

# 4-H FAMILY

## ST. CLAIR COUNTY



JUNE 2025

# NEWS



Hello 4-Her's and Families,

I hope everyone is doing well and starting to prepare for the 4-H Shows!

I, Meghan Cope, wanted to let you know that I am on maternity leave but gradually returning to work. Over the next few weeks, I will be working only a few days, and I plan to return full-time in July.

In the meantime, if you have any questions about fair entries, projects, or the fair itself, please feel free to email me. However, please understand that I may not respond right away. You can also reach out to our 4-H extra help, Erin Nemsky, at [enemsky@illinois.edu](mailto:enemsky@illinois.edu), and she will be happy to assist you as well.

If you have any questions or concerns, please let me know. I am excited to start coming back to work, especially just in time for the 4-H Shows!

Best regards,

Meghan Cope  
4-H Youth Development Program Coordinator  
Illinois Extension serving Madison and St. Clair counties

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#### **Office Hours:**

Monday- Friday: 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
Closed Noon to 1:00 p.m. for lunch

#### **Monroe County Office**

901 Illinois Ave., PO Box 117  
Waterloo, IL 62298  
618-939-3434, 618-939-7708 Fax

#### **Madison-St. Clair County Branch Office**

900 Hillsboro Ave  
Edwardsville, IL 62025  
[uie-mms@illinois.edu](mailto:uie-mms@illinois.edu)

#### **University of IL Extension at the JJK**

#### **FAN Innovation Center**

2051 Lynch Ave  
East St. Louis, IL 62204  
618-875-8939, 618-875-8786 Fax

#### **Extension County Director**

*William Catalano*

#### **4-H Youth Educator**

*Emily Reece*

#### **Madison & St. Clair 4-H**

#### **Coordinator**

*Meghan Cope*

#### **Office Support Specialist**

*Nicole Hellon*

#### **Visit our website:**

[extension.illinois.edu/mms](http://extension.illinois.edu/mms)

#### **Like us on Facebook:**

University of Illinois Extension:  
St. Clair County 4-H

University of Illinois Extension-  
Madison, Monroe and St. Clair Unit

#### **Follow us on Instagram:**

Madison, Monroe, St. Clair- IL

## ***Have you registered to exhibit at the 4-H General Show or Livestock Shows?***

*If you are enrolled in any general projects or livestock, you will need to register to exhibit by:*

***June 30.***

### **How do you do this?**

1. Review the 4-H Showbook for class guidelines:

<https://go.illinois.edu/2025StClairCounty4-HShowbook>

2. Follow these instructions:

<https://go.illinois.edu/2025StClairCountyFairEntryInstructions>

(If you made a profile in Fair Entry last year, you should log in with the username/password you previously used, or you can reset your password.)

3. Register here:

<https://fairentree.com/Fair/SignIn/21236>

**\*Do not "submit" until all members in your household are registered. If you do, you will have to wait for staff approval before the system will allow you to enter additional members.**



## RECORD KEEPING & AWARD APPLICATIONS

The 2025 Award Applications are posted on our website:

[https://go.illinois.edu/Monroe\\_AwardApp](https://go.illinois.edu/Monroe_AwardApp)

You can also keep track of your 4-H activities with the 4-H Experience log to help prepare for filling out the Award Application:

<https://go.illinois.edu/MyExperienceLog>

## LIVESTOCK & HORSE RECORD BOOKS

All members are encouraged to fill out a 4-H Record Book for livestock and/or horse projects exhibiting at a 4-H Show.

It is REQUIRED to fill out 4-H Record Books for any livestock that members are showing in a market class.

**Members must complete a livestock record book for the current year to be eligible to show in a market class for the preceding year.**

The PDF versions of the books are found here:

<https://go.illinois.edu/LivestockRecord>.

They may be filled in on your computer, or you may print them off and fill them in by hand (neatly).

The Instruction Guide is found here:

[https://go.illinois.edu/LivestockRecord\\_Guide](https://go.illinois.edu/LivestockRecord_Guide)  
to help you through the process of filling the book out.

Books are due at the Extension office by September 15.



# 2025 4-H General Project Show Schedule

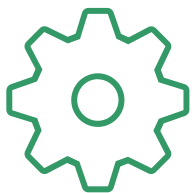
If you need accommodations, please let Meghan Cope know by emailing her at [mawolff@illinois.edu](mailto:mawolff@illinois.edu)

Time	Club
5:30 p.m.	Project Check-In
6:00 p.m.	4-H Members that are Superintendents
6:15 p.m.	First Year 4-H Members
6:30 p.m.	All 4-H Members

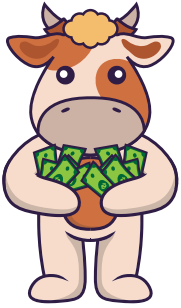


## 4-H Club Watch Schedule for General Projects

Club	Date	Time
4-H General Projects Show	Thursday, July 30	5:30 pm -?
New Ideal	Friday, August 1	10:00 am – 1:00 pm
Farmers & Friends	Friday, August 1	1:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Atkins Acres	Friday, August 1	6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Emerald Clovers	Saturday, August 2	10:00 am -1:00 pm
Creative Critters	Saturday, August 2	1:00 pm - 4:30 pm
Closed for parade	Saturday, August 2	4:30 pm - 6:00 pm
Turkey Hill Busy Bees	Saturday, August 2	6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Happy Herd	Sunday, August 3	11:00 am -12:30 pm







## 2024 4-H PREMIUM CHECKS

If you exhibited a 4-H project(s) at 4-H Shows in 2024, you will receive your 4-H premium check very soon. Please remember to cash your checks ASAP.

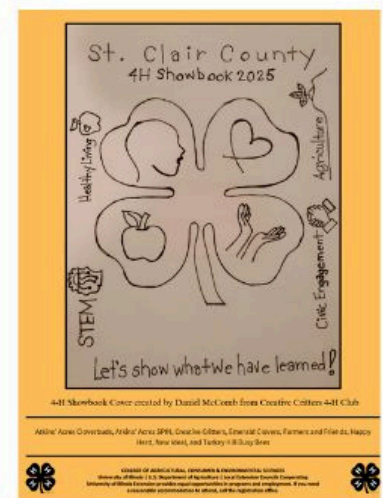
# St. Clair County 4-H



## 4-H Showbook Available

The St. Clair County 4-H Showbook contains all the information you need for showing a project at the 4-H shows.

- Show Schedule is in the front of showbook
- Some projects might require a publication.
- Some projects might have changed requirements
- Superintendent contact information is in the back of the book with each livestock category



Contact your club leader or view online at:  
<https://go.illinois.edu/2025StClairCounty4-HShowbook>

Illinois Extension

# 4-H Livestock Record Book Common Questions

## Who has to turn in a livestock record book?

It is mandatory for any 4-H member who is participating in a livestock market class to complete a livestock record book.

## Where do I find the livestock record book?

You can get the livestock record book on the Madison, Monroe and St. Clair Counties web-page at [https://extension.illinois.edu/sites/default/files/livestock\\_record\\_writable.pdf](https://extension.illinois.edu/sites/default/files/livestock_record_writable.pdf).

## Is there a tip sheet on how to fill out the livestock record book?

Yes, the tip sheet can be found here:

[https://extension.illinois.edu/sites/default/files/2020\\_livestock\\_record\\_book\\_instruction\\_guide.pdf](https://extension.illinois.edu/sites/default/files/2020_livestock_record_book_instruction_guide.pdf).

## If I show in multiple livestock species for a market class, do I have to have one per each species?

If a 4-H member is showing multiple species in a market class, they must fill out a separate livestock record book for each species.

## If I have more than one market animal in same species, can they be put on the same livestock record book?

If a 4-H member is showing multiple animals within the same species for a market class, they can choose to fill out the livestock record book for just one market animal, both market animals, or for the entire herd. For example, if a youth is showing two market wethers in the goat category, they can choose to fill out the record book for only one of them or include both animals in the same book. They can even add in their whole herd to the livestock record book if they want to.

## When are livestock record books due?

4-H members must submit their record books to the Extension Office by September 15, 2025.

## What happens if I do not submit my livestock record book?

4-H members who do not submit a livestock record book by Sept. 15, 2025, will not be able to show in that livestock market class for the 2026 4-H Show.

## Who is keeping track of who has to turn in a livestock record book?

4-H staff are keeping track of who has to turn in a livestock record book.

## Do 4-H leaders have to check livestock record books before the 4-H shows?

Leaders are encouraged to check in with the 4-H members to see if they have started their record books or need assistance. If help is needed, please refer to the attached tip sheet or contact our unit email ([uie-mms@illinois.edu](mailto:uie-mms@illinois.edu)) to reach one of our 4-H staff for support.



## 840 TAGS IN BEEF, DAIRY CATTLE, AND SWINE

We are excited about our new 4-H year and hope you are! We have a couple of changes for livestock that we would like to bring to your attention as the new year has begun.

### 840 Tag Requirement

**New this year, all swine, beef, and dairy cattle must have a USDA official animal identification number ear tag (840 tag).** The tag must be both visually and electronically readable. We know that there will be many questions, so here are a few answers to some basic questions:

- Who must have the 840 tag?
  - Beef – all heifers, all cows, and all steers being exhibited at the fair
  - Dairy Cattle – all heifers, all cows, all steers, and all calves being exhibited at the fair
  - Swine – all gilts and all barrows being exhibited at the fair
- Where do I get the 840 tag?
  - Breeder from which you purchased your animal from (up to breeder)
  - Local Veterinarian
  - Purchase a tag from a farm supply store (Valley Vet, Nasco)
  - Purchase from the Department of Agriculture:  
<https://agr.illinois.gov/animals/animalhealth/premises-registration.html>
- How do I purchase my own tags?
  - The location where the animal is being kept will have to have a registered Premise ID with the state of Illinois. With the Premise ID, you will be able to purchase tags from a farm supply store such as Valley Vet, Nasco, or the Department of Agriculture.
- We don't have a Premise ID, which hasn't been updated. What do we do?
  - You can obtain an application from the Illinois Department of Agriculture and send it in. The turnaround time is very quick.
  - If you have a Premise ID but need it updated, contact [agr.premises@illinois.gov](mailto:agr.premises@illinois.gov), and she will help you!
  - If you need a new Premise ID, you can log onto <https://agr.illinois.gov> and search for "Fillable Premise Form," then fill it out and email it to the address listed on the form.
- Will tags be checked when we arrive at the show?
  - Yes, superintendents will be checking that all beef, dairy cattle, and swine have the tag.
  - If an animal does not have a tag, it is not allowed to be on the fairgrounds.
  - There is a chance that a State employee will be at the show monitoring that tags are checked, and if they are not, then 4-H and the fairgrounds can be fined.





## 2024-2025 4-H HANDBOOK

Need to know more about...

- Project selection
- 4-H Shows
- Member expectations
- Livestock requirements
- Where to go for questions

Check out the St. Clair County 4-H Handbook:

<https://go.illinois.edu/StClairCounty4-HHandbook>.

## 2024-2025 4-H MEMBERSHIP POLICIES

Youth **five through seven years of age, on or before September 1** of the current 4-H year, may enroll in 4-H Cloverbud groups.

Youth who are **eight and have yet to reach their nineteenth birthday on or before September 1** may enroll in 4-H clubs.

A youth who enrolls in a St. Clair County 4-H club must:

- **Attend at least four meetings** to be called a 4-H member. Youth who do not comply are not eligible to participate in 4-H exhibitions, receive 4-H premiums, or other 4-H awards and recognitions available to 4-H members. **(College students can be enrolled when they live away from home and must attend at least one meeting when they are home on breaks or virtually.)**
- **Present a talk or demonstration at a club meeting during the project year.**
- **Youth enrolled in a livestock market class must turn in a livestock record book by September 15. If not completed by September 15, the youth cannot participate in a livestock market class the following year.**
- Complete enrollment by **January 15 to exhibit projects at 4-H shows.** Youth may enroll after this date, but are not eligible to exhibit projects at shows. Projects can be added up to this deadline, but the addition of projects is not accepted online after this date (except for SPIN Clubs).



Dear 4-H Families,

The St. Clair County Extension and Education Foundation has a new online fundraising campaign that uses the website GiveButter.

<https://givebutter.com/StClairCoExtEd24-25> The website will hopefully make it simpler for supporters to donate. It also makes sharing the fundraiser with family, friends, and community partners interested in donating and supporting Extension programs in St. Clair County easier. The website allows individuals to make one-time or multiple donations throughout the year. You can pay with a credit card, PayPal, or Venmo. When you make a contribution, you will have the opportunity to write a message on the event website, or you can be anonymous.

The GiveButter website replaces the direct mailer donation request sent in previous years. If you would like to contribute to the Foundation but prefer not to use the GiveButter website, please make your check payable to St. Clair County Extension and Education Foundation and mail it to P.O. Box 117, Waterloo, IL 62298.

The St. Clair County Extension and Education Foundation makes an annual financial contribution to Illinois Extension. That contribution supports local programs serving St. Clair County. The Foundation has organized fundraisers throughout the year, including the Gardens in Bloom tour and the 4-H T-shirt sale.

If you have any questions about the Foundation or if you are interested in serving on the Foundation and organizing fundraising events, please let me know. I am happy to connect you with a Board member.

Thank you,  
Meghan Cope



## St. Clair County Shooting Sports 4-H Clubs

Are you interested in joining a St. Clair County 4-H Shooting Sports Club? Below are our clubs that you can join. If you have any questions, contact Meghan Cope via email at [mawolff@illinois.edu](mailto:mawolff@illinois.edu).

### 4-H Blasters Rifle Shooting Sports Club

Meeting: 1st Saturday of  
the month  
Discipline- Rifle  
Location: Lebanon  
Leader: Ryan Stoks  
(rstoksdadd@gmail.com)

### St. Clair Hot Shots Archery Shooting Sports Club

Meeting: 1st Saturday of the  
month  
Description: Archery  
Meeting Date: Lebanon  
Leader: Ryan Stoks  
(rstoksdadd@gmail.com)



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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### July

- July 31 - General Project Show at the Mascoutah Ag Building
- August 1 - Rabbit Show at 9 am at the Mascoutah Ag Building
- August 1 - Poultry Show at 1 pm at the Mascoutah Ag Building
- August 1 - Swine Show at 6 pm at the Mascoutah Ag Building
- August 2 - Beef Show at 7:30 am at the Mascoutah Ag Building
- August 2 - Dairy Cattle Show to follow the Beef Show
- August 2 - Sheep Show to follow Dairy Cattle Show
- August 2 - Goat Show to follow the Sheep Show Building
- August 3 - Master Showmanship at the Mascoutah Ag Building



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