improvement. Judges have the final say on what ribbon youth will receive.
8. Judges may award a State Fair Award to the superior exhibits in each class, but they are not required to do so. State Fair delegates who receive a superior rating may receive a premium.
9. Leaders and Parents may not attend conference judging with a 4-H youth but should help them to be objective about the judge's evaluations and suggestions for improvement. Judging is a learning experience for all. One of the best ways for members to learn other ways of doing things or how to improve is to visit with the judge about the project.
10. When all the 4-H members' projects are judged, please exit the building. Ribbons are to remain with the projects.
11. **CHECK-OUT** will be between **11:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.,** Sunday, July 26. Items may NOT be checked out before then. This procedure to check-out items is for security reasons. Exhibits **MUST** be picked up.
    a. Exhibits will not be taken back to the extension office. Please contact someone from your club to pick up your project.

12. If you are unable to attend conference judging at General Show, you should consult your 4-H club leader or County Extension office. You are required to fill out the Absentee Exhibitor Form on page 7 to aid in the explanation of your project. A fellow club member, leader, or parent can bring projects to General Show. The absentee form is available on the Extension website: https://extension.illinois.edu/sites/default/files/absent_from_judging_form_fillable.pdf
13. Members may show one exhibit under any one project and should be currently enrolled in that project. Horticulture is an exception to this rule. 4-H members enrolled in Horticulture may show up to 3 exhibits.
14. Exhibits selected to exhibit at the Illinois State Fair will receive information at Project Check- Out on Sunday, July 26.
15. The Exhibition Hall, lower level, will be open to parents and the public for project viewing Tuesday through Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
16. Premiums will be paid using the X factor. X will be determined by dividing the funds received by the number of 4-H exhibits.
    a. General Projects, Public Speaking Rabbits, Poultry, Dog, Cat, and Small Pet: Blue (4), Red (3), White (2)
    b. Horse, Beef, Dairy, Goat, Sheep, Swine: Blue (5), Red (4), White (3)
17. All exhibitors participating have the responsibility of being familiar with the rules that apply in each project area. The decisions of the Superintendents and Judges regarding ANY matters at the show are final.
18. If the project rules are not followed the project will receive a lower rating.

CLOVERBUDS

Age- 5-7 years old - Cloverbud Members can display their work during the 4-H General Project Show. Cloverbuds can display any projects they have completed with their Cloverbud group or any other projects they have enrolled in and completed. Projects will not be judged, but each child will receive a participation ribbon.

General Show Projects

Monday, July 20, 2026

Check-in time is on page 4 of the Showbook (goes by club)

Location: Highland Fairgrounds

Open to the public for viewing on July 21 – July 26

*Food Preservation will be a part of the General Show on July 20, 2026

*Clothing Projects will be a part of the General Show on July 20, 2026

*Food Preservation, Food Science, Foods Innovation Class, Global Gourmet, Kitchen Boss, Science Fun with Dairy Foods, and Science Fun with Kitchen Chemistry will be a part of the General Show on July 20, 2026

* Visual Arts Food Decorating will be a part of the Food Show on June 23, 2026

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, 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, 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 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** 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.

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. *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.

BEEF

4-H Beef Show is Friday July 24, 2026, at 12 p.m. at the Madison County Fairgrounds. Please follow the 4-H Beef Show Rules found in your showbook.

If not showing a live animal and doing a poster exhibit instead, this exhibit opportunity falls under the Animals Science 1 or 2 class and is exhibited at the 4-H General Show on July 20 at the Madison County Fairgrounds.

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.

CAT

4-H Cat Show is Saturday, June 20, 2026, at 10 am at the Madison County Farm Bureau. Please follow the 4-H Cat Show Rules found in your showbook.

If not showing a live animal and doing a poster exhibit instead, this exhibit opportunity falls under the Animals Science 1 or 2 class and is exhibited at the 4-H General Show on July 20 at the Madison County Fairgrounds.

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 total 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) 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) 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 buttonholes
- 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 buttonholes
- Simple Dress – no zipper or buttonholes
- 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 the 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. The 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 the 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 the 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 the 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. The 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 the 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 the exhibitor should be able to identify the skills used. Possible examples are a wool garment, dress or jacket with set in sleeves and zipper or buttons and buttonholes, 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 the 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:

- The 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 the 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 (Levels 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 the 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 the 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. The exhibitor should be prepared to demonstrate modeling skills and bring at least one garment to display and wear.

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 the 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 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.
- 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 the State Fair. Members need to include their name and county in the title of the file. Upload files to: 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.

DAIRY CATTLE

4-H Dairy Show is Tuesday, July 21, 2026, at 10 am at the Madison County Fairgrounds. Please follow the 4-H Dairy Show Rules found in your Showbook.

If not showing a live animal and doing a poster exhibit instead, this exhibit opportunity falls under the Animals Science 1 or 2 class and is exhibited at the 4-H General Show on July 20 at the Madison County Fairgrounds.

DOG

4-H Dog Show is Saturday, June 20, 2026, at 8 am at the Madison County Farm Bureau. Please follow the 4-H Dog Show Rules found in your Showbook.

If not showing a live animal and doing a poster exhibit instead, this exhibit opportunity falls under the Animals Science 1 or 2 class and is exhibited at the 4-H General Show on July 20 at the Madison County Fairgrounds.

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. The 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 10% 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 honeybees. Present a topic from your manual to teach fairgoers about working with honeybees. 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 honeybees or beekeeping (#6).

1. Extracted honey: Three (3) pint jars (glass, screw-top), holding 1 lb. of honey each.

2. Chunk honey (comb in a jar): Three (3) pint jars (wide-mouth, glass).
3. Cut-comb honey: Three (3) 1 lb. boxes (boxes are usually 4 ½" x 4 ½" in size).
4. 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).
5. Section honey: Three (3) sections of comb honey (in basswood boxes or Ross rounds) **OR**
6. Prepare an educational display about honeybees 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 count. 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 for 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

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 or

https://extension.illinois.edu/foodpreservation/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. 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. 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. 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.

GOATS

4-H Goat Show is Thursday, July 23, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. at the Madison County Fairgrounds. Please follow the 4-H Goat Show Rules found in your Showbook.

If not showing a live animal and doing a poster exhibit instead, this exhibit opportunity falls under the Animals Science 1 or 2 class and is exhibited at the 4-H General Show on July 20 at the Madison County Fairgrounds.

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.

HORSE

4-H Horse Show is Saturday May 9, 2026, at 9 am. at the Monroe County Fairgrounds. Please follow the 4-H Horse Show Rules found in your Showbook.

If not showing a live animal and doing a poster exhibit instead, this exhibit opportunity falls under the Animals Science 1 or 2 class and is exhibited at the 4-H General Show on July 20 at the Madison County Fairgrounds.

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 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 handtied 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 hard-scape 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
Celosia- 3 plumes
Cockscomb- 1 bloom
Coneflower- 3 stems
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 stem or 1 bloom

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). 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, seeds, or purchased plugs. The terrarium must be cared for by the exhibitor for at least 5 months. The 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.
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)

- The exhibit must include 2 single vegetable plates. (The 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.). The number of vegetables on plates must conform to the plate list below.
- Only one variety on each plate.
- An exhibitor cannot show two plates of the same type of 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)*

Brussel Sprouts (12 sprouts)	Broccoli (1 head)	Asparagus (5 spears)	Beets (5)
Lettuce (1 head or plant)	Cabbage (1 head)	Beans, Lima (12 pods)	Carrots (5)
Muskmelon incl. cantaloupe (1)	Peas (12 pods)	Cauliflower (1 head)	Eggplant (1)
Onions, green or set (12)	Popcorn (5)	Onions, large dry (5)	Garlic (5)
Rhubarb, trimmed stalks (3)	Pumpkin (1)	Potatoes (any variety) (5)	Kohlrabi (5)
Tomatoes, small fruited (12)	Rutabaga (5)	Tomatoes, slicing (5)	Okra (12)
Cucumber, pickling or slicing (5)	Watermelon (1)	Sweet corn, in husks (5)	Parsnips (5)
Squash, summer (any variety) (3)	Peppers, small fruited (chili/cherry) (12)		Salsify (5)
Horseradish Root (1 marketable root specimen harvested this year)			Turnip (5)
Beans, Snap, Green Pod or Golden Wax (12 pods)		Peppers, Large fruited (bell/banana) (5)	
Greens (collard, endive, escarole, kale, mustard, spinach, Swiss chard) (1 plant)			
Squash, winter (Acorn, butternut, buttercup, spaghetti, Hubbard, Turks' Turban) (1)			

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)

- The exhibit must include 2 single fruit plates. (The exhibitor will furnish the disposable plates.)
- Exhibitors must provide the name and variety of all fruits used. The number of fruits on plates must conform to the plate list below.
- Only one variety on each plate.
- An exhibitor cannot show two plates of the same type of 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.*

Apples (5)
Grapes (2 bunches)
Pears (5)
Strawberries (Everbearers) (1 pint)
Wild Plums (1 pint)
Other Fruits or Nuts (Do not duplicate entries from the above fruits) (5)
Other Small Fruit or Berries (Do not duplicate entries from the above fruits) (1 pint)

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. 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. 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

MAKER

Each county may submit 3 entries from 50400.

Maker (SF 50400) *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. 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.

POULTRY

4-H Poultry Show is Thursday July 23, 2026, at 9 am at the Madison County Fairgrounds. Please follow the 4-H Poultry Show Rules found in your Showbook.

If not showing a live animal and doing a poster exhibit instead, this exhibit opportunity falls under the Animals Science 1 or 2 class and is exhibited at the 4-H General Show on July 20 at the Madison County Fairgrounds.

RABBITS

4-H Rabbit Show is Wednesday July 22, 2026, at 6 pm at the Madison County Fairgrounds. Please follow the 4-H Rabbit Show Rules found in your Showbook.

If not showing a live animal and doing a poster exhibit instead, this exhibit opportunity falls under the Animals Science 1 or 2 class and is exhibited at the 4-H General Show on July 20 at the Madison County Fairgrounds.

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 – 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 – 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). 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 – 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 programed 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 the 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 the exhibitor has been enrolled in the 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, 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.

SHEEP

4-H Sheep Show is Saturday July 25, 2026, at 9:30 am at the Madison County Fairgrounds. Please follow the 4-H Sheep Show Rules found in your Showbook.

If not showing a live animal and doing a poster exhibit instead, this exhibit opportunity falls under the Animals Science 1 or 2 class and is exhibited at the 4-H General Show on July 20 at the Madison County Fairgrounds.

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.

SMALL PETS

4-H Small Pets show is Saturday June 20, 2026, at 11 am at the Madison County Farm Bureau. Please follow the 4-H Small Pets Show Rules found in your Showbook.

If not showing a live animal and doing a poster exhibit instead, this exhibit opportunity falls under the Animals Science 1 or 2 class and is exhibited at the 4-H General Show on July 20 at the Madison County Fairgrounds.

SWINE

4-H Swine Show is Friday July 24, 2026, at 8 am at the Madison County Fairgrounds. Please follow the 4-H Swine Show Rules found in your Showbook.

If not showing a live animal and doing a poster exhibit instead, this exhibit opportunity falls under the Animals Science 1 or 2 class and is exhibited at the 4-H General Show on July 20 at the Madison County Fairgrounds.

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 includes 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 the 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 the 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.

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 50344~~A~~a
- Paper 50344~~B~~b
- 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.

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 .
- **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, or included as part of any other 4-H exhibit.
- **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).
- 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.

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 artwork 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.

Steppingstones 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, 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

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)

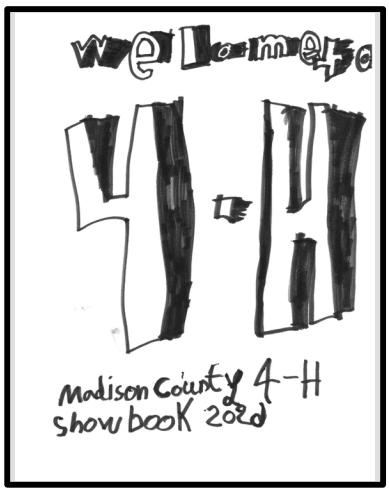
Create an item including skills outlined in Levels 1-2 with the addition of measuring angles, cutting dado and rabbet joints, dowel joints, and smoothing lumber with planes, and use of stain and finish coats where appropriate relating to the specific item displayed. Additional knowledge of tools, skills, 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.

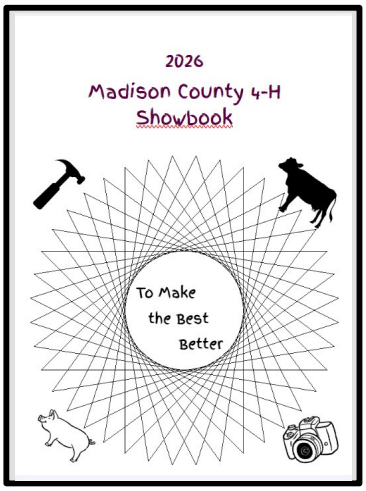
4-H Livestock Projects

By Harper Mueth from
the Quercus Grove 4-H Club.

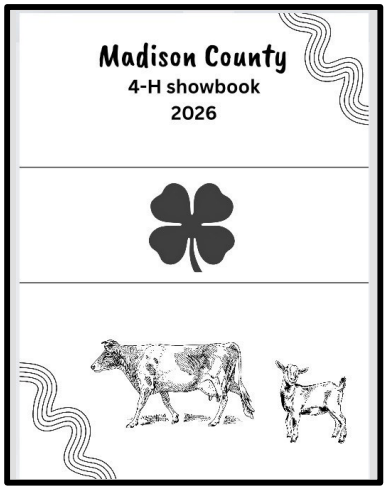


By Elizabeth Hentz from
the Pin Oak Progressors 4-H Club

By Kara Leach from
the Marine Stars Jr Ag 4-H Club



By Allison Reding from
the Marine Stars Jr Ag 4-H Club



By Alanna Bourgeois from
the Cloverleaf Ag 4-H Club

LIVESTOCK SHOW RULES & PROCEDURES

GENERAL PROCEDURES

1. **These shows are open to all 4-H members enrolled in Madison County 4-H clubs and have completed the following policies to participate in the 4-H shows.**
    a. 4-H Shows are open to all enrolled 4-H Club members for the current 4-H year who:
        i. Are age 8 but not yet age 19 by September 1st of the previous year.
        ii. Have enrolled by January 15 of the current year.
        iii. Have attended at least four (4) club meetings during the project year prior to the show.
        iv. Presented a talk and/or demonstration at a club meeting during the project year.
    b. Youth enrolled in a livestock market class must turn in a livestock record book by September 15. If not completed by September 15, the youth cannot participate in a livestock market class the following year.
    c. A member may exhibit only projects in which they are enrolled. **All exhibits must be the property of the 4-H'er exhibiting. All registered animals must be in the name of the 4-H'er. This is required and papers will be checked at the show.**
    d. All exhibitors participating in the shows have the responsibility of being familiar with the rules that apply in each class. The decisions of the Superintendents and Judges regarding ANY matters at the show are final.
2. **Exhibits will be graded as Blue (meets requirements), Red (needs improvement), or White (needs much improvement.)**
    a. Premium checks will be awarded when the funds have been received from the Illinois Department of Agriculture. Ribbons will be awarded at the fair.
    b. Any question that is not covered by the General Rules or the respective species Show Rules will be resolved by a majority vote of the Livestock committee members present. (The committee consists of the superintendents of the 4-H livestock shows.) This will be done as promptly as possible.
3. **PAPERWORK**
    a. All entry forms are found on Fair Entry. Livestock entries are due by **June 1.**
        i. Class changes can be made until **July 1.**
    b. Horse lease & ownership papers are due to the Extension Office by May 1. **By May 1, exhibitors must place on file at the Extension Office copies of ownership and/or lease papers for all horses that the member may plan**

to exhibit at the State Junior Horse Show. In addition to the ownership/lease papers; two photos, one of each side of the horse must also be placed on file to show proof of the specific exhibit animals. This will be mandatory for all horses and ponies, grade, and registered animals.

4. ANIMAL CARE

a. **4-H'ers enrolled in beef and dairy are strongly encouraged to tie in the 4-H barn.** *The barn was built for 4-H projects. Utilizing the building will show the public that Madison County has a strong program.*

b. All 4-H'ers must leave their stalls neat and clean before they will be dismissed. Remove all trash and belongings. This is important and will be checked. Bedding should be cleared to the front of the stalls and will be removed after the fair.

c. The Illinois Humane Care of Animals Act prohibits physical mistreatment of animals. The use of electrical shock, OR manual striking of livestock, OR withholding feed and water are considered violations of this Act. The presence of any type of equipment to induce electrical shock in the exhibition area will be considered as intent to inflict electrical shock on animals under the care of the person with the equipment. Persons found mistreating livestock shall be prohibited from exhibiting and will be dismissed from the fairgrounds.

d. Health and CVI papers will be checked. Please follow the state health requirements. Failure to provide health papers will result in an inability to show.

e. Animals must be kept under control for the safety of the 4-H'ers and the General Public. If the animal is repetitively disruptive, the animal will be removed from the fairgrounds.

f. All stalls will be marked with the 4-H'ers name when they arrive at the fair. Equipment, feed, etc. must be kept where room is available. Please contact the superintendents if you have any questions or concerns.

5. EXHIBITION RULES

a. **If rules are not followed either prior to entering the ring or while in the ring the 4-H'er will be asked to do the following:**

   i. **IMMEDIATELY EXIT THE SHOW RING**

   ii. **NOT SHOW ANOTHER ANIMAL OF THAT SPECIES AT CURRENT SHOW**

   iii. **FORFEIT ALL PREMIUMS FOR THE DIVISION IN WHICH THE RULE(S) WERE BROKEN**.

b. All animals must be shown by the owner if possible. If, for some valid reason such as injury, illness, death in family or a 4-H'er is scheduled to show two livestock projects at the same time, another **active status** 4-H member may be allowed to show one of the animals. The member should notify the Extension Office (618-344-4230) as far in advance of the show as

possible to explain the situation. The decision to allow another 4-H'er to show in your place will be at the discretion of the Extension Office and the Livestock Committee. A substitute is not eligible to win showmanship.

c. Wear appropriate attire during ALL judging events. Shirts with a sleeve are required. No business advertising on clothing is allowed. Remember that you are representing 4-H to the General Public. You will be asked to change inappropriate attire.

d. Parents will not be permitted in the show ring during judging unless it becomes necessary for safety reasons.

e. The show superintendent and judge in each project area reserve the right to divide the show classes.

f. A member may show **only one entry** in each class unless otherwise stated.

g. Please check age requirements for the classes carefully. Animals older than the age specified for the class may be removed from the class.

h. All 4-H members must follow the health guidelines of the Illinois Department of Agriculture Bureau of Animal Health and Welfare when exhibiting any livestock at county and state fairs in Illinois. Those guidelines are updated annually. Please refer to the IDOA Exhibition Livestock Health Requirements for County Fairs at: https://go.illinois.edu/LivestockHealthRequirements.

6. **To be eligible to show, animals must be the property of the 4-H'er by the following dates:**

Dairy – Cows:	January 1, 2026	Swine – Gilts:	June 1, 2026
Heifers & Calves:	June 1, 2026	Barrows:	June 1, 2026
Beef – Steers:	February 1, 2026	Sheep – Wethers:	May 15, 2026
Heifers:	June 1, 2026	Goats – Milking Does:	January 1, 2026
Ewes:	May 25, 2026	Poultry:	June 1, 2026
Kids and Yearlings:	May 15, 2026	Bucket/Bottle Calf:	3 months or less from the date of the fair

7. **Bulls, boars, stallions, rams, and goat bucks cannot be exhibited in the 4-H show.**

8. To exhibit livestock at the Illinois State Fair, entry forms are available at the Illinois State Fair website and must be submitted to state fair office in Springfield by the July 1, deadline. Exhibitors also must complete the Quality Assurance and Ethics online course by June 1. This is only required once in your 4-H career.

9. **AGE CHANGE AT STATE FAIR:** Illinois 4-H and the Illinois State Fair Junior Livestock Department have revised the exhibition age so that all 4-H members (youth who were 8 to 18 years of age as of Sept. 1, 2023) can exhibit at the state fair.

If you are showing a spring heifer calf and you have applied for papers, you must show proof of application form with a letter from the breed association saying they have received your applications.
THE POSTMARK DEADLINE FOR THIS IS JUNE 1! NO EXCEPTIONS!

Livestock registration papers on all purebred livestock will be checked before the show. Grade identification papers must be checked before the show of dairy animals. All registration papers will be required to be on the showgrounds the day of the show.

*******ALL ENTRY DEADLINES ARE FINAL*******

ANIMAL SHOW RULES

1. Premises Identification numbers will be required for all *Junior Department Barrow* entries to the **Illinois State Fair.** This is being required by the packing house(s) that process the barrows from the State Fair; Even though the State Fair show is no longer a terminal show, in 2014 a majority of exhibitors still shipped their animals from the State Fair to the packing house for processing and Premises ID was required. Premises Registration is voluntary to exhibit all other livestock (beef, dairy, horses, swine, sheep, goats, poultry, and rabbits) at the Illinois State Fair/county fair.
2. Steer weigh-in is for STEERS ONLY. Swine weigh-in is for BARROWS & CROSS BRED GILTS ONLY.
3. In the Beef, Dairy, Swine, and Sheep Divisions, the different livestock breeds will be shown in separate groups within each class, or as designated by the superintendent.
4. A 4-H'er may show in a particular class either registered livestock or commercial livestock (in the Beef, Dairy, Swine, Dairy Goats, and Sheep Divisions) BUT NOT BOTH.
5. In the Beef, Dairy, Swine, Dairy Goats, and Sheep Divisions, papers will be checked on registered animals. These animals must be registered in the 4-H'ers name. (Same as State Fair)
6. In Beef, Swine, and Sheep, no animal may be shown in both breeding and market classes.
7. No bulls, boars, buck sheep, buck goats, horse studs, or pony studs can be shown in the 4-H Show. The exceptions are specified above each livestock division.
8. It is the responsibility of all exhibitors to check with their superintendents when they arrive at the 4-H Show. Registration must be in the exhibitor's name or name listed on the registration paper; if not: the animal will be shown in a commercial class.
9. Dairy animals must be registered in the 4-H member's name.
10. All animals *must* be shown by the owner or leaser. If, for some valid reason such as injury, illness, death in family or a 4-H'er is scheduled to show two livestock projects at the same time, another **active** 4-H member may be allowed to show one of the animals. The member should notify the Extension Office, (618) 344-4230, as far in advance of the show as possible to explain the situation. The decision to allow another **active** 4-H'er to show in your place will be at the discretion of the Extension office and the Livestock Superintendent or Livestock Committee. It should not be assumed that a substitution will be allowed. Advanced notification is mandatory. A substitute is not eligible to win showmanship. Parents or other adults may not show for the member.
11. The exchanging of animals will be permitted in showmanship classes at the discretion of the judge.
12. Master Showmanship will be held on Thursday, July 24.

13. See General 4-H Show Rules and the 2026 Exhibition Livestock Health requirements for Illinois Department of Agriculture: https://go.illinois.edu/LivestockHealthRequirements.
14. There will be no tranquilizing of animals, and if the animal has been tranquilized, the 4-H member will not be allowed to participate in the show or market sale. If, in the judgment of the 4-H Staff and 4-H Superintendents, the animal in question is too unruly to show in the ring, the animal will be disqualified from the competition and receive a white rating.
15. Excessive coaching during the show is prohibited and determined at the superintendent's discretion. Violators will be removed or isolated from the show grounds.
16. Parents will not be permitted in the show ring during judging unless it becomes necessary for safety reasons.
17. Animals must be washed and groomed before entering the ring.
18. Wear appropriate attire during ALL judging events. Remember that you are representing 4-H to the public. Closed toe footwear is required for safety purposes. You will be asked to change your inappropriate attire.
19. The Illinois Humane Care of Animals Act prohibits physical mistreatment of animals. The use of electrical shock, OR manual striking of livestock, OR withholding feed and water are considered violations of the Act. The presence of any type of equipment to induce electrical shock in the exhibition area will be considered as intent to inflect electrical shock on animals under care of the person with the equipment. Persons found mistreating livestock shall be prohibited from exhibiting and will be dismissed from the show.

DISCLAIMER "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 Show Book."

MADISON COUNTY YOUTH LIVESTOCK AUCTION

1. Sign up for the Livestock Auction through the 4-H Fair Entry by June 1, 2026.
2. The Madison County Youth Livestock Auction will be held on Friday, July 24 at 7:00 p.m. at the Madison County Fairgrounds in the swine barn.
3. To sell in the Auction, the animal must be a 4-H project that was shown in the Madison County 4-H show. Market quality barrows must weigh more than 200 pounds. Steers must be finished, of market quality, and weigh more than 1,000 pounds. Sheep and goat wethers must be finished and of market quality.
4. All auction animals will be weighed on Thursday of fair week and must be of acceptable quality as decided by the Madison County Youth Livestock Auction Committee. The auction committee will oversee weighing.
5. EACH 4-H EXHIBITOR MAY SELL ONLY ONE ANIMAL.
6. IF THE EXHIBITOR HAS ALREADY SOLD AN ANIMAL IN ANOTHER COUNTY YOUTH LIVESTOCK AUCTION, THEY CANNOT SELL IN THE MADISON COUNTY YOUTH LIVESTOCK AUCTION.
7. The Madison County Youth Livestock Auction Committee has the right to reject any animal's bid for sale if the animal does not comply with the characteristics explained in Rule #2 above. The decision will be made on the day of the show.
8. The deadline for owning a steer project is January 1. The deadline for starting market barrows is May 1 and wether projects are May 15.
9. Intention to sell must be marked on the appropriate 4-H livestock entry form into Fair Entry no later than the June 1, 2026 deadline. An intent to sell list will be prepared by the auction committee from these forms mid-June, and auction packets will be mailed out by the end of June.
10. A final intention to sell list will be made by the 4-H show superintendent of the goat, sheep, swine, and beef shows.
11. The Grand Champion will sell in first position within the species. The Reserve Champion will have second sale position. The remaining animals', of the species, order of sale will be determined by lot. In the event a 4-H'er has more than one auction species with one or both receiving Grand Champion or Reserve Champion the 4-H'er has the right to choose which animal to sell at the 4-H Auction. The 4-H'er must notify the Co- Chairman on show day of their choice. If the Grand Champion does not sell, the Reserve Champion moves up in the selling order followed by the remaining determined by lot.
12. All steers will be moved to the barn in which the auction is being held by 6:30p.m. The 4-H'er selling the steer will be allowed two other people to help them prepare their steer for the auction. Armbands will be provided for the seller and their two other helpers. You must have an armband on to be allowed behind the gates where the steers are tied up for the auction.

13. All animals will be sold on a per pound basis.
14. A commission of 4% will be charged to all sellers. This is used to cover expenses of the auction. (Without this charge there would be no auction.) The auction must be self-supporting.
15. If the 4-H'er wants to retain show rights for other shows, this must be reported at the time of weigh-in. 4-H'er must determine the date the animal will be delivered to the buyer. This enables the buyer to know when he will have possession of the animal. (This will eliminate any confusion or misunderstanding on this as in the past.)
16. The seller is responsible for making arrangements with the buyer for delivery of the animal.

    *The animal must be delivered in good health to the location the buyer requests.
17. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CARE AND WELFARE OF THE ANIMAL MUST BE WORKED OUT TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE PURCHASE BEFORE CHECKS WILL BE ISSUED.
18. WHEN SHOW RIGHTS ARE RETAINED, THE 4-H'ER REMAINS THE OWNER UNTIL THE ANIMAL IS DELIVERED IN GOOD HEALTH TO THE BUYER. IF THE ANIMAL DIES THE CHECK WILL BE RETURNED TO BUYER.
19. The terms of the auction are cash or check. Free processing will go to the Grand Champions. Reserve Champion animals may receive free processing if donations are available.
20. Counties holding livestock auctions are required by law to check off livestock sold at the auction. The money checked off is sent to the appropriate livestock check off board. These funds are used for promotion, research, education, and consumer information by State and National Boards.
21. 4-H'ers are responsible for delivering plaques to their buyer before their check will be released. Rule #16 must be complied with in the case of Reserved Show Rights. Plaques will be available for pick-up at the work night when they are assembled or on other dates established by the Auction Committee. There will be set dates at the Madison County Fairgrounds for 4-Her's to pick up their check following delivery of the plaque to the buyer. These dates will be set by the Auction Committee.
22. All questions not covered by these rules will be handled by the Madison County Youth Livestock Auction Committee and they will make all final decisions.
23. The Madison County Youth Livestock Auction is an event organized, sponsored, and provided to benefit 4-H members through the generosity of adult volunteers who operate the auction independently of the 4-H program.

Questions regarding the auction should be directed to the auction committee.

MADISON COUNTY YOUTH LIVESTOCK AUCTION COMMITTEE MEMBER LIST

Blake Rinderer, Co-Chair	618-779-3525
Michelle Schwarz, Co-Chair, Treasurer	618-781-0485
Taylor Grapperhaus, Secretary	Please refer any questions to one of the above phone numbers or email questions to: madcoyouthlivestockauction@gmail.com
Kate Kampwerth	
David Ammann	
Mike Ammann	
Jessica Eaton	
Jenny Gilberth	
Nick and Leslie Gvillo	
Megan Henshen	
Kerry Ketchem	
John Schoen	
Dennis and April Kusterman	
Brent Rinderer	
Dylan Rutz	

4-H HORSE SHOW

May 9, 9:00 a.m.

*(*subject to change due to weather)*

Monroe County Fairgrounds

MUST REGISTER IN FAIR ENTRY by May 5*

Open to the public for viewing

CLASS NO.	PROJECT
A0601A	**English/Western Showmanship-Beginner** English or Western attire & equipment required.
A0601B	**English/Western Showmanship-Advanced** English or Western attire & equipment required.
A0601C	**English/Western Pleasure-Beginner** Participants are rated on walk, trot & backing. One rider at a time. No pattern work required. English or Western attire & equipment required.
A0601D	**English/Western Pleasure-Advanced** Participants are rated on walk, trot, lope/canter & backing. One rider at a time. No pattern work required. English or Western attire & equipment required.
A0601E	**Open Barrel Racing** Rider should keep a speed that is safe for horse and rider. Speed will not be a rating factor.
A0601F	**Open Pole Bending** Rider should keep a speed that is safe for horse and rider. Speed will not be a rating factor.
A0602G	**Trail-Beginner** Minimum 4 obstacles; 3 attempts permitted. English or Western attire & equipment required.
A0602H	**Trail-Advanced** Minimum 6 obstacles; 2 attempts permitted. English or Western attire & equipment required.

Notes:

1. A copy of a current Coggins Test is required on show day.
2. Please refer to: https://go.illinois.edu/LivestockHealthRequirements for equine health requirements.
3. An Agreement to Assume Risk and Release from Liability form (in ZSuite) AND a Permission to Participate form (next page) must be signed prior to participating in the 4-H Horse Show.
4. ***IMPORTANT**: 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 snugly in place whenever mounted. Helmet policies apply to all county, area, and state 4-H horse and pony events, shows, and activities.
5. Additional information regarding this show will be sent to all 4-H horse project participants prior to the show.

4-H Unit Horse Show - Permission to Participate

The Illinois Equine Liability Act requires sponsors to provide the following warning to participants:

> ***Warning: Under the Equine Activity Liability Act, each participant who engages in an equine activity expressly assumes the risks of engaging in and legal responsibility for injury, loss or damage to person or property resulting from the risk of equine activities.***

As parent or guardian of, _____, I am aware that activities involving
Name of Participant
horses, ponies and other equines are associated with the following risks including but not limited to:

1. *the propensity of an equine to behave in ways that may result in injury, harm, or death to persons on or around them,*
2. *the predictability of an equine's reaction to sounds, sudden movement, and unfamiliar objects, persons, other animals, or other things,*
3. *certain hazards of surface or subsurface conditions,*
4. *collisions with other equines or objects,*
5. *the potential of a participant to act in a negligent manner that may contribute to injury to self or others.*

In addition, this event has the risks of classes involving jumping over obstacles and fences; racing against time obstacles; multiple horses in classes and in/around the barns housing the horses. I understand that the University of Illinois Extension has taken the following steps to make the Monroe County 4-H Horse Show safe for participants, the public and their property: rented and examined obstacles that are safe; encouraged parents to provide adequate supervision of exhibitors; printed recommendations and rules in the Monroe County Show Book and posted additional information at the fairgrounds; provided volunteer staff who are familiar and comfortable around equine; and provided special insurance for hunting and racing classes through the University of Illinois Office of Risk Management.

I understand and agree to follow these rules.

_____
4-H Participant Signature

I understand the risks associated with this event and give_____
Name of Participant
permission to participate during the 2026 Show.

_____
Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Please turn in this completed release form to the University of Illinois Extension Office prior to the start of the 4-H Horse Show.

BUCKET/BOTTLE CALF CLASS BEEF OR DAIRY

TUESDAY, JULY 21 – 10:00 a.m. (Show Barn)

Superintendent: Carleen Paul (618-971-9644)

Superintendent: Dawn Reinhardt (618-223-0253)

Registration on Fair Entry Due JUNE 1

Class #	Animal (class name)	Birthdate	Participant's Age
DA 19	Bottle Calf	3 months or less from date of the County Fair Show Date (July 21, 2026)	8-11 years old As of Sept. 1, 2025

GUIDELINES

1. This is for members ages 8 – 11 as of Sept. 1, 2025
2. One calf per member.
3. Must be the property of the exhibitor.
4. Must arrive the morning of the show, Tuesday, July 21, by 8:00 a.m. or night before.
5. Show will start at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, prior to the dairy show.
6. All cattle are required to have a USDA official animal identification number ear tag (840 tag).
7. The calf must be broken to lead by halter.
8. Classes will be judged by conference method based on:
    a. What 4-H'er learned about caring for and raising a calf.
    b. The general health of calf and knowledge of 4-H'er in health-related areas.
9. Animals will NOT be sold at the Madison County Youth Auction Livestock Auction.
10. **Exhibitors cannot use same calf in the Dairy Show.**
11. For the safety of our exhibitors, proper attire is required during the show time. Acceptable attire includes no hats, closed toe footwear, long pants or jeans with a nice shirt. No farm names or business advertising on clothing is allowed. Tank tops, shorts, skirts, or bare midriffs are not appropriate show attire. You will be asked to change inappropriate attire. Remember that you are representing 4-H to the public.
12. **<u>There is no showmanship class for Bucket/Bottle.</u>**

4-H DAIRY CATTLE SHOW

Tuesday, July 21— Immediately following the Bottle Bucket Calf Show (Show Barn)

Superintendent: Carleen Paul (618-971-9644)

Superintendent: Dawn Reinhardt (618-223-0253)

Registration on Fair Entry Due JUNE 1

Open to the public

DAIRY CATTLE

Dairy exhibitors must exhibit one of the following to a 4-H Dairy Superintendent or 4-H Staff by June 1st, 2026:

a. Official copies of Registration Papers, Copies can be made at the Extension office.
b. Proof of application
c. Grade Identification Papers

1. Registration papers must accompany registered animals. They must be in the name of the exhibitor (not farm or partnership) only. Effective dates for ownership must appear on the registration papers.
2. **All dairy cattle** are required to have a USDA official animal identification number ear tag (840 tag).
3. Dairy animals will be defined as all cattle breeds used primarily to produce milk and milk products. The steers of these breeds will be shown as part of the beef show. All entries in the dairy classes must have been owned by the exhibitor and part of his/her project by June 1, 2025
4. Registration on Fair Entry Due JUNE 1
5. The dairy animals show rules:
   a. All dairy animals will arrive by 7:00 a.m., Tuesday of fair week.
   b. 4-H Dairy cattle show will start at 10 a.m. on Tuesday.
   c. All dairy animals will be released at 3 p.m., Tuesday.
6. Each breed will be shown separately in its respective class. Please indicate on the entry form the breed you will be showing.
7. All dairy exhibitors are eligible to participate in the showmanship judging. There will be three Showmanship categories by age as of September 1: Pee-Wee Showmanship 8-10 years old, Junior Showmanship 11-14 years old, and Senior Showmanship 15-19 years old. Youth participants compete within their designated age brackets until they are ready to move up to the next one based on their age. For example, if a 9-year-old 4-H member wins Pee-Wee Showmanship, they will not move up to Junior Showmanship until they reach the age of 11 as of September 1.

8. Proper attire is required during the show time. No hats and closed toe footwear are required for safety purposes. Acceptable attire includes white or light-colored jeans/pants with a collared shirt or plain T-shirt with sleeves. No farm names or business advertising on clothing is allowed. Tank tops, shorts, skirts, or bare midriffs are not appropriate show attire. **You will be asked to change inappropriate attire**. Remember that you are representing 4-H to the public.
9. If a problem arises, a majority vote of the livestock committee (composed of the superintendents of the 4-H livestock shows) will make any decision necessary.
10. **If you are showing a spring heifer calf and you have applied for papers you must show proof of application form with a letter from the breed association saying they have received your application.**
11. Fitting (clipping, washing or any grooming of dairy animals) must be done by eligible 4-Her's and/or family members only.
12. Exhibitors found breaking any of the rules, either prior to entering the ring or while in the ring will be asked to do the following:
    i. **IMMEDIATELY EXIT THE SHOW RING**
    ii. **NOT SHOW ANY MORE CATTLE AT CURRENT 4-H DAIRY SHOW**
    iii. **FORFEIT ALL PREMIUMS IN THE DAIRY DIVISION -- NO EXCEPTIONS!!!**

******NO IDENTIFING NAMES I.E. FARM NAMES, COMPANY NAMES, OR PERSONAL NAMES ON CLOTHING*********

Awards will be presented for the following:

Grand & Reserve Champion

Heifer Grand & Reserve Champion

Yearling Grand & Reserve Champion Cow

Pee-Wee, Jr. & Sr. Showmanship Champion & Reserve Champion

Non-Dairy Participation in Dairy Project

- 4-H'ers who want to exhibit in a Dairy project but don't have an animal or don't wish to participate in the dairy show may exhibit a poster describing dairy care, dairy science, or any other topic related to dairy.
- Projects will be judged with other projects at The General Project Judging on July 20 and will be entered in the Animal Science area.

DAIRY CLASSES

Birthdates for dairy 4-H classes correspond to other dairy shows.

Class #	Animal (class name)	Birthdate
DA 1	Spring Heifer Calf	3/1/26 – 5/1/26
DA 2	Winter Heifer Calf	12/1/25 – last day in February 2026
DA 3	Fall Heifer Calf	9/1/25 – 11/30/25
DA 4	Summer Yearling	6/1/25 – 8/31/25
DA 5	Spring Yearling	3/1/25 – 5/31/25
DA 6	Winter Yearling	12/1/24 – last day in February 2025
DA 7	Fall Yearling	9/1/24 – 11/30/24
DA 8	Unfreshed Jr. 2yr old	9/1/23 – 8/31/24
DA 9	Summer Jr. 2yr old	6/1/24 – 8/31/24
DA10	Spring Jr. 2yr old	3/1/42 – 5/31/24
DA 11	Senior 2 yr. old cow	9/1/23 – last day in February 2024
DA 12	Junior 3 yr. old cow	3/1/23 – 8/31/23
DA 13	Senior 3 yr. old cow	9/1/22 – last day in February 2023
DA 14	4 yr. cow	9/1/21 – 8/31/22
DA 15	Aged Cow	Born on or before 8/31/21
DA 16	3-4 yr. old dry cow	9/1/21 – 3/1/22
DA 17	Aged Dry Cow	Born on or before 8/31/21
DA 18	Dam & Daughter	
DA 19	Produce of Dam	
DA 20	Best 3 Females	

Showmanship

Senior	Age 15 – 18 years old	As of Sept. 1, 2025
Junior	Age 11 – 14 years old	As of Sept. 1, 2025
Pee-Wee	Age 8 – 10	As of Sept. 1, 2025

Each 4-H Dairy member may exhibit an unlimited number of dairy animals. Animals may be from any of the classes. You may exhibit more than 1 animal per class; however, the additional animals must be shown by another 4-Her.

4-H RABBIT SHOW

Wednesday, July 22 - 6:00 p.m. (Show Barn)

Superintendent: Kaitlin Korte (618-406-0917)

Registration on Fair Entry Due JUNE 1

Open to the public

RABBITS

1. All 4-H exhibitors must be present for judging.
2. All rabbit exhibits must be at the fair, checked in, and ready to be judged by 5:45 p.m., Wednesday of fair week. The show will begin at 6:00 p.m. Any rabbits arriving after judging begins will not be eligible for judging.
3. All rabbit exhibits will be released immediately following the show. No overnight stays.
4. **Youth enrolled in a livestock market class must turn in a livestock record book by September 15. If not completed by September 15, the youth cannot participate in a livestock market class the following year.**
5. CARRIER SHOW ONLY
6. Exhibits are limited to two entries per class. Rabbits that are exhibited in the single classes may not be exhibited as a part of the meat classes.
7. A Meat Pen consists of 3 rabbits that need to be under 72 days old and weigh between 3 ½ to 5 ½ pounds. Rabbits need to be uniform in size, weight, age and appearance as they are judged as a group not individually. Meat pens need to be a recognized meat breed.
8. A single fryer needs to be under 72 days old and weigh between 3 ½ to 5 ½ pounds. A single fryer needs to be a recognized meat breed. Showmanship - All rabbit exhibitors are eligible to participate in the showmanship judging. Youth participants compete within their designated age brackets until they are ready to move up to the next one based on their age. For example, if a 9-year-old 4-H member wins Pee-Wee Showmanship, they will not move up to Junior Showmanship until they reach the age of 11 as of September 1.
9. **Proper attire is required during the show time**. Closed toe footwear is required for safety purposes. Acceptable attire includes jeans/pants with a collared shirt or plain T-shirt with sleeves. No farm names or business advertising on clothing is allowed. **Tank tops, shorts, skirts, or bare midriffs are NOT appropriate show attire**. You will be asked to change inappropriate attire. **Remember that you are representing 4-H to the public.**
10. Animals with ear canker or any other medical defects will be given a white ribbon.

11. Exhibitors found breaking any of the above rules, either prior to exhibiting or while exhibiting the 4-H'er will be asked to do the following:
    i. **IMMEDIATELY EXIT THE SHOW AREA**
    ii. **NOT SHOW ANOTHER RABBIT AT CURRENT 4-H SHOW**
    iii. **FORFEIT ALL PREMIUMS FOR THE RABBIT DIVISION**
12. If a problem arises a majority vote of the livestock committee (composed of the superintendents of the 4-H livestock shows) will make any decision necessary.

Awards will be presented for the following:

Best in Show Champion & Reserve Champion

Grand & Reserve Champion Sr. Buck

Grand & Reserve Champion Sr. Doe

Grand & Reserve Champion Jr. Buck

Grand & Reserve Champion Jr. Doe

Grand & Reserve Champion Meat Pen

Grand & Reserve Champion Single Fryer

Grand & Reserve Champion Pet Class

Pee-Wee, Jr. & Sr. Showmanship Champion & Reserve Champion

Non-Rabbit Participation in Rabbit Project

- 4-H'ers who want to exhibit in a Rabbit project but don't have a rabbit or don't wish to participate in the rabbit show may exhibit a poster describing rabbit care, rabbit science, or any other topic related to rabbits.
- Projects will be judged with other projects at The General Project Judging on July 20 and will be entered in the Animal Science area.

RABBIT CLASSES

No class changes will be accepted after July 1.

Class #	Class Name	Birthdate
RA 1	Sr. Buck	Over 6 mos. of age
RA 2	Sr. Doe	Over 6 mos. of age
RA 3	Jr. Buck	Under 6 mos. of age
RA 4	Jr. Doe	Under 6 mos. of age
RA 5	Meat Pen: 3 rabbits of the same breed & variety. **(market class)**	Under 72 days old (5/13/26) Weight under 5-1/2 lbs. & over 3-1/2 lbs.

RA 6	Single Fryer: 1 rabbit **(market class)**	Under 72 days old (5/13/26) Weight under 5-1/2 lbs. & over 3-1/2 lbs.
RA 7	Pet Class: Rabbit owner that has only one rabbit for a pet. **You cannot be entered in any of the other classes listed above.**	
RA 8	Pee-Wee Showmanship	Ages 8-10 as of Sept. 1, 2025
RA 9	Jr. Showmanship	Ages 11-14 as of Sept. 1, 2025
RA 10	Senior. Showmanship	Ages 15-18 as of Sept. 1, 2025

Youth enrolled in a livestock market class must turn in a livestock record book by September 15. If not completed by September 15, the youth cannot participate in a livestock market class the following year.

4-H POULTRY SHOW

Thursday, July 23 - 9:00 a.m. (Show Barn)

Superintendent: Tim Rogier (618-410-4105)

Registration on Fair Entry Due JUNE 1

No class changes will be accepted after July 1.

Open to the public

POULTRY AND OTHER FOWL

4-H exhibitors are encouraged to also enter in open classes. Follow FOWL directions in the Madison County Fair Premium List.

1. All 4-H exhibitors must be present for judging.
2. Poultry should be in the cages at the fair and ready to be judged no later than 8:30 a.m. Thursday of fair week. The show will begin at 9:00 a.m.
3. Poultry will be released after the show, on Thursday. No exhibits will be allowed to stay overnight unless entered in the Open Poultry Show.
4. **All poultry must be tested prior to the show.**
    a. Contact Kim Rogier for testing at 618-410-4107
5. **A copy of the test must be shown when checking in for the 4-H Show.**
6. Please bring your own transport cages. Cages are not provided.
7. Chickens that are exhibited as singles are not eligible to compete in the pair class.
8. All poultry exhibitors are eligible to participate in showmanship judging. There will be three Showmanship categories by age as of September 1: Pee-Wee Showmanship 8-10 years old, Junior Showmanship 11-14 years old, and Senior Showmanship 15-19 years old. Youth participants compete within their designated age brackets until they are ready to move up to the next one based on their age. For example, if a 9-year-old 4-H member wins Pee-Wee Showmanship, they will not move up to Junior Showmanship until they reach the age of 11 as of September 1.
9. Champion ribbons and trophies will be awarded according to their availability.
10. Exhibitors found breaking any of the rules, either prior to exhibiting will be asked to do the following:
    i. **IMMEDIATELY EXIT THE SHOW AREA**
    ii. **NOT SHOW ANY OTHER POULTRY OR FOWL AT CURRENT 4-H SHOW**
    iii. **FORFEIT ALL PREMIUMS FOR THE POULTRY DIVISION**
11. If a problem arises a majority vote of the livestock committee (composed of the superintendents of the 4-H livestock shows) will make any decision necessary.

12. **All exhibitors are asked to stay after the show to clean up**.

<u>Awards will be presented for the following:</u>

Best of Show Champion & Reserve Champion

Grand & Reserve Champion Standard

Grand & Reserve Champion Bantam

Grand & Reserve Champion Waterfowl

Grand & Reserve Champion Other Fowl

Grand & Reserve Champion Eggs

Pee-Wee, Jr., & Sr. Showmanship Champion & Reserve Champion

Non-Poultry Participation in Poultry Project

- 4-H'ers who want to exhibit in a Poultry project but don't have poultry or don't wish to participate in the poultry show may exhibit a poster describing poultry care, poultry science, or any other topic related to poultry.
- Projects will be judged with other projects at The General Project Judging on July 20 and will be entered in the Animal Science area.

POULTRY CLASSES

The following definitions will be used:

- Pullet- A female chicken hatched after January 1, 2026
- Hen- A female chicken one year or older, must have been raised by 4- H'er
- Cockerel-A male chicken hatched after January 1, 2026

1 BIRD PER EXHIBITOR PER CLASS

STANDARDS

Class #	Class Name	Birthdate
PO 1	Pullet	Hatched after Jan 1, 2026
PO 2	Hen	Hatched before Jan 1, 2026
PO 3	Cockerel	Hatched after Jan 1, 2026
PO 4	Pair Pullet/Cockerel	Hatched after Jan 1, 2026
PO 5	Pair of Cockerels	Hatched between Jan 1 – May 1, 2026
PO 6	Tri – 2 Hens & 1 Cockerel	Hatched before Jan 1, 2026, for Hens Hatched after Jan 1, 2026, for Cockerel

BANTAM

Class #	Class Name	Birthdate
PO 7	Pullet	Hatched after Jan 1, 2026
PO 8	Hen	Hatched before Jan 1, 2026
PO 9	Cockerel	Hatched after Jan 1, 2026
PO 10	Pair Pullet/Cockerel	Hatched after Jan 1, 2026
PO 11	Pair of Cockerels	Hatched between Jan 1 – May 1, 2026
PO 12	Tri – 2 Hens & 1 Cockerel	Hatched before Jan 1, 2026, for Hens Hatched after Jan 1, 2026, for Cockerel

EGGS

Class #	Class Name	Description
PO 13	White	1 Dozen
PO 14	Brown	1 Dozen
PO 15	Other	1 Dozen

Eggs will be judged on the following scorecard:

Uniformity of color	8 points
Cleanliness of shell	8 points
Soundness of shell	8 points
Uniformity of shape	8 points
Uniformity of size	12 points
Interior quality	56 points
TOTAL	**100 Points**
***An egg will be cracked**	

OTHER FOWL CLASSES

****EXHIBITOR MAY SHOW ONE ANIMAL IN EACH CLASS.**

****Pair must be male and female.**

Class #	Class Name	Birthdate
FO 1	Duck	Hatched after Jan 1, 2026
FO 2	Pair	Hatched after Jan 1, 2026
FO 3	Goose	Hatched after Jan 1, 2026
FO 4	Pair	Hatched after Jan 1, 2026
FO 5	Turkey	Hatched after Jan 1, 2026
FO 6	Pair	Hatched after Jan 1, 2026

FO 7	Pigeon	Hatched after Jan 1, 2026
FO 8	Pair	Hatched after Jan 1, 2026
FO 9	Guinea	Hatched after Jan 1, 2026
FO 10	Pair	Hatched after Jan 1, 2026
FO 11	Quail	Hatched after Jan 1, 2026
FO 12	Pair	Hatched after Jan 1, 2026
FO 13	Pheasant	Hatched after Jan 1, 2026
FO 14	Pair	Hatched after Jan 1, 2026
FO 15	Pea Fowl	Hatched after Jan 1, 2026
FO 16	Pair	Hatched after Jan 1, 2026
FO 17	Dove	Hatched after Jan 1, 2026
FO 18	Pair	Hatched after Jan 1, 2026

Showmanship Classes

Class #	Class Name	Description
PS1	Pee-Wee Showmanship	Age 8-10 years old as of Sept. 1
PS2	Junior Showmanship	Age 11-14 years old as of Sept. 1
PS3	Senior Showmanship	Age 15-19 years old as of Sept. 1

Madison County Master Showmanship Contest

Thursday, July 23, 2026

Start at 3:30 p.m. (please note this could change on the day due to weather)

Location: Show Barn and Swine Barn

State Super Showmanship: age 14-18 as of Sept. 1, 2025
Junior Super Showmanship (Following super showmanship): age 10-13 as of Sept. 1, 2025

Registration is on Fair Entry Due June 1

Description:

Each 4-H member will show one animal from each area (beef, sheep, swine). They will be judged on how well they handle the animal, showing the animal, and knowledge of the animal area.

State Master Showmanship Guidelines-

1. Member must be 14 or older by September 1, 2025.
2. Members are responsible for finding their show animal & equipment.
3. The Senior Division winner will later receive a T-shirt that is required to be worn during the State Fair contest. An overall winner will be selected and one alternate.
4. The county winner is able to participate in the state contest in August, and animals must be provided at the state level.
5. **Registration will be on Fair Entry due by June 1, 2026. Please mark what T-shirt size you need.**
6. Prize money is distributed based on available funds.

Junior Master Showmanship Guidelines-

1. THIS IS A COUNTY-LEVEL EVENT ONLY
2. Member must be 10-13 by September 1, 2025.
3. Members are responsible for finding their show animal and equipment.
4. This event is for younger members to learn how to ready themselves for the state super showmanship contest when they become of age.
5. **Registration will be on Fair Entry due by June 1, 2026. Please mark what T-shirt size you need.**
6. Prize money is distributed based on available funds.

4-H DAIRY/PYGMY/MEAT GOAT SHOW

Thursday, July 23 at 5:30 pm (Sheep Barn)

Superintendent: Debbie Adamick (618-978-1934)

Registration on Fair Entry Due JUNE 1

Open to the public

GOATS

1. All goats need an official form of identification, and exhibitors must complete and submit an entry form by June 1 on Fair Entry.
2. Youth enrolled in a livestock market class must turn in a livestock record book by September 15. If not completed by September 15, the youth cannot participate in a livestock market class the following year.
3. All Goats must have tags, chip, or tattoo in ear for official identification.
4. All goats must arrive by 5:00 p.m., Thursday of fair week.
5. The goat show will be on Thursday, July 23 at 5:30 pm.
6. All goat exhibitors are eligible to participate in the showmanship judging. There will be three Showmanship categories by age as of September 1: Pee-Wee Showmanship 8-10 years old, Junior Showmanship 11-14 years old, and Senior Showmanship 15-19 years old. Youth participants compete within their designated age brackets until they are ready to move up to the next one based on their age. For example, if a 9-year-old 4-H member wins Pee-Wee Showmanship, they will not move up to Junior Showmanship until they reach the age of 11 as of September 1.
7. Goats will be released immediately following goat show.
8. Each 4-H member may have only one entry per class.
9. Exhibitors found breaking any of the above rules, either prior to entering the ring or while in the ring the 4-H'er will be asked to the following:
    i. **IMMEDIATELY EXIT THE SHOW RING**
    ii. **NOT SHOW ANOTHER GOAT AT THE CURRENT 4-H GOAT SHOW**
    iii. **FORFEIT ALL PREMIUMS IN THE GOAT DIVISION**
10. If a problem arises a majority vote of the livestock committee (composed of the superintendents of the 4-H livestock shows) will make any decision necessary.

Awards will be presented for the following:

Grand & Reserve Champion Dairy Goat

Grand & Reserve Champion Pygmy Goat

Grand & Reserve Champion Meat Goat

Pee-Wee, Jr. & Sr. Showmanship Champion & Reserve Champion

Non-Goat Participation in Goat Project

- 4-H'ers who want to exhibit in a Goat project but don't have a goat or don't wish to participate in the goat show may exhibit a poster describing goat care, goat science, or any other topic related to goats.
- Projects will be judged with other projects at The General Project Judging on July 20 and will be entered in the Animal Science area.

GOAT CLASSES

Dairy Classes

Class #	Animal (class name)	Birthdate
DG 1	Doe Kid (0-6 mos.)	As of July 1, 2026
DG 2	Doe Kid (6-12 mos.)	As of July 1, 2026
DG 3	Yearling not in milk	1-2 yr. old
DG 4	Milking Yearling	1 yr. and under 2
DG 5	Milking Doe	2 yrs. and under 4
DG 6	Aged Doe	4 yrs. and older
DG 7	Wether **(market class)**	1 yr. and older

Pygmy Classes

Class #	Animal (class name)	Birthdate
PG 1	Doe Kid (0-6 mos.)	As of July 1, 2026
PG 2	Doe Kid (6-12 mos.)	As of July 1, 2026
PG 3	Doe	1 yr. and under 2
PG 4	Doe	2-3 yrs.
PG 5	Doe	4 yrs. and older
PG 6	Wether **(market class)**	1 yr. and older

Meat Goat Classes

Class #	Animal (class name)	Birthdate
MG 1	Doe Kid (0-3 mos.)	As of July 1, 2026
MG 2	Doe Kid (3-6 mos.)	As of July 1, 2026
MG 3	Doe Kid (6-12 mos.)	As of July 1, 2026
MG 4	Doe	1-2 yr. old
MG 5	Doe	2-4 yrs.
MG 6	Doe	4 yrs. and older
MG 7	Wether **(market class)**	Born between Nov 2025-Feb 2026

Showmanship Classes

Class #	Class Name	Description
GS1	Pee-Wee Showmanship	Age 8-10 years old as of Sept. 1
GS2	Junior Showmanship	Age 11-14 years old as of Sept. 1
GS3	Senior Showmanship	Age 15-19 years old as of Sept. 1

Youth enrolled in a livestock market class must turn in a livestock record book by September 15. If not completed by September 15, the youth cannot participate in a livestock market class the following year,

4-H SWINE SHOW

Friday, July 24 at 8:00 a.m. (Swine Barn)

Superintendents: Chelsey Ammann (618-973-4685)

Registration on Fair Entry Due JUNE 1

Open to the public

SWINE

1. All swine must be on the fairgrounds before 10:00 a.m. Thursday of fair week and weigh in begins at 12:00 p.m. Purebred registration and health papers are required and will be checked during weigh-in.
2. **All swine** are required to have a USDA official animal identification number ear tag (840 tag).
3. Members must be present to weigh in their animals.
4. Swine will be shown at 8:00 a.m., Friday, July 24. **Every exhibitor must attend a mandatory meeting before the show starts at 7:45 a.m**.
5. Youth enrolled in a livestock market class must turn in a livestock record book by September 15. If not completed by September 15, the youth cannot participate in a livestock market class the following year.
6. 4-H Swine will be released after the auction.
7. Each breed will show separately in their respective classes listed on the next page.
8. If weight of barrow or crossbred gilt is over 300 or under 220 it will not be eligible for championship drive.
9. All swine exhibitors are eligible to participate in the showmanship judging. There will be three Showmanship categories by age as of September 1: Junior Showmanship 8-10 years old, Intermediate Showmanship 11-14 years old, and Senior Showmanship 15-18 years old. Youth participants compete within their designated age brackets until they are ready to move up to the next one based on their age. For example, if a 9-year-old 4-H member wins Pee-Wee Showmanship, they will not move up to Junior Showmanship until they reach the age of 11 as of September 1.
10. Exhibitors found breaking the above rules, either prior to entering the ring or while in the ring will be asked to do the following:
    i. **IMMEDIATELY EXIT THE SHOW RING**
    ii. **NOT SHOW ANY MORE SWINE AT THE CURRENT JUNIOR SWINE SHOW**
    iii. **FORFEIT ALL PREMIUMS IN THE SWINE DIVISION**
11. If a problem arises a majority vote of the livestock committee (composed of the superintendents of the 4-H livestock shows) will make any decision necessary.

<u>Awards will be presented for the following:</u>

Top 5 4-H Barrows Overall

Top 5 4-H Gilts Overall

Jr., Intermediate, and Sr. Showmanship Champion & Reserve Champion

Non-Swine Participation in Swine Project

- 4-H'ers who want to exhibit in a Swine project but don't have a swine or don't wish to participate in the swine show may exhibit a poster describing swine care, swine science, or any other topic related to swine.
- Projects will be judged with other projects at The General Project Judging on July 20 and will be entered in the Animal Science area.

SWINE CLASSES

Class #	Animal	Breed	Birthdate
SW 1	Gilt #1	Select Breed	1/1/26 to 4/1/26
SW 2	Gilt #2	Select Breed	1/1/26 to 4/1/26
SW 3	Gilt #3	Select Breed	1/1/26 to 4/1/26
SW 4	Barrow #1 **(market animal)**	Select Breed	1/1/26 to 4/1/26
SW 5	Barrow #2 **(market animal)**	Select Breed	1/1/26 to 4/1/26
SW 6	Barrow #3 **(market animal)**	Select Breed	1/1/26 to 4/1/26
SW 7	Showmanship		Junior (8-10)
SW 8	Showmanship		Intermediate (11-14)
SW 9	Showmanship		Senior (15 & up)

4-H'ers may show a total of three gilts. All purebred gilts will be shown by age and breed. Crossbred gilts will be divided by weight. The gilts are allowed to have the same birth date. If both gilts are in the same class, another 4-H exhibitor may show the second animal. **<u>If you have a total of 3 gilts, please enter your first gilt in gilt #1, second gilt in gilt #2, and third gilt in gilt #3.</u>**

4-H'ers may show a total of three barrows. All purebred and crossbred barrows will be shown by breed and weight. If classes are large, barrows will be divided into separate classes.

If barrows are in the same class, another 4-H exhibitor may show the second animal. **If you have a total of 3 barrows, please enter your first barrow in barrow #1, second barrow in barrow #2, and third barrow in barrow #3.**

**Swine projects must be owned and cared for by 4-H'er by April 15, 2026. **

Youth enrolled in a livestock market class must turn in a livestock record book by September 15. If not completed by September 15, the youth cannot participate in a livestock market class the following year.

4-H BEEF SHOW

Friday, July 24- at 12 pm in the Show Barn

Superintendents: Brad and Beth Dorsey (618-781-1328)

Registration on Fair Entry Due JUNE 1

Open to the public

BEEF

1. Beef cattle must arrive at the fair by Thursday, July 23 by 12:00 p.m.
    a. **Bucket/Bottle Calf Classes are shown under the Dairy section.**
2. Youth enrolled in a livestock market class must turn in a livestock record book by September 15. If not completed by September 15, the youth cannot participate in a livestock market class the following year.
3. **All beef are required to have a USDA official animal identification number ear tag (840 tag).**
4. Steer projects must be owned and cared for by the 4-H'er before January 1. Other beef projects, by June 1.
5. Beef cattle, except for steers in the auction, will be released after the show.
6. Animals will be shown by breed. Please indicate on the entry form under "Breed" the breed which you have. Holsteins are eligible to show in the dairy steer class only.
    a. Angus, Charolais, Chi, Hereford, Limousin Lim Flex, Maine, Red Angus, Shorthorn, Shorthorn Plus, Simmental, Low % Simmental, Commercial (if no papers must show commercial). All Other Breeds for any animals with registration papers on breeds not previously listed.
    b. Any 4-H'ers without registration papers will be allowed to show in a commercial class.
7. All steers will be divided by weight on the day of the show. All steers will be weighed on Thursday, July 23, 2:00 p.m. prior to the show and the dividing line between light weight, medium, and heavy weight sub-classes will be determined at that time. 3 steers in a specific breed form a class. If less than 3, show in crossbreed class.
8. Beef showmanship classes are as follows: Super Senior Showmanship (anyone who won Senior Showmanship previously qualify Senior Showmanship); Senior Showmanship (15 years and over); Junior Showmanship (11 - 14 years of age); and Pee Wee Showmanship (8 - 10 years of age) as of September 1, 2025. Super Senior Showmanship class that will allow anyone who has won Senior Showmanship previously to qualify for Super Senior Showmanship.
    a. Super Senior Showmanship division will be first following the selection of the top 5 heifers, followed by seniors, juniors, and concluding with the pee wee division.

9. If a problem arises a majority vote of the Livestock committee (composed of the superintendents of the 4-H livestock shows) will make any decision necessary.
10. **Cattle are to be shown in their natural conformation. The use of FALSE TAIL HEADS is prohibited. The addition of HAIR, HEMP, or any SIMILAR SUBSTANCE to any part of an animal is prohibited. No tail ties will be allowed for breeding stock or steers. Excess adhesive on the legs beyond what is needed to groom the animal's hair is grounds for disqualification. Dying or artificially changing the color of an animal is prohibited. Coloring agents may only be used up to the hock. Powders are not allowed on any part of the animal.**
11. Fitting is encouraged to be done by eligible 4-H'ers with assistance from an immediate family member (mom, dad, brother, sister) only.
12. **Exhibitors found breaking any of the above rules, either prior to entering the ring or while in the ring will be asked to do the following:**
    i. **IMMEDIATELY EXIT THE SHOW RING**
    ii. **NOT SHOW ANY MORE CATTLE AT CURRENT 4-H BEEF SHOW**
    iii. **FORFEIT ALL PREMIUMS IN THE BEEF DIVISION**
13. To be eligible for the Rate of Gain Class, participants must have their steer/market animal weighed the same time they are weighed for the Illinois Beef premiere show, the first Saturday in February.
14. **All Health papers and registration papers will be checked after weigh-in, about 2:00 p.m. on Thursday. You must be present to weigh your steer or a designated individual.**
15. Appeals can be made to the 4-H Livestock Show Superintendents.

Awards will be presented for the following:

Breed Grand Champion Breed Reserve Champion

Grand & Reserve Champion Female Top 5 Heifers

Grand & Reserve Champion Cow

Grand & Reserve Champion Steer Top 5 Steers

Rate of Gain Beef Influenced Grand & Reserve Champion

Pee-Wee, Junior, Senior, & Super Senior Champion & Reserve Showmanship

Non-Beef Participation in Beef Project

- 4-H'ers who want to exhibit in a Beef project but don't have an animal or don't wish to participate in the beef show may exhibit a poster describing beef care, beef science, or any other topic related to beef.

- Projects will be judged with other projects at The General Project Judging on July 20 and will be entered in the Animal Science area.

BEEF CLASSES

(Commercial – no papers; All Other Breeds - % breeds with papers)

Class #	Animal (class name)	Birthdate
BE 1	Junior Heifer Calf	1/1/26-present
BE 2	Senior Heifer Calf	9/1/25-12/31/25
BE 3	Summer Yearling Heifer	5/1/25-8/31/25
BE 4	Late Junior Yearling Heifer	3/1/25-4/30/25
BE 5	Early Junior Yearling Heifer	1/1/25-2/28/25
BE 6	Senior Yearling Heifer	9/1/24-12/31/24
BE 7	Beef Cow with calf born	After 1/1/26
BE 8	Steer **(market animal)**	1/1/24-12/31/24
BE 9	Rate of Gain Steer/ **Market Animal**	
BE10	Showmanship	Pee Wee (8-10); Junior (11-14); Senior (15 & up); Super Senior (anyone who won Senior Showmanship previously qualifies)

***Bucket/Bottle Calf class will be shown with the Dairy Show on Tuesday, July 21.**

- **Each 4-H member is limited to exhibiting a maximum of 2 animals per breed per class.**
- If you are showing a beef cow with calf by side, **the cow** must be born before September 1, 2025.
- Show order will be Heifers, Cow/Calf, Steers by birth order (youngest to oldest) followed by Showmanship.

Youth enrolled in a livestock market class must turn in a livestock record book by September 15. If not completed by September 15, the youth cannot participate in a livestock market class the following year.

4-H SHEEP SHOW

Saturday, July 25 at 9:30 a.m. (Sheep Barn)

Superintendent: Kerry Ketcham (618-580-5315)

Registration on Fair Entry Due JUNE 1

Open to the public

SHEEP

1. Sheep must arrive at the fair no later than 4:00 p.m., Thursday of fair week. Sheep pens will be available in the sheep barn. Weigh in will be Friday at 10:00 a.m.
2. All Sheep must have tags in ear for official identification.
3. The sheep show starts at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, July 25.
4. Sheep will be released at 6 p.m. Saturday, July 25.
5. Each class will be divided by purebred or crossbred. A member may exhibit only one entry in each of the classes below. All wethers must be clamped by May 1 of the current year. Sheep projects must be owned and cared for by 4-H'er by June 1. For the SH 4 Class, both animals must be owned by the 4-H'er.
6. All sheep exhibitors are eligible to participate in the showmanship judging. There will be three Showmanship categories by age as of September 1: Junior Showmanship 8-10 years old, Intermediate Showmanship 11-14 years old, and Senior Showmanship 15-19 years old. Youth participants compete within their designated age brackets until they are ready to move up to the next one based on their age. For example, if a 9-year-old 4-H member wins Pee-Wee Showmanship, they will not move up to Junior Showmanship until they reach the age of 11 as of September 1.
7. Exhibitors found breaking any of the above rules, either prior to entering the ring or while in the ring will be asked to do the following:
    i. **IMMEDIATELY EXIT THE SHOW RING**
    ii. **NOT SHOW ANOTHER ANIMAL AT THE CURRENT 4-H SHEEP SHOW**
    iii. **FORFEIT ALL PREMIUMS IN THE SHEEP DIVISION**
8. If a problem arises a majority vote of the livestock committee (composed of the superintendents of the 4-H livestock shows) will make any decision necessary.
9. Sheep pens will be available in the sheep barn.

Awards will be presented for the following:

Grand & Reserve Champion Sr. Ewe

Lamb Grand & Reserve Champion

Jr. Ewe Lamb Grand & Reserve Champion
Yearling Ewe Grand & Reserve Champion
Pair of Ewe Lambs Grand & Reserve Champion Wether
Jr., Intermediate, & Sr. Showmanship Champion & Reserve Champion

Non-Sheep Participation in Sheep Project

- 4-H'ers who want to exhibit in a Sheep project but don't have a sheep or don't wish to participate in the sheep show may exhibit a poster describing sheep care, sheep science, or any other topic related to sheep.
- Projects will be judged with other projects at The General Project Judging on July 20 and will be entered in the Animal Science area.

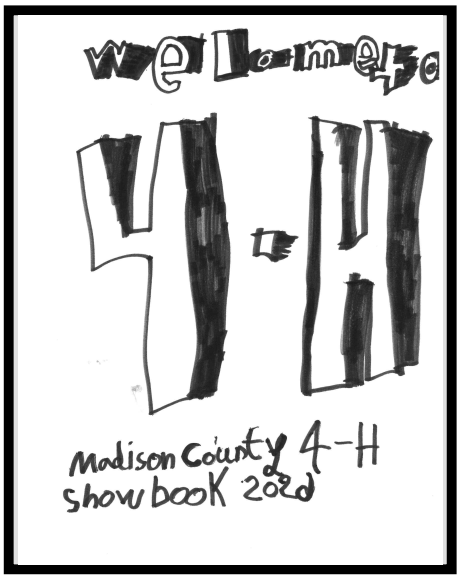
SHEEP CLASSES

Class #	Animal (class name)	Birthdate
SH 1	Yearling Ewe	Over 1 year of age and under 2 years of age
SH 2	Sr. Ewe Lamb	09/01/25-12/31/25
SH 3	Jr. Ewe Lamb	01/01/26-Present
SH 4	Pair of Ewe Lambs	
SH 5	Wether (**market class**)	
SH 6	Jr. Showmanship	8-10 years of age as of September 1, 2025
SH 6	Intermediate Showmanship	11-14 years of age as of September 1, 2025
SH 7	Sr. Showmanship	15-19 years of age as of September 1, 2025

Youth enrolled in a livestock market class must turn in a livestock record book by September 15. If not completed by September 15, the youth cannot participate in a livestock market class the following year.

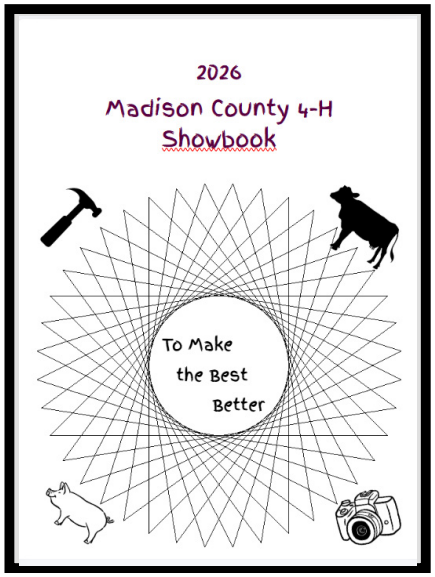
4-H Livestock Projects

By Harper Mueth from
the Quercus Grove 4-H Club.

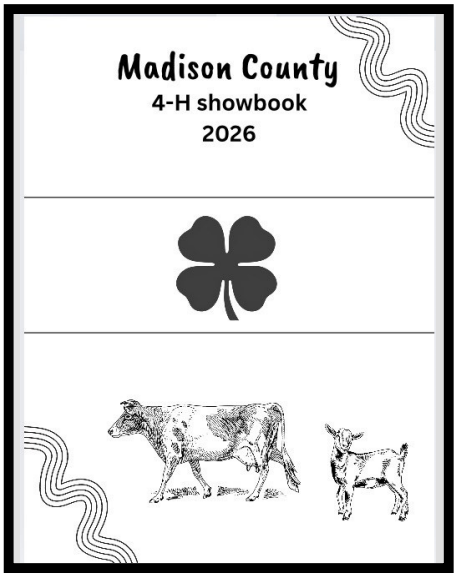


By Elizabeth Hentz from
the Pin Oak Progressors 4-H Club

By Kara Leach from
the Marine Stars Jr Ag 4-H Club



By Allison Reding from
the Marine Stars Jr Ag 4-H Club



By Alanna Bourgeois from
the Cloverleaf Ag 4-H Club