

4-H Showbook Cover created by Daniel McComb from Creative Critters 4-H Club

Atkins' Acres Cloverbuds, Atkins' Acres SPIN, Creative Critters, Emerald Clovers, Farmers and Friends, Happy Herd, New Ideal, Turkey Hill Busy Bees and St. Clair County 4-H Teens as Teachers

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St. Clair 4-H Event & Show Schedule

All 4-H events are open to the public.

Date	Time	4-H Event	Location
Monday, March 23	6 pm	Public Speaking	Madison County Farm Bureau 900 Hillsboro Ave Edwardsville, IL 62025
Saturday, May 9	9 am	4-H Unit Horse Show	Monroe County Fairgrounds 4177 IL-156, Waterloo, IL 62298
Monday, June 30		Project & Livestock Registration Deadline	Fair Entry https://faireentry.com/Fair/SignIn/23063
Thursday, July 9	5:30 pm	4-H General Project Show	Turkey Hill Grange 1375 IL-15, Belleville, IL 62220
Friday, July 10	11 a.m. to 6 p.m.	Public Viewing of 4-H General Projects	Turkey Hill Grange 1375 IL-15, Belleville, IL 62220
Saturday, July 11	9 a.m. to 11 a.m.	Public Viewing of 4-H General Projects	Turkey Hill Grange 1375 IL-15, Belleville, IL 62220
Saturday, July 11	11 a.m. to 12 p.m.	4-H Project Pick Up	Turkey Hill Grange 1375 IL-15, Belleville, IL 62220
TBA	TBA	4-H Poultry Testing	Mascoutah AG Building 900 Park Dr Mascoutah, IL 62258
Wednesday, July 29	6 pm	Livestock Set Up Night	Mascoutah AG Building 900 Park Dr Mascoutah, IL 62258
Friday, July 21	8 am	All 4-H Livestock must be at the AG Building	Mascoutah AG Building 900 Park Dr Mascoutah, IL 62258
Friday, July 31	9 am	4-H Rabbit Show	Mascoutah AG Building 900 Park Dr Mascoutah, IL 62258
Friday, July 31	1 pm	4-H Poultry Show	Mascoutah AG Building

			900 Park Dr Mascoutah, IL 62258
Date	Time	4-H Event	Location
Friday, July 31	6 pm	4-H Swine Show	Mascoutah AG Building 900 Park Dr Mascoutah, IL 62258
Saturday, August 1	7:30 am	4-H Beef Show	Mascoutah AG Building 900 Park Dr Mascoutah, IL 62258
Saturday, August 1	Following the Beef Show	4-H Dairy Show	Mascoutah AG Building 900 Park Dr Mascoutah, IL 62258
Saturday, August 1	Following the Dairy Show	4-H Sheep Show	Mascoutah AG Building 900 Park Dr Mascoutah, IL 62258
Saturday, August 1	Following the Sheep Show	4-H Goat Show	Mascoutah AG Building 900 Park Dr Mascoutah, IL 62258
Saturday, August 1	30 minutes after the Goat Show	4-H Master Showmanship	Mascoutah AG Building 900 Park Dr Mascoutah, IL 62258
Saturday, August 1	7:30 pm	St. Clair County Youth Livestock Auction	Mascoutah AG Building 900 Park Dr Mascoutah, IL 62258
Sunday, August 2	10:30 am	Super Showmanship	Mascoutah AG Building 900 Park Dr Mascoutah, IL 62258
Sunday, August 2	Following Super Showmanship	Clean up AG Building	Mascoutah AG Building 900 Park Dr Mascoutah, IL 62258
Saturday, August 15		St. Clair 4-H Day at the Illinois State Fair	801 E Sangamon Ave, Springfield, IL 62702

2026 4-H General Project Show Schedule

If you need accommodations, please email us at uie-mms@illinois.edu

Time	Club
5:30 p.m.	Project Check-in
6:00 p.m.	4-H Members who are Superintendents
6:15 p.m.	First Year 4-H Members and Cloverbuds
6:30 p.m.	All 4-H Members

Process for the 4-H General Show on July 9th:

- Upon arrival for check-in (5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.), you will receive your exhibit tag. Please attach the tag to your project and place it in the designated area for judging.
- After that, youth and families will head to the top floor of the Turkey Hill Grange and wait to be called back down for judging.
- Judging for 4-H members who are superintendents starts at 6 p.m., then first-year members and Cloverbuds will start at 6:15 p.m., followed by the rest of the 4-H members around 6:30 p.m.
- Once youth have completed their judging, they will return to the top floor to reunite with their family or 4-H group and exit the building following the posted signs. The 4-H projects will remain on display at the Turkey Hill Grange until Saturday, July 11, 2026 (project pick up from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.)
- After judging, families are invited to dine at Eckert's or shop in their store. Eckert's has generously offered a coupon for dinner or store purchases. Additionally, they will host the "Dine & Shop Donate" event on the evening of July 9th, 2026, donating 15% of purchases to the St. Clair County Extension and Education Foundation, which supports the St. Clair 4-H Program.

Dear 4-H Members, Leaders, and Parents:

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Meghan Cope
4-H Youth Development Educator

4-H PROGRAM CODE OF CONDUCT

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

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

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

Category 1

- A. Possession, use, or distribution of alcohol, and other drugs, including tobacco products. *(Ex. Prescription drugs must be listed on the participant's Emergency Medical Form.)*
- B. Willful theft and destruction of public or private property. *(Ex. Participants will be responsible for paying for any damage to premises or personal property).*
- C. Involvement in sexual misconduct or harassment. *(Ex. Participants may not be in housing for members of the opposite sex. They are also expected to exhibit dignified and restrained actions in expressing affection toward others.)*
- D. Possession or use of dangerous weapons or materials, including fireworks.
- E. Fighting or other behaviors that endanger the safety of yourself or others.

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

Category 2

- A. Willfully breaking curfew. *(Ex. Participants are to adhere to the published schedule for events and activities.)*
- B. Unauthorized use of vehicles. *(Ex. Participants who drive cannot use their vehicles)*

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

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

Consequences

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

Category 1

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

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

Category 2

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

The parent/guardian of participants who violate curfew or use vehicles without

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

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

St. Clair County 4-H Show Guidelines

DISCLAIMER

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

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

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


Guidelines

- All exhibits must be products of the current 4-H year (September 1, 2024 - August 15, 2025).
- 4-H Shows are open to all enrolled 4-H club members for the current 4-H year who:
 - **Are age 8 but not yet age 19 by September 1st of the previous year.**
 - **Have enrolled by January 15, 2025.**
 - **Have attended at least four (4) club meetings during the project year prior to a show.**
 - **Presented a talk and/or demonstration at a club meeting during the project year.**
 - **Youth enrolled in a livestock market class must turn in a livestock record book by September 15. If not completed by September 15, the youth cannot participate in a livestock market class the following year.**
- All exhibitors must be currently enrolled in the project for which they are exhibiting.
- Accommodation requests must be received in advance by contacting your local Extension office.
- 4-H members are responsible for exhibiting ALL of their projects and are expected to be present while their project is evaluated. If a 4-H member must be absent for a 4-H show, they should consult the 4-H club leader or County Extension office. If a youth is unable to attend the County Show and speak in-person with a judge, they are

required to fill out the Absentee Exhibitor Form on page 10 to aid in the explanation of their project.

The absentee form is also available on the Extension website:

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

- All exhibits must be products of the current 4-H year (September 1, 2025 - August 15, 2026).
- Exhibits illustrating inappropriate subject matter and/or graphics are not acceptable. The Superintendents reserve the right to remove exhibits deemed inappropriate or dangerous for youth audiences. The content of any 4-H competitive presentation does not necessarily reflect the beliefs or views of the Illinois State Fair or the University of Illinois Extension 4-H program.
- Some exhibit areas may have size limitations. Read the descriptions carefully. Please choose a display size which is most appropriate for the exhibit you are bringing. Larger does not always mean better; use good judgement in creating your exhibit. Exhibitors will need to carry their project from the distant parking lots on the fairgrounds.
TABLES ARE PROVIDED. Do not bring your own.
- **INNOVATION CLASSES** are open to all 4-H members in the project areas listed. Members choosing to exhibit in the Innovation class may be enrolled in any level of the project they are studying. Members choosing to exhibit in the Innovation class decide the best way to show off their project mastery and knowledge for the year in that project category. Some suggestions are provided for each category, but members may choose any method they want for demonstrating project learning as long as it does not fit in any other class in that category. Only selected projects categories have an Innovation option.
- **GROUP PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES HAVE EXPANDED.** They include Civic Engagement, Diversity and Cultural Awareness, Leadership, Passport to the World, Service Learning, and Video.
- **Project Manuals:** Some projects require a project manual, book, workbook, or guide. These are indicated with a book icon. . Project books can be purchased from shop4-h.org or in some cases, have a free PDF resource available on the [project's page on the Illinois 4-H website.](#)
- Youth must bring project(s) at designated judging times to ensure proper judge is present.
- Exhibits illustrating inappropriate subject matter and/or graphics are not acceptable. The Superintendents reserve the right to remove exhibits deemed inappropriate or dangerous for youth audiences. The content of any 4-H competitive presentation does not necessarily reflect the beliefs or views of the Illinois State Fair or the University of Illinois Extension 4-H program.
- Some exhibit areas may have size limitations. Read the descriptions carefully. Please

choose a display size which is most appropriate for the exhibit you are bringing. Larger does not always mean better; use good judgement in creating your exhibit. Exhibitors will need to carry their project from the distant parking lots on the fairgrounds.

TABLES ARE PROVIDED. Do not bring your own.

- NO EQUIPMENT WILL BE PROVIDED FOR ANY EXHIBITS. This includes Computers, DVD/CD players, etc. Exhibitors MUST furnish any equipment they feel is necessary to properly critique their exhibit. Video/Filmmaking exhibitors must follow the guidelines provided to show their project (i.e. YouTube, DVD, USB, laptop, etc.).
- All exhibits must remain in place until the time specified. All exhibits are open for public viewing.
- 4-H members enrolled in livestock projects are eligible to exhibit TWO entries per class.
- 4-H members are not allowed to wear business promotional clothing when showing projects. Members are encouraged to dress in neat and clean attire.
- All exhibits must be products of the current 4-H year, excluding livestock.
- The Danish system of awards will be used for all 4-H exhibits awarding **Blue, Red and White** ribbons, according to merit.
- Premiums will be paid using the X factor. X will be determined by dividing the funds received by the number of 4-H exhibits.
 - General Projects, Public Speaking Rabbits, Poultry, Dog, Cat, and Small Pet: Blue (4), Red (3), White (2)
 - Horse, Beef, Dairy, Goat, Sheep, Swine: Blue (5), Red (4), White (3)
- Tax Implications for Prizes, Gifts, or Awards - Program Participants (including minors) will be required to provide their social security number or foreign national tax ID number prior to receiving a prize, gift or award to ensure proper IRS reporting as required by law. This sensitive information is kept confidential and handled through security protected software (PEAR). Participants will not be eligible for prize, gift or award if social security or foreign national tax ID information is not provided.
- Members must also be eight years old as of September 1 of the previous year to be eligible to advance to State Fair in a general project.
- 4-H members MUST follow the project requirements as stated in this 4-H Showbook for general projects to be eligible for State Fair.
- 4-H members are required to be present during a County 4-H Project Show to be eligible for State Fair consideration. If you need reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, please contact the Extension office at 618-344-4230. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time to meet your access needs.

COPYRIGHT AND CLOVER USAGE:

- **Copyright Reminder:** It is illegal for youth to use an image or brand that someone else owns as part of their 4-H project exhibit without the permission of the copyright/trademark holder.
 - Copyrighted or trademarked designs are not acceptable; this includes team

logos, school logos, and/or characters from television, movies such as Disney characters, Iron Man etc.

- More details in the new "Copyright Guidelines Tipsheet:
go.illinois.edu/IL4HCopyrightGuidelines.
- **Use of the 4-H Name and Emblem:** Chartered 4-H Clubs and enrolled 4-H members are authorized to use the 4-H Name and Emblem. This includes permission for an enrolled 4-H member to use the 4-H name and emblem in exhibits you create for personal use as part of 4-H sponsored events. This includes 4-H decorated cookies, a 4-H Clover printed out for use in a scrapbook, etc.
- **Please note:** Any use of the 4-H name and emblem on items intended as gifts or for sale require prior permission using this [UNIVERSITY AGREEMENT](#). This should be signed by the County Director. Any uses of the 4-H name and emblem for sale or promotion online, and/or in statewide events should be signed by the Illinois 4-H Director (illinois4H@illinois.edu).
- Use of the green clover shaped image is not protected. The 4-H Emblem is distinguished by the four H's that signify Head, Heart, Hands, and Health. No creative rendering, changing in color or shape of the official 4-H emblem is allowed.

Absentee Exhibitor Form

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

Club: _____ Project: _____

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

Why did you decide to enroll in this project?

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

What did you want to achieve?

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

Did you have any problems?

What changes would you make if you did it again?

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

Did you experiment with different techniques?



2026 Illinois State Fair 4-H General Project Exhibit Guidelines

Participating in a 4-H Show is a privilege. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to follow the general rules of this division and the exhibit requirements for the specific class entered. The University of Illinois Extension personnel or their assigned agents do not assume liability for loss, theft, or damage to any exhibit.

4-H GENERAL RULES

EXHIBITORS:

1. Exhibitors must have been pre-selected by their county 4-H Extension program as a state fair exhibitor.
2. Exhibitors must be currently enrolled as a 4-H member and have been at least 8 years old as of September 1, 2025. Parents and leaders should make provisions for the adequate care and supervision of exhibitors.
3. Exhibitors must be enrolled in the project or have participated in the activity in which they are exhibiting during the current year.
4. Due to the nature of the conference judging process, exhibitors must be present with the exhibit on their assigned county exhibition day. Scheduling adjustments for religious reasons may be requested by contacting your local Extension Office and they will submit the request to the Illinois 4-H Office by July 31, 2026.
5. Exhibitors must be present for judging. If a 4-H member needs a reasonable accommodation to participate in the General Project Show, please contact your local Extension Office and they will submit the request to the Illinois 4-H Office by July 31, 2026.
6. A 4-H member may enter only one Individual exhibit and one Group exhibit in the 4-H General Project Show.
7. For youth and families: Conference judging is not about preparing a presentation. Judging is meant to be a conversation between the judge and 4-H member (or group) about the project and the learning experience. You may bring notes if you wish. Tips on creating an engaging display board are available at go.illinois.edu/4HDisplayTips.

ENTRY PROCEDURE:

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

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

GENERAL EXHIBIT GUIDELINES:


10. All exhibits must be products of the current 4-H year (September 1, 2025 - August 15, 2026). The same product that is selected at the county level must be the one exhibited at the State Fair (except for Food & Nutrition – must be the same recipe; Crops, Floriculture, and Vegetable Gardening exhibits – must be the same species/type i.e. tomatoes, snap beans, onions, etc.).
11. Exhibits illustrating inappropriate subject matter and/or graphics are not acceptable. The Superintendents reserve the right to remove exhibits deemed inappropriate or dangerous for youth audiences. The content of any 4-H competitive presentation does not necessarily reflect the beliefs or views of the Illinois State Fair or the Illinois Extension 4-H program.
12. Some exhibit areas may have size limitations. Read the descriptions carefully. Please choose a display size which is most appropriate for the exhibit you are bringing. Larger does not always mean better; use good judgement in creating your exhibit. Exhibitors will need to carry their project from the distant parking lots on the fairgrounds. **TABLES ARE PROVIDED. Do not bring your own.**
13. **GROUP PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES HAVE EXPANDED.** They include Civic Engagement, Diversity and Cultural Awareness, Leadership, Passport to the World, Service Learning, and Video.
14. **Project Manuals:** Some projects require a project manual, book, workbook, or guide. These are indicated with a book icon. . Project books can be purchased from shop4-h.org or in some cases, have a free PDF resource available on the [project's page on the Illinois 4-H website](#).

EXHIBIT JUDGING PROCEDURE & SCHEDULE:

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

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

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

RECOGNITION:

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

Premiums offered by the Illinois State Fair in the 4-H division total \$15,000. *Note: The Department of Agriculture shall use its best efforts to secure sufficient appropriations to fund premiums. In any year for which the General Assembly of the State of Illinois fails to make an appropriation sufficient to pay such premiums, premium amounts may not be accurately reflect in this document.*

COPYRIGHT AND CLOVER USAGE:

- **Copyright Reminder:** It is illegal for youth to use an image or brand that someone else owns as part of their 4-H project exhibit without the permission of the copyright/trademark holder.

- Copyrighted or trademarked designs are not acceptable; this includes team logos, school logos, and/or characters from television, movies such as Disney characters, Iron Man etc.
- More details in the "Copyright Guidelines Tipsheet: go.illinois.edu/IL4HCopyrightGuidelines.
- **Use of the 4-H Name and Emblem:** Chartered 4-H Clubs and enrolled 4-H members are authorized to use the 4-H Name and Emblem. This includes permission for an enrolled 4-H member to use the 4-H name and emblem in exhibits you create for personal use as part of 4-H sponsored events. This includes 4-H decorated cookies, a 4-H Clover printed out for use in a scrapbook, etc.
- **Please note:** Any use of the 4-H name and emblem on items intended as gifts or for sale require prior permission from the County Director. Your local county staff will provide the required University Agreement. Any uses of the 4-H name and emblem for sale or promotion online, and/or in statewide events should be signed by the Illinois 4-H Director (illinois4H@illinois.edu).
- Use of the green clover shaped image is not protected. The 4-H Emblem is distinguished by the four H's that signify Head, Heart, Hands, and Health. No creative rendering, changing in color or shape of the official 4-H emblem is allowed.

STATE FAIR EXHIBIT SCHEDULE 2026

Friday, August 14:

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

Saturday, August 15:

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

Sunday, August 16:

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

4-H Public Speaking Show

March 23, 2026, at 6:00 pm

Location: Madison County Farm Bureau Auditorium

900 Hillsboro Ave, Edwardsville, IL 62025

Open to the Public

COMMUNICATIONS: PUBLIC SPEAKING

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

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

Resources:

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

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

Formal Speech

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

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

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

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

Illustrated Speech

Self-written | Notes Allowed | Illustrations Required | Individual | 4-5minutes for beginners; 5-6 minutes for advanced

Illustrated Speech - Beginner Ages 8-13 (SF 50503A)

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

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

Illustrated speeches may be:

- How-to demonstrations which show the audience how to do something.

- Object lessons which use objects as metaphors to share a message.
- Educational models where drawings or diagrams help explain a topic.

Original Works

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

Original Works – Individual (SF 50504)

Original Works – Team (SF 50505)

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

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

Oral Interpretation

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

Oral Interpretation – Individual (SF 50506)

Oral Interpretation – Team (SF 50507)

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

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

Procedures for General Show Project Judging

Thursday, July 9, 2026

1. All exhibits must be completed during the current year by the 4-H'er beginning on September 1, 2025, and finished no later than the 2025 show date.
2. All exhibits must be in place between **5:30 and 6 p.m. on Thursday, July 9** for the 4-H General Show. Projects will be released on **Saturday, July 11 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**
3. Conference judging will be held from 6:00 – 9 p.m.
4. Only judges & superintendents are allowed in the conference judging room when 4-H Member projects are being adjudicated. NO Exceptions.
5. If your name is not on the judges' list, please see an Extension Staff member.
6. All projects must be complete and must be identified with an official entry tag.
7. All ribbons must remain with the project exhibit until release time.
8. All 4-H'ers are to bring their exhibit for conference judging, where the judge will speak one on one with the 4-H member and ask them questions regarding what they learned in their project and how they completed it. All exhibits will be rated accordingly: Blue, meaning product met standards; Red, needs some improvement; or White, needs much improvement.
9. Judges may award a State Fair Award to the superior exhibits in each class, but they are not required to do so. State Fair delegates who receive a superior rating may receive a premium.
10. Leaders and Parents may not attend conference judging with a 4-H youth but should help them to be objective about the judge's evaluations and suggestions for improvement. Judging is a learning experience for all. One of the best ways for members to learn other ways of doing things or how to improve is to visit with the judge about the project.
11. When all the 4-H members' projects are judged, please exit the building. Ribbons are to remain with the projects.
12. 4-H members are responsible for exhibiting ALL of their projects and are expected to be present while their project is evaluated to be selected for the State Fair. If a 4-H member must be absent for a 4-H show, they should consult the 4-H club leader or County Extension office. If a youth is unable to attend the County Show and speak in person with a judge, they are required to fill out the Absentee Exhibitor Form on page 10 to aid in the explanation of their project. The absentee form is also available on the Extension website:

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

13. 4-H members receiving State Fair selection must let Extension staff know either at the time of project pick up on Saturday, July 11 (11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.) or by July 29th, 2026, if you plan to attend State Fair judging. You may only exhibit in one area at the State Fair.
14. Premiums will be paid using the X factor. X will be determined by dividing the funds received by the number of 4-H exhibits.
 - a. General Projects, Public Speaking Rabbits, Poultry, Dog, Cat, and Small Pet: Blue (4), Red (3), White (2)
 - b. Horse, Beef, Dairy, Goat, Sheep, Swine: Blue (5), Red (4), White (3)
15. All exhibitors participating have the responsibility of being familiar with the rules that apply in each project area. The decisions of the Superintendents and Judges regarding ANY matters at the show are final.
16. If the project rules are not followed the project will receive a lower rating.

CLOVERBUDS

Age- 5-7 years old

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

4-H General Show

Thursday, July 9, 2026 at 5:30 pm

Location: Turkey Hill Grange 1375 IL-15, Belleville, IL 62220

Open to the Public for viewing on Friday, July 10th, from 11 am to 6 pm, and on July 11th from 9 am to 11 am.

COPYRIGHT AND CLOVER USAGE:

- **Copyright Reminder:** It is illegal for youth to use an image or brand that someone else owns as part of their 4-H project exhibit without the permission of the copyright/trademark holder.
 - Copyrighted or trademarked designs are not acceptable; this includes team logos, school logos, and/or characters from television, movies such as Disney characters, Iron Man etc.
 - More details in the new "Copyright Guidelines Tipsheet": go.illinois.edu/IL4HCopyrightGuidelines.
- **Use of the 4-H Name and Emblem:** Chartered 4-H Clubs and enrolled 4-H members are authorized to use the 4-H Name and Emblem. This includes permission for an enrolled 4-H member to use the 4-H name and emblem in exhibits you create for personal use as part of 4-H sponsored events. This includes 4-H decorated cookies, a 4-H Clover printed out for use in a scrapbook, etc.
- **Please note:** Any use of the 4-H name and emblem on items intended as gifts or for sale require prior permission using this [UNIVERSITY AGREEMENT](#). This should be signed by the County Director. Any uses of the 4-H name and emblem for sale or promotion online, and/or in statewide events should be signed by the Illinois 4-H Director (illinois4H@illinois.edu).
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AEROSPACE

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

Model Rocketry (SF 50130)

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

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

Aerospace Display (SF 50131)

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

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

AGRONOMY

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

Soybeans (SF 50170) *Record Book – Required*

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

Corn (SF 50171) *Record Book – Required*

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

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

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

Hay (SF 50191) *Record Book – Required*

Exhibit one flake from a small bale (or the equivalent volume from a large or round bale) of dry hay in a clear plastic box with a lid or heavy-duty clear bag of the current year's hay crop that is representative of the member's 4-H project field; **OR** Exhibit an experimental or

educational project related to one experience from your project. Include explanation of the project in a report for public understanding. Include the member's crop records with the exhibit, such as the 4-H crop record found online at go.illinois.edu/4HCropsRecord or an FFA crops record.

Agronomy Innovation Class (SF 50173)

Open to youth enrolled in any Agronomy project

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

ANIMAL SCIENCE

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

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

Animal Science 1 (SF50133a)

For youth enrolled in this project 1-2 years.

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

Animal Science 2 (SF50133b)

For youth enrolled in this project 3 or more years.

Prepare a display focusing on any activity related to an animal project. Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the animal project you studied. The exhibit may

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

BABYSITTING

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

Babysitting Display (SF 50141a)

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

Babysitting Video Tutorial (SF 50141b)

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

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

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

You must furnish any equipment you need to show your video to the judge (laptop, tablet,

etc.). Internet service is not guaranteed, so please have a hard copy of the video downloaded to your device to play. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. All Exhibitors should also bring a copy of their video to be judged on a USB flash drive and saved in .MP4 format as a backup. In order for something to be on display at your local fair or show, fill out the video information sheet and bring it with you to judging: go.illinois.edu/4HBabysittingVideo. *Note: While exhibitors are encouraged to post their video on YouTube.com in advance of the fair, they are not required to do so. If they choose to upload to YouTube they may choose whether to make the video “public” (the video is searchable on the site), or “public, unlisted” (someone must have the link to view it). This will allow fairgoers to view the exhibits on display. Youth ages 13 to 17 should only be posting content to the internet with parental permission. Youth under 13 would need their parents to post the video for them.*

BEEF

4-H Beef Show is Saturday, August 1, 2026, following the beef show, at the AG Building. Please follow the 4-H Beef Show Rules found in your showbook.

If not showing a live animal and doing a poster exhibit instead, this exhibit opportunity falls under the Animals Science 1 or 2 class and is exhibited at the 4-H General Show on July 9, 2026, at the Turkey Hill Grange.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Each county may submit 2 entries from 50365

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

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

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

CAT

Prepare a poster exhibit demonstrating the skills and knowledge you have gained studying cats. This exhibit opportunity falls under the Animals Science 1 or 2 class and is exhibited at the 4-H General Show on July 9, 2026, at the Turkey Hill Grange.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

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

Civic Engagement 1 (SF 50145)

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

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

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

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

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

Civic Engagement Group Exhibit (SF 50148)

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

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

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

CLOTHING & TEXTILES

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

Costume Design & Clothing Embellishment

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

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

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

COSTUME DESIGN

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

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

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

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

CLOTHING EMBELLISHMENT


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

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

Clothing Embellishment Applied (SF 50158a)

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

Clothing Embellishment Stitched (SF 50158b)

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

Clothing Embellishment Combination (SF 50158c)

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

Sewing 1-3

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

Members wishing to exhibit knitted items should enroll in Visual Arts Fiber (if original) or Visual Arts Heritage Arts (if made from a pattern). **We strongly encourage youth interested in pursuing quilting to enroll and exhibit in the Visual Arts Quilting project area.** Youth may still exhibit quilts in any level of Sewing as a “Sewn Non-Clothing” item, but these quilts will be judged using the Sewing rubric that evaluates the sewing skills and construction of the

item. If exhibiting quilts in the Sewing area, all work on the quilt MUST be completed by the 4-H member. You cannot exhibit a quilt that was quilted by someone else. Quilts can be hand OR machine quilted as long as ALL work is completed by the exhibitor.

Sewing 1 (SF 50151a, 50151b)

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

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

Non-Clothing Exhibits (SF 50151a)

Exhibit one of the following sewn items:

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

Clothing Exhibits (SF 50151b)

Exhibit one of the following sewn items:

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

Sewing 2 (SF 50152a, 50152b)

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

Non-Clothing Exhibits (SF 50152a)

Exhibit one of the following sewn items:

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

Clothing Exhibits (SF 50152b)

Exhibit one of the following sewn items:

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

Sewing 3 (SF 50153a, 50153b)

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

Non-Clothing Exhibit (SF 50153a)

Exhibit one of the following sewn items:

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

Clothing Exhibit (SF 50153b)

Exhibit one of the following sewn items:


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

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

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


bring a garment to display and model for the judge.

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

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

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

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

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

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

- Exhibit should include two clothing items that were previously a part of your wardrobe that still fit but you don’t wear anymore and pair them with something new to make them wearable again. Also include a report that explains why the garment was not being worn and what you did to transform it into a wearable garment again. **OR**
- Exhibit should include at least five pieces of clothing that exhibitor can mix and match to create multiple outfits. Include a poster or report that includes a clothing inventory AND describes what you have learned by completing this activity. Please bring at least one complete outfit from the selected clothing to display and model for the judge. **OR**
- Exhibit should include garment you purchased along with a poster or report that 1) includes a wardrobe inventory which indicates why you selected the garment you did, clothing budget, and cost of garment; **OR** 2) explains how advertising influences clothing purchases making a distinction between wants and needs; and how the purchase of this garment complements and/or extends your wardrobe. **OR**
- Exhibit should include garment you purchased along with a poster or report that 1) describes a cost comparison of this item completed by the exhibitor when purchasing the garment; should include variety of shopping options and/or price tracking at stores

over a period of time; **OR 2)** provides a quality comparison rating the specific clothing item purchased based on care, construction, cost and unique features; should include construction quality details, design features that influenced selection, cost per wearing, and garment care.

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

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

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Each county may submit 2 entries total from 50368, 50369

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

For 1st 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 2nd and 3rd years in project: Include everything from earlier years' work and add a section showcasing at least four additional activities per year.

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

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

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

COMPUTER SCIENCE

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

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

Beginning Visual Programming (SF 50135)

Open to youth in Computer Science Visual Based Programming.

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

Intermediate Visual Programming (SF 50136)

Open to youth in Computer Science Visual Based Programming.

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

Advanced Visual Programming (SF 50137)

Open to youth in Computer Science Visual Based Programming.

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

Website Design (SF 50138)

Open to youth in any Computer Science Project Area.

Exhibit an original website that you have designed using a programming language such as HTML (cannot be made with website builder like Wix or Squarespace). Internet access will not be provided, so exhibitors must supply their own internet hotspot or the website must be hosted on the exhibitor's computer. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a poster or printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the

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

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

Open to youth enrolled in any Computer Science or Robotics project

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

CONSUMER EDUCATION

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

Entrepreneurship: Be the E! (SF 50166) *Be the "E" Entrepreneurship Guide – Required*

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

CREATING WITH BUILDING BRICKS

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

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

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

- Builds should be 4-H appropriate and aligned with principles in the 4-H Code of Conduct.
- Youth should exhibit in only one build category.

Creating with Building Bricks: Art (SF 50101)

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

Creating with Building Bricks: Building (SF 50102)

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

Creating with Building Bricks: Creature (SF 50103)

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

Creating with Building Bricks: Functional (SF 50104)

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

Creating with Building Bricks: Mechanical (SF 50105)

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

Creating with Building Bricks: Object (SF 50106)

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

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

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

Creating with Building Bricks: Vehicle (SF 50108)

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

Creating with Building Bricks: Virtual (SF 50109)

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

CREATIVE WRITING

Each county may submit 2 entries total from 50367, 50371

Creative Writing (SF 50367)

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

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

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

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

Poetry (SF 50371)

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

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

DAIRY CATTLE

4-H Dairy Show is Saturday, August 1, 2026, following the beef show, at the AG Building. Please follow the 4-H Dairy Show Rules found in your showbook.

If not showing a live animal and doing a poster exhibit instead, this exhibit opportunity falls under the Animals Science 1 or 2 class and is exhibited at the 4-H General Show on July 9, 2026, at the Turkey Hill Grange.

DOG

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

Prepare a poster exhibit demonstrating the skills and knowledge you have gained studying dogs. This exhibit opportunity falls under the Animals Science 1 or 2 class and is exhibited at the 4-H General Show on July 9, 2026, at the Turkey Hill Grange.

DRONES: Unmanned Aerial Vehicles/Systems

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

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

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

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

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



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

ELECTRICITY

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

Electricity 1 (SF 50177)

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

Electricity 2 (SF 50178)

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

Electricity 3 (SF 50179)

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

Electricity 4 (SF 50180)

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

ENTOMOLOGY

GENERAL

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

Size and number of exhibit cases should relate appropriately to the number of insects being displayed for a specified class. Cases should be no deeper than 4". Exhibitors should note that Entomology exhibits may be placed UPRIGHT for display. All displays should be comprised of non-living specimens properly prepared for display. Rules for pinning and labeling insects are available at the following site:

<https://extension.entm.purdue.edu/401Book/default.php?page=home>.

Projects focused on Arachnids (Spiders) should be displayed in Nature: Natural Resources & Outdoor Adventures in the Exploring Your Environment (50257a or 50257b) class.

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

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

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

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

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

Exhibit 60 or more species representing twelve or more orders. Collection must be accurately labeled. Exhibitors must also include the Entomology 3 project manual, *Teaming With Insects 3*, with at least one completed activity for each year enrolled. For youth exhibiting the same collection over multiple years, at least 10% of the specimens in the collection must have been collected in the current 4-H year.

Entomology Display (SF 50186)

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

Exhibit any activity or display related to Entomology that does not fit into Entomology Classes 1, 2 or 3 above. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

BEEKEEPING

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

Create an exhibit that shows the public what you learned in the beekeeping project this year.

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

Beekeeping 1 (SF 50188)

Exhibit an educational display for one (1) of the following:

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

Beekeeping 2 (SF 50189)

Exhibit one (1) of the following:

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

Beekeeping 3 (SF 50190)

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

1. Extracted honey: Three (3) pint jars (glass, screw-top), holding 1 lb. of honey each.
2. Chunk honey (comb in a jar): Three (3) pint jars (wide-mouth, glass) .
3. Cut-comb honey: Three (3) 1 lb. boxes (boxes are usually 4 ½" x 4 ½" in size).
4. Comb honey: Three (3) sections (honey built by bees in frames of wood commonly called "sections") (boxes are usually 4 ½" x 4 ½" in size).
5. Section honey: Three (3) sections of comb honey (in basswood boxes or Ross rounds)

OR

6. Prepare an educational display about honeybees or beekeeping.

ESPORTS

Each county may submit 3 entries from 50378.

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

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

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

EXPLORATORY (not eligible for state fair)

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

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

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

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

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

feature of the project.

FAMILY HERITAGE

Each county may submit 1 entry from 50197.

Family Heritage (SF 50197)

Prepare an exhibit of items, pictures, maps, charts, slides/tapes, drawings, illustrations, writings or displays that depict the heritage of the member's family or community or 4-H history. Please note: Exhibits are entered at 4-H'ers own risk. 4-H is not responsible for loss or damage to family heirloom items or any items in this division. **Due to space restrictions, exhibits are limited to 36" x 48" and 15" deep.**

FOODS & NUTRITION

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

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

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

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

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

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

Using the recipes included in the project manual (*which are also available at go.illinois.edu/Cooking201Recipes*), prepare an exhibit for **one** of the classes below. **No ingredient additions or substitutions should be made to the recipes**, unless they are to accommodate food allergies, sensitivities, or special diets (i.e. nut allergy, gluten intolerance, vegetarian/vegan diet, etc.). If you make changes to the recipe due to the reasons listed above, bring a copy of the recipe with your changes and be prepared to discuss them with the judge. Bread, biscuits, or scones should be displayed on a disposable plate placed in a zip-sealing plastic bag. In addition to your food exhibit, complete Experiment with Meal Planning Activity on page 91 in the 4-H Cooking 201 project manual (*and for download at go.illinois.edu/Cooking201Activity*). Bring either page 91 with your completed answers or a document with the answers to remain on display with your project along with a picture of the meal you prepared. You do not need to complete the Challenge Yourself section on page 91. Due to space limitations at State Fair, the size of the activity document should be no larger than an 8 ½" x 11" binder or folder.

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

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

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

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

- **Dinner Rolls** (50202a) - 3 dinner rolls
- **Yeast Bread** (50202b) - loaf of yeast bread

- **Tea Ring** (50202c) - 1 tea ring
- **Sweet Rolls** (50202d) - 3 basic sweet dough rolls
- **Cake** (50202e) - one layer of a rich white cake or rich chocolate cake, top side up (*without frosting*)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Fruits/Vegetables (SF 50209a)

The exhibit should include two different canned foods in appropriate jars for the products.

Food may be fruit, vegetable, or tomato product (i.e. salsa, juice, etc.).

Drying (SF 50209b)

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

Pickles and Relishes (SF 50209c)

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

Jams, Jellies, and Preserves (SF 5020d)

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

Preservation Combination (SF 50208e)

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

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

www.homefoodpreservation.com

or

<https://extension.illinois.edu/food-preservation/food-preservation>.

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

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

Examples:

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

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

- PUT IT UP! Food Preservation for Youth website or manuals

- National 4-H Home Food Preservation Project Manuals
- U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- National Center for Home Food Preservation
- Ball/Kerr Canning (recipes after 1985)
- Mrs. Wages

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Prepare a display, digital presentation, or poster on one of the activities you completed from the manual. Share 1) the topic you investigated; 2) process used to conduct the experiment; 3) results and observations; 4) what you learned; and 5) how you have applied this information. You must furnish any equipment you need for the exhibit. Internet service is not

provided. Be ready to answer questions about how you shared this information with others. Examples include talks and demonstrations and hosting or assisting with a workshop. Be sure to bring your completed project guide for others to see and for you to share as needed during the conference judging.

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

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

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

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

Foods Innovation Class (SF 50211)

Open to youth enrolled in any Foods project.

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the project. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original recipes, results of experiments not in the foods project books, variations on recipes or experimenting with unique cooking or baking methods. Your work can be displayed by a food product, demonstrations, digital presentations, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. If you bring a food product, the food will NOT be tasted.

FORESTRY

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


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

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


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

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

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

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

Forestry Innovation Class (SF 50215)

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

GEOLOGY

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

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

Pebble Pups 1 (SF 50218)

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

Pebble Pups 2 (SF 50219)

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

Rock Hounds 1 (SF 50220)

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

Rock Hounds 2 (SF 50221)

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

Geology Innovation Class (SF 50222)

Open to youth enrolled in Geology.

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the Geology project. Exhibit

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

GOATS

4-H Goat Show is Saturday August 1, 2026, following the Sheep show, at the AG Building. Please follow the 4-H Goat Show Rules found in your showbook.

If not showing a live animal and doing a poster exhibit instead, this exhibit opportunity falls under the Animals Science 1 or 2 class and is exhibited at the 4-H General Show on July 9, 2026, at the Turkey Hill Grange.

HEALTH

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

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

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



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

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



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

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

The exhibit should include the project manual with the pages of the activity completed. You may also include live demonstrations of physical activities. Do not bring food made using the recipes but consider adding pictures of the completed recipes to your exhibit. You must furnish any equipment you need for the exhibit. Internet service is not provided. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation. Electronic equipment will only be used during your judging time and will not remain on display during the exhibit period. Be sure to bring your completed project guide for others to see and for you to share as needed during the conference judging.

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

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

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

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

Health Innovation Class (SF 50227)

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the Health project. **Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project.** The exhibit may include,

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

HORSE

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

If not showing a live animal and doing a poster exhibit instead, this exhibit opportunity falls under the Animals Science 1 or 2 class and is exhibited at the 4-H General Show on July 9, 2026, at the Turkey Hill Grange.

HORTICULTURE: FLORICULTURE

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

For youth in any level of Floriculture.

FLORAL DESIGN

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

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

Round Arrangement (SF 50111)

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

Wearable Flowers (SF 50112)

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

Wedding Bouquet (SF 50113)

Exhibit a fresh wedding or special event bouquet at least 8" in diameter. A bouquet can be handtied or created using a foam holder. The bouquet should be finished and ready for use

by the bride. The bouquet should be displayed in a clear vase with water accessible to the stems (if not in a foam holder).

Centerpiece Display: Live activity (SF 50114)

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

LANDSCAPE DESIGN

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

Recommended for ages 14 and up

Small Landscape Design (SF 50115)

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

Large Landscape Design (SF 50116)

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

PLANT PROPAGATION

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

Photo Collage (SF 50117)

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

Cut Flower Specimens (SF 50118)

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

Each container must include:

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

Specimen List:

Bachelor Buttons- 3 stems	Petunia (double)- 3 stems
Celosia- 3 plumes	Petunia (single)- 3 stems
Cleome- 1 bloom	Phlox- 1 stalk
Cockscomb- 1 bloom	Rose- 1 bloom
Coneflower- 3 stems	Rudbeckia- 3 stems
Dahlia- 1 large bloom	Snap Dragons- 3 stems
Dahlia- 3 small blooms	Sunflower- 1 bloom
Daisy- 3 blooms	Zinnia (large)- 3 stems
Gladiola- 1 spike	Zinnia (small)- 3 stems
Lilies- 1 stalk- Remove 1/3 of the foliage before exhibiting	Other small bloom (not listed above)- 3 stems or 3 blooms
Marigold (dwarf)- 3 stems	Other large bloom (not listed above)- 1 stem or 1 bloom
Marigold (large)- 3 stems	

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

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

Forced Bulbs (SF 50120)

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

Plant Propagation Poster (SF 50121)

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

FLOWER PRESERVATION

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

Posterboard - Dry/Preserve Flowers (SF 50122)

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

Artistic Display - Dried Flowers/Herbs (SF 50123)

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

ORNAMENTAL DISPLAYS

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

Fairy Garden (SF 50124)

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

Outdoor Mixed Planter (SF 50125)

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

Indoor Mixed European Planter (SF 50126)

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

Closed Terrarium (SF 50127)

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

Ornamental Poster (SF 50128)

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

Floriculture Innovation (SF 50129)

Each county may submit 1 entry from class 50129.

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

HORTICULTURE: VEGETABLES, HERBS & FRUITS

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

For youth in any level of Vegetable Gardening.

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

go.illinois.edu/4HVegetableGuide.

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

Herb Container Display (SF 50313)

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

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

Vegetable/Fruit Display (SF 50314)

- This class is allowed a 2'6" x 2'6" space for each display.
- Display must include 6 or more different kinds of vegetables or fruits. There may not

be more than 2 different varieties of any vegetable/fruit. For example, red and white potatoes would be classified as two different varieties. Acorn squash and zucchini would be classified as two different vegetables.

- The number and type of vegetables/fruits used must conform to the Vegetable/Fruit Plate/Display List. *Fruit Plate list is below Vegetable Plate list.*
- Exhibitors must provide the name and variety of all vegetables/fruits used. (i.e. Cabbage – Golden Acre; Cucumber, slicing – Straight Eight; Tomatoes, slicing – Rocky Top; Snap Beans – Contender, etc.).

Vegetable Plates (SF 50315)

- 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 of vegetable. (i.e.: Cannot exhibit red *and* white potatoes or zucchini *and* straightneck summer squash.)

VEGETABLE PLATE/DISPLAY LIST

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

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

Onions, large, dry (5)	Watermelon (1)
Onions, green or set (12)	Beans, Snap, Green Pod or Golden Wax (12 pods)
Horseradish Root (1 marketable root specimen harvested this year)	Greens (collard, endive, escarole, kale, mustard, spinach, Swiss chard) (1 plant)
Squash, winter (Acorn, butternut, buttercup, spaghetti, Hubbard, Turks' Turban) (1)	

Vegetable Gardening Display - Other (SF 50316)

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

Fruit Plates (SF 50317)

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

FRUIT PLATE LIST

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

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

INTERCULTURAL

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


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

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

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

Exhibit a display illustrating what your group has learned about a country. This might include topics such as-geography, economy, agriculture, people, language, housing, culture, music, crafts, clothing, environment, or holidays. Exhibits can focus on one or two topics in depth or cover more topics in brief. Exhibit should be educational in nature and should not promote one's beliefs over another person's beliefs. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. Tips on creating an engaging display board are available at go.illinois.edu/4HDisplayTips. In addition to their display, groups should bring a copy of their group's Passport to the World project manual to judging. Sections of the book related to what the group focuses on in their display should be completed. The display must be accompanied by at least 3 but no more than 10 4-H members at the time of the judge's critique. Groups wishing to include more than 10 members must ask for an accommodation,

one week prior to judging. Group members should prepare a short (5 minutes maximum) presentation about their learning for the judge. The presentation should focus on key concepts learned and takeaways from the project experience. All group members present for judging should be able to discuss the project and answer questions. Only group members who participate in the judging are eligible for ribbons and premiums. Presentations will occur in the space designated by the fair or show. Groups should not bring extra tables or items (beyond those that fit within the exhibit size requirements) for their presentation.

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

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


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

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

INTERIOR DESIGN

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

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

Design Decisions, Beginning (SF 50242)

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

Any exhibit must have been created or redesigned by the exhibitor as part of their current Interior Design 4-H project. Exhibitors should be knowledgeable about various aspects of the project. Exhibits could include items such as, but not limited to, comparison studies of

different products or techniques; made accessories, wall-hangings, window coverings, or furniture items; refinished or redesigned furniture; or a plan to solve some type of interior design problem

Design Decisions, Intermediate (SF 50243)

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

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

Design Decisions, Advanced (SF 50244)

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

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

Interior Design Innovation Class (SF 50245)

Open to youth enrolled in Interior Design.

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

LEADERSHIP

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Leadership Innovation Class (SF 50252)

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

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the Leadership project. **Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project.** The exhibit may include,

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

Leadership Group Exhibit (SF 50254)

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

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

MAKER

Each county may submit 3 entries from 50400.

Maker (SF 50400) go.illinois.edu/DIYMakeBuild – Required 

Open to youth in all projects.

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

- Exhibitors must complete at least two activities in the DIY Make & Build Curriculum and answer all the questions at the end of each lesson. You must display your answers to these questions, as well as your Maker Log from the DIY Make and Build curriculum.
- Exhibits must be an object or device that has an intended purpose and uses technology in either a mechanical way, digital (computer) way, or combination of the two. Your

device or object **cannot** be one of the included activities in the DIY Make and Build Curriculum.

- The device must be something that can be used in everyday life by multiple people (a target audience) and **MUST** be manufactured/built by the exhibitor (If not fully manufactured by the exhibitor, the device **MUST** be modified structurally or be reprogrammed to perform a different function other than what it was designed to do).
- Exhibits **MUST** be able to interact with the outside world. (e.g. an on off switch, input sensors, feedback, etc.)
- Exhibits **MUST** include a detailed build log with instructions on how to make or build the exhibit **AND** contain either a 3D rendering or detailed and labeled sketches of the device/product.
- All parts and software used in the design/build **MUST** be listed in a detailed Bill of Materials including cost per item and total cost. Total time spent on the build must be documented in your build log.

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

NATURE: FISH AND WILDLIFE

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

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

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

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

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

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

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


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

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

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

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


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

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

Fish and Wildlife Innovation Class (SF 50266)

Open to youth enrolled in any Sportfishing or Wildlife project.

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

NATURE: NATURAL RESOURCES AND OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

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

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


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

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

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

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

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

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

Natural Resources or Outdoor Adventures Innovation Class (SF 50258)

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

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

PHOTOGRAPHY

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

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

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

- Camera/device used
- Aperture (F-stop)
- Exposure time (shutter speed)

- ISO (film/sensor sensitivity)
- Lighting used (flash, artificial, sunlight, other)
- Lens Filters (Ultra-Violet, Polarizing, etc.) if used.

Additional details required for Photo Editing ONLY:

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

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

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

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


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

Exhibit one framed photo which demonstrates your understanding of a technique you learned from your Photography 1 project manual. No photo editing is allowed in this class except cropping and red eye removal. Be prepared to show the page in the manual of the technique you are demonstrating. Exhibits for this class should be a framed 5"x7" or 8"x10" picture.

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

Exhibit one of the options listed below:

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

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

Exhibit one of the options listed below:

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

Photo Editing (SF 50271)

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

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

PLANTS & SOILS

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

Cover Crops (SF 50280)

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

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

Prepare a 36" X 48" display or a poster no larger than 36" X 48" and 15" deep that illustrates an activity from the project manual. The display should demonstrate an understanding of environmental and internal factors that affect plant growth and the function and characteristics of soil. Include your project journal that documents activity recordkeeping

requirements, answers activity questions, and details personal thoughts and ideas in response to each activity.

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

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

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

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

POULTRY

4-H Poultry Show is Friday July 31, 2026, at 1 pm, at the AG Building. Please follow the 4-H Poultry Show Rules found in your showbook.

If not showing a live animal and doing a poster exhibit instead, this exhibit opportunity falls under the Animals Science 1 or 2 class and is exhibited at the 4-H General Show on July 9, 2026, at the Turkey Hill Grange.

RABBITS

4-H Rabbit Show is Friday, July 31, 2026, at 9 am, at the AG Building. Please follow the 4-H Rabbit Show Rules found in your showbook.

If not showing a live animal and doing a poster exhibit instead, this exhibit opportunity falls under the Animals Science 1 or 2 class and is exhibited at the 4-H General Show on July 9, 2026, at the Turkey Hill Grange.

READY4LIFE

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

Ready4Life Career (50366a)

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

Exhibits in this category must include the following: a) a physical representation of the career

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

Ready4Life Entrepreneurship (50366b)

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

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

ROBOTICS

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

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

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

Robotics 1 (SF 50285) *Robotics 1 with EV3* or go.illinois.edu/RoboticsActivities1 – Required

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

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

Exhibitors will design, build and program a robot that uses sensors and programming to

complete two of the selected challenges from the 2025 4-H State Robotics Challenge. **The robot must be autonomous and cannot be controlled remotely.** Eligible challenges will be marked in the Challenge Documents and on the Illinois 4-H Robotics website (go.illinois.edu/4HRoboticsProjectPage). Exhibiting youth must complete and display a build log which contains a diagram (drawing or 3D rendering) of their robot with each of the key components labeled, an explanation of why they made the design/programming decisions they made, and a short journal sharing what they learned about the engineering design process and programming throughout their work on the project (as well as while preparing the exhibit). In addition, each youth must bring their program code (on laptop or on paper), and their robot to demonstrate. The robot and obstacles must be able to fit on a 4' x 8' robotics table when being judged, and a 2' x 2' area when being displayed.

Robotics 3 (SF 50292) go.illinois.edu/4HRoboticsProjectPage – Required

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

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

Junk Drawer Robotics

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


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

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


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

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



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

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

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

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

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

SERVICE LEARNING

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

Service Learning 1 (SF 50150a)

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

Service Learning 2 (SF 50150b)

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

Service Learning Group Exhibit (SF 50149)

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

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

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

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

SHEEP

4-H Sheep Show is Saturday, August 1, 2026, following the dairy cattle show, at the AG Building. Please follow the 4-H Sheep Show Rules found in your showbook.

If not showing a live animal and doing a poster exhibit instead, this exhibit opportunity falls under the Animals Science 1 or 2 class and is exhibited at the 4-H General Show on July 9, 2026, at the Turkey Hill Grange.

SHOOTING SPORTS

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

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

NOTE: Shooting Sports Displays have the following prohibitions:

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

Shooting Sports: Archery Display (SF 50380)

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

Shooting Sports: Rifle Display (SF 50381)

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

Shooting Sports: Shotgun Display (SF 50382)

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

Shooting Sports: Pistol Display (SF 50384)

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

SMALL ENGINES

Each county may submit 1 entry total for 50294.

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

Small Engines 1-3 (SF 50294)

Exhibit a display, selecting one of the following items:

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

SMALL PETS

Prepare a poster exhibit demonstrating the skills and knowledge you have gained studying small pets. This exhibit opportunity falls under the Animals Science 1 or 2 class and is exhibited at the 4-H General Show on July 9, 2026, at the Turkey Hill Grange.

SWINE

4-H Swine Show is Friday, July 31, 2026, at 6 pm, at the AG Building. Please follow the 4-H Swine Show Rules found in your showbook.

If not showing a live animal and doing a poster exhibit instead, this exhibit opportunity falls under the Animals Science 1 or 2 class and is exhibited at the 4-H General Show on July 9, 2026, at the Turkey Hill Grange.

THEATRE ARTS

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

Theatre Arts 1 (SF 50299)

Exhibit one of the following items:

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

Theatre Arts 2 (SF 50300)

Exhibit one of the following items:

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

Theatre Arts 3 (SF 50301)

Exhibit one of the following items:

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

Theatre Arts Innovation Class (SF 50302)

Open to youth enrolled in Theatre Arts.

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

TRACTOR

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Tractor Innovation Class (SF 50310)

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

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the Tractor project. This could be related to, but not limited to, advancements in technology, enhancements to crop production, or a topic of interest to the member related to tractors or farm machinery. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have

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

VETERINARY SCIENCE

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

Veterinary Science 1 (SF 50320a)

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

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

Veterinary Science 2 (SF 50320b)

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

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

VIDEO

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

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

Requirements that apply to ALL video classes:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Open to youth enrolled in Video/Filmmaking.

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

VISUAL ARTS

Fine Art and Design

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

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

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

Each county may submit TWO entries from:

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

Artisan Crafts

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

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

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

Each county may submit TWO entries from:

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

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

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

size of the item or pattern used does NOT make it original. If you create an exact replica of what you see somewhere else, it is not your original design. If a photo, sketch, or other idea source was used, submit it with your entry, firmly attached to your exhibit. Be prepared to explain how and where you got the idea for this project.

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

COPYRIGHT AND CLOVER USAGE:

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

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

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

Fine Art and Design

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Visual Arts Clay (SF 50337)

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

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

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

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

- **Graphic Design (SF 50370)**

Any original art created in any software package that displays visual information, such as an advertisement, publication, website, or any other type of visual communication, by effectively combining text and graphics. If using clip art, downloaded images, imported images, or photographs, they must be either royalty-free or owned by the exhibitor.

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

Any original item made of glass or plastic.

- **Glass 50340a**

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

- **Plastic 50340b**

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

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

Visual Arts Metal (SF 50342)

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

Visual Arts Open Form and Emerging Techniques (SF 50350)

Any original artwork that explores unconventional formats, mixed media, or emerging creative technologies that reflect technique or design. Materials must be safe and age appropriate. This project encourages experimentation while upholding elements and

principles of design. Exhibitors are encouraged to include a brief artist statement describing their technique, inspiration, and creative process. This category is ideal for youth blending disciplines or exploring new artistic technologies. If a project fits more clearly within an existing category, it should be entered there instead.

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

Art pieces in this class must be comprised of **at least three different media**. To ensure a true mixed media composition, no single medium should dominate the piece. As a guideline, each medium should contribute roughly equally to the overall design. One material should not appear to be the main focus or make up the majority of the work. The piece should **be either freestanding or should be prepared to be hung**, and viewable from at least three different sides. Originality and design are important concepts. Craft kits,-preformed, or assembled projects are not acceptable. Due to space limitations, any single exhibit in the Three-Dimensional Design/Mixed Media project should NOT exceed 48" x 48".

Visual Arts Wood (SF 50349)

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

Artisan Crafts

Visual Arts Fiber (SF 50339)

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

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

Visual Arts Food Decorating Beginning (SF 50332)

Exhibit one of the following:

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

Exhibit may use cupcakes OR cupcake forms.

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

Visual Arts Food Decorating Intermediate (SF 50333)

Exhibit one of the following:

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

Visual Arts Food Decorating Advanced (SF 50334)

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

Visual Arts Food Decorating Master (SF 50335)

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

Visual Arts Heritage Arts (SF 50341)

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

Visual Arts Leather (SF 50321)

Exhibit one of the following options using leather:

- **Leather Stamping:** Must feature one or more stamping techniques. Examples include belts, coasters, bookmarks, key chains, and wrist bracelets. **OR**
- **Leather Carving or Tooling:** Should use swivel knife tooling, either simple or patterned. Examples include belts, pictorial carvings, and key cases. **OR**
- **Leather Lacing:** Must incorporate stamping and/or carving along with lacing

techniques. Examples include wallets and purses. **OR**

- **Leather Stitching:** May include stamping, carving, and/or lacing, and must feature hand or machine stitching completed by the exhibitor. Projects may be leather items or apparel.

Visual Arts Nature (SF 50343)

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

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

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

- **Two-Dimensional Paper Art (SF 50344a)**
Exhibits should be a 2-dimensional image. Paper art, which falls into the 2-dimensional category, includes: Greeting Cards, paper-cut designs, hand-made paper, paper collage, and quilling.
- **Three-Dimensional Paper Art (SF 50344b)**
Exhibits should be a 3-dimensional image. Exhibits in the 3-dimensional category must have multiple layers and/or levels. This is defined as more than 3 layers, so the image truly has dimensions that can be viewed from at least three sides or is at least ½" tall. Paper art which falls into the 3-dimensional category includes but is not limited to: Origami; Paper Mache; Paper models of architecture, paper-cut designs; quilling.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

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

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

Exhibit one of the following quilting options. All exhibits should include a card which 1)

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

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

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

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

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

Visual Arts Scrapbooking, Beginning (SF 50345)

Exhibit one album or notebook, either 8 ½" x 11" or 12" x 12", with a front and back cover. The album/notebook must have a minimum of 4 pages (front and back, making it 8 sides), exhibited in page protectors.

****NOTE – the front and back album covers are NOT part of the “page” count.**

Scrapbooks may be created using traditional or digital methods. Digital scrapbooks must be printed and displayed in a physical album or notebook, following the same size and page requirements. All scrapbook entries must be original in design; use of pre-made templates or auto-generated layouts from websites or design software (e.g. Canva, Shutterfly, Adobe Express, etc.) is not permitted. Exhibitors must create their own layouts, embellishments, and design elements to reflect personal creativity and intent. “Embellishments” are defined as the decorations or special details and features that add to a page and make it more visually appealing. Embellishments may include, but are not limited to, ribbon, clips, stickers, special lettering, borders, textures, or graphic elements. Beginners must use a **minimum of four embellishments** in their 4 scrapbook pages (a minimum of four embellishments on the 4 required scrapbook pages, not four per page), 8 sides and tell a story with pictures

Visual Arts Scrapbooking, Intermediate (SF 50346)

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

The album/notebook must have a minimum of 6 pages (front and back, 12 sides), exhibited in page protectors.

****NOTE – the front and back album covers are NOT part of the “page” count.**

Scrapbooks may be created using traditional or digital methods. Digital scrapbooks must be printed and displayed in a physical album or notebook, following the same size and page requirements. All scrapbook entries must be original in design; use of pre-made templates or auto-generated layouts from websites or design software (e.g. Canva, Shutterfly, Adobe Express, etc.) is not permitted. Exhibitors must create their own layouts, embellishments, and design elements to reflect personal creativity and intent. “Embellishments” are defined as the decorations or special details and features that add to a page and make it more visually appealing. Embellishments may include, but are not limited to, ribbon, clips, stickers, special lettering, borders, textures, or graphic elements. Intermediate level exhibitors must use a **minimum of eight embellishments** in their 6 scrapbook pages (a minimum of eight embellishments on the 6 required scrapbook pages, not eight per page), 12 sides and tell a story with pictures and journaling.

Visual Arts Scrapbooking, Advanced (SF 50347)

Exhibit one album or notebook, either 8 ½” x 11” or 12” x 12”, with a front and back cover. The album/notebook must have a minimum of 8 pages (front and back, 16 sides), exhibited in page protectors. **NOTE – the front and back album covers are NOT part of the “page” count.** Scrapbooks may be created using traditional or digital methods. Digital scrapbooks must be printed and displayed in a physical album or notebook, following the same size and page requirements. All scrapbook entries must be original in design; use of pre-made templates or auto-generated layouts from websites or design software (e.g. Canva, Shutterfly, Adobe Express, etc.) is not permitted. Exhibitors must create their own layouts, embellishments, and design elements to reflect personal creativity and intent.

“Embellishments” are defined as the decorations or special details and features that add to a page and make it more visually appealing. Embellishments may include, but are not limited to, ribbon, clips, stickers, special lettering, borders, textures, or graphic elements. Advanced level exhibitors must use a **minimum of 12 embellishments** in their 8 scrapbook pages (a minimum of twelve embellishments on the 8 required scrapbook pages, not twelve per page), 16 sides and tell a compelling story with pictures, journaling, and other media.

Visual Arts Three-Dimensional Design/Mixed Media - Diorama (SF 50351)

Exhibit a model representing a scene with three-dimensional figures. The display must be built on rigid wood (i.e., plywood). Exhibits may include but are not limited to, farm displays, historical events, landmarks, habitats, or scenes from a book. Exhibits may include pre-manufactured items such as tractors, animals, or figurines, but should also include artistic elements where possible. Due to space limitations, any single exhibit in the Three-Dimensional Design/Mixed Media: Diorama project should NOT exceed 48” x 48”.

WEATHER

Each county may submit 1 entry total 50392, 50393, 50394.

Weather and Climate Science 1 (SF 50392) *Level 1: Weather and Climate Science – Required*

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

Weather and Climate Science 2 (SF 50393) *Level 2: Weather and Climate Science – Required*

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

Weather and Climate Science 3 (SF 50394) *Level 3: Weather and Climate Science – Required*

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

WELDING

Each county may submit 2 entries total from 50353.

Welding (SF 50353) *Arcs and Sparks – Required*

Exhibit one weldment/item demonstrating the skill level of the exhibitor. Members new to the project should select a weldment from the [Weldment List](#) found on page 43 of *Arcs and Sparks*. **This class is for industrial welding only.** (Members that wish to use welding to create objects with an artistic appeal should enter in Visual Arts – Metal class.) Exhibits must be portable and cannot be exhibited on a trailer.

WOODWORKING

Each county may submit 2 entries total from 50357, 50358, 50359, and 50360

There are four reference books for this project in the *Woodworker Wonders* series:

Level 1, *Measuring Up*, for grades of 3-4; Level 2, *Making the Cut*, for grades 4-6; Level 3, *Nailing It Together*, for grades 6-8; and Level 4, *Finishing It Up* for grades 9-12. Note: these reference books may be used by youth of any grade based on their prior knowledge of woodworking. These project guides are suggested reference materials but are not required.

Woodworking exhibits may display any item made of wood constructed by the 4-H member appropriate for their age, skills, and abilities. Youth pick what level to enter based on experience and skills demonstrated. Exhibits must be portable and cannot be exhibited on a trailer. Ability to discuss safety concerns and techniques of all tools, equipment and supplies utilized required as part of project.

Refinishing an existing wood item may be part of the project exhibit, but refinishing an item without performing additional woodworking skills to improve or repair the item would make it ineligible to show as a woodworking project.

Woodworking 1 (SF 50357)

Create an item focusing on measuring, squaring & cutting boards with hand tools, driving nails, and/or screws as appropriate for a beginner's skill level project.

Woodworking 2 (SF 50358)

Create an item including basic skills outlined in Level 1 with the addition of safely utilizing basic power tools (i.e. electric drill or vibrating sander), utilizing glue and clamps, applying a basic finish coating, and use of additional fasteners (i.e. bolts, staples, etc.) where appropriate relating to the specific item displayed.

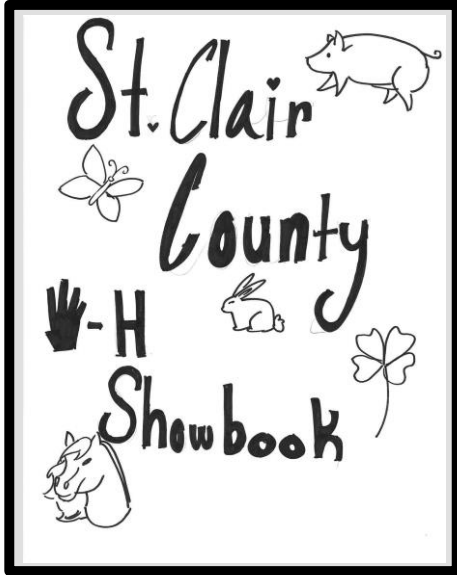
Woodworking 3 (SF 50359)

Create an item including skills outlined in Levels 1-2 with the addition of measuring angles, cutting dado and rabbit joints, dowel joints, and smoothing lumber with planes, and use of stain and finish coats where appropriate relating to the specific item displayed. Additional knowledge of tools, skills, and safety equipment utilized at this level may include power saws, sanders, and/or table routing as appropriate to project.

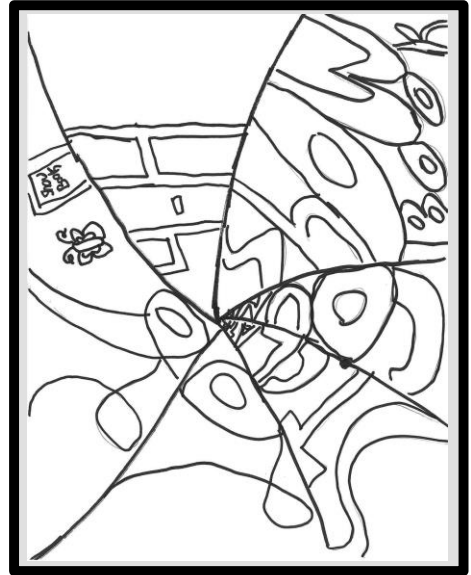
Woodworking 4 (SF 50360)

Create an item including all skills from Levels 1-3 with the addition of utilizing a freehand router, planer and jointer, lathe, complex miters, use of blind mortise and tenon joints, dovetail joints, or various chemical wood strippers and/or finishes (including spray finishes) when and where appropriate relating to the specific item displayed.

4-H Livestock Projects



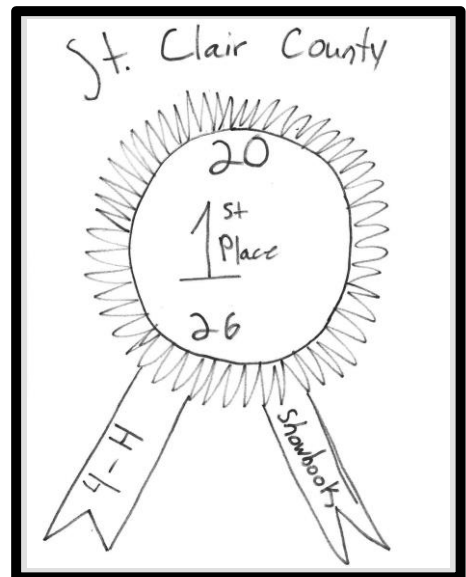
By Calli Lowrance from the Creative Critters 4-H Club



By Faith Haas from the Creative Critters 4-H Club



By Quinn Dickerson from the Creative Critters 4-H Club



By Katy Lowrance from the Creative Critters 4-H Club

Animal 4-H Show Rules

1. Premises Identification numbers will be required for all Junior Department Barrow entries to the Illinois State Fair. This is being required by the packing house(s) that process the barrows from the State Fair. Even though the State Fair is no longer a terminal show, in 2010 a majority of exhibitors still shipped their animals from the State Fair to the packing house for processing and premises ID was required. Premises Registration is voluntary to exhibit all other livestock (beef, dairy, horses, swine, sheep, goats, poultry, and rabbits) at the Illinois State Fair/county fair.
2. **On July 31, 2026, all livestock must be in place by 8:00 a.m.** All exhibits must remain on display until Sunday, August 2, 2026 at Noon. 4-H Shows are an opportunity for the public to learn about 4-H Projects. Therefore, all projects are expected to remain until release day. 4-H Livestock superintendents are responsible for all livestock shows and release times.
3. Steer weigh-in is for STEERS ONLY. Swine weigh-in is for BARROWS ONLY.
4. In the Beef, Dairy, Swine, and Sheep Divisions, the different livestock breeds will be shown in separate groups within each class, or as designated by the superintendent.
5. In Beef, Swine, and Sheep, no animal may be shown in both breeding and market classes.
6. No bulls, boars, ram sheep, or buck goats are allowed to show in the 4- H Show. The exceptions are specified above each livestock division.
7. It is the responsibility of all exhibitors to check in with their superintendents when they arrive at the 4-H Show. Registration must be in the exhibitor's name or name listed on the registration paper; if not: the animal will be shown in a commercial class.
8. **In the animal department, exhibitors may show two animals in each class of:**
 - a. **Beef, dairy, goats, sheep & swine.**
 - i. ***NOTE*** The exhibitors will receive *ribbons* on **both** animals per class, but PREMIUM MONEY MAY BE PAID ON ONLY ONE ENTRY PER CLASS.
 - b. **And one animal in each class of: rabbits and poultry.**
9. All animals *must* be shown by the owner. If, for some valid reason such as injury, illness, death in family or a 4-H'er is scheduled to show two livestock projects at the same time, another St. Clair County 4-H member may be allowed to show one of the animals. The members should notify the Extension Office, 618-344-4230, as far in advance of the show as possible to explain the situation. The decision to allow another St. Clair County 4-H'er to show in your place will be at the discretion of the Extension Office and the Livestock Committee. It should not be assumed that a substitution will be allowed. Advanced notification is mandatory. A substitute is not eligible to win showmanship. Parents or other adults may not show for the member.
10. Exchanging of animals will be permitted in showmanship classes, at the discretion of the judge.

11. A 4-H member can win the showmanship award multiple times in their division per project area. Divisions: *Junior* - Ages 8-13; *Senior* - Ages 14 and up. Ages as of September 1, 2025.
12. All 4-H members **must** follow the health guidelines of the Illinois Department of Agriculture Bureau of Animal Health and Welfare when exhibiting any livestock at county and state fairs in Illinois. Those guidelines are updated annually. Please refer to the IDOA Exhibition Livestock Health Requirements for County Fairs at:

<https://go.illinois.edu/LivestockHealthRequirements>.
13. There will be no tranquilizing of animals, and if the animal has been tranquilized, the 4-H member will not be allowed to participate in the show or market sale. If, in the judgment of the 4-H Staff and 4-H Superintendents, the animal in question is too unruly to show in the ring, the animal will be disqualified from the competition and receive a white rating.
14. **Coaching while in the show ring is prohibited.** Violators will be removed or isolated from the show grounds.
15. Parents will not be permitted in the show ring during judging unless it becomes necessary for safety reasons.
16. Animals must be washed and groomed before entering the ring.
 - a. **Animals should only be washed at the wash rack.**
17. Wear appropriate attire during ALL judging events. **Shirts with sleeves** are required. *No business advertising* (including family/commercial farm logos) on clothing is allowed. **Full-length pants** without holes, rips, or tears, should be worn. Shorts and capris are not permitted. **Closed toe shoes** are required. Cowboy/work boots are recommended. **Hats** and **cell phones** are also not permitted during judging. Remember that you are representing 4-H to the public. You will be asked to change your inappropriate attire.
 - a. **There will be a *mandatory exhibitors' meeting* 10 minutes before each show.**
18. The Illinois Humane Care of Animals Act prohibits physical mistreatment of animals. The use of electrical shock, OR manual striking of livestock, OR withholding feed and water are considered violations of the Act. The presence of any type of equipment to induce electrical shock in the exhibition area will be considered as intent to inflict electrical shock on animals under care of the person with the equipment. Persons found mistreating livestock shall be prohibited from exhibiting and will be dismissed from the show.
19. **For sale signs are not permitted in any instance.** No attaching them to pens, hanging them from rafters, etc.

PREMIUM GUIDE

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

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

St. Clair County Youth Livestock Auction and Terms of Sale

Livestock Boosters of St. Clair County Executive Members:

Tori DeClercq, Chairman, 618-795-2699 Chris Radloff, Vice Chairman, 618-409-8363
Dan Sliment, Treasurer, 618-789-1932 Stacy Madson, Secretary, 618-979-8187

1. Any 4-H Member, and only a 4-H Member, who has a market animal in the Annual 4-H Livestock Show as a project exhibit may be eligible to participate in the St. Clair County Youth Livestock Auction.
2. To qualify for sale, an animal must receive a "Blue" rating as a project and must be of market quality, with the decision of the judge and superintendent being final by selecting only suitable animals for the sale, the aim of establishing a reputation as a sale, which offers top, finished market animals will have been met.
3. Sale animals must be shown in the market class of the species. No exceptions.
 - a. Rabbits – Market Class: Single Fryer R71 or Meat Pen R81
 - b. Poultry – Market Classes MKT1, MKT2, MKT3, MKT4
 - c. Goats – Market Division Class: GMD1
 - d. Sheep – Market Class 11, Class 12 (Note: Only one of the pair can be auctioned)
 - e. Dairy – Market Class DA3
 - f. Beef – Market Class BE3
 - g. Swine – Market Class 8
4. The Sale Committee will set the sale sequence on the day of sale. The Sale Committee will have final authority to establish the order of sale and number of animals offered.
5. Animals that are scheduled for a showing at a later date should be sold with this arrangement as a term of the sale and agreed to by the buyer.
6. A floor price will be set according to local market prices.
7. The St. Clair County Youth Livestock Action will be held Saturday, August 1, at 7:30 p.m.
8. In the event the animal is taken to slaughter, the seller is responsible for the carcass if rejected by the Inspector.
9. Animals that will be in the auction are prohibited to being dressed up in costume.
10. All animals are to be numbered upon weigh-in. This number will be used throughout the sale. Superintendent to decide method of numbering if exhibitor requests no paint.
11. All animals will be sold on a pound basis including pygmy goats and small animals on a per head basis. All sale market animals will be weighed on a State of Illinois inspected portable scale at the fairgrounds. Volunteers and a non-partisan party will do weighing of animals.

12. Terms of the sale are cash. A check is to be made out to Livestock Boosters of St. Clair County on the sale day. Ten percent (10%) of the premium earnings for each animal sold will be withdrawn for advertising and promotional purposes. A check will then be issued within 60 days to the 4-H Member after the animal is delivered to the buyer.
13. Buyer has the option of matching premium pay rather than taking delivery.
14. The Seller must make delivery arrangements with the Buyer.
15. Promotion and success of the sale will depend on the efforts of the 4-H Member, parents, and friends.
16. Sheep minimum weight 60 pounds. (Market Lamb)
17. Beef minimum weight 950 lbs. to 1450 lbs. Beef steer must be dehorned.
18. The Swine Class will consist of hogs weighing 230 - 300 lbs.
19. Dairy Steer Weights are 1000 to 1500 lbs. Steers must be dehorned.
20. Goats: Only Market Class Wethers and Does can be auctioned and must be born after October 1 of the previous 4-H year. **Please note that Doe's shown in classes Dairy Junior, Doe Kid, and Pygmy Junior Doe Kid cannot be auctioned.** Only Goats shown in Market Class (Wethers and Does) can be auctioned and must be born after October 1, 2025.
21. Single Fryer and Meat Pens are Market Rabbits. Those classes are the only rabbits eligible to sell.
22. Market Class are the only class of poultry eligible to sell.
- 23. The seller must write a "Thank you" note to the Buyer before payment will be issued.**
- 24. All Stalls must be cleaned when exhibitor leaves for the day. Pre and post participation is required in clean-up and set-up.**
25. Each 4-H Member may sell up to 2 (two) large animals as long as they are different species (beef steers and dairy steers are the same bovine species). OR he or she may sell 2 (two) small animal projects, once again, if different species. OR members can sell a 1 (one) large animal and 1 (one) small animal. The total animals a member can have in the sale are 2 (two).
26. If an animal is auctioned more than once, the 4-H member will receive monies from the sale in which the animal is taken or processed. If the multiple sales are all for premium only, the 4-Her will receive monies from the first sale. For either, the other auctioned amount will be provided to the Livestock Boosters of St. Clair County Scholarship Fund.
27. All questions not covered by these rules for the auction can be handled by the Livestock Boosters of St. Clair County Executive Members and they will make the final decisions.

4-H Dog Show (Madison & St. Clair County)

June 20, 2026

Location: Madison County Farm Bureau Auditorium
900 Hillsboro Ave, Edwardsville IL 62025 (in the grass lot)

Open to the public for viewing

DOG SHOW

Superintendent: Mattie Lively (618-973-3663)

Check-In time 7:30 a.m. Start time 8:00 a.m.

MADISON COUNTY 4-H DOG OBEDIENCE SHOW RULES:

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

11. All ribbons and State Fair qualifiers will be determined at the County Show. To be eligible for State Fair, a dog must have a qualifying score of 170 or above in Obedience and 70 or above in Rally Obedience at the county show. In showmanship, the winner of junior and senior are eligible to participate in the State Showmanship.
12. All exhibitors must have completed the Quality Assurance and Ethics Certification and are expected to be familiar with and abide by both the principles of that certification and the Illinois Humane Care for Animals Act.
13. The judge's decision is final.

Awards will be presented for the following:

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

NOVICE

Beginner Novice I Class

(For inexperienced handlers and inexperienced dogs)

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

Beginner Novice II Class

(For experienced handlers and inexperienced dogs or experienced dogs and inexperienced handlers.)

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

Preferred Novice Class

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

Novice Class

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

Graduate Novice Class

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

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

RALLY OBEDIENCE

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

Rally Novice

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

Rally Intermediate

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

Rally Advance

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

Rally Excellent

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

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

Showmanship

1. A county may be represented by one junior showmanship dog/handler team and one senior showmanship dog/handler team who have earned/won their county competition. If a county-winning team(s) cannot attend, alternate team(s) may be entered. (Limited to 1 junior and 1 senior team.) Handlers must be members of the county they are representing. A dog may compete in only one showmanship class.
2. Exhibitors will be judged on handling skill, knowledge of breed standards of their dog, dog show terminology and elementary dog anatomy. The judge has the right to question exhibitors in one or all of these areas.

3. Dogs will be judged on cleanliness, general health, and grooming.
4. Purebred and non-purebred dogs are eligible for this class. The breed of dog has no bearing on judging or placement.
5. A dog eligible for Showmanship that must be withdrawn for good and sufficient reason (a female in season or veterinarian excuse) may be replaced by another dog owned by the handler or the family. This must be in writing (giving the reason) at the beginning of the show.
6. Judges' decisions are final.

Junior Showmanship

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

Senior Showmanship

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

4-H HORSE SHOW

May 9, 9:00 a.m.

*(*subject to change due to weather)*

Monroe County Fairgrounds

****MUST REGISTER IN FAIR ENTRY BEFORE PARTICIPATING****

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

Notes:

1. A copy of a current Coggins Test is required on show day.
2. Please refer to: <https://go.illinois.edu/LivestockHealthRequirements> for equine health requirements.
3. An Agreement to Assume Risk and Release from Liability form (in ZSuite) AND a Permission to Participate form (next page) must be signed prior to participating in the 4-H Horse Show.
4. ***IMPORTANT:** All 4-H members are **required** to wear a properly fitted ASTM or SEI standard F1163 (or above) certified equestrian helmet whenever mounted or driving at all 4-H horse and pony events, shows, activities, or practices. Original tags must be present in all approved helmets. The 4-H member is responsible to see that this specified headgear is properly fitted with the approved harness fastened snugly in place whenever mounted. Helmet policies apply to all county, area, and state 4-H horse and pony events, shows, and activities.
5. Additional information regarding this show will be sent to all 4-H horse project participants prior to the show.

4-H Unit Horse Show - Permission to Participate

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

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

As parent or guardian of, _____, I am aware that activities involving
Name of Participant

horses, ponies and other equines are associated with the following risks including but not limited to:

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

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

I understand and agree to follow these rules.

4-H Participant Signature

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

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

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

4-H RABBIT SHOW

AG Building/Scheve Park Friday, July 31, 2026, 9:00 a.m.

Alyssa Gedvila, 618-979-9579 - Superintendent

Stacy Madson, 618-979-8187- Assistant Superintendent

All exhibitors must enter livestock class entry information into the 4-H Fair Entry program by June 30, 2026.

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

Rules:

1. All exhibits are to be signed in between 7:00 - 8:00 a.m. Friday
2. Rabbits do not have to be registered or purebred.
3. All breeds may be exhibited.
4. Rabbits may be judged by breeds if determined necessary by the superintendent.
5. Members should bring feed for rabbits to the show and do not bring Styrofoam cups for water, but other containers such as a crock are permissible for drinking water. Please do not store feed by the exhibits.
6. Only the Market Rabbits shown in the Single Fryer and Meat Pen classes can be auctioned at the Livestock Auction. Please refer to the auction rules for additional qualifications.
7. **No rabbit may be shown in multiple categories other than the single fryer as part of the meat pen.**
8. It is the responsibility of the 4-Her to monitor food & water for the animals' health.

The following definitions will be used:

- 4-Class Breeds- Are breeds in which the adult rabbit should weigh 7 pounds or under.
- 6-Class Breeds- Are breeds in which the adult rabbit should weigh over 7 pounds.
- Junior Rabbit- A rabbit 3 to 6 months of age.
- Senior Rabbit- A rabbit 6 months of age and older (for 4 and 6 class breeds).
- Meat pen- 3 rabbits of uniform size, color and breed that are no more than 70 days old weighing 3 ½ to 5 ½ pounds. Animals DO NOT have to be from the same litter but DO have to be the same breed.

Market Class Rabbits

Single Fryer Class

- Single Fryers are judged on the following three factors, in order of their importance:
 - (1) Meat Type
 - (2) Condition of Flesh
 - (3) Fur - Not over 10 weeks (70 days) of age.
- Minimum weight of 3 ½ pounds, maximum weight of 5 ½ pounds.
- May be one of the meat pen animals if Superintendent gives an okay.
- Disqualifications - All ARBA Disqualifications from competition and Breed Disqualifications from competition apply to single fryers, with the following exceptions: (1) Body smut on Californian or Himalayan marked animals, (2) Non descended testicles on bucks.

Class #	Class Name
R71	Individual Meat Rabbit (market class)

Meat Pens Class

- Meat Pens are judged on four factors, in order of their importance:
 - (1) Meat Type
 - (2) Condition
 - (3) Uniformity
 - (4) Fur
- Meat Pens consist of 3 rabbits all of the same breed and variety. Broken meat pens must also be of the same variety. A meat pen does not necessarily have to come from the same litter.
- Age limit is 10 weeks (70 days).
- Minimum weight 3 ½ pounds each, maximum weight 5 ½ pounds each. All rabbits must be weighed during sign-in in the presence of the Superintendent or the Assistant Superintendent.
- Disqualifications - All ARBA Disqualifications from competition and Breed Disqualifications apply to each meat pen with the following exceptions:
 - (1) Body Smut on Californian or Himalayan marked animals
 - (2) Non-descended testicles on bucks.
- **If any one rabbit in the pen is overweight or underweight, the entire pen is disqualified from Competition. If any one rabbit in the pen is disqualified from competition, the entire pen becomes disqualified. All ARBA General Faults apply to each Meat Pen.**

Class #	Class Name
R81	Meat Pen (market class)

Nonmarket Classes

4 CLASS BREEDS

Breeds include: American Fuzzy Lops, American Sable, English Angora, French Angora, Satin Angora, Lion Head Belgian Hare, Britania Petite, Standard Chinchilla, Dutch, Dwarf Hotot, English Spot, Florida White, Harlequin, Havana, Himalayan, Holland Lop, Jersey Woolly, Lilac, Mini Lop, Mini Rex, Mini Satin, Netherland Dwarf, Polish, Rex, Rhinelander, Silver, Silver Marten, Tan. (and small breed crossbreds).

Class #	Class Name	Description
R41	4 Class Sr. Buck	Born before 2/15/26
R42	4 Class Jr. Buck	Born between 2/15/26 and 5/15/26
R43	4 Class Sr. Doe	Born before 2/15/26
R44	4 Class Jr. Doe	Born between 2/15/26 and 5/15/26

6 CLASS BREEDS

Breeds include: American, Giant Angora, Beveren, Californian, Champagne D'Argent, Checkered Giant, American Chinchilla, Giant Chinchilla, Cinnamon, Creme D'Argent, Flemish Giant, Blanc De Hotot, English Lop, French Lop, New Zealand, Palomino, Satin, Silver Fox, and (large breed crossbred animals)

Class #	Class Name	Description
R61	6 Class Sr. Buck	born before 2/15/26
R62	6 Class Jr. Buck	born between 2/15/26 and 5/15/26
R63	6 Class Sr. Doe	born before 2/15/26
R64	6 Class Jr. Doe	born between 2/15/26 and 5/15/26

SHOWMANSHIP

Class #	Class Name	Description
R1	Junior Showmanship	8 – 13 years old as of Sept. 1
R2	Senior Showmanship	14 – 18 years old as of Sept. 1

Awards will be presented for the following:

Grand & Reserve Showmanship Junior ages 8-13
Grand & Reserve Showmanship Senior ages 14-19
Grand & Reserve Champion 4 Class Rabbit
Grand & Reserve Champion 6 Class Rabbit
Grand & Reserve Champion Single Fryer
Grand & Reserve Champion Meat Pen

****NOTE: RABBIT EXHIBITORS SEE MARKET ANIMAL AUCTION RULES AND RABBIT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS**

4-H POULTRY SHOW

AG Building/Scheve Park Friday, July 31, 2026, 1:00 p.m.

Joe Fournie, 618-779-9481 – Superintendent

All exhibitors must enter livestock class entry information into the 4-H Fair Entry program by June 30, 2026.

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

Rules:

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. All birds should be checked for lice before arriving. Any birds with lice will be disqualified and must leave the park immediately.
3. All exhibits need to be in place by 8:00 a.m. on Friday, July 31, 2026.
4. A certification statement signed by owner is required, stating that to the best of his/her knowledge the entries have not been exposed to any transmissible disease, within 5 days of the show.
5. Pen of 3 or pair - must be of the same color, size, and breed.
6. Pair - two birds, one of each sex.
7. Maximum 2 birds/cage even if shown in a pen of 3.
8. Birds to be shown as individuals may be entered as part of a pen or a pair.
9. Market Birds will be weighed (Suggestion: weigh your birds before the show)

The following definitions will be used:

- Cockerel- A male fowl hatched after January 1, 2026.
- Pullet- A female chicken hatched January 1, 2026 or after.
- Hen- A female chicken, one year or older, must have been raised as an exhibiting member's 4-H project.
- Broiler-Fryer –weighing less than 4 pounds.
- Roaster – weighing 5 – 8 pounds

MARKET CLASSES

Class #	Class Name	Description
MKT1	Single Broiler	Chickens only; 4lbs or less, any sex (market class)
MKT2	Pen of 3 Broilers	Chickens only; (example Cornish Cross) 4lbs or less, any sex (market class)
MKT3	Single Roaster	Chickens only; 5–8 pounds, any sex, hatched after 1/1/26 (market class)
MKT4	Pen of 3 Roasters	Chickens only; (example Cornish Cross) 5–8 pounds, any sex, hatched after 1/1/26 (market class)

EGG PRODUCTION

Class #	Class Name
EG1	White 1 Dozen
EG2	Others 1 Dozen

Eggs will be judged on the following scorecard:

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

CHICKEN CLASSES

Class #	Class Name	Description
CH 1	Individual Pullet	(light or heavy) A female chicken hatched 1/1/26 or after.
CH 2	Pen of 3 Pullets	(light or heavy) 3 female chickens hatched 1/1/26 or after.
CH 3	Single Cockerel	A male chicken hatched 1/1/26 or after (no roosters allowed)
CH 4	Individual Hen	A female chicken, 1 year or older, must have been (light or heavy) raised as exhibiting member's 4-H project.
CH 5	Pen of 3 Hens	Female chickens, 1 year or older, must have been (light or heavy) raised as exhibiting member's 4-H project.
CH 6	Breeding Pair	Male & Female fowls of the same breed hatched before 1/1/26

BANTAM CLASSES

Class #	Class Name	Description
BA 1	Individual Pullet	A female chicken hatched 1/1/26 or after.
BA 2	Pen of 3 Pullets	3 female chickens hatched 1/1/26 or after.
BA 3	Individual Cockerel	A male fowl hatched after 1/1/26 or after.
BA 4	Breeding Pair	Male & Female fowls hatched 1/1/26 or before.
BA 5	Individual Hen	A female chicken 1 year or older; must be raised as exhibiting member's 4-H project.

WATERFOWL

DUCK CLASSES

Class #	Class Name
DU 1	Pair of Young Ducks
DU 2	Young Bird
DU 3	Pair of Older Ducks
DU 4	Older Bird

GEESE CLASSES

Class #	Class Name
GE 1	Pair of Young Geese
GE 2	Young Bird
GE 3	Pair of Older Geese
GE 4	Older Bird

FLYING FOWL

TURKEY CLASSES

Class #	Class Name
TKY 1	Pair of Young Turkeys
TKY 2	Young Bird
TKY 3	Pair of Older Turkeys
TKY 4	Older Bird

GUINEA CLASSES

Class #	Class Name
GU 1	Pair of Young Guineas
GU 2	Pair of Older Guineas

PIGEON CLASSES

Class #	Class Name
PI 1	Pair of Pigeons

QUAIL CLASSES

Class #	Class Name
QU 1	Pair of Quail

PHEASANT CLASSES

Class #	Class Name
PH 1	Pair of Pheasants

DOVE CLASSES

Class #	Class Name
DO 1	Pair of Doves

Showmanship

Class Name	Class Description
Junior Showmanship	Ages 8 – 13 years old as of Sept. 1
Senior Showmanship	Ages 14 – 18 years old as of Sept. 1

Awards will be presented for the following:

- Grand & Reserve Showmanship Junior – ages 8-13
- Grand & Reserve Showmanship Senior – ages 14-19
- Grand & Reserve Champion Market Poultry
- Grand & Reserve Champion Bantam Poultry
- Grand & Reserve Champion Other Fowl Poultry

****NOTE: POULTRY EXHIBITORS SEE MARKET ANIMAL AUCTION RULES AND POULTRY HEALTH REQUIREMENTS**

4-H SWINE SHOW

AG Building/Scheve Park Friday, July 31, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Scott Parker, 618-541-2270 – Superintendent

Hannah Fullerton, 618-541-0638 – Superintendent

Bill Range, 618-973-1070 – Superintendent

All exhibitors must enter livestock class entry information into the 4-H Fair Entry program by June 30, 2026.

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

Rules:

1. Weigh-in for swine starts at 8 am Friday.
2. All swine entries must have been farrowed after December 1, 2025.
3. Entries are limited to 2 per class per exhibitor, regardless of the number of breeds, except for pairs classes (one entry only).
4. The same market hog may be shown in the individual class and the class of two market hogs.
5. Registered swine are those that are eligible for registration in a purebred registry by having both parents registered.
6. Swine will be weighed and divided into light, medium, and heavy classes to help with the number of youths in the show ring at once.

Classes

Class #	Class Name	Description
Class 1	Gilt (Purebred)	Farrowed 12/01/25 to 12/31/25
Class 2	Gilt (Crossbred)	Farrowed 12/01/25 to 12/31/25
Class 3	Gilt (Purebred)	Farrowed 01/01/26 to 01/31/26
Class 4	Gilt (Crossbred)	Farrowed 01/01/26 to 01/31/26
Class 5	Gilt (Purebred)	Farrowed 02/01/26 to 02/29/26
Class 6	Gilt (Crossbred)	Farrowed 02/01/26 to 02/29/26
*Classes 2, 4, and 6 will be weighed and then divided into classes of light, medium, and heavy		
Class 7	Gilt Class: Pair of Gilt (1 entry only)	
Class 8	Market barrow or Gilt (market class)	Farrowed 12/01/25 to 02/29/26
*Class 8 will be weighed at weigh-in and then divided into classes of light, medium, and heavy		
Class 9	Pair of market hogs (1 entry only)	
Class 10	Junior Showmanship	Age 8-13
Class 11	Senior Showmanship	Age 14-19

****Remember: to be sold in the sale, market animals must weigh between 230 lbs. and 300 lbs.**

Awards will be presented for the following:

Grand & Reserve Showmanship Junior – ages 8-13

Grand & Reserve Showmanship Senior – ages 14-19

Grand & Reserve Champion Registered Female

Grand & Reserve Champion Commercial Female

Grand & Reserve Overall Champion Female

Grand & Reserve Champion Market Swine

****NOTE: SWINE EXHIBITORS SEE MARKET ANIMAL AUCTION RULES AND SWINE HEALTH REQUIREMENTS**

4-H BEEF SHOW

AG Building/Scheve Park Saturday, August 1, 2026, 7:30 a.m.

Alyssa Gedvila, 618-979-9579, Superintendent

All exhibitors must enter livestock class entry information into the 4-H Fair Entry program by June 30, 2026.

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

- Animals with horns will not be allowed to show.
- Only one overhead fan per 4 head of beef, no fans in alley.
- Can weigh four steers and show two steers.
- Steers need to be marked by paint.
- Superintendents will determine where a cross-bred steer is shown based on the dominant characteristics expressed
- The herdsman award will be presented after super showmanship by the beef superintendents to the exhibitor with the cleanest stall and who has demonstrated the highest level of preparedness, promptness, and the best attitude.

Classes

Class #	Class Name	Birthdate
BE 1	Rate of Gain Steer	Born 1/1/25 – 6/30/25 (Steers weighed in Feb.) (market class)
BE 2	Feeder Steer*	Born 1/1/25 – 6/30/25 (Classes will be broken down by weight) (market class)
BE 3	Individual Market Steer	Born 1/1/25 – 6/30/25 (market class)
BE 4	Bull calf	Born after 1/1/26
BE 5	Jr. Heifer Calf	Born after 1/1/26
BE 6	Sr. Heifer Calf	Born between 9/1/25 – 12/31/25
BE 7	Summer Yearling Heifer	Born 5/1/25 – 8/31/25
BE 8	Jr. Yearling Heifer	Born 1/1/25 – 4/30/25
BE 9	Sr. Yearling Heifer	Born 9/1/24 – 12/31/24
BE 10	Cow**	Born before 9/1/24 and has calved
BE 11	Junior Showmanship	Age 8-13
BE 12	Senior Showmanship	Age 14-19
*Feeder Steer Class 400 – 949lbs. Not Eligible for Champion Steer. Cannot be sold in Auction.		
**Calf may be shown in calf class but must be shown with cow.		

Awards will be presented for the following:

Grand & Reserve Showmanship Juniors – ages 8-13

Grand & Reserve Showmanship Senior – ages 14-19

Grand & Reserve Champion Female Beef Cattle

Grand & Reserve Market Steer

Note: beef exhibitors See market animal auction rules and cattle health requirements.

4-H DAIRY CATTLE SHOW

AG Building/Scheve Park

Saturday, August 2, 2025, immediately following Beef Show

Alyssa Gedvila, 618-979-9579, Superintendent

All exhibitors must enter livestock class entry information into the 4-H Fair Entry program by June 30, 2026.

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

- Animals with horns will not be allowed to show.
- Only one overhead fan per 4 head of dairy, no fans in the alley.

Classes

Class #	Class Name	Birthdate
DA 1	Rate of Gain	Born 1/1/25 – 6/30/25 (weigh-in Feb.) (market class)
DA 2	Feeder Steer*	Born 1/1/25 – 6/30/25 (market class) (classes will be broken down by weight)
DA 3	Market Dairy Steer	Born 1/1/26 – 6/30/26 (market class) (classes will be broken down by weight)
DA 4	Jr. Heifer Calf	Born 1/1/26 – 5/31/26
DA 5	Winter Heifer Calf	Born 9/1/25 – 12/31/25
DA 6	Jr. Yearling Heifer	Born 1/1/25 – 8/31/25
DA 7	Sr. Yearling Heifer	Born 9/1/24 – 12/31/24
DA 8	Cow	2, 3, or 4 Years Old
DA 9	Junior Showmanship	Age 8-13
DA 10	Senior Showmanship	Age 14-19
*Feeder Steer Class 400 – 949lbs. Not Eligible for Champion Steer. Cannot be sold in Auction.		

Awards will be presented for the following:

Grand & Reserve Showmanship Junior – ages 8-13

Grand & Reserve Showmanship Senior – ages 14-19

Grand & Reserve Champion Female Dairy Cattle

Grand & Reserve Champion Feeder Steer

Grand & Reserve Champion Dairy Steer

NOTE: DAIRY EXHIBITORS SEE MARKET ANIMAL AUCTION RULES AND CATTLE HEALTH REQUIREMENTS.

4-H Sheep Show

AG Building/Scheve Park

Saturday, August 1, 2026, immediately following the Dairy Show

Stacy Madson, 618-979-8187 – Superintendent

Terry Bohn, 618-978-9804 – Superintendent

All exhibitors must enter livestock class entry information into the 4-H Fair Entry program by June 30, 2026.

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

Rules:

1. Hair Sheep breeds are Katain, Droper, etc. and Wool Sheep breeds are Oxford, Montadale, etc.
2. A pen of 2 breeding lambs must be one ram and one ewe. All lambs must be docked, except hair sheep.
3. All Ram Lambs shown must be under 1 year.
4. Ewes shown as breeding animals cannot be paired for pen of market lambs.
5. The exhibitor's two individual market lambs are the same two for the pen of two market lambs.
6. See "Animal Rules".
7. Market lambs must be sheared within 30 days prior to show day.
8. Sheep showmen are encouraged to show animals without halters, leads, etc.

Classes

Class #	Class Name	Birthdate
Class 1	Aged Ewe Hair	2 years old and older
Class 2	Aged Ewe Wool	2 years old and older
Class 3	Yearling Ewe Wool	Born between 9/1/24 – 8/31/25
Class 4	Yearling Ewe Hair	Born between 9/1/24 – 8/31/25
Class 5	Ewe Lamb Wool	Born after 9/1/25
Class 6	Ewe Lamb Hair	Born after 9/1/25
Class 7	Ram Lamb Wool	Born after 9/1/25
Class 8	Ram Lamb Hair	Born after 9/1/25
Class 9	Pen of 2 Breeding Lambs Wool	Born after 9/1/25
Class 10	Pen of 2 Breeding Lambs Hair	Born after 9/1/25

Class 11	Individual Market Lamb	Born after 9/1/25 (market class)
Class 12	Pen of 2 Market Lambs	Born after 9/1/25 (market class)
Class 13	Junior Showmanship	Age 8-13
Class 14	Senior Showmanship	Age 14-19

Awards will be presented for the following:

Grand & Reserve Showmanship Junior – ages 8-13

Grand & Reserve Showmanship Senior – ages 14-19

Grand & Reserve Champion Top Wool Female

Grand & Reserve Champion Top Hair Female Overall

Grand & Reserve Champion Female

Grand & Reserve Champion Market Lamb

****NOTE: SHEEP EXHIBITORS SEE MARKET ANIMAL AUCTION RULES AND SHEEP HEALTH REQUIREMENTS**

4-H GOATS

AG Building/Scheve Park

Saturday, August 1, 2026, immediately following Sheep Show

Chris Radloff, 618-409-8363 – Superintendent

All exhibitors must enter livestock class entry information into the 4-H Fair Entry program by June 30, 2026.

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

- All Dairy Goats Must Be Dehorned
- Goats Must Be Shown With A Collar (can be leather, plastic, chain)

The following definitions will be used:

- Wether – castrated male goat
- Doe Kid – young female goat, under 1 year Pygmy - short goat
- Buck – male goat
- Doe – female goat
- Dam – a female parent
- Market Meat Animal – Boer, kiko & all other meat types

Market Division

Class #	Class Name	Birthdate
GMD 1	Market Animal (market class)	Born after 10/1/25

(Classes will be broken down by weight)

Dairy Classes

Class #	Class Name	Birthdate
DG 2	Buck Kid	Born after 09-1-25
DG 3	Jr. Doe Kid	Born after 09-1-25
DG 4	Yearling Doe	1 year to under 2 years
DG 5	Doe in Milk	2 years and over
DG 6	Dam & Kid	

Pygmy Classes

Class #	Class Name	Birthdate
PG 7	Buck Kid	Born after 09-1-25
PG 8	Jr. Doe Kid	Born after 09-1-25
PG 9	Yearling Doe	1 year to under 2 years
PG 10	Sr. Doe 2 years and over	
PG 11	Dam & Kid	

Meat Goat Classes

Class #	Class Name	Birthdate
BG 12	Buck Kid	Born after 9/1/25
BG 13	Jr. Doe Kid	Born after 9/1/25
BG 14	Yearling Doe	1 year to under 2 years
BG 15	Sr. Doe	2 years and over
BG 16	Dam & Kid	

Showmanship

Class #	Class Name	Description
17	Junior Showmanship	Age 8-13 as of Sept. 1
18	Senior Showmanship	Age 14-18 as of Sept. 1

Awards will be presented for the following:

- Grand & Reserve Showmanship Junior – ages 8-13
- Grand & Reserve Showmanship Senior – ages 14-19
- Grand & Reserve Champion Dairy Goat Female
- Grand & Reserve Champion Pygmy Goat Female
- Grand & Reserve Champion Meat Goat Female
- Grand & Reserve Champion Market Animal

****NOTE: GOAT EXHIBITORS SEE MARKET ANIMAL AUCTION RULES AND GOAT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS.**

4-H Master Showmanship Contest

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Start at 30 minutes after the Goat Show

Open to the Public

Sign up in Fair Entry

State Master Showmanship: age 14-18 as of Sept. 1, 2025

Junior Master Showmanship (Following super showmanship): age 10-13 as of Sept. 1, 2025

Description-

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

Youth do not need to win a showmanship class to participate. As long as they have or can borrow beef, sheep, or swine, they can take part in the show.

State Master Showmanship Guidelines:

1. Member must be 14 or older by September 1, 2025.
2. Members are responsible for finding their show animal & equipment.
3. The Senior Division winner will later receive a t-shirt that is required to be worn during the State Fair contest. An overall winner will be selected and one alternate.
4. County winner will be asked to participate at the state contest in August and animals must be provided on the state level.

Junior Master Showmanship Guidelines

1. THIS IS A COUNTY-LEVEL EVENT ONLY
2. Member must be 10-13 by September 1, 2025.
3. Members are responsible for finding their show animal and equipment.
4. This event is for younger members to learn how to ready themselves for the state super showmanship contest when they become of age.

SUPER SHOWMANSHIP

AG Building/Scheve Park Sunday, August 2, 2025, 10:30 a.m.

(Not Sponsored by the 4-H Program; this is by the Livestock Boosters of St. Clair County)

To be eligible for the Super Showmanship class, participants must have won a Senior Showmanship award in large animal class, in any year, and be actively showing or be 17-19 years of age and actively showing.

Participants are eligible to win the Super Showmanship Award only once in their 4-H Career.

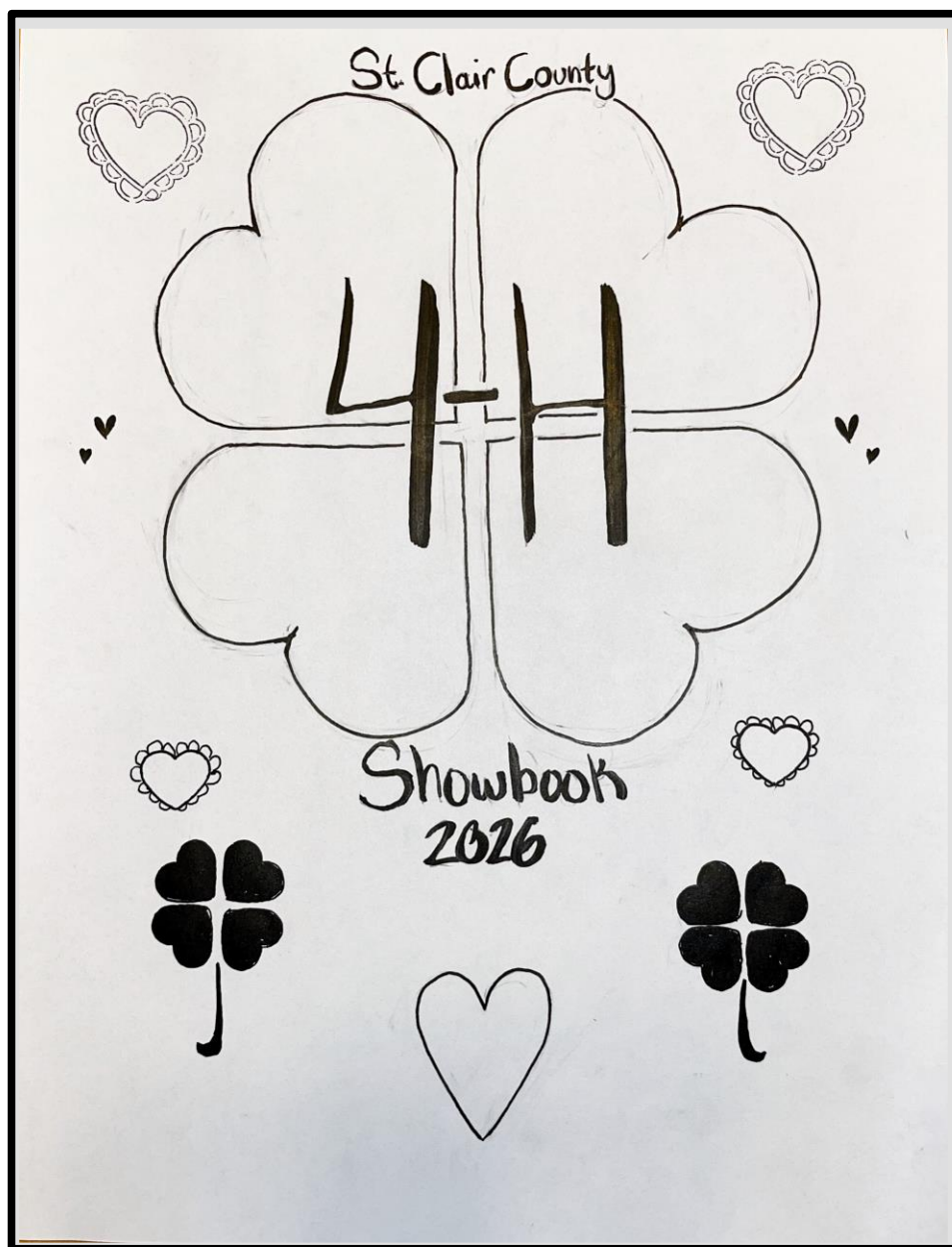
Participants will continue to be eligible for Senior Showmanship in large animal classes after winning Super Showmanship.

Reserve Senior Showmanship winners may be eligible to participate in Super Showmanship at the discretion of the Livestock Boosters of St. Clair County.

Participants must show and have knowledge of the following species: goats, sheep, swine, beef, and dairy.

Participants will be responsible for selecting their own animals from each species. Animals chosen cannot be ones that they have exhibited in livestock shows during the livestock shows or from their family's farm. Participants should coordinate with animal owners before Sunday morning.

The winner of the Super Showmanship will receive an award from Bill and Jana Range in memory of their son Ryan Range. Their name will be displayed on a wall plaque naming all the Super Showmanship winners through the years. Along with a \$125.00 check from the Livestock Boosters of Saint Clair County.



Created by Abigail Odunfa-Jones from Creative Critters 4-H Club



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