



## 2020 4-H SHOW ORIENTATION HANDBOOK

**I** ILLINOIS  
Extension



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<https://extension.illinois.edu/dkk/4-h-kendall-county>



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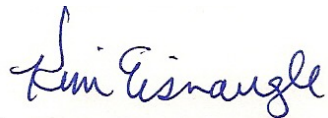
Hello!

Welcome to the world of 4-H! Within this orientation booklet, you will find a lot of information that you need to know about the 4-H Shows before and during the Kendall County Fair. We ask that you read the information carefully and follow the required guidelines and deadlines for registration. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to ask your 4-H leader or the Extension 4-H staff. We would rather you ask than miss out on something because of a misunderstanding. Don't forget that other families in your 4-H club will also be a great resource of information.

I also want to emphasize that exhibitors (and their parents) should review/read the fair book when they receive it – pay particular attention to the "General 4-H Show Requirements" as well as the rules and guidelines in each division and class in which youth are planning to exhibit.

I, as well as other Extension staff, look forward to seeing you during the 4-H Shows before and during the Kendall County Fair!

Sincerely,



Kim Eisnaugle  
Program Coordinator  
4-H & Youth Development  
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### **What is the purpose of the 4-H Shows at the Kendall County Fair?**

4-H members select projects to work on during the 4-H year. That project work is exhibited during a show/judging opportunity at the Kendall County Fair. The fair exhibit is an opportunity for 4-H members to showcase the skills and knowledge they have gained in 4-H project work during the year. Activities completed in the project books may or may not be related to the exhibit opportunity. But, the skills or knowledge youth have gained in project work will help them with their fair exhibit. The exhibit at the fair is an opportunity for youth to show what they have learned. It is the culminating event of the 4-H year. Having said that; 4-H members are not required to participate in the fair or the exhibit opportunities. It is a choice. For some, this is very important and for others it is not so important.

### **How do you know which projects you can exhibit at the fair?**

To exhibit at fair youth must be enrolled in a project in 4-H Online by April 1. Instructions for 4-H Online can be found at <https://extension.illinois.edu/global/4h/how-enroll>. In addition to being enrolled in a project in 4-H Online, youth must also submit 4-H fair entries through the Fair Entry system. These are done online at <http://kendall4-hfair.fairentry.com>. Youth should only submit entries for projects in which they are enrolled. Online Fair Entry deadline is **\*Friday, June 19 for general projects** and **\*Tuesday, June 30 for Livestock**. Help with Fair Entry is available in the Extension Office Monday to Friday from 8:30 to 4:30 pm. Please come during these hours if you would like help with this process. If you cannot come in during regular office hours please call to schedule an appointment. Staff are also available to come to a 4-H club meeting to help everyone before June 19. **(Intercultural and Public Speaking entries are due April 1, Dog Show entries are due May 1).**

**Requirements to Exhibit** – The requirement to exhibit any project, including livestock at the Kendall County 4-H Show are: 4-H club members must have the project they would like to show listed in [4honline.com](http://4honline.com) by April 1; in the [fairentry.com](http://fairentry.com) site by the entry dates listed above\*; all required paperwork must be turned in by the deadline dates (ex: horse paperwork May 1, Swine June 5, animal count June 30, etc.); must have attended the required meetings, set by your club; paid the project enrollment fee and have your risk form in place at the office by December 1.

**Animal Count Sheet** – This form is required of all 4-H members exhibiting Beef, Dairy, Goats, Poultry, Rabbits, Sheep and Swine in the 4-H Show, it is due **June 30** to the 4-H Office. This form greatly helps the Kendall County Fair Association determine the number of pens needed and how many animals will be exhibited in the 4-H and Open Shows. This form can be found in the Fair Entry Online system or on our website at <https://extension.illinois.edu/dkk/4-h-kendall-county>.

### **When is the Kendall County Fair?**

The public portion of the **2020 Kendall County Fair is scheduled for July 30-August 2**. The majority of 4-H General and Home Economic project exhibits (this includes almost everything but live animal projects) are judged on July 28 and July 29, which is before the fair opens to the public. The 4-H Clothing Judging and Fashion Revue are scheduled for July 22. Some events are held prior to fair week (i.e. clothing July 22, dog show June 24, Passport to the World Intercultural April 19, Public Speaking April 25, and horse show July 8, 11 and 12. Rain dates 9 and 18.) Animal shows (beef, cats, dairy, goats, poultry, rabbits, sheep, and swine) are held at various times once the fair opens to the public. Please refer to the schedule in your fair book for details about the 4-H schedule during the Kendall County Fair. You should have received a copy of the 4-H Show Fair Book from your 4-H Leader but it is also found on our website at <https://extension.illinois.edu/dkk/4-h-shows> under the section marked Kendall County.

### **Who organizes the Kendall County Fair?**

Only the 4-H shows at the Kendall County Fair are organized by University of Illinois Extension staff and the many wonderful 4-H volunteers. The open shows, rides, attractions, entertainment, food vendors, commercial exhibitors, fair hours, and admission/parking costs are all organized and managed by the Kendall County Fair Association. The Fair Association is run by a volunteer board of directors which consist of representatives from many county organizations. Questions not related to 4-H should be directed to their offices at 630-553-2860, email: [office.kcf@gmail.com](mailto:office.kcf@gmail.com) mailing address: P.O. Box 149, Yorkville, IL 60560.

## Where are the fairgrounds?

The 4-H Shows are held at the Kendall County Fairgrounds in Yorkville, at the intersection of Route 71 and East Highpoint Road just 1 mile west of Route 47; 10826 Illinois Route 71. The main entrance into the fairgrounds is on Highpoint Road. General and Home Economic projects are housed in the Smith 4-H Hall Building. Animals are housed in Stagecoach Pavilion (the livestock building) and tents on the east end of the fairgrounds. You may park in the grassy lot at the entrance to the fair grounds. There is a pedestrian entrance gate to the fairgrounds from that parking lot. To use the Livestock entrance, livestock entrance passes are needed and available from the Open Fair office. If you have a livestock pass that just gets your car in, please be advised that you must have a pass or 4-H wristband to get through that gate once the fair opens to the public early Thursday, July 30.

## What is the Fair Book?

The fair book is the piece we use to describe all of the exhibit requirements for the 4-H projects youth may exhibit at the fair. It is important that you read the general rules *and* the rules in the areas in which you are planning to exhibit in. A copy of the fair book is available on line at:

<https://extension.illinois.edu/dkk/4-h-kendall-county>.

The fair book for the Open Show can be found on the Kendall County Fair website at <https://www.kendallcountyfair.org/>. Anyone (adults or youth) who live in Kendall County or the surrounding counties are eligible to participate in the open show. There are fees associated with exhibiting in the open show.

## How are exhibit requirements determined for 4-H projects?

Most of our fair exhibit requirements are determined by the exhibit requirements for the 4-H portion of the Illinois State Fair. We try to make our exhibit requirements match what is expected of 4-H'ers if they are selected to represent Kendall County at the Illinois State Fair. Additionally, our 4-H fair superintendents and staff review exhibit requirements each year and make suggestions for changes.

### 4-H Project check-in and judging dates and times

PROJECT AREA	CHECK-IN DAY/TIME	LOCATION	JUDGING DAY	JUDGING TIME
Dog Show	June 24, 5:30-6 p.m.	Robinson Hall, Kane Co. Fairgrounds St. Charles	June 24	6 p.m.
Horse Show Gaming	July 8, 2-3 p.m.	Harris Forest Preserve	July 8 (9 rain date)	3 p.m.
Horse Show English	July 11, 8-9 a.m.	Harris Forest Preserve	July 11 (18 rain date)	9 a.m.
Horse Show Western	July 12, 9-10 a.m.	Harris Forest Preserve	July 12 (18 rain date)	10 a.m.
Clothing & Textiles	July 22, 9-10:30 a.m.	Yorkville Congregational	July 22	9:15 a.m.
Fashion Revue	July 22, 6-6:30 p.m.	Yorkville Congregational	July 22	7 p.m.
<b>Tuesday, July 31</b>				
Comm. & Personal Development, Engineering & Technology; Home & Family, Natural Resources and Photography	July 28, 4-6 p.m.	Smith 4-H Hall	July 28	4 p.m. until done
Bicycle/Welding	July 28, 4:45p.m.	Smith 4-H Hall	July 28	5-6 p.m. only
<b>Wednesday, July 29</b>				
Livestock	July 29, 2-8 p.m.	Fairgrounds		See specific page for species
Cloverbuds	July 29, 3:30 p.m.	Education Building	July 29	3:30-4:30 p.m.
Food & Nutrition; Plants & Soils (Crops & Horticulture)	July 29	Smith 4-H Hall	July 29	4 p.m. until done
Visual Arts	July 29	Smith 4-H Hall	July 29	3 p.m. until done
Floriculture	July 29, 4-6 p.m.	Education Building	July 29	4 p.m. until done
Clothing	July 29, 4-6 p.m.	Smith 4-H Hall		previously judged July 22
Knitting, Crocheting, Stitchery (judged in Visual Arts area)	July 29, 5:45 p.m.	Smith 4-H Hall	July 29	6-7 p.m.
<b>Saturday, August 1</b>				
Cat Show	August 1, 9:30-10 a.m.	TBD	August 1	10 a.m.
Judging: See Livestock and Conference Judging information for specific information				

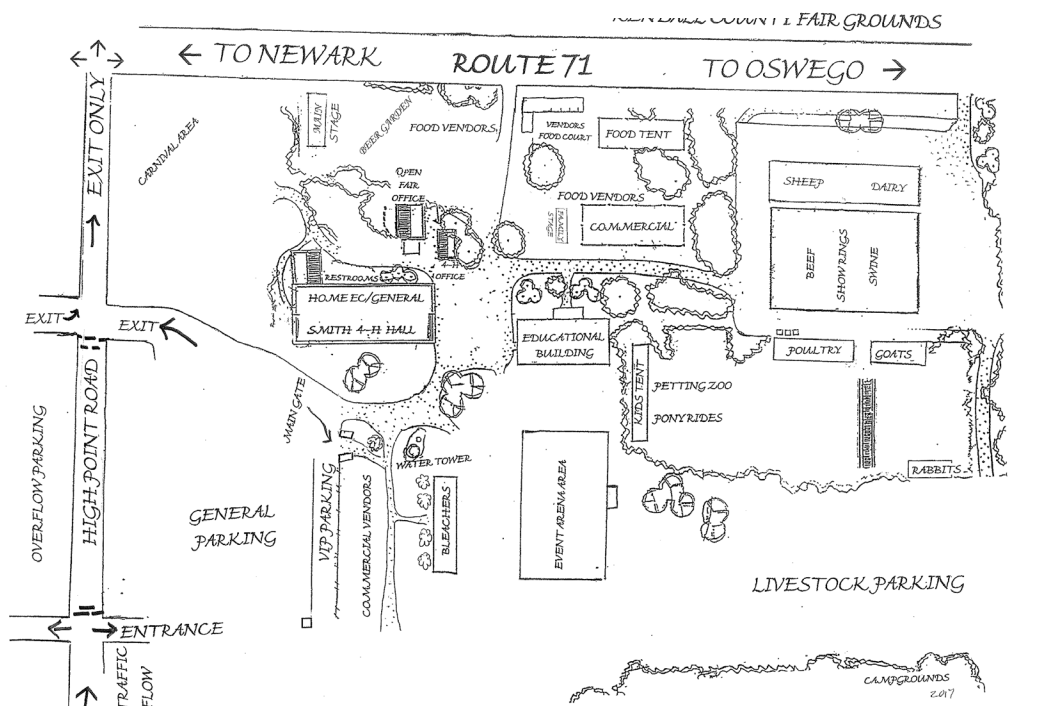
## How does project check-in work?

For general and home economic projects in the Smith 4-H Hall Building, there will be check-in tables with adult volunteers. Give your name to the volunteer at the table. Once checked in you will be called, in order of arrival, to talk to a judge. 4-H Foods check-in is at the west entrance (#1), 4-H Visual Arts is at the southwest entrance on the south side of the building (#3), Open Show entrance is at the southeast entrance on the south side of the building (#2) and clothing, community & personal development, plants and soils, engineering and tech, home and family, natural resources and photography check-in is at the east entrance (#4). Floriculture and Cloverbud check-in is in the education building (#5) on the map. *Prior to check-in youth attach the exhibit tags they received from their leaders, one to each project.*

**Please note: parents are not allowed in the building during judging. If members need help getting projects to the judging area, ask for assistance from one of our adult volunteers or a junior superintendent.**

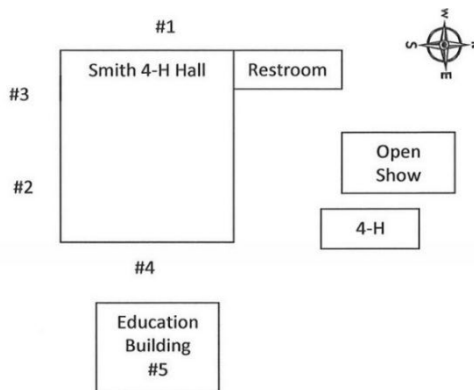
For live animal projects, check-in varies from species to species. Look for adult volunteers to help you in the various barns for check-in. They will be able to point you in the right direction.

## Fairgrounds



### CHECK IN PROJECTS AT THESE LOCATIONS...

- #1) 4-H Foods
- #2) Open: all departments  
(except Floriculture)
- #3) 4-H Visual Arts
- #4) 4-H Clothing, Community & Personal Dev.,  
Plants & Soils, Engineering & Technology,  
Home & Family, Natural Resources, Photography
- #5) 4-H & Open Floriculture



## Where do I go to have my project judged?

The **4-H Smith Hall Building** has project judging going on throughout the building on July 28 & 29. Conference judging is the method of judging utilized in 4-H. There will be signs hanging from the ceiling which will help youth decide where to go. Below is a description of what projects are judged in the various areas.

All Cloverbuds and Floriculture projects are in the **Education Building**.

**Smith 4-H Hall judging:** Sewing & Textiles (display, judging completed Wednesday prior to fair)  
Community & Personal Development includes: animal science/small pets, vet science, citizenship, communications, intercultural individual projects (passport to the world club projects were judged at International Night in April, leadership and theater arts)

Engineering and Technology includes: aerospace, bicycle, computer science, electricity, robotics, small engines, technologies, tractor, video/filmmaking, welding and woodworking.

Food & Nutrition includes: all food and nutrition exhibits, *\*Sports Nutrition*.

Home & Family includes: *\*Child Development*, collectibles, consumer education, exploratory, *\*Family Heritage*, health, and interior design.

Natural Resources includes: entomology, beekeeping, forestry, geology, natural resources projects, outdoor adventures, weather, wildlife, shooting sports, sport fishing.

Photography includes: all photography projects

Plants & Soils includes: crops, floriculture (Ed. Bldg.), horticulture (vegetable gardening), and plant & soil science

Visual Arts includes: all visual arts projects including *\*Leather*, food decorating and scrapbooking  
*\*New in 2020*

## What is conference judging?

Conference judging brings 4-H members and judges together to evaluate project exhibits. It allows the 4-H'er to learn how to improve knowledge and skills through constructive feedback. This is done through one-on-one communication as the judge and 4-H'er talk directly to each other. Conference judging gives the 4-H'er the opportunity to explain to the judge the planning and preparation involved in his/her particular project. To get the most benefits from the conference judging experience, we strongly encourage 4-H members to be present. Youth can consult page 2 of the 4-H Fair book for conference judging rules and information on project judging procedures and requirements if a 4-H member is unable to be present on the conference judging dates.

## How long will project judging take?

Timing for all judging really depends on the number of exhibits. 4-H'ers and their families should allow extra time for busy judges and hectic schedules. For general and home economics projects, judges are encouraged to spend between 5 and 7 minutes per child. So if your child has 4 or 5 youth waiting for one judge, it could be 20 minutes or more to wait. Some judges take longer than 5-7 minutes, so figure with 5-6 projects and 150 youth judging, you might spend 1-2 hours for judging at the fairgrounds. Judging is scheduled to run from 4 p.m. until done (7:30 p.m. or later) on July 28 and 29. We ask that you be patient during the judging process as Judges and Superintendents are volunteers. Plan to arrive at the beginning of judging if you have 10+ projects. If you arrive late with many projects, it is frustrating for volunteers that have been working since the beginning and had long down times in the middle. Likewise, if a youth arrives late, there is no guarantee the timing will work out for all of their projects to be judged using the conference judging format. For animal projects, the judging is done at the show day and time and it varies by species.

## **What do all the ribbons mean?**

The judging process has two phases. The first part is non-competitive and everyone receives a ribbon/rating based on their own project's individual merits. A blue ribbon means the project met the standards; a red ribbon means the project met most of the standards but needed some improvement; and, a white ribbon means the project did not meet the standards and needs much improvement. A participation ribbon will be given if a project is entered late or doesn't follow the exhibit requirements stated in the fair book.

The second phase of judging is the competitive phase. In the competitive phase, projects are judged against each other. A class champion ribbon means that project was the best in its class. A Champion ribbon means it was the best overall project in a class or group of classes. A Reserve Champion ribbon means it was the second best overall project in a class or group of classes. A State Fair Delegate ribbon means that this project was selected to represent Kendall County at the Illinois State Fair. A State Fair Alternate ribbon means that the project can go to the Illinois State Fair if the selected delegate chooses not to participate.

## **How does the Illinois State Fair figure into this?**

At the Illinois State Fair, the 4-H program organizes a junior show for 4-H members from across the state. For livestock projects, any 4-H member (age 8-18) may participate as long as they are enrolled in the appropriate livestock projects. Past 4-H members age 19+ will need to contact an FFA instructor. Entries for livestock are due July 1 (horses June 1) to State Fair.

In our general projects and home economics divisions, our county fair judges select the projects to represent Kendall County. All 4-H'ers selected for this opportunity must be at least age 8 as of September 1. There is additional paperwork to complete in order to participate in this opportunity. Projects are conference judged at the Illinois State Fair.

## **How will I know if a project is selected for the Illinois State Fair and what do I do if it is?**

If a project is selected for State Fair, it will have a state fair delegate ribbon on it after judging. If there is a ribbon on your project, you should go to the 4-H office on the fairgrounds to let them know if you will be taking your project to the State Fair. If you have multiple state fair ribbons, you will have to decide which project you want to take. The 4-H Office will update the State Fair poster in Smith 4-H Hall with the information of who will be attending, or not attending, State Fair. At the 4-H office, you will receive a detailed State Fair information packet. Kendall's State Fair date this year is Saturday, August 15.

In addition to delegates, alternates are selected. Once we know if delegates have elected to go to State Fair in a particular project area, alternates will be called if they have the option to send a project. Alternates, if chosen to attend the State Fair, will also complete the registration paperwork and receive an orientation packet.

## **Can I take more than one project to the Illinois State Fair?**

Per state rules, youth whose projects qualify can only enter one individual exhibit and one group exhibit at the State Fair. These rules do not apply to Public Presentations and Dog projects, which have a separate show for state and a local qualifying contest. In addition, livestock can be shown at State Fair regardless of results at the County Fair. Livestock entries are due July 1 to the State Fair.



### **When is project check-out?**

All (livestock, general and home economics) projects are released on **Sunday, August 2**, starting at **5 p.m.** 4-H members who take their projects earlier than the scheduled release time will receive one lower rating. All projects should be picked up by 6 p.m.

### **Are we charged admission to the fair?**

4-H members in good standing (see Requirement to Exhibit page 1) *that are exhibiting at the fair* will receive a wrist band, at no charge, to attend the fair at any time. Adult volunteers who serve as club leaders or superintendents at the fair also receive a wristband at no charge. All others are asked to pay the admission fee for the fair. The admission fee starts Thursday, July 30 at opening of the fair. Wristbands only cover admission to the fairgrounds – it does not cover rides, entertainment, or other special attractions. Parents and others interested in attending the fair can purchase season passes from the Kendall County Fair Association. The other option is to show something in open show and receive an exhibitor pass.

### **What are 4-H premiums?**

4-H premiums are a monetary incentive for 4-H exhibits at the fair. When state funds are available, 4-H members will receive a check based on the ratings they received for their exhibits. Checks must be cashed within 60 days of the check issue date. The Illinois Department of Agriculture shall use its best efforts to secure sufficient appropriations to fund premiums. Premium monies are dependent on state allocations.

The process for determining premiums is called the x-factor. Each year we receive a specific dollar amount from the Agriculture Premium Fund (APF) to be utilized in paying premiums to 4-H club members. This dollar amount is based on the past year's 4-H community club enrollment. Ratings are recorded for all exhibitors (blue = 3x, red = 2x, and white = 1x) and the total number of x's is determined. The APF dollars are then divided by the total number of x's for the "x value". Usually, "x" is worth no more than \$1.50 (sometimes it's significantly less). By utilizing the x-factor, we only pay out what is given to us to use from the state APF fund. Therefore, we do not dip into local funding for premiums. The x value will change from year to year, depending on the number of community club members and the number of exhibits that those members exhibit at the fair.

### **A Note about Fair Safety**

The Kendall County Fair is a popular public event and brings in thousands of people from throughout the county and surrounding areas during the week. Each year, there are new and different events happening during the week. Over the years, the demographics of the typical fairgoer has changed and evolved. We would like to remind parents to have the health and safety of your children at the forefront of your thoughts while participating in and visiting the Kendall County Fair.

For youth ages 12 and under, there should always be a parent or adult guardian with them or on the fairgrounds. For youth ages 13 and older, it may be okay to let them visit the fair by themselves, be sure to discuss proper behavior expectations and safety precautions and procedures with them. Also, please keep in mind, that it is not the responsibility of your 4-H leader, other 4-H volunteers, or Extension staff to supervise your children while they are on the fairgrounds (unless you have made such arrangements specifically with an individual). This event is a wonderful opportunity to make memories with your family that will last a lifetime!

### **What if I have questions?**

Many questions can be answered by referring to the 4-H Fair book or the 4-H Weekly Updates (email). If not, please don't hesitate to ask your 4-H leader, experienced 4-H families, or Extension Office staff.

The Extension Office is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. The phone number is 630-553-5823.

We may not always be available at that moment or have an answer to your question, but we will do our best to get back to you as quickly as possible. We would rather you ask questions in advance rather than get to the fair and be upset or disappointed.

During the fair, the 4-H office on the fairgrounds is located next to Smith 4-H Hall.

### **Suggestions and Comments**

If you or your family have any suggestions or comments you would like to share with the Extension office about the 4-H program or the fair experience, please address your comments in writing. Although we will gladly listen to your ideas and suggestions, the best way for us to remember them is if you put them in writing. The Extension Office staff is always open to new ideas for ways to improve the 4-H show and fair, so your suggestions are welcome.

Links you may find helpful:

<https://extension.illinois.edu/global/4-h-youth-development>

<https://www2.illinois.gov/statefair/Pages/default.aspx> (Illinois State Fair)

<http://www.kendallcountyfair.org/> (Kendall County Fair)

## What is 4-H?

4-H is a voluntary, informal education program for boys and girls who are ages 8-18 (or in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and +). 4-H is open to everyone regardless of race, religion, color, gender, marital status, familial status, national origin, disability, or political belief. Additionally, 4-H Cloverbuds is a program for youth ages 5-7.

### What do the four Hs stand for? Head, Heart, Hands, and Health.

#### 4-H members pledge –

“I Pledge:

My head to clearer thinking  
My heart to greater loyalty  
My hands to larger service  
My health to better living,  
for my club, my community,  
my country and my world.”

For more information, contact us at: University of Illinois Extension Kendall County,  
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If you need reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, please contact the Extension Office.  
Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time for meeting your access needs.



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