

### **Illinois 4-H outlines safety requirements for in-person events**

We're looking forward to the 2021 season! As Illinois 4-H staff plan for the 2021 show and event season, our top priority will continue to be the safety of all involved, combined with a commitment to creating positive youth development experiences for our 4-H members.

We are preparing for the possibility of returning to in-person events, based on local conditions at that time and in conjunction with current IDPH guidelines.

If current local conditions are conducive to in-person events, the opportunity for face-to-face judging for DeKalb County will require that all participants, spectators, and volunteers adhere to Illinois 4-H event guidelines. We are counting on our 4-H members, their families, and our staff and volunteers to do their part to help make our upcoming events as safe as possible, whatever format they take.

The following COVID-19 social distancing and safety practices reflect requirements of the Illinois Department of Public Health and University of Illinois event guidelines. These mitigation protocols also may be modified to reflect any requirements of the local public health department based on local conditions at the time of the event.

1. Face coverings are required for all youth, spectators, volunteers, and staff when within the defined 4-H event space (inside or outside)
2. Everyone in attendance will practice social distancing during the event, including maintaining six feet of separation (both indoors and outdoors) from those who are not in their households. To allow for social distancing, building and spectator capacity may be limited based on current public health department guidelines.
3. Handwashing and sanitizing stations will be provided throughout the venue.
4. Anyone who has experienced COVID-19 symptoms within the previous seven days is asked to stay home. COVID-19 symptoms include fever, cough, loss of taste or smell, or shortness of breath.

If any of these guidelines presents a challenge for you, please contact us directly at University of Illinois DeKalb County 815/758-8194. We are happy to discuss what accommodations are possible so that we can look for ways that all youth can safely participate in this event.

As excited as we are about the possibility of stepping back into face-to-face judging, we also recognize that this is a continually evolving situation. Illinois 4-H reserves the right to adjust or cancel events in the case of identified risk, such as changes in local COVID conditions or known instances of non-compliance with safety guidelines.

We truly are stronger together. With your help, we look forward to a safe and successful summer!