



# **Edgar County**

General Handbook

2023-2024



I PLEDGE MY HEAD TO  
Clearer thinking

# Welcome

Welcome to 4-H! We are glad that you have decided to join one of the most successful youth organizations in America. 4-H provides a wide variety of learning experiences and opportunities for personal growth. From community projects to learning new life skills, 4-H has something for everyone!

Our staff has prepared the Edgar County 4-H Handbook to meet all of your needs – from understanding the philosophy of 4-H to providing the requirements for your enrollment each year. This book serves as your guidelines to having a successful time in 4-H.

We are excited to meet all our new 4-H members and families. Stop by the office and say, “Hello”. We look forward to visiting with you throughout the year! We are confident that you will find 4-H to be a rewarding experience for the entire family. The important thing to remember is that you will get out of 4-H what you put into it. We encourage you to do your best as we together follow the 4-H motto, “To Make the Best Better”!

## Reach Us

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Edgar County Extension Office  
210 West Washington Street  
Paris, IL 61944

Extension office phone number—(217) 465-8585

Edgar County Website—[extension.illinois.edu/cce/4-h-edgar-county](http://extension.illinois.edu/cce/4-h-edgar-county)

Edgar County Facebook page -[www.facebook.com/edgarcounty4h](http://www.facebook.com/edgarcounty4h)

4-H Fairgrounds Office (Fair week only) – (217) 463-2610

Office hours: Monday –Friday 8 am–12pm & 1-4:30 pm

# University of Illinois Extension 4-H Team

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# Membership Policies

The 4-H year begins on September 1 and ends on August 31. Enrollment is open to 4-H members throughout the period. Youth may enroll in 4-H year round; however, re-enrolling and new 4-H'ers must enroll by April 1 in order to be eligible to exhibit at the Edgar County 4-H Fair.

1. We believe all youth, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, faith, orientation, interests, or abilities, deserve a place where they can thrive and achieve a better future. Edgar County 4-H is committed to eliminating any instance of discrimination or inequity within our program to support opportunity for all youth.
2. Any girl or boy who is between the ages of 5-7 years of age on or before September 1 of the current 4-H year may enroll in Cloverbuds. 4-H Cloverbuds may participate at the 4-H Fair as non-competitive exhibitors. Cloverbuds also have the opportunity to participate as a non-competitive exhibitor in the Aerospace judging and rocket launch. Cloverbuds are not eligible for premium funds.
3. A \$20 4-H program fee will be applied to members who participate in the 4-H program. Fee waivers are provided to any youth who would be unable to participate due to financial reasons. No child will be denied the opportunity to participate in 4-H due to his/her inability to pay the program fee.
4. A member may enroll in more than one county but may only receive 4-H premium money in one of those counties. Youth not residing in Edgar County may enroll in Edgar County 4-H; however, the member must meet the county attendance policy in order to participate in the fair and auctions. A shared membership agreement form must be completed, signed, and submitted to each of the counties for approval before enrollment is approved.
5. 4-H membership may not be terminated during the 4-H year without that member's knowledge and due process. Participation in activities may be restricted due to behavior or ethical misconduct. Members will be notified in advance, when possible, when such restrictions will be enforced.
6. Tenure of membership refers to the cumulative number of "4-H years" in which the member is enrolled regardless of the location of that membership.
7. 4-H'ers must attend a minimum number of meetings in order to be a member in good standing and be able to exhibit at the 4-H Fair. First year members joining on or before April 1 will be required to attend one (1) meeting. College members must attend one (1) meeting. All other members must attend a minimum of three (3) meetings. 2023-2024 4-H year requirements are subject to change based upon guidelines throughout the 4-H season. Members shall participate as part of their county 4-H responsibilities in the following activities each year:
  - 1 Pork Chop BBQ Bash (BBQ prep the Thursday before BBQ day)
  - 2 Pork Chop BBQ (held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday in June)
  - 3 4-H Fair Clean Up/Preparation Day (as scheduled)
  - 4 Give a talk and/or demonstration

## INDEPENDENT STUDY MEMBER POLICY

In order to participate in the 4-H Fair exhibition:

1. An Independent Study 4-H member must complete the Edgar County Independent Study Agreement at the time of enrollment and turn it into the office by the re-enrollment deadline.
2. Each Independent Study member shall have a minimum of three [3] contacts with a designated mentor. Mentor may be a club leader or an Extension staff member. Contacts may be in person, through written

correspondence, telephone conversations or e-mail and must be monthly, beginning no later than January of the program year. Contacts must include information on 4-H project work planned or accomplished.

3. Each Independent Study member shall participate as part of their county 4-H responsibilities in the following activities each year:

Pork Chop BBQ Bash (BBQ Preparation)

Pork Chop BBQ

4-H Fair Clean Up/Preparation Day (as scheduled)

## **GENERAL CODE OF CONDUCT**

Edgar County 4-H members are asked to remember that they are representing the youth of Edgar County and their actions will reflect how others feel about our 4-H programs.

Members are expected to comply with the following member code of conduct:

- Be courteous and respect others.
- Obey all rules established by the Illinois Extension 4-H Youth Development program and those of the local club, as well as local and state laws.
- Treat all people fairly and animals humanely.
- Respect the property of others.
- Respect the authority of adult or youth volunteers, paid Extension staff, and others in leadership roles.
- Use appropriate language and wear acceptable clothing at 4-H activities and events.
- Show kindness to others and give assistance when needed.
- Be honest and honor commitments.
- Strive for your personal best and keep trying to improve.
- Accept responsibility for personal choices.

The following conduct will not be allowed by any youth participating in 4-H activities or events and is subject to disciplinary action:

- Possession, use or distribution of alcohol and other controlled substances, including tobacco products. Information about prescription drugs should be provided to the club leader or coordinator of the 4-H activity.
- Theft or destruction of public or private property
- Involvement in sexual misconduct or harassment
- Unauthorized possession or use of weapons or dangerous materials, including fireworks
- Fighting or other acts of violence

Participants may be removed from 4-H programs or activities for misconduct. The following conduct is not allowed while participating in any 4-H activity or event including overnight events and is subject to disciplinary action:

- Willfully breaking curfew
- Unauthorized use of vehicles
- Leaving the site of the event without permission
- Participating in gambling
- Absence from the planned program

- Intentionally interfering with or disrupting the event
- Use of profane or abusive language
- Disregard for public or personal property
- Public displays of affection or inappropriate actions
- Failure to comply with direction of Extension personnel, including designated adults acting within their duties and guidelines.

## 4-H CLUB POLICIES

- A 4-H club must have at least five (5) members and one (1) screened adult volunteer leader. The club should have a written constitution and by-laws, which lists the club's name, standing committees and regular meeting date, time, and place. Other items may be added to the by-laws as the members wish. A sample outline for this information is located inside the front cover of the 4-H Secretary's Book - <https://extension.illinois.edu/sites/default/files/secretary-book.pdf>.
- Enrollment deadlines are April 1 for returning and new members; however, club membership is based on the number of members enrolled as of June 1. New members added after June 1 should be included in the following year enrollment, and they may be allowed to participate in all 4-H programs EXCEPT county and state competitive events.
- The club will hold at least 6 regular meetings, record of which is kept in the secretary's book.
- A club must have officers.
- Clubs are required to turn in their club financial statements at the start of the new 4-H year. 4-H leaders will be notified of the deadline, and it will be posted in the weekly eBlasts. It is mandated by the State of Illinois to have a copy of these reports on file in the Extension Office.

### Types of 4-H Club Leaders:

**Organizational Leader** – guides the overall organization of the club to make certain that meetings are scheduled, and members are aware of opportunities and requirements.

**Project Leader** – is a volunteer who assists members in specific project areas and may or may not attend 4-H club meetings. Clubs can identify a project leader who will be responsible for one or more project areas. They are responsible for working with members in groups or individually to help them with their projects.

**Junior Leader** – is an older 4-H club member who assumes leadership, responsibility, generally assisting in one of the areas listed above. Junior leaders build their personal leadership and communication skills while supporting club efforts.

**NOTE:** ALL leaders over 18 years of age are required to comply with the Illinois 4-H Volunteer Screening process. Volunteer application packets are available in the Extension Office.

## CLOVERBUD POLICIES

- Youth ages 5 – 7 (as of September 1 of the program year) are eligible to enroll in the Illinois 4-H Cloverbud program.
- A \$20 4-H program fee will be applied to members who participate in the 4-H Cloverbud program. No child will be denied the opportunity to participate in 4-H due to his/her inability to pay the program fee.

- The 4-H Cloverbud program is activity-based. “Activity-based” means a variety of short experiences for youth that create an eclectic, cooperative, and fun approach to learning through an immediate, positive feedback response to youth’s involvement in the activity.
- It is not the intent or the objective of the Illinois 4-H Cloverbud program to duplicate the 8 – 18 year old Illinois 4-H program experience, nor to create a mini-4-H concept. While many Cloverbuds will continue to be involved in other 4-H experiences, the Cloverbud program is designed with specific educational objectives focused on the ages of 5 – 7.
- Cloverbuds will be encouraged to exhibit one project at the county 4-H Fair. If desired, they are also eligible to participate as a non-competitive entrant in the Aerospace evaluation and launch and the Bicycle project. The Bicycle Safety Course has been discontinued. The Cloverbud should choose “Cloverbud/Cloverbuds” as their project when enrolling in 4-H Zsuite. Cloverbud clubs may complete this as a club activity. These projects will be evaluated during the fair at the Cloverbud show and tell time only (see 4-H Fair schedule for date/time). Cloverbuds wishing to also exhibit in the Aerospace and bicycle evaluation and rocket launch will be evaluated during that project’s judging time. Each exhibiting Cloverbud will receive a participation ribbon. 4-H Cloverbuds exhibits are non-competitive exhibits, and no premium funds will be paid. Cloverbud members are NOT eligible to exhibit live animals at the 4-H Fair.

## PARENTS

- Parents should become familiar with what 4-H has to offer and the responsibilities of its members. They should assist their children in selecting projects and provide materials and encouragement while the 4-H'er carries out the work. They are responsible for providing transportation for their youngsters to club meetings and other 4-H events. Parents’ support of the club by providing transportation, refreshments, or hosting a meeting in their home is most important to the success of a 4-H club. Parents are welcome at club meetings and other 4-H events.
- Volunteers are continuously sought for club and county activities and committees. Parents may serve in these capacities and are encouraged to volunteer to do so.
- Contact the 4-H leader or the Extension Office when you have questions or suggestions. Your support is essential to the success of 4-H in helping young people.

## VOLUNTEER BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES

- Treat others in a courteous, respectful manner demonstrating behaviors appropriate to a positive role model for youth.
- Obey the laws of the locality, state, and nation.
- Make all reasonable effort to assure that 4-H youth programs are accessible to youth without regard to race, color, religion, political beliefs, national or ethnic origin, immigration or citizenship status, sex, gender identity & expression, transgender status, sexual orientation, age, marital or family status, educational level, learning style, pregnancy, physical appearance, body size and individuals with disabilities.
- Recognize that verbal and/or physical abuse and/or neglect of youth is unacceptable in 4-H youth programs and report suspected abuse to the authorities.
- Do not participate in or condone neglect or abuse, which happens outside the program of 4-H youth programs, and report suspected abuse to the authorities.

- Treat animals humanely and teach 4-H youth to provide appropriate animal care.
- Operate motor vehicles (including machines or equipment) in a safe and reliable manner when working with 4-H youth, and only with a valid operator's license and the legally required insurance coverage.
- Do not possess, consume or be under the influence of alcohol or illegal substances while responsible for youth in 4-H activities, nor allow 4-H youth participants under supervision to do so. All 4-H activities and events are to be alcohol and drug free.
- Tobacco use during 4-H sponsored events is discouraged and should only be done in designated areas and not in the view of youth participants.
- Failure to comply with any of these guidelines may be reason for termination of a volunteer. Complete volunteer policies are available at the Extension Office.

## **OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

### **4-H Handbook**

The 4-H Handbook contains important information about 4-H policies, events and activities and general and livestock project requirements. It is the 4-H'ers and their family's responsibility to read the handbook in order to understand the rules. The handbook can be found on the website.

### **Project Manuals**

4-H members will receive a project manual for projects in which they are enrolled, if requested. These manuals are listed in the Illinois 4-H Project Guide and at <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/ways-participate/projects>. Some manuals are only available through computer download. There may be a cost for manuals to the 4-H member. Members should request project manuals from their leader or the Extension Office by April 15 in order to avoid paying for manuals. Extension will purchase all required books or up to 4 books total if they are not required.

### **Newsletters**

4-H families who have a member(s) enrolled in the 4-H program will receive our weekly eBlasts. eBlasts are the main form of communication from the Extension Office to 4-H families.

### **eBlast**

Each Friday the Extension Office will send an email (eBlast) to every member's email address used when enrolling in 4-H Zsuite. This email will include information about upcoming 4-H events and deadlines for the next week, as well as Extension programming within our unit.

### **Illinois 4-H Project Guide**

The Illinois 4-H Project Guide is available online at <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/ways-participate/projects>. The Illinois 4-H Project Guide lists all the state projects that are available along with suggested activities relating to each project. It also lists the manuals for projects.

# Activities and Events

## County Level

### Edgar County 4-H Fair

The Edgar County 4-H Fair provides an opportunity for members to have their project work evaluated and placed on display for public viewing. The date of the event is generally the third weekend in July through the following Wednesday, depending on the Edgar County Fair.

### BBQ Bash

The BBQ Bash is the annual preparation for the 4-H Pork Chop BBQ. The BBQ Bash is held on Thursday evening before the BBQ at the 4-H Fairgrounds in Paris.

### Pork Chop BBQ

The Edgar County 4-H Pork Chop BBQ is an annual event held on the fourth Saturday in June at the 4-H Fairgrounds in Paris. The 4-H Association sponsors the BBQ as a fundraising project for the 4-H program. All 4-H members are required to help with the BBQ. If you cannot attend day of BBQ please call the office to set up a time for the 4-H'er to help with either fair set up or clean up. A \$100 prize is awarded to the highest ticket seller. To be eligible for the \$100 prize, tickets must be turned in before or at the 4-H BBQ Bash.

### Dog Obedience Classes

Dog Obedience classes are offered in the spring as an 8–10 week class to teach basic dog obedience skills. Classes are held at the 4-H Fairgrounds and attendance is a requirement in order to exhibit at the Dog Show during the 4-H Fair.

### Project Workshops

A variety of hands-on workshops are planned throughout the year to familiarize 4-H'ers with the different project areas that are offered.

### 4-H Federation

Federation meets monthly and is an organization to provide the older youth of Edgar County with added opportunities to make new friendships, develop leadership, improve citizenship, increase interest in 4-H, plan programs to meet the needs and interests of all 4-H'ers, and to exchange ideas to carry out the local program. Any 4-H member in eighth grade and older is eligible to participate in Federation by attending the Federation meetings.

### Livestock Judging Team

Members can sign up to be on the team and practice with the coach and project expert at a variety of contests throughout the year. They will also represent the county at the State 4-H contest held in June each year.

### Cloverbuds

The Cloverbud 4-H program is open to youth ages 5-7 years old, as of September 1, current 4-H year. The youth participate in hands-on, non-competitive learning activities related to 4-H project areas. Cloverbuds meet monthly. Also offered is a Cloverbud Club in conjunction with the Raider Super Stars 4-H Club.

## Regional and Unit Level

**Officer Training** - Held each year to provide club officers with the training necessary to carry out their duties. Individual training sessions are held for each office.

**Various Workshops**- various workshops will become available throughout the year, open to 4-H'ers.

## STATE EVENTS

**Illini Summer Academies** - Teens from across Illinois gather to explore college curriculum, meet new friends, and get a taste of college life during 4-H Illini Summer Academies. Delegates spend four days with University of Illinois professors and graduate students while they try out college majors and learn about potential careers. Illini Summer Academies is open to youth who are entering 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade in Fall 2024. Registration opens in March with the academies held in June.

**Illinois Junior Leadership Conference** - The Junior Leadership Conference is for 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade 4-H members. This event is organized and conducted by the State 4-H Youth Leadership Team. Workshops help participants develop leadership skills, learn about 4-H opportunities, and explore 4-H project areas. Details are available from the Extension Office in late November. The conference is generally held in late February.

**State Judging Contests** - In mid-June, the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana hosts judging contests in livestock, dairy, poultry, and horses as well as skill competitions in forestry, horticulture, and rocket launching. Winners of these events become candidates to compete in Invitational Judging Contests held at the Illinois State Fair in August as well as in national competitions. All 4-H members are eligible to participate in these competitions.

**State Fair** - Members selected as having the top exhibit in their general project represent Edgar County at the Illinois State Fair. State fair begins the second Thursday in August. State fair exhibitors must be 8 years old by September 1 of the current 4-H year, including livestock exhibitors.

**4-H Camp** – See the weekly eBlast for more details! 4-H Camp is held in June and early July, with a session in early August, at 4-H Memorial Camp at Allerton Park in Monticello, IL. The cost of the camp is approximately \$340. The five-day camping experience is designed for youth ages 8-15. Campers participate in lots of hands-on projects, such as rocketry, conservation, cooking, performing arts, sports, and crafts. It also wouldn't be camp without hikes, campfires, rock climbing, boating, fishing, or swimming! Registration opens in late JANUARY and usually fills within a few days.

**4-H Teen Leadership Camp**- Experience all the things you love about summer camp while you experience high-intensity leadership, public-speaking, and networking opportunities with other rising 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders from across Illinois.

**Junior Livestock Conference**- Open to members in 7<sup>th</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> grades, and provides hands-on opportunity built around the science and disciplines of livestock production and exhibition. The conference is held every other year.

**State Shoots**- Illinois 4-H State Shoots in rifle, pistol, archery, and shotgun are intended to provide an opportunity for 4-H members to compete with those with like interests from throughout Illinois.

**Illinois 4-H Poultry Judging Contest**- Poultry judging examines poultry and egg production to ensure safe and nutritious consumer product. This event will be held June.

**Illinois 4-H Livestock Judging Contest**- The Illinois 4-H livestock judging program teaches youth to identify breeds of livestock and helps them make decisions which improve their local herds. The annual contest is held in June each year on the University of Illinois campus. 2024 date is June 17, 2024.

**4-H Food Action Summit**- Leaders meet to be inspired and share a vision for food security, food access, and food justice in Illinois. University of Illinois researchers, non-profit professionals, food advocates, and civic leaders will be present to lead workshops designed to empower young people with the knowledge, confidence, and resources they need to strengthen their leadership as they work to create food security in their communities.

**Illinois 4-H Dog Show-** 4-H members who excel in the 4-H Dog project are encouraged to compete at the local 4-H dog obedience contest for a chance to advance to the Illinois 4-H Dog Show. Competition in both obedience and showmanship are held. The Illinois State 4-H Dog Show uses the American Kennel Club Regulations. Click [here](#) to download the AKC Rules & Regulations (<https://www.akc.org/rules/>.) 2024 Illinois 4-H Dog Show date is August 24, 2024.

**Illinois 4-H Legislative Connection-** Provides 4-H members a unique opportunity to learn about the state legislative process and meet with elected officials. Participants include members of the Illinois 4-H Youth Leadership Team and those members who have completed Speaking for Illinois 4-H training.

**Illinois Horse Bowl Contest-** Demonstrate your knowledge of equine related subject matter in a competitive setting where attitudes of friendliness and fairness prevail. The contest operates very similar to scholastic bowls at school except all the questions relate to horses! Participants do not need to have horses or be enrolled in the horse project to participate. 2024 Horse Bowl Contest date is April 14, 2024.

**Illinois 4-H Hippology Contest-** The primary objective of the Hippology Contest is to provide, in a friendly but competitive setting, an opportunity for youth enrolled in 4-H to demonstrate the breadth of their knowledge and understanding of equine science, and in particular the practical application of this knowledge and skill. Participants do not need to have horses or be enrolled in the horse project to participate. 2024 Illinois 4-H Hippology contest date is April 13, 2024.

**Speak for Illinois 4-H Training-** You love 4-H. We need you to help tell that story to the public. 4-H members receive advanced training in public speaking at Speaking for Illinois 4-H trainings held throughout the state. That training prepares you to meet with county and state elected officials, potential donors, civic groups, and new volunteers. You'll also be the state 4-H program's voice at state legislative events, such as 4-H Legislative Connection, where 4-H members visit state legislators to tell their 4-H stories and educate the legislators about the benefits of 4-H and University of Illinois Extension.

**Illinois 4-H Horse Speaking Contest-** 4-H Horse Speaking contests help youth gain self-confidence, courage, and persuasiveness; share ideas with others; and develop the ability to speak in public to inform others about horse-related subjects and the 4-H Horse project. The event takes place, April 13, 2024, on the UIUC Campus. The entry deadline is March 29, 2024.

**Illinois 4-H State Robotics Competition-** It's one thing to program and build a robot; it's another thing to do it as a team. This statewide event is an opportunity for youth enrolled in 4-H robotics to demonstrate their learning, celebrate their accomplishments, and interact with others who share an interest in robotics. Robotics clubs may compete as a team in the annual State 4-H Robotics Competition. The contest tests a club's ability to work together creatively to solve a set of tasks.

## **NATIONAL EVENTS**

**Citizenship Washington Focus** - Travel to Washington, D.C. for one summer week filled with new experiences, sightseeing, and learning about our nation's capital and the governmental process. Delegates stay at the National 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland. Citizenship Washington Focus is open to teens ages 14-18 years of age as of May 1 in travel year. Apply for this trip in the fall. The cost is about \$1,500 with the possibility of available fee assistance. Contact the Extension Office for fee assistance availability.

## **4-H Event Assistance**

Illinois Extension, Edgar County may provide financial assistance for members who attend regional, state, and national 4-H events, as funds are available. All event assistance opportunities are announced in the weekly eBlast sent to 4-H families, on the Zsuite event dashboard and on Facebook. A fee assistance waiver form is available at the Extension Office or on your Zsuite portal. Please fill out the form in a timely manner before your event so we have time to approve any event forms.

## Awards & Recognition

We value the hard work of our 4-H members and provide several ways to recognize the outstanding accomplishments in all phases of a 4-H member's career. Some awards are given locally for participating in the 4-H program and for making progress toward your individual goals. Other awards are competitive. Each step of the awards program is voluntary.

**The Illinois 4-H Recognition program focuses on three areas of recognition; Engage, Experience and Excel:**

**ENGAGE.** This highlights the recognition and inclusion of *all members* in the 4-H community. There is no application process required to receive this recognition. Local Extension offices will create its own plan for welcoming new members and honoring all members who become **engaged** in the 4-H program. This may include eBlasts, social media highlights, news stories, t-shirts, and other special membership items.

**EXPERIENCE.** The Illinois 4-H program offers many EXPERIENCES for its members. This area offers recognition for members who are involved in diverse **4-H experiences** in club, county, multi-county, state, national and international levels. Submit the My Experience Award Application listing experiences during one year in these 4-H areas:

- Participation
- Community Service
- Leadership
- Project Learning

Recognition is based on the number of your experiences, achieve one of 5 levels:

- Bronze
- Silver
- Gold
- Diamond
- Emerald

**EXCEL.** 4-H members who EXCEL in their work can compete for county and state honors in specific award areas. There are several different EXCEL Awards. For members who were 15-18 years of age on September 1 of the current 4-H year you may apply for the Illinois 4-H State Award. Submit the Illinois 4-H Award Application in one or more of these 5 areas:

- Communications
- Community Service
- Leadership
- Personal Growth
- Project Mastery

State winners will receive either a \$1,000 college scholarship, OR a trip to National 4-H Congress, OR another national travel opportunity.

**David Lindsey 4-H Swine Recognition Memorial Award** – This award is presented in memory of David Lindsey who raised swine and was eager to teach 4-H'ers all he knew. 4-H'ers are nominated by a club leader and a winner is chosen by committee. The award is given during the livestock auction at the 4-H Fair.

**Marlene Pratt 4-H Memorial Award** – This award is given in memory of Marlene Pratt to a 4-H'er between the ages of 8-10 based primarily on the satisfaction the member gets out of 4-H and their positive attitude towards others. This award was established in 1983 to honor her active involvement in her 4-H Club and

was established by the Scott's Victory 4-H Club. 4-H'ers are nominated by a club leader and a winner is chosen by committee. The award is given at the 4-H Fair in July.

**Mary Frances Fruin Conservation Award** – This award is given each year to an Edgar County 4-H Club who has conducted outstanding programming in the area of natural resources conservation. Clubs submit an application, and the winner is chosen by a committee.

#### **Allen Hornbrook Award:**

The 4-H Member must be between the ages of **ten and eighteen** years of age for the project year.

The award may not necessarily be given to a 4-H'er with blue ribbon/champion sheep, but rather the award will be based primarily on the 4-H member's: love for sheep, both in the barn and in the show ring; ability to personally take care of his/her sheep which is evident through an obvious responsibility to his/her livestock at all times; interest in sheep evident by his/her willingness to assist other county and/or club 4-H'ers and their sheep at the fair; obvious interest in sheep throughout the year with a willingness to take advantage of any available opportunity to gain further knowledge in sheep production.

The award winner will be announced at the livestock auction at the 4-H Fair. The recipient's name will also be inscribed on a plaque that is displayed at the 4-H Fairgrounds.

Nominations can **only** be made by the 4-H Leaders and/or Sheep Superintendent(s). 4-H members cannot nominate themselves. A member can be nominated as often as a leader feels appropriate, but a 4-H member can only be the recipient of the award for a total of **two** years.

The completed nomination forms must be returned to the 4-H Association president by the deadline for submission. No late entries accepted. The award will be presented during the livestock auction at the 4-H Fair.

#### **Dan Winans Award:**

The 4-H Member must be between the ages of **ten and eighteen** years of age for the project year.

The award may not necessarily be given to a 4-H'er with blue ribbon/champion beef, but rather the award will be based primarily on the 4-H member's: love for beef, both in the barn and in the show ring; ability to personally take care of his/her beef which is evident through an obvious responsibility to his/her livestock at all times; interest in beef evident by his/her willingness to assist other county and/or club 4-H'ers and their beef at the fair; obvious interest in beef throughout the year with a willingness to take advantage of any available opportunity to gain further knowledge in beef production.

The award winner will be announced at the livestock auction at the 4-H Fair. The recipient's name will also be inscribed on a plaque that is displayed at the 4-H Fairgrounds.

Nominations can **only** be made by the 4-H leaders and/or beef superintendent(s). 4-H members cannot nominate themselves. A member can be nominated as often as a leader feels appropriate, but a 4-H member can only be the recipient of the award for a total of **two** years.

The completed nomination forms must be returned to the 4-H Association president by the deadline for submission. No late entries are accepted. The award will be presented during the livestock auction at the 4-H Fair.

**10 & 11 Year 4-H Member Award** – This award is given to honor all 10 and 11 year 4-H members to recognize their dedication and achievement throughout their 4-H career. Recognition is given during the 4-H Fair.

**Completion Member Award** - A plaque will be given to each completion member during a special recognition ceremony at the 4-H Fair. All 4-H members who have been enrolled in 4-H at least 5 consecutive years are eligible for this award.

**State Award Opportunities** – 4-H'ers 15 – 18 years of age may apply for State Awards. Candidates must complete the Illinois 4-H Award Application and submit to the county office in early January.

**Club Awards** – The Illinois 4-H Program makes available to all 4-H Clubs that excel, the opportunity to apply for the Illinois 4-H Club Award in January. On the county level, clubs may participate in the Clover Club Challenge. These awards will be presented to clubs during the fall.