



4-H Family Guide

Revised 12/2023



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The Indiana 4-H Youth Development mission is to provide real-life educational opportunities that develop young people who will have a positive impact in their communities and the world.

Indiana 4-H Youth Development strives to be the premier, community-based program empowering young people to reach their full potential.

Hendricks County 4-H is committed to creating a diverse, equitable, and accessible environment for all members, past, present, and future. If there are any accessibility needs or accommodation requests for you to be able to fully engage in the 4-H experience, please contact the Extension Office at hendrcces@purdue.edu or call 317-745-9260.

What is 4-H?

4-H welcomes young people of all beliefs and backgrounds, empowering them to create positive change in their communities.



4-H HISTORY

4-H began over 100 years ago and has since grown into the largest youth development program in the nation. 4-H prepares young people to be leaders in their community and around the world through hands-on experiences alongside their peers and caring adults. Backed by a network of more than 6 million youth, 540,000 adult volunteers, 3,500 professionals, and more than 60 million alumni; 4-H delivers research-based programming around positive youth development. 4-H is delivered through America's 109 land-grant universities and the Cooperative Extension Service—reaching every corner of our nation. In Indiana, 4-H can be found in all 92 counties as delivered through Purdue Extension. Community clubs, afterschool programs, school enrichment, camps/workshops, and special programs are all ways youth across Indiana can be involved with the 4-H program.



4-H SLOGAN
Learn by Doing

4-H MOTTO
To Make the Best Better

4-H COLORS
Green
&
White

HOW DO I JOIN?

4-H enrollment opens on October 1 every year. Enroll online at v2.4honline.com.

Interested individuals need to visit v2.4honline.com to create a profile, select a club(s), and sign up for projects. For help selecting a club see page 7! Returning members will log into your v2.4honline.com account, register for the upcoming year, and make any necessary changes.

The 4-H program is open to any youth in grades 3-12 and has a \$15 Program fee (up to a \$45 family max). Mini 4-H is available to youth in grades 1-2 and has no fee to enroll. Scholarships are available for families that need financial assistance. Please contact the Extension Office to request assistance.

4-H EMBLEM



HENDRICKS CO. 4-H

WEBSITE:
[HTTPS://HENDRICKSCO4H.COM/NFG](https://hendrickSCO4H.COM/NFG)



ONLINE REGISTRATION



*I pledge
my:*
Head
to clearer thinking

Heart
to greater loyalty

Hands
to larger service

Health
to better living

**For my club,
my community,
my county, and
my world.**

4

What's the difference between 4-HOnline and FairEntry online systems?

4-HOnline is our online registration system for all youth who enroll in the 4-H program. 4-HOnline enrollment opens October 1st annually. This system will collect your program fees and allow you to sign up for your 4-H projects and clubs. Members will also utilize their 4-HOnline profile to submit scholarships and to register for events, programs, and trips. Register at v2.4honline.com.

FairEntry is a system we use to help organize the 4-H Fair, print exhibitor labels, and make show bills. FairEntry tells us exactly what projects will be exhibited at the fair. The FairEntry program opens in early June and closes before the fair. All members exhibiting at the fair have to login to FairEntry and sign-up for the projects they are bringing to the fair for judging and exhibit. Livestock exhibitors will need to sign-up their animals for the classes they intend to show in.

4-HOnline and FairEntry do save your information and profiles making it easier for returning members! Members can also add or drop projects every year.

If you need any help, or experience technical difficulties with 4-HOnline or FairEntry please do not hesitate to contact our office. We are here to help!

Opportunity For All

Hendricks County 4-H is committed to creating a diverse, equitable, and accessible environment for all members - past, present, and future. The *Opportunity4All* Plan is designed to help Extension professionals and volunteers by providing resources to aid them in developing accommodation plans to meet the needs of Hendricks County 4-H youth with disabilities. 4-H can be greatly beneficial to children with disabilities. 4-H activities can be a valuable way to gain new skills such as responsibility, integrity, leadership, and communication. Extracurriculars can also help these children build relationships, explore their interests, and gain a sense of belonging. The learning and experiences that a member gains through 4-H are just as important, if not more important, as a “perfect” final project or a blue ribbon at the fair. 4-H can be an inclusive program for children with disabilities and their families.

Basic Procedures for Creating an Opportunity4All 4-H Plan:

1. 4-H parent/guardian submits request form to local Extension office. Request forms must be submitted in a time frame that is reasonable to consider the request and implement the approved accommodations. Some requests take longer than others to implement, and it is beneficial to turn the form in as early as possible prior to the event.
2. County 4-H Educator reviews request.
3. County 4-H Educator meets with 4-H parent/guardian (and member) to discuss the request.
4. Determine reasonable accommodations.
5. County 4-H Educator sends notification of approved accommodations to the parent/guardian.
6. Family and 4-H Educator work together to establish best ways to communicate with volunteers/leaders that need-to-know accommodation information.

Hendricks County 4-H is committed to creating a diverse, equitable, and accessible environment for all members - past, present, and future. If there are any accessibility needs or accommodation requests for you to be able to fully engage in the 4-H experience, please contact the Extension Office at hendrces@purdue.edu or call 317-745-9260.



The link to the application is below:
<https://hendricksco4h.com/Opp4All>

4-H DEFINITIONS

4-H Enrollment

- Each 4-H member enrolls online at the beginning of the 4-H year (October 1) to join a 4-H Club. The 4-H projects to select for the year are listed on the website as well.

4-H Club

- A 4-H Club is recognized as at least five eligible youth from at least three families that have completed the annual 4-H enrollment process. A 4-H Club has by-laws, a constitution, club officers, and abides by Indiana 4-H policies. Clubs may be community clubs, which cover several educational topics over the year, or specialty clubs, which have programs focused on a certain area over the year.

4-H Project Workshop

- Workshops in 4-H are an opportunity to learn more about the skills needed to complete a certain project. You may not finish a project at the workshop, but will gain knowledge and understanding of what is expected.

4-H Handbook

- The handbook lists the rules for Hendricks County 4-H Projects for every exhibit. A new handbook is published annually. It is very important that all 4-H families are familiar with this book in order to create projects that follow the guidelines for exhibition if intending to exhibit at the 4-H Fair in July.

Project Manuals

- 4-H project manuals are resources available to you in the Extension Office. Typically written by university specialists, the manuals serve as suggestions of areas to study within your 4-H projects.

Newsletter - Clover Connection

- The county 4-H Newsletter, Clover Connection, is emailed to every 4-H family once a month. This gives information about county and state-level 4-H programs and activities offered to 4-H members, leaders, and parents. For many events, this will be your only source of information.

"My Record of Achievement" White Cards

- This is a form which members record their projects and describe their experiences each 4-H year. Members record activities, meetings, and committees they have participated in during the year. Think of these as your "permanent record" for 4-H. They are submitted each year around fair to your club leader and maintained on file in the Extension Office.

Drop/Add

- May 15 is the date in which members should have signed up for projects they plan to complete or drop any projects they do not wish to continue.

Animal ID on 4-H Online

- The process in which 4-H members enter identifying information related to the animals they plan to exhibit at the 4-H Fair. This is DUE MAY 15th with NO EXCEPTIONS as this is a state rule.

Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care Program

- All 4-H members who exhibit livestock (except Cats, Dogs, Little Critters, Horse & Pony, and Llama/Alpaca) are required to complete an animal quality assurance program. If exhibiting in county/state fair, ILQAP works; out-of-state may require YQCA. Information on the program and registration will be sent to livestock exhibitors and will be in the newsletter closer to February/March.



4-H members can be in one or as many clubs as they wish! Clubs provide the opportunity for face-to-face project review/questions, community service, program updates, and much more. Club meeting attendance is not required to be in 4-H but we encourage our members to attend club meetings.

All 4-H Clubs will pass along important program updates. However, some clubs are dedicated to special interest areas, and others are general community clubs. Special interest clubs include Beef, Dog, Horse & Pony, Rabbit, Shooting Sports, Sheep, and Swine. If you are interested in any of these projects, it is suggested you also enroll in the corresponding club. Special interest clubs focus their education on their specific area, whereas a community club may offer a wide range of educational programs.

Use the club locations and map on the next two pages to help choose a club that meets your needs. For more details about each club, contact the Purdue Extension - Hendricks County office at 317-745-9260 or email hendrces@purdue.edu.

***Information is subject to change
based on availability**

**PICK A CLUB THAT FITS
YOUR SCHEDULE**

**PICK A CLUB THAT FITS
YOUR INTERESTS**

**PICK A CLUB THAT IS
CONVENIENTLY
LOCATED FOR YOU**



HENDRICKS COUNTY 4-H CLUB INFORMATION

4-H Clubs

*Members will sign up for **at least one** of these in 4-HOnline in order to complete enrollment

1. The following clubs are based out of the Avon Area:

Washington Winners

2. The following clubs are based out of the Brownsburg Area:

Bulldog Clovers

Clover Club/Sodbusters

3. The following clubs are based out of the Clayton Area:

Working Wonders

4. The following clubs are based out of the Danville Area:

Center Stage 4-Hers

Discovery Club

Gifted 4-Hers

Happy Farmers

5. The following clubs are based out of the North Salem Area:

Country Clovers

6. The following clubs are based out of the Pittsboro Area:

Guys and Gals

Pittsboro Trailblazers

7. The following clubs are based out of the Plainfield Area:

4-H Explorers

Lucky Clovers

8. The following clubs are **Special Interest Clubs**.

They meet at various locations:

Beef Club

Bridle Bunch (Horse & Pony)

Happy Heelers (Dog Club)

Outdoor Skills/Shooting Sports

Sheep Club

Swine Club

Rabbit Club

Poultry Club

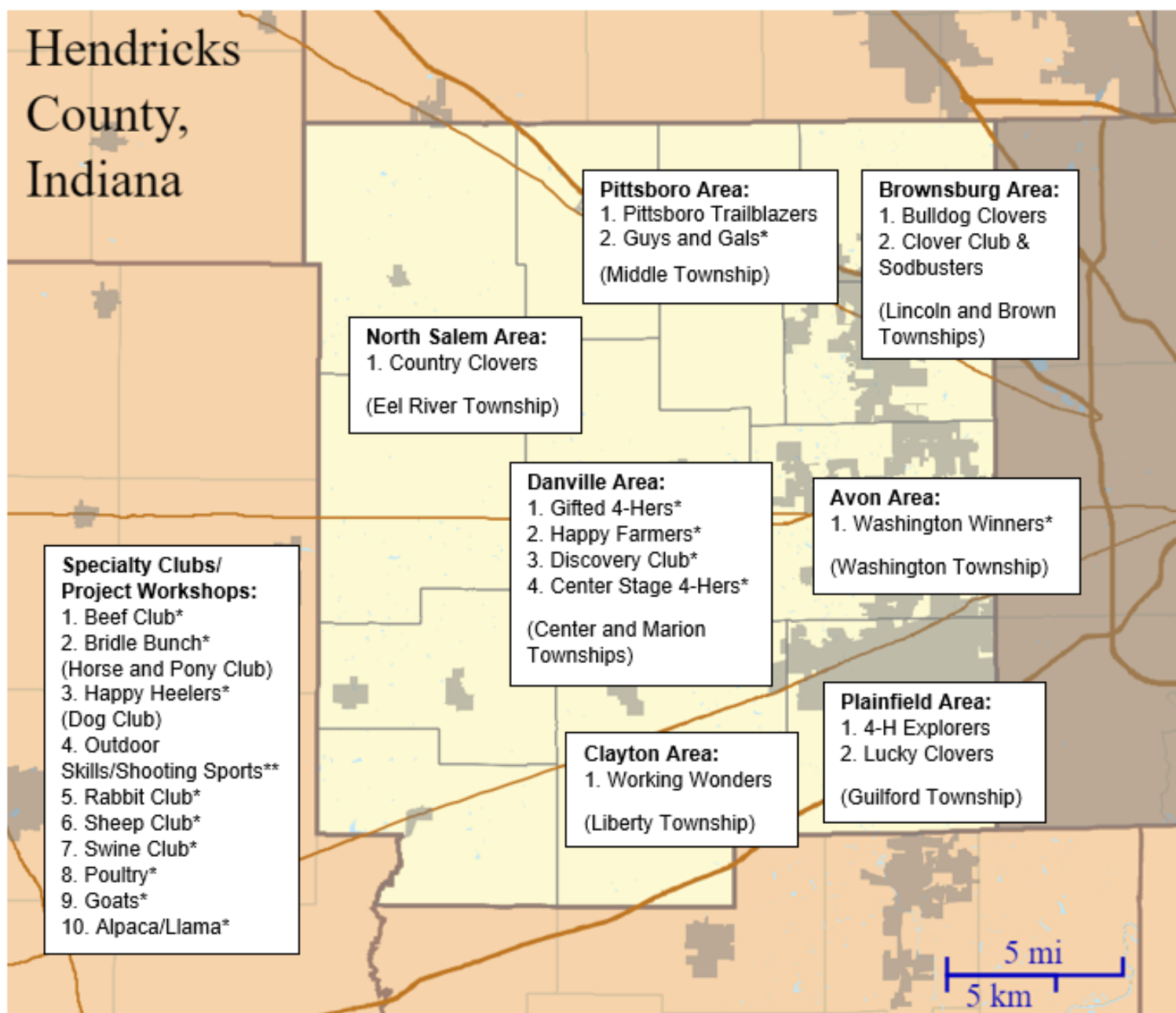
These community clubs are based out of different towns/townships, but may not meet in that area. Many clubs meet at the fairgrounds.



Leader contact information can be found at:

<https://hendricksco4h.com/HCGS>

HENDRICKS COUNTY 4-H CLUB MAP



***These clubs/project workshops meet at the Fairgrounds, unless otherwise stated.**

****Shooting Sports utilizes the Fairgrounds, Danville Police Department firing range, and the Brownsburg Conservation Club for “live fires” of different disciplines.**



4-H PROJECTS

More than 70 projects available!

There is no limit to the number of projects a youth can sign up for, but start slow. The projects listed below are for youth in grades 3-12. For Mini 4-H projects (grades 1-2) please see next page.

*Workshops/Meetings are available for several projects.

4-H Projects Include:

AEROSPACE	GENEALOGY
ANIMAL EDUCATION	GEOLOGY
ARTS & CRAFTS	GIFT WRAPPING
ASTRONOMY	HEALTH
ATV	HOME ENVIRONMENT
BEEKEEPING	JUNIOR LEADERS
BICYCLE	LLAMA/ALPACA CRAFT
CAKE DECORATING	OUR ENVIRONMENT
CAMPING & HIKING	PHOTOGRAPHY
CHILD DEVELOPMENT	SCRAPBOOK
COLLECTIONS	SEWING
COMMUNICATIONS	SHOOTING SPORTS
COMPUTERS	SMALL ENGINES
CONSUMER CLOTHING	SOIL & WATER SCIENCE
CREATE YOUR OWN THING	SPORTFISHING
CROPS	SPORTS
ELECTRIC	TRACTOR/MOWER SAFETY
ENTOMOLOGY	& OPERATOR SKILLS
FASHION REVUE	TRAPPING & FURBEARER
FLORICULTURE	VETERINARY SCIENCE
FOOD BAKED/PRESERVATION	WEATHER & CLIMATE SCIENCE
FOOD PREPARATION	WILDFLOWERS
FORESTRY	WILDLIFE
GARDEN	WOODWORKING

4-H Animal Projects Include:

BEEF
CATS
DAIRY
DAIRY STEER
DOG
GOATS
HORSE & PONY
LITTLE CRITTERS
LLAMA & ALPACA
POULTRY
RABBITS
SHEEP
SWINE

ADD OR CHANGE
PROJECTS AT:
v2.4Honline.com by
July 1st!



MINI 4-H PROJECTS



Grades 1-2 Free to participate



Arts & Crafts



Bugs



Collections



Cookie
Decorating



Dinosaur



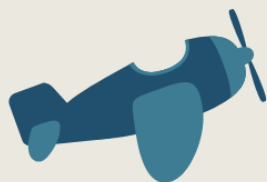
Farm
Animals



Foods



Gardening



Models



Nature, Plants,
& Trees



Oceans



Pets



Sewing



Showing
Animals



Sun, Stars,
& Space



Wildlife

Why should I join 4-H?

4-H has something for everyone!

4-H OPPORTUNITIES

4-H members can take part in short-term specific interest workshops that focus on anything from robotics to food science! 4-H members also have access to numerous scholarships, educational opportunities, and can build life skills through community involvement. Most of all, 4-H is real life experience which is exemplified by our motto, "Learn by Doing."

4-H TRIPS

Youth can attend several trips during their time in the 4-H Program at a local, state, and national level. A few trips that youth qualify for include:

4-H Camp

- For grades 3-6 - 3 days at Shakamak State Park (Camp Counselors are trained 4-H members in grades 9-12).

4-H Round Up

- For grades 7-9 - 3 days at Purdue University participating in career exploration and interactive education.



4-H Academy

- For grades 9-12 - 3 days at Purdue University participating in a more in-depth career exploration and education in a specific area than the general sessions of Round Up.



State Jr. Leader Conference

- For grades 9-12 youth involved with the Jr. Leader Program. During this conference, youth learn new leadership skills and gain knowledge of various activities that can be done in their local community.

National 4-H Congress

- For grades 10-12 - 6 days in Washington, D.C. working with federal officials and learning, practicing and applying skills to make positive changes in society.

College & Career Exploration

Several programs and events throughout 4-H give youth the opportunity to explore various careers. Events such as 4-H Round Up and Academy allow youth to experience life on a college campus and discover possible majors for the future.



**Opportunities
subject to change
based on
availability*

4-H Opportunities

Spring Break Programs

- **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math)** - This one day program allows kids to explore the different areas of STEM through robotics, 3-D printing, structure building, and MORE!
- **GEM: Get Experience in Mindfulness** is an Awareness and Acceptance Stress Management Program for ages 10 and up – adults too! This program places an emphasis on stress management taught through practical and interactive mindfulness-based activities to facilitate experiential learning. The program is a research based and theory driven program that meets National Health Education Standards.
- **Chef University (CHEF U)**- Chef University is a 6-hour (two 3-hour) cooking class for youth combining the mission areas of 4-H: STEM, Healthy Living and Civic Engagement to offer a unique experience for youth. Chef U teaches math (measuring, counting and sequencing), science (solids to liquids, and browning), and language (listening, letter and word recognition). Youth also learn to follow MyPlate as a healthy eating guide, the different food groups, and the importance of color on their plate. Finally, youth have the opportunity to experience new cultures through food.

Mentorship Programs

4-H offers many opportunities for youth to develop critical leadership and creativity skills. These confidence skills can become a helpful tool for their future endeavors. For example, Jr. Leaders offers a chance for 7th-12th graders to help with the Mini 4-H program, which is for 1st and 2nd graders.



Scholarships

4-H offers state and local scholarships for both current high schoolers as well as those currently attending college, university, or trade school.

Hendricks County 4-H Scholarships are posted on the website below around January 1st and are due approximately March 15th.

Indiana 4-H Scholarships found here:
<https://in4h.org/scholarships/>

<https://extension.purdue.edu/county/hendricks/4h-youth/index.html>

Additional Opportunities for Involvement

- Community Clubs
- Workshops
- SPARK Programs
- Day Camps
- Volunteers
- Special Programs



PEOPLE IN 4-H

LOCAL LEVEL

4-H Member

- Anyone in grades 3-12 who participates in a local 4-H group or activity.

Mini 4-H Member

- Anyone in grades 1-2 who participates in local Mini 4-H group or activity.

4-H Club Leader

- A volunteer who is responsible for the organizational part of a 4-H Club.

Jr. Leader

- A 4-H member who is in grades 7-12 and is willing to assume additional leadership and mentoring responsibilities within the 4-H Program. These youth typically meet once a month and engage in monthly community service projects.

Mission Coordinators

- Volunteers who help coordinate programs, events, and activities related to the Mission Areas of 4-H (STEM, Healthy Living, and Civic Engagement).

4-H Project Leader/Advisor

- A volunteer who is responsible for organizing and conducting activities related to a certain project.

SPARK Program/Club Volunteer

- Coordinates a minimum of 6 hours of education for youth based on a topic of interest to the members and within the volunteer's area of expertise.

Screened Volunteer

- Adult who has successfully completed the necessary application and screening procedure to help in a volunteer role within the 4-H Program.

COUNTY LEVEL

4-H Youth Council

- This is the policy-making group and governing body of 4-H at the local level. This group also oversees spring flower sales, 4-H trips, 4-H awards, and ensures 4-H programs are following local, state, and national guidance.

4-H Fairboard

- This group oversees the coordination, management, and fundraising efforts related to the 4-H County Fair. Additionally, they manage the Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds' facilities.

Adult Leaders Group

- This group meets 3-4 times a year to support volunteers in leadership roles through education, planning, and resources. This group works closely with Fairboard and Council.

County 4-H Youth Development Extension Educator

- Represents Purdue University Cooperative Extension as the county-based professional responsible for the day-to-day operations and decisions of the county 4-H Youth Development Program. He or she helps interpret 4-H policies and works directly with volunteers in the development of the county 4-H program.

Purdue Extension - Hendricks County

- The connection to Purdue at the local level. In addition to the 4-H Youth Development Extension Educator, Hendricks County Extension also has an Agricultural and Natural Resources/Community Development Educator and a Health and Human Sciences Educator. These three Educators conduct programming in their major topic areas. Our Community Wellness Coordinator is involved with changing policies at the county level in order to encourage healthy lifestyle changes. Our County Staff members are professionals who guide and help the general public related to all areas of Extension.



PEOPLE IN 4-H

STATE LEVEL

Purdue University

- Purdue is a land-grant university that has the responsibility for taking education to the people of the state. The 4-H Youth Development Program is part of the directive in the State 4-H Office, housed in the College of Agriculture.

Program Leader

- The State 4-H Youth Development Program Leader has the responsibility for the 4-H Programming at the state level.

State 4-H Specialists

- State 4-H Specialists have responsibility to the 4-H Youth Development Program on a statewide basis. Each specialist is responsible for a specific part of the total 4-H Program. They are based at Purdue University and under the direction of the State 4-H Youth Development Program Leader.

Indiana 4-H Foundation

- This nonprofit organization works to provide additional resources for the 4-H Program. They sponsor scholarships, fund county and state programs, finance the State 4-H Volunteer recognition program, and support educational award trips for outstanding youth on the state level. They also sponsor the 4-H license plate program. Contact the Extension Office for information about license plates for your vehicle.



NATIONAL LEVEL

National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)

- A federal agency within the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and is a part of USDA's Research, Education, and Economics (REE) mission area. The agency administers federal funding to address the agricultural issues impacting people's daily lives and the nation's future.

National 4-H Council

- Cooperates with local and state 4-H programs as it provides funding for national initiatives. Located in Washington, D.C.



4-H PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Parents can be encouraged to share their different talents, means, and available time with the 4-H Program. Not all people do the same thing well. It takes some analysis to find who can and will do certain tasks. For example, the parent who will never appear in a public meeting may be willing to build a booth or float, etc.

The most successful 4-H members have the interest and support of their parents or another caring adult. Often parents are willing to help, but are not sure how, when, or where they may get involved. Below are some suggestions for how parents can support 4-H members at home (#1-9) and beyond (#10-14).

1. Learn about the 4-H Program - what it stands for, how it operates, how it is funded.

2. Advise your child in selecting 4-H projects. Help your child understand how many projects will be reasonable to complete in a given year.

3. Show your interest in and enthusiasm for the projects selected. Find out what is suggested for the members to do and learn in that project(s).

4. See that when a project is started, it is also completed.

5. Be an example! Help your 4-H member be a good sport and appreciate the successes of others.

6. Encourage your 4-H member when they succeed and even more when they fail. Help them see progress achieved and knowledge gained, not just the end result.

7. Stay informed about 4-H through information that comes to members of your family. Be a 4-H booster in your community.

8. Make 4-H club work FAMILY work. Encourage youth to do their work and carry their own tasks to completion. Be their guide only.

9. Provide transportation to local meetings and county events in which your child and others of the club are interested. Or, provide refreshments for meetings or special functions.

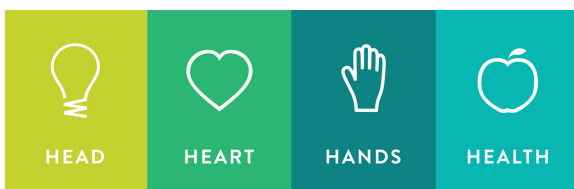
10. Attend 4-H meetings and other special events.

11. Help your 4-H member find a way to participate in special events that interest them such as county contests, camps, fairs, displays, shows, etc.

12. Support your local 4-H volunteers. Get acquainted with them. Let them know you appreciate their efforts.

13. Offer your services to assist the local volunteer. You have knowledge and skills that are needed in 4-H.

14. If the need arises, help find local volunteers for your 4-H club. Several kinds of volunteers are needed: organizational, project, and more. Consider helping in one of these ways yourself. Applications are available in your local Extension Office.



Remember that the real objective of 4-H is to develop your children into outstanding, productive adults. The way they do their activities and projects and conduct themselves at competitive events and meetings will help set work and character standards for the rest of their lives.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What do I need to do to be a member?

To be an active 4-H member simply complete your online registration in the October 1st- July 1st window, pay the associated fees, and complete your 4-HOnline profile! You do not have to exhibit at the fair to be considered an active 4-H member. Attendance at club meetings, while recommended, is not required. 4-H members can attend a one-time workshop, participate in trips, or simply join to make new friends!

There are over 70 projects you can complete! There is even a self determined category for any projects that may not fit into a predetermined category.

How do I know what projects to choose?

What do I need to exhibit at the fair?

To exhibit at the fair 4-H members need to have completed their 4-H online profile within the October 1- July 1st enrollment window. 4-H members will select the projects they are interested in in 4-HOnline. In June, the FairEntry program will open. Members will log into FairEntry through their 4-HOnline account and register the projects they are bringing to the fair.

Mini 4-H members can exhibit two projects at the fair and can choose from: arts & crafts, bugs, collections, cookie decorating, dinosaurs, farm animals, foods, gardening, models, nature, plants & trees, oceans, pets, sewing, showing animals, sun, stars & space, and wildlife. Contact our office or go online to get a copy of our mini 4-H member guide. Mini 4-H members can also attend club meetings, Mini 4-H Day Camp, and other great activities!

What can Mini 4-H members do?

Where can I go for help?

If you have any questions you can call the Extension Office at 317-745-9260 or email hendrces@purdue.edu. Every year, in mid-late January, the 4-H Handbook is published online or available in the Extension Office. The handbook contains all the project exhibit requirements.

4-H YEAR TIMELINE

October 1

4-H Enrollment Opens
v2.4honline.com



November - February

Club Meetings begin



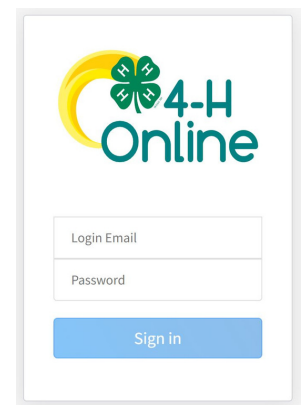
May

Livestock Tagging



May 15

Livestock ID Deadline



June

4-H Trips & Camps
FairEntry Opens



July

HENDRICKS COUNTY 4-H FAIR!!

July 1

FairEntry Deadline



August

Indiana State Fair



4-H and other opportunities
offered year-round

4-H TRIVIA

What do the four H's stand for?

Head, Heart, Hands, Health

Does the 4-H Clover have the same protections as the United States Presidential Seal?

Yes



True or False: 4-H was once know as Boys' Club and Girls' Club.

True

True or False: The clover emblem originally had 3 leaves.

True



Do you know any of these famous 4-H members?

Jimmy Carter, Orville Redenbacher, Julia Roberts, David Letterman, Luke Bryan, Dolly Parton, Herschel Walker, Carla Hall

Do you know what year the 4-H program was founded, as an out of school agricultural training program for boys and girls in Ohio?

1902

Finish this sentence "I pledge my head to..."

Clearer thinking



How many youth are currently participating in 4-H in the U.S.?

6.5 MILLION

What land-grant university is Indiana 4-H affiliated with?

Purdue University





Purdue Extension

Hendricks County



Ashley Alexander

**Hendricks County
4-H Educator**



Contact Our Office

Call:

317-745-9260

Stop By:

1900 E. Main St.

Danville, IN 46122

E-mail:

hendrces@purdue.edu



Extension

Purdue University is an equal
opportunity/equal access/
affirmative action institution.



NOTES

Do you know . . .

1. Your 4-HOnline username? _____

2. Your 4-HOnline password? _____

3. The name of your club? _____

4. What is your club meeting schedule? _____

5. What projects are you taking this year? _____

6. When are your project workshops? _____

4-H Web Address: v2.4honline.com

Additional Notes:

