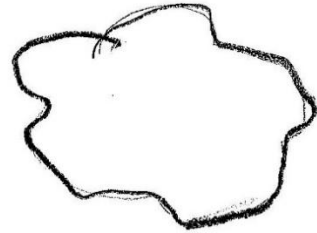
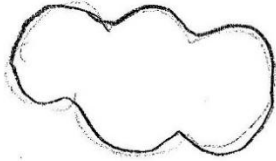
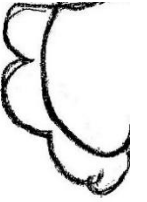


# 2026 4-H Shows

## Carroll County 4H



## UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS EXTENSION STAFF

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**Pam Martinez**

**Nate Jacobs**  
**Cilvia Rivera**



**University of Illinois Extension, Carroll County**  
642 S East St, Mt Carroll IL 61053  
815-244-9444 | janeshaw@illinois.edu

*If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in the 4-H Show, please contact the Carroll County 4-H office at least two weeks prior to the event.*

## 2025-2026 4-H CLUBS & LEADERS

### Carroll County Kids

Shelley Turnbaugh  
Melinda Merboth  
Kelly Kruse

### Chadwick Achievers

Sandy Imel  
Lindsay Ebersole  
Lindsay Hardt

### Clever Clovers

Taylor Carroll  
Stephanie Schultz  
Augusta Witt

### Milledgeville

Hotshots  
Sara Thorngren  
Bryan Hollewell

### Thomson Sandburrs

Marci Johnson  
Jean Harkless

### Amplify Communications Club

Kelly Kruse

### Carroll County Federation

Jane Shaw

### Feathered Fiesta Poultry Club

Jen Geerts

### Boots N Spurs Horse Club

Bryan Hollewell, Melinda Merboth

### Dog Care & Obedience

Justin Kehl

### Fusion Homeschool SPIN Club

Lorie Kaatz

### Happy Hoppers Rabbit Club

Jen Geerts



**Illinois Extension**

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES  
University of Illinois | U.S. Department of Agriculture | Local Extension Councils Cooperating  
University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

If you need a reasonable accommodation to attend, call the registration office.  
Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time to meet your needs.



University of Illinois Extension Carroll County Office  
642 S East St, Mt Carroll IL 61053  
815-244-9444  
[www.extension.illinois.edu/clw](http://www.extension.illinois.edu/clw)

The 2026 4-H Show season is upon us!

We understand that fair season is a very exciting, but sometimes stressful, time of the 4-H year. The 2026 Show Book is a resource that will help you prepare to showcase your projects. This tool includes show schedules, what to expect during conference judging, and 4-H show policies and exhibit requirements. Please read all sections of the Show Book, paying close attention to the General Policies and Procedures. Be sure to review your individual exhibit requirements very carefully as things can change from year to year.

A few general tips on how to use the Show Book:

- Follow the exhibit requirements closely—noting any size limitations and/or instructions to bring supplemental materials from the project book.
- If you exhibit livestock/horse/small animals:
  - Remember to complete the required ethics trainings (see Livestock Policy section)
  - Remember to bring the required paperwork for all live animal shows (health papers, negative Coggins test, records, etc.)
- Cloverbuds have their own project areas and get “judged” differently than 4-H members.

Our staff is always here to support you. If you have any questions, feel free to call the Extension Office. We are here to help you! Reading this book in advance, being familiar with our show guidelines, and seeking clarification helps you build a better show experience for everyone.

We are looking forward to a great season of 4-H Shows! Remember, judging is a learning experience. Presenting your project at the show is not the end of your learning, nor does it measure all the learning or fun you experienced in the 4-H project. The show is only one measure of success. Recognizing how much you have learned and being proud of your accomplishments are important rewards. We are proud of you and your accomplishments and hope you are too! We encourage you to invite your family and friends to witness your 4-H accomplishments at the show. All Carroll County 4-H animal shows are open to the public. General Projects will be on display for the public to see after judging takes place.

Good luck and see you at the fair!

Sincerely,

Jane Shaw  
4-H Program Coordinator  
Carroll County  
815-244-9444  
[janeshaw@illinois.edu](mailto:janeshaw@illinois.edu)

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# FairEntry.com

**NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED**



**4-H Fair ENTRIES - Deadline to enroll in the General Projects and Animals/Livestock is JULY 1**

## Family Instructions to Enroll in Exhibits

1. Navigate to FairEntry using the link: <http://carroll4-hfair.fairentry.com>
2. If you already have an account, sign in with your email and password. Proceed to Section 1 directions below.
3. If you do not have an account yet, go to “Create a FairEntry Account”. Note: If you receive a message that your email already has an account, go back to the sign in screen and choose “Forgot your password?”. This will reset your account and allow you to continue.
4. Enter the email address you wish to use for this account.
5. Use your family’s last name as account name.
6. Complete the account information, including your cell phone number, and create a password.

### SECTION 1 – EXHIBITORS TAB

1. Once logged in and on the Welcome screen, select: “Begin Registration.”
2. Click on “Individual” on the next screen and you will then need to complete the required information as requested. Click “Continue” to move through the screens.
3. Once personal data is entered, click on the green “CONTINUE” box.
4. IMPORTANT!! This does NOT mean you are registered for fair. You MUST continue through the following steps and choose the classes you plan to exhibit.
5. Click green “Continue” box in bottom right corner.
6. If all information is correct, click green “Continue to Entries” in top right corner.

### SECTION 2 – ENTRIES TAB – MAKING AN ENTRY

1. Click on the green “Add an Entry” or “Begin work on a new invoice”.
2. Follow the screens to continue selecting your project entry.
3. Click “Back to Entries.”  
You have three options:
  - 1. Add another entry for the same 4-H member
  - 2. Register another exhibitor
  - 3. “Continue to Payment” (Choose this option ONLY if you are done adding entries and exhibitors). When adding another entry, select “Add another entry” and then select the light blue “Change” button to choose a new entry. This will NOT impact the previous entry.

\*\*\*NOTE: If there are any questions that need to be answered for a class, you will see a light blue box indicating incomplete items. You will need to click on “Review/Complete Outstanding Records” to complete any questions before you can continue to payment.

### SECTION 3 – PAYMENT TAB

1. The Carroll County 4-H Fair does not charge entry fees or pen/stall fees. However, please continue with the payment tab to complete your entries.
2. Click the green “Continue” button until you see the green “Submit” button.
3. The Extension Office will approve or reject your entries. You will be sent another email accordingly.

### ADDING NEW CLASSES FOR PREVIOUSLY REGISTERED YOUTH

1. Log in to Fair Entry.
2. Choose “Begin work on a new invoice” button.
3. Choose “Create Entry” next to your exhibitor’s name.
4. Follow directions starting with SECTION 2 of these directions.

## 4-H CODE OF CONDUCT

The opportunity to participate in or attend 4-H activities is a privilege and not a right. All 4-H participants—youth, families, volunteers, and Extension staff—who participate in or attend any activity or event sponsored by the University of Illinois Extension 4-H Youth Development Program are expected to uphold the values of the Illinois 4-H program and conduct themselves according to the following standards. These standards also apply to online 4-H activity, including social media and internet presence. Our first priority is to create a safe, inclusive space for learning, sharing, and collaboration that is welcoming to people from diverse backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives. Diversity includes, but is not limited to: race, color, religion, political beliefs, national or ethnic origin, immigration or citizenship status, sex, gender identity and expression, transgender status, sexual orientation, age, marital or family 108 status, educational level, learning style, pregnancy, physical appearance, body size, and individuals with disabilities.

1. **Create a Welcoming Environment for All.** Encourage everyone to fully participate in 4-H. Recognize people have skills and talents that can help others and improve the community. Though we will not always agree, we must disagree respectfully. When we disagree, try to understand why.
2. **Bring Your Best Self.** Conduct yourself in a manner that reflects honesty, integrity, self-control, and self-direction. Accept the results and outcomes of 4-H contests with grace and empathy for other participants. Accept the final opinions of judges and evaluators. Be open to new ideas, suggestions, and opinions of others.
3. **Obey the Law.** Commit no illegal acts. Do not possess, offer to others, or use alcohol, illegal drugs, or tobacco products which include e-pens, e-pipes, e-hookah, e-cigars, JUULs, vapes, vape pens or other electronic nicotine delivery systems. Do not possess or use weapons or firearms except as expressly permitted as part of supervised 4-H shooting sports programming. Do not attend 4-H activities under the influence of alcohol or illegal substances.
4. **Honor Diversity—Yours and Others'.** Respect and uphold the rights and dignity of all persons who participate in 4-H programs.
5. **Create a Safe Environment.** Do not carelessly or intentionally harm or intimidate anyone in any way (verbally, mentally, physically, or emotionally). Do not engage in romantic displays or sexual activities in either public or private situations. Be kind and compassionate toward others. Do not insult, harass, or bully others or engage in other hostile activities. Be considerate and courteous of all persons and their property.
6. **Be a Team Player.** Work cooperatively with all individuals involved in 4-H programs and activities. Be responsive to the reasonable requests of the person in charge. Respect the integrity of the group and the group's decisions.
7. **Participate Fully.** Participate in and contribute to planned programs, be on time and follow through on assigned tasks/responsibilities in a manner that fosters the safety, well-being, and quality of the educational experience for yourself and others. Have fun!
8. **Watch What You Wear.** Use good judgment. Wear clothing suited for the activity in which you will participate. Dress in a manner that is respectful to yourself and others. Clothing that displays or promotes violence, obscenity, illegal activities, discrimination, or intimidation is prohibited. Do not wear revealing clothing, such as short skirts or shorts, midriff-baring tops, or anything showing undergarments.
9. **Be a Positive Role Model.** Act in a mature, responsible manner, recognizing you are role models for others and that you are representing both yourself and the University of Illinois Extension 4-H Youth Development Program. Be responsible for your behavior, use positive and affirming language, and uphold exemplary standards of conduct at all 4-H activities.

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

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

# POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

## MEMBERSHIP

1. The Illinois 4-H program year is September 1 through August 31.
2. Any youth who is at least 5 years of age but has not yet turned 19 years of age on September 1 of the current 4-H year can be a member.
  - a. Members ages 5-7 are Cloverbuds and should refer to the Cloverbud Show Book for ways to participate in a 4-H Show.
3. A youth may enroll in a club or as an independent member with a mentor. Clubs include multi-project clubs, SPIN (special interest) clubs and Cloverbud clubs.
4. Multi-county 4-H members: 4-H members who belong to a club in multiple counties must have a shared membership agreement on file with all counties, signed by staff, and clarifying which county will be responsible for paying premiums on exhibits. They cannot enroll in the same project in each county and cannot exhibit the same project in more than one county.

**Per the Illinois 4-H Management Handbook:** *“Shared membership is designed to meet the changing needs of today’s families, including youth who live with parents or guardians in dual or multiple legal residences due to divorce or separation. Shared membership is also an option when a project(s) or exhibitions are not offered in the county of residence. It is NOT an option just because a 4-H show is deemed better in a neighboring county, or the 4-H member has friends or relatives who are enrolled in another county.”*

## ENROLLMENT

5. Youth must be fully enrolled in ZSuite. Please consult county Extension staff for any clarification.
6. New 4-H members may enroll in 4-H and select a project at any time of the year. However, to be eligible to show projects, a member must be enrolled in the project they wish to show by May 1. Youth who do not comply are not eligible to take part in 4-H exhibitions or receive 4-H premiums.
  - a. Members must attend one half of club meetings.
  - b. Members may select a project to show after May 1 if a 4-H experience is held after the project enrollment deadline but before the fair enrollment deadline.
7. All 4-H members must be enrolled in a minimum of one project. Participation in 4-H exhibitions is optional on the part of the 4-H member. Project support materials are available on national, state, regional, and local levels.

## ENTRIES

8. Show entries MUST be completed at fairentury.com no later than JULY 1. Instructions are included in this show book.
9. Club leaders are NOT responsible for show entries. Contact the local Extension office for assistance.
10. If a member does not enter their exhibit classes in FairEntry, they will not be eligible to show.

## GENERAL SHOW EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

11. All entries must be products of the current 4-H year (September 1-show date).
12. If the entry is selected as a State Fair Delegate, the same product or speech at the county level must be exhibited at the State Fair with minor adjustments made to 1) meet State Fair requirements or 2) incorporate suggested improvements made by the county-level judge. Exceptions include Foods and Nutrition (must be the same recipe), Agronomy (plant exhibits), Floriculture, Vegetable, Fruit or Herb Plate/Displays.
13. 4-H members must show their own exhibit.
  - a. If a 4-H member is unable to attend a 4-H show, a request to complete an Absentee 4-H Project Report must be made to the Extension office no later than two weeks prior to the show date.
  - b. Arrangements may be made for another 4-H member to show the exhibit along with the Absentee 4-H Project Report. In no case will a non-4-H member be allowed to make or show the absentee member’s exhibit.
  - c. To make an Absentee Request: Contact the county 4-H Program Coordinator stating the need to complete an Absentee 4-H Project Report. Be prepared to share the name of the 4-H member who will show the exhibit in the place of the absentee member or state that you will have a written report only. The absentee form can be found at the back of this show book.
  - d. Any emergency situations that arise related to an absentee request will be assessed on a case-by-case basis by Extension Staff.

14. No equipment will be provided for any exhibits. Exhibitors should be aware that electrical outlets and internet availability are not always located near judging locations and should take that into consideration when bringing exhibits.
  - a. For Public Presentations the following items may be available if requested in advance: podium, sound system, and extension cord.
  - b. Exhibitors must furnish any additional equipment they feel is necessary to properly critique their exhibit (example: a computer)
15. Exhibitors are paid a premium (if available) on only one entry per exhibit class.
16. Members are responsible for exhibiting the correct article, information, etc. based on listed exhibition requirements. Please be mindful to ensure display size fits within the listed project guidelines. Larger does not always mean better; use good judgement in creating your exhibit.
  - a. If a member is unclear on show requirements, they are responsible for seeking clarification from Extension Staff prior to show day.
17. Exhibits illustrating inappropriate subject matter and/or graphics are not acceptable. Extension Staff reserve the right to not display exhibits deemed inappropriate or dangerous for youth audiences. Items deemed potentially dangerous to fair-goers may be removed from the exhibit.
18. The Illinois State Fair General Projects Show date for Carroll County: **Sunday, August 16, 2026.**

## JUDGING & RECOGNITION

19. Conference judging will be used to assess most exhibits. This is a method used to determine how well a 4-H member meets the requirements set for their project. This is a one-on-one discussion between the 4-H member and the judge of the project area. Judges consider the knowledge exhibited by the member, the appearance of the exhibit, and any project book work completed by the member. The judge will ask the member questions about their project. For example, the judge may ask:
  - a. What steps did you take to complete this exhibit?
  - b. What did you like about this project? What changes would you make to this project?
  - c. What did you learn from this project?
20. Blue (A), Red (B) or White (C) ribbons will be awarded for each exhibit based on the judge's assessment.
  - a. Blue: exhibit meets standards
  - b. Red: exhibit needs improvement
  - c. White: exhibit needs much improvement
21. Judges utilize a score sheet for each project area. All sheets can be found under their specific project areas on the Illinois 4-H Website: <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/projects>
22. **State Fair awards, Champion, or additional awards in any class will be determined at the discretion of the judge.** If exhibits do not meet the exhibit requirements and are not of exceptional quality, the judge is not required to promote exhibits. There must be at least two (2) participants per class for a Champion ribbon to be awarded.
23. Champion ribbons or other awards may not necessarily be given to State Fair delegates. The judges' decisions are final.
24. All awards above the Blue, Red, or White ribbons are subject to change.
25. Parents/guardians/friends are not allowed in the judging area.

## 4-H PREMIUMS

26. Exhibitors will receive premiums for only one entry per class.
27. The Department of Agriculture shall use its best efforts to secure sufficient appropriations to fund premiums. In any year in which the General Assembly of the State of Illinois fails to make an appropriation sufficient to pay such premiums, premium amounts may not be accurately reflected in this 4-H Show Book.
28. 4-H premiums will be paid using the X-factor. The X-factor system ensures that all monies available for premiums are distributed to those 4-H members who exhibited their projects. X-factors are unit value figures and not dollars and cents. Premiums may NOT be awarded in every project area. At the conclusion of the 4-H Show, the computer tallies a total number of Xs awarded. The total of Xs is divided into the amount of premium money available from the State Agriculture Premium Fund.
29. Premiums will be distributed at the following levels:
 

Level 1 – Livestock/horse/small animals exhibit classes: Blue = 7X Red=5X White 3X

Level 2 – All non-livestock classes including Animal Science: Blue = 5X Red = 3X White=1X
30. Tax Implications for Prizes, Gifts or Awards: Program participants (including minors) will be required to provide their social security number or foreign national tax ID number prior to receiving a prize, gift, or award, including 4-H Premiums, to ensure proper IRS reporting as required by law. This sensitive information is kept confidential and handled through security-protected software (PEAR). Participants will not be able to receive the prize/gift, if social security or foreign national tax ID information is not provided. Contact the Extension office if you have questions.

# CONFERENCE JUDGING TIPS

## **A note to members:**

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

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

## **A note to parents/guardians:**

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

1. Points to discuss the purpose of judging with 4-H members:
  - a. To evaluate the exhibit which is an example of the member's work.
  - b. To help each member see the process and development and put judging in perspective.
2. Help the member set realistic goals for themselves according to their own age and experience.
3. Be sure that your goals as an adult are in line with the member's age and experience.
4. Recognize good work. Give constructive criticism.
5. Be familiar with the requirements or criteria of the 4-H project that is to be judged.
6. Be familiar with several methods of accomplishing the desired result.
7. Regardless of who does the judging there are some basic points to keep in mind:
  - a. The development of young people is our first consideration in 4-H work.
  - b. We are more concerned about what the 4-H member learns than with the exhibit itself.
  - c. Projects are a means to an end—not an end in themselves.
  - d. No exhibit is so poorly done that it is not worthy of an encouraging comment.
  - e. No exhibit is so well done that some improvement may not be made.
8. Judging is done according to quality standards. It is not a matter of personal whim or tastes. The standards are:
  - a. high, but attainable;
  - b. appropriate to different age levels;
  - c. known by the 4-H members.
9. Projects are evaluated, not members. All completed projects meeting show requirements will receive a Blue, Red, or White rating. Projects are evaluated independently, not compared.
10. Stress that judging comments can be helpful, but that they are only one person's evaluation.
11. In competition, avoid overemphasis of the winner. Help the child accept the results of the competition and realize that, through each individuals' growth and accomplishments, everyone is a winner.

# 2026 4-H Show Schedule

SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Showmanship ages are 8-18 as of September 1, 2025

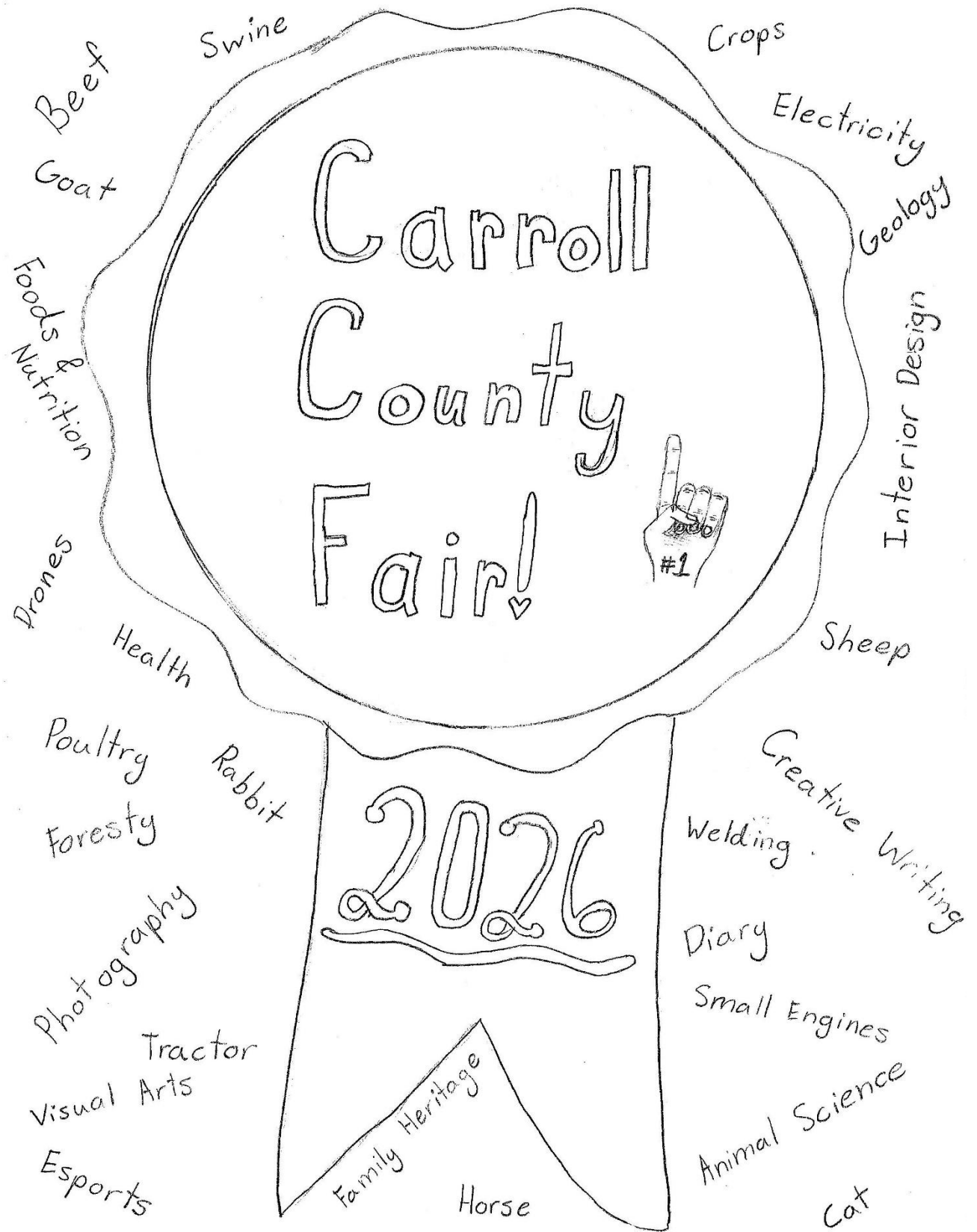
DATE	EVENT	TIME	DETAILS
TBD	Dog Show ?	8:30 a.m. Check-in 9 a.m. Judging begins	[Location]
Thursday, July 9 (rain date: Sunday, July 12)	Carroll and Whiteside Counties Horse & Pony Show	8 a.m. Check-in 8:30 a.m. Judging begins	Whiteside County Fairgrounds, Morrison
Monday, July 27	Beef Carcass Weigh-in	6:30 a.m. Final Weigh-in	Milledgeville Veterinary Clinic
Tuesday, July 28	Cat Show	10 a.m. Check-in 10:30 a.m. Judging begins	Mt. Carroll Extension Office
Wednesday, July 29	4-H Show Set-up	5 p.m. General Projects Set-up	4-H and Commercial buildings, Carroll County Fairgrounds
Friday, July 31	Beef Carcass Judging	7 a.m. Judging begins	Johnson's Processing, Chadwick
TBD	Poultry Barn set-up	TBD	Poultry Barn
Saturday, Aug 1	General Projects Day	8-8:30 a.m. Cloverbud check-in	Commercial Building
Saturday, Aug 1	General Projects Day	8:45 a.m. Cloverbud judging begins	Commercial Building
Saturday, Aug 1	General Projects Day	8-8:30 a.m. General Projects check-in	see map for building assignments
Saturday, Aug 1	General Projects Day	8:45 a.m. General Projects judging begins*	see sign-in sheets for time slots
Sunday, Aug 2	Poultry Show	1 p.m. Poultry check-in 1:30 p.m. Poultry Judging begins	Health papers will be checked, Poultry Barn
Sunday, Aug 2	Beef and Swine check-in	5 p.m. Beef must be on grounds, except Bucket Calf 5-6 p.m. Beef weigh-in 6 p.m. Swine must be on grounds	Health papers will be checked, Beef Barn <b>Outstanding Swine Exhibitor stations</b> (written test, feed and equipment ID) <b>will be set up</b>
Monday, Aug 3	Beef Show	7:30 a.m. Beef Bucket Calf check-in 8 a.m. Beef Breeding judging begins Bucket Calf Beef Feeding Carcass awards Beef Showmanship Master Showmanship– Part 1: Beef	Bucket Calf—Turn in Record Book  Beef Showmanship for 8-18 years olds only
Monday, Aug 3	Goat Show	12 p.m. Goat check-in 12:30 p.m. Goat judging begins	Health papers will be checked, Sheep Barn

<b>Monday, Aug 3</b>	<b>Sheep Show</b>	1 p.m. Sheep check-in and weigh-in 1:30 p.m. Sheep judging begins when Goat Show is done Master Showmanship– Part 2: Sheep	Health papers will be checked, Sheep Barn
<b>Monday, Aug 3</b>	<b>Swine Show</b>	2-3 p.m. Swine Committee Meeting/post weights 3:30 p.m. Swine judging begins Outstanding Swine Exhibitor– Showmanship Master Showmanship– Part 3: Swine 6:30 p.m. Presenting Foundation Scholarships 7 p.m. Livestock and Small Animal Auction: Sponsored by Carroll Youth in Ag Foundation	Swine Barn, east end of fairgrounds  Showmanship winners to be announced during the auction
<b>Wednesday, Aug 5</b>	<b>Rabbit Show</b>	9 a.m. Rabbit check-in 9:30 a.m. Rabbit judging begins	Rabbit Barn, west end of Fairgrounds
<b>Thursday, Aug 6</b>	<b>State Fair Project Release</b>	10 a.m. State Fair <b>ONLY</b> Project Release	All others released Saturday, 6-7 p.m.
<b>Friday, Aug 7</b>	<b>Dairy Show</b>	8:30 a.m. Dairy check-in 9 a.m. Dairy judging begins	Health papers will be checked, Dairy Barn
<b>Sunday, Aug 16</b>	<b>State Fair General Projects 4-H Show</b>	8 a.m. Illinois State Fair Carroll County Day for General Projects	Illinois State Fairgrounds, Springfield
<b>Saturday, Aug 8</b>	<b>Projects Released</b>	6-7 p.m.	4-H Building closes at 7 p.m.
<b>Tuesday, Aug 11</b>	<b>Post-Fair Clean-up</b>	5 p.m.	Ice cream social to follow. Projects may also be picked up.

\*State 4-H Show Delegate and Alternate information table will be open in the Pavilion following General Projects judging.



**A huge 'THANK YOU!' to all our members, families, volunteers and supporters... together, making the best better!**



Drawing by Emilie Rahn,  
Chadwick Achievers 4-H Club

# General Projects

## Project Changes for the 2025-2026 4-H Show Guides

### **Crops was renamed Agronomy**

Hay was added as a class under Agronomy. (See page [X.](#))

**Creating with Building Bricks was added and includes nine classes** (See page [X.](#))

**Animal Science classes were renumbered** (See page [X.](#))

**Sewing: Non-sewn (poster) classes were removed** (See page [X.](#))

**College and Career Readiness was renamed Career Development** (See page [X.](#))

**Floriculture was extensively restructured into 18 classes** (See page [X.](#))

### **Visual Arts:**

- Fiber: Non-Original (ages 8-10 only) was removed. Some non-original fiber pieces can be entered in Heritage Arts. (See page [X.](#))
- Open Form and Emerging Techniques was added as a class. (See page [X.](#))
- Changes were made to the Chalk/Carbon/Pigment (Drawing and Painting): Division C to include artwork on clay with guidance on what is allowed in the class. (See page [X.](#))
- Heritage Arts: Forged knives may be shown if they are secured and enclosed to prevent handling. (See page [X.](#))
- Scrapbooking: Digital scrapbooks may be created and shown. They must be printed and displayed in a physical album or notebook. (See page [X.](#))

### **Shooting Sports:**

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. (See page [X.](#))

### **Overall:**

Group project opportunities have expanded. They include Civic Engagement, Diversity and Cultural Awareness, Leadership, Passport to the World, Service Learning, and Video.


# 4-H GENERAL PROJECT EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

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

## EXHIBITORS:

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

## GENERAL EXHIBIT GUIDELINES:

- All exhibits must be products of the current 4-H year (September 1, 2025 - August 15, 2026).
- Exhibits illustrating inappropriate subject matter and/or graphics are not acceptable. The Superintendents reserve the right to remove exhibits deemed inappropriate or dangerous for youth audiences. The content of any 4-H competitive presentation does not necessarily reflect the beliefs or views of the Illinois State Fair or the University of Illinois Extension 4-H program.
- Some exhibit areas may have size limitations. Read the descriptions carefully. Please choose a display size which is most appropriate for the exhibit you are bringing. Larger does not always mean better; use good judgement in creating your exhibit. Exhibitors will need to carry their project from the distant parking lots on the fairgrounds. **TABLES ARE PROVIDED. Do not bring your own.**
- **INNOVATION CLASSES** are open to all 4-H members in the project areas listed. Members choosing to exhibit in the Innovation class may be enrolled in any level of the project they are studying. Members choosing to exhibit in the Innovation class decide the best way to show 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](http://shop4-h.org) or, in some cases, have a free PDF resource available on the [project's page on the Illinois 4-H website](#).

## 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 or movies such as Disney characters, Iron Man etc.
  - More details are in the Copyright Guidelines Tipsheet: [go.illinois.edu/II4HCopyrightGuidelines](http://go.illinois.edu/II4HCopyrightGuidelines).
- **Use of the 4-H Name and Emblem:** Chartered 4-H Clubs and enrolled 4-H members are authorized to use the 4-H name and emblem. This includes permission for an enrolled 4-H member to use the 4-H name and emblem in exhibits you create for personal use as part of 4-H sponsored events. This includes 4-H decorated cookies, a 4-H Clover printed out for use in a scrapbook, etc.
- **Please note:** Any use of the 4-H name and emblem on items intended as gifts or for sale require prior permission using this [UNIVERSITY AGREEMENT](#). This should be signed by the County Director. Any uses of the 4-H name and emblem for sale or promotion online, and/or in statewide events should be signed by the Illinois 4-H Director ([illinois4H@illinois.edu](mailto:illinois4H@illinois.edu)).
- Use of the green clover shaped image is not protected. The 4-H emblem is distinguished by the four Hs that signify Head, Heart, Hands, and Health. No creative rendering, changing in color or shape of the official 4-H emblem is allowed.

## AEROSPACE

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

### Model Rocketry (SF 50130)

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

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

### Aerospace Display (SF 50131)

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

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

## AGRONOMY (formerly Crops)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **ANIMAL SCIENCE**

**For youth enrolled in Beef, Cat, Dairy Cattle, Dog, Horse, Goat, Llama/Alpaca, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep, Small Pets, and Swine.** Youth participating in the Animal Science General Project Show are not required to complete QAEC or YQCA. Each county may submit 1 entry from 50133a and 1 entry from 50133b

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

For youth enrolled in this project 1-2 years.

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

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

For youth enrolled in this project 3 or more years.

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

## **BABYSITTING**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **CAREER DEVELOPMENT**

Each county may submit 2 entries from 50365

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

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

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

## **CIVIC ENGAGEMENT**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **CLOTHING & TEXTILES**

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

### **Costume Design & Clothing Embellishment**

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

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

### **COSTUME DESIGN**

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

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

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

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

## **CLOTHING EMBELLISHMENT**


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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **Sewing 1-3**

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

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

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

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

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

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

Exhibit one of the following sewn items:

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

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

Exhibit one of the following sewn items:

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

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

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

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

Exhibit one of the following sewn items:

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

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

Exhibit one of the following sewn items:

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

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

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

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

Exhibit one of the following sewn items:

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

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


Exhibit one of the following sewn items:

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

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


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

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

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


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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# COMMUNICATIONS

Each county may submit 2 entries total from 50368, 50369

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

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

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

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

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

# COMMUNICATIONS: PUBLIC SPEAKING

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

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

### **Resources:**

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

- [Finding your Voice: Public Speaking made Easy](#) (Public Speaking)
- Refer to the AI policy at [go.illinois.edu/4haj](http://go.illinois.edu/4haj) 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 | 4-5 minutes for beginners; 5-6 minutes for advanced**

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

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

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

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

## Original Works

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

Original Works – Individual (SF 50504)

Original Works – Team (SF 50505)

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

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

## Oral Interpretation

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

Oral Interpretation – Individual (SF 50506)

Oral Interpretation – Team (SF 50507)

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

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

# COMPUTER SCIENCE

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

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

### Beginning Visual Programming (SF 50135)

**Open to youth in Computer Science Visual Based Programming.**

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

### Intermediate Visual Programming (SF 50136)

**Open to youth in Computer Science Visual Based Programming.**

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

### **Advanced Visual Programming (SF 50137)**

#### **Open to youth in Computer Science Visual Based Programming.**

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

### **Website Design (SF 50138)**

#### **Open to youth in any Computer Science Project Area.**

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

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

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

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

## **CONSUMER EDUCATION**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Building on your previous work in My Financial Future – Beginner project, continue adding to your Financial Planning portfolio which includes the items listed below. Members are encouraged to spend more than one year involved in this project, so they have time to thoroughly explore the learning modules and develop a greater understanding of financial

literacy, planning for their future, and develop a comprehensive career and financial planning portfolio. The original OR photocopies of the completed activities from the project manual should be included in the portfolio. Each year enrolled in the project should build on previous year's learning experiences.

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

## CREATING WITH BUILDING BRICKS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **CREATIVE WRITING**

Each county may submit 2 entries total from 50367, 50371

### **Creative Writing (SF 50367)**

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

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

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

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

### **Poetry (SF 50371)**

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

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

# 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 Levels 2 & 3. Fill level: the honey should be filled to the jar shoulder, not over, nor under. Chunk honey should go in a wide-mouth jar, preferably one specially made for chunk honey (see beekeeping catalog [HillCo LLC Beekeeping Equipment Catalog](#)). Be careful to distinguish "chunk honey" (comb in jar) from "cut comb" (comb only in plastic box). *Honey exhibited (including chunk, cut comb, and sections) must be collected since the previous year's fair.*

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

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

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

Exhibit one (1) of the following:

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

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

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

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

## **ESPORTS**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## FAMILY HERITAGE

Each county may submit 1 entry from 50197.

### Family Heritage (SF 50197)

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

## FOODS & NUTRITION

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Drying (SF 50209b)**

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

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

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

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

Exhibit two (2) half-pint jars of two different jams, jellies, and/or preserves.

**Preservation Combination (SF 50208e)**

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

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

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

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

Examples:

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

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

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

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

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

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


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

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


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

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


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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Foods Innovation Class (SF 50211)**

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

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

## FORESTRY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## GEOLOGY

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

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

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

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

**Pebble Pups 2** (SF 50219)

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

**Rock Hounds 1** (SF 50220)

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

**Rock Hounds 2** (SF 50221)

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

**Geology Innovation Class** (SF 50222)**Open to youth enrolled in Geology.**

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


## HEALTH

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **HORTICULTURE: FLORICULTURE**

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

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

#### **FLORAL DESIGN**

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

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

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

Exhibit a round fresh flower arrangement no larger than 12" x 12" x 15". Arrangement should be viewable from any side.

**Wearable Flowers (SF 50112)**

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

**Wedding Bouquet (SF 50113)**

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

**Centerpiece Display: Live Activity (SF 50114)**

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

**LANDSCAPE DESIGN**

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

Recommended for ages 14 and up.

**Small Landscape Design (SF 50115)**

Develop a landscape design/drawing for a 10' x 15' 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](http://go.illinois.edu/gardenerscorner)). Any type of house plant or outdoor plant is appropriate here.

**Forced Bulbs (SF 50120)**

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

**Plant Propagation Poster (SF 50121)**

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

**FLOWER PRESERVATION**

Each county may submit 1 entry from classes 50122 and 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 and 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" x 18" and not exceed 3' x 3'. Exhibitor responsible for transporting the planter to indoor judging space.

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

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

**Closed Terrarium (SF 50127)**

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

**Ornamental Poster (SF 50128)**

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

**Floriculture Innovation (SF 50129)**

Each county may submit 1 entry from class 50129.

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

## HORTICULTURE: VEGETABLES, HERBS & FRUITS

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

**For youth in any level of Vegetable Gardening.**

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

**Herb Container Display (SF 50313)**

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

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

**Vegetable/Fruit Display (SF 50314)**

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

### **Vegetable Plates (SF 50315)**

- Exhibit must include 2 single vegetable plates. (Exhibitor will furnish the disposable plates.)
- Exhibitors must provide the name and variety of all vegetables/fruits used. (i.e. Cabbage – Golden Acre; Cucumber, slicing – Straight Eight; Tomatoes, slicing – Rocky Top; Snap Beans – Contender, etc.). Number of vegetables on plates must conform to plate list below.
- Only one variety on each plate.
- An exhibitor cannot show two plates of the same type 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)	
Squash, winter (acorn, butternut, buttercup, spaghetti, Hubbard, Turks's Turban) (1)	
Beans, Snap, Green Pod or Golden Wax (12 pods)	
Greens (collard, endive, escarole, kale, mustard, spinach, Swiss chard) (1 plant)	
Horseradish Root (1 marketable root specimen harvested this year)	

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

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

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

- 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 and Jonathan Apples, Mazzard and Gisela Cherries, etc.)

## FRUIT PLATE LIST

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

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

## INTERCULTURAL

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

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

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


Tips on creating an engaging display board are available at [go.illinois.edu/4HDisplayTips](http://go.illinois.edu/4HDisplayTips). In addition to their display, youth should bring a copy of their *Passport to the World* project manual to judging. Sections of the book related to what they focus on in their display should be completed. **Please note:** judging for the individual project should **not** include a planned presentation about the chosen country. Judging is meant to be a conversation between the judge and member about the project and the learning experience.

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

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

Tips on creating an engaging display board are available at [go.illinois.edu/4HDisplayTips](http://go.illinois.edu/4HDisplayTips). In addition to their display, groups should bring a copy of their group's *Passport to the World* project manual to judging. Sections of the book related to what the group focuses on in their display should be completed. The display must be accompanied by at least 3 but no more than 10 4-H members at the time of the judge's critique. Groups wishing to include more than 10 members must ask for an accommodation, one week prior to judging. Group members should prepare a short (5 minutes maximum) presentation about their learning for the judge. The presentation should focus on key concepts learned and takeaways from the project

experience. All group members present for judging should be able to discuss the project and answer questions. Only group members who participate in the judging are eligible for ribbons and premiums. Presentations will occur in the space designated by the fair or show. Groups should not bring extra tables or items (beyond those that fit within the exhibit size requirements) for their presentation.

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

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


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

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

## INTERIOR DESIGN

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

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

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

*For members with 2 or fewer 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 but no more than 10 4-H members at the time of the judge's critique. For a larger group please reach out to staff with an accommodation request at least one week prior to the exhibit event. Group members should make a 5- to 10-minute presentation to the judge. All group members present for the judge's critique should be able to discuss the project and answer questions. Only group members present for judging who participate in the actual critique and presentation are eligible for ribbons and premiums. More information on Teens as Leaders Model found here: [go.illinois.edu/4-HLeadershipModel](http://go.illinois.edu/4-HLeadershipModel)

## MAKER

Each county may submit 3 entries from 50400.

### Maker (SF 50400) [go.illinois.edu/DIYMakeBuild](http://go.illinois.edu/DIYMakeBuild) – Required

#### Open to youth in all projects.

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

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

## PHOTOGRAPHY

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

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

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

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

Additional details required for Photo Editing ONLY:

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

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

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

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


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

Exhibit one framed photo which demonstrates your understanding of a technique you learned from your Photography 1 project manual. No photo editing is allowed in this class except cropping and red eye removal. Be prepared to show the page in the manual of the technique you are demonstrating. Exhibits for this class should be a framed 5" x 7" or 8" x 10" 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 and development, cover crop benefits, land management, sustainability, or other topics of interest to the member related to cover crops. A cover crop might include any plant that is sown in between primary production crops for the benefit of overall farm health rather than crop yield (examples: pennycress, clover, radish, annual ryegrass, etc.). The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **READY4LIFE**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **ROBOTICS**


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

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

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

### **Robotics 1** (SF 50285) *Robotics 1 with EV3 or [go.illinois.edu/RoboticsActivities1](http://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](http://go.illinois.edu/RoboticsActivities2) – Required 

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

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

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

**Junk Drawer Robotics**

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


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

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


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

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



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

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

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

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

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

## SERVICE LEARNING

Each county may submit 2 entries total from classes 50150a, 50150b, 50149. **Due to space restrictions, exhibits are limited to 36" x 48" and 15" deep.** For information about the four steps of service learning and other resources, visit [go.illinois.edu/CivicEngagementandServiceLearning](http://go.illinois.edu/CivicEngagementandServiceLearning).

### Service Learning 1 (SF 50150a)

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

### Service Learning 2 (SF 50150b)

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

### Service Learning Group Exhibit (SF 50149)

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

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

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

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

## SHOOTING SPORTS

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

**Participants must be a member of an approved 4-H Shooting Sports Club to exhibit.** Age restrictions apply to the different Shooting Sports disciplines and apply to exhibits. All exhibits should be posters or stand-alone items suitable for display to the general public. Stand-alone items have the intent to enhance the discipline such as a quiver, gun case, gun sling, locking

cabinet, gun or target stand, sporting clays equipment wagon, etc. Exhibits deemed to be inappropriate by 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: in a picture of a person shooting a firearm, the person is not wearing earplugs or safety glasses.)

#### **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

Each county may submit 2 entries total from 50135

### Small Pets 1 (Pet Pals) (Not eligible for State Fair)

Make a poster showing the hazards for pets around your home **OR** make a poster showing your pet's nutritional needs.

### Small Pets Animal Science (SF 50135)

Prepare a display focusing on any activity related to the Small Pets 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. Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project. You must furnish the 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.

## 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 and 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 50324a & b, 50325a & b, 50326a & b, 50327a & b, 50328a & b.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## VISUAL ARTS

### Fine Art and Design

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

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

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

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

- Glass and 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 50344a
- Paper 50344b
- Quilting – You Can Quilt 50331
- Quilting – Quilting the Best Better 50331b
- Three-Dimensional Design/Mixed Media: Diorama (SF 50351)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## FINE ART AND DESIGN

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Any original artwork created using any software package, where all pixels must be entirely original. Exhibits may not contain scanned images, clip art, downloaded content, imported graphics, or photographs. Photo mosaics are not permitted. Wood and metal pieces created through laser cutting software should be entered in this class, as should plastic artworks produced with a 3-D printer if they have an artistic focus. If the artwork is designed to hang, it must include protective covering, such as a glass frame, and be prepared for hanging. Laser-cut pieces not intended for hanging do not require protective covering or hanging hardware.
- **Graphic Design (SF 50370)**

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

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

Any original item made of glass or plastic.

- **Glass 50340a**  
Possible items to exhibit include stained glass, etched glass (original design), mosaics made of glass, and glass beading.
- **Plastic 50340b**  
Possible items to exhibit include plastic jewelry (friendly plastic); recycled plastic art; plastic that can be molded into 3D shapes.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **ARTISAN CRAFTS**

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

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

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

### **Visual Arts Food Decorating Beginning (SF 50332)**

Exhibit one of the following:

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

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

Exhibit one of the following:

- Exhibit four decorated cookies, using a minimum of five Level 2 techniques. Exhibit may use cookies OR cookie forms
- Exhibit four decorated cupcakes, using a minimum of five Level 2 techniques. Exhibit may use cupcakes OR cupcake forms.
- Exhibit a single-layer or two-layer cake, 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 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 is required as part of the 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 and cutting boards with hand tools, driving nails, and/or screws as appropriate for a beginner's skill level in the project.

### **Woodworking 2** (SF 50358)

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

### **Woodworking 3** (SF 50359)

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

# Animal Projects



Drawing by Katie Merboth,  
Boots 'N Spurs Equine Club &  
Carroll County Kids 4-H Club



**Illinois Extension**

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



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a reasonable accommodation to attend, call the registration office.

## 2025-2026 – Livestock Birth, Ownership and Tattoo Dates for Illinois State Fair Junior Show

### STEERS

- Calved on or after January 1, 2025
- Owned and personally cared for by exhibitor since February 1, 2026
- Weighed, Tattooed, and EID tagged on or between the last Saturday in January (January 31, 2026) and February 28, 2026

### BARROWS

#### Regular Barrows

- Farrowed on or after January 1, 2026, and must be the property of the exhibitor by June 1, 2026
- No weighing and tattooing required but must submit ear notches and EID 840 tag number when making entry for ISF

#### BARROWS: Premiere Barrows (carcass class)

- Farrowed on or after February 1, 2026, and must have been the property of the exhibitor by June 1, 2026
- Weighed and Tattooed with Box A tattoo from February 10 to April 15, 2026
- Tattooed within 35 days of birth and not weigh more than 1.0 lbs/day of age
- Junior exhibitors can purchase pre-nominated barrows

### SHEEP

#### Market Wethers & Market Ewe Lambs: Live Show Wethers

- Lambled on or after January 1, 2026
- Ownership Date – May 15, 2026
- Self-nomination as follows: Nominations must be signed by local Extension Office
- Exhibitors fill out and send in nomination form with photo of lamb's ear with scrapie tag installed in ear (close up photo of ear so scrapie tag can be read). This must be completed between March 15 and May 15, 2026. Send to **Shelby Carlson, University of Illinois, 180 S. Soangetaha Rd. Ste. 108, Galesburg IL 61401**

**Jr. and Open Premiere Wether & Ewe Lambs:** Weigh-in, tattoo, and nomination procedures:

- Junior and open premiere lambs will be nominated, tattooed, and weighed at the county level.
- Premiere lambs must be weighed and tattooed with the Box A tattoo followed by a number starting with 1 - This must be witnessed by a local Extension employee or a person they designate, such as a volunteer or local sheep superintendent.
- Completed nomination forms must be signed by the local Extension office.
- Send nomination forms to **Shelby Carlson, University of Illinois, 180 S. Soangetaha Rd. Ste. 108, Galesburg IL 61401**
- Ownership and nomination deadline is March 15 to May 15, 2026.
- Lambed on or after January 1, 2026.

**Meat Goat Wethers: Live Show Wethers**

- Wethers – Born on or after October 1, 2025
- Ownership dates for Kids and Yearlings not in milk – May 15, 2026
- Self-nomination as follows: Nominations must be signed by local Extension office.
- Exhibitors fill out and send in nomination form with photo of goat's ear with scrapie tag installed in ear (close up photo of ear so scrapie tag can be read). This must be completed between March 15 and May 15, 2026. Send to **Shelby Carlson, University of Illinois, 180 S. Soangetaha Rd., Ste. 108, Galesburg IL 61401**

## 2026 Breeding Animals

### Birth and Ownership Dates for Illinois State Fair Junior Show

#### **BEEF – HEIFERS AND COWS**

##### **Heifers**

- Age requirement is from September 1, 2024, to March 31, 2026 (w/ addition of Senior Yearling class)
- Owned and personally cared for by exhibitor since June 1, 2026

##### **Performance Cows**

- Cows must be born before September 1, 2024 (Cow-Calf Class only)
- Owned and personally cared by exhibitor since January 1, 2026

#### **SWINE – GILTS**

- Age requirement is farrowed on or after January 1, 2026
- Owned by exhibitor since June 1, 2026

#### **SHEEP – EWES & RAMS**

- Age requirement for yearling ewes is from January 1, 2025, to August 31, 2025
- Age requirement for ewe lambs and ram lambs is after September 1, 2025
- Owned and personally cared for by exhibitor since June 25, 2026

## **DAIRY – COWS AND HEIFERS**

- No age requirements
- Calves and Heifers – Owned since June 1, 2026
- Cows – Owned since January 1, 2026

## **HORSE & PONY**

- On or before June 1 – Copies of the ownership and/or lease papers, and one set of photos sent to **Stephanie Hardy (PH: 217-782-0786)** at: [ISF.Livestock@illinois.gov](mailto:ISF.Livestock@illinois.gov)

## **DOGS**

- Dogs must be owned or leased by June 1, 2026
- At this time, no paperwork is required to be on file. County staff must promote qualifying members via FairEntry.

## **DAIRY GOATS**

- Kids and Yearlings not in milk must be owned by exhibitor only by June 1, 2026.
- Milking Does must be owned by exhibitor only by January 1, 2026.

## **MEAT GOATS**

- All meat goats (wethers and all breeding animals) are to be owned by exhibitor only by May 15, 2026.

## **RABBITS, PYGMY GOATS & POULTRY**

- Animals in these species that are to be exhibited at the ISF Jr. Show must be owned by the exhibitor as indicated: Does – By June 1 of the year exhibiting; All others – Out of stock owned by the exhibitor prior to June 1.

*Note:* Local Extension staff, Vocational Agriculture instructors, and exhibitors and their families should read complete rules and regulations included in the 2026 ISF Jr. Department Premium book online. The Premium book will be posted on the ISF website: <http://www.illinoisstatefair.info> as part of the show works online entry system.

Quality Assurance & Ethics Certification (QAEC) is mandatory for all horse, rabbit, poultry, llama/alpaca, and companion animals. All county and state horse and dog exhibitors must complete QAEC one time during their showing career. Those who have completed it in the past do not have to complete it again.

The Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) program is mandatory for all dairy, beef, swine, sheep, and goat exhibitors in 4-H. Details on this program are available at your county Extension Office.

Horses – Ownership, lease papers, photos, and entries are to be sent in together directly to: Stephanie Hardy at the Illinois State Fair by June 1 for verification of State Fair entries at: [ISF.Livestock@illinois.gov](mailto:ISF.Livestock@illinois.gov). If units wish to keep copies of this information for their own shows, they should request a copy from the exhibitor.

All junior exhibitors will need to pay entry fees for any/all animals entered. Fees will be due with class entries – June 1 for Horses, July 15 for all other livestock. Fees will be updated in the State Fair Premium Book.

# Livestock Policies and Procedures

1. Members must follow all 4-H Show Policies listed on pages 5-7 of this show book.
2. 4-H members and parents (not leaders) are responsible to get their entries into FairEntry by July 1.
3. All members exhibiting livestock must abide by the Exhibition Livestock Health Requirements.
  - a. 2026 County Fair Exhibition Health Requirements are included in this section or they can be found here: [Illinois Department of Agriculture County Fair Exhibition requirements](#)
4. All members exhibiting livestock must complete ethics certifications and have certificates of completion on file at the Extension office by June 1.
  - a. Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) is mandatory for **Beef, Dairy, Goat, Sheep, and Swine** exhibits. This training must be completed annually.
  - b. Quality Assurance and Ethics Certification (QAEC) is mandatory for **Cat, Dog, Horse, Poultry, Small Pets, and Rabbit** exhibits. Members must complete the certification once in their 4-H career.
5. Required health papers will be checked during check-in for the show.
6. The Fair Veterinarian and/or Extension staff have final decision on any animal leaving early for health reasons. If an animal is sick or someone has a concern about an animal, contact the Head Superintendent of that species who will contact 4-H Program Coordinator and Veterinarian. If an animal leaves without these procedures being followed, all awards and premiums will be forfeited.
7. No drugging of animals. This was in your Ethics Certification and will not be allowed. The natural state of the animals should not be altered in any way.
8. Extension staff or fair Superintendents may request that a 4-H member tie up an uncontrollable animal if it is in the ring. The judge may use their own discretion about placing the animal.
9. Parents are not allowed in the show ring or judging area. Superintendents and show assistants will provide needed help.
10. Exhibits will be released after completion of the species show. Superintendents MUST release the animals. Anyone leaving without permission of the Superintendent, may risk forfeiting their premium.
11. With permission of the department Superintendent, a 4-H member may have another 4-H member show their exhibit.
12. Livestock/small animal exhibitors MUST wear their exhibitor number when they are in the show ring or participating in the show. This number will be given to you closer to the fair in your fair packet.
13. Falsification of entries or records will result in disqualification in all classes entered in that department and forfeiture of premiums for that department.
14. All exhibitors will be responsible for cleaning their respective stalls and/or pens. Manure will be deposited in designated areas.
15. Exhibitors may have unlimited entries in any division, but only 2 entries per class and only 1 entry per class will receive a premium.
16. These rules are subject to change. Members will be notified by Extension staff of any changes.

# 4-H Showmanship Guide

General Showmanship Rules for all species. See each species section for additional information.

All ages are as of September 1, 2025.

- Age divisions differ by species (see species sections for specific age breakdowns).
- All 4-H members are eligible for Showmanship.
- Pre-registration is required in FairEntry to receive a premium.
- Youth continue to show in their age division regardless if they have won that division in previous years.

Show day at the 4-H Show, county fair, and state fair is your “moment of truth.” What you have learned, how you have managed your animal, and how well you control your animal are all tested.

Showmanship contests are evaluated based on preparation of animals for show, the apparent training, and the appearance and behavior of the exhibitor. The animal’s conformation should not be considered except as it may affect the way an animal should have been fitted or shown. Basic skills and both grooming and showing should not be confused with current fads and trends.

This is an outline of desirable showmanship practices and their relative importance. The showmanship judge should make their placing according to the degree of excellence displayed in carrying out these practices.

## Judging Criteria

- Judging should be based on preparation of animals for show, their apparent training, and the appearance and behavior of the participating showperson.
- Type of animal should not be considered unless it will affect the way the animal should be fitted and shown.
- Fine or technical points should not be overemphasized to the extent that they are given more weight than an effective job of presenting a clean animal, nor should minor infractions result in the disqualification of a showperson.

## The Purpose of Showmanship is to:

- Provide a means for youth to learn, practice, demonstrate, and improve their knowledge of their animal species.
- Provide a means for youth to learn, practice, demonstrate, and improve the correct way to handle their animals.
- Provide a means for youth to demonstrate how to present their animals to a judge, emphasizing their animal’s best traits.
- Teach youth good sportsmanship, experiencing winning and losing amongst their peers.
- Provide a reason for youth to interact with their animals, forming a closer human-animal bond.
- Improve the member’s communication skills, self-esteem, and self-confidence.

## General Showmanship Guidelines

- When you arrive at the show, check the show ring or show area for low spots or dark areas. This will help you avoid these areas when setting up your animal, both improving the appearance of your animal and impressing the judge.
- Know the show schedule and be ready when your class is called. A late arrival in the show ring may cause some confusion or distract the judge. It is wise to confirm that your animal is entered in the correct class. Observe the judging of a few classes prior to when you show to familiarize yourself with the show procedures and the judge's preferred show style.
- A big percentage of showmanship is how well an animal handles, cleanliness, and cooperation between the animal and the handler. Make sure the animal is **clean, well-groomed, and well-trained**. Trimming and clipping the animal should be done according to preference of the owner. A member should not be penalized for being unable to afford clippers or not having anyone to help. Members should seek help and attend training sessions in the use of clippers and other grooming clinics.
- **Make sure the animal looks its best** from the time it enters the ring until it leaves.
- If you have the chance to be first, **go for it!** Remember the first impression that a judge has of you and your animal is very important.
- Proper show equipment is a necessity and make sure it is **clean and fits properly**.
- Seven to ten days before the show, treat your animal as if you were at the show, use the same water and feed buckets, for example.
- The more you work with your animal the more it will get used to setting up and you will have to do little work during the show.
- Keep showing until the entire class has been placed, the judge has given their reasons, and you have been dismissed from the show.
- Alertness during the show is extremely important. Keep an eye on the judge and on your animal.
- Be prepared to handle any animal the judge designates (poultry and rabbit only).
- **Attitude is worth a lot in the show ring:**
  - Be courteous and polite to the judge and fellow showpersons in the show ring.
  - Always remember to control your emotions and appear engaged but relaxed, regardless of placing, accepting the decisions of the judge in a sportsmanlike manner.
  - Be a modest winner and a gracious loser.
  - Be quiet and patient around your animal. You will accomplish more by walking slow, than by being mean to your animal.
  - Your behavior, attitude, and ability are important. Sportsmanship and temperament are good indicators of a good showperson. Remember the judge may be watching you whether you are in the show ring or not.
  - There is nothing wrong with saying "Yes, Sir" or "Yes, Ma'am" to recognize the judge as an official. If you have questions, ask the ring steward.

**Appear neat and clean.** Wear tidy, practical, clean, serviceable clothing for the particular animal type. Nothing should be worn that focuses the attention on the handler rather than the animals and that will distract the animals.

- Long sleeve shirts are recommended.
- Hair should be neat, clean, and out of your face. Tie long hair back.
- Do not chew gum.
- Dress code guidelines may vary from show to show. Find out what is required before show day.
- Exhibitor numbers should be worn on your back or on the front of your shirt.

## Definitions

**SETTING YOUR ANIMAL:** A showmanship term referring to the proper placement of an animal's legs while being exhibited to a judge for evaluation.

**POSING WITH YOUR ANIMAL:** This term refers to where you should stand in relation to your animal and the judge.

**RINGMAN/RING STEWARD:** The person who directs the animal when they are in the judging area. The Ringman/Ring Steward assists the Judge in moving animals into various positions in and out of the line-up.

**CLERK:** The person who records the placing of the various classes.

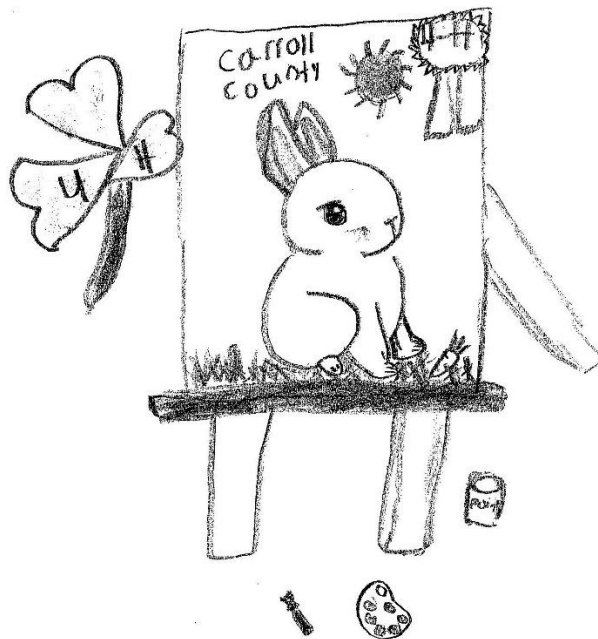
**EXHIBITOR:** The person showing the exhibit.

**EXHIBIT:** Is an animal which has been prepared by the exhibitor for show purposes.

## REMEMBER

Members are responsible for the care, preparation, and exhibition of project animals. Leaders and/or parents should be on hand to assist members should they encounter difficulties; however, **SHOULD NOT** perform duties which members can do themselves.

## GOOD LUCK AND GOOD SHOWING!



Drawing by Hailee Engaldo  
Thomson Sandburrs 4-H Club

Scan the QR code to access the most up-to-date requirements:



# ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## 2026 Exhibition Livestock Health Requirements

### for Illinois County Fairs

#### I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

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

#### II. CERTIFICATE OF VETERINARY INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS

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

17. If animals are from tuberculosis accredited, brucellosis certified, pseudorabies qualified, or brucellosis validated herds, the identifying herd number(s) along with the date of the last herd test(s) shall appear on the CVI.
18. CVIs for out-of-state livestock shall be void thirty (30) days after issuance. 2
19. CVIs for Illinois-origin livestock shall be void ninety (90) days after issuance.

### **III. QUARANTINE AND REMOVAL**

20. Quarantine shall be at the animal owner (or exhibitor) risk and expense.
21. Quarantine and removal from the Fairgrounds shall be as determined appropriate by the County Fair Veterinarian, State Veterinarian, or their designee(s).
22. Quarantine will be required until the animal has been properly treated and recovered, or the animal can be released to return to the owner's premise, both in the opinion of the County Fair Veterinarian, State Veterinarian, or their designee(s).
23. Any animal presenting with a condition that would subject it to quarantine must be withdrawn from any/all entered competitions and are not permitted to exhibit.
24. Any condition meriting quarantine may also result in required removal of the animal from the Fairgrounds, as determined appropriate by the County Fair Veterinarian, State Veterinarian, or their designee(s).
25. Conditions subject to quarantine (not an exhaustive list)
  - a. Any animal showing evidence of infectious, contagious or communicable diseases shall be held in quarantine.
  - b. Any livestock infected with scabies, mange, active lesions of ringworm, soremouth, or multiple warts which are easily visible without close examination
  - c. Sheep and goats with caseous lymphadenitis as evidenced by draining abscesses
  - d. Suspicion of or diagnosis of a foreign animal disease, emerging animal disease, or other actionable disease, animals may be subject to quarantine on the fairgrounds until such time that it is determined that the disease is no longer a threat.
26. Any Illinois cattle, bison, cervidae or goats being exhibited in non-accredited free states must be isolated from the remainder of the herd/flock upon return to Illinois and retested for tuberculosis 60-120 days post-entry back into the state.

### **IV. SPECIES SPECIFIC INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS**

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

#### **CATTLE**

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

#### **Illinois Cattle**

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

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

- Brucellosis
  1. Female cattle six (6) months of age and older and bulls eighteen (18) months of age and older shall be negative to an official test for brucellosis within thirty (30) days prior to entry onto the Fairgrounds, unless exempt by one (1) of the following:
    - A. Originate directly from a certified brucellosis-free herd.
    - B. Officially vaccinated of dairy breeds under twenty (20) months of age or official vaccinated of beef breeds under twenty-four (24) months of age.

- C. Animal originated from a “Class Free” state (if entire state is so classified).
  - D. Animal is a steer or spayed heifer.
2. The negative brucellosis test shall be conducted at a state or federal laboratory within 30 days prior to entry onto the Fairgrounds.
- Tuberculosis
    1. Accredited Tuberculosis Free States
      - A. No tuberculin test required.
    2. Non-Accredited Tuberculosis Free Areas or States (Not TB Free)
      - A. Cattle must originate from a herd where a complete herd test was conducted within the past year.
      - B. The individual animals entering Illinois must be negative to an additional tuberculin test conducted within 30 days prior to entry onto the Fairgrounds.

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

## SWINE

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

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

### Out-of-State Swine:

- Brucellosis
  1. Breeding swine 4 months of age and older shall be negative to an official test for brucellosis within 30 days prior to entry onto the Fairgrounds unless exempt by one (1) of the following:
    - A. Originate immediately and directly from a validated brucellosis-free herd.
    - B. Originate directly from a validated brucellosis-free state.
  2. Swine brucellosis tests shall be conducted at a state or federal laboratory.
- Pseudorabies
  1. Swine originating from a Pseudorabies Stage IV or V state are exempt from the pseudorabies testing requirement.
  2. Swine originating from a Pseudorabies Stage III state shall be negative to an official test for pseudorabies conducted within thirty (30) days prior to entry onto the Fairgrounds or originate immediately and directly from a qualified pseudorabies negative herd.
  3. Swine originating from a Pseudorabies Stage I or II state shall be negative to an official test for pseudorabies conducted within 10 days prior to entry onto the Fairgrounds.
  4. Barrows and females in market classes must meet the same requirements as breeding swine.

## SHEEP

### Identification

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

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

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

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

## **GOATS**

### **Identification**

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **HORSES, PONIES, MULES AND OTHER EQUIDAE**

### **Equine Infectious Anemia**

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

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

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

## **POULTRY**

1. All entries (except waterfowl, i.e., domesticated fowl that normally swim, such as ducks and geese) in a show or exhibition shall have originated from a U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean or equivalent hatchery or 5 flock OR have a negative pullorum-typhoid test within 90 days prior to exhibition. Exhibitor shall show proper information as to name and address of owner or exhibitor, name and address of the authorized testing agent, date of the testing and the number, breed, and species of those tested.
2. Prior to being used to transport poultry to a show, all crates, boxes, containers and vehicles shall be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.
3. Any poultry vaccinations must be performed at least 4 weeks prior to delivery to the show.
4. Upon admission to a show, all entries shall be examined by the State Veterinarian or their designee or

qualified state personnel who shall also receive and examine all certificates necessary for admission of birds to a show. Birds not in show condition will be removed from exhibition and must be removed from the Fairgrounds.

5. Any fowl showing signs of illness during the Fair will be removed from the Fairgrounds.
6. All out-of-state turkeys must originate from flocks that are officially classified as U.S. Mycoplasma Gallisepticum Clean in accordance with the provisions of the National Poultry Improvement Plan or be negative to a test for Mycoplasma gallisepticum within 30 days prior to entry.

### **CERVIDAE: Deer, Elk, Reindeer, Caribou, Moose, Red Deer and other Related Species**

**Identification:** All animals shall be individually identified with an approved tag, microchip or tattoo. Elk are required to have two official/approved unique identifiers.

#### **Illinois Cervidae**

- **Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD):** For cervidae moving within the State, the owner must obtain a permit issued by the Illinois Department of Agriculture prior to movement. The cervid must originate from a herd that is enrolled in the Certified Monitored Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Program or the Contained Monitored Chronic Wasting Disease Program. The permit shall be obtained no more than 72 hours in advance of the movement of the cervids by providing the following information:
  - A. Name and complete mailing address of person exhibiting the cervids;
  - B. Certified Monitored Chronic Wasting Disease or Contained Monitored Chronic Wasting Disease Herd number;
  - C. Name and complete mailing address of location where the animals will be exhibited;
  - D. Number of animals and unique identification of the animals.
- **Tuberculosis:** Illinois is an Accredited Tuberculosis-Free State. Tuberculin test is not required for Illinois cervidae.

**Out-of-State Cervidae.** All Cervidae entering Illinois must:

1. Be in compliance with the Illinois Wildlife Code [520 ILCS 5]. For more information, contact the Illinois Department of Natural Resources at 217-782-6384.
2. Be accompanied by a permit from the Illinois Department of Agriculture
3. Have a CVI that:
  - a. shows that the cervidae are free from visible evidence of any contagious, infectious or communicable disease or exposure thereto, do not originate from a CWD endemic area (any county and surrounding counties where CWD has been diagnosed in the past five years);
  - b. shows that the cervidae are not originating from a herd under quarantine for any contagious, infectious or communicable disease;
  - c. shows that the animals originate from a herd that has been monitored for at least 5 years under a state-approved CWD certification program.
4. **Brucellosis:** Cervidae six (6) months of age and older must have a negative brucellosis card or PCFIA test within sixty (60) days prior to entry onto the Fairgrounds.
5. **Tuberculosis**
  - a. Accredited Tuberculosis Free States: All cervidae twelve (12) months of age and over shall be 6 negative to two (2) tests for bovine TB no less than ninety (90) days apart with the second test conducted within ninety (90) days prior to entry onto the Fairgrounds. These animals shall be isolated from all other members of the herd during the testing period unless they originate from an accredited, qualified or monitored herd.
    1. Cervidae from an accredited herd may be moved into Illinois without further TB testing provided that a certificate stating that such cervids originated from an accredited herd accompanies them.
    2. Cervidae originating from qualified or monitored herds may enter with a negative test within ninety (90) days prior to entry onto the Fairgrounds and a certificate stating that the animals originate from a monitored herd.

- b. Non-Accredited Tuberculosis Free Areas or States (Not TB Free)
  1. All cervidae shall originate from a herd where a complete herd test was conducted within the past year.
  2. The individual animals entering Illinois must be negative to two (2) additional TB tests conducted within 180 and 30 days prior to entry onto the Fairgrounds.

### **RATITES: Ostriches, Emus, Rheas, Cassowaries and Kiwis**

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

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

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

### **PIGEONS**

There are no requirements governing the movement of pigeons within or into Illinois.

### **RABBITS**

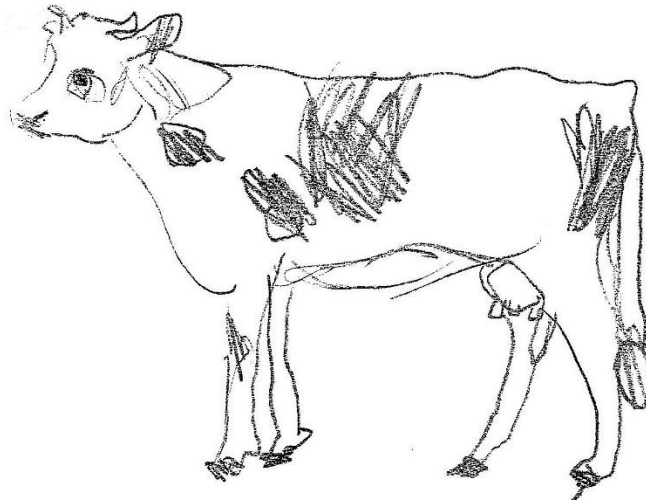
There are no requirements governing the movement of rabbits within or into Illinois.

### **LLAMAS**

There are no requirements governing the movement of llamas within Illinois. A permit and health certificate is required for out-of-state llamas. Entry permit numbers are available online at <https://entrypermit.agr.illinois.gov/Login.aspx>

**For clarification or additional information on health requirements, contact:  
Illinois Department of Agriculture  
Bureau of Animal Health and Welfare  
Phone (217) 782-4944**

Or visit: <https://agr.illinois.gov/animals/animalhealth.html>



**Drawing by Payton Reusch,  
Thomson Sandburrs 4-H Club &  
Amplify 4-H SPIN Club**



# BEEF DEPARTMENT



**Check-in: 5 pm, Sunday, August 2**  
**Show: 8 am, Monday, August 3**  
**Beef Barn—East End of Fairgrounds**

## Department Rules: See General 4-H Rules, Livestock Ownership Rules, and Health Requirements

1. All animals (breeding and market; NOT bucket calves) must be on the grounds by 5 p.m. Sunday, August 2.
2. Judging will begin Monday, August 3, at 8 a.m.
3. Order of show will be determined on Sunday evening after weigh-in.
4. Health and Registration papers will be checked.
5. This is No Fit Show. Cattle are to be shown in their natural conformation.
6. Exhibitors found breaking the above rules, either prior to entering the ring or while in the ring, will be asked to immediately exit the show ring and will forfeit all premiums for the beef show.
7. Animals are to remain on the fairgrounds until released by the Beef Committee.
8. Club Group of Three—Entries may consist of breeding, feeding or a combination. No more than 2 animals owned by the same exhibitor. Club groups may also be bucket calves (which will be judged separately).
9. Champion and Reserve Champion Awards: All A-1 and A-2 placing animals will be brought back into the show ring for judging. Please listen carefully and head back into the ring when you are called.

## Showmanship age divisions: Jr: 8-11 years old; Intermediate: 12-14 years old; Sr: 15-18 years old

(All ages are as of September 1 of the current 4-H year.)

Exhibitors will compete in their age division regardless of winning in previous years.

Breeding Classes	AOB	Angus	Crossbred	Hereford	Shorthorn	Simmental
<b>Junior Heifer Calf</b> (born Jan 1, 2026-April 30, 2026)	B-11	B-17	B-23	B-29	B-35	B-41
<b>Senior Heifer Calf</b> (born Sept 1, 2025-Dec 31, 2025)	B-12	B-18	B-24	B-30	B-36	B-42
<b>Summer Yearling Heifer</b> (born May 1, 2025-Aug 31, 2025)	B-13	B-19	B-25	B-31	B-37	B-43
<b>Spring Yearling Heifer</b> (born March 1, 2025-April 30, 2025)	B-14	B-20	B-26	B-32	B-38	B-44
<b>Junior Yearling Heifer</b> (born Jan 1, 2025-Feb 28, 2025)	B-15	B-21	B-27	B-33	B-39	B-45
<b>Senior Yearling Heifer</b> (born Sept 1, 2024-Dec 31, 2025)	B-16	B-22	B-28	B-34	B-40	B-46
<b>Cow-Calf Pair</b> Cow any age. Calf any sex born on or after Jan 1, 2026	B-47	B-48	B-49	B-50	B-51	B-52
<b>Bull Calf</b> (born on or after Jan 1, 2026)	B-53	B-54	B-55	B-56	B-57	B-58

## Beef Breeding Awards

Champion Female of each breed;  
Reserve Champion Female of each breed  
Grand Champion Overall Female;  
Reserve Grand Champion Overall Female

Grand Champion Cow-Calf Pair;  
Reserve Grand Champion Cow-Calf Pair  
Grand Champion Bull Calf;  
Reserve Grand Champion Bull Calf

# Beef Bucket Calf

**Department Rules: See General 4-H Rules, Livestock Ownership Rules, and Health Requirements**

**\*\*\*Judging at halter will take place following the Beef Breeding class on Monday, August 3.**

1. Beef Bucket Calf Project animals must be on the grounds by 7:30 a.m. on Monday, August 3. (Turn in Record Book at that time.)
2. Calf must have been born between January 1 and June 1, 2026.
3. Bucket Calves may be male or female.
4. Only one entry per 4-H member in the Bucket Calf class.
5. Exhibitors will meet with the Beef Committee one-on-one prior to judging their record books, starting at approximately 7:45 a.m. This will take place at the registration table, located in the show ring.
6. There will be space available in the beef barns for tie-up.
7. Final ranking will be based on exhibitor's knowledge of the calf (50%), completed record sheets (25%), and general health and appearance of the calf (25%).
8. Bucket calves may only show in the *Bucket Calf* class.
9. Grooming and adhesives, etc., and clipping are prohibited. The calf just needs to be washed and clean.
10. Bucket Calf exhibitors may exhibit in the Showmanship class and the Club Group of Three classes.

## **Bucket Calf Classes: 8-10 Years old and 11-12 years old**

(All ages are as of September 1 of the current 4-H year.)

### **Bucket Calf Awards**

Champion each age division

Grand Champion Bucket Calf

Reserve Grand Champion Bucket Calf

# Market Beef Feeding

**Department Rules: See General 4-H Rules, Livestock Ownership Rules, and Health Requirements**

1. All market animals entered must have been born after January 1, 2025.
2. No steer can be shown—regardless of birth date—that has permanent teeth showing or evidence thereof.
3. The Beef Committee shall rule on any steer of questionable age or breed.
4. Market heifers of all breeds will be shown together unless there are more than 15 entries.

<b>Market Classes</b>	<b>Market Heifer</b>	<b>AOB Steer</b>	<b>Angus Steer</b>	<b>Crossbred Steer</b>	<b>Hereford Steer</b>	<b>Shorthorn Steer</b>	<b>Simmental Steer</b>
<b>Market Animals</b>	M-11	M-12	M-13	M-14	M-15	M-16	M-17

### **Market Feeding Awards**

Champion each breed

Reserve Champion each breed

Grand Champion Beef Feeding

Reserve Grand Champion Beef Feeding

# Beef Carcass

**Department Rules: See General 4-H Rules, Livestock Ownership Rules, and Health Requirements**

1. 4-H member must be enrolled in the Beef Feeding project.
2. All steers must be weighed at the 4-H weigh-in on Saturday, February 7, 2026.
3. Animals will not be judged on appearance. Results based on rate-of-gain and carcass judging.
4. Health certificates are not needed for carcass entries.
5. Each exhibitor may deliver one animal in quality meats class for judging.
6. Steers or heifers—1,100 pounds live weight minimum when delivered. Animals not meeting this weight will be disqualified and sent home.
7. Official carcass weight will be the pay weight for carcasses sold at the auction for the Champion and Reserve Champion carcasses.
8. All animals will be taken to Johnson's Processing Plant in Chadwick for slaughtering and cooling the last week of July. Exhibitor will be notified of weigh-in location, date, and time.
9. Beef taken to Johnson's is the responsibility of the owner. Champion and Reserve Champion carcasses will have the option to sell at the 4-H Show Auction on Monday night of Fair week. All other carcasses should be sold privately or put in one's own freezer. Arrangements need to be made prior to going to the locker. Everyone is in charge of their own processing fee except for Champion and Reserve Champion carcass if they chose to sell at the 4-H Auction.
10. Animals will be judged on the rail and cut-out data collected at the end of July.
11. Steers or heifers will be judged on a maximum yield grade of 3.99 and minimum quality grade of high select (S+). Carcass gain per day will be used in determination of rankings.
12. 2026 Ownership Deadline—all quality animals must be owned by the member by February 1, 2026.

## **Carcass Awards**

Champion Carcass

Reserve Champion Carcass

3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, etc. place depending on number of entries

## **Club Group of Three**

## **Showmanship Classes**

Junior: 8-11 years old

Intermediate: 12-14 years old

Senior: 15-18 years old

(All ages are as of September 1 of the current 4-H year.)



# CAT DEPARTMENT

Tuesday, July 28

Check-in: 10 am Judging: 10:30 am

Carroll County Extension Office

642 S East St, Mt. Carroll



## Department Rules: See General 4-H Rules, Livestock, and Health Rules

1. All members showing cats **MUST** have completed Quality Assurance and Ethics Certification (QAEC) training. Contact the Extension office if you have questions.
2. All exhibit rules and health requirements must be adhered to.
3. 3. 4-H members may exhibit more than one (10) but not more than three cats or kittens. Premiums paid on only 1 entry per class.
4. Cats should remain in cages or on leash until show time.
5. Your completed Cat project book **MUST** accompany the cat.
6. Exhibitor **MUST** show proof of their cat's current rabies and distemper vaccinations. Vaccinations **MUST** be done at least one week before the show date. Boosters may be done closer to the show, if necessary, but must still show proof of original shots. **THESE PAPERS WILL BE CHECKED DURING REGISTRATION. NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE.**
7. Kittens under 4 months of age are not allowed to be exhibited.
8. No pregnant or nursing cats will be allowed to show for the safety of the cat and her kittens.
9. All cats will be dismissed immediately after judging.

### Cats will be judged on the following criteria:

- a) Physical condition – condition of eyes, ears, body, teeth, gums, and leg structure.
- b) Cleanliness and presentation – grooming **MUST** be done
  - Nails must be clipped - adult cats only, not kittens or outdoor kittens
  - Ears should be clean & must be free of mites and infections
  - Cats must be free of fleas and skin disorders
  - Cats should be bathed
  - Temperament – calm and receptive to judging procedures
  - Appearance- good health, alert, and graceful movement
  - Feel – size and shape of the bone structure, muscle tone, and confirmation
  - Cats with dirty ears or eyes or unclipped nails (Adult) will **NOT** receive a blue ribbon

Each class will award a Champion and Reserve Champion ribbon at the discretion of the judge.

## Cat Classes

**Kittens 4 - 8 months - Born on or after January 1, 2026.**

**Altered Kittens 4-8 months - Kittens spayed or neutered. Born on or after January 1, 2026**

**Adult Cat 9 months and older - Born before January 1, 2026**

**Altered Cats 9 months and older - Adults spayed or neutered. Born before January 1, 2026.**

**Decorated Cage - Age divisions for members: Junior 8-13 Senior 14-18**



# DAIRY DEPARTMENT

Friday, August 7  
 Check-in: 8:30 am Judging: 9 am  
 Dairy Barn



## Department Rules: See General 4-H Rules, Livestock Ownership Rules, and Health Requirements

1. Dairy Bucket Calf project manuals due at time of check-in.
2. Registration and health papers will be checked.
3. Registration certificates must be in the 4-H member's name only and be presented for all purebred animals.
4. Exhibitors may have unlimited entries in the department, but no more than two entries in any one class.
5. Club Group of Three – At least two exhibitors from the same club. Fun class only (ribbon). No premiums paid.

## Showmanship age divisions: Junior: 8-13 years old; Senior: 14-18 years old

(All ages are as of September 1 of the current 4-H year.)

Exhibitors will compete in their age division regardless of winning in previous years.

Dairy Classes	Brown Swiss	Guernsey	Jersey	Ayrshire	Holstein	AOB
<b>Spring Calf</b> (born on or after Mar 1, 2026)	D-01	D-11	D-21	D-31	D-41	D-51
<b>Winter Calf</b> (born Dec 1, 2025-Feb 28, 2026)	D-02	D-12	D-22	D-32	D-42	D-52
<b>Fall Calf</b> (born Sept 1, 2025-Nov 30, 2025)	D-03	D-13	D-23	D-33	D-43	D-53
<b>Summer Heifer</b> (born June 1, 2025-Aug 31, 2025)	D-04	D-14	D-24	D-34	D-44	D-54
<b>Spring Yearling</b> (born Mar 1, 2025-May 31, 2025)	D-05	D-15	D-25	D-35	D-45	D-55
<b>Winter Yearling</b> (born Dec 1, 2024-Feb 29, 2025)	D-06	D-16	D-26	D-36	D-46	D-56
<b>Fall Yearling</b> (born Sept 1, 2024-Nov 30, 2024)	D-07	D-17	D-27	D-37	D-47	D-57
<b>2 Year Old Cow</b> (born Sept 1, 2023-Aug 31, 2024)	D-08	D-18	D-28	D-38	D-48	D-58
<b>3 Year Old Cow</b> (born Sept 1, 2022-Aug 31, 2023)	D-09	D-19	D-29	D-39	D-49	D-59
<b>Aged Cow</b> (born before Sept 1, 2022)	D-10	D-20	D-30	D-40	D-50	D-60
<b>Dry Cow Class</b>	All Breeds: Class D-61					

**Bucket Calf:** Age divisions: 8-10 years old      11-12 years old

**Club Group of Three:** Three exhibitors from a club (at least two from the same club). This is a fun class, only ribbons are awarded; no premiums are paid out.

## Showmanship Division: Junior: 8-13 years old; Senior: 14-18 years old

(All ages are as of September 1 of the current 4-H year.)

## AWARDS

Champion Calf of each breed;  
 Reserve Champion Calf of each breed  
 Champions Yearling of each breed;  
 Reserve Champion Yearling of each breed

Grand Champion Dairy;  
 Reserve Grand Champion Dairy  
 Champion Cow of each breed;  
 Reserve Champion Cow of each breed



# DAIRY BUCKET CALF

Friday, August 7  
Check-in: 8:30 am Judging: 9 am  
Dairy Barn



## Department Rules: See General 4-H Rules, Livestock Ownership Rules, and Health Requirements

1. Dairy Bucket Calf project animals will check in at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, August 7. (Turn in completed Bucket Calf project manual.)
2. Calf must have been born between January 1 and June 1, 2026.
3. Calves will be shown at halter.
4. There will be a space available in the dairy barn for tie-up.
5. Final ranking will be based on exhibitor's knowledge of the calf (50%), completed record sheets (25%), and general health and appearance of the calf (25%).
6. Dairy Bucket Calf will be judged at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, August 7, before the dairy showmanship classes.
7. Projects can only be shown in the *Bucket Calf* class. Each exhibitor can only exhibit one animal per class.
8. Grooming with adhesives, etc., and clipping are prohibited. Calf just needs to be washed and clean.
9. Bucket calf exhibitors may exhibit in the showmanship class and the club group of three (3).

**Department Classes:** 8-10 years old      11-12 years old  
(Ages are as of September 1 of the current 4-H year.)

## BUCKET CALF AWARDS

Champion each age bracket

Grand Champion Bucket Calf

Reserve Grand Champion Bucket Calf



# DOG DEPARTMENT

TBD

Check-in: TBD Judging: TBD  
[Location TBD]



## Department Rules: See General 4-H Rules, Livestock, and Health Rules

1. In order for a 4-H member to exhibit, the member must have individual or immediate family ownership of the dog or be leasing the dog being exhibited by June 1.
2. Dogs must have correct training equipment such as a flat buckle collar or a choker collar and 6-foot leather or nylon lead to enter obedience classes. No Flexy or retractable leashes allowed. Harnesses will not be allowed in obedience classes. Slip chain “training” or pinch/prong collars will NOT be allowed.
3. 4-H’ers and dogs entered in the “Beginner I” or “Beginner II” obedience class must have written proof (form signed by trainer) of attending sessions of obedience training.
4. All dogs must be current on vaccinations and owners must present a copy of those vaccination records and signed certificate from the vet (within 30 days of show). Please present these forms at check-in for each dog entry certifying dog has had current rabies, distemper-hepatitis-leptospirosis and parvo inoculations.
5. Dogs must be on a leash at all times, unless crated.
6. Dogs not registered to compete will not be allowed in the show area.
7. Exhibitors are responsible for bringing any supplies they wish to have on hand, including, but not limited to: water bowls, soft treats, grooming supplies, and crates. Exhibitors should also consider bringing their own seating as limited chairs will be available.
8. Dogs in season will not be permitted to show.
9. If your dog has a cough, do NOT attend. Coughing dogs will be sent home.
10. Unruly or aggressive dogs will not be allowed to show and may be excused by the superintendent and/or judge.
11. No treats are allowed in the ring or to be given during judging. Treats are allowed during showmanship.
12. A runoff will be held in case of a tie for total score.
13. Clean-up equipment will be available. You must clean up after your own dog.
14. Show Awards may be presented to: Champion and Grand Champion Jr. Dog Showmanship and Champion and Grand Champion Sr. Dog Showmanship
15. **ATTENTION:** All 4-Hers planning to exhibit in this department, must complete the Quality Assurance and Ethics Course (QAEC) once during their 4-H career in order to be eligible to show either a live animal or a poster. Certification must be completed by June 1.
16. AKC rules will be used for judging.
17. **NEW:** All new Dog Show Exhibitors must complete the Canine Good Citizen (CGC) testing. If you are unable to be evaluated by an AKC qualified evaluator, your Dog SPIN Club Leader/instructor can also sign off on the skills needed to pass the CGC test.

## Care and Grooming Division Classes

1. Youth should have knowledge of breed standards of their dog, elementary dog anatomy and knowledge of your dog. (The judge has the right to question exhibitors in one or all of these areas.)
2. If dog is groomed by a professional groomer, exhibitor should be knowledgeable of grooming procedure as well as the daily or weekly grooming needs performed by the exhibitor.

**D101 Care and Grooming – Junior Class:** youth ages 8-13 as of September 1 of the current 4-H year.

**D102 Care and Grooming – Senior Class:** youth ages 14-18 as of September 1 of the current 4-H year.

## Costume Class

### D105 Costume Class

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

### Showmanship Division Classes

1. Exhibitors will be judged on handling skill. Exhibitors should have appropriate “show” lead for their dogs.
2. The 4-Her winning Champion Jr. and Sr. Showmanship classes at the Lee/ Whiteside-county show may represent Whiteside County at the State Fair 4-H Dog Show. If the Champion(s) are unable to attend, the Alternate(s) may represent the county.

**D106 Junior Dog Showmanship:** for handlers ages 8-13 as of September 1 of current 4-H year.

**D107 Senior Dog Showmanship:** for handlers ages 14 and older as of September 1 of current 4-H year.

### Obedience Division Classes

1. Inexperienced handler refers to an exhibitor who has not previously shown dogs. Inexperienced dog refers to a dog that has not been trained before this year.
2. Handler and dog teams may only enter Beginner I class for one year, then must move to Beginner II. Handler and dog teams may only enter Beginner II for one year, then must move to Graduate Beginner. In all other obedience classes, dogs qualifying the previous year must advance to the next class, with a maximum of two years in any one class.
3. AKC rules will be used as a guideline for judging. Maximum 200 points per class.
4. Either a command or signal may be given when the dog is to be in motion. A command and/or signal may be given when a dog is to stay.
5. Exhibitors planning to enter at the Illinois State Fair in “Obedience” must have a score sheet signed by the judge of the county show certifying the dog scored 170 points for class handler/dog entered at the county show.
6. For the Rally class: depending on the number of entries, classes may be combined.

### D108 Beginner Novice I:

*(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

### D109 Beginner Novice II:

*(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

**D110 Pre Novice (Graduate Beginner):**

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

**D111 Novice:**

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

**D112 Graduate Novice (Advanced Novice):**

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

**D113 Pre-Open:**

1. Heel Free and Figure 8..... Maximum points 40
2. Command Discrimination (Stand, Down, Sit)..... Maximum points 30
3. Drop on Recall..... Maximum points 30
4. Retrieve on Flat..... Maximum points 20
5. Retrieve over High Jump..... Maximum points 30
6. Broad Jump..... Maximum points 20
7. Stay-Get your Leash (Sit, Down)..... Maximum points 30

**D114 Open:**

1. Heel Free and Figure 8..... Maximum points 40
2. Command Discrimination (Stand, Down, Sit)..... Maximum points 30
3. Drop on Recall..... Maximum points 30
4. Retrieve on Flat..... Maximum points 20
5. Retrieve over High Jump..... Maximum points 30
6. Broad Jump..... Maximum points 20
7. Stay-Get your Leash (Sit, Down)..... Maximum points 30

**D115 Graduate Open (Pre-Utility):**

1. Signal Exercise..... Maximum points 40
2. Scent Discrimination..... Maximum points 30
3. Go Out..... Maximum points 30
4. Directed Jumping..... Maximum points 40
5. Moving Stand and Examination..... Maximum points 30
6. Directed Retrieve..... Maximum points 30

**D116 Pre-Utility:**

- 1. Signal Exercise..... Maximum points 40
- 2. Scent Discrimination Article #1..... Maximum points 30
- 3. Scent Discrimination Article #2..... Maximum points 30
- 4. Directed Retrieve..... Maximum points 30
- 5. Moving Stand & Examination..... Maximum points 30
- 6. Directed Jumping..... Maximum points 40

**D117 Utility:**

- 1. Signal Exercise..... Maximum points 40
- 2. Scent Discrimination Article #1..... Maximum points 30
- 3. Scent Discrimination Article #2..... Maximum points 30
- 4. Directed Retrieve..... Maximum points 30
- 5. Moving, Stand and Examination..... Maximum points 30
- 6. Directed Jumping..... Maximum points 40

**Rally Division Classes**

- 1. The handler is guided through the course by numbered signs, which tell the handler what exercise is to be performed. For Rally Novice there will be 10 to 15 signs or stations as well as a “Start” and a “Finish” sign.
- 2. Participants will have a chance to walk the course before each class begins.
- 3. Unlimited communication is allowed. However, touching the dog is not allowed.
- 4. Time to complete the course will be used in the case of a tie.
- 5. Exhibitors planning to enter the State 4-H Dog Show in “Rally Obedience” must have a score sheet signed by the judge of the county show certifying the dog scored 70 points for class handler/dog entered at county show.

**D118 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 own leg, or clap their hands to encourage.

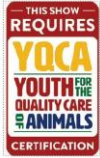
**D119 Rally Intermediate:** 12-17 signs are used (not including start and finish). 3-7 of the signs must be “stationary” signs. At least 3 “advanced” signs. Performed on leash.

**D120 Rally Advanced:** 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**.

**D121 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**. 4-H'er cannot pat their leg or clap hands for encouragement.

**Dog Animal Science (SF 50135) (Shown on General Projects Day August 1)**

Prepare a display focusing on any activity related to the Animal project you chose. 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 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. 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.



# GOAT DEPARTMENT



Monday, August 3  
Check-in: 12 pm Judging: 12:30 pm  
Sheep Barn – East End of Fairgrounds

## Department Rules: See General 4-H Rules, Livestock Ownership Rules, and Health Requirements

1. 4-H goat pens will be well marked with exhibitor names.
2. Please do not move pens without superintendent permission.
3. Registration and health papers will be checked.
4. Scale will be available if needed.
5. Members are responsible for water and feed for their animals. Bedding will be supplied.
6. Dress code: No sandals or open-toed shoes. Collared and sleeved shirts or 4-H T-shirts should be worn.
7. Limit of eight (8) entries in each division but no more than two (2) in any one class.
8. Premiums paid on one entry per class.
9. Dairy goats must be groomed (shaved) properly and must be dehorned.
10. No bucks will be shown in the 4-H Goat Show.
11. All meat classes shall be debudded.
12. Club Group of Three – Three exhibitors from a club (at least two from the same club). This is a fun class only; no premiums are paid out.

## Showmanship age divisions: Junior: 8-13 years old; Senior: 14-18 years old

(All ages are as of September 1 of the current 4-H year.)

Exhibitors will compete in their age division regardless of winning in previous years.

## Meat Goat Classes

**Junior Kid** Born on or after April 1 of exhibit year  
**Intermediate Kid** Born March 1-March 31 of exhibit year  
**Senior Kid** Born January 1-February 28 of exhibit year

Age as of date of Show:

**Meat Doe** Under 1 year of age  
**Meat Doe** 1 year and under 2 years of age  
**Meat Doe** 2 years and under 3 years of age  
**Meat Doe** 3 and 4 years of age  
**Meat Doe** 5 years of age and older

**Meat Wether Class** (includes Meat Goats and Dairy/Meat Cross; needs to be castrated June 1, 2026)

**Dairy Goat Classes:** Alpine, LaMancha, Nubian, Saanen, AOB and Grade

**Junior Kid** Born on or after April 1 of exhibit year  
**Intermediate Kid** Born March 1-March 31 of exhibit year  
**Senior Kid** Born January 1-February 28 of exhibit year

**Dry Yearling – under 2 years** Born on or after 8/2/24  
**Milking Yearling – under 2 years** Born on or after 8/2/24  
**Milking – 2 years and under 3 years** Born 8/2/23 to 8/1/24  
**Milking – 3 years and under 5 years** Born 8/2/21 to 8/1/23  
**Milking – 5 years and over** Born before 8/2/21  
**Dairy Market Wether** Born after 1/1/26

**Pet Goat Classes:** Pygmy, Fainting, Other

(Age as of the day of the Show)

- Pet Goat class will be judged according to care, knowledge, and handling of the pet goat.
- Members may only show **1 (one)** pet goat. This animal cannot be shown in any other classes except Showmanship.
- Must be a female or wether of any age.

**Doe Classes**

- Under 2 months
- 2-6 months
- 7 months to under 1 year
- 1-2 years of age
- Over 2 years of age

**Wether Classes**

- Under 2 months
- 2-6 months
- 7 months to under 1 year
- 1-2 years of age
- Over 2 years of age

**Club Group of Three:** Three exhibitors from any goat classes. This is a fun class, only ribbons are awarded; no premiums are paid out.

**Showmanship Division: Junior: 8-13 years old; Senior: 14-18 years old**

(All ages are as of September 1 of the current 4-H year.)

**AWARDS**

- Champion Meat Goat
  - Reserve Champion Meat Goat
- Champion Dairy Goat
  - Reserve Champion Dairy Goat
- Champion Pet Goat
  - Reserve Champion Pet Goat

- Grand Champion Doe
  - Reserve Grand Champion Doe
- Grand Champion Wether
  - Reserve Grand Champion Wether
- Best of Show

# HORSE & PONY DEPARTMENT



**Check-in: Thursday, July 9, 8 am**  
**Judging: Thursday, July 9, 8:30 am**  
**RAIN DATE: Sunday, July 12, 8:30 am (ONLY rain date)**  
**RAIN DATE Check-in: Sunday, July 12, 8 am**  
**Whiteside County Fairgrounds Horse Show Ring**  
**201 W. Winfield St., Morrison**

## Rules:

Exhibitors **MUST** notify the horse committee of any scratches **BEFORE** the horse show.

1. Horse(s) must be owned or leased before May 15, 2026.
2. Observe all health regulations. **COGGINS TESTS ARE MANDATORY** and will be checked!
3. AQHA rules are guidelines for specific classes.
4. **ATTENTION:** Horses and ponies may be exercised in the infield only; not on any other area at the fairgrounds. Caution must be used around spectators.
5. **NO TRANQUILIZERS ARE PERMITTED.**
6. Horses and ponies will be judged on conformation, training, posing, and temperament.
7. No stallions over one year of age will be allowed to exhibit.
8. The stewards/judges reserve the right to screen and divide a class at the gate before the show.
9. Any horse is considered one year old after the first of January – born the year before.
10. **UPON REQUEST** all animals will be measured from the highest point of the withers to the **GROUND**. Ponies will measure **UNDER 58 inches** and horses will measure 58 inches and over, if requested.
11. Unsportsmanlike conduct by an exhibitor may be grounds for disqualification by the steward or committee.
12. Trophy classes are **NOT** eligible for Grand Champion Pleasure Horse.
13. A variety of trail class obstacles, showmanship, and horsemanship patterns will be available from the Extension office or a member of the horse committee by June 1 each year, when possible. The final pattern for the events will be given the morning of the horse show.
14. If you show your horse/pony in Walk-Trot Pleasure you cannot show the same horse/pony in any other pleasure class.
15. You may only show in one Horsemanship class.
16. Contact a committee member prior to registration if you have any conflicts. Contact a committee member prior to the show if you have any complaints.
17. Exhibitors must have provided two color profile pictures and one color headshot of 4-H horse/pony to the Extension Office by May 15, 2026, for identification purposes, if you plan to go to state show.
18. If the horse, for which you entered leases/ownership papers, has an unexpected illness, injury or death you may bring a vet's notice, along with new pictures and paperwork to the Whiteside County Extension Office on a substitute horse. This rule only qualifies for Carroll/Whiteside County 4-H Horse Show.
19. Appropriate attire for classes entered is expected. Hats and boots are mandatory.
20. Two exhibitors may not ride the same horse in the same class, unless they are of different ages.
21. Harness Hitch Class – it is required that an adult rider is along.
22. Do not park horse trailers, with or without horses tied to them, on the track, around wash racks, or around the dairy and horse barns.
23. There will be a "Judges Choice" Award given. This award will be given to the individual who shows outstanding sportsmanship, care for animal, or care for other 4-Hers; or in some way "stands out" to the judge during the day.
24. First and Second place winners in each class with a (\*\*\*) by them, return to the ring when called by the judge to compete for Champion Performance Horse or Pony or Halter Horse.
25. Helmets will be required when mounted and riding in the show ring at the Carroll/Whiteside County 4-H Horse Show! Helmets will be required when mounted on horse at the 2026 Illinois State Fair.
26. All horse classes will only be allowed to show one horse. Only exception will be for the speed event in which a 4-Her may enter two.
27. If a tack change is needed, you will need to notify the clerk table before the class to ask for tack change time. Gate will be held until tack change is complete, but no more than five (5) minutes.
28. All Illinois Equine (horses, ponies, mules, donkeys, etc.) 12 months and older participating in an advertised equine event ("Advertised equine event" means a show, rodeo, exhibition, trail ride, or horse fair, excluding sales or auctions, that is posted or media promoted) shall be accompanied by a **NEGATIVE TEST** for equine Infectious Anemia/E.I.A. (Coggins/ELISA) conducted within one (1) year. A health certificate (certificate of veterinary inspection) is not required for Illinois equine.

## Classes and show order:

For descriptions of the classes, how each class is to be judged, and details about the trail class, etc., refer to the Horse Appendix assigned to 4-Hers enrolled in horse projects.

### Halter Classes:

1. Pony Halter (under 58")
  2. Weanling/Yearling Halter
  3. Horse Halter – Non-Quarter type
  4. Horse Halter – Quarter type
  5. Draft Horse Halter
  6. Miniature Horse Halter
  7. Mule/Donkey Halter
- Selection of Champion Halter

### Showmanship and Fun Classes:

8. Showmanship Senior (ages 14 and older as of September 1, 2025)
  9. Showmanship Junior (ages 8-13 as of September 1, 2025)
  10. Halter Fun Class, all ages (non-riding) – no medal
  11. Open Harness (pony and horse)
  12. Bareback Horse
  13. Bareback Pony
  14. Costume Class
  15. Trail Class (must have at least 4 participants signed up to hold this class)
- Selection of Champion: Junior Showmanship and Senior Showmanship  
—Winners of Fun Classes will receive a fun award or ribbon

### Performance Classes:

16. Hunter Hack
17. Hunter Cross Poles
18. Walk-Trot Pleasure (ages 8-13)
19. Walk-Trot Pleasure (ages 14 and older)
20. Pony Pleasure
21. \*\*Gaited Horse Pleasure
22. \*\*English Pleasure (ages 8-13)
23. \*\*English Pleasure (ages 14 and older)
24. English Equitation (ages 8-13)
25. English Equitation (14 and older)

### LUNCH BREAK

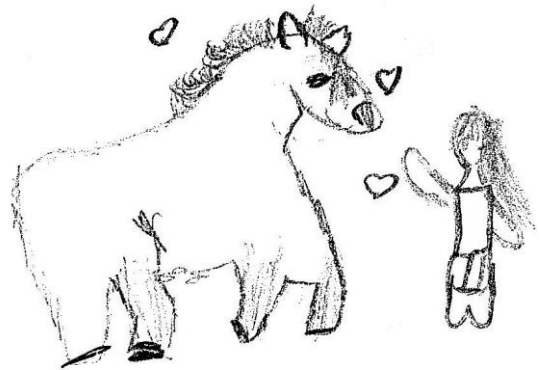
26. \*\*Western Pleasure (ages 8-13)
27. \*\*Western Pleasure (ages 14 and older)
28. Walk-Trot Horsemanship (ages 8-13)
29. Walk-Trot Horsemanship (ages 14 and older)
30. Western Horsemanship (ages 8-13)
31. Western Horsemanship (ages 14 and older)

—Selection of Champion and Reserve Champion Performance Horse or Pony (all first and second places)

32. Fun Class: Egg-in-spoon
- 33.

### Speed Events:

34. Flag Race (ages 8-13)
  35. Flag Race (ages 14 and older)
  36. Barrels (ages 8-13)
  37. Barrels (ages 14 and older)
  38. Plug Race (ages 8-13)
  39. Plug Race (ages 14 and older)
  40. Pole Bending (ages 8-13)
  41. Pole Bending (ages 14 and older)
- Selection of Champion High Point Speed Horse or Pony



**Drawing by Willow Johnson,  
Thomson Sandburrs 4-H Club &  
Happy Hoppers Rabbit SPIN Club**



# POULTRY DEPARTMENT



Sunday, August 2  
 Check-in: 1 pm Judging: 1:30 pm  
 West end of Poultry Barn

## Department Rules: See General 4-H Rules, Livestock Ownership Rules, and Health Requirements

1. You may show unlimited times in each division but no more than twice (2 times) in any one class.
2. Premiums are only paid on one (1) entry per class.
3. A pen shall count as one entry.
4. Entries shown in breeding classes cannot be shown in market classes.
5. Exhibitors uncertain of the breed of their bird(s) or the standards of a given breed are encouraged to contact the Superintendent BEFORE making entries in FairEntry.
6. Birds must be clean, presentable, and free of pests (lice/mites) at check-in.
7. Those showing larger birds: turkeys and geese may have to provide their own cages.
8. 4-H members are responsible for having proper water/feed containers for their birds and for cleaning up their pens after the show. Exhibitors must get the approval of Extension staff or the Poultry Superintendent to leave with your birds.
9. The exhibitor must be present to show his/her project when the class is called.

## Showmanship age divisions: Junior: 8-11 years old; Intermediate: 12-14 years old; Senior: 15-18 years old

(All ages are as of September 1 of the current 4-H year.)

Exhibitors will compete in their age division regardless of winning in previous years.

Cockerel: male hatched January 1 or after, current year

Pullet: female hatched January 1 or after, current year

Cock: male hatched before January 1, current year

Hen: female hatched before January 1, current year

## Classes

### LARGE FOWL CLASSES

TYPE:	American	Asiatic	English	Mediterranean	Continental	Other Standard Breed
Hen	101	105	109	113	117	121
Cock	102	106	110	114	118	122
Pullet	103	107	111	115	119	123
Cockerel	104	108	112	116	120	124

### BANTAM CLASSES

TYPE:	All Other Bantam	Feather Legged Bantam
Hen	125	129
Cock	126	130
Pullet	127	131
Cockerel	128	132

### EGG PRODUCTION & MEAT PEN CLASSES

Production/Commercial/Hybrid Female	133	Single Layer
Production Pen of 3	134	3 females, or 1 male and 2 females
Broiler/Fryer Pen of 3	135	3 females or 3 males
Roaster/Market Pen of 3	136	3 females or 3 males

## DUCK CLASSES

TYPE:	Heavy Weight	Medium Weight	Light Weight	Bantam Ducks
Old Hen	137	141	145	149
Old Drake	138	142	146	150
Young Hen	139	143	147	151
Young Drake	140	144	148	152

## GEESE CLASSES

TYPE:	Heavy Weight	Medium Weight	Light Weight
Old Hen	153	157	161
Old Gander	154	158	162
Young Hen	155	159	163
Young Gander	156	160	164

## TURKEY CLASSES

Old Hen	133	Hatched before January 1, current year
Old Tom	134	Hatched before January 1, current year
Young Hen	135	Hatched January 1 or after, current year
Young Tom	136	Hatched January 1 or after, current year

## MISCELLANEOUS OTHER CLASSES

Pair of Other Fowl	169	May be same or mixed sex
Hatched Pen	170	Hatched in 2026
Backyard Bird	171	Any non-standard or mixed breed
White Chicken Eggs	172	6 eggs in a carton
Brown Chicken Eggs	173	6 eggs in a carton
All Other Eggs	174	6 eggs in a carton

## Breed List

### LARGE FOWL CHICKEN

**American:** Plymouth Rocks, Dominiques, Wyandottes, Javas, Rhode Island Reds, Buckeyes, Chanteclers, Jersey Giants, New Hampshires, and Delawares

**Asiatic:** Brahmas, Cochins, and Langshans

**English:** Dorkings, Cornish, Orpingtons, Sussex, and Australorps

**Mediterranean:** Leghorns, Minorcas, Spanish, Andalusians, Sicilian Buttercups, and Catalanas

**Continental:** Hamburgs, Campines, Polish, Houdans, Faverolles, Crevecoeurs, La Fleche Barnevelders, and Welsummers

**All Other Standard Breeds:** Games, Sumatras, Yokohamas, Pheonix, Naked Necks, Araucans, and Ameraucanas

**Non-Recognized Breeds**

### BANTAM CHICKEN

**Feather Legged Bantams:** Booted, Brahmas, Cochins, Faverolles, Langshans, Silkies, and Sultans

**All Other Bantam Breeds:** any standard breeds without feathered legs

### DUCK BREEDS BY CLASS

**Heavy Weight Ducks:** Pekin, Aylesbury, Rouen, and Muscovy

**Medium Weight Ducks:** Cayuga, Crested, Swedish, and Buff

**Light Weight Ducks:** Runner, Campbell, and Magpie

**Bantam Ducks:** Call, Black East Indie, and Mallard

### GEESE BREEDS BY CLASS

**Heavy Weight Geese:** Toulouse, Embden, and African

**Medium Weight Geese:** Sebastopol, Pilgrim, American Buff, and Saddleback Pomeranian

**Light Weight Geese:** Chinese, Tufted Roman, Canada, and Egyptian

## OTHER BIRD CLASSES

**Pigeons:** Kings, Mondains, Careux, Racing Homers, Rollers, Fantails, Posders, Trumpeteers, Mookees, and Helmets

**Other Species:** Ornamental and white pheasants, peafowl, guineas, emus, rheas and ostriches

**\*\*\*Ringback pheasants, partridge, and quail will not be allowed.**

## MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY CLASSES

**Pair of Other Fowl:** Birds not eligible in any other class may be shown in this class. Since standards may not exist for all entries, primary judging considerations will focus on handler knowledge and show condition of stock.

**Production Pen of 3:** Commercial/Hybrid egg layers, all sex-link crosses, Cinnamon Queen, Amberlink, ISA

**Hatched Pen Class:** Birds must not have all their adult feathers and must have been hatched using an incubator tended by the exhibitor. Incubators are available for loan through the Extension office. Exhibitors must provide heat lamps and electrical cords for chicks. Hatched pen entries include the following: 1) a pen of hatched birds; 2) a poster, display, or report detailing things learned during the incubation and embryology experience. Placing will be based on care of birds in exhibit, quality of the display, poster or report, and the member's general knowledge about the project on display.

**Egg Classes:** All eggs in an entry must be of the same kind and will be judged on uniformity and quality and should be from the exhibitor's flock.

## POULTRY AWARDS

### CHICKENS

Champion & Reserve: Each large and bantam breed class

Grand Champion & Reserve: Large Fowl Chicken

Grand Champion & Reserve: Bantam Chicken

### DUCKS

Champion & Reserve: (each) Heavy, Medium, Light Weight, Bantam

Grand Champion & Reserve: Duck

### TURKEYS

Champion & Reserve: (each) Tom and Hen

### GEESE

Champion & Reserve: (each) Heavy, Medium, Light Weight

Grand Champion & Reserve: Goose

### MISC OTHER CLASSES

Champion & Reserve: Production Pen

Champion & Reserve: Market Pen

Champion & Reserve: Pair of other fowl/bird

Champion & Reserve: Hatched Pen

Champion & Reserve: Backyard Bird

Champion & Reserve: Egg production exhibit

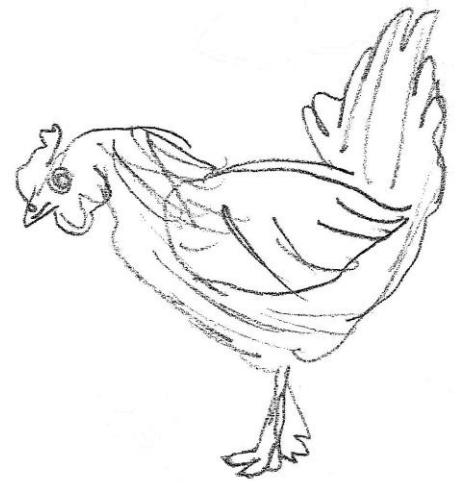
### SHOWMANSHIP

Champion Junior Showmanship

Champion Intermediate Showmanship

Champion Senior Showmanship

### BEST OF SHOW



**Drawing by Payton Reusch,  
Thomson Sandburrs 4-H Club &  
Amplify 4-H SPIN Club**



# RABBIT DEPARTMENT



Wednesday, August 5  
Check-in: 9 am Judging: 9:30 am  
Rabbit Barn – West End of Fairgrounds

## Department Rules: See General 4-H Rules, Livestock, and Health Rules

1. Wear long sleeves to protect your arms from getting scratched.
2. Rabbits will be judged according to American Rabbit Breeders Association (ARBA) standards. Contact your Extension office to view the “Standards of Perfection” publication for all breed standards.
3. 6 Class Rabbits: Junior: under 6 months; Intermediate (6-8): 6 months and under 8 months; Senior: 8 months and over.
4. 4 Class Rabbits: Junior: under 6 months; Senior: 6 months and over.
5. You may show unlimited times in each division but no more than twice (2 times) in any one class.
6. A pen shall count as 1 (one) entry.
7. Premiums are paid on one (1) entry per class only.
8. Exhibits are to be taken to and from the judging area by the 4-H member.
9. Pet bunny entries are only eligible to show in the Pet Rabbit Class.
10. All rabbits will be examined at check-in and before being placed in cages. The rabbit Judge and Superintendent have the right to reject any entry. Rabbits with colds, ear mites, or open sore hocks will not be accepted.
11. Cages will be on a first come, first served basis. If cages run out, members must furnish their own.
12. 4-H members are responsible for having proper water/feed containers for their rabbits.
13. The exhibitor must be present to show his/her project when the class is called.
14. Only Market Pens and Single Fryers may be sold at the auction.
15. Pet Rabbit Class is for members who have pet bunnies that are not raised for production purposes. Members may have one (1) entry in this class and may not enter any other class, except Showmanship, with that animal.
16. *All exhibitors must clean up after their rabbits and be approved to leave before leaving after the show.*

## Showmanship age divisions: Junior: 8-11 years old; Intermediate: 12-14 years old; Senior: 15-18 years old

(All ages are as of September 1 of the current 4-H year.)

Exhibitors will compete in their age division regardless of winning in previous years.

## Classes and order of show are subject to change depending on entries

### 6 Class Rabbits

Large breeds; ideal mature weight over nine (9) lbs — exhibits breed standards.

**Recognized breeds:** American, American Chinchilla, Beveren, Blanc deHoto, Californian, Champagne d’Argent, Checkered Giant, Cinnamon, Crème d’Argent, Argent Brun, English Lop, French Lop, Flemish Giant, Giant Angora, Giant Chinchilla, Hotot, New Zealand, Palamino, Satin, Silver Fox

6 Class (Large)	Sr Buck	Sr Doe	6-8 Buck	6-8 Doe	Jr Buck	Jr Doe
Californian	1	2	3	4	5	6
New Zealand	7	8	9	10	11	12
All Other Breeds	13	14	15	16	17	18

## 4 Class Rabbits

Small breeds; ideal mature weight under nine (9) lbs — exhibits breed standards.

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

4 Class (Small)	Sr Buck	Sr Doe	Jr Buck	Jr Doe
Dutch	19	20	21	22
Mini Rex	23	24	25	26
Netherland Dwarf	27	28	29	30
Polish	31	32	33	34
All Other Breeds	35	36	37	38

**Pet Rabbit Class** — The pet rabbit class is designed for those 4-Hers who have rabbits as pets. These rabbits are raised specifically for the pleasure of the owner. Only one (1) pet rabbit can be shown by an exhibitor. Rabbits will be judged based on the 4-Her's apparent care of the animal, and their knowledge about the rabbit. Pet Rabbit exhibitors are eligible for Showmanship classes.

## Meat Pen Classes

1. Pen of 3 rabbits
2. All rabbits must be of the same breed
3. Rabbits must be max 70 days old or less
4. Rabbits must weigh between 3.5 (minimum) and 5.5 (maximum) pounds

## Single Fryer

1. The Single Fryer may be a rabbit from the Meat Pen (exhibitor's choice), or it may be a separate entry.
2. Maximum two (2) entries per exhibitor. Only one (1) entry considered for a premium. The second entry cannot be entered in any other class.
3. Rabbits MUST be maximum 70 days old or less.
4. Rabbits MUST weigh between 3.5 (minimum) and 5.5 (maximum) pounds.

## Showmanship Division: Junior: 8-13 years old; Senior: 14-18 years old

(All ages are as of September 1 of the current 4-H year.)

## AWARDS

Champion of each breed

Reserve Champion of each breed

Grand Champion 4 Class Rabbit

Reserve Grand Champion 4 Class Rabbit

Grand Champion 6 Class Rabbit

Reserve Grand Champion 6 Class Rabbit

Champion Meat Pen

Reserve Champion Meat Pen

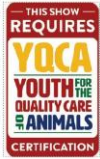
Champion Single Fryer

Reserve Champion Single Fryer

Champion Pet Rabbit

Reserve Champion Pet Rabbit

Best of Show Rabbit



# SHEEP DEPARTMENT



Monday, August 3  
Check-in: 1 pm Judging: 1:30 pm  
Sheep Barn – East End of Fairgrounds

## Department Rules: See General 4-H Rules, Livestock Ownership Rules, and Health Requirements

1. 4-H sheep pens will be well marked with exhibitor names.
2. Please do not move pens without superintendent permission.
3. Registration and health papers will be checked.
4. Scale will be available if needed.
5. Members are responsible for water and feed for their animals. Bedding will be supplied.
6. Dress code: No sandals or open-toed shoes. Collared and sleeved shirts or 4-H T-shirts should be worn.
7. Unlimited entries in each division but no more than two (2) in any one class.
8. Premiums paid on one (1) entry per class. (The pen of two counts as one entry.)
9. Pen of Two Lambs may include both ewe and ram lambs for the breeding division.
10. All lambs must be docked, wether lambs must be castrated and shorn, market ewe lambs must be shorn.
11. Sheep should be blocked or sheared. Market lambs should be slick sheared within five days of the show.
12. Club Group of Three – Three exhibitors from a club (at least two from the same club). This is a fun class only; no premiums are paid out.

## Showmanship age divisions: Junior: 8-13 years old; Senior: 14-18 years old

(All ages are as of September 1 of the current 4-H year.)

Exhibitors will compete in their age division regardless of winning in previous years.

## Sheep Breeding Division – Must be owned by the 4-H member by June 25, 2026

Yearling Ewes born Jan 1, 2025-Aug 31, 2025

Ewe Lambs born Sept 1, 2025 or after

Yearling Rams born May 1, 2025-Dec 31, 2025

Ram Lambs born Jan 1, 2026 or after

*\*These birth and ownership dates are the same as IL State Junior Show*

TYPE:	Suffolk	Hampshire	Dorset	Shropshire	All Other Breeds
Ewe Lamb	S-01	S-06	S-11	S-16	S-21
Yearling or Aged Lamb	S-02	S-07	S-12	S-17	S-22
Ram Lamb	S-03	S-08	S-13	S-18	S-23
Yearling or Aged Ram	S-04	S-09	S-14	S-19	S-24
Pen of 2 Lambs	S-05	S-10	S-15	S-20	S-25

## AWARDS

Champion Ewe of each breed

Champion Ram of each breed

Grand Champion Ewe overall

Grand Champion Ram overall

Reserve Grand Champion Ewe overall

Reserve Grand Champion Ram overall

Champion Pen of 2

Reserve Champion Pen of 2

**Market Lamb Division** – Must be owned by the 4-H member by May 15, 2026; born on or after January 1, 2026 (Market Ewes and Market Wethers)

*\*These birth and ownership dates are the same as IL State Junior Show*

**ML-01** Single Lamb: Lambs will be divided into Light, Medium and Heavy weight classes depending on the number of entries.

**ML-02** Pen of Two: Lambs will be divided into Lightweight and Heavyweight classes.

## **AWARDS**

Champion Market Lamb

Reserve Champion Market Lamb

Champion Pair of Market Lambs

Reserve Champion Pair of Market Lambs

Grand Champion Market Lamb

Reserve Grand Champion Market Lamb

**Club Group of Three** – Three exhibitors from Sheep Breeding or Market Lamb Classes. This is a fun class only, ribbons awarded; no premiums are paid out.

**Showmanship Division: Junior: 8-13 years old; Senior: 14-18 years old**

(All ages are as of September 1 of the current 4-H year.)

## **Sheep Carcass Class**

Final weigh-in will take place the morning or evening before they go to the locker.

Judging will be Friday or Saturday the week before 4-H Fair week, at Johnson's Processing in Chadwick.

## **QUALITY MEATS RULES – READ ALL RULES VERY CAREFULLY!**

1. All General Rules and Animal Department Rules apply.
2. This show is open to all Carroll and Whiteside County 4-H members with purebred, crossbred, or grade sheep projects. Only wethers may be shown. To qualify, animals must meet the same requirements as outlined for the regular 4-h Show, plus all of the rules that follow.
3. Health certificates are not needed for carcass entries.
4. Each exhibitor may enter one (1) animal in each quality meats class.
5. Weight of animals: Wethers—45 pounds minimum hot carcass weight. Animals not meeting above guidelines will not be eligible for Champion or Reserve.
6. Official weight will be pay weight for carcasses sold at the auction.
7. All animals will be taken to Johnson's Processing in Chadwick for weighing, slaughtering, and cooling.
8. Sheep taken to Johnson's Processing are the responsibility of the owner. Champion and reserve beef and sheep carcasses can be sold at the Livestock Auction on Monday, August 3, 2026, in the Swine Show Ring. All other carcasses should be sold privately or kept for personal use.
9. The animals will be judged on the rail and cut-out data collected on judging day.
10. The public is invited to attend the judging.
11. Wethers will be judged on a maximum yield grade of 3.99; have at least 0.10 inch of fat cover at the rib eye (2.6 minimum REA); have a quality grade of low choice or better (C); a minimum leg score of 13; and meet minimum rib eye area requirements based on hot carcass weight.
12. Animals entered in these classes that do not make the weight range can be shown in the market class at the 4-H Show.
13. All wethers must be completely castrated and healed. Judge will make final decisions. **OWNERSHIP DEADLINE**—Quality meats animals must be owned by the 4-H member by May 1, 2026, for sheep.
14. All sheep wethers must be sheared before the show.



# SWINE DEPARTMENT



**Check-in: Sunday, August 2, 6 pm**  
**Judging: Monday, August 3, 3:30 pm**  
**Poultry Barn – East End of Fairgrounds**

## Department Rules: See General 4-H Rules, Livestock Ownership Rules, and Health Requirements

1. All swine must be on the grounds and in pens by 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 2.
2. Swine will be weighed in from 6-7:00 pm on Sunday, August 2.
3. Judging will begin at 3:30 p.m. on Monday, August 3.
4. All swine shall be accompanied by a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) which shows that the animals meets all health requirements for the State of Illinois. CVIs shall be made available to Bureau of Animal Health Personnel on request. Brucellosis – Brucellosis testing is not required for Illinois swine. Pseudorabies – Pseudorabies testing is not required for Illinois swine.
5. Exhibitor may make unlimited entries in each division, but no more than two (2) entries per class. Premiums are paid on only one (1) entry.
6. Market hogs may be purebred, crossbred or grade.
7. Animals will be divided into weight classes in each division immediately following weigh-in.
8. All Federal drug withdrawal laws must be observed.
9. Hogs must weigh not less than 230 pounds and no more than 300 pounds.
10. Dress code: No sandals or open-toed shoes. A collared and sleeved shirt or a 4-h T-shirt should be worn.
11. This is a non-terminal show. Each 4-H exhibitor will have 3 options – take your pig back home with you, line up a buyer to sell your animal to, or enter your animal in the Livestock Auction.
12. Each 4-H member will be limited to show one (1) pair of gilts and/or one (1) pair of barrows. Pairs will be designated as they are weighed in. All pair numbers will be recorded prior to the show.
13. Sibling 4-H members cannot share animals to make pairs.
14. A sandwich supper for all swine exhibitor families will be served from 5:30-7 p.m. on Monday, August 3.
15. Club Group of Three – The three may include either market barrows or gilts. The entry must be owned by at least two members of the same 4-H club. This is a fun class only; no premiums will be paid.

## Showmanship age divisions: Junior: 8-13 years old; Senior: 14-18 years old

(All ages are as of September 1 of the current 4-H year.)

Exhibitors will compete in their age division regardless of winning in previous years.

## Order of Show:

Market Gilts

Pair of Market Gilts

Market Barrows

Pair of Market Barrows

Club Pen of Three

## Swine Showmanship Division: Junior: 8-13 years old; Senior: 14-18 years old

(All ages are as of September 1 of the current 4-H year.)

## AWARDS

Champion Gilt

Reserve Champion Gilt

Champion Pair of Gilts

Reserve Champion Pair of Gilts

Champion Barrow

Reserve Champion Barrow

Champion Pair of Barrows

Reserve Champion Pair of Barrows

Grand Champion Overall Market Hog

Reserve Grand Champion Overall

## OUTSTANDING SWINE EXHIBITOR CLASS

This class is for the Swine Study exhibitors, the live animal exhibitors, and any 4-H members interested in participating. The Outstanding Swine Exhibitor class is designed to emphasize the educational aspects of raising and showing swine. Participants in this class will compete in the following four phases:

1. Complete a quiz on management knowledge.
2. Identify feed samples.
3. Identify equipment and supplies used in swine production.
4. Swine Showmanship — during the Swine Show

Phases 1, 2, and 3 will be completed prior to the start of the 4-H Swine Show. 4-Hers may come to the Swine Barn starting at 6 p.m. on Sunday, August 2 until 3 p.m. Monday, August 3, to complete these phases. 4-H staff or Swine Committee members will be on hand to assist you if you have questions. The Showmanship phase will be part of exhibiting at the Swine Show. Each phase of competition will be scored separately and weighed equally in determining the overall winner.



## Master Showmanship Class

1. Open to any 4-H member 8-18 years of age as of September 1, 2025.
2. Top Master Showman 14-18 as of September 1, 2025, will earn the opportunity to compete in the State Master Showmanship contest in Springfield on date TBD. (Winner's commitment letter is in binder).
3. You must pre-register by **July 1** with your fair entry to participate.
4. Each 4-H member must arrange with other 4-H members **before the day of the show** (Monday, August 3) if you need to borrow animals to show. You will need to plan to be at the fair the whole day. Refer to the fair judging schedule for times of each show.
5. Each participating 4-H member is required to participate in the Beef Master Showmanship Class, Sheep Master Showmanship Class, and Swine Master Showmanship Class. The class will be held after the regular showmanship classes in each species.
6. Everyone will participate and judge a class of sheep following the Master Sheep Showmanship Class to serve in case of a tie for overall points. This will take place in the sheep barn.
7. Scoring will be done on a points system for each species.
8. The overall winner will be announced after the Master Showmanship Class of the Swine Show.



## **Carroll County Livestock & Small Animal**

# **AUCTION**

*Sponsored by:*



Carroll County  
Youth-In-Agriculture  
Foundation

**Monday, August 3, 2026**

East End of Poultry Barn

**Starting at 7PM**

**Scholarship and Brownfield Awards at 6:30PM**

**WCCI will be broadcasting live, tune into 100.3 FM**

For more information contact:

**Brian Witt - 815-541-6210,**

**John Bickelhaupt - 815-275-2637, Greg Gruhn - 815-541-0485**



## General Projects Show Absentee Form

—Pre-Approval by Extension Staff is Required—

Directions: This form takes the place of a member not able to attend the General Projects Show. Please complete this form for each project submitted to the Show. Be sure to answer all the questions and be as descriptive as possible with the answers. If needed, you may use a separate sheet of paper. ***Don't forget: you must make arrangements with the Extension Office prior to the General Projects Show date for approval to use an Absentee Form.***

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Member Age: \_\_\_\_\_

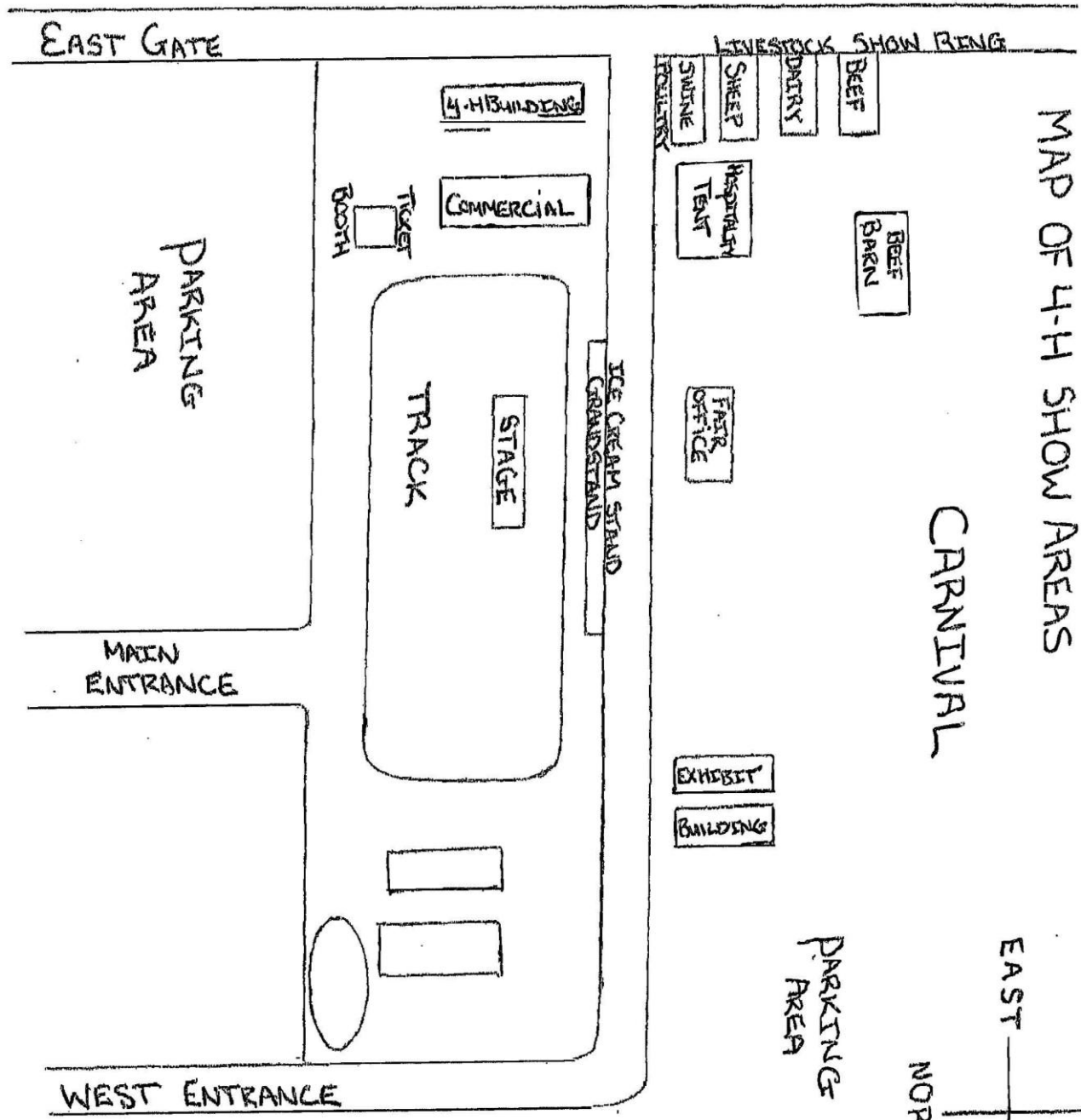
Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Project and Class Number: \_\_\_\_\_

### Judging Questions:

1. Why did you choose this project?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What are three things you learned or insights you gained this year from doing this project?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What steps did you take to complete this exhibit?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. If you did this project again, what would you change or do differently?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. How will you apply what you learned to your life?





**Carroll County  
Livestock Feeders Association &  
Chadwick Achievers 4-H Club Supper**



**HAMBURGER MEAL DEAL  
AUGUST 2**

**5-7 PM • 4-H EXHIBIT BUILDING • CARROLL CO. FAIRGROUNDS**



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

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# See You Next Year at the 2027 Carroll County 4-H Show!



**Illinois Extension**

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

**Carroll County**

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Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time to meet your needs.