

2026

4-H Show Book

BEYOND



Boone County

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READY

# Boone County 4-H Show Book -- 2026

The 2026 4-H Show Book is provided to assist you in preparing for this year's 4-H Shows. It identifies the 4-H projects, which may be exhibited, their various classes, and the rules & regulations governing their exhibition. **Please** read it thoroughly & carefully to prevent any misunderstanding or potential disappointment. The **general rules & regulations** at the beginning of the book and the **specific regulations** under each project are important.

## Entry Process

**Advanced** entries are required for **ALL** (livestock & non-livestock) 4-H projects. All entries will be completed online in the Fair Entry system.

**<http://boone4-hfair.fairentry.com>**

**Entry Deadline: June 1**

*Further instructions will be forthcoming via email and 4-H Email Blasts.*

The purpose of the Boone County 4-H Department is to provide youth participants with the opportunity to accomplish the following objectives. To participate in a quality educational experience 1) by interacting with experts in a given project field, 2) by exhibiting the products and skills of their project work, and 3) by showcasing the talents of the individual participants and the 4-H program.

Thank you for your cooperation. We look forward to working with you for another successful Boone County 4-H Show season. If you have questions, contact the Boone County Extension at (815) 544-3710.

# SCHEDULE OF 4-H EVENTS

All Boone County 4-H Shows are open to the public.

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28

9:00 a.m. Public Presentations Contest  
Boone County Extension Office

## TUESDAY, JUNE 23

5:30 p.m.-6 p.m. Check-In  
6:00 p.m. 4-H Dog Show Boone County Fairgrounds

## SATURDAY, JULY 11

8:30 a.m. General Projects Day Boone County Community Building  
1:30 pm. Public Viewing  
2:30 p.m. Project Pick Up

## FRIDAY, JULY 31

9:30 a.m. Northern Illinois Llama/Alpaca Show Ogle County Fairgrounds

# BOONE COUNTY FAIR

8847 Illinois Route 76, Belvidere, IL

Open to the public

## TUESDAY, AUGUST 11

8:00 a.m. Poultry Show Poultry Barn  
8:30 a.m. Horse Show Outdoor Arena

## WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12

8:00 a.m. Swine Show Swine Show Arena  
9:00 a.m. Sheep Show Sheep Show Arena  
9:00 a.m. Horse Special Events Outdoor Horse Arena  
9:00 a.m. Dairy Steer Show Livestock Arena  
11:00 a.m. Beef Carcass Show Livestock Arena  
2:00 p.m. Rabbit Showmanship Classes Rabbit Barn  
3:30 p.m. Rabbit Show Livestock Arena

## THURSDAY, AUGUST 13

8:00 a.m. Goat Show Goat Show Arena  
9:00 a.m. Beef Show Livestock Arena  
9:00 a.m. Dairy Show Dairy Show Arena  
5:00 p.m. Livestock Auction Livestock Arena

## FRIDAY, AUGUST 14

5:00 p.m. Master Showmanship Competition Livestock Arena

## SATURDAY, AUGUST 15

3:00 p.m. Fur & Feather Auction Livestock Arena

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**NOTE:** In addition to the general 4-H Rules & Regulations listed here, rules applying to specific divisions appear in the divisional listings.

## GENERAL 4-H RULES AND REGULATIONS

### ENTRY DEADLINE: JUNE 1

<http://boone4-hfair.fairentry.com>

1. 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.
2. Exhibitors must be currently enrolled as a 4-H member and have been 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. Boone County requires 4-H members to complete the ethics requirements and attend 2/3 of one's club meetings after enrollment in order to be eligible to show.

**Attendance Policy to Exhibit for the traditional 4-H Club**

*To be eligible to exhibit at any of the Boone County 4-H Shows, 4-H'ers must attend 2/3 of one's club meetings after enrollment, except for excused absences of illness, school, or church activity. 4-H'er must call their leader prior to the 4-H meeting to receive an excused absence. No 4-H'er may transfer to another Boone County 4-H Club from April 1 to August 31 of any given year. Leaders must inform the Extension Office of the member's status by May 1.*

**QAEC Training – (Horse, Llama & Alpacas, Rabbit, Poultry, Dog & Cat exhibitors)**

*Horses, Rabbit, Poultry, Dog & Cat exhibitors must be recorded in the QAEC database as having completed the state web-based Quality Assurance & Ethics Training once during their 4-H career in order to be eligible to exhibit at the Boone County 4-H Show.*

**YQCA Training – (Beef, Dairy, Dairy Steer, Goats, Sheep & Swine exhibitors)**

*YQCA is a livestock quality assurance program. All 4-H exhibitors of these animals will be required to certify in the YQCA program each year to be eligible to exhibit at the Boone County 4-H Show.*

5. **Advance entries are required for ALL 4-H exhibits.** Entries will be made using the online Fair Entry system. <http://boone4-hfair.fairentry.com> Entry Deadline: June 1
6. 4-H members may exhibit only in project areas in which they are enrolled. Enrollment is a matter of record in the Extension office. 4-H age is calculated as of September 1 of the calendar year.
7. 4-H members must be enrolled by project deadlines and abide by the livestock possession dates as follows to be eligible to exhibit:

Project Area	Project Enrollment Date	Possession of Animals
Beef Cow	January 1	January 1
Beef Steers	January 1	February 1
Beef Calves & Heifers	January 1	May 1
Dairy Steers	January 1	February 1
Dairy Steers Calves	January 1	June 1
Dairy Cows	January 1	January 1
Dairy Heifers	April 1	May 1
Dairy Calves	April 1	June 1
Goats Milking Does	January 1	January 1
Goats Yearling & Kids	April 1	May 1
Sheep, Breeding & Market	April 1	May 1
Swine Barrows	April 1	May 1
Poultry Single Birds	April 1	May 1
Poultry Meat Pens	April 1	June 15
Rabbits	April 1	May 1
Rabbit Meat Pens	April 1	June 15
Dogs	April 1	Must be owned or leased by April 15
Horses	April 1	Must be owned or leased by May 1
Llama & Alpacas	April 1	Must be owned or leased by May 1

8. 4-H members may enter & exhibit only 1 entry per class.
9. 4-H Cloverbud members (ages 5-7) may only show in the designated 4-H Cloverbud class. They will not receive premiums.
10. Entries will be judged on the dual-merit system. Exhibits in each class will be rated and placed in one of three groups:
  - Blue award – presented to exhibits that meet the standards*
  - Red award – presented to exhibits that need some improvements*
  - White award – presented to exhibits that need much improvement*
11. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in the any of the 4-H Shows, please contact the Extension Youth Development Staff at University of Illinois Extension, Boone County Office, 205 Cadillac Ct., Suite 3, Belvidere, IL 61008, (815) 544-3710 **at least 2 weeks prior to the event.**
12. **Social Media Policy** -- The Illinois 4-H Code of Conduct standards apply to online 4-H activity including social media. Remember that when you are at 4-H activities, including the fair, you are representing both yourself and the Illinois 4-H program. Be a positive role model and make sure that your postings are appropriate and positive for all concerned. Posted information can get out of control quickly, so consider the consequences before posting. Inappropriate or negative postings that impact 4-H will be subject to review. Disciplinary actions will be taken depending on the severity of the situation. Refer to page 7 for the complete Illinois 4-H Code of Conduct.

## PREMIUM DISTRIBUTION

1. **4-H members are limited to receive one premium per class exhibited in premium eligible projects.** This will include livestock classes.
2. 4-H premiums will be awarded to 4-H youth ages 8-18 exhibiting in premium eligible classes. Premiums will be paid using an "X" factor based on the amount of premium money available from the state. Premium values will be based on the following "X" factors:

### Animal Exhibits

Blue	Red	White	
7X	6X	5X	Beef, Dairy, Goats, Sheep, Swine
5X	4X	3X	Dogs, Horses, Poultry, Rabbits, Llama/Alpacas

### General Exhibits

Blue	Red	White	
4X	3X	2X	Aerospace, Animal/Veterinary Science, Bicycles, Child Development, Civic Engagement, Clothing & Textiles, College/Career Readiness, Communications, Computers Science, Consumer Education, Crops, Drones, Electricity, Entomology/Beekeeping, Esports, Exploratory, Family Heritage, Foods & Nutrition, Forestry, Geology, Health, Horticulture/Floriculture, Intercultural, Interior Design, Leadership, Maker, Natural Resources, Photography, Plant & Soil Science, Robotics, Shooting Sports, Small Engines, Theatre Arts, Tractor, Video/Filmmaking, Visual Arts, Weather, Welding, Woodworking

3. *"The Department of Agriculture shall use its best efforts to secure sufficient appropriations to fund premiums. In any year for which the General Assembly of the State of Illinois fails to make an appropriation sufficient to pay such premiums, premium amounts may not be accurately reflected in this Premium Book."*
4. **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 (including premiums) 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 prizes, gifts, or awards if social security or foreign national tax ID information is not provided.
5. 4-H premiums will be distributed by the Boone County Extension either by in-person pickup or by mail.
6. Cloverbud members (ages 5-7) do not receive premiums.

## GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

1. The superintendent and/or the grievance committee will deal with violation of any of the 4-H General Rules and/or 4-H Show Rules. The decision of the superintendent and/or the grievance committee will be final. Penalties could include losing the right to show for the current year and or subsequent years, losing ribbon(s), premium(s), and the privilege to show at State Fair.
2. **Grievance Procedures:** The individual(s) may use the grievance procedure to address complaints, which relate to the terms and conditions stated in the 4-H Show Book. The respective Department Superintendent and the grievance committee have an obligation to make every effort to resolve the problem.

Each 4-H'er and/or concerned individual(s) participating in the 4-H Show who has witnessed a violation of any general rule(s), has the right to bring a complaint(s) to the attention of the respective 4-H Department Superintendents with the assurance that they will receive a review and be accorded fair and equitable treatment.

**Protest:** Any exhibitor or interested individual(s) lodging a protest must file the grievance in writing and be signed by the parties who witnessed the violation. The written protest will be submitted to Department Superintendents who will in turn relay the complaint to the grievance committee.

The Department Superintendents will initiate discussion, considerations, and resolutions with the grievance committee and report back to the protestors with their decision and/or recommendations. The decision of the Department Superintendents and the grievance committee will be final.

All grievances for **General Projects Day Projects** must be filed before 1:00 p.m. on the day of exhibition.

All grievances during the **Boone County 4-H Fair Shows** must be filed before 5:00 p.m. on Thursday of the Boone County Fair.

A copy of the grievance and summary of the resolution will be filed with the Boone County Extension Office.

### Boone County 4-H Youth Exhibitor Code of Practice

I believe that my participation in the 4-H Program should demonstrate my own ability, knowledge, and skill. I will do my own work and only accept advice and support from others.

I will not use abusive or questionable techniques in the feeding, fitting and showing of my animals. I will not resort to fraudulent, illegal, or deceptive practices when fitting them for show. I also will not allow my parents, my supervisor, or any other adult to employ such practices to my animal.

I will read and understand the rules of all 4-H shows in which I am a participant, I ask that my parents and the supervisor of my project not break the rules or make exceptions on my behalf. I wish my project to be an example of how to accept what life has to offer – good or bad – and how to live with the outcome.

I realize that I am responsible for following the rules and accepting the consequences.

- the proper care and treatment of my animals;
- the production of wholesome food;
- and the development of sound moral character in myself – and others.

The superintendent and/or the grievance committee will deal with violation of any of the 4-H General Rules and/or 4-H Show Rules. The decision of the department superintendent and/or grievance committee will be final. Penalties could include losing the right to show for the current year and/or subsequent years, losing ribbon(s), trophy(s), the privilege to auction for the current year and/or subsequent years, and the privilege to show at state fair.

## Illinois 4-H Participant and Family Code of Conduct

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

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

1. Represent University of Illinois 4-H program with dignity and pride and be a positive role model.
2. Conduct myself in a manner that reflects honesty, integrity, self-control, and self-direction. Accept the results and outcomes of Extension contests with grace and empathy for other participants. Accept final opinions of judges and evaluators. Be open to innovative ideas, suggestions, and opinions of others.
3. Create a Welcoming Environment for All. Encourage everyone to fully participate in 4-H programs. Recognize that all people have skills and talents that can help others and improve the community. Though we will not always agree, we must disagree respectfully. When we disagree, try to understand why. Our first priority is to create a safe, inclusive space for learning, sharing and collaboration that is welcoming to people from diverse backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives. Diversity includes, but is not limited to: race, color, religion, political beliefs, national or ethnic origin, immigration or citizenship status, sex, gender identity and expression, transgender status, sexual orientation, age, marital or family status, educational level, learning style, pregnancy, physical appearance, body size and individuals with disabilities.
4. Comply with University of Illinois equal opportunity and antidiscrimination policies, as well as all federal, state, and local laws.
5. Honor Diversity. Respect the privacy of persons involved with Extension programs and hold in confidence sensitive, private, and personal information.
6. Create a Safe Environment. Not carelessly or intentionally harm or intimidate anyone in any way (verbally, mentally, physically, or emotionally). Not engage in romantic displays or sexual activities in either public or private situations at any Extension sponsored activity or event. Be kind and compassionate toward others. Not insult, harass, or bully others or engage in other hostile behaviors. Be considerate and courteous of all persons and their property.
7. Be a Team Player. Work cooperatively with all individuals involved in Extension programs and activities. Be responsive to the reasonable requests of the person in charge. Respect the integrity of the group and the group's decisions.
8. Be a Positive Role Model. Act in a mature, responsible manner, recognizing I am a role model for others and that I am representing both myself and the University of Illinois 4-H programs. Be responsible for my behavior, use positive and affirming language, and uphold exemplary standards of conduct at all 4-H activities.
9. Participate Fully. Participate in and contribute to planned programs, be on time and follow through on assigned tasks/responsibilities in a manner that fosters the safety, well-being, and quality of the educational experience for myself and others. Have fun!
10. Obey the Law. Obey the laws of the locality, state and nation, University of Illinois and University of Illinois Extension policies and guidelines. Commit no illegal acts.
11. Will not possess, offer to others, or use alcohol, illegal drugs, marijuana, or tobacco products, which includes e-pens, e-pipes, e-hookah, e-cigars, JUULs, vapes, vape pens or other electronic nicotine delivery systems at 4-H activities or events. Will not attend Extension activities under the influence of alcohol, illegal substances, or marijuana.
12. Will not possess or use weapons or firearms except as expressly permitted as part of supervised 4-H shooting sports programming.
13. Not retaliate against individuals, including minors, families, parents, guardians, University of Illinois Extension staff members or other volunteers, who report allegations of inappropriate conduct (including but not limited to abuse; neglect; assault; harassment; sexual assault, abuse, or harassment; possessing child pornography or providing it to a minor; furnishing alcohol, drugs, or sexual materials to a minor; and violations of the University of Illinois antidiscrimination policy).
14. Uphold and support the responsible use of social media. In so doing, I will not create or post social media content about Illinois Extension that is abusive, threatening, defamatory, obscene, harassing, or creates a hostile environment.
15. Recognize University of Illinois Extension has the responsibility and authority to remove individuals who are disruptive to the University of Illinois programs, violate the University of Illinois 4-H Code of Conduct, state, or local laws, or for any other reason the University of Illinois Extension deems appropriate.
16. Humane Treatment of Animals. Treat animals humanely and teach 4-H youth to provide appropriate animal care.
17. Watch What You Wear. Use good judgment. Wear clothing suited for the activity in which you will participate. Dress in a manner that is respectful to yourself and others. Clothing that displays or promotes violence, obscenity, illegal activities, discrimination, or intimidation is prohibited. Do not wear revealing clothing, such as short skirts or shorts, midriff-baring tops, or anything showing undergarments.

It is expected that all University of Illinois Extension participants and families comply with the University of Illinois 4-H Code of Conduct. Failure to comply with any component of the Code or participation in other inappropriate conduct as determined by University of Illinois Extension representatives may lead to removal from the University of Illinois 4-H program. I have read and I understand this Code of Conduct. I further agree to abide by the conditions of this document. I understand that my failure to comply with these expectations may result in the consequences outlined below.

### CONSEQUENCES

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

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

**Please remember that all youth and parents have signed and agreed to comply with the above University of Illinois Extension 4-H Youth Development Code of Conduct via your 4-H enrollment.**

# PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

Saturday, February 28, 2026 | 9:00 a.m. | Boone County Extension Office

Rules from Pages 4-7 apply to Public Speaking projects.

## State Fair: 3 entries

Note: State 4-H Public Presentation Contest | April 25, 2026 | Parkland Community College, Champaign, IL

### General Rules:

- No live animals are allowed.
- A member may advance in one individual category and one team category.
- Participation in the State Public Presentation Contest does not affect a member's opportunity to also participate in the Illinois State Fair General Projects Show.
- The content of any 4-H competitive presentation does not necessarily reflect the beliefs or views of the University of Illinois Extension 4-H program.
- Youth looking for resources to help prepare for this contest can reference the following: Finding Your Voice: Public Speaking Made Easy
- Participants should dress neatly and appropriately for a public presentation. Business casual or professional attire is encouraged. Please avoid jeans with holes, athletic wear, flip-flops, and clothing with large logos or slogans. Dress comfortably and confidently.

### Things to keep in mind:

- Time limits for speeches: Beginners 4-5 minutes and Advanced 5-6 minutes
- Deductions- There will be a 1-point deduction for every 30 seconds over/under time
- Formal & Illustrated Speech categories will be broken down into the following classes by age:
  - **Beginners:** Youth ages 8-13 on or before Sept. 1, 2025.
  - **Advanced:** Youth ages 14+ on or before September 1, 2025.

## Formal Speech --

**Self-written | Notes Allowed | No props or costumes | Individual | Beginners: 4-5 minutes | Advanced: 5-6 minutes**

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 deliver a speech on any topic they wish.

## Illustrated Speech

**Self-written | Notes Allowed | Illustrations Required | Individual | Beginners: 4-5 minutes | Advanced: 5-6 minutes**

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 printed manuscripts to judge at the event | 4-6 minutes**

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 presented to the judge the day of 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 printed manuscripts to judge at the event | 4-6 minutes**

Presentations in Oral Interpretation must be published works, and manuscripts or transcripts must be presented to the judge the day of the contest. They may be presented as an individual or a two-person team entry. Materials can be read or memorized. 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

# GENERAL PROJECTS DAY

SATURDAY, JULY 11, 2026

Boone County Community Building, 111 W. First St., Belvidere, IL

Open for public viewing 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Illinois 4-H reserves the right to modify or cancel events if risks are identified or if safety guidelines must be followed.

## Judging Schedule

### Session 1 – 8:30-9:30

Beaver Valley Clippers  
Boonedocks  
New Edition  
Northern Heritage  
Wranglers

### Session 3 – 10:30-11:30

Boone Farms  
Fiber Friendly  
Grasshoppers-Sweet Clover  
Kingdom Seekers

### Session 2 – 9:30-10:30

County Clovers  
County Progressors  
Flora Producers  
The Lucky Foot Rabbit SPIN Club

### Session 4 – 11:30-12:30

Juntos  
LeRoy Commandoes  
Manchester Mavericks

- The schedule was designed with each club's enrollment in mind.
  - If you have 4-5 projects, plan on coming an hour earlier than your scheduled time.
  - Public Viewing will be from 1:30-2:30 p.m.
  - Project Pick Up Time will begin at 2:30 p.m. No projects should be taken prior to 2:30.
1. Projects should be brought to the show at the time the club is scheduled for judging. The 4-H member must stay with their project for a conference with the judge. Conference judging is not about preparing a presentation. Judging is meant to be a conversation between the judge and 4-H member (or group where applicable) about the project and the learning experience. You may bring notes if you wish. 4-H'er should be the only one involved in the conference judging. *No parents will be allowed to sit with their child while he/she is being judged, unless accommodation has been pre-arranged with local Extension staff.* Tips on creating an engaging display board are available at: <https://go.illinois.edu/4HDisplayTips>.
  2. All projects being exhibited at General Projects Day must be done by the exhibitor and completed within the current 4-H year (September 1, 2025 – July 11, 2026). School projects, such as clothing, woodworking, computer, etc. will be allowed as 4-H projects. Exhibitors must be enrolled in the project exhibited during the current year.
  3. Members unable to appear for Boone County's conference judging may have a club representative bring their project to GPD for judging. A written report of what you have learned in the project is REQUIRED.
  4. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to follow the general rules of this division and the exhibit requirements for the specific class entered. Exhibitors not following the exhibit requirements as stated in this book will automatically receive a red or white ribbon based on the quality of the project.
  5. A member may exhibit in one (1) class per project unless there are multiple class options for a project level.
  6. All entries must be made online. <http://boone4-hfair.fairentry.com>. Entry Deadline: June 2
  7. 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. *(State Fair Note: Exhibitors will need to carry their project from the distant parking lots on the fairgrounds. Tables are provided. Do not bring your own.)*
  8. It is recommended that any patterns or extra papers, such as recipes, be placed in a clear sheet protector. This is an optional request, but it may help keep loose papers organized. Also, the use of sheet protectors is recommended for all binder exhibits. Binder exhibits will NOT be labeled "Do Not Touch."

9. Exhibits illustrating inappropriate subject matter and/or graphics are not acceptable. The superintendents and staff reserve the right to remove exhibits deemed inappropriate or dangerous for youth audiences. The content of any 4-H competitive presentation does not necessarily reflect the beliefs or views of the Illinois State Fair or the University of Illinois 4-H program.
10. **Innovation Classes** are open to ALL 4-H members in the project area 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 method they want for demonstrating project learning as long as it does not fit in any other class in that category. Only selected projects categories have an Innovation option.
11. **Group Project** opportunities include Civic Engagement, Diversity and Cultural Awareness, Leadership, Passport to the World, Service Learning and Video.
12. **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 Illinois 4-H website. Boone County will provide project manuals as sponsorship and budget allow.
13. Limited equipment will be provided for certain exhibits and must be requested in advance. Exhibitors must furnish any additional equipment they feel is necessary to properly critique their exhibit (i.e. computer). Exhibitors should be aware that electrical outlets are not always available near the judging location.
14. Copyright and Clover Usage
  - 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, and/or characters from television, movies such as Disney characters, Iron Man, etc.
    - More details in the new “Copyright Guidelines Tipsheet: <https://go.illinois.edu/II4HCopyrightGuidelines>.
  - 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.

## ILLINOIS STATE FAIR

1. State Fair exhibitors must have been at least 8 years old as of September 1, 2025.
2. Exhibitors must be enrolled in the project or have participated in the activity in which they are exhibiting during the current year. Due to the nature of the conference judging process, exhibitors must be present with the exhibit that they have made for judging on their assigned county exhibition day.
3. Boone County’s Exhibit Day at the State Fair for all non-livestock projects will be **Sunday, August 16**.
4. All State Fair livestock entries must be submitted online on or before July 15. Jr. Horse State Fair entries must be submitted online on or before June 15. State Fair premium books are available online. **Note 2026: All Junior Department ISF entries will be online and will be approved after submission by Extension staff.**
5. State Fair livestock exhibitors are REQUIRED to take YQCA training to show at the State Fair.
6. Non-livestock projects eligible for State Fair competition must follow the requirements outlined in this book. Additional State Fair information will be shared with exhibitors after selection and prior to State Fair exhibition.
7. A 4-H member may enter only one individual exhibit class and one group exhibit in the State Fair 4-H General Project Division.
8. The same product or speech that is selected at the county level must be the one exhibited at the State Fair/contest (except for Food & Nutrition – must be same recipe; Crops, Floriculture, and Vegetable gardening exhibits-must be the same species/type i.e. tomatoes, snap beans, onions, etc.). Modifications can be made to the original county exhibit to meet State Fair class requirements or incorporate suggested improvements by the local judge.
9. The Illinois State Fair, State 4-H Office, and local University of Illinois Extension personnel or their assigned agents do not assume liability for loss, theft, or damage to any exhibit.

## AEROSPACE

### State Fair: 2 entries

#### Model Rocketry – (Aerospace Levels 1, 2, 3 & 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 -- (Aerospace Levels 1, 2, 3 & 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

### State Fair: 3 entries

#### Soybeans – Record Book-Required 📖

Exhibit **five** fresh plants (include a root system that is washed) that are 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/4-HCropsRecord](http://go.illinois.edu/4-HCropsRecord), or an FFA crops record.

#### Corn – Record Book-Required 📖

Exhibit **two** fresh plants of field corn (include a root system that is washed) 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. *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/4-HCropsRecord](http://go.illinois.edu/4-HCropsRecord), or an FFA crops record.

#### Small Grains – 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/4-HCropsRecord](http://go.illinois.edu/4-HCropsRecord), or an FFA crops record.

#### Hay – Record Book Required 📖

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

#### Agronomy Innovation Class – (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

### **State Fair: 2 entries** (1 entry from Level 1 and 1 entry from Level 2)

Open to members in Beef, Cat, Dairy Cattle, Dog, Horse, Goat, Llama/Alpaca, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep, Small Pets, and Swine

#### **Animal Science Level 1 (for youth enrolled in this project for 1-2 years)**

#### **Animal Science Level 2 (for youth enrolled in this project for 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

### **State Fair: 3 entries**

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

As part of the video, youth must cite the sources of the information they present (either vocally or on screen as text). Videos should not include video or photo content not recorded by the 4-H'er. Videos should not promote any products and should follow all copyright guidelines. Videos in this category will be judged on the quality and accuracy of the information shared, as well as clarity of presentation, and how engaging they are to a general audience (not on filmmaking techniques). Youth should have a signed model release for anyone appearing in the video besides themselves, and those should be brought to judging. Forms are available at [go.illinois.edu/modelrelease](http://go.illinois.edu/modelrelease).

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

## CAREER DEVELOPMENT

### State Fair: 2 entries

#### Build Your Future – *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 previous year's learning experiences.

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

## CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

### State Fair: 2 entries

- Exhibits are limited to 36" X 48" and 15" deep.

#### Civic Engagement 1

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. Exhibits are limited to 36" x 48" and 15" deep.

#### Civic Engagement 2 – *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). Exhibits are limited to 36" x 48" and 15" deep.

#### Civic Engagement 3 -- *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. Exhibits are limited to 36" x 48" and 15" deep.

#### Civic Engagement Group Exhibit – *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

## 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

### State Fair: 1 entry from Beginner and 1 entry from Advanced

**Costume Design** – *Costume Design Workbook-Required* 📖

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

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

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

## CLOTHING EMBELLISHMENT

### State Fair: 2 entries

**Clothing Embellishment** – *Clothing Embellishment Workbook-Required* 📖

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

Youth should enter the class that aligns with the technique(s) used in their outfit):

- **Clothing Embellishment Applied** - Decoration is attached by gluing, fusing, or painting. Examples: jewels, puff paints, appliqués, tie dye.
- **Clothing Embellishment Stitched** - 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** - Decoration includes any combination of both applied and stitched techniques across the outfit.

**COUNTY JUDGING PROCEDURES FOR SEWING PROJECTS**

1. If you have a constructed garment, members should come wearing their garment. If the garment was constructed for another individual, that individual must be present to wear the garment for the judge.
2. First, the member will be judged for “fit and appearance” of their garment.
3. Next, the member/or individual wearing the garment will **immediately** use the restroom to change out of their garment. As soon as the member/individual is changed, they will **immediately** return to finish their conference and construction judging with the judge.
4. Items will be displayed for public viewing.

**SEWING GUIDELINES**

1. All exhibits entered in Sewing 1-3 will be judged based on their construction and fit (if applicable).
2. **If a pattern was used to make the item, the pattern instructions, either written or electronic, are to be included with the exhibit.**
3. Exhibit tags should be attached to the garment, not to the hanger.
4. Members wishing to exhibit knitted items should be enrolled in Visual Arts Fiber (if original) or Visual Arts Heritage Arts (if made from a pattern).
5. 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.

**STATE FAIR JUDGING PROCESS:**

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. Please be sure to follow all items listed under Sewing Guidelines.

**SEWING**

**State Fair: 3 entries**

**Sewing 1**

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.

Exhibitor allowed one exhibit in each category: Non-Clothing or Clothing

**Non-Clothing Exhibits** – 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** – 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 wearable item using skills learned in project manual (apron, vest, etc.)

**Sewing 2**

Exhibitor allowed one exhibit in each category: Non-Clothing or Clothing

**Non-Clothing Exhibits** – exhibit one of the following sewn items:

- *Recycled Clothing Accessory* – Create a clothing accessory made from a used item. The item must be changed in some way in the redesign process. The finished accessory must reflect at least one skill learned in the project and exhibitor should be able to identify the skill

used. A before picture and a description of the redesign process must accompany the exhibit. Clothing accessory may include: hat, bag, scarf, belt, etc.

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

**Clothing Exhibits** – exhibit one of the following sewn items:

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

### **Sewing 3**

Exhibitor allowed one exhibit in each category: Non-Clothing or Clothing

**Non-Clothing Exhibits** – exhibit one of the following sewn items:

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

**Clothing Exhibits** – exhibit one of the following sewn items:

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

## **SHOPPING IN STYLE**

### **State Fair: 2 entries**

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

### **Shopping In Style – Beginning (Levels 1 & 2) 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 considered to be “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) *Shopping in Style Digital-Required*** 📄

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

- Exhibit should include two clothing items that were previously a part of your wardrobe that still fit but you don't wear anymore and pair them with something new to make them wearable again. Also include a report that explains why the garment was not being worn and what you did to transform it into a wearable garment again. **OR**
- Exhibit should include at least five pieces of clothing that exhibitor can mix and match to create multiple outfits. Include a poster or report that includes a clothing inventory AND describes what you have learned by completing this activity. Please bring at least one complete outfit from the selected clothing to display and model for the judge. **OR**
- Exhibit should include a 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 compliments and/or extends your wardrobe. **OR**
- Exhibit should include garment you purchased along with a poster or report that 1) describes a cost comparison of this item completed by the exhibitor when purchasing the garment; should include variety of shopping options and/or price tracking at stores over a period of time; OR 2) provides a quality comparison rating the specific clothing item purchased based on care, construction, cost and unique features; should include construction quality details, design features that influenced selection, cost per wearing, and garment care.

**Shopping In Style – Advanced (Level 5 & 6) *Shopping in Style Digital-Required*** 📄

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

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

## COMMUNICATIONS

### **State Fair: 2 entries**

#### **Communications Level 1, 2 & 3 – *Communications Module 1, 2 or 3-Required*** 📄

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

#### **Journalism, News & Social Media – *Journalism, News & Social Media-Required*** 📄

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

**Year 1:** Results of doing a minimum of 5, 2-star activities, answering all the questions in the activities.

**Year 2:** Results of doing a minimum of 5, 2-star activities, answering all the questions in the activities.

**Year 3:** Results of doing a minimum of 5, 3-star activities. One of the activities must include writing an advance story, a follow-up story, or a feature story.

**Year 4:** Results of doing at least 2, 2-star activities and 3, 3-star activities. If the activities include making an audio or videotape, the exhibitor must provide a way for the judge to view or listen to it.

Note: State Fair will provide a way for the judges to view or listen to it.

## COMPUTER SCIENCE

### State Fair: 3 entries

- 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 -- (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 -- (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 -- (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 -- (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— (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

### State Fair: 2 entries

#### **Entrepreneurship – 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 exhibitor has been enrolled in the project. Completed activities from previous years should be included. *Use of page protectors is recommended.*

#### **My Financial Future 1 Beginner – 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 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 - My Financial Future Advanced Youth Notebook-Required** 📖

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

- **First Year** – Complete a minimum of two activities from Module 1: Earning Income and Career Planning and Module 2: Organizing Your Flow.
- **Second Year** – Complete all activities not previously completed in Module 1: Earning Income and Career Planning and Module 2: Organizing Your Flow; **AND** a minimum of two of the activities from Module 3: Working with Banks and Credit Unions: Bank on It and Module 4: Making Your \$ Work 4 U.
- **Third Year and beyond** – Complete all activities not previously completed in Module 3: Working with Banks and Credit Unions: Bank on It and Module 4: Making Your \$ Work 4 U; **AND** a minimum of two activities from Module 5: Credit and Consumer Breadcrumbs.

## CREATING WITH BUILDING BRICKS

### State Fair: 3 entries

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

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

### Creating with Building Bricks: Art

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

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

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

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**

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**

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**

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**

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

**Creating with Building Bricks: Virtual**

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****State Fair: 2 entries**

**For State Fair Delegates ONLY** – Follow the instructions below to submit your entry.

- Members are strongly encouraged to upload their submission to the State Communications Box folder at least two days prior to the beginning of the State Fair. Members need to include their name and county in the title of the file. Upload files: <https://go.illinois.edu/StateFairSubmissions>.
- Members are also required to bring a hardy copy of their project to drop off the morning of that their county is exhibiting at the state fair.

**All creative writing/poetry entries MUST BE submitted to the county 4-H Office by July 9. This will allow our judge time to read and provide meaningful review during exhibition. Members are required to bring a hard copy of their project to the conference judging. Upload your file to <https://go.illinois.edu/BooneCreativeWriting>.**

**Creative Writing** – The entry is to be typewritten on 8 ½ by 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. Submit one of the following:

- **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.

**\*\*If promoted to state fair, delegates will be required to submit their entry by August 1. Details will be sent to delegates.**

**Poetry** – 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. Submit one of the following:

- **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.

**\*\*If promoted to state fair, delegates will be required to submit their entry by August 1. Details will be sent to delegates.**

## DRONES: UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES/SYSTEMS

### State Fair: 2 entries

- 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 – *Unmanned Aerial Vehicles/Systems: Drones* 📺

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 - *Unmanned Aerial Vehicles/Systems: Drones* 📺

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

### State Fair: 3 entries

#### Electricity 1

May only be battery-powered projects using battery components and wiring. Exhibit a momentary switch, simple switch, basic circuit, electromagnet, galvanometer, **OR** electric motor. All projects must include a report explaining how the project was constructed and the principles demonstrated. Projects using paper clips, cardboard, thumbtack, 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

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, a 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, & 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

Exhibit a 120V lighting fixture or other appliance which 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 projects must include a report explaining how the project was constructed and principles for its operation.

#### Electricity 4

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

## ENTOMOLOGY

### State Fair: 2 entries

- 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. Be sure all items are securely attached.
- All displays should be comprised of non-living specimens properly prepared for display
- Rules for pinning and labeling are available at the following website:  
<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 class.

### Entomology 1 – 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 – 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 – 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 - (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.

## ENTOMOLOGY: BEEKEEPING

### State Fair: 2 entries

- Create an exhibit that shows the public what you learned in the beekeeping project this year.
- 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 – 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 -- Exhibit one (1) of the following:

- Extracted Honey: Three (3) pint jars (glass, screw-top) holding 1# lb. of honey each.
- Chunk Honey (comb in jar): Three (3) pint jars (wide-mouth, glass).

- Cut-Comb Honey: Three (3) 1# lb. boxes (boxes are usually 4 ½" x 4 ½" in size).
- Section Honey: Three (3) sections of comb honey (in basswood boxes or Ross rounds).
- Working with honey bees. Present a topic from your manual to teach the public about working with honey bees. Use your knowledge and creativity to display this information on a poster or in a notebook.

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

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 honey bees or beekeeping.

## ESPORTS

### State Fair: 3 entries

All exhibitors must complete all activities in the Illinois 4-H Esports curriculum.

#### Esports – Illinois 4-H eSports Curriculum-Required

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

## EXPLORATORY

### Exploratory projects are not eligible for State Fair

#### Exploratory - Welcome to 4-H (open to youth ages 8-10)

Exhibit a display on one of the following topics from the project book: windowsill gardening, 4-H animals, 4-H family, OR coat of arms.

#### Collectibles projects are not eligible for State Fair

#### Collectibles - My Favorite Things

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

### State Fair: 1 entry

#### Family Heritage

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"x48" and 15" deep.

## FOODS & NUTRITION

### State Fair: 7 entries

#### 4-H Cooking 101 – 4-H Cooking 101-Required 📖

Using the recipes included in the project manual (which are also available at [go.illinois.edu/Cooking101Recipes](http://go.illinois.edu/Cooking101Recipes)), prepare an exhibit for at least 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 (available for download at [go.illinois.edu/Cooking101Activity](http://go.illinois.edu/Cooking101Activity)). Bring a document with printed pictures of your 3 or more plates and the answers to questions 1-7 to remain on display with your project. The words on the plates must be legible and clearly visible in the picture. Pictures, graphics or photos are acceptable. **Due to space limitations, the size of the activity document should be no larger than an 8 ½" x 11" binder or folder.**

**Cereal Bars** - 3 cereal marshmallow bars

**Coffeecake** - ¼ of 8" square or round coffeecake

**Cookies** - 3 cookies

*\*If you plan to exhibit all 3 food items above, you must complete the "in addition to your food exhibit" for all 3 items.*

*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 -- 4-H Cooking 201-Required 📖

Using the recipes included in the project manual (which are also available at [go.illinois.edu/Cooking201Recipes](http://go.illinois.edu/Cooking201Recipes)), prepare and exhibit for at least 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 (available for download at [go.illinois.edu/Cooking201Activity](http://go.illinois.edu/Cooking201Activity)). Bring either page 91 with your completed answers or a document with the answers to remain on display with your project along with a picture of the meal you prepared. You do **not** need to complete the Challenge Yourself section on page 91. **Due to space limitations, the size of the activity document should be no larger than an 8 ½" x 11" binder or folder.**

**Biscuits** - 3 rolled biscuits

**Scones** - 3 scones

**Nut Bread** - ½ loaf (9" x 5") of basic nut bread (no variations)

*\*If you plan to exhibit all 3 food items above, you must complete the "in addition to your food exhibit" for all 3 items.*

*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 -- 4-H Cooking 301-Required 📖

Using the recipes included in the project manual (which are also available at [go.illinois.edu/Cooking301Recipes](http://go.illinois.edu/Cooking301Recipes)), prepare an exhibit for at least 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 for download at [go.illinois.edu/Cooking301Experiments](http://go.illinois.edu/Cooking301Experiments). Bring a document with a printed picture of your experiment and the answers to the experiment questions to remain on display with your

project. **Due to space limitations, the size of the activity document should be no larger than an 8 ½" x 11" binder or folder.**

**Dinner Rolls** - 3 dinner rolls

**Yeast Bread** - loaf of yeast bread

**Tea Ring** - 1 tea ring

**Sweet Rolls** - 3 basic sweet dough rolls

**Cake** - one layer of a rich white cake or rich chocolate cake, top side up (*without frosting*)

*\*If you plan to exhibit all 5 food items above, you must complete the "in addition to your food exhibit" for all 5 items.*

*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 -- 4-H Cooking 401** 📖

*Using the recipes included in the project manual (which are also available at*

*go.illinois.edu/Cooking401Recipes), prepare an exhibit for at least one exhibit 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,***

*the size of the activity document should be no larger than an 8 ½" x 11" binder or folder.*

**Focaccia Bread** - ¼ of a 15" x 10" loaf of focaccia bread (do not include dipping oil)

**Pie Shell** - one baked pie shell – traditional, oil, or whole wheat (no graham cracker)

**Sponge Cake** - ¼ golden sponge cake, top side up, without frosting

**French Bread** - ½ loaf French bread

*\*If you plan to exhibit all 4 food items above, you must complete the "in addition to your food exhibit" for all 4 items.*

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

**Food Preservation** -- Prepare an exhibit using at least 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**– 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** – Exhibit two (2) different dried foods packed in plastic food storage bags. Choose from fruit, vegetable, fruit leather, or meat jerky.
- **Pickles and Relishes** – Exhibit two (2) pint jars of different recipes of pickles and/or relishes made from produce.
- **Jams, Jellies, and Preserves** – Exhibit two (2) half-pint jars of two different jams, jellies, and/or preserves. **Freezer jams are not permitted.**
- **Preservation Combination** – Exhibit two different preserved food products from two different categories above, in appropriate jars/packaging (Drying). For example, exhibit 1 jar of tomatoes (Fruits/Vegetables) and 1 half-pint of jelly (Jams, Jellies and Preserves).

All preserved products should be prepared and processed according to the current USDA/Extension information. USDA information on preserving food, including recipes, can be found at:

[www.homefoodpreservation.com](http://www.homefoodpreservation.com) or <https://extension.illinois.edu/food-preservation/food-preservation>

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

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

**Examples:**

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

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

Those sources are: •PUT IT UP! Food Preservation for Youth website/manuals•National Center for Home Food Preservation•National 4-H Home Food Preservation Project manuals•Ball/Kerr Canning (recipes after 1985)•U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) •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 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 Food Innovation class. Freezing exhibits, including freezer jams, should be entered in Foods Innovation class.*

**Global Gourmet** -- *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** -- *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.

**Foods Innovation Class** -- (**Open to youth enrolled in a Foods project.**) -- Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the Foods 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.

## FOOD SCIENCE

**State Fair: 2 entries**

- 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** -- *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** -- *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, Food Science 1-4 -- *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.

## FORESTRY

### State Fair: 2 entries

**Forests of Fun 1 -- Level 1: *Follow the Path-Required***

**Forests of Fun 2 -- Level 2: *Reach for the Canopy-Required***

**Forests of Fun 3 -- 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 -- (Open to youth enrolled in a Forestry project.)**

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

### State Fair: 3 entries

- 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.

**Pebble Pups 1** - Display 8 to 19 rocks and mineral specimens with three minerals in the collection. Collection may include duplications that show variations. Label collection and note where found. For youth exhibiting the same collection over multiple years, at least 25% of the specimens in the collection must have been collected in the current 4-H year.

**Pebble Pups 2** - Display at least 20, but no more than 29, rocks and mineral specimens with seven minerals in the collection. Collection may include duplications that show variations. Label collection and note where found. For youth exhibiting the same collection over multiple years, at least 25% of the specimens in the collection must have been collected in the current 4-H year.

**Rock Hounds 1** - Display at least 30, but no more than 40, rocks and mineral specimens with ten minerals in the collection. Rocks should include at least three igneous, two metamorphic, and three sedimentary groups. Label collection and note where found. For youth exhibiting the same collection over multiple years, at least 25% of the specimens in the collection must have been collected in the current 4-H year.

**Rock Hounds 2** - 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:** (Open to youth enrolled in Geology). Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the Geology project. Exhibit may be the result of knowledge gained from project manuals; independent study about Illinois rock(s) and mineral(s), interaction with geology professionals; and/or individual exploration in the area of geology. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

## HEALTH

### State Fair: 3 entries

- 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"X48" and 15" deep.

### Everyday Food and Fitness -- *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 -- 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 – *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 – *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

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the Health project. **Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project.** The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works,

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

## **HORTICULTURE: FLORICULTURE**

**State Fair: 2 entries in Floral Design; 1 entry in Landscape Design; 2 entries in Plant Propagation; 1 entry in Flower Preservation; 2 entries in Ornamental Displays; 1 entry in Floriculture Innovation**

### **Floral Design – for youth in any level of Floriculture.**

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**  
Exhibit a round fresh flower arrangement no larger than 12"x12"x15". Arrangement should be viewable from any side.
- **Wearable Flowers**  
Exhibit a wearable fresh flower arrangement such as a corsage, boutonniere, pocket square flowers, floral crown, or other. The piece should demonstrate skills in wiring or gluing flowers appropriately.
- **Wedding Bouquet**  
Exhibit a fresh wedding or special event bouquet at least 8" in diameter. A bouquet can be hand-tied or created using a foam holder. The bouquet should be finished and ready for use by the bride. The bouquet should be displayed in a clear vase with water accessible to the stems (if not in a foam holder).
- **Centerpiece Display: Live activity (SF 50114)**  
Exhibitor must make two arrangements suitable for use as a centerpiece(s) within one hour in front of the judge. Arrangements can be made from fresh and/or dried materials. No silks are permitted. The centerpiece should follow a cohesive theme. Final arrangements must fit on a tabletop and not exceed 2.5 ft x 2.5 ft. Exhibitors are not allowed to interact with anyone other than the judge and superintendent during the judging process. The judge may choose to ask the exhibitor about their process and other questions during the design time. The exhibitor is responsible for furnishing their own flowers, containers, and other supplies. Exhibitor is responsible for cleaning up their workspace at the end of judging. Table will be provided.

### **Landscape Design – for youth in any level of Floriculture. \*Recommended for ages 14 and up**

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

### **Plant Propagation – for youth in any level of Floriculture.**

- **Photo Collage**  
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 poster board.
- **Cut Flower Specimens**  
4-H members must bring 3 containers, each featuring a different 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  
 Cleome-1 bloom  
 Cocksomb-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  
 Marigold (dwarf)-3 stems

Marigold (large)-3 stems  
 Petunia (double)-3 stems  
 Petunia (single)-3 stems  
 Phlox-1 stalk  
 Rose-1 bloom  
 Rudebekia-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**

Exhibit a plant that you propagated from cuttings, layering, or division, or started from seed. Create a photo board showing the progression of growth. Tips for vegetative propagation of houseplants can be found in the University of Illinois Extension Gardener’s Corner ([go.illinois.edu/gardenerscorner](http://go.illinois.edu/gardenerscorner)). Any type of house plant or outdoor plant is appropriate here.

**• Forced Bulbs**

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**

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

**Flower Preservation**

**• Posterboard - Dry/Preserve Flowers**

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**

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 Display**

**• Fairy Garden**

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**

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**

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**

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

**• Ornamental Poster**

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

**Floriculture Innovation**

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: VEGETABLE, HERBS & FRUITS

## State Fair: 3 entries

- For youth in any level of Vegetable Gardening.
- All exhibits must have been grown by the exhibitor as part of their current gardening 4-H project. Exhibitors should be knowledgeable about various aspects of the produce, including but not limited to different varieties, soil testing, fertilizers used, etc. Exhibits should be prepared according to the Illinois Vegetable Garden Guide: [go.illinois.edu/4HVegetableGuide](http://go.illinois.edu/4HVegetableGuide). Waxes and oils may not be used on vegetables or fruits. Any plant infested with insects will be removed from the exhibit area and will not be eligible for champion awards.
- General gardening advice and information can be found at: <https://extension.illinois.edu/gardening>.

## Herb Container Display

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 prior to exhibiting. 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 resource 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

- This class is allowed 2'6" x 2'6" space for display.
- Display must include 6 or more different kinds of vegetable 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. Acorn squash and zucchini would be classified as two different vegetables.
- The number and type of vegetables/fruits used must conform to Vegetable Plate/Fruit Plate/Display List. Fruit Plate list is below Vegetable Plate list.
- Exhibitors must provide the name and variety of all vegetables/fruits used (ie. Cabbage—Golden Acre; Cucumber, slicing—Straight Eight; Tomatoes, slicing—Rocky Top; Snap Beans—Contender, etc.).

## Vegetable Plates

Exhibit must include 2 single vegetable plates (Exhibitor will furnish the disposable plates.)

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

## Fruit Plates

• Exhibit must include 2 single fruit plates (Exhibitor will furnish the disposable plates.)

- Exhibitors must provide the name and variety of all vegetables/fruits used. Number of fruits on plates must conform to plate list below.
  - Only one variety on each plate.
- An exhibitor cannot show two plates of the same type fruit. (ie: Cannot exhibit Gala & Jonathan Apples, Mazzard & Gisela Cherries, etc.)

## Vegetable Gardening Display – Other

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.

## Vegetable Plate List:

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

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

## Fruit Plate List:

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

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

## INTERCULTURAL

**State Fair: 1 individual entry in Passport to the World; 1 individual entry in Diversity & Cultural Awareness; 1 group entry in Passport to the World; 1 group entry in Diversity & Cultural Awareness**

➤Due to space restrictions, exhibits are limited to 36" x 48" and 15" deep.

### **Passport to the World – Individual – *Passport to the World-Required***

Prepare a display illustrating what you have learned about a country. This might include topics such as geography, economy, agriculture, people, language, housing, culture, music, crafts, clothing, environment, or holidays. Exhibits can focus on one or two topics in depth or cover more topics in brief. Exhibit should be educational in nature and should not promote one's beliefs over another person's beliefs. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. Tips on creating an engaging display board are available at [go.illinois.edu/4HDisplayTips](http://go.illinois.edu/4HDisplayTips). In addition to their display, youth should bring a copy of their Passport to the World project manual to judging. Sections of the book related to what they focus on in their display should be completed. **Please note:** judging for the individual project should not include a planned presentation about the chosen country. Judging is meant to be a conversation between the judge and member about the project and the learning experience. Exhibits are limited to 36" x 48" and 15" deep.

### **Passport to the World – Group -- *Passport to the World-Required***

Exhibit a display illustrating what your group has learned about a country. This might include topics such as geography, economy, agriculture, people, language, housing, culture, music, crafts, clothing, environment, or holidays. Exhibits can focus on one or two topics in depth or cover more topics in brief. Exhibit should be educational in nature and should not promote one's beliefs over another person's beliefs. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. Tips on creating an engaging display board are available at [go.illinois.edu/4HDisplayTips](http://go.illinois.edu/4HDisplayTips). In addition to their display, groups should bring a copy of their group's Passport to the World project manual to judging. Sections of the book related to what the group focuses on in their display should be completed. The display must be accompanied by at least 3 but no more than 10 4-H members at the time of the judge's critique. Groups wishing to include more than 10 members must ask for an accommodation, one week prior to judging. Group members should prepare a short (5 minutes maximum) presentation about their learning for the judge. The presentation should focus on key concepts learned and takeaways from the project experience. All group members present for judging should be able to discuss the project and answer questions. Only group members who participate in the judging are eligible for ribbons and premiums. Presentations will occur in the space designated by the fair or show. Groups should not bring extra tables or items (beyond those that fit within the exhibit size requirements) for their presentation. Exhibits are limited to 36" x 48" and 15" deep.

### **Diversity & Cultural Awareness – Individual – *Diversity: The Source of Our Strength-Required***

Create a display or binder portfolio that illustrates the results of minimum of three (3) completed activities from the project book. Exhibits are limited to 36" x 48" and 15" deep.

### **Diversity & Cultural Awareness—Group – *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

### State Fair: 2 entries

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

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

**Advanced** - 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. Exhibit should be appropriate to the exhibitor's age, skills and ability in this project. Must provide visual documentation of their process.

### Interior Design Innovation Class -- (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

### State Fair: 3 Individual Entries + 2 Group Entries

- Due to space restrictions, exhibits are limited to 36" x 48" and 15" deep.

### Leadership 1, 2 or 3 – Skills You Never Outgrow 1, 2 or 3-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** from the appropriate manual you are working on/completed. Photocopies or original pages of the completed activities from the book should be included in the portfolio. Use of page protectors recommended.

- **First Year:** One activity from each of the following sections: Understanding Self; Communication; and Getting Along with Others, plus one of the 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 of the 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 of the exhibitor's choice from the manual.

**Leadership Innovation Class -- (Open to youth enrolled in Leadership) --** 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 -- (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. Due to space limitations, exhibits are limited 36" X 48" and 15" deep. More information on Teens as Leaders Model found here:

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

## MAKER

### State Fair: 3 entries

#### Maker – [go.illinois.edu/DIYMakeBuild-Required](http://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 reprogramed 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 used 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: FISHING AND WILDLIFE

### State Fair: 3 entries

#### Sportfishing 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 – *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 – *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, 2, & 3 -- *Choose the correct level project manual – Wildlife Science Level 1, 2 or 3-Required* 📄

Exhibit any activity developed from the project manual that you completed. Be able to explain the importance of and concept behind the exhibit. (Ex: display of the life history of an animal).

**Fish and Wildlife Innovation Class** – (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 & OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

### State Fair: 3 entries

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

#### Exploring Your Environment 1 – *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 -- *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, 2 & 3 -- *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** – (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

### State Fair: 3 entries

- 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.
- Meta data must be included on the back of the picture
- The photo release and meta data tip sheet can be obtained at:  
<https://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 Filter (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 – 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 framed 5"x7" or 8"x10" picture.

**Photography 2 – Level 2: Next Level Photography-Required** 📖

Exhibit **one** of the options listed below:

- Exhibit one framed 8"x10" close-up photograph using the skills learned on page (62-63 of old manual or 58-61 of new manual) (section: Bits and Pieces) of the 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 **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. 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 - 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"x10" 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 (open to members in Photography 1, 2 and 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 an award.

## PLANTS & SOILS

### State Fair: 3 entries

#### Cover Crops

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.

**Plant and Soils 1 – 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.

**Plant and Soils 2 – 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.

**Plant and Soils 3 – Sprouting Out and Growing UP-Required**

Prepare a 36" X 48" display or a poster no larger than 36" X 48" and 15" deep that illustrates an activity from the project manual. The display should demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between soil and other cycles found in nature. Displays should also provide an example of a leadership or service learning experience focused on environmental stewardship. Include your project journal that documents activity recordkeeping requirements, answers activity questions, and details personal thoughts and ideas in response to each activity.

**READY4LIFE****State Fair: 2 entries (Career) + 2 entries (Entrepreneurship)****Ready4Life (Career) -- Open to youth 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) -- Open to youth 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****State Fair: 3 entries**

If applicable for their class and display, exhibitors must bring their own computers for demonstration purposes; computers will not be provided.

- Exhibits in classes Robotics 1, or Robotics 2 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.
- Members should bring their robot to the exhibit opportunity (local exhibit or state fair).

**Robotics 1 – 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 -- Robotics 2: EV3 N More or [go.illinois.edu/RoboticsActivities2](http://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](http://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 -- [go.illinois.edu/4HRoboticsProjectPage](http://go.illinois.edu/4HRoboticsProjectPage) - Required**

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

Exhibit an original robot, either homemade or a kit that does not fall under Robotics 1 or 2 that can complete a task using MULTIPLE sensors. **The robot must be autonomous, Text Based (Python, C etc.) and cannot be controlled remotely.** If a robot kit is used, then some parts of the robot must be built using other components such as wood, plastic, or metal. The robot can include any type of motors, pneumatics, or sensors. This class can also be used for LEGO Mindstorms/Spike Prime, etc. or Vex kits where the exhibit does not fall under Robotics 1 or 2 exhibit options. Autonomous control of the robot may also be achieved using an "open source" platform such as Arduino or Raspberry Pi and can be programmed using a coding language that is publicly available. Exhibitors in the class 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 – *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 -- *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 project book. Be sure all robotics notebook sections within the module being exhibited are filled in.

**Junk Drawer Robotics 3 -- *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 project book. Be sure all robotics notebook sections within the module being exhibited are filled in.

**Junk Drawer Innovation Class – *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

### State Fair: 2 entries

Due to space restrictions, exhibits are limited to 36" x 48" and 15" deep. For information about the four steps of service learning and other resources, visit [go.illinois.edu/CivicEngagementandServiceLearning](http://go.illinois.edu/CivicEngagementandServiceLearning).

**Service Learning Level 1** -- 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, exhibits are limited to 36" x 48" and 15" deep.

**Service Learning Level 2** -- Exhibit a binder portfolio to reflect what the exhibitor accomplished in the four steps of service learning. This should include a walk-about to observe needs, assessment of needs and assets in your community, surveys/interviews conducted to identify needs and the solution. If exhibitor has been enrolled in project for multiple years (including Service Learning 1), the binder portfolio should include previous years' work. Use of page protectors is recommended. A display board may accompany the portfolio, exhibits are limited to 36" x 48" and 15" deep.

**Service Learning Group Exhibit - Open 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/4HCommunityProjectRegistrationService](http://go.illinois.edu/4HCommunityProjectRegistrationService) additional resources located on site. Exhibit should be educational in nature and should inform others of steps taken to engage club members in 1) identifying a local need, conducting a local needs assessment to find a need that is already visible in the community; 2) determine types of activities group members can/want to do; 3) List all of the activities, projects, or needs identified to review with group members; 4) create a plan and timeline for completing the service project (including-project goals; tasks involved; time commitment; permission needed from community stakeholders; a budget, a source for securing those funds; insurance needs; equipment and supplies; publicity; potential partners if additional help is needed; a risk management plan; and a process for evaluating the project; 5) prepare for group members to engage in the service project which may include instruction on completing specific tasks and/or educating members on how the project will benefit the community; 6) complete the project; 7) documentation of service experience with photos, videos; or written reports; 8) once project is completed, reflect on success and/or challenges encountered during execution of the service project; consider what you might do differently in future service projects. Create a display which will educate the public regarding the impact of the service project for both the community and the group members. The display must be accompanied by at least 3 but no more than 10 4-H members at the time of the judge's critique. Groups wishing to include more than 10 members must ask for an accommodation, at least one week prior to judging. Group members should make a 5-10 minute presentation for the judge. Group members should create a display which showcases the service project and the steps needed to complete it. Only group members present for the judging and who participate in the critique and presentation are eligible for ribbons and premiums.

## SHOOTING SPORTS

### State Fair: 2 entries

- 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/staff will not be displayed.

#### Shooting Sports Displays are prohibited from displaying the following:

- 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 towards 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).

**Archery Display:** 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.

**Rifle Display:** 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.

**Shotgun Display:** 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.

**Pistol Display:** Not offered in Boone County.

## SMALL ENGINES

### State Fair: 1 entry

- 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 display/exhibits.

### Small Engines 1, 2 & 3 -- 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 by an engine and converted into mechanical energy; **OR**
- **Heat Transfer:** Explain how heat is transferred through the cooling and lubrication system of an air-cooled or water-cooled engine; **OR**
- **Filter Maintenance:** Explain the proper maintenance and cleaning of the air, fuel, and oil filters of an engine; **OR**
- **What does a serial number reveal?** Explain the various information that can be learned from the serial number or identification number stamped on the shroud of a Briggs & Stratton engine; **OR**
- **Tools to do the job:** Identify and explain the function(s) of different specialty tools needed for small engine work; **OR**
- **Experimentation:** Explain through illustration an experiment you conducted from the project manual showing the results of your work.

## THEATRE ARTS

### State Fair: 3 entries

#### Theatre Arts 1 -- 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 you're your character wants, what are the obstacles, and create your character's thoughts and struggles.

#### Theatre Arts 2 -- Exhibit one of the following items:

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

#### Theatre Arts 3 -- 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 -- (Open to youth enrolled in Theatre Arts.)

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through Theatre Arts project. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be

provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

## TRACTOR

### State Fair: 2 entries

#### Tractor A – 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 project manual.

#### Tractor B – 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 & identify an engine cooling system, regulations for battery & oil disposal, or another activity listed in the 4-H project manual.

#### Tractor C – 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 – 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 listed in the 4-H project manual.

**Tractor Innovation Class** -- (Open to youth enrolled in any 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

### State Fair: 1 entry for Vet. Science 1 & 1 entry for Vet. Science 2

Open to youth in Veterinary Science 1, 2, or 3

**Veterinary Science 1 – For youth enrolled in this project 1-2 years.**

**Veterinary Science 2 – 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

## **State Fair: 3 entries in any combination for individual or group exhibits**

### **IMPORTANT -- Exhibiting Requirement for BOONE CO. General Projects Day:**

Please bring your video to General Projects Day on a laptop or tablet. The exhibitor must provide a means for the judge to watch the video.

#### **State Fair Notes:**

- All Exhibitors must bring their video to be judged on a USB flash drive and saved in .MP4 format at the State Fair. Wireless internet access is not necessarily available.
- Exhibitors are encouraged to post their video on YouTube.com in advance of State Fair. Exhibitors may choose whether to make the video “public, unlisted” (someone must have the link to view it), or “private” (only people you choose may view it). This will allow fairgoers to view the exhibits on display. There will be TV monitors at the exhibit table for viewing videos so exhibitors will NOT need to bring a laptop or device for viewing at the State Fair. However, at the county level, you will need to bring your own device (including a way for your judge to hear your video) for viewing.

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

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

#### **Commercial or Promotional Video – Individual or Group**

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 or Group**

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 or Group**

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 or Group**

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

#### **Video/Filmmaking Innovation Class -- (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

1. Exhibitors must be enrolled in the Visual Arts project category in which they are exhibiting.
2. Exhibitors are encouraged to date the project when it is made.
3. For those selected to exhibit at the state fair, exhibitors must be able to carry or cart their exhibits across the fairgrounds from parking lots.
4. All visual arts exhibits are evaluated using a visual arts rubric, which considers correct use of design elements, craftsmanship, and creativity.
5. Unless otherwise noted, due to space limitations, projects should be no larger than 48" x 48".
6. Articles exhibited must be an **original design** created by the exhibitor (except in Heritage Arts which may follow a pattern OR in the county-level non-original classes which are not eligible for state fair). 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 for 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 which is fundamentally different. It **MUST NOT BE AN EXACT REPLICA** OF something the judge can search for and find on Pinterest. 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.
7. 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.
8. Use of the 4-H Clover. Chartered 4-H Clubs and enrolled 4-H members are authorized to use the 4-H Name and Emblem. This includes permission for an enrolled 4-H member to use the 4-H name and emblem in exhibits created for personal use and as part of 4-H sponsored events. This includes 4-H decorated cookies, a 4-H clover printed for use in a scrapbook or included as part of any other 4-H exhibit. Use of the green clover shaped image is not protected. The 4-H "emblem" is distinguished by the four H's that signify Head, Heart, Hands and Health. No creative rendering, changes in color or shape of the official 4-H emblem is allowed. Note: Any use of the 4-H name and emblem on items intended as gifts or for sale locally requires prior permission from your local Extension office. Your Extension office will be able to provide you with the form which must be signed by the Extension County Director. Any uses of the 4-H name and emblem for sale or promotion online, and/or in statewide events should be signed by the Illinois 4-H Program Leader ([Illinois4H@illinois.edu](mailto:Illinois4H@illinois.edu)).
9. Quilts entered in Visual Arts should **ONLY** be entered in the Quilting project area in either Level 1- You Can Quilt or Level 2-Quilting the Best Better. All work on the quilt **MUST** be completed by the 4-H member. You cannot exhibit a quilt that was quilted by someone else.

### Judging Procedures at the county GPD:

- Judges will be allowed to judge 2 projects per 4-H visual arts exhibitor. Those members with more than 2 media must rotate back into line and meet with another judge for the remainder of their projects.
- Exhibitors may not wait in line to meet with a specific judge. Members will meet with the first available judge.
- One (1) Entry per Class/Media allowed at the Boone County 4-H GPD. *If you make more than one project in a media area, you MUST select to exhibit only one. Judges will no longer judge more than one project per media category.*

## **Fine Arts 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.

### **State Fair: 1 entry per class**

Chalk/Carbon/Pigment Division A, Chalk/Carbon/Pigment Division B, Chalk/Carbon/Pigment Division C, Clay, Computer-Generated Art, Computer-Generated Art-Graphic Design; Metal, 3-D Design/Mixed Media and Wood

### **State Fair: 2 entry per class**

Glass & Plastic, and Open Form and Emerging Techniques

**Chalk/Carbon/Pigment [Drawing and Painting]** – Enter the division based on the type of material on which the art was created. At the county GPD you may exhibit 1 in each division of Chalk/Carbon/Pigment:

**Division A: Canvas** -- 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.

**Division B: Paper** -- 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.

**Division C: Clay, Glass, Wood, Metal, Textiles** -- 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.

**Clay** – Any **original** item made of clay may be fired or unfired, hand formed or thrown on a wheel. Ceramics, oven-cured, cornstarch, air-dry/shelf-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.

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

**Computer-Generated Art Graphic Design** – 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.

**Glass/Plastic** – Any **original** item made of glass or plastic:

- **Glass** -- Possible items to exhibit include stained glass, etched glass (original design), mosaics made of glass, and glass beading.
- **Plastic** -- Possible items to exhibit include plastic jewelry (friendly plastic); recycled plastic art; plastic that can be molded into 3D shapes.

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

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

**Open Form and Emerging Techniques** - 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.

**Three-Dimensional Design/Mixed Media** – 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 free-standing 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".

**Wood** – 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**

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.

#### **State Fair: 1 entry per class**

Fiber, Heritage Arts, Leather, Nature, Paper A, Paper B, Three-Dimensional Design/mixed Media-Diorama

**Fiber** – 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.

**Heritage Arts** – 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.

**Leather** – Exhibit one of the following options using leather.

- **Leather Stamping:** Exhibit should utilize one or more stamping techniques. Exhibit examples include items such as belt, coasters, bookmark, key chain, wrist bracelet.
- **Leather Carving or Tooling:** Exhibit should use simple swivel knife tooling techniques or may incorporate several swivel knife-tooling designs or patterns. Exhibit examples include items such as belt, pictorial carving, key case.
- **Leather Lacing:** Exhibit to include stamping and/or carving techniques incorporated with lacing techniques. Exhibit examples include items such as wallets, purses, etc.
- **Leather Stitching:** Exhibit may include stamping; carving and/or lacing techniques and should be a leather item or article of apparel, which incorporates hand-sewing and/or machine stitching techniques. Hand-sewing and/or machine stitching must be the work of the exhibitor.

**Nature** – 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 protection/preservation of the natural materials. Candles and baskets are not suitable as entries and instead should be entered in Heritage Arts.

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

- **Two-Dimensional Paper Art**

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**

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 for Visual Arts Paper and 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 exhibitor created their own folding pattern.

**Three-Dimensional Design/Mixed Media - Diorama**

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".

## Visual Arts – Food Decorating

### State Fair: 2 entries

For more information about cake decorating techniques: [go.illinois.edu/caketechniques](http://go.illinois.edu/caketechniques)

#### Food Decorating Beginning

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.

#### Food Decorating Intermediate

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.

#### Food Decorating Advanced

- 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.

#### Food Decorating Master

- 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 – Quilting

### State Fair: 2 entries

Quilts entered in Visual Arts should ONLY be entered in the Quilting Project area in either Level 1 You Can Quilt OR Level 2 Quilting the Best Better.

#### You Can Quilt (Level 1) –

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 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.

#### Quilting the Best Better (Level 2) --

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 in order for it to be hung; OR
- A Quilt that fits any size bed (Twin, Double, Queen or King).

# Visual Arts-Scrapbooking

## State Fair: 2 entries

### Scrapbooking, Beginning

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.

### Scrapbooking, Intermediate

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.

### Scrapbooking, Advanced

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.

## WEATHER

### State Fair: 1 entry

**Weather and Climate Science – Level 1: Weather and Climate Science-Required** 📖

**Weather and Climate Science – Level 2: Weather and Climate Science-Required** 📖

**Weather and Climate Science – 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. Electronics equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

## WELDING

### State Fair: 2 entries

**Welding – Arcs and Sparks-Required** 📖

Exhibit one weldment/item demonstrating the skill level of the exhibitor. Members new to the project should select a weldment the suggested *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 Visual Arts – Metal class.) Exhibits must be portable and cannot be exhibited on a trailer.

## WOODWORKING

### State Fair: 2 entries

- 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

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

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

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

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.

# Choice Awards at General Projects Day

Members will earn **points** for the exhibits they bring, and the **top five award winners** will get to choose a prize from our special “**Choice Awards**” selection.

Exhibitors will receive points for their project's placings.

- Blue ribbons will receive 3 points
- Red ribbons 2 points,
- White ribbons 1 point
- State Fair Winners (Purple ribbons) receive 5 points
- State Fair Alternate (Pink ribbons) receive 4 points

Points will be tallied and the top five exhibitors with the most points become eligible to select a Choice Award. A Choice Award is exactly what it sounds like, the exhibitor has a choice on what they want to receive as their "prize" from a select award catalog. The more projects you exhibit and the better quality of your projects = more points! Example: 4-H Member has an Animal Science poster board and receives a Blue (3) and state fair delegate purple ribbon (5) for their poster. 4-H member gets 8 total points just from one project!

For more information and the catalog: <https://go.illinois.edu/GPDChoiceAwards>

## CLOVERBUDS

1. This is a non-competitive, introductory opportunity for enrolled Cloverbud members to see how non-livestock exhibits are presented.
2. Cloverbuds is a non-premium class. Cloverbuds will receive an item in recognition of their participation. Cloverbuds are not eligible for 4-H premiums.
3. All exhibitors must comply with the 2026 Boone County 4-H Club Show Regulations as stated in the front of this 4-H Show Book.
4. All entries must be made online. <http://boone4-hfair.fairentry.com> Entry Deadline: June 1
5. **The exhibit will consist of a project(s) created during a Cloverbud meeting or using a skilled learned at the meeting.**
6. The Cloverbud member will present their project to a judge. The judge will just talk to the child about the project, so that they experience conference judging.
7. Cloverbud members will exhibit any time from 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 11 at the Community Building, 111 W. Frist St., Belvidere, IL. It is up to the Cloverbud member if they wish to leave their project for display or not. Any projects left on display must be picked up at 2:30 p.m.

# Dog Department

Extension Office – 815-544-3710

## 4-H Dog Show

Tuesday, June 23 | 6:00 p.m.

Check In: 5:30-6 p.m.

**Boone County Fairgrounds – Open to the Public**

*This will be a multi-county show with DeKalb & Ogle Counties.*

**Illinois 4-H reserves the right to modify or cancel events if risks are identified or if safety guidelines must be followed.**

### REGULATIONS

1. 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.
2. Rally is not offered as competition currently.
3. **Judging starts promptly at 6 p.m.** It is the exhibitor's responsibility to be at ringside when their class is called. Judges are not required to hold classes for late entries.
4. Proof of required vaccinations will be required during dog training registration and prior to the first class.
5. All dog/handler teams must have earned the Canine Good Citizen (CGC) Certificate together. Proof of the CGC certificate must be provided prior to participating in 4-H Obedience classes. Any new dog/handler teams who have not yet earned the CGC will be required to complete CGC training during the 4-H training sessions before advancing to Obedience classes.
6. To be eligible to exhibit at the Boone County 4-H Show, each dog/handler team may miss no more than two (2) sessions during the 9-week training period.
7. A dog being shown in the dog obedience project must be trained by and belong to the exhibitor or to a member of his/her immediate family. The dog can be leased for the length of the project and a signed agreement should be on file prior to the start of the training period.
8. 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). A 4-H member may show multiple dogs.
9. All dogs must be leashed or crated while on the grounds. Dogs must always be under the exhibitor's supervision.
10. 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.
11. Female dogs in season cannot participate in the show.
12. A run-off will be held in case of a tie for total score.
13. 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, slip chain training collars, or electronic collars will be allowed on the grounds. No identification tags on collars used in the show ring. Harness or other training aids such as a gentle leader are not acceptable show equipment. No slip chain "training" or pinch/prong or electronic collars will be allowed. No flexy or retractable leashes allowed.
14. Special problems not covered by these rules will be acted upon by the superintendents and Extension staff in accordance with the Illinois 4-H Policies including the Youth Code of Conduct and Member Behavior Guidelines.
15. No un-entered dogs will be allowed on the grounds. All dogs must leave the fairgrounds after the show is finished.
16. Waste management: Please clean up after your dog. Cleaning supplies will be available.
17. Awards will be secured and determined based on enrollment in classes.
18. Information regarding the State 4-H Dog Show will be available at the County Show for those with qualifying scores. For more information, please contact the office.
19. Judges decisions are final.

## **OBEDIENCE**

1. All dog/handler teams must have earned the Canine Good Citizen Certificate together. Proof of CGC certificate will need to be provided prior to starting in the 4-H Obedience classes.
2. Dogs do not have to be AKC registered to show in the 4-H obedience show. AKC rules will be used as a guideline for judging. If a dog has 3 qualifying scores at either 1) county show, 2) state 4-H dog show, 3) AKC sanctioned match, 4) AKC trial, in beginner novice or novice, three months prior to the State 4-H Dog Show, it must be shown in the next higher class.
3. A run-off will be held in case of a tie for total score.
4. All beginning level classes will use on-leash heeling exercises. (Beginner Novice I and II, Preferred Novice, Novice, and Graduate Novice)
5. All advanced classes will use novice off lead heeling exercises. (Graduate Novice, Pre-Open and above)
6. In most classes, commands/signals given by handler will be either voice or hand, but not both. The Stay command can be both verbal and a signal. See full AKC rules and regulations for clarification of your class's specific rules.
7. Exercises for all classes may be done in any order, depending upon scheduling and the judge's preference.
8. The following are the exceptions as compared to AKC in the classes offered for the 4-H show: 4-H has two levels of Novice obedience. Level 1 for dogs new to the novice class and Level 2 for dogs who have successfully shown in Novice previously, or the youth showed a different dog previously.
9. 4-H is based upon Positive Youth Development – meaning that the dog training project is for the youth only, not for a parent to train the dog and the youth to show it.

## **OBEDIENCE CLASSES**

- Beginner Novice I
- Beginner Novice II
- Preferred Novice
- Novice I
- Novice II
- Graduate Novice
- Preferred Open
- Open
- Graduate Open
- Preferred Utility
- Utility

## **SHOWMANSHIP**

1. 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.
2. Dogs will be judged on cleanliness, general health, and grooming.
3. Purebred and non-purebred dogs are eligible for this class. The breed of dog has no bearing on judging or placement.
4. 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.
5. Judges' decisions are final.

## **SHOWMANSHIP CLASSES**

**Junior Showmanship** – Exhibitors ages 8-13 as of Sept. 1, 2025

**Senior Showmanship** – Exhibitors ages 14-18 as of Sept. 1, 2025

## **COSTUME CLASS – NON-PREMIUM CLASS – PARTICIPATION ONLY**

1. Dog and handler to be dressed in costume, and dog will be dressed at show time ONLY to avoid the risk of dog overheating. As soon as the class is finished, the costume will be removed from dog and handler.
2. Dog must enter and exit the ring on leash.
3. Exhibitor will be judged on the thought and creativity put into the costume for the dog and handler.
4. Cannot share dog with another exhibitor.

# Llama/Alpaca Department

Extension Office – 815-544-3710

## Northern Illinois 4-H Llama/Alpaca Show

Friday, July 31 | 9:30 a.m.

Ogle County Fairgrounds | 1440 N. Limekiln Rd., Oregon, IL

Open to the Public -- *\*\*This will be a multi-county show.*

Illinois 4-H reserves the right to modify or cancel events if risks are identified or if safety guidelines must be followed.

Check-in: Friday, July 31 | 8:30 a.m. | Ogle Co. Fairgrounds – Horse Arena Announcer Stand

Judging: Friday, July 31 | 9:30 a.m.

Check-out: Friday, July 31 | Immediately following completion of the show

This show is being planned and organized by an Ogle County staff and their committee.

Teddy Snapp – Superintendent – 815-732-3281

Mary Curtis – Assistant Superintendent – 630-862-5432

1. All General Rules and Animal Department Rules apply.
2. All 4-H'ers planning to exhibit in this department, must complete the Quality Assurance and Ethics (QAEC) certification once during their 4-H career in order to be eligible to show a live animal. Certification must be completed by May 1.
3. For members not wishing to exhibit a live animal, you are eligible to exhibit at Boone County's 4-H General Projects Day in the Animal Science and/or Visual Arts Fiber classes. Each class will be awarded a Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion.
4. Llamas and Alpacas may arrive on announced date.
5. Llamas and Alpacas must depart on announced date after show is completed.
6. Animals must have submitted proper ownership or lease paperwork to the Boone County Extension office by May 1 of the current 4-H year.
7. Exhibitors may not bring more than 4 head to be stalled or shown.
8. Llamas and Alpacas must be stalled in only their assigned stalls, stalls may not be switched or redesigned.
9. Exhibitors must clean up all effects of grooming the llamas/alpacas from the grounds.
10. 4-H llama-alpaca projects must be born prior to Jan 1, 2026.
11. Exhibitors may not show intact males older than 36 months of age.
12. No breeding males of any age. Mature fighting teeth must be removed.
13. Any animal who is deemed unsafe may be excused from the show and the Ogle County Fairgrounds by the Llama/Alpaca Committee.
14. Classes are divided by exhibitor age only. Ages are as follows:
  - a. Junior Showmanship will be for youth ages 8 – 12 years old as of September 1, 2025.
  - b. Senior Showmanship will be for youth ages 13 – 18 years old as of September 1, 2025.
15. For costume classes - both exhibitor and llama/alpaca should be in costume. No live animals other than exhibited llamas/alpacas are to be part of the costume. No exhibitors may ride the llama/alpaca. Full coverage costumes are ideal.
16. Obstacle classes are to follow Alpaca and Llama Show Association (ALSA) standards: "To be judged on willingness of llama/alpaca to follow handler, rapport, mutual confidence and trust between llama and handler. Llama/alpaca should work on a loose lead, while allowed the freedom to look at each obstacle for itself."
17. Public Relations classes are to follow Alpaca and Llama Show Association (ALSA) standards: "To be judged on willingness of llama/alpaca to follow handler, rapport, mutual confidence, and trust between llama and handler. Llama/alpaca should work on a loose lead."
18. Alpacas may participate in pack classes. For both llamas and alpacas, packs are not required to be weighted, but should be padded out with proper or similar material.
19. No companion animals allowed in show ring. Llamas or alpacas not registered to show must be approved companion animals (in stall only) by committee based on specific circumstance in order to be on grounds. No nursing mothers or crias under 6 months of age to be on grounds.
20. Judge's decisions are FINAL!

## **LLAMA/ALPACA CLASSES**

- 101 Junior Costume – non-premium class**
- 102 Senior Costume – non-premium class**
- 103 Junior Obstacle – premium class**
- 104 Senior Obstacle – premium class**
- 105 Junior Public Relations – premium class**
- 106 Senior Public Relations – premium class**
- 107 Junior Pack – premium class**
- 108 Senior Pack – premium class**

## **LLAMA/ALPACA SHOWMANSHIP CLASSES**

Showmanship will be split by Alpaca and Llamas:

- **Junior Alpaca Showmanship – premium class**
  - **Senior Alpaca Showmanship – premium class**
  - **Junior Llama Showmanship – premium class**
  - **Senior Llama Showmanship – premium class**
1. Junior Showmanship will be for youth ages 8 – 12 years old as of September 1, 2025.
  2. Senior Showmanship will be for youth ages 13 – 18 years old as of September 1, 2025.
  3. Pre-registration is required in FairEntry to receive a premium. Last-minute entries may not receive a premium.
  4. If an exhibitor wins an age division of showmanship, they may continue to compete in future years in the same class.

## **LLAMA/ALPACA AWARDS**

Grand Champion Obstacle  
Grand Champion Public Relations  
Grand Champion Pack  
Champion Alpaca Junior Showmanship  
Champion Alpaca Senior Showmanship  
Champion Llama Junior Showmanship  
Champion Llama Senior Showmanship

# Boone County 4-H Fair Shows

## AUGUST 11-16, 2026

### Boone County Fairgrounds, Belvidere, Illinois

*All 4-H Shows are open to the public.*

Illinois 4-H reserves the right to modify or cancel events if risks are identified or if safety guidelines must be followed.

#### 4-H Fair Show Rules & Regulations

1. All exhibitors must comply with the 2026 Boone County 4-H Show Regulations as stated in the front of the 4-H Show Book.
2. **Training Requirements** – The following will be required for 2026:
  - **Beef, Dairy, Dairy Steers, Goats, Sheep & Swine** Exhibitors -- All 4-H exhibitors of these animals will be required to certify in the YQCA program **annually** to be eligible to exhibit at the Boone County 4-H Show.
  - **Llama/Alpacas, Poultry, Rabbits, Horse, Dog & Cat** Exhibitors – must be recorded in the QAEC database as completing this training once during your 4-H career to be eligible to exhibit at the Boone County 4-H Shows.
3. 4-H members are limited to receiving one premium per class exhibited in premium eligible projects. This will include livestock classes. For market classes, a member will be allowed to exhibit more than one animal in the determined weight classes; however, the member will receive only one premium.
4. A Premises Identification number obtained through the Illinois Department of Agriculture is required for SWINE exhibitors to be eligible to exhibit at the 2026 Boone County 4-H Shows. Entries submitted without a Premises Identification number will not be processed.
5. **All animals must be exhibited in the show ring by the 4-H owner.** In cases of sickness, two entries, or a judging conflict, another Boone County 4-H member may be secured to help. Livestock Exhibit Conflicts--In the event that a 4-H'er is scheduled to show two animals at the same time, another Boone County 4-H'er, in comparable age and skill may substitute. The 4-H member needs to inform the Department Superintendent of the showman substitution prior to the class. **Note:** For 2026, we are aware of school conflicts with the 4-H Show schedule during the fair. If you need to request an accommodation, please submit the accommodation request form by **May 1**. Form: <https://go.illinois.edu/2026SchoolAccommodation>
6. All livestock exhibits must have been owned and personally cared for by the 4-H member from the required starting date to the time of the show. This does not prevent members who live away from home from showing projects if they contribute substantially to the planning for and care of the animals.
7. Market Animal Nominations: Families (siblings, step-siblings) will be allowed to nominate market animals under the family name during initial weigh-ins and nominations. Market animals will have to be declared by the individual exhibitor according to ear tag/tattoo by Livestock Verification dates. Barrows will need to be declared during the ear tagging process in mid-July.
8. Animals shown in pairs classes for 4-H must be owned by one exhibitor. Family members cannot combine animals to make a pairs class.
9. Fitting/Grooming Rule: The 4-H member and immediate family only (parents, siblings, grandparents, step-parent, step-siblings, step-grandparent or guardian) in whose name the animal is owned will be allowed to wash, groom (clipping and blowing), and fit the animal from the arrival on the fairgrounds until after the 4-H Show. The 4-H member should be present during the fitting. Anyone found in violation of this rule may be subject to immediate disqualification. All rule violations observed by or reported to the 4-H Superintendent and Extension Staff will be handled under the grievance procedure listed in the "General 4-H Rules and Regulations" on page 6.
10. Purebred livestock must have registration papers made out in the name of the exhibitor. Any animal with no papers available for inspection, papers which are not in the name of the exhibitor or papers not signed by the association, will be placed in the grade or crossbred class.
11. All entries must be made online. <http://boone4-hfair.fairentry.com> Entry Deadline: June 1
12. Livestock verification will be required during late July. Please watch your 4-H Email Blasts for specific verification dates to be held at the Extension Office.

13. Exhibits selected as champion or reserve champion will receive a ribbon only -- no premium.
14. **Health Regulations** -- State health requirements will be adhered to. A copy of the health regulations is included in this booklet. Health or vaccination certificates must be available when requested. All health concerns will be dealt with by the superintendents or the fair veterinarian.
15. Exhibitor displays exhibits at their own risk.
16. All animal exhibitors must comply with the rules and regulations as set up by the Boone County Fair Association. Check the rules and regulations in the Boone County Fair Association's fair book. 4-H staff and superintendents will work closely with the Boone County Fair officials to abide by all regulations set forth.
17. Exhibitors will feed and care for their animal until the animal is loaded on Sunday, August 16. Auctioned animals are released to the buyer at this time. No animals may leave the fairgrounds prior to the release time without written permission granted from the Boone County Fair Association.
18. All exhibitors will be expected to conduct themselves in a manner that is creditable to the 4-H organization and the 4-H member Code of Conduct, as stated.
19. **Social Media Policy** -- The Illinois 4-H Code of Conduct standards apply to online 4-H activity including social media. Remember that when you are at 4-H activities, including the fair, you are representing both yourself and the Illinois 4-H program. Be a positive role model and make sure that your postings are appropriate and positive for all concerned. Posted information can get out of control fast, so consider the consequence before posting. Inappropriate or negative postings that impact 4-H will be subject to review. Disciplinary actions will be taken depending on severity of the situation. Refer to page 8 for the complete Illinois 4-H Code of Conduct.
20. 4-H members can purchase a 4-H exhibitor tickets from their 4-H leader for \$5.00. 4-H'ers 11 years of age and older must have an exhibitor ticket. Children 10 & under are free.
21. The Illinois Humane Care for Animals Act will be enforced. This act prohibits physical mistreatment of animals. Persons found mistreating animals shall be prohibited from exhibiting and may be dismissed from the fairgrounds.
22. At any time after an animal arrives on the fair premises, all treatments involving the use of drugs and/or medications **MUST** be brought to the attention of the Superintendent and the assigned fair licensed veterinarian. Any exhibitor or family member found injecting or administering any drugs to an animal will be subject to disciplinary consequences and penalties.

## **Boone County 4-H Fair Shows and Auctions Dress Code**

In an effort to promote a professional appearance by 4-H members, the following dress code is to be followed by all 4-H animal exhibitors while in the show ring and sale ring. Deviations from the dress code will result in a request to change before you show or sell your animal. This dress code is not subject to personal interpretation and will be strictly adhered to. The following is considered appropriate attire:

- Clothes must be clean and in good repair, free of holes, tears, and slashes.
- No lettering on shirts or hats except 4-H club names, Boone County 4-H, your own farm name, or name of a breed association.
- Clothes must be free from violent or drug-related material, or anything that alludes to violations of the 4-H Code of Conduct. This includes references to tobacco and alcohol.
- Please wear jeans or long pants. No shorts or cut-off jeans.
- Shirts must have sleeves. Sleeves may be short or long.
- Midribs should be fully covered by shirts and pants. No low-cut shirts.
- No see-through garments.
- Closed-toe shoes must be worn. Work boots are preferred.
- Horse exhibitors should follow the dress code and safety gear requirements as stated by the horse department.
- Dairy exhibitors should wear white jeans or pants in the show ring.

Please remember that you are representing 4-H. Your attire should reflect favorably on your family, 4-H club, and Boone County 4-H. In the show ring you are showing your project that you have worked hard on and in the sale ring you are marketing your animal and should present a professional appearance to the buyers. Your attire should not take away from your animal.

# 2026 Auctions

## Sponsored by the Boone County Auction Association, NFP, Inc.

For questions relating to the Livestock or Fur & Feather Auction, please contact Dale Rhode, Chairman, 815-543-1814.

### Livestock Auction

Auction will start at **5:00 p.m.**, Thursday, August 13, Livestock Show Arena. Order of selling –beef, lambs, goats, dairy champions\*, dairy steers, and swine with champions first in each department.  
*\*Dairy products will be sold by the Best of Show Champion and the Best of Show Junior Champion.*

All animals will be weighed only once at times as stated in each department. No re-weighs. Only altered males such as steers, barrows, and wethers can be sold in the auction.

All 4-H'ers must complete a Declaration Statement/Swine Affidavit verifying that their auction animal has met the Quality Assurance Requirements regarding drug withdrawal and eligibility for slaughter to sell in the auction. ***This statement must be turned in when weighing your animal.*** Forms will be provided in your Livestock Verification packets.

### General Auction Rules:

1. 4-H members may only participate in one auction (Livestock or Fur & Feather).
2. 4-H members may only sell one animal. If a member shows in more than one division such as steers and swine, he/she must decide in which division to sell. Exception: Fur and Feather exhibitors may auction two lots. (ie. One rabbit and one bird or two rabbits or two birds).
3. All animals sold must earn a Blue Group Rating/Ribbon during the 4-H Show to be eligible to auction.
4. All animals sold must have been shown during the Boone County 4-H Show. *Animals that are scratched from a class for any reason are not eligible to be auctioned.*
5. Weights used to determine classes will be the selling weight for the auction.
6. 4-H members must feed and care for their animals until the animals are loaded on Sunday. Auctioned animals are released to the buyer at this time.
7. 4-H members selling in the auction must place their own thank you poster at their pen/stall immediately following the auction or by 9:00 a.m. on Friday. Fur and Feather seller should post by 6:00 p.m. on Saturday. 4-H members should show courtesy toward their buyer. Be sure to thank them. If you are courteous, we can have a successful sale every year for many years.

Each 4-H member selling in the auction will be charged an auction commission rate of 5%. The auction commission goes towards improvements of the facilities, auction expenses, and educational opportunities. The buyer will pay trucking fees of animals bought in the auction.

**Auction Policy: No announcements of donating to a charity or retaining show rights/ownership will be allowed in the auction ring before, during or after an animal is sold.**

### Beef Steers

1. Beef steers must have been tattooed and weighed during the designated weigh in to be eligible to be shown and auctioned.
2. Steers must weigh at least 1,000 pounds and be finished to auction.
  - a) No steer weighing less than 1,000 pounds will be sold; unless, grand or reserve champion.
  - b) If a steer does weigh 1,000 pounds and is not finished for his weight, he will not be sold. The Auction Association will accept or reject steers for the auction.
3. Steers will be weighed 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 11 by club. Order of club draw as follows:

1. Wranglers	6. Northern Heritage	11. Grasshoppers-Sweet Clover
2. Kingdom Seekers	7. Flora Producers	12. County Progressors
3. Beaver Valley Clippers	8. Boonedocks	13. Manchester Mavericks
4. Boone Farms	9. County Clovers	
5. New Edition	10. LeRoy Commandoes	
4. All steers will be tagged when they are weighed, even if they are not going to be sold in the auction.
5. General Auction Rules apply (see page 58).

## **Dairy Steers**

1. Dairy steers must have been tattooed and weighed during the designated weigh or nominated by February 1 to be eligible to be shown and auctioned.
2. Steers must weigh at least 1,050 pounds to auction.
3. Steers will be weighed at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 11.
4. All steers will be tagged when they are weighed, even if they are not going to be sold in the auction.
5. General Auction Rules apply (see page 58).

## **Sheep** (Individual Market Lambs--Wethers Only)

1. All market wethers must be tagged on the designated Saturday in May to be eligible to be shown and auctioned.
2. Animals will be weighed at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 11.
3. Animals must weigh at least 80 pounds unless they are champion or reserve.
4. General Auction Rules apply (see page 58).

## **Swine** (Barrows Only)

1. Barrows must weigh between 230 and 290 pounds to sell in the auction.
2. Weighing will take place Tuesday, August 11 beginning at 4:00 p.m. Following the order of the club draw, each exhibitor will bring their group of *pigs* to the scale. Order of club draw is as follows:

1. Grasshoppers-Sweet Clovers	6. Flora Producers	11. County Progressors
2. Northern Heritage	7. Boonedocks	12. New Edition
3. County Clovers	8. LeRoy Commandoes	13. Boone Farms
4. Wranglers	9. Kingdom Seekers	
5. Beaver Valley Clippers	10. Manchester Mavericks	
3. Champions will sell at the beginning of the auction in the following order: 1) Grand Champion Barrow, 2) Reserve Grand Champion Barrow, 3) Grand Champion Pen of Two Barrows, 4) Reserve Grand Champion Pen of Two Barrows. *NOTE: Only one barrow from the Pen of Two will sell.*
4. General Auction Rules apply (see page 538).

## **Goat Wethers**

1. All market goat wethers must be tattooed on the designated Saturday in May to be eligible to be shown and auctioned.
2. Wethers must weigh 75 lbs. to be sold at the auction.
3. Goat wethers will be weighed at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 11 at the Sheep Barn show arena. Upon arrival, please check with the goat superintendent for specifics.
4. General Auction Rules apply (see page 58).

## **Fur & Feather Auction**

The 4-H Fur & Feather Auction will take place on Saturday, August 15 at 3:00 p.m. in the Livestock Show Arena. Auction Sale Order: Rabbits, Poultry

4-H'ers selling in the Livestock Auction will not be eligible to sell at the Fur & Feather Auction. You can sell in one auction only.

4-H members selling in the auction should post a thank you poster/sign in their respective barn no later than 6:00 p.m. on Saturday. 4-H members should show courtesy toward their buyer. Be sure to thank them, and stay and help with loading of the animal on Sunday night. If you are courteous, we can have a successful sale every year for many years.

Each 4-H member selling in the auction will be charged an auction commission rate of 5%. The auction commission goes towards improvements of the facilities, auction expenses and educational opportunities.

**Auction Policy: No announcements of donating to a charity will be allowed in the auction ring before, during or after an animal is sold.**

Members must feed and care for their animals until their animals are loaded on Sunday. Auctioned animals are released to the buyer at this time.



**Important – Requirement**



4-H'ers wishing to sell rabbits or poultry **MUST** complete and turn in the **Auction Registration Form** to the Superintendent or the Extension Office by 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, August 13. If you have not turned in your auction registration by 10:00 a.m., you will not be allowed to sell in the auction. No additions will be made the day of the auction.

**Poultry**

1. 4-H'ers will be permitted to sell two fur or feather lots. (ie. one rabbit lot and one bird lot OR two rabbit lots OR two bird lots) in the auction.
2. The following criteria must be met to be eligible to auction:
  - Birds must be Young Males and/or Young Females (6 months and under)
  - Birds must be of good health
  - Birds must have received a **BLUE** rating during the 4-H Poultry Show.
3. **Poultry sellers will have the option (not required) to provide processing for the buyer. For 4-H members wishing to offer processing to buyers at the Fur and Feather Auction, the following procedures must be followed:**
  - a. Book an appointment with a processing facility well in advance of the fair. No personal processing will be allowed.
  - b. Complete the Fur & Feather Auction registration form at the fair and include the detailed information regarding the processing facility name and processing date you have arranged. To be eligible to sell with processing, this information must be provided in advance of the auction.
  - c. Create a card with you/your parent's contact information on it to be handed to the buyer at the auction. 4-H will provide cards for those not making their own card.
  - d. The Extension Office will follow up with 4-H members after the fair with your buyer's name, address, and phone number.
  - e. Auction checks will be held until the delivery of the processed items has been confirmed by the seller/buyer.
  - f. In the event a bird dies before processing or a member does not follow through with delivery, the member will forfeit their auction earnings and the buyer will be reimbursed by the Auction Association. The member may also be subject to disciplinary actions for future auctions decided on by the Auction Association.
4. All poultry selling in the Fur and Feather Auction will receive a band, applied by the superintendent, for identification. These bands will be put on the birds following the poultry show. Bands must be put on the birds by Thursday at 10:00 a.m. to be eligible to auction.
5. Poultry lot classifications and minimum weight requirements stated below:

Ducks - 4 lbs.	Pair of Call Ducks
Meat Pens – 5 lbs. each	Geese (young) - 8 lbs.
Production Pens – must be pullets	Novelty Birds including bantams
Turkeys (young) – 20 lbs.	
6. General Auction Rules apply (see page 58).

**Rabbits**

1. 4-H'ers will be permitted to sell two fur or feather lots. (ie. one rabbit lot and one bird lot OR two rabbit lots OR two bird lots) in the auction.
2. Rabbits must receive a **BLUE** rating during the 4-H Rabbit Show to be eligible to auction.
3. All rabbits must weigh a minimum of 6 lbs. with the exception of the meat pen, which must weigh between 3 ½ and 5 ½ lbs. each.
4. Rabbits will be sold with no processing.
5. General Auction Rules apply (see page 58).

## 2026 EXHIBITION LIVESTOCK HEALTH REQUIREMENTS – County Fairs

**It is the responsibility of the 4-H family to ensure accuracy, as violation of these health rules can lead to disqualification and removal from the fairgrounds. The most up-to-date information can always be found on the IDOA website:**  
<https://agr.illinois.gov/animals/animalhealth/fair-exhibition-requirements.html>

### I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. These Exhibition Health Requirements apply to all livestock present on county fairgrounds, including livestock that are not entered in competitive events. Species specific information follows the general requirements.
2. Exhibitors are required to familiarize themselves with all rules applicable to their exhibits.
3. All out-of-state animals shall require an entry permit. Entry permit numbers are available online at <https://entrypermit.agr.illinois.gov/Login.aspx>.
4. All animals, except as noted in species specific information below, shall be accompanied by a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI).
5. All animals must be officially identified.
6. All livestock shall be subject to examination upon entry to County Fairgrounds. Examination may include but is not limited to ultrasound, urine testing, blood testing, and similar actions.
7. Definitions, abbreviations, and administration:
  - a. The Illinois Department of Agriculture may be referred to as “Department” or “IDOA”
  - b. The Department contains a Bureau of Animal Health and Welfare, which receives all CVIs.
  - c. Department or IDOA staff, as used in this document, includes all Bureaus
8. IDOA will continue to monitor state and federal trends in animal health as it relates to this document. Any updates to these requirements will be posted on our website.

### II. CERTIFICATE OF VETERINARY INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS

9. Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) means a legible record made on an official form from the state of origin, containing an accurate description or identification of the animal including age, sex, breed, health status, and vaccination information.
10. The CVI must be signed, dated and issued by a licensed and accredited veterinarian in that state.
11. Submitted CVIs must be a s originally issued by the veterinarian; no CVIs with alterations, edits or changes, will be accepted. The CVI must show that the animal meets all health requirements for the State of Illinois (species specific information noted later in this guidance).
12. CVI must show the name and address of the animal’s owner or exhibitor.
13. CVI must include the animal’s Animal Identification Number.
  - a. Animal identification number (AIN): A numbering system for the official identification of individual animals in the United States that provides a nationally unique identification number for each animal. The AIN consists of 15 digits, with the first 3 being the country code (840 for the United States or a unique country code for any U.S. territory that has such a code and elects to sue it in place of the 840 code).
14. If one CVI is used for multiple animals, each animal identification must be made on a separate line.
15. Exhibitors are strongly encouraged to obtain electronic CVIs whenever possible; IDOA is moving toward only accepting electronic CVIs.
16. Exhibitors shall make CVIs available to Department of Agriculture and County Fair staff on request.
  - a. If an official electronic CVI is utilized, the exhibitor should be able to log on and show County Fair staff or Bureau of Animal Health and Welfare Personnel the completed CVI.
17. If animals are from tuberculosis accredited, brucellosis certified, pseudorabies qualified, or brucellosis validated herds, the identifying herd number(s) along with the date of the last heard test(s) shall appear on the CVI.
18. CVIs for out-of-state livestock shall be void thirty (30) days after issuance.
19. CVIs for Illinois-origin livestock shall be void ninety (90) days after issuance.

### III. QUARANTINE AND REMOVAL

20. Quarantine shall be at the animal owner (or exhibitor) risk and expense.
21. Quarantine and removal from the Fairgrounds shall be as determined appropriate by the County Fair Veterinarian, State Veterinarian, or their designee(s).
22. Quarantine will be required until the animal has been properly treated and recovered, or the animal can be released to return to the owner’s premise, both in the opinion of the County Fair Veterinarian, State Veterinarian, or their designee(s).
23. Any animal presenting with a condition that would subject it to quarantine must be withdrawn from any/all entered competitions and are not permitted to exhibit.

24. Any condition meriting quarantine may also result in required removal of the animal from the Fairgrounds, as determined appropriate by the County Fair Veterinarian, State Veterinarian, or their designee(s).
25. Conditions subject to quarantine (not an exhaustive list)
  - a. Any animal showing evidence of infections, contagious, or communicable diseases shall be held in quarantine.
  - b. Any livestock infected with scabies, mange, active lesions of ringworm, soremouth, or multiple warts which are easily visible without close examination
  - c. Sheep and goats with caseous lymphadenitis as evidenced by draining abscesses
  - d. Suspicion of or diagnosis of a foreign animal disease, emerging animal disease, or other actionable disease, animals may be subject to quarantine on the fairgrounds until such time that it is determined that the disease is no longer a threat.
26. Any Illinois cattle, bison, Cervidae or goats being exhibited in non-accredited free states must be isolated from the remainder of the herd/flock upon return to Illinois and retested for tuberculosis 60-120 days post-entry back into the state.

#### IV. SPECIES SPECIFIC INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

The information included below for any species is in addition to the requirements noted above. There are no additional species-specific information or requirements for llamas, pigeons, or rabbits.

#### **HEALTH REQUIREMENTS: Cattle**

**Identification:** Individual identification of each animal shall be by a USDA official animal identification number ear tag, ("840" tag). The tag must be able to be read both visually and electronically.

##### **Illinois Cattle:**

- Illinois is a Bovine Brucellosis Class-Free State and an Accredited Tuberculosis-Free State. Brucellosis and Tuberculin testing are not required for Illinois cattle.
- Illinois calves under 6 months of age are not required to have a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection.
- Illinois steers will require a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection.

##### **Out-of-State Cattle:**

- Brucellosis:
  1. Female cattle six (6) months of age and older and bulls eighteen (18) months of age and older shall be negative to an official test for brucellosis within thirty (30) days prior to entry onto the Fairgrounds, unless exempted by one (1) of the following:
    - a. Originate directly from a certified brucellosis-free herd.
    - b. Official vaccinates of dairy breeds under twenty (20) months of age or official vaccinates of beef breeds under twenty-four (24) months of age.
    - c. Animal originated from a "Class Free" state (if entire state is so classified).
    - d. Animal is a steer or spayed heifer.
  2. The negative brucellosis test shall be conducted at a state or federal laboratory within 30 days prior to entry onto the Fairgrounds.
- Tuberculosis:
  1. Accredited Tuberculosis Free States
    - a. No tuberculin test required.
  2. Non-Accredited Tuberculosis Free Areas or States (Not TB Free)
    - a. Cattle must originate from a herd where a complete herd test was conducted within the past year.
    - b. The individual animals entering Illinois must be negative to an additional tuberculin test conducted within 30 days prior to entry onto the Fairgrounds.

**ALL Dairy Cattle** (In-State and Out-of-State): A rRT-PCR test for Influenza A virus (IAV) on milk from lactating dairy cattle present at the Illinois or Du Quoin State Fair shall be conducted prior to livestock arriving on the fairgrounds. The animals must be sampled no more than seven (7) days prior to the date of arrival, and a negative test record must be presented to Department staff.

#### **HEALTH REQUIREMENTS: Swine**

**Identification:** Individual identification of each animal shall be by a USDA official animal identification number ear tag, ("840" tag). The identification tag must be able to be read both visually and electronically.

**Illinois Swine:** Brucellosis and Pseudorabies testing are not required for Illinois swine.

##### **Out-of-State Swine:**

- Brucellosis
  1. Breeding swine 4 months of age and older shall be negative to an official test for brucellosis within 30 days prior to entry onto the fairgrounds unless exempt by one (1) of the following:
    - A. Originate immediately and directly from a validated brucellosis-free herd.

B. Originate directly from a validated brucellosis-free state.

2. Swine brucellosis tests for exhibition shall be conducted at a state or federal laboratory.

• **Pseudorabies**

1. Swine originating from a Pseudorabies Stage IV or V state are exempt from the pseudorabies testing requirement.
2. Swine originating from a Pseudorabies Stage III state shall be negative to an official test for pseudorabies conducted within thirty (30) days prior to entry onto the Fairgrounds or originate immediately and directly from a qualified pseudorabies negative herd.
3. Swine originating from a Pseudorabies Stage I or II state shall be negative to an official test for pseudorabies conducted within the 10 days prior to entry onto the Fairgrounds.
4. Barrows and females in market classes must meet the same requirements as breeding swine.

## **HEALTH REQUIREMENTS: Sheep**

### **Identification:**

- Individual identification of each animal shall be by an ear tattoo or official metal or plastic tag. A microchip ID is acceptable if the owner provides the reader.
- Ear tattoos may be used when a registration certificate, listing the tattoo number, accompanies the animal. If the tattoos are not visible, another form of official identification must be presented.
- When using ear tags, the tag must indicate the premises ID and state of origin. The tag number must be assigned by a state or APHIS representative and recorded in the Scrapie Record Database.

**Market Lambs:** All market lambs must be slick shorn (show ring ready) before weigh-in so that show lamb fungus can be identified.

**Scrapie:** Sheep originating from a flock that has previously been classified as either an infected or source flock can be exhibited in Illinois upon the completion of an approved flock plan.

**CVI** must include the flock of birth and the flock of origin, if different.

## **HEALTH REQUIREMENTS: Goats**

### **Identification:**

- Individual identification of each animal shall be by an ear tattoo or official metal or plastic tag. A microchip ID is acceptable if the owner provides the reader.
- Tattoos may be used when a registration certificate, listing the tattoo number, accompanies the animal. If the tattoos are not visible, another form of official identification must be presented.
  - Ears should be used for tattooing when possible. If there is no space in the ear, the flank or tail fold may be used.
- When using ear tags, the tag must indicate the premises ID and state of origin. The tag number must be assigned by a state or APHIS representative and recorded in the Scrapie Record Database.

**Scrapie:** Goats originating from a flock that has previously been classified as either an infected or source flock can be exhibited in Illinois upon the completion of an approved flock plan.

**CVI** must include the flock of birth and the flock of origin, if different.

### **Out-of-State Goats**

Goats from states that are not Accredited Bovine Tuberculosis Free, must also have the following information included on their CVI:

1. that the goats originated from a heard where a complete negative herd test has been conducted within the past twelve (12) months and
2. the individual animals are negative to a tuberculin test conducted within thirty (30) days prior to entry onto the Fairgrounds.

## **HEALTH REQUIREMENTS: Horses, Ponies, Mules, & Other Equidae**

- All horses and other equidae, twelve (12) months of age and older entering the Fairgrounds, shall be accompanied by a negative test for equine infectious anemia (EIA) conducted within the last twelve (12) months.
- A copy of this test shall accompany the animal.
- AGID (Coggins) or ELISA tests are accepted.

**Illinois Equine:** A CVI is not required for Illinois equine.

**Out-of-State Equine:** All horses and other Equidae shall be accompanied by a CVI issued within thirty (30 days) prior to entry onto the Fairgrounds.

## **HEALTH REQUIREMENTS: Poultry**

1. All entries (except waterfowl, i.e. domesticated fowl that normally swim, such as ducks and geese) in a show or exhibition shall have originated from a U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean or equivalent hatchery or flock OR have a negative pullorum-typhoid test within 90 days prior to exhibition. Exhibitor shall show proper information as to name and address of owner or exhibitor, name and address of the authorized testing agent, date of the testing and the number, breed, and species of those tested.
2. Prior to being used to transport poultry to a show, all crates, boxes, containers and vehicles shall be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.
3. Any poultry vaccinations must be performed at least 4 weeks prior to delivery to the show.
4. Upon admission to a show, all entries shall be examined by the State Veterinarian or their designee or qualified state personnel who shall also receive and examine all certificates necessary for admission of birds to a show. Birds not in show condition will be removed from exhibition and must be removed from the Fairgrounds.  
Any fowl showing signs of illness during the Fair will be removed from the Fairgrounds.
5. All out-of-state turkeys must originate from flocks that are officially classified as U.S. Mycoplasma Gallisepticum Clean in accordance with the provisions of the National Poultry Improvement Plan or be negative to a test for Mycoplasma Gallisepticum within 30 days prior to entry.

## **HEALTH REQUIREMENTS: Ratites – Ostriches, Emus, Rheas, Cassowaries and Kiwis**

**Illinois Ratites:** There are no requirements governing the movement of ratites within Illinois.

### **Out-of-State Ratites:**

1. Individually identified by leg band or microchip.
2. Negative test for Avian Influenza within 10 days prior to entry onto the Fairgrounds.

## **HEALTH REQUIREMENTS: Cervidae –**

*Deer, Elk, Reindeer, Caribou, Moose, Red Deer and Other Related Species*

Please refer to the IDOA website for species-specific information.

<https://agr.illinois.gov/animals/animalhealth/fair-exhibition-requirements.html>

## **HEALTH REQUIREMENTS: Pigeons**

There are no additional species-specific information or requirements for pigeons.

## **HEALTH REQUIREMENTS: Rabbits**

There are no additional species-specific information or requirements for rabbits.

## **HEALTH REQUIREMENTS: Llamas**

There are no additional species-specific information or requirements for llamas.

For clarification or additional information on health requirements, contact: Illinois Department of Agriculture Bureau of Animal Health and Welfare Phone (217) 782-4944 Or visit our webpage: <https://agr.illinois.gov/animals/animalhealth.html>

# **SHOWMANSHIP**

1. Contests will be held in the Beef, Dairy, Dairy Steers, Sheep, Swine, Goat, Poultry, and Rabbit Departments.
2. To participate in a showmanship class, the member must be enrolled and exhibiting their animal.
3. Each exhibitor will bring his/her own animal to the show ring.
4. Showmanship age divisions using ages as of September 1, 2025 will be as follows:  
Junior (8-11)  
Intermediate (12-14)  
Senior (15-18)
5. A special showmanship class will be conducted.
6. Showmanship will be judged on skill and sportsmanship.
7. A suitable award will be given to the champion in each division.
8. Senior Showmanship winners will advance to the Master Showmanship Competition. Please see page 60 for rules.

# Master Showmanship Competition

Jeremy Franseen, Coordinator – (815) 289-5759

**Friday, August 14 -- 5:00 p.m.**  
**Livestock Show Arena**

## GENERAL RULES

1. Species to be included in the Master Showmanship Competition: **Beef, Dairy Goats, Dairy Cattle, Dairy Steers, Sheep and Swine.**
2. The first-place winners in the Sr. Showmanship classes (ages 15-18) as of September 1 of the current 4-H year) from **Beef, Dairy Goats, Dairy Cattle, Dairy Steers, Sheep and Swine** will be eligible to compete for the honor to represent their species. In the event that a species does not have a Sr. Showmanship winner, that species will not be represented in the competition.
3. Each species will select one representative and an alternate (2<sup>nd</sup> place senior showman) for qualifying participation in the Master Showmanship Competition. The alternate contestant will represent their species in Master Showmanship if one of the events listed below should occur:
  - If a qualifier chooses not to participate in the Master Showmanship competition, the option to participate will default to the alternate.
  - If a member is eligible to participate in the Master Showmanship competition in more than one species, he/she must choose in which species he/she will participate within **one** hour of winning the second species contest. The member must inform BOTH species Superintendents of his/her decision. The alternate in their non-chosen species will have the option to participate.
  - In the event a previous Champion Master Showman should win one of the above stated classes, the option to participate in the Master Showmanship competition will default to the alternate for that species. Once a participant has won the title of Champion Master Showman, they are no longer eligible to participate in the competition, even if they qualify with a different species than previously.
4. Each participant will show an animal from each of the 5 species (**Beef, Dairy Goats, Dairy Cattle, Sheep and Swine**). **\*\*Dairy Steers will be represented by the Beef species and a Dairy Steer will not be included in the animal lineup for the Master Showmanship Competition\*\***
5. There will be a judge to represent each species (5 judges total).
6. Each judge will use a scorecard to evaluate each participant in the following categories: Showmanship, Species Knowledge, Attitude /Appearance. Judges will not rank the participants.
7. An equal amount of time will be allowed for the participants to show each species. The timekeeper will notify the participants and the judges when 1 minute is left for each round.
8. During the judging process, an announcer will give a short biography on each judge and participant, explain the purpose and/or the class and contest rules/requirements. The announcer will also give a brief description of what the judges are looking for in each species.
9. Each participant should wear their "Showmanship Award" t-shirt, jeans, boots, and belt so that their attire is not an issue for cross species showing.
10. Each participant must remain in the show area at all times during the contest and wear the number provided by the Master Showmanship committee.
11. All MSC participants will **meet in the Livestock Arena at 4:30 p.m. on Friday** to review the rules.
12. The winner of the Master Showmanship Competition will receive a "Master Showman Champion" banner, pullover, and \$100. All other participants will receive \$25.
13. In case of a tie, the judges will confer to break the tie.

# Beef Department

Trace Fidler (815-501-1687) & Blake Stark (779-207-9277), Superintendents

## REGULATIONS

**\*\*Note: Illinois steers now must have CVIs.\*\***

1. All cattle being exhibited must have an official USDA 840 tag which can be read both visually and electronically. Exhibitors are responsible for ensuring their animals have the required 840 tag and have completed any necessary veterinary inspections prior to arriving at the fair.
2. Exhibitors must complete the required training, refer to page 56, rule #2.
3. All beef cattle must be in the beef barn by **11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 11**. Animals may be brought to the fairgrounds on Monday evening; however, exhibitors assume all risk associated with early arrival.
4. **Beef Schedule for Tuesday, August 11 -- Registration, Health Paper Checks & Weigh-In**  
1:00 p.m.

Animals will be weighed by club in the following order:

- |                           |                      |                               |
|---------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Wranglers              | 6. Northern Heritage | 11. Grasshoppers-Sweet Clover |
| 2. Kingdom Seekers        | 7. Flora Producers   | 12. County Progressors        |
| 3. Beaver Valley Clippers | 8. Boonedocks        | 13. Manchester Mavericks      |
| 4. Boone Farms            | 9. County Clovers    |                               |
| 5. New Edition            | 10. LeRoy Commandoes |                               |

3. Release times are governed by the BCFA; therefore, 4-H exhibitors must abide by those rules.
4. Steer or breeding animals may be purebred or crossbred. No beef x dairy crossbreds allowed). Purebreds must have registration papers made out in the name of the exhibitor. Any animal with no papers available for inspection, papers which are not in the name of the exhibitor or papers not signed by the association will be placed in the crossbred class. Animals not conforming with characteristics of a specific breed will be shown in the crossbred class. Calves born in the current year do not need registration papers. Registration and health papers will be checked on Tuesday, August 11 at the scale house during weigh in. Determination of classes will be made by the 4-H superintendent after weighing.
5. To be eligible to exhibit at the Boone County 4-H Show, beef cows must be in the possession of the exhibitor by January 1, market steers by February 1, and heifers and calves by May 1. Calves born to an exhibitor owned cow are excluded from the possession date rule. For possession rules, see page 4 of this book.
6. **Each exhibitor is permitted a total of one (1) entry per class for beef breeding. For beef steers, 4-H members are limited to receive one premium per weight class.**
7. Health Regulations - See State Health Requirements pages 61-64 for specifics. If health requirements are not followed, your animals will not be allowed to stay on the fairgrounds.
8. Steers must have been born between January 1, 2025 and January 1, 2026 and should have been selected by the project member no later than February 1, 2026. All steers must have been tattooed and recorded with the Boone County Extension Office to show at the 2026 Boone County 4-H Fair Show. Exhibitors will receive their own personal weigh-in information including the tattoo number and weight following the weigh-in.
9. Market Animal Nominations: Families (siblings, step-siblings) will be allowed to nominate market animals under the family name during initial weigh-ins. Market animals will have to be declared by the individual exhibitor according to ear tag/tattoo by Livestock Verification dates.
10. Fitting/Grooming Rule will be enforced. See Rule #9 on page 56.
11. The following grooming rules will be strictly enforced, and exhibitors found in violation of these rules, either prior to entering the ring or while in the ring, will be immediately removed from the 4-H show.
  - Dying or artificially changing the color of an animal is prohibited. Coloring agents (adhesives or paints) may only be used up to the hock (knee). Powders are not allowed on any part of the animal.
  - Cattle are to be shown in their natural conformation. The use of false tail heads is prohibited, as is the addition of hair, hemp, or any similar substance to any part of an animal.
  - Tail ties are prohibited, as are spiked show halter leads and nose rings for breeding stock or steers.

12. Showmanship classes will be divided using ages as of September 1, 2025 into the following age divisions: Junior (8-11); Intermediate (12-14); and Senior (15-18). Please read the Showmanship rules on page 64.
13. **Beef Rate of Gain Contest** -- 4-H members who weighed steers on the designated date at the Boone County Fairgrounds will compete in a rate of gain contest. Rate of gain awards will be presented to those 4-H'ers with the highest average daily gain. (Daily gain will be calculated using the difference between the beginning weight and the August weight divided by the number of days.) If a tie occurs in the Rate-of-Gain results for the grand and/or reserve titles, the 4-H judge will break the tie.
14. Tack areas will be limited. Large furniture (ie. couches, recliners) will NOT be allowed.

## **Beef Carcass Show**

Wednesday, August 12 – 11:00 a.m. in the Livestock Show Arena

1. This class will be shown by weight.
2. Exhibitors may enter a maximum of **one** steer in the carcass show.
3. Steers must weigh at least 900 lbs. to show and at least 1,000 lbs. to auction.
4. ***All steers can be shown in either a rope halter or a show halter. Show stick use is at the exhibitor's discretion. All steers must be clean, air-dried and ungroomed. No blow drying of steers is permitted on the day of the Carcass Contest.***
5. All steers must be weighed and tattooed during designated date with the Extension Office.
6. Classes will be divided by weight only: lightweight, medium weight, and heavyweight. These divisions will be split at the discretion of the 4-H Beef Superintendent. The top three steers from each class will return for overall selection, with those nine steers placed 1st through 9th overall.
7. The exhibitor along with the leader or parent will be present during both the showing and scanning of the animal as this is a learning experience for the 4-H member. Any harassment of the person scanning the steer will result in disqualification.
8. Scanning will take place on Tuesday, August 11 at 1:00 p.m. at the livestock scale. Judging for this class will start at immediately following the Dairy Steer Show & Youth Beef Judging Contest (approximately 11:00 a.m.) on Wednesday, August 12.
9. Carcass information will be withheld until after the champion selection on Thursday to ensure unbiased judging during the Fitted/Breed Show. Winners will be announced prior to Showmanship classes.
10. Champion and Reserve Champion carcass animals will sell after the Champion and Reserve Fitted Steer Champions. A 4-H member can sell only one animal.
11. The total possible points for the carcass contest will be 29 points and it will be scored as follows: Top 9 show ring animals will be assigned points based upon their placing, (i.e. 1st place=9 pts., 9th place=1 pt.) and the top scan animals will be assigned points based upon their placing, (i.e. 1st place=20 pts., 20th place=1 pt.). In the case of a tie, the exhibitor whose animal has the better scan (i.e. higher scan points) will be declared the winner.
12. **No premiums class.** This is an opportunity to expand the learning process of these beef exhibits.

## **Beef Fitted Steers & Breeding Show**

Thursday, August 13 | 9:00 a.m. | Livestock Show Arena

### **Beef Steer Classes:**

Breeds for each Market Steers: Angus, Hereford, Shorthorn, All Other Breeds (Purebreds) and Crossbreds

Market Steer -- 4-H members are limited to receive one premium per weight class.

Pair of Steers – owned by one exhibitor (page 56, rule #8)

## **Beef Breeding Classes:**

### **ONE ENTRY PER CLASS**

Breeds for each class: Angus, Hereford, Shorthorn, All Other Breeds (Purebreds) and Crossbreds

<b>Jr. Bull Calf</b>	Born after 1/1/26
<b>Jr. Heifer Calf</b>	Born after 1/1/26
<b>Sr. Heifer Calf</b>	Born 10/1/25 to 12/31/25
<b>Summer Yearling Heifer</b>	7/1/25 to 9/30/25
<b>Spring Yearling Heifer</b>	4/1/25 to 6/30/25
<b>Jr. Yearling Heifer</b>	1/1/25 to 3/31/25
<b>Sr. Yearling Heifer</b>	7/1/24 to 12/31/24
<b>Cow with Natural Calf</b>	Cow born prior to 7/1/24 and calf born after 1/1/26

### Beef Champions (Ribbon Only - No Premium)

- Beef Carcass Steer— a champion and reserve champion will be selected.
- Steers - a champion and reserve champion will be selected within each; showing will be the first and second place animals in each weight group of each breed.
- Grand Champion (Overall) - a grand and reserve champion steer will be selected from the breed champions and reserves.
- Beef Breeding - a champion and reserve champion within each breed will be selected from the first and second place animals.
- Beef Breeding (Overall) - a grand and reserve champion beef female will be selected from the beef breeding champions and reserves.
- Bull Calf (Overall) - a grand champion bull calf will be selected from the first place of each breed.
- Rate of Gain Contest – a champion and reserve champion will be selected.

# Dairy Department

Terry Ellingson, Superintendent – (815) 543-2733

1. All cattle being exhibited must have an official USDA 840 tag which can be read both visually and electronically. exhibitors are responsible for ensuring their animals have the necessary 840 tags and veterinary inspections before arriving at the fair.
2. Exhibitors must complete the required training, refer to page 56, rule #2.
3. Animals may be purebred or grade. All dairy breeds may be shown.
4. **Purebred cattle must have registration papers made out in the name of the exhibitor and/or joint ownership (a partnership between two Boone County 4-H youth), no farm names, and must be available for inspection to be eligible to be shown. The superintendent will check all registration papers and grade identification papers on Tuesday evening, August 11.**
5. Dairy exhibitors must include a copy of the front side of their registration papers or their grade identification papers to the Extension Office by June 1. Registration or grade identification papers for calves born between May 1 and June 1 must be presented by July 1.
6. For possession rules, see page 4 of this book. *To be eligible to exhibit at the Boone County 4-H Show, cows must be in the possession of the exhibitor by January 1st, dairy heifers must be in the possession of the exhibitor by May 1<sup>st</sup>, and dairy calves must be in the possession of the exhibitor by June 1.*
6. **Check-in for all dairy animals will be from 7:00-9:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 11.** The check-in table will be located in the middle of the dairy barn. Health and Registration Papers will be checked at this time. Exhibitors must have his/her animals checked in by 9:00 p.m. – NO EXCEPTIONS! Animals must be on the Fairgrounds no later than Tuesday evening, August 11 at 9:00 p.m.
7. Release times are governed by the BCFA; therefore, 4-H exhibitors must abide by those rules.
8. **A Dairy Meeting will take place at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, August 12 in the Dairy Show Arena for all 4-H dairy exhibitors. All exhibitors must attend.**
9. Health Regulations - See State Health Requirements pages 61-64 for specifics. If health requirements are not followed, your animals will not be allowed to stay on the fairgrounds.
10. Fitting/Grooming Rule will be enforced. See Rule #9 on page 56.
11. Each exhibitor is permitted a total of one (1) entry per class.
12. Any Sr. Yearling in production will show in the two-year-old class.
13. Black & White and Red & White Holsteins classes will be shown together as Registered Holsteins or Grade Holsteins for the 4-H Show. Red & White Holsteins can show with registration papers from either the Holstein or the Red & White Holstein Association.
14. Showmanship classes will be divided using ages as of September 1, 2025 into the following age divisions: Junior (8-11); Intermediate (12-14); and Senior (15-18). **Exhibitors are required to show in white pants.** Showmanship class will be at the end of the show. ***No STEERS in Dairy showmanship classes.*** Please read the Showmanship rules on page 64.
15. The Supreme Senior Champion and the Supreme Junior Champion will be eligible to auction off a dairy product (milk, cheese, etc.) at the Livestock Auction at the Boone County Fair.
16. Tack areas will be limited. Large furniture (ie. couches, recliners) will NOT be allowed.

# Dairy Show

Thursday, August 13 – 9:00 a.m.

Dairy Show Arena

## Show Day Order:

1. Cow Classes & Best Udder
2. Calf Classes
3. Heifer Classes
4. Champions
5. Dam & Daughter
6. Showmanship

## Dairy Classes:

### ONE ENTRY PER CLASS

Breeds for dairy classes: Registered Holsteins includes (Black/White & Red/White), Registered AOB, Grade Holsteins includes (Black/White & Red/White), and Grade AOB

<b>Spring Heifer Calf</b>	Born after 3/1/26 to 5/1/26
<b>Winter Heifer Calf</b>	Born 12/1/25 to 2/28/26
<b>Fall Heifer Calf</b>	Born 9/1/25 to 11/30/25
<b>Summer Yearling Heifer</b>	Born 6/1/25 to 8/31/25
<b>Spring Yearling Heifer</b>	Born 3/1/25 to 5/31/25
<b>Winter Yearling Heifer</b>	Born 12/1/24 to 2/28/25
<b>Fall Yearling Heifer</b>	Born 9/1/24 to 11/30/24
<b>Jr. 2 Year Old Cow</b>	Born 3/1/24 to 8/31/24
<b>Sr. 2 Year Old Cow</b>	Born 9/1/23 to 2/28/24
<b>3 Year Old Cow</b>	Born 9/1/22 to 8/31/23
<b>4 Year Old Cow</b>	Born 9/1/21 to 8/31/22
<b>Aged Cow</b>	Born before 8/31/21
<b>Dry Cow</b>	Born before 9/1/23

**Best Udder** on Cow in Production, presently in milk

**Dam & Daughter** owned by one exhibitor (page 56, rule #8)

**Dairy Champions** -- (Ribbon Only - No Premium)

Breed Champions:

Calf Champion & Reserve  
Junior Champion & Reserve  
Senior Champion & Reserve

Supreme Champions:

Calf Champion & Reserve  
Junior Champion & Reserve  
Senior Champion & Reserve

# Dairy Steer Department

**Rick Franseen, Superintendent – (815) 703-7916**

1. All cattle being exhibited must have an official USDA 840 tag which can be read both visually and electronically. Exhibitors are responsible for ensuring their animals have the required 840 tag and have completed any necessary veterinary inspections prior to arriving at the fair.
2. Exhibitors must complete the required training, refer to page 56, rule #2.
3. Dairy Steers must be in the barn prior to weigh in. Dairy steers will be weighed at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 11.
4. Release times are governed by the BCFA; therefore, 4-H exhibitors must abide by those rules.
5. Health Regulations - See State Health Requirements pages 61-64 for specifics. If health requirements are not followed, your animals will not be allowed to stay on the fairgrounds.
6. Fitting/Grooming Rule will be enforced. See Rule #9 on page 56.
7. Steers must be castrated and dehorned.
8. Each 4-H'er is limited to one dairy steer calf and one dairy steer.
9. If showing a dairy steer and a female dairy animal, the dairy steer will be housed with the member's female projects in the dairy barn. If only showing a dairy steer, stalling arrangements will be made by the 4-H dairy superintendent. If too many dairy steers are exhibited and there is not enough space available, the rule will be changed back to require a female dairy project to show a dairy steer.
10. Normal dairy grooming only.
11. Acceptable dairy breeds (can be crossbred dairy x dairy). Holstein, Brown Swiss, Jersey, Ayrshire and Guernsey. No dairy x beef crossbreds allowed.
12. Rate of Gain Contest – 4-H members who weighed steers on the designated date in at the Boone County Fairgrounds will compete in a rate of gain contest. Rate of gain awards will be presented to those 4-H'ers with the highest average daily gain. (Daily gain will be calculated using the difference between using the weigh in on Sunday of the preceding fair to the current year's weigh in.) Steers that are self-nominated in February would be ineligible to compete for Rate of Gain. If a tie occurs in the Rate-of-Gain results for the grand and/or reserve titles, the 4-H judge will break the tie.
13. Market Animal Nominations: Families (siblings, step-siblings) will be allowed to nominate market animals under the family name during initial weigh-ins. Market animals will have to be declared by the individual exhibitor according to ear tag/tattoo by Livestock Verification dates.
14. Showmanship classes will be divided using ages as of September 1, 2025 into the following age divisions: Junior (8-11); Intermediate (12-14); and Senior (15-18). Please read the Showmanship rules on page 64.
15. Steers must be in the possession of the exhibitor by February 1. For possession rules, see page 4 of this book.

## Dairy Steer Show

Wednesday, August 12 | 9:00 a.m. | Livestock Show Arena

### Dairy Steer Classes:

- Dairy Steer Calf  
Born 1/1/26 to 4/30/26
- Dairy Steer  
Born 1/1/25 to 12/31/25

### Dairy Steer Nomination Procedure

1. Dairy Steer Calves will be tattooed, tagged and weighed on Sunday, August 16 at 9:30 a.m. This calf will be nominated for next year's 4-H show as the members Dairy Steer.
2. For new members or those who did not have a dairy steer calf nominated at the fair will have until February 1 of the current show year to self-nominate a dairy steer. 4-H members are eligible to nominate one alternate dairy steer. To self-nominate:
  - a. The member must tag the steer to be nominated with an official 840 tag. Tagging will be the responsibility of the member.
  - b. Submit the Grade Nomination form along with required photos by Feb. 1.
  - c. If for any reason a dairy steer calf nominated at the fair needs to be replaced, the 4-H member must notify the office and self-nominate another dairy steer following the above guidelines by February 1.

# Goat Department

Ellis Mundy, Superintendent – (815) 509-8758

1. Exhibitors must complete the required training, refer to page 56, rule #2.
2. Animals may be purebred or grade. All goat breeds (including Nigerian Dwarfs) and grades may be shown.
3. Purebred goats must have registration papers made out in the name of the exhibitor and be available for inspection. Superintendent will check all registration papers on Wednesday evening of the fair.
4. For possession rules, please see page 4 of this book. *To be eligible to exhibit at the Boone County 4-H Show, milking does must be in the possession of the exhibitor by January 1 and kids and yearlings must be in the possession of the exhibitor by May 1.*
5. All goats must be individually identified by an ear tattoo or official metal or plastic tag.
6. **Animals must be on the Fairgrounds no later than Tuesday evening, August 11 at 9:00 p.m.**
7. Release times are governed by the BCFA; therefore, 4-H exhibitors must abide by those rules.
8. Health Regulations - See State Health Requirements pages 61-64 for specifics. If health requirements are not followed, your animals will not be allowed to stay on the fairgrounds.
9. Fitting/Grooming Rule will be enforced. See Rule #9 on page 56.
10. Each exhibitor is permitted one (1) entry only per class.
11. Showmanship classes will be divided using ages as of September 1, 2025 into the following age divisions: Junior (8-11); Intermediate (12-14); and Senior (15-18). Showmanship rules on page 64.
12. Preferred show attire should be show whites (white shirt and pants); however, black pants (not blue jeans) will be acceptable.
13. All Dairy Breed Goats and Boer Goat Wethers must be dehorned. Boer Goat females may be exhibited with horns.
14. Wethers must be born after January 1st of current project year.
15. All market wethers must be weighed and tattooed on the designated Saturday in May to be eligible to be shown and auctioned. **Each member is allowed to weigh-in an alternate wether. However, each exhibitor will be permitted to exhibit only one wether during the 4-H Show.** Note: It appears that the Boone County Fair offers boer wether classes. So, your alternate wether as long as it is a boer can be shown in the Junior/Open Show. *Clarification: The 4-H member will only be eligible to sell the goat wether that is shown in the 4-H Show. Auction information on page 58-59.*
16. Market Animal Nominations: Families (siblings, step-siblings) will be allowed to nominate market animals under the family name during initial weigh-ins. Market animals will have to be declared by the individual exhibitor according to ear tag/tattoo by Livestock Verification.
17. **Market Wethers must weigh 75 lbs.** to be sold at the auction. Goats will be sold in the Livestock Auction on Thursday, August 13. See pages 53-54 for more details.
18. Market wethers will be weighed at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 11 at the Sheep Barn Show Arena. Please check with the Dairy Goat superintendent for specifics. Animals will be weighed only once.
19. If a wether is dairy goat breed crossed with Boer, it will be exhibited in the Boer Goat Market Wether class. If a wether is strictly dairy goat breeds, it will be exhibited in the Dairy Goat Market Wether class.
20. As a courtesy to other 4-H exhibitors, any animals qualifying for ADGA Permanent Champions status or past winners of the Boone County 4-H Best Doe in Show class should only be shown in the Champion Challenge class. Animals exhibited in the Champion Challenge class will compete for Best Doe of Show and Reserve Best Doe of Show.
21. If the number of exhibits is low in any class, classes may be combined with another. Classes will be determined at the discretion of the 4-H Superintendent.

## Goat Champions:(Ribbon Only - No Premium)

Grand Champion Junior Doe	Best Doe of Show	Grand Champion Wether
Reserve Champion Junior Doe	Reserve Best Doe of Show	Reserve Champion Wether
Grand Champion Senior Doe	Champion Boer Doe	
Reserve Champion Senior Doe	Reserve Champion Boer Doe	
Best Doe of Show		

# Goat Show

Thursday, August 11 – 8:00 a.m. -- Goat Show Arena

## Dairy Goat Classes:

### ONE ENTRY PER CLASS

Junior Kid	Born on or after 4/1/26
Intermediate Kid	Born 3/1/26 to 3/31/26
Senior Kid	Born 1/1/26 to 2/28/26
Dry Yearling Under 2 Years	Born after 8/2/25
Milking Yearling Under 2 Years	Born after 8/2/25
Milker 2 Years & Under 3	Born 8/2/23 to 8/1/24
Milker 3 Years & Under 5	Born 8/2/21 to 8/1/23
Milker 5 Years & Over	Born before 8/2/21
Champion Challenge	
Dairy Market Wether	Born after 1/1/26

**Produce of Dam** – 2 female offspring of one dam

**Dairy Breeders Trio** – 3 does any age, bred and owned by one exhibitor. One must be in milk.

**Get of Sire** – 3 animals of any age, offspring of any one sire. Owned by one exhibitor.

## Boer Goat Classes:

### ONE ENTRY PER CLASS

Junior Doe Kid	Born on or after 4/1/26
Intermediate Doe Kid	Born 3/1/26 to 3/31/26
Senior Doe Kid	Born 1/1/26 to 2/28/26
Dry Yearling Under 2 Years	Born after 8/2/25
Doe Under 2 Years	Born after 8/2/25
Doe 2 Years & Under 3	Born 8/2/23 to 8/1/24
Doe 3 Years & Over	Born before 8/1/23
Boer Market Wether	Born after 1/1/26

**Produce of Dam** – 2 female offspring of one dam.

**Boer Breeders Trio** – 3 does any age, bred and owned by one exhibitor.

**Get of Sire** – 3 animals of any age, offspring of any one sire. Owned by one exhibitor.

# Horse Department

Kris Hall, Superintendent – (815) 292-3221

1. Exhibitors must complete the required training, refer to page 56, rule #2.
2. To participate in the Boone County 4-H Horse and Pony Show, all 4-H horse project members must attend a Horse Safety Clinic once during their 4-H career.
3. 4-H horse members will not be allowed to show if he/she has not met the mandatory clinic requirement.
4. Horses and ponies will be judged on Tuesday, August 11 at the Boone County Fairgrounds. Judging will begin at 8:30 a.m.
5. All horses and ponies must be owned or under a lease agreement *and possessed* by the exhibitor prior to May 1 of the current year. In addition to the ownership/lease papers, two photos (one of each side) of the animal will be mandatory for all horse and ponies, grade and registered animals. Be prepared to show a copy of the registration or lease papers if requested. For possession rules, see page 4 of this book.
6. Health Regulations – See State Health Requirements, pages 61-64 for specifics. If health requirements are not followed, your animals will not be allowed to stay on the fairgrounds. **A copy of your horse's negative test for EIA will need to be turned in with your Show Registration form.** AGID/Coggins/ELISA papers will not be accepted by the superintendent on the day of the show; however, you must have your original copy with you the day of the show.
7. Ponies must be 56" and under to be enrolled in western classes and must be 58" and under to be in English classes. They may be measured if size is questioned.
8. Weanling and yearling stallions may only be entered in the Mare Production, Open Pony 2 years and under, or Open Horse 2 years and under. They must be kept under control at all times, or they will be asked to leave. Mules, donkeys and asses are not allowed.
9. Each exhibitor is allowed to show three horses. A fourth horse is permitted if it is entered in: Mare Production, Open Pony 2 years and under or Open Horse 2 years and under. Each exhibitor must show their animal in the ring without assistance of another person, except in Mare Production, Costume Class, and Tandem Bareback. Family members may show the same entry but not in the same class.
10. Any novice 4-H member, no matter what the age, may show in the novice class their first year in the horse project. However, if members are 12 years and under and are within their first two years in the project, they may show in the novice classes or they also have the choice of entering just the age divisions classes. You may not show in both and no crossovers will be allowed. All other members must show in their age group. Novice members may show in open non-premium classes.
11. Classes age divisions are based on the 4-H member's age as of September 1, 2025.
12. *Horses and ponies may stay overnight at the fairgrounds on **Tuesday evening ONLY**.* This will be by special permission granted by the Boone County Fair. There is no electricity for trailer/camper plug in. 4-H'ers MUST request stalls online with their entries and will be verified during Livestock Verification. Stalls will be available to use the day of the show; **they must be cleaned at the end of the day.** No promise of stalls will be made. Check with the 4-H Horse Superintendent for availability of stalls.
13. On the day of the 4-H Show only the 4-H horse project member and immediate family will be able to prepare the horse or pony for the show ring. No professional handlers will be allowed to groom, instruct, lunge, or ride the animal for the horse project member once the member has arrived at the fairgrounds. Trainers who are responsible for hauling the horse to the grounds will be allowed to unload the horse, but then must vacate the trailer area to the grandstands and will not be allowed to coach the member during the show.
14. Overt coaching outside the arena will be penalized at the judge's discretion. The 4-H Show is an opportunity for the youth to show what they have learned.
15. All 4-H'ers are responsible for having the correct tack for each class.
16. Gaited horses may participate in any performance class provided that they are able to canter/lope. Gaited horses that are unable to canter/lope should enter ONLY walk/trot classes.

**All 4-H members are required to wear a properly fitted ASTM or SEI standard FI 163 (or above) certified equestrian helmet whenever mounted or driving at all 4-H events.**

# Horse & Pony Show

Tuesday, August 11 | 8:30 a.m. | Outdoor Horse Arena

## Halter & Non-Riding Classes:

- 1. Mare Production (foaled in this project year)
- 2. Open Pony 2 years & under
- 3. Open Horse 2 years & under
- 4. Western Type Pony or Miniature

Grand Champion and Reserve Champion Western Type Pony or Miniature - 1st and 2nd place from Western Pony or Miniature class and 1st and 2nd place from Open Pony 2 years & under. (Ribbon Only - No Premium)

- 5. Western Horse - Gelding
- 6. Western Horse - Mare

Grand Champion and Reserve Champion Western Horse - 1st and 2nd place from classes Western Horse-gelding, Western Horse-mare and 1st and 2nd place western horse from Open Horse 2 years & under class. (Ribbon Only - No Premium)

- 7. Western Showmanship, **Novice** (*May not enter Jr. or Sr. Western Showmanship*)
- 8. Western Showmanship, **Junior** (8-13)
- 9. Western Showmanship, **Senior** (14-18)

Grand Champion and Reserve Champion Western Showmanship - 1st and 2nd place from Novice, Junior and Senior Western Showmanship classes. (Ribbon Only -No Premium)

-----10 Minute Break-----

- 10. English Type Pony or Miniature

Grand Champion & Reserve Champion English Type Pony or Miniature - 1st and 2nd place from class English Pony or Miniature and 1st and 2nd place from class Open Pony 2 years & under. (Ribbon Only - No Premium)

- 11. English Horse - Gelding
- 12. English Horse - Mare

Grand Champion and Reserve Champion English Horse - 1st and 2nd place from classes English Horse-Gelding, English Horse-Mare and 1st and 2nd place English horse from class Open Horse 2 years & under. (Ribbon Only - No Premium)

- 13. English Showmanship, **Novice** (*May not enter Jr. or Sr. English Showmanship*)
- 14. English Showmanship, **Junior** (8-13)
- 15. English Showmanship, **Senior** (14-18)

Grand Champion and Reserve Champion English Showmanship - 1st and 2nd place from Novice, Junior and Senior English Showmanship classes. (Ribbon Only - No Premium)

----- BREAK FOR **LUNCH AT NOON** for 30 MINUTES-----

Drill Team Performance

Last Year 4-H Horse Members Honored

- 16. Pleasure Driving

**If you enter a Walk-Trot Class, you may NOT ENTER Pleasure/Equitation Class with Canterng.**

**Walk-Trot Classes will include Gaited Horses.**

- 17. English Pleasure, Walk Trot, **Novice non-premium**
- 18. English Pleasure, Walk Trot, **Junior** (8-13) *non-premium*
- 19. English Pleasure, Walk Trot, **Senior** (14-18) *non-premium*
- 20. English Equitation, Walk Trot, **Novice non-premium**
- 21. English Equitation, Walk Trot, **Junior** (8-13) *non-premium*
- 22. English Equitation, Walk Trot, **Senior** (14-18) *non-premium*

## Classes with Canterng:

- 23. English Equitation, **Novice** (*May not enter Jr. or Sr. English Equitation*)
- 24. English Equitation, **Junior** (8-13)
- 25. English Equitation, **Senior** (14-18)

Grand Champion & Reserve Champion English Equitation - 1st and 2nd place from Novice, Junior and Senior English Equitation classes. (ribbon only, no premium)

- 26. English Pleasure, **Novice** (*May not enter Jr. or Sr. English Pleasure*) *non-premium*
- 27. English Pleasure, **Junior** (8-13) *non-premium*
- 28. English Pleasure, **Senior** (14-18) *non-premium*
- 29. Versatility English to Western, 2 handlers allowed; limit of 3 minutes to change

If you enter a Walk-Trot Class, you may **NOT ENTER** the Pleasure/Equitation Class with Canterng. Walk-Trot Classes will include Gaited Horses.

- 30. Western Pleasure Walk-Trot, **Novice** *non-premium*
- 31. Western Pleasure Walk-Trot, **Junior** (8-13) *non-premium*
- 32. Western Pleasure Walk-Trot, **Senior** (14-18) *non-premium*
- 33. Western Horsemanship Walk-Trot, **Novice** *non-premium*
- 34. Western Horsemanship Walk-Trot, **Junior** (8-13) *non-premium*
- 35. Western Horsemanship Walk-Trot, **Senior** (14-18) *non-premium*

### **Classes with Canterng:**

- 36. Western Horsemanship, **Novice** (*May not enter Jr. or Sr. Western Horsemanship*)
- 37. Western Horsemanship, **Junior** (8-13)
- 38. Western Horsemanship, **Senior** (14-18)

Grand Champion & Reserve Champion Western Horsemanship - 1st and 2nd place from Novice, Junior and Senior Western Horsemanship classes. (Ribbon Only-No Premium)

- 39. Western Pleasure, **Novice** (*May not enter Jr. or Sr. Western Pleasure*) *non-premium*
- 40. Western Pleasure, **Junior** (8-13) *non-premium*
- 41. Western Pleasure, **Senior** (14-18) *non-premium*
  
- 42. Open Pony Pleasure *non-premium*
- 43. Open Gaited Horse Equitation
- 44. Walk-Trot Bareback Pleasure, no chaps, *may NOT ENTER Class #44 non-premium*
- 45. Open Bareback Pleasure, no chaps, *non-premium*
- 46. Tandem Bareback - walk/trot - no chaps, switching positions with ring steward holding the horse, *non-premium*
- 47. Costume Class—Prettiest, Funniest and Most Original *non-premium*
- 48. Egg & Spoon Class – walk/trot/canter *non-premium*

All premium classes (➤) will receive a first-place trophy, a blue, red, or white premium ribbon and second through sixth place ribbons.

All non-premium classes (•) will receive a first-place trophy and second through sixth place ribbons.

## **Trail Classes**

Trail classes will be held on Tuesday, August 11 from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. in a designated area near the show arena.

English or Western attire allowed. Patterns will be available for all horse project members. (NO PREMIUMS)

Two Age Divisions for Classes below: Junior (Ages 8-13) and Senior (14-18)

- In Hand
- Walk Trot
- Open

# Horse Speed Events

Wednesday, August 12 | 9:00 a.m. | Outdoor Pony Arena

## Speed Events – General Participation Rules

**Special Note: Exhibitor and horses will be allowed to stay overnight on Tuesday, August 11 ONLY by special permission granted by the Boone County Fair. No camping spaces available unless applied through the Boone County Fair camping application.**

## Speed Event Classes:

Events will be broken down into age divisions. Rules will be the same for each division. (NO PREMIUMS)

### Two Age Divisions for Speed Classes below: Junior (Ages 8-13) and Senior (14-18)

Plug Race	Flag Racing
Barrel Racing	Pole Bending

### Driving Events includes all age divisions:

Driving Plug Race  
Driving Barrel Racing  
Driving Pole Pending

### **These rules are in addition to the Horse Department Rules. Safety is of utmost importance.**

1. A person(s) designated by the horse show committee as the judge for the speed events will be at the arena and will have the final say in the interpretation, application, and infringement of any speed event rules.
2. Any contestant or family member thereof displaying unsportsmanlike conduct as determined by the judge may be disqualified.
3. All contestants must wear an ASTM-SEI Equestrian Helmet while mounted or driving.
4. Contestants must wear western attire including boots with heels and trousers. Shirts may be long sleeve, short sleeve or sleeveless. No tank tops or spaghetti straps allowed. Remember you are representing 4-H.
5. When a contestant is called off course by the judge or steward, he or she must exit the arena immediately. If the contestant does not leave, they may be disqualified from the rest of the show.
6. All riders must be in control of their mount. Assistance by a ground crew member is allowed until the rider gets into the arena. Contestants are not permitted any assistance upon entering, exiting or while they are in the arena. If necessary, the contestant may mount after entering and may dismount prior to exiting the arena.
7. Western type of equipment must be used on the horse. Mechanical hackamores and tiedowns are permitted. Any equipment that the horse committee or judge considers severe or unsafe; or if the contestant is using equipment in a severe or unsafe manner, may be disqualified.
8. Contestant may carry a bat or whip; however, they cannot be used forward of the cinch, or in excess as deemed by the judge. Ball type (circular style) spurs are allowed.
9. The barrels should be either metal or plastic 55-gallon drums.
10. All contestants will be timed with either an electric timer or two stopwatches. If the timing device fails, the contestant will be given the option of either an immediate rerun or a run at the end of the running order. (If two stopwatches are used, the average time of the two watches serves as the official time.)
11. Time will commence when the horse's nose crosses the starting line and will end when the horse's nose crosses the finish line.
12. Contestants must start their run from inside the designated point of entry. Cones, pylons, or other similar items can designate the point of entry. Once the contestant is in the arena the gate will be closed and will stay closed until the run is completed and the rider has their mount under control. There will be at least one steward assigned to work at the gate.
13. Once the gate is closed the contestant will have 60 seconds to break the timer, if not done so by the contestant, they will be excused and receive a no time.
14. In case of a tie, a runoff will take place. The winner in the runoff must run the pattern in no more than two seconds over their original time otherwise the other contestant will be considered the winner.
15. Contestants are not permitted to rerun if handicapped by equipment failure and/or an accident to either the horse or rider. If any injury is sustained to the horse while making the run, the judge will have the final decision on whether the contestant may continue their run.
16. The horses must be in good health and not show evidence of contagious or infectious diseases. Horses found to be infected with contagious or infectious diseases may be ordered to be removed from the show grounds. Health Regulations - See State Health Requirements pages 61-64 for specifics. No stallions may be shown.
17. The show committee reserves the right to cancel or combine any classes with less than five (5) entries.
18. Any non-therapeutic substance used as a stimulant, depressant or sedative for the purpose of altering a horse's show ring performance is prohibited and failure to comply will result in disqualification.

# Poultry Department

Dan Tuttle & Karen Tuttle, Superintendents – (815) 482-0006 or (815) 509-0956

1. Exhibitors must complete the required training, refer to page 56, rule #2.
2. Health Regulations – See State Health Requirements, pages 61-64 for specifics. If health requirements are not followed, your animals will not be allowed to stay on the fairgrounds.
3. Upon arrival at the fairgrounds, all exhibitors must be prepared to fill out the Illinois poultry health form. All entries (except waterfowl, i.e. domesticated fowl that normally swim, such as ducks and geese) in a show or exhibition shall have originated from a U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean or equivalent hatchery or flock OR have a negative pullorum-typhoid test within 90 days prior to exhibition. Exhibitor shall show proper information as to name and address of owner or exhibitor, name and address of the authorized testing agent, date of the testing and the number, breed, and species of those tested.
4. Each exhibitor is permitted only (1) entry per class and may choose from a maximum of 28 single bird classes.
5. To be eligible to exhibit at the Boone County 4-H Show, chickens, ducks and geese must be in the possession of and cared for by the exhibitor by May 1. Meat Pens should be in possession of the exhibitor no later than June 15. For possession rules, see page 4 of this book.
6. **Judging starts at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 11. All entries must be in place no later than 8:00 p.m., Monday, August 10. You must meet with a superintendent or an assistant on Sunday or Monday to place tags on cages and confirm classes.**
7. Release times are governed by the BCFA; therefore, 4-H exhibitors must abide by those rules.
8. Exhibitors must be present for the poultry show. **All animals must be exhibited in the show by the 4-H owner.** In cases of sickness, two entries, or a judging conflict, another Boone County 4-H member may be secured to help. Livestock Exhibit Conflicts--In the event that a 4-H'er is scheduled to show two animals at the same time, another Boone County 4-H'er, in comparable age and skill may substitute. The 4-H member needs to inform the Department Superintendent of the showman substitution prior to the class.
9. Pens will be furnished. 4-H members are encouraged to feed their own birds as well as assist with the feeding and watering of all birds in the poultry barn. 4-H exhibitors will be asked to complete a feed/water shift to assist with this task in the Poultry barn. Please sign-up during bird drop-off on Sunday or Monday.
10. Birds hatched after 9/1/25 will show as cockerel or pullet. Birds hatched before 9/1/25 will show as cock or hen.
11. Showmanship classes will be divided using ages as of September 1, 2025 into the following age divisions: Junior (8-11); Intermediate (12-14); and Senior (15-18). Please read the Showmanship rules on page 64.
12. Fitting/Grooming Rule will be enforced. See Rule #9 on page 56.
13. 4-H'ers wishing to sell rabbits or poultry MUST complete and turn in the Auction Registration Form to the Superintendent or the Extension Office by 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, August 13. If you have not turned in your auction registration by 10:00 a.m. and **your bird banded**, you will not be allowed to sell in the auction. No additions will be made the day of the auction.

Please contact Mr. or Mrs. Tuttle (815/482-0006; 815/509-0956) with any questions you have about your birds and how to make your entries. The **American Poultry Association** website is also a great resource -- <https://amerpoultryassn.com/accepted-breeds-varieties/>

# Poultry Show

Tuesday, August 11 | 8:00 a.m. | Poultry Barn

## Classes are listed in Show Order

### ONE ENTRY PER CLASS with a Maximum 28 single bird classes

All Classes will have subclasses of:

**Cock/Old Male** - Male Hatched before 9/1/25

**Hen/Old Female** – Female Hatched before 9/1/25

**Cockerel/Young Male** – Male Hatched after 9/1/25

**Pullet/Young Female** – Female Hatched after 9/1/25

### Standard Large Breed Classes:

**American**

**Mediterranean**

**Asiatic**

**English**

**Continental**

**All Other Standard Breeds** - \*recognized by the American Poultry Association

**Backyard Variety Standard** - \*not recognized by APA and cannot fit in one of the above classes.

\*Birds shown in this class will not be eligible for champions

**American:** Buckeye, Chantecler, Delawares, Dominique, Holland, Java, Jersey Giant, Lamona, New Hampshire, Plymouth Rock, Rhode Island Red, Rhode Island White, Wyandotte

**Asiatic:** Brahma, Cochin and Langshan

**Continental:** Barnevelders, Campine, Crevecoeur, Faverolles, Hamburg, Houdan, LaFleche, Lakenvelder, Marans, Polish (bearded and non-bearded), and Welsummers

**English:** Astralorp, Cornish, Dorking, Orpington, Redcap, and Sussex

**Mediterranean:** Ancona, Andalusian, Catalana, Leghorn, Minorca, Sicilian Buttercup, and Spanish

**All Other Standard Breeds:** Ameraucana, Arucana, Aseel, Cubalaya, Malay, Modern Game, Naked Neck, Old English Game, Phoenix, Shamo, Sultran, Sumatra, and Yokohama

### Bantam Classes:

**Feather Legged**

**Single Comb Clean Legged**

**Rose Comb Clean Legged**

**All Other Combs Clean Legged**

**Game**

**Backyard Variety Bantam** - \*not recognized by APA and cannot fit in one of the above classes. \*Birds shown in this class will not be eligible for champions

**Game:** American, Modern, Old English

**Single Comb Clean Legged:** Ancona, Andalusian, Australorp, Campine, Catalana, Delaware, Dorking, Dutch, Holland, Japanese, Java, Jersey Giant, Lakenvelder, Lamona, Leghorn, Minorca, Naked Neck, New Hampshire, Orpington, Phoenix, Plymouth Rock, Rhode Island Red, Serama (American), Spanish, Sussex, and Welsummer.

**Rose Comb Clean Legged:** Ancona, Belgian Bearded d'Anver, Dominique, Dorking, Hamburg, Leghorn, Minorca, Nankin, Redcap, Rhode Island Red, Rhode Island White, Rosecomb, Sebright, and Wyandotte

**All Other Comb Clean Legged:** Ameraucana, Arucana, Buckeye, Chantecler, Cornish, Crevecoeur, Cubalaya, Houdan, KO Shamo, LaFleche, Malay, and Shamo.

**Feather Legged:** Belgian Bearded D'Uccle, Booted, Brahma, Cochin, Favorelles, Langshan, Silkie, Sultan

**Pen of 3 Meat Type** – can be 3 males or 3 females -- *(Cannot be shown in individual breed classes)*

**Pen of 3 Production Type** – 3 females -- *(Cannot be shown in individual breed classes)*

### Other Poultry Classes:

**Turkey**

**Duck**

**Bantam Duck**

**Geese**

**Pheasants** – may show a young male or female

**Quail** – may show a young male or female

**Doves** – may show a young male or female

**Guineas** – may show a young male or female

**Pair of Pigeons**

**Pair of Partridges**

# Rabbit Department

Sue Schmidt, Superintendent – (815) 341-5997

Judging Schedule: Wednesday, August 12

Rabbit Showmanship – 2:00 p.m. | Rabbit Barn

Rabbit Show -- 3:30 p.m. | Livestock Show Arena

**Note:** The show may be slightly delayed if the Open Rabbit Show is not completed. Exhibitors should report to the Rabbit Barn no later than 3:15 p.m. to check the status of the start time and help with set-up if needed.

1. Exhibitors must complete the required training, refer to page 56, rule #2.
2. All rabbits must be identified with a permanent tattoo in the left ear and recorded when you make your entries online. To be eligible to exhibit at the Boone County 4-H Show, rabbits must be in the possession of the exhibitor by May 1. For possession rules, please see page 4 of this book.
3. Each exhibitor is permitted to show one entry per class. *Meat/Fancy crossbred rabbits that weigh less than 6 pounds will show as fancy type crossbred rabbits. Meat/Fancy crossbred rabbits that weigh over 6 pounds will show as meat type crossbred rabbits.*
4. Rabbits exhibiting signs of disease and/or illness should not be brought to the fair or may be removed by fair officials if needed.
5. This show is not an ARBA or IRBA sanctioned show. Rabbits shall not be disqualified. However, rabbits may receive a lower rating at the discretion of the judge based on breed or quality discriminations.  
All entries must be in place no later than 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 11. Rabbits must be checked in with the superintendents on Tuesday between 2:00-8:00 p.m.
6. Release times are governed by the BCFA; therefore, 4-H exhibitors must abide by those rules.
7. The Rabbit Barn will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. At 10 p.m. the barn will be closed and locked.
8. Boone County 4-H, Boone County Fair, and the superintendents will not be responsible for any rabbits left after 7:00 p.m. on Sunday. 4-H members need to make prior arrangements if this is a problem.
9. Pens will be furnished. There will be exhibit tags attached to the pens indicating which pens are yours. Rabbits that are entered in the Open Rabbit Show are housed in coops in the Open Rabbit Show section of the rabbit barn during the entire fair. Coops for these rabbits are not needed in the 4-H section of the rabbit barn. Please indicate online with your entry if your rabbit(s) are entered in the Open Show.
10. Food and water will **not** be provided for the rabbits in the **4-H section** of the rabbit barn. You must bring your own feed and water containers. Cages may be stacked so you should be prepared to bring bedding for your rabbit.
11. Showmanship classes will be divided using ages as of September 1, 2025 into the following age divisions: Junior (8-11); Intermediate (12-14); and Senior (15-18). Please read the Showmanship rules on page 64. The exhibitor must show his or her own rabbit. Exhibitors must be able to give the standards of the breed being exhibited and describe the good and bad points of the rabbit they are showing, as well as pose it for judging. (ribbon, no premium)
12. Fitting/Grooming Rule will be enforced. See Rule #9 on page 56.
13. 4-H'ers wishing to sell rabbits or poultry or **MUST** complete and turn in the **Auction Registration Form** to the Superintendent or the Extension Office by 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, August 13. If you have not turned in your auction registration by 10:00 a.m., you will not be allowed to sell in the auction. No additions will be made the day of the auction.

## Rabbit Champions:

Champion of Each Breed

Reserve Champion of Each Breed

Best Fancy Type - Trophy & Rosette

Best Meat Type - Trophy & Rosette

Best Meat Pen - Trophy & Rosette

## **Rabbit Showmanship**

Wednesday, August 12 | 2:00 p.m. | Rabbit Barn

### **Classes:**

- Rabbit Showmanship (8-11), non-premium, award only
- Rabbit Showmanship (12-14), non-premium, award only
- Rabbit Showmanship (15-18), non-premium, award only

## **Rabbit Show**

Wednesday, August 12 | 3:30 p.m. | Livestock Show Arena

(See Rule #6 page 80 for details about start time)

### **ONE ENTRY PER CLASS**

All Classes will have subclasses of:

**Senior Buck – Over 6 months of age**

**Senior Doe – Over 6 months of age**

**Junior Buck – 6 months old and under**

**Junior Doe – 6 months old and under**

### **Rabbit Meat Classes:**

Meat Type include the following breeds: *American, American Chinchilla, Beveren, Black de Hotot, California, Champagne D'Argent, Checkered Giant, Cinnamon, Crème D'Argent, English Lop, Flemish Giant, French Lop, Giant Angora, Giant Chinchilla, New Zealand, Palomino, Satin and Silver Fox*

**Meat Type, Purebred**

**Meat Type, Cross**

**Meat Pen --** Three (3) rabbits of the same breed, color and variety, purebred. No rabbit may be over 70 days old and must weigh between 3.5 and 5.5 lbs. Not to be shown in any other class.

### **Rabbit Fancy Classes:**

Fancy Type include the following breeds: *American Fuzzy Lop, American Sable, Belgian Hare, Britannia Petite, Dutch, Dwarf Hotot, English Angora, English Spot, Florida White, French Angora, Harlequin, Havana, Himalayan, Holland Lop, Jersey Wooly, Lilac, Lionhead, Mini Lop, Mini Rex, Mini Satin, Netherland Dwarf, Polish, Rex, Rhinelander, Satin Angora, Silver, Silver Marten, Standard Chinchilla, Tan, and Thrianta.*

**Dutch**

**Netherland Dwarf**

**Holland Lop**

**Jersey Wooly/Fuzzy Lop**

**Any Other Fancy Type, Purebred**

**Any Other Fancy Type, Cross**

**Costume Class --** (no premium) Class sponsored by the Schell Family  
Prettiest, Funniest and Best Overall Costume

# Sheep Department

Bob Walberg, Superintendent – (815) 670-1170

1. Exhibitors must complete the required training, refer to page 56, rule #2.
2. **Each exhibitor is permitted one (1) entry per class for breeding stock. For market lamb classes, 4-H members are limited to receive one premium per weight class.**
3. All lambs must be docked.
4. Registration papers are to be in the name of the exhibitor only, no farm name or joint ownership. Papers will be checked on Tuesday evening. For pairs, both animals must be in the name of the exhibitor. If there are no papers for purebreds or the papers are not in the exhibitor's name, they will be put in the grade class.
5. For possession rules, please see page 4 of this book. To be eligible to exhibit at the Boone County 4-H Show, market lambs and all breeding stock must be in the possession of the exhibitor by May 1.
6. All market lambs must be tagged and recorded with the Extension office on the designated Saturday in May.
7. Market Animal Nominations: Families (siblings, step-siblings) will be allowed to nominate market animals under the family name during initial weigh-ins. Market animals will have to be declared by the individual exhibitor according to ear tag/tattoo by Livestock Verification dates.
8. **Animals must be on Fairgrounds no later than Tuesday evening, August 11 at 7:00 p.m.**
9. Release times are governed by the BCFA; therefore, 4-H exhibitors must abide by those rules.
10. Health Regulations - See State Health Requirements, pages 61-64 for specifics. If you do not follow the requirements, your animals will not be allowed to stay on the fairgrounds. Health papers must accompany all sheep and be checked by the 4-H Sheep Superintendent before unloading animals. The superintendent will be there from 1:00-7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 11. If bringing sheep in prior to this time, please notify Bob Walberg, (815) 670-1170.
11. Fitting/Grooming Rule will be enforced. See Rule #9 on page 56.
12. Sheep are to be shown in their natural condition. The addition of coloring agents, injection, and icing are prohibited. Failure to follow this rule is cause for disqualification.
13. **Market lambs will be weighed at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 11.** Animals will be weighed only once. All wethers must be slick shorn before weigh-in so that show lamb fungus can be identified.
14. Due to an updated ruling by the BCFA, sheep will be allowed to be washed during the fair. Sheep shall remain in the immediate vicinity of the barn for exercising. Sheep are not to go near other barns, the campgrounds, or leave the fairgrounds. If an exhibitor is found violating this rule, there will be disciplinary consequences.
15. Showmanship classes will be divided using ages as of September 1, 2025 into the following age divisions: Junior (8-11); Intermediate (12-14); and Senior (15-18). Please read the Showmanship rules on page 64.
16. Sheep exhibitors are encouraged to help clean-up and take down pens in the sheep barn at approximately 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, August 16. Tear down may start earlier or later depending on the removal of animals by the exhibitors.
17. **Sheep Rate of Gain Contest** -- 4-H members who weighed market lambs on the designated date in May at the Boone County Fairgrounds will compete in a rate of gain contest. Rate of gain awards will be presented to those 4-H'ers with the highest average daily gain. Daily gain will be calculated using the difference between the May weight and August weight divided by the number of days. If a tie occurs in the Rate-of-Gain results for the grand and/or reserve titles, the 4-H judge will break the tie.

## Sheep Show

Wednesday, August 12 | 9:00 a.m. | Sheep Show Arena

### Sheep Classes:

#### ONE ENTRY PER CLASS

All Classes will have following breed subclasses: Hampshire, Dorset, Suffolk, Southdown, Shropshire, All Other Meat Breed, All Other Wool Breed, and Commercial Ewe/Grades

<b>Yearling Ram</b>	Born between 8/1/24 to 9/1/25
<b>Fall Ram</b>	Born between 9/1/25 to 12/31/25
<b>Ram Lamb</b>	Born on or after 1/1/26
<b>Aged Ewe</b>	Born before 8/1/24
<b>Yearling Ewe</b>	Born between 8/1/24 to 9/1/25
<b>Fall Ewe</b>	Born between 9/1/25 to 12/31/25
<b>Ewe Lamb</b>	Born on or after 1/1/26

**Mixed Pair of Breeding Lambs** Ewe and Ram born on or after 1/1/26 owned by one exhibitor (page 56, rule #8)

**Market Lamb** Wether born on or after 1/1/26  
Market Wethers will be shown by weight. *4-H members are limited to receive one premium per weight class*. Only those market wethers tagged and recorded in May with the Extension Office are eligible to exhibit in the 4-H Show.

**Pair of Market Lambs** -- 2 wethers (no ewes/rams) born on or after 1/1/26 owned by one exhibitor (page 56, rule#8)

#### Sheep Champions (Ribbon Only - No Premium)

- Breed Champion and Reserve Breed Champion Ewe - First and second place winners of the Ewe Lamb, Fall Ewe, Yearling Ewe, and Aged Ewe will show for Grand and Reserve Grand Champion of each breed.
- Breed Champion and Reserve Breed Champion Ram – First and second place winners of the Ram Lamb, Fall Ram and Yearling Ram will show for Grand Champion Ram of each breed.
- Grand and Reserve Champion Over All Breeds Ewe – All breed champions including Grades will show for Champion Over All Breeds. Reserve will be selected from the remaining breed champions.
- Grand and Reserve Champion Over All Breeds Ram – All breed champions including Grades will show for Champion Over All Breeds. Reserve will be selected from the remaining breed champions.
- Grand and Reserve Grand Champion Market Lambs - First and second place winners of each individual fat lamb weight class will show for Grand and Reserve Champion Market Lamb.
- Rate of Gain Contest – Champion and Reserve will be awarded.

# Swine Department

Bob Lyford, Superintendent – (815) 323-6344

1. All swine being exhibited must have an official USDA 840 tag which can be read both visually and electronically. Exhibitors are responsible for ensuring their animals have the required 840 tag and have completed any necessary veterinary inspections prior to arriving at the fair.
2. Exhibitors must complete the required training, refer to page 56, rule #2.
3. The Illinois Department of Agriculture strictly forbids the use of Paylean or the generic form Ractopamine in show hogs. The Boone County Fair abides by this rule and any animal testing positive for Paylean or Ractopamine will be the sole responsibility of the exhibitor and punishment could include the exhibitors show privileges being suspended at subsequent Boone County Fair swine shows.
4. Boone County Fair has established the swine show as non-terminal. Barrows may return to the farm.
5. 4-H members who will be taking their swine home on Sunday will not be released from the barn until all swine being shipped are loaded.
6. Premises Identification numbers will be required for all 4-H Swine Exhibitors. The Premises ID number (PIN) will need to be reported when making 4-H Show entries online.
7. To be eligible to exhibit at the Boone County 4-H Show, barrows must be in the possession of the exhibitor by May 1. For possession rules, please see page 4 of this book.
8. Health Regulations - See State Health Requirements, pages 61-64 for specifics. If you do not follow the requirements, your animals will not be allowed to stay on the fairgrounds.
9. Fitting/Grooming Rule will be enforced. See Rule #9 on page 56.
10. The following grooming practices are prohibited in the 4-H Show:
  - The use of any substance to alter or enhance the color of animals, including hide and hooves.
  - The use of any substance, material or product to build, change or alter the shape or conformation of animals.
  - The use of any substances of augmentations that adversely affect a carcasses ability to enter the food chain may result in disqualification at the discretion of the superintendent and staff.
  - Detection of substances to alter or enhance animals will result in disqualifications of the animals.
11. Any barrow exhibiting boar characteristics such as but not limited to frothing, chomping, boar smelling urine, mounting etc., will not be eligible for champion awards nor be allowed to auction. The 4-H superintendent, 4-H staff and an Auction Association representative will meet and discuss. The majority opinion will be the final decision.
12. No water hoses in the swine barn.
13. Animals will be carcass tattooed on the farm during the month of July.
14. **All swine must be in the swine barn by 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday.** Animals may be brought to the fairgrounds on Monday evening; however, exhibitors assume all risk associated with early arrivals.
15. All purebred papers will be checked at your pens on Tuesday, August 11 starting at 12:00 p.m. Purebreds must have registration papers made out in the name of the exhibitor and be available for inspection. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to obtain these papers. A leader or club representative must be in their club area at this time with knowledge of whose barrows are in what pens and purebred papers must be available for inspection.
16. Weigh in will begin at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 11. Weigh-In Procedures: Each 4-H member will bring their group of barrows to the scale. *Animals will be weighed only once.* Please be sure to turn in your "swine exhibitor information card" to designate the pig that will be auctioned, and the pair that will be exhibited before leaving the swine barn for the evening. Animals will be weighed by club draw in the following order:
  1. Grasshoppers-Sweet Clovers
  2. Northern Heritage
  3. County Clovers
  4. Wranglers
  5. Beaver Valley Clippers
  6. Flora Producers
  7. Boonedocks
  8. LeRoy Commandoes
  9. Kingdom Seekers
  10. Manchester Mavericks
  11. County Progressors
  12. New Edition
  13. Boone Farms

17. All pigs must be ear notched and recorded in the online Fair Entry system by the entry deadline of June 1. **Ear notches reported will be assumed correct. NO substitutions or corrections will be allowed.** If there is an error, the barrow will be ineligible to be shown in the 4-H Show.
18. Market Animal Nominations: Families (siblings, step-siblings) will be allowed to nominate market animals under the family name during swine entries. Barrows will need to be declared during the ear tagging process in mid-July. No duplicate notches on the individual farm or per family.
19. All 4-H pigs must be tagged on the farm and reported to the office by designated date in July. All tags and notches must match. Lost tags must be reported and replaced before weigh-in at the fair.
20. For individual barrow classes, 4-H members are limited to receive one premium per weight class.
21. Each exhibitor is permitted only one (1) entry in the pair of barrows class.
22. Showmanship classes will be divided using ages as of September 1, 2025 into the following age divisions: Junior (8-11); Intermediate (12-14); and Senior (15-18). Please read the Showmanship rules on page 64.
23. The Illinois Humane Care for Animals Act prohibits physical mistreatment of animals. Failure to follow this rule is cause for disqualification.

### **Swine Pens –**

1. Pens will be distributed based on the number of barrows per 4-H member. Each 4-H member will be assigned 1 pen for every 2 barrows. For members with an odd number of barrows, they will receive one single occupancy pen. Siblings/same family will no longer receive combined pens.
2. Each family will receive one tack pen. In the years that we reach maximum capacity for the barn, tack pens will be denied, and all tack will go above pens. **Note: All wheelbarrows need to be stored outside the barn.**
3. Once pens are assigned, members are not allowed to move pens on their own. Those members moving pens without seeking approval from the 4-H, Open or Livestock superintendents will forfeit Junior and Open Show premiums.
4. If a member is unwilling to pen barrows according to assigned pens, you will be asked to leave the premise with any barrows you wish not to pen as assigned.
5. Pens will be release no later than Friday prior to fair week.

### **Class Rules:**

- A. Barrows will be weighed, Tuesday evening, August 11 starting at 4:00 p.m. Animals will be assigned to classes based on breed and weight. It is recommended that the individual barrow class size be 10 pigs per class and the pair of barrows class size be 12 pairs per class. Entries will be put into weight classes after the weigh-in.
- B. Barrows weighing under **230 lbs.** and over **290 lbs.** cannot be sold at the Livestock Auction and are not eligible to show for grand champion.
- C. Purebred weight classes will be limited to pigs eligible to show for champions. (Barrows under **230 lbs.** and over **290 lbs.** are not eligible to show for grand champion). Lightweight and heavyweight barrows will be shown in together regardless of breed on Thursday morning.
- D. To exhibit a pair of barrows, each barrow must be of eligible weight (230-290 lbs.)
- E. Purebreds with less than 5 animals weighed in at weights eligible to show for championship class will be shown with other purebred breeds also weighing in with less than 5 animals of championship eligible weight. The decision of the superintendent will be final.
- F. Classes determined at the discretion of the 4-H Superintendent.

Please complete and turn in the 4-H and Open Class Swine Market & Trucking Designation Form to the FORM COLLECTION BOX located near the Swine Scale by Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. The form will be included in your Livestock Verification Packet. No Exceptions!

## Swine Schedule

Tuesday, August 11      12:00 p.m. All 4-H swine entries must be on the grounds.  
12:00 p.m. Registration paper/Ear Notch checks begin.  
4:00 p.m. Weigh-in

**\*\*Note: Change to 1-Day Swine Show for 2026**

Wednesday, August 12      8:00 a.m. Purebred Show (individual and purebred pairs)  
Lightweight (under 230 lbs.) & Heavyweight (over 290 lbs.)  
Crossbred Show (individual and pairs)  
Champion Selection -- Champion Overall Barrow,  
Champion Pair of Barrows, and Showmanship

### Swine Classes:

*4-H members are limited to receive one premium per weight class.*

*Breed classes for barrows:*

B – Berkshire	C – Chester White	D - Duroc	H -- Hampshire
HF -- Hereford	P – Poland China	S – Spots	Y - Yorkshire
X - Crossbred	AOB – All Other Breeds		

**Individual Barrow** -- Weight classes posted the day of the show

**Pair of Barrows** -- owned by one exhibitor page 56, rule #8. An exhibitor is limited to one pair of barrows.

Swine Champions (Ribbon Only - No Premium)

- Grand and Reserve Grand Champion Barrow - Champion pigs from Individual Barrow classes will return to the arena for the selection of the Grand Champion Barrow. The Reserve Champion from the Champions Class will show for Reserve Grand Champion Barrow with the other champion winners.
- Grand and Reserve Grand Champion Pair of Barrows - Champion Pair of Barrows from each breed will return to the arena for the selection of the Grand Champion Overall Pair of Barrows. The Reserve Champion from the Champions Class will show for Reserve Grand Champion Pair of Barrows with the other champion winners.

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# Thank You

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Printing of the 2026 4-H Show Book sponsored by:

**Boone County Auction Association, NFP, Inc.**



**Illinois Extension**

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

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