



Jackson County 4-H 2025 County Fair Premium Book

Your guidebook to prepare and register for your 4-H experience at the Jackson County Fair.



Jackson County Fair is July 28 - August 2, 2025
Jackson County Fairgrounds – 78748 550th Ave, Jackson, MN 56143

Fair Registration Opens
Tuesday, May 25, 2025 - log into [FairEntry](https://z.umn.edu/JacksonMNFaireentry) (z.umn.edu/JacksonMNFaireentry)

Fair Registration Closes
Wednesday, June 25, 2025 at 11:59 p.m.

A Message from Jackson County 4-H

Welcome to the 2025 Jackson County 4-H showcase season! The summer season is busy with many different 4-H activities, events, and showcases.

Think about all the 4-H project areas you have been involved in within the last year. Whether it be through 4-H meetings and activities, school assignments, extra curriculars, hobbies, and more, there is likely an area in 4-H that you could showcase your project learning!

This premium book is your one-stop-shop for details on our biggest 4-H summer showcase event: the Jackson County Fair. Please take some time to review this book.

Here are just a few reminders that we will continue to share leading up to fair time:

- The judge's decision is final. If there is a concern or issue in regards to a placing, awards given, etc. **the 4-H'er and their parent or guardian** should talk to the 4-H Extension Educator or Support Staff immediately as there is a process for these types of situations.
- As we enjoy the week our youth have worked hard towards throughout the year, **we would like to remind everyone of the [MN 4-H Code of Conduct](https://z.umn.edu/MN4Hcodeofconduct) (z.umn.edu/MN4Hcodeofconduct)**. When youth enroll or re-enroll as a member, they and their parent/guardian(s) agree they have read, accepted and will abide by the full University of Minnesota Extension 4-H Youth Development (Minnesota 4-H) Code of Conduct. When you enroll or re-enroll as a Minnesota 4-H volunteer, you also agree to accept and abide by the Minnesota 4-H Code of Conduct.

4-H staff are available and happy to help with questions you may have; please reach out to us with questions and concerns. Stay connected with us all summer long and Visit the [Jackson County Extension webpage](https://z.umn.edu/JacksonMN4H) (z.umn.edu/JacksonMN4H) and follow us on [Facebook](https://z.umn.edu/JacksonCo4honFB) (z.umn.edu/JacksonCo4honFB).

During the fair, the Extension Office in Lakefield will be closed. **Please visit us at our fair office in the Olson Pavilion building between the Beef Barn and big tent from Thursday, July 24 - Monday, August 4, 2025.**

Wishing you all a safe and fun showcase season!



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What is the Premium Book?

The Jackson County 4-H Premium Book is printed and published online for 4-H members, parents, and adult volunteers. It is used for planning and registering projects to exhibit at the Jackson County Fair.

Please study this premium book carefully as it contains all rules and other information pertinent to exhibiting as a 4-H member. You are responsible for adhering to the rules in the premium book. Please note that information provided in the premium book is subject to change at the discretion of the Extension office and every attempt will be made to inform you of those changes.

2025 Jackson County Fair 4-H Schedule

*****All dates and times are subject to change. - Changes made will be communicated with 4-H families and volunteers via email, the monthly Jackson Journal, and the Jackson County 4-H Facebook page.***

Below is the [simplified 4-H fair schedule \(z.umn.edu/Jackson4HPublicFairSchedule\)](https://z.umn.edu/Jackson4HPublicFairSchedule)

Please remember to refer to the [detailed schedule for 4-H members and families \(z.umn.edu/JC4-HMemberFairSchedule\)](https://z.umn.edu/JC4-HMemberFairSchedule) as this has links to particular sign up forms and additional 4-H exhibitor information.

Important Dates and Deadlines Prior to County Fair

February 18, 2025 at 11:59 p.m. - Market Beef Animal ID Deadline

May 15, 2025 at 11:59 p.m. - All Animal ID's and 4-H Member Enrollment/Re-Enrollment Deadline

May 25, 2025 at 12:00 a.m. - FairEntry registration OPENS and 4-H Club Exhibit Registration opens

June 25, 2025 at 11:59 p.m. - FairEntry registration CLOSES and 4-H Club Exhibit Registration closes

July 8, 2025 at 11:59 p.m - NEW this year*

- Presentation Day Judging Day Scripts Due to Office
- Judging time slots open for Presentation Day Judging, Livestock Interviews, Livestock Demonstrations, Pet Judging, and

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Presentation Day Judging at the JCC Performing Arts Center

6:00 p.m. - Dress Rehearsal for Evening of Talent at the JCC Performing Arts Center

6:30 p.m. - Evening of Talent - open to the public at the JCC Performing Arts Center

Monday, July 28, 2025

2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - 4-H'ers, pick up REA T-Shirts and Runnings Buckets in the Olson Pavilion

2:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - General Project Judging in the Blue Building

5:00 p.m. - Help needed! -Wood Chips placed in the Olson Pavilion -

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. - Livestock Early Entry (only those who signed up) - stalled by 9:00 p.m.

Tuesday, July 29, 2025

6:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. - Livestock Entry Day- All livestock must be stalled/caged by 8:00 P.M.

- Various Times - REQUIRED Livestock Check-Ins see [full schedule](#) of check in times (z.umn.edu/JC4-HMemberFairSchedule)

12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Livestock Interviews in the Olson Pavilion
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - Horse warm-ups/practice in the Horse Arena
3:30 p.m. - Livestock Demonstration Judging in the Olson Pavilion
5:15 p.m. - Whole County 4-H Member Picture in the Olson Pavilion
5:30 p.m. - Winners Circle - in the Olson Pavilion

Wednesday, July 30, 2025

8:00 a.m. - 4-H Poultry Show in the Olson Pavilion
12:00 p.m. - 4-H Rabbit Show
3:00 p.m. - REQUIRED Swine Check-in at Swine Barn pens
3:00 p.m. - 4-H Sheep Show in the Olson Pavilion
7:00 p.m. **New Time - 4-H Goat Show in the Olson Pavilion

Thursday, July 31, 2025

7:00 a.m. - Check-in Prospect Calves
8:00 a.m. - 4-H Beef Show (Starting with the 4-H/New Vision Feeder Calf Program) in the Olson Pavilion
9:00 a.m. - 4-H Horse Show in the Horse Arena
5:00 p.m. - 4-H Dairy Cattle/ Goat Show in the Olson Pavilion

Friday, August 1, 2025

8:30 a.m. - 4-H Swine Show in the Olson Pavilion
12:00 p.m. - 4-H Premium Livestock Auction Sign-Up/Changes DUE in the 4-H Office
1:00 p.m. - 4-H Pet Judging in the Beef Barn Office
3:00 p.m. - 4-H Pet Parade in the Olson Pavilion
5:00 p.m. - MN 4-H State Fair Sign-Up in the 4-H Office

Saturday, August 2, 2025

8:00 a.m. - 4-H Livestock Premium Auction Bidder Check-In / Breakfast
9:00 a.m. - 4-H Livestock Premium Auction Starts
12:00 p.m. - Premier Showman Contest
2:30 p.m. - MN 4-H State Fair Meeting

Sunday, August 3, 2025

7:00 a.m. - All 4-H General Projects and Livestock Released

Monday, August 4, 2025

8:00 a.m. - Nobles County 4-H Dog Show (Jackson Dog exhibitors compete at this show) at Nobles County Fairgrounds
8:30 a.m. - Jackson County General Livestock Judging Contest Registration and Check-in
9:00 am. - Jackson County General Livestock Judging Contest Starts

Friday, August 15, 2025

1:00 p.m. - Murray County 4-H Llama/Alpaca Show (Jackson Llama/ Alpaca exhibitors will compete at this show) at Murray County Fairgrounds

REA T-Shirts and Runnings Buckets at the Fair

Federated Rural Electric provides all our 4-Hers and Screened Volunteers a free REA 4-H T-Shirt to be worn during the county fair, and more specifically during the Ribbon Auction and Winners Circle. **Youth who partake in one of those events will also be given \$10 cash for wearing their shirt!**

Running's buckets will be given to every enrolled Jackson County 4-H'er.

***NOTE:** T-Shirts and buckets have already been ordered, a limited amount of extra shirts and buckets will be available with priority given to new members who joined after the order was placed.*

Please thank Federated Rural Electric and its employees as well as your local Runnings stores for continuing to be generous Jackson County 4-H Sponsors!

Camping at the Jackson County Fairgrounds

Camping for 4-H families is available for purchase during the Jackson County Fair. Reservations are open NOW! To reserve a spot for the week, contact Jeff or Vicki Thiner.

- Text (507) 220-5440 or (507)-227-2323
- Email at jvthiner81@yahoo.com

Greetings from the Jackson County Ag Society

The officers and directors of the Jackson County Fair Board are proud to present the 2025 Premium Book for the 157th Annual Jackson County Fair to be held at the Jackson County Fairgrounds. We would also like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to everyone who has so willingly supported the fair each and every year. It has been this cooperation which has made this 157th annual exhibition possible. We would love to formally invite you to attend the 2025 Fair!

The 2025 **Open Class and FFA Premium Book** is available online and can be found in paper copy at the Jackson County Public Libraries and banks. The online link can be found on our [website \(z.umn.edu/JacksonCoFFAandOpenClass\)](https://z.umn.edu/JacksonCoFFAandOpenClass) or by scanning the QR Code. This book will include the superintendents for each class as well as guidelines for entry. Also available on Facebook and the website will be a list of the fair events, which include a basic list of the 4-H events.



The fair is committed to being a safe space for the residents of Jackson County and other visitors to enjoy. We ask that you not only be kind to each other but also abide by the following guidelines, policies, and any posted signs regarding parking, smoking, alcohol, livestock, etc.

In case of an emergency, please contact one of the fair board members or stop by the fair office or beer garden (BARnyard) for assistance. Security will be on site for the safety of all livestock and people on the fairgrounds. They will be present at the carnival or other events as well.

The Fair Board Office will be open on the Jackson County Fairgrounds as staff are available or by appointment.

The Jackson County Fair Board Officers

Tom Holthe - President

Dave Maschoff - Vice President

Chelsy Weires - Secretary

Terri Bargfrede - Treasurer

Jackson County Fair Association

PO Box 175

Jackson, MN 56143

contact@jacksoncountyfairmn.com

Phone: 507-849-7222 (during the week of the fair)

Jackson County Ag Society Guidelines and Policies

1. The Jackson County Ag Society supports and adopts the Rules, Regulations, Eligibility Guidelines, Requirements and Consequences as outlined in the 2024 Jackson County 4-H Premium Book as a part of the Jackson County Fair Board General Entry Rules.
2. The management of the Jackson County Fair reserves to itself the final and absolute right to interpret these rules and regulations and arbitrarily settle and determine all matters, questions and differences in regard hereto or otherwise arising out of, connected with or incident to the fair.
3. Jackson County Fair Board reserves the absolute right to reject entirely or accept conditionally any entry or application for entry or to withdraw classification and prizes in any department upon the closing of entries whenever it, in its sole judgment, determines that such action would be in the best interest of Jackson County Fair.
4. The management reserves the right to amend or add to these rules, as in its judgment, it may deem advisable.
5. Any person who violates any of the following or special rules will forfeit all privileges and premiums and be subject to such a penalty as the Jackson County Fair Board may order.
6. The fair management is not responsible or liable for failure of electric or gas service.
7. The fair management will not be responsible for typographical errors in this book, but should any occur, the same will be interpreted by the Jackson County Fair Board.
8. Being a family-orientated fair, fair management reserves the right to approve or disapprove certain displays.
9. Any person or group that conducts a protest action must limit its activity to the location designated by the Jackson County Agricultural Society. The designated location is the far northeast corner of the Jackson County Fairgrounds, staying within 100 feet of the property line. No entrances or exits can be obstructed or limited in any way at any time.
10. NO DOGS shall be allowed on the Jackson County Fairgrounds unless it is a certified service animal (proper ID required); its presence is authorized by the Fair Board in advance of attendance and it is either leashed or kenneled at all times while on site; its presence is part of an organized and announced fair activity and shall be removed immediately following the activity. Anyone violating this rule will take the pet off the grounds immediately upon being asked by any fair official or law enforcement personnel. No refunds will be given.
11. No golf carts, ATV's, UTV's, scooters, mopeds, roller skates, in-line skates, skate boards, bicycles, or other non automotive wheeled vehicles are allowed on the Jackson County Fairgrounds other than those operated by fair personnel OR authorized and permitted by the Jackson County Agricultural Society.

12. Smoking of any kind including e-cigarettes is not allowed in any building on the Jackson County Fairgrounds.
13. No weapons of any kind are allowed on the Jackson County Fairgrounds, except by licensed law enforcement personnel.
14. Premium checks not presented for payment within 90 days from the date of issue will become void and revert to Jackson Co Ag Society.
15. The Jackson County Fair will be a free gate fair. No passes will be given. There will be a charge for parking and everyone must purchase a parking ticket to park in the fairgrounds during the fair.
16. While the greatest care will be taken by the management of the Jackson County Fair to protect patrons of the fair, each individual will be held personally responsible for their actions and the management will not be accountable or responsible for any injury.
17. Upon entering the fairgrounds, be advised that photographs and/or video may be taken of the activities or events and used for future fair promotions, publications and social media.
18. No person will be permitted to distribute advertising materials or soliciting on the fairgrounds by any person, parties or organizations except from their paid exhibitor/vendor space. Posting or distribution of any kind is strictly prohibited. Any violation of this rule will result in being asked to leave the fairgrounds without refunds.
19. No live animals shall be given away or sold from a concession, exhibit or Children's Barnyard display.

Weather Based Early Release Guidelines and Procedures

In the event of extreme weather conditions (ie. excessive heat, monsoon rains, etc.) during the course of the Jackson County Fair that may cause undue stress on livestock/poultry and exhibitors, the Jackson County Fair Board has established the following

Weather Based Early Release procedures:

1. Exhibitors or immediate family members shall report concerns to the appropriate Livestock Superintendent(s). At the discretion of the Livestock Superintendent(s), those concerns will be brought to the 4-H Extension Educator for review.
2. Based on each situation, the Livestock Superintendent(s) and Extension Educator will meet with the Official Fair Veterinarian and at least THREE members of the Jackson County Fair Board Executive Committee to discuss the concerns and make a determination as to the most appropriate course of action to safeguard the safety of livestock/poultry and exhibitors while maintaining the cohesion of the Jackson County Fair.
3. The Jackson County Fair Board and Extension Educator will put out a joint statement announcing the determination and implement appropriate timelines and checkout processes for any approved Weather Based Early Release.

If it is determined to allow a Weather Based Early Release for one species, that does NOT mean all species will be released. Each species / Superintendent requests and concerns will be reviewed and determined separately.

*If a Weather Based Early Release is authorized, keeping livestock/poultry exhibits on the grounds or removing them from the grounds is at the discretion of each exhibitor/family. **Participating in a Weather Based Early Release is NOT mandatory.** Each exhibitor/family will be responsible to notify the Extension Educator of their choice following the established timeline and checkout process.*

If exhibitors/families chose to remove livestock/ poultry exhibits utilizing an authorized Weather Based Early Release, those exhibits will NOT be allowed back on the grounds for any

other participation at the Jackson County Fair (ie. Premier Showmanship, Premium Auction, Open Class exhibit, etc.). See the 4-H Premium Book for additional information regarding Premier Showmanship and Premium Auction in relation to an approved Weather Based Early Release.

Animal Testing and Examination

The fair veterinarian shall have full authority in all matters of livestock sanitation, infectious or communicable diseases as the representative of the Board. All questions regarding these rules should be directed to: **R Kent Leckie, Cottonwood Veterinary Clinic, 507-831-1473**

Exhibitors must obey the rules and regulations governing public exhibition of livestock and poultry in Minnesota as adopted by the Minnesota Livestock Sanitary Board. The exhibition management may adopt more but not less restrictive health requirements than required by state rule.

Livestock and poultry that exhibit symptoms of any infectious or communicable disease, including ringworm and warts, may not be exhibited. All animals must be examined by the Official Veterinarian on the day they are admitted to the exhibition and at least once daily during the exhibition.

The Official Veterinarian will order the immediate removal to a quarantine facility or removal from the exhibition premises of any livestock with symptoms of infectious or communicable diseases. The Official Veterinarian will notify the Jackson County Fair Board of any quarantine or removal of livestock prior to livestock leaving the grounds.

Animals removed from the grounds, will not be allowed back on the grounds for any other participation. Animals placed in a quarantine facility must remain there until removed from the exhibition premises. They may not enter a showring. This includes livestock with warts and ringworm. Therefore, livestock affected by these diseases cannot be exhibited.

Gate - Auto Parking at the Jackson County Fair

Main gate is open from 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. *Parking charges begin at 7:00 a.m. Tuesday.*

- Daily Parking Fee - \$10.00 a day or \$30 for the week
- Campers - \$150.00 for the week

FREE RIDES FROM THE PARKING LOTS ON REQUEST AT THE FRONT GATE

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ESSENTIAL INFORMATION FOR ALL 4-H'ERS

4-H at the County Fair

The Jackson County Fair is one of the highlights of the 4-H year. It is a busy, exciting, and rewarding time for many 4- Hers. It is an opportunity for youth to showcase their special efforts, interests, and talents by exhibiting projects. To “learn by doing,” you are encouraged to enter exhibits in each project area that interests you.

Your county fair experience should be a fun and enjoyable learning experience. You should think seriously about what you want to learn from preparing your project and how you will show that in your exhibit. Hopefully you will be rewarded accordingly. However, the ribbon or recognition is only secondary; the skill and knowledge of the project are what will really help you down the road in life. Please participate in the county fair with a receptive and learning frame of mind. If you set your goal to learn new skills and knowledge, you will always be a winner.

County Fair Eligibility

- All Jackson County 4-H members (in grades K through one-year beyond high school) are eligible to exhibit at the Jackson County Fair. **All grade levels for 4-H members pertain to the grade just completed prior to the county fair.**
- All members must be **enrolled in the 4-H program by May 15 in 4HOnline** to be eligible for placing above a blue, including special awards and state fair trips.
- **Animal ID requirement:** For a 4-H member to exhibit at the county fair without penalty, all beef, dairy, dog, goat, horse, llama, rabbit, sheep and swine must have been entered in the required state 4-H ID system.
 - **Animal ID data must be submitted on 4HOnline by May 15, 2025, with the exception of Market Beef & Dairy Steers due February 18, 2025.**
- **Not all exhibits are eligible for state fair trips.** Some projects have classes for the county fair only. We have tried to indicate specifics regarding state fair trips in each project area.

4-H Exhibit Rules

Minnesota 4-H has a series of policies to provide continuity in programming from county to county and address risk management of our events and activities at county and state fairs.

Please review and understand these policies before coming to the county fair.

These [statewide policies](https://z.umn.edu/4h-policies) (z.umn.edu/4h-policies) include but are not limited to:

- [Absentee judging of projects](https://z.umn.edu/4h-absentee-judging) (z.umn.edu/4h-absentee-judging)

- [Judging experiences for youth with disabilities or injuries](https://z.umn.edu/4h-judging-experience) (z.umn.edu/4h-judging-experience)
- [Cloverbud Policies and other info regarding age, judging procedures, showing animals, etc...](https://z.umn.edu/4h-policies) (z.umn.edu/4h-policies)
- [Code of Conduct](https://z.umn.edu/4h-policies) (z.umn.edu/4h-policies)
- [Grievance Policy](https://z.umn.edu/4h-policies) (z.umn.edu/4h-policies)
- [IAFE Show Ethics](https://z.umn.edu/IAFE-show-ethics) (z.umn.edu/IAFE-show-ethics)

If you have questions, please contact the 4-H Extension educator.

Code of Conduct

All Jackson County 4-H members, volunteers and parents are expected to abide by the Minnesota 4-H Code of Conduct when participating in all 4-H sponsored events during the 4-H year, including the Jackson County Fair.

Code of Conduct for 4-H Members

- 4-H members are not only representing themselves, but Jackson County 4-H, their club, and family. It is expected that you act in a responsible manner.
- 4-H members are responsible for thoroughly reading and understanding the rules and guidelines for any specific exhibit or activity as outlined in the county or state fair premium books, newsletters or informational letters.
- Any violation of the Code of Conduct can be sufficient cause for immediate termination of participation in the 4-H event, and loss of all premiums and awards. Infractions of the Code of Conduct may also result in the loss of eligibility to participate in future activities such as state trips, exchange trips, camps, etc. for the current and/or upcoming 4-H year.
- Consequences of inappropriate behavior will be addressed at the discretion and judgment of the chaperones and Extension staff.
- The full [Code of Conduct](https://z.umn.edu/4HPolicies) is available online (z.umn.edu/4HPolicies).

Code of Conduct for Parents and Volunteers

All parents also sign a Code of Conduct upon enrollment of their children. The Minnesota 4-H Code of Conduct applies and will be enforced with 4-H members, 4-H parents, and 4-H volunteers including at the county fair while participating in or attending a 4-H event or while on premises used for 4-H purposes (e.g. show ring, exhibit building, barn, food stand) and at the state fair during their child's assigned encampment or assigned volunteer responsibility.

Grievance Process and Policy

The Minnesota 4-H grievance process provides a vehicle by which to respond to 4-H members' concerns relating to their 4-H program participation.

- A grievance committee may be convened to address rule violations and alleged wrongdoing.
- **A grievance committee will NOT be convened for the following situations:**
 - decisions made by judges, which are final;
 - missed deadlines which are covered through the "one-time member exemption process;"
 - and, code of conduct related violations which will be addressed by staff according to an established process.

- Families submit a \$50 check (payable to Jackson County 4-H) when filing a grievance. If the decision is made in the family's favor, the deposit will be refunded. If the decision is not in the family's favor, the deposit will be donated to the Jackson County 4-H program.
- Information on the process can be found on the [Understanding 4-H Policies webpage](https://z.umn.edu/4HPolicies) (z.umn.edu/4HPolicies).

Competitive events, deadlines, consequences and exemption options

Every Minnesota 4-H member is eligible for a "one-time" member exemption. This exemption provides the ability (one-time in a 4-H member's career) for the 4-H member to acknowledge they missed a 4-H deadline related to enrollment or competitive event participation and waive the consequences for the named deadline. For further information please refer to the [Understanding 4-H Policies webpage](https://z.umn.edu/4HPolicies) (z.umn.edu/4HPolicies) or the [Jackson County's competitive events and deadlines table](https://z.umn.edu/JacksonDeadlineConsequences) (z.umn.edu/JacksonDeadlineConsequences)

Fair Registration

- There is no entry fee for 4-H exhibits at the Jackson County Fair.
- Registration opens May 25, 2025.
- **All 4-H exhibits must be registered online by 11:59 p.m. June 25, 2025 using FairEntry.**
- The registration deadline must be met to be eligible for any placing above a blue or to be eligible for a state fair or state show trip.

Detailed instructions (z.umn.edu/FairEntryDetailGuide) for registering with FairEntry are available. Members should use their 4HOnline email and password to log into [FairEntry](https://z.umn.edu/JacksonMNFairentry) (z.umn.edu/JacksonMNFairentry)

Club projects do not need to be registered in FairEntry. Club leaders will fill out a Google form prior to entry day and pick a judging time that works best for their club. Communication to 4-H club members regarding when each club will have their exhibits judged will be the responsibility of the club leader.

4-H Exhibit Classes and Requirements

For more information regarding the specific 4-H project areas, their requirements, and how to prepare for your showcase judging experience, see the [General Exhibit](#) or [Animal Science](#) sections of this book.

Fair Judging

Preparing for the Fair

As you work on project activities and prepare exhibits for the fair, remember to prepare yourself too. Conference judging includes both what you learned throughout your project and the exhibit itself.

Remember also that competition has some risks, everyone cannot be the top winner. Others may have had more skills, time, or money to spend on the exhibit. You compete against these unknowns. If your exhibit helped you learn something you wanted to learn about in your project and if it is something you or your family can use, then you are a winner no matter what the results of the competition!

Think about your answers to questions that may be asked, such as:

- Why did you choose this exhibit to showcase your project learning?
- What steps did you go through in preparing it?
- What decision and choices did you make?
- How much did it cost in time, effort and materials?
- If you were to do this project again, would you change anything?
- Was the result worth doing?
- What did you learn from this?
- What do you plan to do next year in this project area?

Think about questions you might ask the judge, such as:

- Could I have done this differently?
- How could this be changed or improved?
- What other things could I do?

What is the judge looking for?

Visit the [Minnesota 4-H Project website](https://z.umn.edu/ProjectsAndMore) (z.umn.edu/ProjectsAndMore) to learn more about your project area. Click on the "fair" section in any area for an evaluation sheet for the project area.

Absentee Judging

Minnesota 4-H Youth Development believes that participation in competitive events enhances the depth and breadth of the learning and leading experience. Minnesota 4-H works to provide an equitable and uniform opportunity for participation in competitive events for its members across the state. If a 4-H member is unable to participate in the judging process, they may request permission for absentee judging. Information on absentee judging can be found on the [Understanding 4-H Policies webpage](https://z.umn.edu/4HPolicies) (z.umn.edu/4HPolicies).

Judging Experiences for Youth with Disabilities or Injuries

A 4-H member unable to participate in judging by himself/herself may request permission for a judging assistant to be with the 4-H member during judging. More information can be found on the [Understanding 4-H Policies webpage](https://z.umn.edu/4HPolicies) (z.umn.edu/4HPolicies).

Judge Decisions

- **All decisions of the judges are final and cannot be appealed or grieved.**
- Awarding of Champion and Reserve Champion is at the discretion of the judges. Not every eligible class or lot will have a Champion and/or Reserve Champion awarded.

Premiums, Ribbons and Awards

Exhibitors will receive premium money based on their ribbon placings. Premiums are sponsored by the Jackson County Fair Board (Agriculture Association) and will be mailed after the fair. There will be one premium paid out per project. **Thank you to the Jackson County Fair Board for generously supporting 4-H premiums!**

Meaning Of Ribbon Colors

We use award ribbons to recognize the accomplishments of the 4-H members in General Exhibits and Animal Science Exhibits. Ribbons are awarded using the following standards:

1. **Cloverbuds:** receive 'participation' ribbons

2. **White:** "I've tried, I've learned, but there is room for improvement and more learning, to reach a standard of skills and knowledge appropriate for my age and my years of experience in the project."
3. **Red:** "I've tried, I've learned, and I've achieved a level of skill meeting expectations for my age and years of experience, but still have room to learn and do more."
4. **Blue:** "I've tried, I've learned, and have reached most of my goals in this project. I've exceeded the level of achievement expected of me for my age and years of experience, but there still is room to learn and do more."
5. **Purple/Champion:** "I've tried, I've learned, and succeeded in reaching a high level of achievement. I know that I can still challenge myself to reach even higher levels of knowledge and skills in my project." Only one Grand Champion and one Reserve Champion ribbon are given out per project area. Additional purple ribbons are offered in some projects.
6. **Ribbon determination in Jackson County:**
 - NOTE - Judges will award purple, blue, red, or white ribbon placing regardless of the number of exhibits in the division unless designated otherwise. (KEEP)
 - The number of additional ribbons awarded (Champion and Reserve Champion) will be based on the number of quality exhibits in the class. It is possible that Champion and Reserve Champion awards may not be awarded in a project area also based on the number of quality exhibits in the class. This is up to the judges' discretion.
 - **Divisional and Overall Champions in General Exhibits**
 - Youth in grades 3-13 will have General Exhibits judged in their grade divisions within each project class. These grade divisions are:
 - Junior – completed grades 3-5
 - Intermediate – completed grades 6-8
 - Senior – completed grades 9+
 - Once conference judging has ended. The judge will then determine champion and reserve winners at their discretion. It is possible that Champion and Reserve Champion awards may not be awarded in a project area based on the number of quality exhibits in the class.
 - Once the judge has selected their Divisional Champion and Reserve winners they will select an Overall Project Area Champion and Reserve Champion at their discretion.
 - **Divisional and Overall Champions in Animal Exhibits and Shows**
 - In Animal Exhibits, animals are shown in classes based on birthdate or weight.
 - In the livestock shows, the judge will select the division Champion and Reserve Champion from the class winners at their discretion.
 - Some livestock shows will have Overall Champion and Reserve winners at the judge's discretion.

Premium Amounts

**No premiums for Showmanship and Champion/Res/Hon Men. (these specialty awards are sponsored via 4-H Office and generous donors/ sponsors)*

Project Area	Ribbon Colors
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	<i>Blue</i>	<i>Red</i>	<i>White</i>	<i>Cloverbuds</i>
Livestock Exhibits (including Livestock Interviews)*	\$5.00	\$4.00	\$3.00	\$2.00
General Exhibits (Including Presentation Day exhibits)*	\$5.00	\$4.00	\$3.00	\$2.00
Club Exhibits (banner, flower box, scrapbook, community pride)*	\$15.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	NA

Jackson County 4-H Champion and Reserve Champion Awards

Overall Champion General Exhibits

Award plates for 4-H Career plaques will be awarded to the overall champion and reserve champion for each General Exhibit project area. Youth winners must write a thank you note to the sponsor and order their award plates from the Extension Office once the fair is over.

Overall Champion and Reserve Animal Science Exhibits

Banners will be awarded to the overall champion and reserve champion for each species (beef, dairy, poultry, rabbits, sheep, goats, and swine) and their showmanship age divisions. Youth earning a banner must write a thank you note to the sponsor.

Special MN 4-H Awards

Community Impact Recognition

Minnesota 4-H wants to recognize youth who are making a difference in their community and are sharing their story through their project(s) and exhibit(s). Judges at local and state showcases will place a recognition sticker on each exhibit where the 4-H'er clearly articulates how their efforts made a positive community impact. To qualify as community impact, the project should primarily benefit someone or something more than you individually, or your family.

Exhibits and presentations may demonstrate the youth's community impact efforts through:

- **Direct Service:** Involves face-to-face interactions with the people, animals, or environment being served - such as distributing meals or cleaning up a park
- **Indirect Service:** Involves benefiting a cause or group, but there isn't direct contact with those that benefit - such as fundraising or knitting blankets
- **Advocacy:** Involves researching issues of public interest and then encouraging action or promoting awareness - such as promoting mindfulness practices to a school curriculum committee, collecting water quality data for a community organization.

To read more about Community Impact Recognition and qualifications see the [General Exhibit Information](#) page.

Photos at the Fair

Documenting the county fair is an important part of the experience. Please make note of the following photo opportunities.

- **All County 4-H Members Photo:** an all county photo will be taken **Tuesday, July 29 at 5:15 p.m.** in the Olson Pavilion. **All youth should wear their county 4-H shirts and should be present for the photo.**
- **Winner's Circle:** All General Project Winners will be revealed on Tuesday, July 29 at 5:30 pm in the Olson Pavilion. Immediately following, there will be a picture session where media and other interested parties will be able to take pictures of the winners and their exhibits in the Blue Building. Justin Lessman with *The Livewire*, will be taking photos of youth who receive Overall Champion and Reserve on their General Projects.
- **Livestock Premium Auction:** All youth participating in the Jackson County Livestock Premium Auction are encouraged to get their picture taken by the backdrop on the North side of Olson Pavilion after going through the auction and before writing their thank you. These photos are used to thank auction bidders.

Emergency Preparedness

Accidents: Jackson County 4-H carries insurance on all enrolled youth and screened volunteers to cover accidents or injuries. In the case an accident occurs, **the involved parties must alert the 4-H Educator and complete an incident report within 24 hours.**

Safety Concern: If a youth, parent, or volunteer witnesses an unsafe situation, they are to alert the 4-H Extension Educator, Fairboard, and/or emergency personnel immediately.



For detailed information on specific emergencies please see the [Jackson County 4-H Emergency Plan](https://z.umn.edu/JacksonEmergencyPlan) (z.umn.edu/JacksonEmergencyPlan) or scan the QR Code.

Support Jackson County 4-H at the Fair by Volunteering!

Fairgrounds Clean Up Before, During and After

Please keep in mind that all shifts scheduled are critical to the success of the fair. Six to eight members are expected to attend pre and post fair clean up from each club. The more members the quicker clean up is done. Please bring brooms, rags, buckets, basic tools, ladders, etc.

All clubs will utilize the [county fair cleaning to-do list](https://z.umn.edu/Jackson4HFairCleaningDuties) (z.umn.edu/Jackson4HFairCleaningDuties).

Pre-Fair Cleaning will be Tuesday, July 22, 2025 starting at 5:30 p.m.

- Rost-Sioux Valley - Food Stand
- Heron Landers - Blue Building
- Enterprise - Livestock Barns (Cattle/Swine/Sheep/Goat/Rabbit)
- LaCrosse - Olson Pavilion & 4-H Fair Office

Fair Week (Wednesday-Saturday) Olson Pavilion - ideally before and after each 4-H livestock show. And BEFORE and AFTER Auction on Saturday.

- Delafield Diggers

Post-Fair Cleaning will be immediately following project release (or earlier if specified) on Sunday, August 3, 2025.

- Middletown Livewires - Blue Building (Sunday after project pickup)
- Petersburg Willing Workers - Food Stand (Saturday - after last shift/ Sunday)



4-H Food Stand

The 4-H Food Stand Club Schedule can be found at z.umn.edu/JacksonFSClubs or by scanning the QR Code.

All Jackson County 4-H Youth and their families are encouraged to work at least 1 food stand shift their club is scheduled to work. Youth who wish to receive financial support for their State Fair program fee are encouraged to work at least 1 shift at the food stand.



Please sign up to work your food stand shift at z.umn.edu/JacksonCoFoodStandSignUps or by scanning the QR Code. If your club's scheduled shift does not work within your schedule, please work a shift with a different 4-H club. Make sure to let your club leader know you will be working during another club's shift.

Food Stand Hours and Menu can be viewed at z.umn.edu/Jackson4-HFoodstandMenu or by scanning the QR Code.



Volunteer Opportunities During The Fair

It takes a lot of helping hands to make a successful, smooth fair. Below are different age appropriate volunteer roles for those willing to help the Jackson County 4-H program during the fair.

Please consider finding a time to help where you can and encourage others to do so too! Many hands make light work! Please contact the office to get more information on where your help is needed.

Youth Volunteers

These positions will include show announcers, general entry day judge helpers, make-and-take station helpers and more.

Adult Volunteers

There are a few "adult only" volunteer opportunities in Jackson 4-H. They include tasks like food stand shifts, helping promote Extension and answering questions, etc.

Minnesota State Fair or State Show Trips

2025 MN 4-H State Showcases:

Minnesota State Livestock Judging Contest: August 20, 2025 (Tues.)

Minnesota State Fair: Aug. 21-Sept. 1

- Livestock Weekend: Aug. 20-24 (Wed.-Sun.)
- General Encampment (Jackson County's assignment): Aug. 24-26 (Tues. - Thurs.)

4-H State Horse Show: **NEW - There are two State Horse Shows in 2025**

- Sept. 5-9, 2025 (Friday-Tuesday) Simons Arena in Cannon Falls.
 - The following will be exhibited: All games, pleasures, equitation, horsemanship, trail, training, etc.
- Sept. 13-14, 2025 (Saturday-Sunday) Stearns County Fairgrounds in Sauk Centre

- The following will be exhibited: Hippology, horse judging, speech and demo, miniature horse and drill team.

4-H State Dog Show: Sept. 21-22 at the MN State Fairgrounds

- Open to 4-H'ers who have completed third grade and earned a blue ribbon at their county show.

State Fair/State Show Eligibility

- Trips for State Fair, State Horse Show, and State Dog Show will be selected from blue ribbon exhibits only (see State Dog Show Rules for exceptions). **Exhibit classes NOT eligible for State Fair are marked with an asterisk*.**
- Members selected to represent the county at the State Fair and State Horse Show must have completed sixth grade.
- To be eligible for a livestock trip to the State Fair, 4-H'ers must have completed Livestock Quality Assurance Training.
 - State Policy: All youth participating as a State Fair 4-H livestock exhibitor in beef, dairy, dairy goat, llama-alpaca, meat goat, poultry, rabbit, sheep and swine must have completed a livestock quality assurance training. There are two training options 1) a 3 hour in-person workshop (LQA&E), or 2) a 1 hour on-line training (YQCA). Youth completing either quality assurance training option will receive a certificate of completion.
- **Exhibitors must complete LQA training by Wednesday, July 16, 2025 at 11:59 p.m.**
- Along with their qualifying state fair exhibit trip(s), 4-H members may participate in activities such as Share-the-Fun, demonstrations, Arts-In, cooking events, animal science educational exhibits or judging teams.
- [Competitive events, deadlines, consequences and exemption options](https://z.umn.edu/4h-policies) (z.umn.edu/4h-policies) or [Jackson County's guide to competitive deadlines](https://z.umn.edu/JacksonDeadlineConsequences) (z.umn.edu/JacksonDeadlineConsequences) Every Minnesota 4-H member is eligible for a "one-time" member exemption. This exemption provides the ability (one-time in a 4-H member's career) for the 4-H member to acknowledge they missed a 4-H deadline related to enrollment or competitive event participation and waive the consequences for the named deadline. Exemptions may be used for county fair pre-entry registration requirements, but may not be used for State Fair trip sign-up deadlines.
- 4-H youth who have been awarded a 4-H State Fair livestock trip through the local 4-H qualifying show must keep their designated trip animal on the county fairgrounds until the official release time to remain eligible for the 4-H State Fair trip. In the event that a youth/family requests an early release to travel/attend a national junior livestock show and education event, prior arrangements for early release must be made with and approved by the local 4-H program staff, in partnership with the county fair board. Proof of national junior show participation (program with youth's name, printed class placing information) must be presented to local 4-H staff upon return to the county to maintain eligibility for the Minnesota State Fair 4-H livestock shows.
- 4-H youth that have been awarded a 4-H State Fair general project trip through the local 4-H qualifying show must keep their designated trip project on the county fairgrounds until the official release time to remain eligible for the 4-H State Fair trip.

Requirement for Minnesota State Fair Livestock Exhibits

In addition to general requirement (see State Fair/State Show Eligibility section):

- All Jackson County 4-H youth planning on participating as a state fair 4-H livestock exhibitor in beef, dairy, sheep, swine, poultry, rabbits, meat goat, dairy goat and llama-alpaca must have completed the Livestock Quality Assurance & Ethics (LQAE) or the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) trainings and provided certification before **July 16, 2025**.
- To ensure that as many youth as possible have the opportunity to participate in a livestock experience at the Minnesota State Fair, a state fair lineup is created to fill the quota of trips allotted to Jackson County.
- 4-H youth that have been awarded a 4-H state fair livestock trip through the local 4-H qualifying show must keep their designated trip animal on the county fairgrounds until the official release time to remain eligible for the 4-H state fair trip. In the event that a 4-H family wishes to leave early to attend another livestock show, they **MUST** provide documentation/confirmation of entry forms for the show they will be attending to Extension Staff before July 31, 2024. Proof of show participation (program with youth's name, printed class placing information) must be presented to local 4-H staff upon return to the county to maintain eligibility for the Minnesota State Fair 4-H livestock shows.

State Fair/State Show Selection and Acceptance

Winners of state trips will be determined by judges and identified in state fair line-ups posted outside and inside the 4-H Office.

- State fair lineups are determined by the project judge and will be posted as soon as possible after the judging.
- State fair lineup is project specific and must be considered in order. If a member is listed twice in a project area, they must accept or decline each trip in the order the projects are listed.
- *4-H members winning a state trip(s) **MUST accept or decline each trip by WRITING YES OR NO** by each trip they are awarded as soon as possible and **no later than Friday, August 1st by 5 p.m.** Any trip left blank will be considered declined. NO EXCEPTIONS!*
 - ***Jackson County 4-H will be utilizing the dot system (z.umn.edu/StateFairDotSystemKey) for youth to accept their earned State Fair trip(s).***
 - Youth who are eligible for a state fair trip in more than one category, may denote their first choice and second choice trip by writing **Yes - 1** and **Yes - 2** in the accept column. During State Fair lineup verification, staff will use the preferences to determine a final state fair lineup. Youth are eligible to take **one** livestock and/or **one** general project to the state fair.
- To ensure that as many youth as possible have the opportunity to participate in a livestock experience at the Minnesota State Fair, staff will follow the current state-outlined process for the distribution of unused livestock quota trips.
- **Did you know?** There is a [virtual judging](https://z.umn.edu/StateFairVirtualJudging) (z.umn.edu/StateFairVirtualJudging) option for general State Fair Exhibits. Let your Extension Educator know if you plan on being judged virtually.

State Fair Meeting and Expectations

There will be a **MANDATORY meeting for all General and Livestock exhibitors who plan to attend the state fair on Saturday, August 2 at 2:30 p.m. in the Olson Pavilion.** All state fair participants are required to attend this meeting with their parent/guardian.

- General orientation will be given regarding the MN 4-H State Fair trips. At this meeting registration will be completed, including exhibit, health, housing and meal forms, and payment will be collected. Youth will also receive their gate tickets and 4-H buttons.
- **General state fair exhibits must be brought to the Extension office by Wednesday, Aug. 13 at noon.**
 - *Large exhibits may need to be transported to the state fair by the exhibitor. Please contact the 4-H Educator with questions.*
- State fair exhibitors are expected to fully participate in the state fair experience. For general exhibitors, this means that they must be present for the entire judging and educational experience (if there is one for their project area).
- Livestock exhibitors must be present for their judging experience PLUS be present to care for their animal. They must not be absent from the state fair for more than 24 hours.
- If for some reason a State Fair exhibit/exhibitor is not able to go on to the State Fair once the registration deadline has passed, the Extension Staff will contact the State Fair 4-H Office to see if a substitution can be made. If possible, the next exhibitor in line will be contacted.



Please read the document, [Jackson County 4-H participation at the MN State Fair](https://z.umn.edu/JacksonCoStateFairInfo) (z.umn.edu/JacksonCoStateFairInfo) for more information.

Jackson Co. 4-H Livestock Premium Auction

The Livestock Premium Auction will occur **Saturday, August 2, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in Olson Pavilion**. The purpose of this auction is to help raise funds that support Jackson County 4-H youth as well as the Jackson County 4-H Federation.

Eighty percent (80%) of each winning bid goes directly to the youth exhibitor for use toward their 4-H projects, such as paying for a State Fair trip, saving for college, or project resources for the next year. The other **twenty percent (20%)** of the winning bid goes to the Jackson County 4-H Federation to support year round, county-wide 4-H programming such as 4-H overnight and day camps, 4-H project learning events, after school 4-H programs, 4-H Clubs, 4-H Committees, etc.

General Information:

- The auction is non-terminal and not a genuine sale.
- All species will have **unlimited bidding**.
- All animals of youth exhibitors grade 3+ are eligible to go through the sale regardless of their ribbon placing.
- All youth can choose to take **any 1** specie through the sale.
- Refer to the [Jackson Livestock Premium Auction Guide](https://z.umn.edu/JacksonAuctionGuide) (z.umn.edu/JacksonAuctionGuide) or scan the QR Code for more information.



Eligibility Requirements:

- Youth must have completed third grade.
- Youth may only register and exhibit **one** species in the auction.
- Youth must have their photo taken after the sale.

- If a 4-H'er is to receive a check over \$599 from the ribbon sale an IRS W-9 form will need to be filled out prior to receiving their ribbon sale check and they will receive an IRS 1099 at the end of the year.
- Please wear your show outfit (fair t-shirt, jeans or nice pants, and closed toe shoes)
- Eligible projects include Beef, Dairy, Dog, Dairy Goat, Meat Goat, Horse, Llama/Alpaca, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep, Swine.
- 4-H members must be present at the time of the sale.

FairEntry Registration

1. Ribbon Auction youth registration is required via FairEntry by **June 25th**. *Those not registered via FairEntry by the deadline are not eligible for the Ribbon Sale, [per the outlined Jackson County 4-H competitive events consequences table](#)*
2. Please choose the species you are **most likely to bring to the auction** at the time of registration. **A member may switch project areas by notifying the 4-H Office by 12:00 p.m. Friday of County Fair week.** *No changes will be accepted after noon on Friday.*

4-H Cloverbuds (Grades K-2)

Purpose

The purpose of the 4-H Cloverbud Program is to support the positive development of children in grades K-2 as they explore their world, discover the possibilities, build self-esteem and practice the basic social skills that will be the basis for becoming competent, caring, contributing citizens.

Members

The 4-H Cloverbud Program is designed for youth in grades Kindergarten through second grade (K-2). Youth must be enrolled in Kindergarten and at least 5 years old on September 1 of the current school year to enroll as a Cloverbud.

Programming

Cloverbud programs are developmentally age appropriate:

- Fun, positive, hands-on activity centered
- Focused on life skills development through the five components of the experiential learning cycle (experience, share, process, generalize, and apply)
- Non-competitive, incorporating cooperative learning
- Safe for children and designed to manage risk

Competition

Cloverbud programs emphasize cooperative rather than competitive experiences.

Children are encouraged to develop social skills through experiences with their peers. They also are allowed the freedom of not having undue emphasis placed on the product of their efforts. This is a time to experiment with new skills and experiences. The focus should be on their learning rather than the product.

It is not appropriate for this age group to participate in competitive situations. However, it is very appropriate for them to participate in noncompetitive 4-H activities and to be recognized for their participation.

Rules for participation

For the safety of K-2 participants, the following rules apply to cloverbud experiences. Parents/guardians/mentors are responsible for ensuring their “cloverbud” understands and follows the rules. Extension 4-H staff members and designated volunteer(s) are positioned to intervene when rules are not followed and/or if safety becomes a concern for another reason. Definitions used in outlining the rules are noted at the end of the document.

- When using equipment that is potentially dangerous, a responsible person¹ will be with the cloverbud at all times² guiding and monitoring their involvement. Examples of potentially dangerous equipment include sewing machines and power tools.
- Cloverbuds may only participate in wildlife educational opportunities of the 4-H Shooting Sports/Wildlife program. Cloverbuds may not handle any equipment, including firearms and archery equipment.
- Cloverbuds must wear appropriate safety helmets when riding horses or bicycles.
- When cloverbuds and animals (including beef, cats, dairy, dogs, goats, horse, llama - alpaca, pets, poultry, rabbit, swine and sheep) are together at a 4-H program or participating at the county fair as a 4-H member, the following rules apply:
 - A responsible person¹ must be with the cloverbud to guide and monitor their involvement at all times², including but not limited to movement within and to and from the trailers, barns, wash racks, and show arena.
 - Families may choose one of two acceptable ways to guide and monitor involvement in non-mounted activities:
 - The responsible person¹ is in control³ of the animal with the cloverbud at their side.
 - The cloverbud is in control³ of the animal with the responsible person¹ at their side to assist or take control of the animal when needed or as directed by staff, volunteers or show managers.
 - When a cloverbud is mounted on a horse, the horse must always have a lead line and be under the control of the responsible person¹.
 - Cloverbuds may safely interact with their animal through participation in a limited number of non-competitive classes at 4-H sponsored practice sessions/clinics, fun shows and county fairs. The purpose is to provide youth an opportunity to experience being in the ring with a judge present and to feel the pride that comes with this experience. Appropriate participation includes:
 - Cloverbuds may participate with beef, dairy, dog, goats, pets, poultry, rabbits, and swine in a Cloverbud Showmanship Class.
 - Cloverbuds may participate with a sheep in two classes: Cloverbud Showmanship or Cloverbud Lamb Lead.
 - Cloverbuds may participate with a llama - alpaca in two classes: Cloverbud Costume or Cloverbud Showmanship.
 - Cloverbuds may participate with a horse in three classes: Cloverbud Halter/Showmanship, Cloverbud Western Pleasure or Cloverbud Barrels. If the horse is used in a riding setting, the Cloverbud may sit on the back of the horse with a responsible person¹ in control³ of the horse at all times². Helmets are required for the Cloverbud in any riding setting.

Definitions Used in Outlining the Rules

¹ A **"responsible person"** is defined as a screened adult volunteer, youth leader 6th grade and older, parent or other adult who may appropriately assist with the group.

² **"At all times"** includes but is not limited to the following: during all portions of project workshops, club events, club meetings, public showcases which includes county fairs, demonstrations, or a community event where youth are representing 4-H with an animal or interacting with potentially dangerous equipment..

³ **"Control"** means assuming responsibility for handling and/or leading the animal. The parent/responsible person must determine the cloverbud's ability to control the animal in non-mounted activities..

4-H Cloverbuds at the Jackson County Fair

Fair exhibits are an opportunity for all 4-H members to showcase what they have learned in project areas throughout the past year.

- **Cloverbuds may register for an unlimited number of general exhibits and up to one animal in each animal science area.**
 - **Cloverbud projects will be judged 5 at a time.**
- Cloverbuds will be paid a \$2.00 premium for each general exhibit and for each animal science project.
- All Cloverbuds participate in conference judging and animal judging at the Jackson County Fair in their own Cloverbud class alongside all 4-H members for experience and to feel the pride that comes with sharing their learning with judges.
- All cloverbuds will receive a participation ribbon, rather than blue, red, white or champion ribbons.
- **No state fair trips awarded to Cloverbuds.** Only 4-H members grades 6+ are eligible for state fair participation.

4-H Cloverbud General Exhibits*

Enter all Cloverbud General Exhibits in the **"Cloverbud - General Exhibits"** departments in [FairEntry](#). Please review the [4-H General Exhibits Guide](#) in this Premium Book for important rules, judging times, project areas and more.

Cloverbud General Exhibits (Presentation Day)

NOTE: These exhibits are judged before the Jackson County Fair on Tuesday, July 15 at the Jackson County Central High School's Performing Arts Center.

- Cloverbud - Food Revue
- Cloverbud - Clothing & Textiles Related
 - Includes Constructed Clothing, Upcycled Clothing, Purchased Clothing, and Sewn-Non-Garment, and \$20 Challenge
- Cloverbud - Fashion Revue
 - Includes Constructed Clothing, Upcycled Clothing, Purchased Clothing
- Cloverbud - Performing Arts
- Cloverbud - Public Presentations
 - Includes Demonstrations, Presentations, Speeches & Interactive Demonstrations
- Cloverbud - Creative Writing

Cloverbud General Exhibits (General Entry Day)

NOTE: These exhibits are judged the week of the Jackson County Fair on Monday, July 28 at Jackson

County Fairgrounds

- Cloverbud - General Exhibit
 - Includes all 4-H project areas not judged during Presentation Day judging.

4-H Cloverbud Animal Science Exhibits

Enter all Cloverbud Animal Science Exhibits in the **"Cloverbud - Animal Science"** departments in [FairEntry](#). Please review the [Animal Science Exhibit Guide](#) of this Premium Book for important rules, check-in times, show times, explanations of posters and science of animal projects, and more.

- Cloverbuds may register up to one in each animal science class.
- Cloverbuds may show their own animal or another 4-H'er's identified animal. You will be asked during fair registration in FairEntry if you are showing your own animal or another 4-H'er's identified animal for stalling/penning purposes.
- **Cloverbuds are not required to enter animal ID information in 4HOnline for the animal ID deadlines.**
 - However, if you are bringing an animal to the fair that is not ID'ed by another 4-H'er, you must still comply with the Minnesota Board of Animal Health requirement that all animals at exhibitions have an official ID (tag or tattoo). See [Animal Identification section](#) for more information.

Cloverbud Animal Science Classes

See the [Jackson County 4-H Schedule](http://z.umn.edu/JC4-HMemberFairSchedule) (z.umn.edu/JC4-HMemberFairSchedule) for approximate show times during county fair week.

- Cloverbud Livestock Interview
- Cloverbud Livestock Demonstrations
- Cloverbud Science of Animals Poster

- Cloverbud Beef (includes New Vision Co-Op calves)
- Cloverbud Dairy
- Cloverbud Dairy Goat
- Cloverbud Meat Goat
- Cloverbud Poultry
- Cloverbud Rabbit
- Cloverbud Sheep
- Cloverbud Sheep: Lamb Lead
- Cloverbud Sheep: Fleece
- Cloverbud Swine

Cloverbud Horse

Judged in Jackson County Horse Arena on Thursday, July 31 at 9:00 a.m.

Enter all Cloverbud Horse entries in the **"Cloverbud - Horse"** department in [FairEntry](#).

- Cloverbud Barrels
- Cloverbud Horse Showmanship
- Cloverbud Horse Western Pleasure
- Cloverbud Horse Barrel Race

Cloverbud Pet Judging/Parade

Judged in the Beef Barn Office on Friday, August 1 at 1:00 p.m.

Enter all Cloverbud Pet Show entries in the **"Cloverbud - Pet Judging/Parade"** department in [FairEntry](#).

- Cat
- Dog (must submit current rabies to office)
- Other

Cloverbud Llama-Alpaca

Judged at the Murray County Fair on Aug. 15 at 1:00 p.m.

Enter all Cloverbud Llama-Alpaca entries in the **"Cloverbud - Llama-Alpaca"** department in [FairEntry](#).

- Cloverbud Llama-Alpaca Showmanship
- Cloverbud Llama-Alpaca Costume

GENERAL PROJECT EXHIBIT GUIDE

MN 4-H General Exhibit Rules

- Youth will be eligible for all show-related premiums, awards, and participation in the state event when exhibition requirements are met and appropriate permissions are granted by 4-H Program Staff. (Auction participation is a county decision.) Approved early release is an exception to the rule and becomes a 4-H staff, in partnership with the county fair board, decision based on each situation.
- All youth must be enrolled in 4-H to exhibit, demonstrate, or take part in projects. All work on exhibits entered must be done by the 4-H member and completed during the current 4-H year unless otherwise noted.
- Note - Cloverbud exhibits, including livestock posters, will not be judged blue, red and white. Instead, all will receive participation recognition.
- Poster exhibits may not exceed 22" wide x 28" high. They may be smaller.
- Education/Science Tri-Fold Exhibits for all project areas may not exceed 12" deep x 24" wide x 36" high. (Center back 24" wide x 36" high, right and left wings each 12" wide x 36" high.)
 - All exhibits will be evaluated by a conference with the judge.
 - Decision of the judge is final and may not be appealed.
 - Exhibit judging criteria:
 - Exhibit quality 25%
 - Educational value 25%
 - Knowledge and ability to explain 50%
- Floor space for any exhibit should not exceed 20 square feet. If your exhibit exceeds this space limitation, contact the Extension office.
- All exhibits must be labeled with name, club, and county. Other appropriate information for the project (i.e., vegetable varieties) should be included. If the exhibit has multiple pieces, each part needs to be labeled and should indicate 1 of 4, 2 of 4, etc.
- Opinions expressed through exhibits and presentations are those of the 4-H member and not necessarily those of MN 4-H, U of MN or the county fair/agricultural society.
- Copyright Law and Infringement:
 - Copyright is a form of protection given to authors and creators of original work. Original work includes a person's ideas captured in writing or as an image, photograph, song, audio recording, or visual recording.

- All original work – including information found on the web – is subject to copyright protection. The author/creator has exclusive rights to reproduce, distribute, display, perform or make derivative works.
- Before using another person's work as part of your 4-H exhibit, be sure that the work is subject to fair use, has a creative commons license or that you have requested and received permission (in writing) to use the original work. If an exhibit infringes on copyright law, a decision may need to be made to remove the exhibit from display at the county or state fair.
- **4-H members who incorporate AI tools or technologies into their projects should clearly cite the use of these resources. This includes, but is not limited to, AI-generated content, AI-driven data analysis, and AI-based project enhancements. Citation Suggestions: provide the name of the AI tool or technology used; explain how the AI was used in the project; include any relevant references or sources as appropriate.**
- Community Impact Recognition
 - Minnesota 4-H wants to recognize youth who are making a difference in their community and are sharing their story through their project(s) and exhibit(s).
 - Judges at local and state showcases will place a recognition sticker on each exhibit where the 4-H'er clearly articulates how their efforts made a positive community impact.
 - Exhibits and presentations may demonstrate the youth's community impact efforts through:
 - Direct Service: Involves face-to-face interactions with the people, animals, or environment being served - such as distributing meals or cleaning up a park
 - Indirect Service: Involves benefiting a cause or group, but there isn't direct contact with those that benefit - such as fundraising or knitting blankets
 - Advocacy: Involves researching issues of public interest and then encouraging action or promoting awareness - such as promoting mindfulness practices to a school curriculum committee, collecting water quality data for a community organization.
 - Note: to qualify as "community impact", the project should primarily benefit someone or something more than you individually, or your family
 - **If you are showing an animal/livestock project and would like to participate - you can submit an additional exhibit in the related General Projects category (i.e. Leadership, Citizenship, Self-Determined, Horseless Horse, etc).**
 - **Ex: A 4-H member raises chickens for eggs and supports a local food pantry.**
 - **Ex. A 4-H member trains and certifies their dog for therapy work, and visits local hospitals, nursing homes, or schools to provide comfort and companionship to patients, residents or students.**
 - **Recipients will be recognized with a sticker and will be invited to apply for additional leadership awards and recognitions.**

Jackson County 4-H General Exhibit Expectations

Presentation Day Exhibit Judging

Project Areas Include: [Food Revue](#), [Clothing & Textiles](#), [Performing Arts](#), [Public Presentations](#), [Creative Writing](#)

12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 15, 2025. at Jackson County Central High School in the Performing Arts Center (1128 N Hwy, Jackson, MN 56143).

- **Please sign up for a judging time: LINK COMING SOON before July 8.**
- Please show up at least 15 minutes before your scheduled judging time.
- Dress rehearsal prior to the public performance will be at 6:00 p.m.
- Public Performance will start at 6:30 p.m.

All Other General Exhibits and Club Exhibit Judging

2:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 28, 2025 at the Jackson County Fairgrounds (78748 550th Ave, Jackson, MN 56143). 4-H Club Leaders are to pick a time slot for Club Exhibit judging. See the [4-H Club Exhibit Section](#) for more information.

Release of Exhibits

All General exhibits will be **released on Sunday August 3rd at 7:00 a.m.** Please remove all exhibits between 4-5 p.m. on Sunday. If you are unable to pick up your exhibits at this time, please arrange for someone to pick up and remove your exhibits. Unauthorized early removal of exhibits will result in loss of premiums.

4-H General Exhibit FAQs

For more information regarding the specific 4-H project areas and how to prepare for your showcase judging experience, please reference the Jackson County 4-H [General Exhibit Guide](#) (z.umn.edu/GeneralExhibitGuide) or scan the QR Code.



For information about 4-H General Exhibits at the MN State Fair, refer to the [Minnesota State Fair or State Show Trips](#) section in this book.

4-H CLUB EXHIBITS

These exhibits include; Club Banner, Club Scrapbook, Club Flower Box, and Community Pride.

NOTE: Club Activities are NOT entered in FairEntry.

- The 4-H Club leader must register their Club Exhibits in the [4-H Club Exhibits form](#) (z.umn.edu/ClubExhibitReg) Club Project information will also be submitted in this form.

All Club Exhibits will be judged in the 4-H Food Stand on General Entry Day, Monday, July 28.

- The 4-H Club leader must sign their club up for a judging time in the [4-H Club Exhibit Judging](#) time slot form ([z.umn.edu/ClubExhibitJudgingTime](#))

CLUB BANNER

Project Description:

The club promotional banner serves as a tool to promote the local 4-H club and the county 4-H program and gives 4-H'ers an opportunity for artistic expression through advertisement.

Two banners will be selected as state fair exhibits. Banners qualifying for the state fair will be transported to and from the State Fair by 4-H staff.

- *Youth do not need to be present for banner judging at the State Fair.*
- *Deadline to claim this State Fair trip is Friday at 5:00 p.m.*

Quota: 1 exhibit per club

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Banners should have a theme and reflect/represent opportunities in the 4-H program. It should carry the message quickly and simply to the viewer.
- Banners can be 2-D or 3-D

Requirements:

- Banner must be 3' x 5' and designed to hang vertically.
- It must be completed and equipped with a dowel (minimum size 3' 8") and ready to hang.
- Banner must be of fabric (no paper) and can be one or two-sided. If 2-sided, indicate which side you want to be displayed.
- Club name on 3 x 5 card pinned to back. (Any assembly technique can be used.)
- At least two youth delegates are needed to represent the club at conference judging on Entry Day.

COMMUNITY PRIDE

Project Description:

This is a project where a club displays ways in which they make their community better by being active citizens and act on the things they believe in.

Two exhibits will be selected as state fair exhibits. *Community pride exhibits must have two youth members from the club present at the state fair conference judging.*

- *Deadline to claim this State Fair trip is Friday at 5:00 p.m.*
- **Note:** *Community Pride participants may exhibit another individual State Fair project.*

Quota: 1 exhibit per club

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Organize an environmental cleanup
- Make or collect and distribute items where needed
- Read to younger kids at the library or school
- Service to nursing home or homeless populations
- Deliver safety education programs such as a bike rodeo or fire safety training

Requirements:

- The exhibit may include a three-sided display, video, or other visual method which visually highlights the entire project or certain parts in a manner which tells the public what positive effects the project had on the community.
- Two club youth who participated in the project may represent the club in conference judging. Youth will explain the purpose of the project, steps in the planning, how the project meets the community needs and the impact it has.

CLUB SCRAPBOOK*

Show and explain your club activities and participation in community and county events through written words and photos. **No state fair trip awarded.**

Quota: 1 exhibit per club

Requirements:

- Show and explain your club's activities and participation in community and county events for the current year.
- At least two youth delegates are needed to represent the club at conference judging on Entry Day.

CLUB FLOWER BOX

Prepare and maintain a flower box for display at the Jackson County Fair. Must be maintained by the club and removed by Sunday afternoon at 4:00 p.m. **No state fair trip awarded.**

Quota: 1 exhibit per club

Requirements:

- At least two youth delegates from each club are needed to represent the Flower Box on Entry Day.
- Set up your display according to the [Flower Box Rotation Map](https://z.umn.edu/JacksonFlowerBoxLocation) (z.umn.edu/JacksonFlowerBoxLocation) prior to Entry Day.
- Individual pieces will be judged as a whole box.
- The judge will walk with you to your flower box area.

4-H CHALLENGE EXHIBITS

LEGO CHALLENGE

Note: Not State Fair Eligible

Requirements:

- Only one entry per 4-Her
- Youth Kindergarten through grade 13 may enter
- Only Legos may be used (no Models, K'NEX, Erector Set or Lincoln Logs)
- No electricity, water or live animals may be used for the displays
- No space requirement but keep in mind there is limited space.
- Design must be original (no blueprint/kit)
- Each entry will be judged on its merit as a hobby and points to be considered in judging include: Execution, Originality, General Appearance

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Let your imagination flow!
- Some ideas to get you started:
 - Farm Scene
 - Town Scene
 - Car or Plane

PLASTIC SCULPTURE CHALLENGE

Project Description:

This project was created to build awareness and knowledge of both the positive and negative impacts of single use plastics and ways to recycle or repurpose plastic. It is also meant to empower 4-H youth to be actively involved as change agents in reducing use of single-use plastics and increasing recycling/repurposing, for their family, their club, their community, their country and their world.

Two exhibits will be selected for the State Fair.

- *Note: State Fair Plastic Sculptures will be on display only. No judging will occur at the State Fair. Exhibitors will receive written feedback from a panel of judges.*
- *Deadline to claim this State Fair trip is Friday at 5:00 p.m.*

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Suggested materials to attach items together: zip ties, string, rubber bands, art materials, colorful duct tape, or electrical tape. Strong adhesives (such as E6000 and Gorilla Glue) need to be used in a well-ventilated area with adult supervision. Safety note: melting plastic gives off toxic fumes. If using a glue gun, it is recommended to use a cool, "low temp" glue gun.
- Depending on the size and weight of your sculpture, you might consider adding wheels that lock in place or handles to your sculpture so it is easy to move.

Requirements:

- Exhibits can be created by individuals or teams.
- 4-H'ers of all ages are invited to explore the plastics issue and create an art sculpture with found plastics.
- If a base is needed, it should be made out of thin wood, plywood, fiberboard, or similar material.
- Sculptures can be any size with a maximum size of: 3 ft. wide x 3 ft. long x 6 ft. tall.
- Must be made of clean (washed) plastics
- Must be multidimensional. Sculptures can be free-standing or should be ready for hanging for display (e.g. wires or hooks for hanging, on a sturdy, movable base, etc.).
- If you are unsure about any of these Guidelines, please consult your 4-H Extension Educator.
- Sculptures must include an Artist Statement (50 words or less) with:
 - Name(s) of Artists
 - Title of your sculpture
 - A statement about what you created and why
 - What materials you used.
 - What you learned and how will it change your use of single-use plastics
 - How others can reduce their use of single-use plastics

4-H GENERAL EXHIBITS

All General Exhibits are entered in [FairEntry](#). Cloverbuds see the [Cloverbud section](#) of this Premium Book and enter exhibits under the All Cloverbud Exhibits department in [FairEntry](#).

AEROSPACE

Project Description

Share what you've learned about the latest in aerospace technology including airplanes, rockets, helicopters, drones, balloons, etc. Aerospace includes any objects that fly within the Earth's atmosphere and outer space.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Build a model (rocket, airplane, satellite) and identify the parts.
- Explain the science of how airplanes fly.

- Explain how the model rocket flies.
- Design or build your own rocket or airplane and explain how it works
- Identify parts of a hot air balloon and how they work.
- Discover and identify the basic parts of a helicopter and how they work.
- Make and demonstrate a hang glider.
- Demonstrate a drone and how it is used.
- Research UFOs and share your findings.
- Compare and contrast different types of kites (flat, box, parafoil, etc).
- Discuss the pros and cons of different types of flight (airplane vs helicopter vs jet, etc).
- **Explore careers in this project area and explain why they interest you**

Requirements:

- Models or other project objects can be used during the judging process.
- Flyable models should be ready for flight (do not include fuel or engines); recovery systems should be in place and operative.
- Members should be familiar with safety codes in the 4-H curriculum or that accompany the kit.

AGRONOMY - see ["Plant Sciences"](#) section

BICYCLE

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Exhibit showing built, restored, reconditioned or rebuilt bikes.
- Display showing types of bikes, parts of a bike, maintenance, traffic rules, bicycling hazards, city/county/regional bike or active transportation plans, how to wear a helmet, equipment used to teach others about bike repair or first aid, etc.
- Documentation (such as slideshow, notebook, picture book, poster or film) of a bike rodeo or other bike event you helped with, or research on some other aspect of bicycling that was presented to a class, committee or service club.

CAT - See ["Pets"](#) section

CHILD & FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

Project Description:

Share what you've learned about being self-reliant and responsible, how to handle emergencies and develop home-alone skills. Child & Family Development includes home safety, age-appropriate toys, nutritious snacks for children and how to create a poem, story or game.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Toy, game, puzzle, puppets, art/craft materials, etc., made from new or recycled/throw-away material.
- Babysitting kit/travel kit/rainy day kit.
- Original book, story, poem, song, play, cookbook, audio or video tape and narrative, activity book, safety manual for children.
- Scrapbook, photographs, items, reports, video, etc., on family heritage with description of what was learned about self and family.

- A creatively developed program and/or item used for or with a person with differing abilities (i.e. learning difficulties, physically impaired, etc.).
- Display exploring different types of families (nuclear, blended, single parent, childless, foster, etc).
- An educational display explaining foster care/foster families in Minnesota
- Display exploring resources for children alone at home (i.e. activities, games, kits).
- An educational display about youth mental health. Explore strategies to help youth cope with stress, anxiety, etc. with busy bags, sensory bottles/activities, conversation tips, etc.
- Display sharing your experience job shadowing an early childhood education provider, child care provider or another youth worker.
- An educational display with resources available to lower income families (i.e. WIC, Food Shelf, etc).

Requirements:

- Exhibitors should be prepared to discuss, in conference judging, the age and other characteristics of the child for whom the exhibit is intended and how the exhibit contributes to the child's growth, development, and well-being.
- If the exhibit is designed to be interactive with children, the item should be used with children before exhibiting and a photograph of this activity should accompany the exhibit. Signs of use will not detract from the placing of the exhibit.

CITIZENSHIP

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Highlight of community projects and/or citizenship activities which you or your club completed under your leadership. Include plans of action as well as the impact of each.
- An educational display illustrating the description of a service project, which may include: how you identified the need in your community, developed a project to address the need, carried out the project, and reflected on the results.
- An educational display illustrating how you've researched, reflected, and learned more about yourself, your family, and your friends.
- An educational display illustrating how you've researched, reflected on, and learned more about your community, its history, and how to be a good neighbor.
- An educational display illustrating how you've developed a tour of a local community, government or community agency; learned how government functions; and learned about police, fire protection, health, sanitation, safety, and tourism in your community.
- A display on different parts of the world, highlighting their cities, culture, history and more.
- A display explaining how you organized and led tours in your towns, communities, courthouse or historic places.
- An educational display on how the government works or the functions of various government agencies.
- A display on community organizations, agencies or service departments like fire departments, police departments, sanitation, tourism, etc.
- Complete a service project and create a display of what you did and why you did it.

CLOTHING & TEXTILES

Special Judging Day: Tuesday, July 15 from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Jackson County Central High School in the Performing Arts Center.

- **Special Judging Requirement:** Fashion Revue participants must complete a Script to be read during the evening presentation by July 8.
 - Please complete one [google form](https://z.umn.edu/PresentationDayGF) (z.umn.edu/PresentationDayGF) or one [paper form](https://z.umn.edu/JacksonCoPresentationDayScripts) per project (z.umn.edu/JacksonCoPresentationDayScripts)

Clothing & Textiles exhibits should be finished, clean and pressed for exhibition. Exhibits can be used before showing, but should be cleaned before exhibiting. Garments and sewn non-garments should be appropriate for the skill level and experience of the exhibitor.

CONSTRUCTED CLOTHING

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Include an information tag listing: pattern company name and number or inspirational photo for design, fiber content of fabric and care instructions.
- Constructed garment such as a blouse, shirt, top, skirt, pants, sweatshirt, jumper, dress, outerwear, etc.
- Constructed garment utilizing a fabric or technique new to the exhibitor, such as synthetic suede, active sportswear, micro-fibers, satin, etc.
- Using tailoring techniques to construct a garment
- Wearable art that can be included as part of the constructed garment.
- Educational poster or display on a clothing or textiles subject of your choice. Examples: career in industry, difference in fabric, how fabric is made, evolution of clothing, cost comparison, clothing selection, care of fabric, etc
- Garment mended, repaired or recycled, with color photo of original garment and explanation of steps used.

UPCYCLED CLOTHING

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Significant alterations to a garment. Examples: oversized t-shirt made into a cinched t-shirt dress, altering the style of the garment, updating an old prom dress to make it current, etc.
- Wearable art that can be added to purchased garment.

Requirements:

- An upcycled garment is one that is constructed from a previously worn garment that has been updated/altered in a way to produce a new garment.
- Colored photo of original garment and colored photo of new garment

PURCHASED CLOTHING

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Additional information that could be included in 8 ½" x 11" binder:
 - Cost per wear
 - Cost comparison (construction vs. purchased)
 - Inventory of wardrobe (not including undergarments)
 - Educational facts about fabric in garment(s)
 - Additional photos showing ways it can be used in existing wardrobe
 - Accessories/shoes worn
 - Any other educational information not listed above
- Purchased garment such as a blouse, shirt, top, skirt, pants, sweatshirt, jumper, dress, outerwear, etc.

- Pre-used garments not altered. Examples: thrift store, garage sale, hand-me-down, etc.

Requirements:

- The purchased garment or outfit must be accompanied by an 8-1/2" x 11" binder with the following information:
 - Colored photo of member wearing the garment. Label photo with name, county, and color of complexion, hair and eyes.
 - Cost of garment and explanation of why garment was purchased
 - Fabric content and care of garment
 - Examples of ways it will be used in existing wardrobe
 - Sale receipt and tags, if available

SEWN NON-GARMENT

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Non-clothing sewn, constructed item. Examples: simple home or clothing accessory item such as a pillow, apron, book bag, belt, placemat, gym bag, sewing kit, etc.
- Non-clothing article using a pattern or your own idea.

Requirements:

- Include an information tag listing: pattern company/kit name or source, fiber content of fabric and care instructions.

FASHION REVUE CONSTRUCTED CLOTHING

FASHION REVUE PURCHASED CLOTHING

FASHION REVUE UPCYCLED CLOTHING

Fashion Revue Constructed or Purchased or Upcycled Exhibit Suggestions:

- Judging is on the overall completed look which includes the outfit, accessories and overall appearance

Fashion Revue Constructed or Purchased or Upcycled Requirements:

- Participants may model any clothing they have constructed, purchased or upcycled as a part of their 4-H clothing project.
- Garments are required to be modeled during conference judging and fashion show.

Note: At State Fair, clothing exhibitors can use the same garment to participate in both fashion revue and the corresponding clothing & textiles project in the same year. Example: Constructed fashion revue exhibit can be judged in the constructed clothing area (or vice versa).

\$20 Challenge*

Note: Not State Fair Eligible

Requirements:

- 4-H members will use \$20 or less to come up with an outfit to exhibit.
- Items can be bought on sale or at a thrift store, and you may use items from existing wardrobe to complete your look!

CLOVERBUDS - See [“4-H Cloverbuds at the Jackson Co. Fair”](#) section

COMPUTER - See [“Technology”](#) section

CONSUMER EDUCATION & MONEY MANAGEMENT

Project Description:

Share what you've learned about being a good consumer as you explore smart shopping, income and expenses, saving money, credit, and needs vs. wants.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- A budget workbook, income/expenses graphs, impact of supply chains on consumers, savings plans, etc.
- Junior exhibitors: a basic comparison of similar products with different pricing.
- Intermediate exhibitors: include additional aspects of products other than just price
- Senior exhibitors: compare numerous components (nutritional value, cost per ounce, fabric content, longevity, etc).

CRAFTS & FINE ARTS

CRAFTS

Exhibit Suggestions:

- For a beginner, choose a project that teaches new techniques. For advanced, choose a project requiring masterful craftsmanship.
- Work directly from a kit, diamond painting, social media influenced/inspired, LEGO kits, model replicas, no sew/tie blankets, ceramic casts, paint by number, etc.

Requirements:

- Each exhibit will be evaluated on its individual merit as a craft/kit.
- Emphasis is on the creative process and the implementation of design elements and principles. The craft/kit exhibit develops from someone else's ideas and can be easily replicated, modified and repeated by others.
- All projects need to be presented in a finished manner.

FINE ARTS

Exhibit Suggestions:

- For a beginner, choose a project that teaches new techniques. For advanced, choose a project requiring mastery.
- Original work (no kits) in drawing, painting, sculpture, paint pouring, textiles, pottery, jewelry making, fiber art, quilling, etc

Requirements:

- Each exhibit will be evaluated on its individual merit as an original fine art.
- Emphasis is on the creative process and the implementation of design elements and principles. The fine art exhibit should show proof that it is developed from the 4-Hers own ideas and imagination.

- All art objects must be appropriately finished. For state fair eligible: exhibits must be ready for hanging, displaying, etc. (i.e. wire or hooks on paintings, bases for 3 dimensional work, etc.)

CREATIVE WRITING

Special Judging Day: Tuesday, July 15 from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Jackson County Central High School in the Performing Arts Center.

- **Special Judging Requirement:** Projects must be turned into the 4-H Office by Tuesday, July 8 at 4:00 pm. This will allow time for the judge to review submissions.

Project Description:

Exhibits could include written short stories, poems, essays, play scripts, speeches, memoirs, social media posts, articles, blog posts, graphic novels, etc.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Series of original poems.
- An original short story.
- A children's story or a story written specifically for young children, typically includes illustrations
- Series of social media posts or an article educating the public on a topic you are passionate about.
- An original graphic novel including characters' dialogue, plot line and illustrations.
- A display on the different types of poems or your favorite author
- A display on "What is Creative Writing?"

Requirements:

- Creative Writing exhibits should be an original written piece; if the work of others are quoted or included, be sure to include proper citation.
- Display your work in a way that can be viewed by fairgoers (printed in a binder, written on a canvas, hung on a display, etc.)

CROP SCIENCES

CORN - See ["Plant Science"](#) section

SMALL GRAINS & LEGUMES - See ["Plant Science"](#) section

DOG - See ["Pets"](#) section

Note: Dog Show Entries can be found on the AnSci Pages

ELECTRICITY - See ["Mechanical Science"](#) section

ENGINEERING DESIGN

See more on the [Engineering Design project page](https://extension.umn.edu/4-h-stem-projects/4-h-engineering-design-project)
(extension.umn.edu/4-h-stem-projects/4-h-engineering-design-project)

AQUATIC ROBOTICS - See “Technology” section

ENGINEERING DESIGN

Project Description:

Engineering design projects **are the creation, building, or tackling of solutions. Key to these projects is employing the engineering design process to effectively develop solutions.**

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Using everyday items to build a simple machine to complete a simple task
- Using everyday items to create a product to solve a real-life situation
- **Explore Engineering Design by using LEGO bricks to build and test creative solutions to real-world challenges or buildings**
- Engineering a bridge – using everyday items to create a bridge to sustain 5 pounds of weight
- **Engineering an amusement park ride - Use KNEX or other materials to design and build an amusement park ride**
- Engineering a catapult/trebuchet – use everyday items to create a machine to launch a marshmallow a minimum of 3 feet
- Engineer a wind turbine to solve a problem (for example: using wind energy to lift a bucket)
- **Explore careers in this project area and explain why they interest you**

Requirements:

- **Provide a drawing of your design, including a description of the idea, problem or challenge being solved and an explanation of how the design process was used to develop a solution.**

ENGINEERING DESIGN CHALLENGE LEVEL 1 & 2

Engineering Design Challenge Team Member:

Level 1 - grades 3 -8 (suggested)

Level 2 grades 7 - 12 (suggested)

All members of the team must register to participate

An Engineering Design Challenge machine is based on a Rube Goldberg-type machine, an overly complex contraption designed to accomplish a simple task. The best machines use a variety of everyday items to create a series of chain-reaction steps to accomplish a simple task. In the project, youth employ engineering, physics, humor, and storytelling to create their machine.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- **Machine (tabletop)**
- Display, binder, poster, and video illustrating the process of doing the activity/project

Requirements:

- Please refer to the [Engineering Design Challenge Level 1 and 2 Handbooks](https://z.umn.edu/4hedc) (z.umn.edu/4hedc) for complete details.
- **Team size: 2 to 9 members**
- The machine must complete a minimum of 10 steps
- The machine must operate in 2 minutes or less
- **Machine size is 36 inches by 36 inches (standard card table)**
- Describe how an engineering design process was used to complete the project.

- Provide a journal record illustrating the process of completing the project.
- **Teams advancing to the State Fair will need to submit a video prior to attending the State Fair.**

Note: The Engineering Design Challenge opportunity will take place at the Minnesota State Fair. Teams will participate in-person and present their machines for judging during their general encampment. Videos of machines running will be needed for the MN State Fair. Youth under 6th grade will receive participation ribbons only. Please refer to the [Engineering Design Challenge Level 1 and 2 Handbooks \(z.umn.edu/4hedc\)](https://z.umn.edu/4hedc) for complete details.

ROBOTICS - See ["Technology"](#) section

ENTOMOLOGY - See ["Natural Resources"](#) section

EXPLORING ANIMALS

Project Description:

Intended as an introductory project area for youth who have limited experience with livestock/animal science. This area is a pathway to more in-depth study of the animal.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- An educational exhibit to show or explain something 4-H'er made, did, learned, or may explore consumer issues, breeds or careers.
- Poster, journal, video, 3 ring binder of animal being explored.
- Explore basic care & handling, basic feeding, basic housing, animal welfare & ethics, etc.

Requirements:

- This area is for 4-H'ers who wish to learn more about a given species. Animal ownership is not required.
- Exploring Animals include: Beef, Dairy, Dairy Goat, Meat Goat, Llama-Alpaca, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep or Swine.
- Youth interested in cats, dogs, horses or other domesticated pets (guinea pigs, snakes, rats, etc) should see appropriate sections of the premium book.

EXPLORING THE ENVIRONMENT/ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE - See ["Natural Resources"](#) section

FISHING SPORTS

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Fish identification. Describe the habitat and food needs of selected fish; develop a panel display explaining the life history of a fish; create a model or exhibit identifying the parts of a fish.
- Fishing Knots: Identify how and where each knot is used; fishing equipment which is made or repaired such as lures, fishing rods and reels, ice fishing rig, or other fishing equipment
- Safety practices and techniques that are related to fishing (& ice fishing) or boating
- Examples of how water quality affects the fish ecosystem
- Create a display or diagram of aquatic habitats or invasive species
- Tactics to fish for various species of fish, techniques and equipment used

- Cultural aspects of fishing
- Regional differences across the US/world. (Types of fish, environments, ways to fish, considerations)
- Research commercial fishing for food industry
- **Explore careers in this project area and explain why they interest you**
- Local Department of Natural Resources fishing regulations

Requirements:

- If any lures or pieces are part of a display, ensure that pieces are secured and hooks are not going to be a safety concern (enclosed).
- Do not include live fish as part of the exhibit.

FLOWER GARDENING - See ["Horticulture"](#) section

FOODS & NUTRITION

FOODS

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Food items such as:
 - Bars & Cookies (no commercial mixes)
 - Breads (no commercial mixes)
 - Cakes (no commercial mixes)
 - Pastries (no commercial mixes)
 - Gluten Free Baked Goods
 - Homemade Meal
 - Other Homemade Food
 - Fun with Convenience Foods
 - Recipe Adaptation to Improve Nutrition
 - Cake/Cupcake & Cookie Decorating
- Food science experiment
- Exhibit showing food and/or kitchen safety.
- Investigate food allergen of your choice
- Display about careers in the food industry

Requirements:

- **Exhibitors must bring their food exhibit and a PHOTO of the prepared food to leave for display after judging. Food will NOT be kept for display during the fair.**
- Exhibits may be food items and/or displays.
- Exhibitors should be prepared to discuss with the judge: recipes, references, information sources, methods, etc., as appropriate to that exhibit.
- Exhibits containing perishable foods, which may be discarded, must include a colored photograph of the food. Print the photo and recipe on an 8 ½" x 11" paper.

***Note:** If food safety is a concern, judges reserve the right not to taste and/or judge foods items.*

NUTRITION

Exhibit Suggestions:

- One serving of nutritious food (vegetable or fruit dish, snack, bread, dairy, etc.). Include 8½ x 11 poster showing nutritional value, recipe, and a photo of the food.
- Study of nutrients needed for yourself or someone else, using the dietary guidelines and MyPlate.
- Make a food or fitness plan for yourself or someone else and show how it relates to nutritional and energy needs. (Example: an athlete on a volleyball team, a teen who doesn't have a lot of time).
- Adapt a recipe(s) to show healthier ingredient choices.
- Study of how physical fitness and/or food choices are related to disease (such as: cancer, heart disease, osteoporosis, diabetes, etc.).
- Study of labels from similar food items, comparing important nutrient content like fat, fiber, and sugar.
- Explore nutrition-related careers

FOOD PRESERVATION

Exhibit suggestions:

- Suggested exhibits include one (1) jar or one (1) bag of product:
 - Vegetables or fruits
 - Jams, jellies, preserves, low-sugar spreads (no frozen)
 - Pickled products (fermented or added acid, including pickles, sauerkraut, relishes, salsa).
 - Meats, poultry and/or fish. (Fish must be in pint jars.) Must be processed in a pressure canner.
 - Note: Preserved fish count toward the limit that can be in your possession.
 - Dried vegetables or dried fruits.
 - Dried herbs.
 - Beef or venison jerky.
- Learn about cottage food producer requirements in Minnesota
- Display about different methods of freezing foods
- Explore commercially available freezer bags to see which produces the best quality
- Display about preserving foods that you've hunted and/or caught
- Research different methods for harvesting and preserving butchered meat
- Make a poster about making freezer jams/jellies
- Research illnesses you can get from improper food preservation
- Teach others about safe canning methods
- Display about canning equipment and its purpose
- Learn about preserving foods in a pressure canner
- Compare current food preservation techniques with those used in the past

Requirements:

- Consult the authorities (University of Minnesota Extension/other state Extension publications, USDA, National Center for Home Food Preservation) and follow the recommendations for the year (or closest to) for all recipes, procedures, and processing times. Recipes from pectin packages, etc. are acceptable.
- All food preservation exhibits must be labeled or have a note card that includes county, name, grade, product, style of pack, processing method (boiling water bath or pressure canner), date, processing time, date processed and source of recipe. Pressure canned items indicate dial or weighted gauge and how many pounds of pressure used.

- Jars must be heat-tempered clear glass canning jars, not commercial glass jars (i.e. glass mayonnaise jars).
- All jars must be sealed. Jellies and jams must be covered with lids.
- Use pint jars for fruit, vegetables, and fish; one-half pint jars for jams and jellies; 2- 1 pint jars or one quart jar for pickled products.
- No artificial food coloring should be added to entries.
- Dried foods may be stored in glass jars, self-sealing plastic bags or airtight plastic bags. The quantity of dried foods should be: fruits and vegetables 1/2 cup or more of each, herbs - 1/4 cup of each in whole leaf form, 3 strips of meat (i.e. venison or beef jerky).
- Foods must be preserved within the past year.

FOOD REVUE - (Judged Prior to County Fair)

Special Judging Day: Tuesday, July 15th at the Jackson County Central High School in the Performing Arts Center.

Exhibit suggestions:

- Exhibitors may bring to the county showcase experience: one item of food from the menu; a place setting which includes dishes, silverware, linens and centerpiece for the course in which food is served.

Requirements:

- The display must be no larger than 30" square.
- Food Revue will be judged on food and nutritional knowledge, menu design/theme, table setting design, and cost information.
- Must include binder, which includes: Cover page, menu, cost, nutritional information, picture of place setting, picture of food, and one or more pictures of you in action preparing your meal. May also include a small poster of the menu, photo of exhibit, etc.
- Note: the judge may or may not taste the food.

FOREST RESOURCES - See ["Natural Resources"](#) section

FRUIT - See ["Vegetable, Fruit and Herb Gardening"](#) section

FRUIT, VEGETABLE & HERB GARDENING - See ["Vegetable, Fruit and Herb Gardening"](#) section

GEOLOGY - See ["Natural Resources"](#) section

GLOBAL CONNECTIONS

Project Description:

Lessons on Global Citizenship are as close by as your local grocery store, library, highway or high school and can be as far away as places like Oslo, Nairobi or Hong Kong! Share what you've learned about exploring countries and learning about their government, history, people and popular cultures or further explore your own culture and traditions. This includes ways you have made a difference in your community and your world with a Global Connections project.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Make a poster exploring your own culture. What are the important elements of your culture and how is it different from other cultures?
- Make a display of coins, stamps or postcards from other countries. How are they used? What is the meaning of the images on them?
- Record an oral history interview with someone from another culture living in your community.
- Service learning: Teach English to non-native English speaking people. What did you learn from doing this?
- Make a collection of foreign recipes and prepare them for others. Consider Hmong or Somali cuisine, or another that of another Minnesota group.
- Prepare an exhibit of items, pictures, maps, charts, slides/tapes, drawings, illustrations, writings or displays that depict the heritage of the member's family or community or 4-H history.
- Prepare a display illustrating what you have learned about a country's or U.S. region's geography, economy, agriculture, people, language, housing, culture, music, crafts, clothing, holidays or other aspects.
- Pick a country to study, then look up which one of the fifty U.S. states has a similar population to that country. Create a presentation documenting the similarities and differences between the identified country and the state based on the following topics:
 - Climate and weather
 - Culture and traditions
 - Food and cuisine
 - Language

HEALTH & WELLNESS**Exhibit Suggestions:**

- Research and report on a health issue of your choice.
- Report on a community service project that you conducted or volunteered with that relates to a health issue or addresses a community need.
 - Include objectives, audience, timetable, program description, materials, community support and evaluation.
 - Examples might include food distribution centers, homeless shelters, vaccine clinics, blood drives, community run/walk events such as a 5K,
 - Share the results of a service project you conducted in your community to address a health-related need.
 - Make a personal connection with an organization or group working to address health disparities or health inequities in your community (for example, availability and access to safe and affordable housing).
- Conduct a community health assessment for your county, tribe, city or school. What are they doing well to support people's wellbeing? What challenges have arisen? What solutions are they offering to support the community? What will you do now that you have this information?
- Research resources that are available to you in your community. Does this provide information useful to you or your peer group? What did you learn and do with the information?
- Organize a peer support group, conference, a seminar, a workshop, or a chemical-free party. What is your goal in creating this group?

- Promote health through campaigns, activities, and events centered on specific health issues.
 - Create a health day/week at school or arrange a health topic at your 4-H club meeting.
 - In collaboration with others (school, peers, etc.) develop an "anti-bullying" campaign to address Social Media Health.
- Create a Day in the Life Timeline to identify how you spend your day -
 - Where can you set goals to include more healthy practices such as mindfulness, fitness, movement, more fruits or vegetables, etc.?
 - Share some ways you incorporate self-care and/or mindfulness practices into your daily routines.
 - How do you manage schedules/Stress Management?
 - What steps do you take to ensure you are nourishing your body throughout the day?
- Create a video or musical production addressing a cause that's connected to health and wellness.
- Design a model of the human skeleton and label the bones or learn about other organs and systems of the human body
- How does fitness, motion, or athletics fit into a healthy lifestyle for you
- Careers in the health science industry

HOME ENVIRONMENT

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Finished or refinished item, or reupholstered furniture with before and after photos.
- Repaired, restored, remodeled or upcycled item for the home.
- An article remade or reclaimed for the home with a link to the past, including history of use.
- Description, diagrams/photos, samples and cost of a redecorating or remodeling plan showing before and after.
- Item creation for the home - for appeal or for practical use.
- Home organization and functionality (i.e. make a spice rack).
- Environmentally friendly home improvements; assess energy efficiency.

Requirements:

- Members exhibiting in this project should be prepared to discuss how their exhibit applies to the home, how and where it is used or displayed, and all details of how it was made or selected.
 - They should know about the subject matter of the specific exhibit, the materials used, how and why it was done, costs involved, and alternatives considered
- A photograph and details showing its place in the home environment must accompany exhibits that are items for the home.
- Pictures and wall hangings that are exhibited should be finished.
- Purchased kits are allowed to be used.

HORTICULTURE

FLOWER GARDENING

Exhibit Suggestions:

- When exhibiting cut flowers, we suggest:
 - three stems of one variety of annual flowers, or
 - one stem of a hardy perennial, or

- one stem of summer flowering bulbs, or
- one blossom of a tea rose, or
- one stem of a hardy shrub rose.
- Flower bouquet or arrangement on any theme.
- Display of dried flowers with a card explaining the drying method.
- My Flower Garden - Exhibit on poster board, not to exceed 22 x 28". Include a plan of the garden drawn to scale, the correct variety name and pictures (or photographs) of the flowers grown. Be prepared to discuss the process from soil preparation to blooming.
- Educational Exhibit showing the principles of propagation or reproduction, nutrition, culture and physiology (how a plant lives and grows).
- A display using a 4-H project kit showing how plants or vegetables absorb color and change their leaf color.

Requirements:

- Label each container according to kind or variety.
- Outdoor living flowers and plants are to be exhibited in this area (including Outdoor Fairy Gardens)
- Live plant material will be accepted if it can be maintained in a fresh condition with ease.

INDOOR GARDENING

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Two or more varieties of house plants with common and botanical names.
- Terrarium or dish garden: consider the terrarium material of general terrarium plants of native and woodland plants of Minnesota.
- Educational exhibit showing plant propagation, plant history, forcing bulbs, the life cycle of a flowering plant, etc.

Requirements:

- Indoor living flowers and plants are to be exhibited in this area (including Indoor Fairy Gardens)
- Potted Plants:
 - Flowering plants should be in bloom.
 - Foliage plants should be in vigorous condition.
 - Plants should be grown in the exhibited container for at least one month prior to the fair.
- Plants In Hanging Containers:
 - Container for the plant should not be more than 10" in depth or diameter.
 - Maximum total length of hanger and plant should not exceed 4'
 - Evaluation will include appropriateness of plant for a hanging container, condition, arrangement, hanger to container to plant relationship, and plants being well established.
- Terrariums:
 - The terrarium may not exceed 24" in any dimension.
 - Terrarium should be planted four to six weeks ahead of exhibiting.
 - Members must be able to identify all plant materials in their terrariums and know why they were selected for use (quality, container and design).
- **Fairy Garden:**
 - **Must include at least two types of live plants.**

- Gardens can be in an indoor container or outdoor display, with clear labeling of plant species.
- Exhibits may include a brief written description (maximum 100 words) explaining the theme or story of the garden.
- Plants should be grown in the exhibit container for at least one month before the fair.

LANDSCAPE DESIGN

Exhibit Suggestions:

- A 3D model of a landscaping design (24x36 inches)
- A binder detailing the exhibit with photos, design, budget, key explaining certain pieces in the design, etc..
- A colored design of the layout with colors. Adding explanation of why certain colored plants and what they add to the design.
- Using a computer and designing landscaping, garden areas or new treeline development.
- A display about turf management of golf courses vs baseball fields and why certain types of grasses are used.
- Types of turf grasses for home use.
- Creating a landscape project for a nursing home, hospital or other places with people in care. Using plants or bird feeders for patient comfort.
- Discussion options of either annual or perennial plants used.
- Pollinator gardens

Requirements:

- Include a design (paper or 3D model)
- Itemization of supplies, plants, trees, grasses, rocks, bricks, pavers, gates/fences, structures, and other materials used in the design
- A budget
- If multi-year, describe the yearly benchmarks.
- Identify software or computer programs used.
- Mentions elements of landscape design such as: Balance, Focalization, Simplicity, Rhythm and Line, Proportion, and Unity.

INDOOR GARDENING - See ["Horticulture"](#) section

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

METAL WORK

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Metal work is the creation of metal structures by cutting, bending and assembling processes. It is a value-added process involving the creation of machines, parts, and structures from various raw materials. Could also include a display on properties, uses, or processing of metals
- It is encouraged that youth provide a binder or supporting documentation about the work on the project - pictures of the process, statement of materials purchased or tools utilized etc.

WOODWORKING

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Woodworking is the skill of making items from wood (or wood substitute/alternative product), and could include cabinet making (cabinetry and furniture), wood carving, joinery, carpentry, woodturning or other wood manipulation techniques. Could also include a display on properties, uses, or processing of wood or wood alternatives.
- It is encouraged that youth provide a binder or supporting documentation about the work on the project - pictures of the process, statement of materials purchased or tools utilized etc.

Requirements:

- Please contact 4-H staff if your project is an oversized exhibit.

LAWN AND LANDSCAPE DESIGN See [“Horticulture”](#) section

MECHANICAL SCIENCE

Project Description:

Includes (but not limited to) automotive, implement, heavy equipment, recreation vehicle, small engine, tractor, electric, type of projects. Includes past projects of Electric, Small Engines and Tractor.

Exhibit Suggestions:

An exhibit focusing on any mechanical science area such as (but not limited to) automotive, implement, heavy equipment, machine, recreation vehicle, small engine, tractor, electric:

- An educational display of some aspect of a machine or a piece of equipment use, operation, modification, repair, care, reconditioning, etc.
- An educational display on the history, purpose, technology or design of a machine or a piece of equipment.
- Engine that has been reconditioned or repaired.
- A device constructed by a member utilizing a powersource.
- Restoration of an engine, vehicle, tractor, machine or implement (body work and/or mechanical)
- Modification of an engine, vehicle, tractor, machine or implement
- If bringing an engine, vehicle, tractor, machine or implement as a project, consider including a binder or display outlining your project process from research to project completion.
- Diagram of wiring in your home/farm showing switch locations, fuse boxes, wire size, capacities, fuse sizes, total bulk wattage, appliance wattage, number of circuits, and type of wiring installation.
- **Explore careers in this project area and explain why they interest you**

Requirements:

- Motorized projects must adhere to safe building and operating design.
- Check space and transportation requirements for large exhibits with your local Extension Educator. Large exhibits may be displayed outdoors
- Fuel must be removed from exhibits for display (fuel can be added for judging purposes, but then removed after judging for safety purposes).
- A colored wiring diagram or schematic must accompany all electric and electronic exhibits. Safety must be reviewed when working with electricity.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Note: To include Entomology, Exploring the Environment/Environmental Science, Forest Resources, Geology & Water/Wetlands projects

ENTOMOLOGY

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Projects can include but is not limited to life history displays (e.g. insect life cycle, honey production process, etc), scientific investigation (e.g. insect habitats or effects of environment factors on insects), insects in current events (e.g. pollinators, butterfly tagging, invasive species, protected or declining species), insects in our ecosystem (food source, roles in food production, behaviors, health or disease, etc)
- Live projects (e.g. bee or ant colony)
- Utilize the scientific method to learn about insects. Remember to introduce the subject, describing the process (materials and method), predicting an outcome, stating the results, and discussing any conclusions. Get involved and share what you learned through citizen science projects.
- Collections- cases can be purchased through a variety of vendors or homemade.
 - Specialty insect collection can include but is not limited to a collection of a single order (e.g. Coleoptera or Lepidoptera), a collection of immature insects, a collection of insects from a particular habitat (e.g. aquatic, forest, or prairie) or a collection of economic pests of a specific crop (e.g. insects attacking corn).
 - General collection- starter collection should have 10-20 insects, goal is to get to 50 species of adult insects representing at least 8 orders. Each year add or replace insects. A full 50 species case would be approximately 19" x 16.5" x 3" to 24" x 18" x 3".

Requirements:

- Emphasis of the project must relate to an aspect of entomology. Project must demonstrate specific knowledge of insects. Be prepared to discuss references and sources (e.g. books, magazines, internet, interviews with an expert etc.)
- Displays or booklets on entomology topics should include references and sources. Pictures, drawings, charts, tables, or other figures may be used to support understanding.
- Live projects (e.g. bee or ant colony) will be accepted if the project can be self-sustaining for up to 14 days without special care. A written report or journal should accompany the project. Pictures, drawings, charts, tables, or other figures may be used.
- Collection shall be contained in one see through enclosed case. Arrange so that the case may be displayed in a horizontal position. Place the project label on the lower right corner of the top.
 - Specimens must be collected by the exhibitor. Purchased insects are not acceptable.
 - Specimens must be properly pinned with insect pins. Small insects may need to be placed on cardboard points.
 - Specimens must be properly labeled.
 - The location, date, and collector must be included on the labels. County and state (and country, when applicable) are minimum location information that should be included. It is valuable to include the nearest town or township where the specimen was collected, the type of habitat it was collected from (e.g. on elm tree; on lake shore; indoors.), and the common name of the insect.

- All labels should be visible so they can be read. Use a permanent ink marker, pencil or print labels from a computer.

EXPLORING THE ENVIRONMENT/ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Project Description:

Share what you've learned about the relationships and interactions of plants, animals, humans, and their ecosystems through the specific challenges they face and/or solutions they offer.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Display or **create** a video about environmental challenges, such as climate change, pollution, erosion, etc., describing the causes and their sources, its effect on people and other living things, and potential solutions. This could include news clippings and other media about an environmental issue that you care about.
- Phenology journals used to keep track of environmental changes throughout a season.
- Display showcasing your participation in an event such as a BioBlitz or naturalist program, or other citizen science project to collect data and/or raise awareness.
- Complete a community map or assessment, to observe environmental needs and community assets.
- Vlog detailing hiking, camping, paddling, backyard, and other explorations/adventures
- A display or journal of Minnesota plants, insects, animals, birds or fish. Include pictures or drawings and information on habits, foods, and shelter needs.
- Collection of wildflowers growing near where you live or a place you visit.
- Experiments related to local environmental engineering and/or technology applications: such as urban design, pocket prairies, roadside management, eco-friendly buildings, etc.
- Pros and cons regarding a specific piece of environmental policy and/or management.
- Choose one living thing in the forest, field or stream and make a display to describe its ecosystem and/or the flow of energy throughout the ecosystem.
- Investigate an invasive, threatened, or extinct species in your area. Where do invasive species come from and is it considered invasive in its native area? What threatens them and what can be done about it? Why do species go extinct and as that happened in the area where you live?

Requirements:

- Follow local or state policies for collecting, removing and/or transporting plants and other organisms

FOREST RESOURCES

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Identify the parts of a tree and what they do with a poster or collection of leaves, seeds, needles, etc.
- Display showing tree growth; annual ring cross-sections; make a seed collection.
- Prepare a report with drawings about your favorite tree--include name of tree, drawings or pictures of tree, facts and uses of the tree, and other appropriate information.
- Display showing layers of the forest; renewable versus non-renewable resources; forestry careers; leaf and twig identification; taxonomic keys; nutrient road maps.
- Display on forest ecosystem health such as succession; tree and forest measurements; fire's effect on the forest; how trees grow; forest types; harvesting methods; pathology of the forest, invasive species, human impacts on the forest.

- Photographic display or report on forest products or industries, including maple syrup production; wood products; Christmas trees or others (recreation, wildlife, etc.).
- Display on woodland management such as policies created by the U.S. Forest Service or specialized design including shelterbelts/windbreaks and urban forestry.
- A video or display about the human health benefits from trees, and what role trees play in global ecology.
- Organize or take part in a mass tree planting and calculate the amount of carbon that will be offset
- Explore the history of forestry through the lens of indigenous practices or the effects of treaties. How have these relationships impacted people and landscapes?

Requirements:

- Follow local or state policies for collecting, removing and/or transporting plants and other organisms
- Specimens should be mounted on cardboard or other sturdy material.

GEOLOGY

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Display of rocks, minerals, gemstones, a rock plate; can be displayed in an egg carton for younger youth, or in a display case as youth progresses in the project; include in the display, labels of specimen name and location collected.
- Rocks, minerals, or fossils from within Minnesota or on a definite theme such as metamorphism, weathering, quartz minerals, ores, or a theme of your own choosing.
- Polished rock specimen; include an unpolished specimen of each rock type for comparison.
- Educational exhibit showing the "science how's and why's" dealing with the principles of geology and natural earth sciences.
- Exhibit explaining the three main rock types (Igneous, Metamorphic, Sedimentary) include examples of each.
- Model of a geologic earth structure or feature such as volcano, mountain range, plate tectonics, earthquake, cave, glacier.
- Timeline of geological time scale.

WATER RESOURCES

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Demonstrate water's unique chemical/physical properties, such as how heat and salt affect water density or how a wetland ecosystem changes throughout the seasons
- Project showing how water is necessary for life, such as a display on water/wetland ecosystem services like filtration or nutrient cycles from plants
- Share how water connects earth systems like a poster displaying your local water cycle or watershed
- Research your local water body's thermoclines or nutrient cycles
- Display on how water is used by people, such as:
 - A record tracking your family's water footprint at home, or
 - A model showing stormwater runoff, or
 - A map showcasing water accessibility or insecurity in a specific region of the world

- Exhibit detailing water/wetland resource management measures like erosion control practices, and terraces, or a map of local, regional, state, or global water bodies and water quality.

Requirements:

- Follow local or state policies for collecting, removing and/or transporting plants and other organisms

NEEDLE ARTS

Exhibit suggestions:

- Any item made by the member using the techniques of knitting, crocheting, embroidery and crewel, counted cross stitch, needlepoint, hardanger, weaving, appliqué, latch hook, tatting, hand embellishments, felting, hand embroidery.
- Consumer Product Analysis: Comparison and evaluation of materials, supplies, or accessories used for a needle arts technique.
- Poster or display showing how needlework product is or could be priced, advertised and marketed.
- Poster or display comparing different techniques of a particular needle art (ex. different felting techniques, different stitches).
- Poster or display showing how to care for your project supplies (ex. storing, organizing, cleaning).
- Historical/Cultural Study: Story, poster, or display about a needle arts heirloom from your family or local history museum. Exhibit must include information about how item should be preserved.

Requirements:

- This project area is for projects created using a hand needle, hook, shuttle or loom.
- Each exhibit must include a consumer information tag, if appropriate, with the following information: pattern name and source, fiber content, and care instructions.
- Exhibitor should be prepared to discuss techniques, fiber content, care instructions, and cost. Exhibitor is encouraged to bring instructions, pattern, or other educational sources used.
- Projects must be finished and ready to display. If an item is framed, a wall hanging, or to be displayed on a wall, it should be finished and ready to hang.
- Project kits are acceptable in this project area. The project must meet all other requirements.

PERFORMING ARTS

Special Judging Day: Tuesday, July 15 from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Jackson County Central High School in the Performing Arts Center.

- **Special Judging Requirement:** Performing Arts participants must complete a Script to be read during the evening presentation. Please complete one [google form](https://z.umn.edu/PresentationDayGF) (z.umn.edu/PresentationDayGF) or one [paper form](https://z.umn.edu/JacksonCoPresentationDayScripts) per project (z.umn.edu/JacksonCoPresentationDayScripts)

Requirements:

- Exhibit can be either a performance or an exhibit that shows a member's involvement or interest in the performing arts.

- Entries in Performing Arts are distinct from Share-the-Fun in the intention behind the entry. Performing Arts entries will be judged based on the criteria identified below and on an individual basis, even in group performances.
- An exhibitor may submit entries in both performance and non-performance based classes (e.g. a member may perform a puppet show that they wrote as a performance based exhibit and submit the script as a non-performance based exhibit)

PERFORMANCE BASED

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Perform a short story, show scene, music selection, dance, monologue, poetry, etc.

Requirements:

- A performance in music, dance, drama, etc.
- A performance cannot last longer than 5 minutes.
- Performances may be given as a solo, duet, or a small group.
- **Performances may include a non-judged accompanist**
- **Acts must be appropriate for any age audience**
- To be eligible for State Fair, the member must be able to discuss the process of selecting, planning, performing and reflecting on their project work.
- The technique and artistry of the performance will be considered.

NON-PERFORMANCE BASED

Exhibit Suggestions:

- An educational display on some aspect of music, drama, dance, or performing.
- A journal or scrapbook (with written statements) of current performing arts experiences.
- A written piece such as poetry, sheet music, or other physical artifact intended for performance created by member.

Requirements:

- An exhibit such as a poster or display that shows a member's involvement or interest in the performing arts.
- To be eligible for State Fair, the member must be able to discuss the process of selecting, planning, creating and reflecting on their project work.
- The workmanship, general appearance and technique used to develop the exhibit will be considered.

Consider performing at the Jackson County Talent Show on Saturday, August 2, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the Olson Pavilion.

- You can register at: <https://z.umn.edu/JacksonCoTalentShow>

PETS

Note: To include Dog, Cats & Pets projects

CATS

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Educational display explaining cat care, health, nutritional needs, etc.

DOGS

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Educational display explaining dog diseases, breeding, training, caring for dogs at humane society, information about therapy dogs, etc.

PETS

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Educational display explaining pet care, health, nutritional needs, etc.

PET SHOW (Jackson County 4-H Members ONLY!)*

Judged on Friday, August 1, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. at the Beef Barn Office.

All Pet Show Exhibits are entered under Pet Show in the General department in [FairEntry](#), Cloverbuds entering in the Pet Show should see the [Cloverbud](#) section of this Premium Book and enter exhibits under Cloverbud - General Project department in [FairEntry](#).

No state fair trip awarded. (State fair trips are awarded in the General Project Exhibit divisions, such as pets, exploring animals, etc. See General Project Exhibit section)

Cats, kittens, hamsters, birds, guinea pigs, puppies, dogs, turtles, and more! The Jackson County Pet Show is an opportunity for you to share your knowledge and pet! A 4-H judge will judge your knowledge and handling of your pet. Be prepared to answer questions about how to care for your animal and be a responsible pet owner.

Requirements:

- No livestock: cows, sheep, pigs, or goats. No horses or llamas.
- Rabbits and poultry are allowed if they are pets and not shown as an animal science exhibit. 4-H Animal ID rules do not apply to the pet show.
- Dogs may be shown if not trained to participate in the 4-H dog project and must have current vaccinations
- All cats must have certification of rabies vaccination and distemper shots.
- Animals must be kept in their cages or leashed at all times unless they are in the show ring. Dogs are not allowed at the fair except to participate in the Pet Show or 4-H dog project activities.
- No stalling or lodging. Please be prepared to return your pet home immediately after the show.
- Maximum of 2 pets per exhibitor.
- Exhibitors may enter the pet show with live pets and educational exhibits about their pets as a general project exhibit (in cat, pet, dog, exploring animals, etc.) See General Project Exhibit section.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Requirements for BOTH Elements of Photography and Photo Manipulation:

- All photos exhibited must have been taken/produced/enhanced by the exhibitor during the current year
- The exhibitor's name, club, county and exhibit class should be clearly printed on the back of the exhibit.
- Unaltered 4"x6" photos must be attached to the back of any exhibit
- For safety, picture frames or glass are not allowed

- Exhibits with multiple photos should use 4"x6" prints - multiple photos should be displayed on a board (see below for board information)
- Enlarged photos should be 5"x7" or 8"x10"
- Photos should be mounted on a mat board, foam board, or poster board using neutral colors (white, tan, gray or black). Do not use construction paper, cardstock, colored paper or wrapping paper. Photos should not be mounted on any type of flexible/bendable paper.
- Use a 14" x 22" board for 5 or more photos in an exhibit. Cut smaller boards for enlargements
- Exhibits should reflect the appropriate size for the item designed, e.g. the photos used for an ornament, a calendar, a poster, or brochure would require different sized photographs.
- Learn how to prepare your photos for the fair
 - Video Tutorial z.umn.edu/4HPhotoPrepVideo
 - Slideshow Tutorial z.umn.edu/4HPhotoPrepSlideshow

Equipment:

Use any device capable of capturing a photographic image to be printed: digital or film camera, cell phone, tablet or drone. A computer, phone or tablet is required for photo manipulation.

Please note: *Supervision of the drone operator is important until they understand not only how to use a drone but also understand the etiquette and rules for using the drone. For information see: <https://www.faa.gov/uas> (unmanned aircraft systems)*

Photo/Video Release Form - Use this form when including any person in your photo that is NOT in 4-H. This verifies that the subject has agreed to have their photograph taken. Keep this signed form in a file. Here is a link to the Photo & Video Release form in [English](https://z.umn.edu/photo-release-english) (z.umn.edu/photo-release-english), [Spanish](https://z.umn.edu/photo-release-spanish) (z.umn.edu/photo-release-spanish), [Hmong](https://z.umn.edu/photo-release-hmong) (z.umn.edu/photo-release-hmong) and [Somali](https://z.umn.edu/photo-release-somali) (z.umn.edu/photo-release-somali).

This [presentation](https://z.umn.edu/intro-to-photo-manipulation) (z.umn.edu/intro-to-photo-manipulation) explains what the difference is between elements and manipulation, software options and information on how to talk to a judge.

[State Fair photos, examples of Photo Manipulation](https://z.umn.edu/mn4hmanipulatedphotos) (z.umn.edu/mn4hmanipulatedphotos)

ELEMENTS OF PHOTOGRAPHY

This exhibit will focus on what makes a good photograph (composition, light, shutter speed, color, depth of field, leading lines, etc). Only select whole image edits or modifications are allowed in post-production. Post-production is any adjustment made after the photo is taken using editing software. Allowed whole image edits must be applied to the entire image and not specific areas of the photo. Allowed whole image edits include:

- cropping
- exposure correction
- color saturation
- contrast
- sharpening
- conversion to black & white

On-camera filters: a physical filter that attaches to the camera lens (neutral density, polarizer, various colors, etc) are allowed.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Photo Story:
 - Show a town's history or a family history. This could include photos of historic buildings, old photos copied from the historical society or library, family or individual portraits, etc.
 - Develop a documentary of another of yours or a friend's 4-H project or of your 4-H club's community service project
 - Document environmental issues such as the plight of pollinators, pollution, soil erosion, or the steps taken to improve the environment
 - Present a day in the life of – farm or city youth, a local professional person such as a school nurse or a firefighter, law enforcement officer, or other interesting personality
 - Exhibit a series of photos on how to make or do something
- Common Theme or subject:
 - Display a series of 3 to 7 photos of a common subject such as people, buildings, landscapes, animals, seasons, action, nature, weather, close-ups, etc.
- Showcase a Photographic Elements:
 - Display a series of 5 to 7 photos that illustrate some photographic element such as composition, lighting, shutter speeds, depth of field, color, contrast, cropping, etc.
- Panorama:
 - Show a single image created in camera or a triptych (set of 3 photos intended to be used together) of several images created by moving the camera. A triptych may consist of separate images that are variants on a theme, or may be one larger image split into three.

PHOTO MANIPULATION

This exhibit will focus on using photography to show creatively edited photos and how photography is used in everyday life. Software editing is required for this category and may include:

- layering
- all digital filters (except black and white)
- creative coloring
- removing or adding objects
- text additions
- etc.

Entries in this category must involve editing with software such as Photoshop, Lightroom, iPhoto, Picasa, Gimp, Picmonkey, Pixi, Microsoft Publisher, etc.

Suggested softwares (all can be used on Android, iPhone, and iPad): Snapseed (easy to use and does a nice job), Adobe Photoshop Express (good option for those wanting to grow into Photoshop), Pixir (2nd to 6th grades only), PicsArt Photo Studio (powerful photo and video editing app).

Please view the "[Introduction to Photo Manipulation](https://z.umn.edu/intro-to-photo-manipulation)" (z.umn.edu/intro-to-photo-manipulation) slideshow for specific examples and explanations.

Stock photos are not allowed. A stock photo is a photo taken by another person (not yourself) who has licensed their photo for specific uses by others. All images used in photo manipulation exhibits must have been taken by the exhibitor. For example, you may not include an image of space taken by NASA as the background of your photo and if you want a shark inserted into your

composite image, you must take a photo of a shark yourself, not import one from another website.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Composite Photo: Multiple images combined into one image
 - Panoramas (overlapping areas of several photos and stitching them together in post-production)
 - the same person in multiple places within the photo
 - replacing the sky
- Single Source Image Manipulation
 - acne removal, eye enhancement, teeth whitening, etc.
 - selective color manipulations (i.e. converting everything to black and white except items that are the same color red)
 - apply digital filters (other than black and white)
 - removing distractions in the background, etc.
- Photo Series:
 - Make a series of 5 to 7 digitally edited photos that illustrate a common theme such as environmental issues, plight of pollinators, how to do something, etc.
- Enlarged Photo:
 - Show a 5"x7" or 8"x10" print that has been digitally enhanced and illustrates software skills. An unaltered 4 x6" print must be attached to the back of the exhibit.
- Publications:
 - Show calendars, brochures, posters that are created using computer software
- Photo Novelties:
 - Display mugs, puzzles, blankets, or other media on which photos have been printed
- Slide Show:
 - Make a compilation of photos with titles, voice-over or background music. For judging, exhibitors can show their exhibit on a 14" x 22" poster board, computer or tablet.

PLANT SCIENCE

AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY

Exhibit Suggestions:

- A display or presentation highlighting the technology used in agriculture such as GPS tools, drone use, implement technology, yield mapping, genetic engineering, seed traits, agricultural chemistry, precision agriculture, on-farm research, side-by-side trials, etc.
- A drone showcase explaining precision agriculture
- A display demonstrating automated tractors

CORN

Exhibit Suggestions:

- A jar or clear container (equalling 8 cups) of shelled corn.
- A display of ears of dent corn, consisting of 6-10 ears of corn of the same variety.
- A bundle of corn stalks, consisting of stalks of the same variety.
- An educational display illustrating corn's plant reproduction, different types of corn, plant growth factors, plant characteristics, plant part identification, growing and using plants, plant growth and food production, examples of a plant disease, etc.
- A display using a 4-H project kit (a corn stalk growing out of a five-gallon pail).

- **Tallest Stalk of Field Corn**

Requirements:

- Crop must be grown on a farm with which you have a relationship with the producer and have interviewed the producer about the growing process. Crops must have been grown in the current or previous growing season.
- Include an information card listing the variety, soil, and agronomy information of the crop if the exhibit is a crop sample.
- Be familiar with crop input costs and the growing process.

FORAGES**Exhibit Suggestions:**

- A dried sample, in a 3-5 inch tied, dried bundle, clear container of ensiled forages or in a sample 4-6 inch slab of a bale of forage. Forages include alfalfa, warm-season grasses, cool-season grasses, sorghum, native grasses, silage, etc. It is recommended that a sample analysis of your forage accompanies the sample.
- An educational display illustrating one of the following ideas: nutritional analysis of feedstuff, plant reproduction, plant growth factors, plant characteristics, growing and using plants, plant growth and food production, examples of a plant disease, etc. of forages.
- A display using a 4-H project kit (grass grown in a container showing how forages are grown).

Requirements:

- Crop must be grown on a farm with which you have a relationship with the producer and have interviewed the producer about the growing process. Crops must have been grown in the current or previous growing season.
- Include an information card listing the variety if the exhibit is a crop sample.
- The sample could be in a clear plastic container or a large clear plastic bag.
- Be familiar with crop input costs and the growing process.

PLANT AND SOIL SCIENCE**Exhibit Suggestions:**

- Take soil samples and compare soil analysis (soil analysis can be done by obtaining kits at your local Extension Office).
- An exhibit showing different varieties of cover crops, etc. (seed or plant)
- A plant life cycle exhibit highlighting the growth of a plant from seed to a mature plant.
- A display using a 4-H project kit.

SMALL GRAINS**Exhibit Suggestions:**

- A jar or clear container (equalling 8 cups) of any small grain variety. This could include wheat, oats, rye, barley, etc.
- A dried sample, in a 3-5 inch tied, dried bundle of the same variety.
- An educational display illustrating one of the following ideas: plant reproduction, plant growth factors, plant characteristics, usage of plants, plant growth, food production, examples of a plant disease, etc. of small grain.

Requirements:

- Crop must be grown on a farm with which you have a relationship with the producer and have interviewed the producer about the growing process. Crops must have been grown in the current or previous growing season.
- Include an information card listing the variety if the exhibit is a crop sample.
- Be familiar with crop input costs and the growing process.

SOYBEANS

Exhibit Suggestions:

- A jar or clear container (equalling 8 cups) of soybeans.
- A dried sample, in a 3-5 inch tied, dried bundle of the same variety.
- An educational display illustrating plant reproduction, plant growth factors, plant characteristics, usage of plants or seeds, plant growth and food production, and examples of a plant disease, etc. of a soybean.
- A display using a 4-H project kit.

Requirements:

- Crop must be grown on a farm with which you have a relationship with the producer and have interviewed the producer about the growing process. The crop must have been grown in the current or previous growing season.
- Include an information card listing the variety if the exhibit is a crop sample.
- Be familiar with crop input costs and the growing process.

SPECIALTY CROPS

Exhibit Suggestions:

- An adequate sample of a specialty crop such as sugar beets, edible beans, black beans, kidney beans, field-produced sweet corn, peas, carrots, potatoes, popcorn, etc. Dried products should be in a jar or clear container (equalling 8 cups); fresh products on a plate or flat box.
- A dried sample, in a 3-5 inch tied, dried bundle of the same variety.
- An educational display illustrating one of the following ideas: plant reproduction, plant growth factors, plant characteristics, usage of plants, plant growth, food production, examples of a plant disease, etc. of a specialty crop.
- **Tallest Sunflower (bring an exhibit of your tallest sunflower stalk with a sunflower head on it).**

Requirements:

- Crop must be grown on a farm with which you have a relationship with the producer and have interviewed the producer about the growing process. Crops must have been grown in the current or previous growing season.
- Include an information card listing the variety if the exhibit is a crop sample.
- Be familiar with crop input costs and the growing process.

WEEDS & PESTS

Exhibit Suggestions:

- A display or presentation highlighting any current pests in agriculture or horticulture. Could include their life cycle, prevention or treatment, their impact on the plant, etc.
- A weed display or book identifying different weeds in agriculture or horticulture. Highlight one weed in-depth, a class of weeds (such as grasses or broad leaves) or a collection of

different weeds. Could include identification details, life cycle, weed control, the impact on crop production, etc.

- A display, book or poster identifying insects that are harmful to crops or other plants.
- *Note: Do not include live or dried noxious weed samples in your display (check the current listing at

<https://www.mda.state.mn.us/plants/pestmanagement/weedcontrol/noxiouslist.aspx>). If you are bringing in a sample of weed seeds, put it in a sealed container.

POTATOES - See [“Vegetable, Fruit and Herb Gardening”](#) section

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Special Judging Day: Tuesday, July 15 from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Jackson County Central High School in the Performing Arts Center. **Exception is the Livestock Demonstrations will be judged on Tuesday, July 29, 2025 at 3:30 p.m.**

- **Special Judging Requirement:** Demonstrations/Public Presentations participants must complete a Script to be read during the evening presentation. Please complete one [google form](https://z.umn.edu/PresentationDayGF) (z.umn.edu/PresentationDayGF) or one [paper form](https://z.umn.edu/JacksonCoPresentationDayScripts) per project (z.umn.edu/JacksonCoPresentationDayScripts)

Public Presentations may be related to any project that the member is enrolled in or to any area of interest or expertise the 4-H'er has. Presentations may be an individual or a two-person team.

NOTE: 4-H'ers who complete a Public Presentation at the State Fair will receive a \$30 cash award. These payments are made in October. 4-H'ers must be grade eligible to participate at the State Fair.

NOTE: 4-H'ers may bring one Livestock Demonstration, one Llama/Alpaca Demonstration and one Demonstration, Presentations & Speech or Interactive Demonstration to the State Fair. (This means one during Livestock Encampment, one during Llama/Alpaca Encampment and one during General Encampment).

NOTE: 4-H'ers that win a trip to the State Fair will be asked to submit a photo of them doing their demonstration to have on display.

DEMONSTRATION

Demonstration - Individual

Demonstration - Team

Requirements

- Demonstrations are an oral presentation that includes actually demonstrating the hands-on steps required to accomplish a task or process. This most often includes the use of physical objects and actual doing or showing. At the end of the Demonstration there should be something of a "finished product". Demonstrations may also include the use of supporting visuals like posters, charts or technology-based options like presentation software (i.e. MS PowerPoint, KeyNote, Google Slides). However, the focus of the Demonstration should be on the "doing", not the supporting visuals. Presentations may be an individual or team. Individual presentations shall not exceed 15 minutes in length and team presentations should not exceed 25 minutes in length.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Teaching others a project or activity such as taekwondo, making lemonade, slime, macrame, etc.

LIVESTOCK DEMONSTRATION

Will be judged on Tuesday, July 29 at 3:30 p.m. in the Olson Pavilion.

Livestock Demonstration - Individual

Livestock Demonstration - Team

Requirements

- Livestock Demonstrations include: Beef, Dairy, Dairy Goat, Llama - Alpaca, Meat Goat, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep and Swine and must include a live animal in the demonstration.. Other demonstrations involving animals can be entered under the demonstration category.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Demonstrate how to care for an animal or prepare it for showing at the fair.
- Teaching others how to tie a halter.
- A talk on preventative or veterinary care for a species.
- Demonstrate how to tattoo an animal.

PRESENTATION & SPEECH

Presentations & Speeches - Individual

Presentations & Speeches - Team

Requirements

- Presentations & Speeches are oral presentations that present an idea, concept, viewpoint or experience in an educational or informative format (not for entertainment or performative purposes). Presentations & Speeches often consist of interaction with supporting visual aids like posters, charts or technology-based options like presentation software (i.e. MS PowerPoint, KeyNote, Google Slides). Supporting visuals may include tangible items, but generally little or no activity takes place with the item. Presentations & Speeches may be an individual or team. Individual presentations shall not exceed 15 minutes in length and team presentations should not exceed 25 minutes in length.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- A report on leadership lessons learned through a trip to Washington DC
- An educational presentation that explores sustainable energy options
- A persuasive speech exploring Social Media effects on youth mental health.

INTERACTIVE DEMONSTRATION

Interactive Demonstration - Individual

Interactive Demonstration - Team

Requirements

- Interactive Demonstrations are oral presentations that are continuous and include hands-on audience interaction/participation. Adequate supplies should be provided by the presenters so that all present can participate in the activity. Interactive Demonstrations may be an individual or team. Interactive Demonstrations are approximately 25-30 minutes in

length but for both individual or team. Involving the audience in the process is the primary focus of Interactive Demonstrations and constitutes a major portion of the evaluation results.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- An interactive presentation that teaches the public how to do something. For example, teaching the audience an origami project where they follow along with your demonstration step-by-step and create the project with you.
- An interactive yoga demonstration where you teach the audience various poses.

QUILTING

Project Description:

Quilting is the term given to the process of joining a minimum of three layers of fabric together either through stitching manually by hand using a needle and thread, or mechanically with a sewing machine or specialised longarm quilting system. (Wikipedia)

Exhibit Suggestions:

- A quilted item, any finishing technique acceptable. Examples: potholder, table runner, doll quilt, bed-sized quilt
- Repair, repurposing, or re-design of a previously finished quilt. Example: an heirloom quilt with significant repairs or turned into another quilted item.
- A display on a quilting topic of your choice. Examples: the history of quilting/quilting patterns, a comparison of different fabrics or threads, different types of quilting notions and tools, piecing techniques.

Requirements:

- Attach an index card which includes: pattern name and source, fiber content of fabric & batting, and care instructions.
- Finishing techniques may be machine quilted, hand quilted or hand tied. If not quilted or tied by the 4-H'er, the exhibitor must state who tied or hand/machine quilted the final project.
- Techniques used, size, and difficulty of the project should be based on the exhibitor's sewing/quilting experience level.

SAFETY

Exhibit Suggestions:

- A First Aid or Childcare Kit with explanations for the items you included.
- A Public Service Announcement and/or social media toolkit to promote a safety topic of your choice.
- List tips for being safe when home alone, such as emergency numbers to call, safety while preparing snacks, keeping doors locked, etc.
- Attend and report on a safety program such as farm/livestock/animal, fire, food, firearms, ATV, watercraft, wilderness/outdoor, traffic, bike, personal, online, sun/skincare or others.
- Interview a safety professional and showcase their advice.

Requirements:

- Abide by local, state and federal laws regarding your safety topic
- Please contact 4-H staff if your project is an oversized exhibit

SCIENCE INQUIRY

Project Description:

In this project area, 4-H youth **build confidence in doing science by exploring questions and finding answers. They follow a step-by-step process (called Science Inquiry) to satisfy their curiosity, learning more about something they can observe or experience.**

Exhibit Suggestions:

- **An exhibit you presented at a local science fair**
- Video of you exploring the physical properties of slime using different materials/recipes to make slime
- Display different types of bird feeders you used to determine if there is a preferred bird feeder type in your backyard
- Powerpoint showing the different types of frogs you found in a pond as you investigated the difference in the frog species in the spring and the frog species in the summer
- Display showing the different types of treats and the data you collected as you explored how your dog responds to different treats during training
- Tri Fold display board showing the results of your investigation of different types of sunscreen to see their effects on UV beads
- Slide show illustrating different water filtration systems you tested and the results you analyzed to identify which one resulted in the cleanest water
- Display the rock candy created as a result of investigating how the concentration of sugar affects crystal growth

Requirements:

- Include the question, issue, or **happening** being investigated
- Include a description of how a science inquiry process was used to help understand the **happening** being investigated or studied
- Explain each step followed during the science inquiry process.

SELF-DETERMINED

Project Description:

The Self-Determined project area is intended for those projects that might not fit within other categories and for those learning experiences that members select, plan, and manage on their own. It is distinct from learning experiences determined or guided by others (e.g. school work, club-determined projects). This is not a "catch-all" category but rather is focused on intentional self-directed learning. Members should be able to describe what they did, how they reflected on it, and how they applied what they learned.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- A portfolio describing the selection, planning, and management of a service learning project and what the member learned during the experience.
- A trifold display made as part of a school assignment with the addition of an accompanying journal describing the process of developing the display and capturing reflection on learning during completion of the assignment
- A photo collage capturing the experiences and stages of development of an event planned and facilitated by the member either individually or as part of a team

- A video or digital blog capturing the “behind the scenes” work, reflection, and application of concepts done by an individual member while working as part of a team on a project or assignment A lego creation (not a kit) intended to include some deeper thinking and learning that is not encapsulated in any other project, requiring the exhibitor to create their own learning path.

Requirements:

- A self-determined project will be judged primarily on the self-guided learning experience. While the artistry and craftsmanship of the exhibit itself will be considered, emphasis will be placed on the selection and identification of the self-guided learning experience and the ability of the member to convey the experience and what was learned from it. If the member wishes to be judged on the exhibit’s craftsmanship or artistry, the exhibit should be entered within the appropriate project area (e.g. a project in seed art should be submitted within Crafts and Fine Arts project area if looking to be judged on the quality of the final product and the process and learning associated with its assembly).
- Exhibits consisting of projects or assignments done for school or other organized learning environments must indicate how the member went above and beyond the requirements of the assignment/project and individualized the learning to meet their own goals and desired outcomes.
- Exhibits may be submitted by individuals or teams. A team may consist of not more than three (3) individuals. Team members will be judged collectively.
- To be eligible for State Fair, the member(s) must be able to discuss the process of selection, planning and management of a self-determined learning experience.

SHOOTING SPORTS

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Safety techniques applied to shooting activities (e.g., range commands and range safety, eye and ear protection, cleaning a firearm, dressing for safety-first aid, survival skills, etc.).
- Shooting Skills (e.g., basic safety rules, basic parts and functions of each piece of equipment, care and maintenance, accessories, position, etc.).
- Design and create shooting sports equipment (e.g., pellet stand, kneeling role, target stand, quiver, etc.)
- History and nomenclature of firearms.
- Sportsmanship: Ethical behavior and responsibility.

Requirements:

- No explosive materials are allowed. Arrow tips or broadheads should be removed for display but may be included as part of the judging experience if secured for safety.
- Exhibits including firearms & bows must be sporting varieties only. Exhibitors must include a color photo of the item to be left on display - bows and firearms will not be left on display. The photograph should be taken prior to the county fair and attached to the display.
- MN and 4-H regulations for handling and storing firearms must be followed.

SHOP - See [“Industrial Technology”](#) section

SMALL ENGINES - See [“Mechanical Science”](#) section

TECHNOLOGY - Includes Aquatic Robotics, Computer & Robotics exhibits.

Project Description:

Share what you've learned about computers, technology, using Aquatic Robotics and/or programming and/or another type of robot or a robotics class or program.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Robot (Examples: Edison, EV3, WeDo, Osmos, VEX (or other types of robotics)); (Have a photo of the robot if you do not intend to leave the robot on display)
- Display the robot using diagrams of programming, photos, booklets, etc
- Video of robot in action
- Exhibit an ROV (Remote Operated Vehicle); show the use in identifying Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) and providing education
- Explain the foundations of computers and explore how computers work for various projects.
- Build a robot with labels describing how it works and/or accompanied with a binder of how it works
- Share software you created and how it works
- Learn about cyberbullying and explain prevention techniques
- Share about a robotics class you participated in and what you learned
- Create an educational app
- **Explore careers in this project area and explain why they interest you**
- Design computer hardware/software

Requirements:

- Include description, images/photos needed to assist with verbal or written description
- Description(s) can be verbal or written
- Computers, smartphones, tablets, etc. can be used during the judging process

TRACTOR - See [“Mechanical Science”](#) section

VEGETABLE, FRUIT AND HERB GARDENING

FRUIT

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Fruit should be brought in an appropriate size clear container for displaying fruit.
- Display showing a comparison of several varieties of the same fruit (labeled); display using a branch to illustrate proper pruning of fruit trees and explaining the process; illustrate the many uses of fruits (fresh, jams, juices, cooking, baking, salads and recipes); illustrate the use of fruits as natural dyes.
- Educational display illustrating diseases (actual specimens) or insects (actual specimens) and methods of control.

Requirements:

- If displaying a fruit sample, the exhibitor should bring 4-6 items of one variety of fruit and include an information card listing the varieties of fruit.
- The exhibit must be produced at home or by a close relative. **CANNOT BE STORE PURCHASED.**

HERB GARDENING

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Educational display showing some aspect of raising or using herbs.
- An herb container garden planted in a tub, pot, or planter.
- A dried sample of herbs you have raised, harvested, and dried (in an airtight container)
- A display using a 4-H project kit (growing a variety of herbs in a container).

POTATOES

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Display a box (fruit crate size) or clear Rubbermaid container of potatoes that contains all the potatoes in that hill (all the potatoes one plant produced)
- Display a box (fruit crate size) or clear Rubbermaid container of 6-10 potatoes from one or two hills of the same variety of potato.
- Educational display illustrating diseases and control, methods of mulching and reasons, causes and effects of sun-scald.

Requirements:

- If displaying a potato box (fruit crate size) or clear Rubbermaid container, you need 6-10 potatoes of the same variety or 2-3 varieties (this year's crop) similar in size to the variety identified on an information card.
- Be familiar with crop input costs and the growing process.
- The exhibit must be produced at home or by a close relative. **CANNOT BE STORE PURCHASED.**

VEGETABLE GARDENING BOX

Clarification - Vegetable Variety is either Large, Medium or Small

Exhibit Suggestions:

- A box (fruit crate size) or clear rubbermaid container used to display vegetables.

Requirements:

- Label vegetables with proper variety names on an information card.
- When exhibiting a collection of vegetables, the collection should include six different kinds of vegetables (For example: 1 large variety + 3 medium varieties + 2 small varieties)
- 6 different vegetable specimens for this exhibit choosing any combination of the following:
 - One large vegetable specimen (cabbage, squash, melon, pumpkin, cauliflower, etc.)
 - Three different medium-sized vegetable specimens and 3 of each specimen (tomatoes, onions, peppers, cucumbers, kohlrabi, carrots, beets, turnips, etc.)
 - Two small vegetable specimens and 6-12 of each specimen (green beans, peas, lima beans, etc.)
- Potatoes may not be included (enter under the Potato project).

- The exhibit must be produced at home or by a close relative. **CANNOT BE STORE PURCHASED.**

VEGETABLE PLATE

Clarification - Vegetable Variety is either Large, Medium or Small

Exhibit Suggestions:

- On a disposable plate, display an example of ONE vegetable variety.
- Examples of individual variety on a plate include:
 - Large-sized vegetable specimen: 1 sample (cabbage, squash, melon, pumpkin, cauliflower, etc.)
 - Medium-sized vegetable specimen: 3 of each specimen (tomatoes, potatoes, onions, peppers, cucumbers, kohlrabi, carrots, beets, turnips, asparagus, etc.)
 - Small sized vegetable specimen: 6- 12 of each specimen (green beans, peas, cherry tomatoes, jalapenos, lima beans, etc.)

Requirements:

- Label vegetables with proper variety names on an information card.
- Only have one vegetable variety (Large, Medium or Small) on the plate. (For example: Variety is Medium sized - three onions).
- The exhibit must be produced at home or by a close relative. **CANNOT BE STORE PURCHASED.**

VEGETABLE CONTAINER GARDEN EXHIBIT

Exhibit Suggestions:

- **Showcase your gardening skills by growing a thriving Vegetable Container Garden. This exhibit challenges 4-H'ers to design and maintain a productive garden in a container, perfect for small spaces.**

Requirements:

- **Must include one type of vegetable grown in a container.**
- **The container should be portable and have proper drainage.**
- **Judges will assess plant health, variety selection, creativity in design and overall presentation.**
- **Exhibits may include a brief written description (maximum 100 words) detailing the plant choices, care methods and any unique features of the garden.**
- **Plants should be grown in the exhibit container for at least one month prior to the fair.**
- **A themed herb garden with multiple plants would be accepted in this category.**

LARGEST VEGETABLE

Note: This exhibit is not an optimal example of an edible vegetable. This is done for fun-growing purposes.

Exhibit Options:

- Squash
- Cabbage
- Pumpkin
- Melons

Requirements:

- Include an information card with name, plant variety and date planted.
- The exhibit must be produced at home or by a close relative. **CANNOT BE STORE PURCHASED.**

VEGETABLE GARDENING - See "[Vegetable, Fruit and Herb Gardening](#)" section

VETERINARY SCIENCE

Project Description:

Share what you've learned during an in-depth exploration around veterinary science topics.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- An exhibit focused on technology or industry advancements in veterinary science
- An exhibit on diseases of animals focusing on the history, management, prevention, etc.
- An exhibit on use of different medications in veterinary science focusing on dosage, records, implications of use, impact on the industry
- An exhibit focused on surgical and nonsurgical procedures used in veterinary medicine (spaying/neutering pets, embryo transfer, wellness visit, etc.).
- An exhibit focused on careers in veterinary science exploration (such as job shadowing, interviews and opportunities)
- Create a 3-D model of the skeletal system of the animal of your choice

VIDEO / FILMMAKING

Note: This is not a slideshow (see [Manipulated Photography for slideshow](#))

Video/Filmmaking

Video/Filmmaking – Production Team (2-3 members per team)

Requirements:

- It is encouraged that when developing a 4-H video/filmmaking exhibit, members will develop skills beyond the classroom.
- It is recommended that the video/filmmaking exhibit be 3-5 minutes and no longer than 10 minutes.
- All video/filmmaking exhibits must be made by the exhibitor OR by a production team of which the exhibitor must be a member
- The exhibitor's name, grade, and club must be clearly printed on all exhibit pieces.
- All video/film footage exhibited must have been made/created DURING THE CURRENT 4-H YEAR. When appropriate, (i.e. historical sequences) older video clips can be used.
- The member should provide the video file even if sending it electronically.
- Video/film must be presented on DVD, flash drive or CD. Participants are also allowed to upload their video to YouTube.
- Videos can also be delivered via Youtube, Vimeo, Frame.io or similar online based presentation sites.
- Video/film needs to be in presentation form, including a title and credits
- The video/film must be original material. Any video/film exhibit, which appears to contain copyrighted material, including music, will not be publicly displayed unless the exhibitor

has written permission from the producer to use the material in the video/film. Portions and music from other sources must be documented and have a copyright release. Learn more about copyrighted material and finding material that is public domain or released under the Creative Commons license at z.umn.edu/free4u.

- A computer must be brought for viewing the video/film during the conference judging, other arrangements need to be made in advance with the 4-H staff
- Video/film must be playable on Windows, use file format including .WMV, .FLV and .MPEG, .AVI, .MOV, .AVCHD, .MPEG-1, .MPEG-4, as well as a playable DVD.
- 4-H videos must adhere to G or PG (parental guidance) standards. The 4-H Code of Conduct requires respectful behavior, so you may not depict: violence, obscene language (or naughty words) including swearing, rude interactions or insults, or use or visibility of guns or fighting, etc. Remember not only teens and pre-teens view the videos but young children and their parents. Keep this in mind when creating your video.

Video Release form - Use this form when including any person in your video that is NOT in 4-H. This verifies that the subject has agreed to be in your video. Keep this signed form in a file. Here is a link to the Photo & Video Release form in [English](http://z.umn.edu/photo-release-english) (z.umn.edu/photo-release-english), [Spanish](http://z.umn.edu/photo-release-spanish) (z.umn.edu/photo-release-spanish), [Hmong](http://z.umn.edu/photo-release-hmong) (z.umn.edu/photo-release-hmong) and [Somali](http://z.umn.edu/photo-release-somali) (z.umn.edu/photo-release-somali).

Equipment: Any electronic device capable of capturing a video image video camera, digital camera, DSLR, time lapse camera or trail camera, cellphone, tablet, GoPro or drone with attached camera (operator must meet age requirements to use a drone).

Note: Supervision of the drone operator is important until they understand not only how to use a drone but also understand the etiquette and rules for using the drone. For information see: <https://www.faa.gov/uas> (unmanned aircraft systems)

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Showcase various video/film techniques
- A selected subject. Include a short storyboard or outline
- A poster that illustrates how a video/film camera works, or how to care for video/film equipment, illustration of computer video/film creation, etc.
- A video/film made by blending computer technology and traditional camera created video/film.
- A video/film using data from trail camera or time lapse camera (stop action video) or drone with attached camera (see note related to drone use).
- A video/film using Claymation, dolls, Lego for stop action
- Document environmental issues such as the plight of pollinators, pollution, soil erosion, or the steps taken to improve the environment
- A short documentary on a family member or interesting member of your community
- A trailer for a movie or event (can be fictional)
- A story that you tell using your friends and family
- A commercial, real or fictional

WATER/WETLANDS/WATER RESOURCES - See ["Natural Resources"](#) section

WILDLIFE BIOLOGY & MANAGEMENT

****Special Recognition:**

The Jackson County Soil and Water Conservation District is offering a Long Lake Conservation Camp Scholarship to the Overall Champion exhibitor in Wildlife Biology & Management. The district will pay 100% of the registration cost to the camp. This is awarded during the 4-H Banquet in the Fall. Learn More here: longlakecc.org/summercamp

Project Description:

Wildlife biology and management is about taking care of and protecting animals in their natural habitats to ensure their well-being and the balance of nature. Wildlife management is like being a guardian for animals and their homes. It's about making sure they have enough food, clean water, and safe places to live. Wildlife managers also help sick or injured animals and make sure there is a good balance in nature so all animals can thrive.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Develop a wildlife management plan--show practices related to land use and forest management for wildlife such as controlled burns, logging, planting, etc.
- Explore basic concepts of Wildlife Management (waterfowl wingboards, birdhouse trails, carrying capacity, game animal habitat requirements, history of game management, etc).
- Explain some factors that threaten or endanger animal species such as urbanization, climate change, or habitat loss. Or explore a species that went extinct and why it happened.
- Build a bird or bat house, nesting structure, hibernaculum, animal shelter or feeder and explain the history of artificial shelter structures how it can benefit a species.
- Display a collection of identified wildlife scat (droppings), skulls or skins. How do they differ? Why?
- Show how wildlife can be classified into herbivores, carnivores or omnivores using skull diagrams
- Write a wildlife landscape habitat plan
- Report on animal adaptations, such as animal camouflage. How do adaptations of plants and animals match the environment they live in?
- Make a display that details a food chain/web of a particular habitat.
- Explain the life cycle of your favorite wild animal in a video, poster or display.
- Shadow or volunteer at a nature center or park and share your experience using a journal, video, or display. Learn about rules and policies in place to protect or manage certain species of wildlife.
- Identify, mount and label a book of plants native to a certain region
- Make a display of animal signs, animal tracks, homes or foods
- Do a bird study, including beak type, wings, feet, song, feeding patterns, etc.
- Make a collection of wildflowers growing near where you live or a place you visit

Requirements:

- All wild game used in exhibits must be tagged appropriately according to state laws.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP

Project Description:

Youth Leadership is a project area that requires the member to discover their skills and then develop those skills and share them with others. This might happen individually or with a group.

Members exhibiting in this project should be prepared to discuss and/or have written information about what they learned about their ability to lead a project. Members should share how they've built an understanding of self, developed skills, learned how to work with others, overcome obstacles or adjusted goals, developed understanding of making decisions, and/or managed and or worked in groups.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Share your youth leadership experience. This could include your 4-H youth leadership journey, or your leadership in an organization within your school or community.
- Share what you gained and shared from a conference or retreat you attended.
- Share a personal development plan you have implemented
- Develop a (career and/or college prep) portfolio
- Develop a presentation that illustrates how you've built understanding of self, developed communication skills, learned how to work with others, developed understanding of making decisions, and/or managing and/or working in groups.
- Lesson plan you've developed
- Meeting outline or agenda developed by youth
- Scrapbook outlining participation in leadership programs. Includes personal reflection on leadership growth and development.
- Share how you have taken the lead on a service project, and what leadership skills you gained through the project.
- Share how you have served as a mentor and/or teacher to younger youth (could be with a project area, a club activity or officer role, etc)

ANIMAL SCIENCE EXHIBIT GUIDE

Animal Science County Fair Showcase dates and times are found on the Jackson Co. 4-H [simplified 4-H fair schedule](https://z.umn.edu/Jackson4HPublicFairSchedule) (z.umn.edu/Jackson4HPublicFairSchedule)

MN 4-H Animal Science Rules

- All beef, dairy, dairy goat, dog, horse, llama-alpaca, meat goat, poultry (doves/pigeons only), rabbit, sheep and swine shown in 4-H livestock shows must have the required State 4-H ID system, ear tag and/or tattoo. Animal ID data must be submitted online, arrive in the Extension office, or be postmarked no later than **May 15, 2025** (with the exception of Market Beef due **Feb. 18, 2025**).
- **All animals exhibited must be owned solely by the member, member's family or leased by agreement.** The family includes the 4-H'ers parents or guardians and siblings living together as a family unit. The definition of family includes an extended family where the animals may be owned by grandparents with the 4-Her's parents actively involved with and working on the farm. Animals owned in partnership with non-family members (as defined above) must be leased and follow guidelines within the lease information.
- 4-H'ers exhibiting livestock at the County Fair are responsible for the care and feeding of animals they exhibit.
- Note - Cloverbud exhibits, including livestock posters, will not be judged blue, red and white. Instead, all will receive participation recognition.
- All livestock exhibits, including showmanship, must be pre-registered. Members in animal projects may exhibit one animal per class, unless stated otherwise.
- **4-H'ers must show their own animal in the class. If the 4-H'er has multiple animals in one class, another 4-H member(s) from the same county can show the other animals.**

- All 4-Hers exhibiting livestock at the county fair are eligible to participate in showmanship and must show their own animal.
- No animals may be advertised for sale and no farm, ranch, or sale signs may be displayed or worn in the show ring. The only signs other than 4-H stall cards and champion/reserve champion signs that may be displayed are educationally-based signs with performance or pedigree information and signs with the animal's name. **Only decorations that support the 4-H Youth Development Program are allowed.**
- State Grooming & Fitting Rules (to be followed at the MN State Fair):
 - All grooming of livestock at the fair, including clipping, trimming and manipulation of the hair/wool (such as blocking on sheep, pulling up hair on beef and working up top lines on dairy) must be clearly done by the exhibitor, members of the immediate family (parents, step-parents, legal guardians, grandparents, brothers or sisters) or any other enrolled Minnesota 4-H member.
 - **See Jackson County 4-H Grooming and Fitting Rules for youth showing at the Jackson County Fair.**
- Registered market animals must have registration papers solely in the exhibitor's name, the exhibitor's family name, or the family's farm name; registered breeding animals must have registration papers solely in exhibitor's name, the exhibitor's family name, or the family's farm name or be under lease from any other owners (including partnerships). **Registered breeding animals that are leased may have registration papers in the animal owners name or farm name.**
- To show in the registered breed classes, animals must meet the registration requirements for that breed and registration papers must be available. **Animals without proper registration papers (crossbreeds and grades) must be shown as commercial.**
- All animal health regulations will be in effect as stipulated by the Minnesota Board of Animal Health and the County Agricultural Society.

Animal Science 4-H Policies

In addition to the 4-H Policies, animal science exhibits must adhere to these additional policies regarding their animals. Full policies can be found at the Minnesota 4-H [Animal ID webpage](#) and [Leasing a 4-H Animal webpage](#). (z.umn.edu/AnimalID and z.umn.edu/LeaseAnimal)

Ownership and Leasing

- All animals exhibited must be owned solely by the member, member's family or leased by agreement. The family includes the 4-Her's parents or guardians and siblings living together as a family unit. The definition of family includes an extended family where the animals may be owned by grandparents with the 4-Her's parents actively involved with and working on the farm.
- Animals owned in partnership with non-family members (as defined above) must be leased and follow guidelines within the lease information.
- Market animals cannot be leased.
- Once a lease agreement is in place, refrain from allowing any other individual—including the owner—to enter/ exhibit the animal in any show/exhibition during the time this contract is in effect. If the lease is a "family lease" only the 4-H members in that immediate family are eligible to show the animal for the duration of the lease. Showing the animal encompasses any exhibition, including but not exclusive to: 4-H shows, open shows, FFA shows, junior breed shows, jackpot shows, expositions, etc.

- If, during the time of the lease agreement, the leased animal is shown by anyone other than the leasing 4-H member (or 4-H members in the immediate family in the case of a family lease), the leased animal is no longer eligible to be exhibited as a 4-H project animal. Note, there are exceptions to the horse and llama projects.
- See the Minnesota 4-H [Leasing 4-H Animal webpage](https://z.umn.edu/LeaseAnimal) (z.umn.edu/LeaseAnimal) for more information.

Animal Health Requirements

- **All animal health regulations will be in effect as stipulated by the Minnesota Board of Animal Health and the County Agricultural Society.** Animals known by the exhibitor to have an infectious, communicable disease or to have been exposed to an infectious, communicable disease or to be from a quarantined herd or flock may not be entered in an exhibition. Warts and ringworm are considered communicable diseases. Therefore, animals affected by these diseases cannot be exhibited. A statement from a veterinarian that an animal is being treated for these diseases is NOT acceptable.
- **All animals will be inspected by the Official Veterinarian on the opening day of the exhibition and daily during the exhibition.** The Official Veterinarian will order the immediate removal to a quarantine facility or removal from the exhibition premises of any animal with symptoms of infectious or communicable diseases. Animals placed in a quarantine facility must remain there until removed from the exhibition premises. They may not enter a show ring. This includes animals with warts or ringworm.
- **It is your responsibility to contact your personal veterinarian and have the appropriate tests and health papers for exhibiting.** Be sure to contact your veterinarian at least two (2) weeks prior to the fair. If you have questions, call the Extension office or your local veterinarian.
- **You must have all of the appropriate health papers with you when you bring your animals to the fair.**
 - All chickens, turkeys and game birds at exhibitions, except baby poultry, must be individually identified with a leg or wing band with a unique ID number. Young poultry that are too small to band, can be exhibited as a group if the Hatchery Permit number or NPIP number is written on the cage. Leg bands will be available at the fair if needed.
 - Animals originating out of state should have a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) at the time of acquisition (purchase) to travel across state lines. If housed in MN, a CVI is not needed for exhibition at the county or state fair. If housed in another state and crossing into MN at the time of exhibition (county or state fair) the CVI requirement is in effect. A CVI is valid for 30 days from the date of the inspection.

Animal Identification

The 4-H Animal ID system identifies and tracks all animals in the 4-H animal science project areas in 4HOnline. **In addition, the Minnesota Board of Animal Health requires all animals at exhibitions to have an official ID (tag or tattoo).** For a summary of both requirements, see [Identification Details by Species and Class](https://z.umn.edu/AnimalID) (z.umn.edu/AnimalID). You must follow all of these requirements, whether you own or lease.

Animal ID in 4HOnline

- All beef, dairy, dog, goat, horse, llama-alpaca, rabbit, sheep and swine shown in 4-H livestock shows must have the required State 4-H ID system, ear tag and/or tattoo. Reference the Minnesota 4-H [Animal ID webpage](https://z.umn.edu/AnimalID) (z.umn.edu/AnimalID).

- Animals ID data must be submitted in 4HOnline, arrive in the Extension office, or be postmarked no later than the annual May 15 deadline (Feb. 15 for Dairy Steers and Market Beef). (ID deadlines are changed when they fall on weekends/holidays.)
- Cloverbuds do not need to ID animals in 4HOnline (see Cloverbud section).
- 4-H members with late IDs will not be eligible for a state fair trip or special awards.

IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics

(International Association of Fairs and Expositions)

- **Exhibitors** of animals at livestock shows shall at all times deport themselves with **honesty** and good **sportsmanship**. Their conduct in this competitive environment shall always reflect the highest standards of **honor** and **dignity** to promote the advancement of agricultural education. This code applies to junior as well as open class exhibitors who compete in structured classes of competition. This code applies to all livestock offered in any event at a livestock show.
- **All youth leaders** working with junior exhibitors are under an affirmative responsibility to do more than avoid improper conduct or questionable acts. Their moral values must be so certain and **positive** that those younger and more pliable will be influenced by their **fine example**.
- Owners, exhibitors, fitters, trainers and absolutely responsible persons who violate the code of ethics will forfeit premiums, awards and auction proceeds and shall be prohibited from future exhibition in accordance with the rules adopted by the respective fairs and livestock shows. Exhibitors who violate this code of ethics demean the integrity of all livestock exhibitors and should be prohibited from competition at all livestock shows in the United States and Canada. Read the full [Show Ring Code of Ethics](http://z.umn.edu/ShowRingCodeofEthics) (z.umn.edu/ShowRingCodeofEthics.)

Jackson County 4-H Animal Science Expectations

Animal/Livestock Arrival

- **All livestock MUST be stalled/caged by 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 29th.** All dogs and pets are present for the show only.
- **Livestock trailers are required to be off fairground property by 8:15 pm on Tuesday, July 29** with the exception of 4-H Horse Exhibitors that have received authorization from the 4-H Horse Superintendent.
 - Trailers may be parked north of the campground in the Crystal Valley lot.
- Be sure to stop in the 4-H Office to pick up your bucket that includes your exhibitor number, t-shirt, and other important information.
- The official fair veterinarian will walk through every barn between **11:00 am - 3:00 pm on Tuesday, July 29 to inspect animals.**
- In the case of disease or sickness, the fair veterinarian will direct the animal to be sent home. Extension staff and the fair veterinarian will work with the family on an alternative plan.

All Exhibits Release

- All exhibits must remain in place until Sunday, August 3 at 7:00 a.m.
 - Removal of livestock from the fairgrounds without prior approval from the Extension staff may result in forfeiture of all premium money, awards and ribbon auction eligibility.

- 4-H families that wish to leave early to attend another livestock show MUST provide documentation/confirmation of entry forms for the show they will be attending to Extension Staff **before July 31, 2024**.
- All cages/pens/stalls must be cleaned after 7:00 am Sunday, August 3.
 - Animal exhibitors are expected to remove all garbage and personal items from the stall prior to leaving. Everyone is expected to clean up after their own animals, including when leaving the fair.
 - Per Fair Board policy, premium money will be withheld from all projects if cages/pens/stalls are not cleaned out.

Stalling and Care

All 4-H'ers exhibiting animals are responsible for the care and feeding of their animals for the entire duration of the fair.

- Stall and pens will be furnished by the Jackson County Fair Board.
- Stalling will be determined by species superintendents with input from staff and organized by club.
- Barn space will be used for animals and adequate tack space for feed, grooming chutes, show boxes, etc.
- Bedding for animals is as follows:
 - 4-H members exhibiting **Dairy, Goats, Rabbits, Sheep & Swine** must provide their own bedding for the duration of the fair.
 - The wood chip bedding for **Beef and the New Vision Calves** is provided. 4-H exhibitors are billed a cost per head. The cost of bedding is then taken out of each exhibitor's Livestock Premium Auction checks or invoiced to the family.
 - 4-H members exhibiting in **Poultry**, your wood chip bedding is provided by the superintendent.
 - **Horse** exhibitors wood chip bedding is provided by the superintendent.
- Owners must provide their own feed and buckets for water.
- Water is available on site in every barn.

Grooming Livestock at the Jackson Co. Fair

- All grooming of livestock, including clipping, trimming and manipulation of hair/wool (such as blocking on sheep, pulling up hair on beef and working up top lines on dairy) must be done by the exhibitor, members of the immediate family or a livestock resource person chosen by the 4-H family. Immediate family members are defined as parents, step-parents, legal guardians, brothers or sisters. A livestock resource person is defined as someone who is working with the 4-Her/4-H family to help them learn management and fitting and grooming skills in their project area. An identified livestock resource person would be allowed to work with the 4-Her and their family during the fitting and grooming process to guide and teach these skills.
- **The 4-H'er exhibiting the animal must be present and involved in the fitting process at the county fair.**

4-H Animal Science Exhibit FAQs

For more information regarding the specific 4-H project areas and how to prepare for your showcase judging experience, please reference the Jackson County 4-H [Animal Science Exhibit Guide](https://z.umn.edu/AnimalSciExhibitGuide) (z.umn.edu/AnimalSciExhibitGuide) or scan the QR Code.



For information about 4-H Animal Science Exhibits at the MN State Fair, refer to the [Minnesota State Fair or State Show Trips](#) section in this book.

Interviews and Showmanship Details

All 4-H'ers exhibiting animals at the fair are eligible--and highly encouraged--to participate in the interview and showmanship classes. 4-H'ers must show their own animals for showmanship. **Register for both showmanship and interviews in FairEntry under each individual species.**

Animal Science Interviews

Judging: Tuesday, July 29, 12-3 p.m. Olson Pavilion

All 4-H members showing animals are highly encouraged to participate in the interview class.

- Interviews are conducted by judges to determine the exhibitor's knowledge of their project. They will emphasize many life skills such as communication, responsibility, decision making, and problem solving.
- Interview participants will be judged based on grade level:
 - Junior – completed grades 3-5
 - Intermediate – completed grades 6-8
 - Senior – completed grades 9+
- Register for interviews in [FairEntry](#) in any or all species in which you are showing an animal.
- The interview winners will be announced at their respective livestock show.

Showmanship

Judging: At your specie's show

All 4-H members showing animals are highly encouraged to participate in the showmanship class. (The Cloverbud class in each species is similar to showmanship; therefore Cloverbuds do not participate in this showmanship class.)

- During showmanship, you will be judged on the show condition of the animal, fitting, handling of the animal and member's ability to show. There may also be questions about your animal (how you care for it, what the different body parts are, etc.)
- Showmanship is a great opportunity to improve show ring skills and share knowledge.
- The 4-H member may only show his/her own animal in the showmanship class.
- Showmanship participants will be judged based on grade level:
 - Junior – completed grades 3-5
 - Intermediate – completed grades 6-8
 - Senior – completed grades 9+ (*eligible for Senior Premier Showmanship Contest with the exception of Horse, Dairy Goat, Poultry, and Rabbit. These senior showman winners will be acknowledged during the Premier show.*)
- Older divisions will begin the showmanship contests so that younger members can watch and learn before they compete.
- Register for interviews in [FairEntry](#) in any or all species in which you are showing an animal.

Premier Showmanship Contest

The Premier Showmanship Contest will take place on Saturday, August 2 at 12:00 p.m. in Olson Pavilion.

This is a prestigious learning opportunity for senior show people to showcase their skills across species. The champion and reserve champion in the senior showmanship class (grades 9+) of beef, dairy, goat, sheep, and swine will be offered the chance to participate.

- In the case of a 4-H'er winning in more than one of the scheduled showmanship contests, the member gets to decide which species they will represent. In this case, the 3rd place showmanship winner will fill the spot so that all species will have two representatives.
- Youth who previously earned champion premier showmanship are not eligible to compete again. The Reserve Champion is allowed to participate again.

The champion and reserve champion premier show person will receive a Montana Silversmith belt buckle and banner. For more information please read the [Jackson County 4-H Animal Science Exhibit FAQ guide](https://z.umn.edu/AnimalSciExhibitGuide) (z.umn.edu/AnimalSciExhibitGuide).

4-H Animal Science Projects

SCIENCE OF ANIMALS EDUCATIONAL EXHIBITS

Science of Animal Education Exhibits are exhibits about livestock species. They are displayed in the Livestock Buildings and judged by livestock judges. They do not involve live animals.

- **Judging** is done by the species judges before or after the show of the same species.

State Fair trips will be available. Exhibits will be judged during Livestock Encampment and 4-H'ers may exhibit both an animal (if awarded a trip from the county show) and a Science of Animal Educational Exhibit.

- **NOTE:** Llama-Alpaca, Poultry and Rabbit promotional and educational posters are an exhibit item at the state level and may be entered as a poster in each respective area.

Register your Science of Animal exhibits in the Science of Animals Educational Exhibits department in [FairEntry](#).

- **Cloverbuds:** see the Cloverbud section in this Premium book and the Cloverbud - Livestock department in [FairEntry](#).
- Horse education exhibits should be entered as Horseless Horse or Horse Related in the General Project Exhibits department of [FairEntry](#).

HEALTH/BREEDING/PRODUCTION EXHIBIT

Beef
Dairy
Dairy Goat
Meat Goat
Poultry
Rabbits
Sheep
Swine

ZOONOTICS EXHIBIT

Beef
Dairy
Dairy Goat
Meat Goat
Poultry
Rabbits

Sheep
Swine

OTHER

Beef
Dairy
Dairy Goat
Meat Goat
Poultry
Rabbits
Sheep
Swine

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Items constructed (such as feeding systems or show equipment) or science exhibits focusing on one of the four divisions listed above.
- These projects may be enhanced with 3-dimensional displays, posters or notebooks

4-H Animal Exhibits

All Animal Exhibits are entered under the specific animal department in [FairEntry](#). These exhibits involve live animals and are judged in their respective animal showcase. Cloverbuds, see the Cloverbud section of this Premium Book and enter exhibits under the "Cloverbud - Livestock" department in [FairEntry](#).

BEEF

Superintendents: Kristin Schulz, Meg Freking, Ed Yonker

Quota:

- 4 Market Beef
- 4 Breeding Heifers
- 1 Cow/Calf
- 4 Prospect Calves
- 2 Dairy Steers and/or a pen of 2 Market Beef

Enter in the Beef department in [FairEntry](#).

Beef ID Check and Weigh-In

Thursday, July 29, 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. in the Beef Barn

Beef Interviews

Tuesday, July 29, 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. in the Olson Arena

Beef Show

Thursday, July 31 at 8:00 a.m. in the Olson Pavilion starting with the New Vision Co-op calves.

Requirements:

- Beef ID forms and/or lease agreements must be on file in 4-H Online by May 15th of the current year. Market Beef and Dairy Steers must be ID'd by Feb. 18th of the current year. For

ID details see [2025 Minnesota 4-H Animal Science identification requirements](https://z.umn.edu/AnIDRequirements)
(z.umn.edu/AnIDRequirements)

- Fitting is not required, but animals should be clean.
- **Color Pattern Rule:**
 - All beef animals must be exhibited in their natural color pattern. Any alterations to the natural color pattern of an animal, other than the hooves or tail switch, will be viewed as a violation of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE) National Code of Show Ring Ethics and could result in disqualification from eligibility for a purple ribbon and championship awards, as well as forfeiture of 4-H Purple Ribbon Auction premiums.

BEEF CLOVERBUD - See "[4-H Cloverbud Animal Science Exhibits](#)" section

BREEDING HEIFER (Registered and Commercial)

Beef - Spring Calf	Jan. 1 – May 15, 2025
Beef - Fall Calf	Sept. 1 - Dec. 31, 2024
Beef - Summer Yearling	May 1 - Aug. 31, 2024
Beef - Junior Yearling	Jan. 1 – Apr. 30, 2024
Beef - Senior Yearling	Sept. 1 - Dec. 31, 2023

Requirements:

- Heifers shown in the prospect market class may not be shown in a breeding class.
- Breeding exhibits will indicate their breed in FairEntry.

COW AND CALF

Beef - Cow and Calf Pair Calf born between Jan. 1 - May 15, 2024

Requirements:

- Cow/calf pairs shown at the county fair will be housed in a tie stall.
- Judging will be based on the quality of the cow/calf pair (performance data and the visual production qualities of the pair).
- Cow/calf pairs may include heifer, steer or bull calves. The calf may be shown in the cow/calf pair as well as Spring Calf (if age eligible) or in the Prospect Calf Class. Bull calves may be shown in the Prospect Steer Calf division but will receive no higher than a blue ribbon.

PROSPECT CALF

Beef - Heifer Calf	Jan. 1 – May 15, 2025
Beef - Steer Calf	Jan. 1 – May 15, 2025

Requirements:

- Bull calves MUST be castrated before the State Fair.
- Heifers shown in the prospect market class may not be shown in a breeding class.
- Calf may also be shown as a Cow/Calf pair.
- Judging will be based on quality, production, and future potential relative to breed, sex, breeding, or market

MARKET BEEF

Beef - Market Heifer Jan. 1 – Aug. 31, 2024

Beef - Market Steer Jan. 1 – Aug. 31, 2024

Requirements:

- Recommended minimum weight for state fair is 1,000 pounds; recommended maximum weight is 1,500 pounds.
- Animals will be weighed at entry time.

DAIRY STEER

Beef - Purebred Dairy Steer Jan. 1 – Aug. 31, 2024

Beef - Crossbred Dairy Steer Jan. 1 - Aug. 31, 2024

Requirements:

- Recommended minimum weight for state fair is 1,000 pounds; recommended maximum weight is 1,600 pounds.
- Purebred dairy steers must be 100% dairy breed.
 - These breeds will be accepted without registration papers: Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Holstein, and Jersey.
 - Milking Shorthorn dairy steers must be registered with the American Milking Shorthorn Society and not carry the "S" suffix.
- Dairy Steers showing permanent teeth may be shown, but they can place no higher than a red ribbon and they will not be eligible for state fair or auction.
- ***Crossbred dairy steers must be at least 50% from the acceptable breeds listed for the Purebred dairy steer division, with the balance being from any other beef or dairy breed; however, the steers must show adequate dairy steer characteristics, as determined by the screening committee. Exhibitors should be prepared to identify the breeds of their crossbred dairy steer.***
- Classes may be combined depending on the number of registrations.

DAIRY BEEF STEER PROSPECT CALF

Dairy Beef Steer Prospect Calf Jan. 1 - May 15, 2025

Requirements:

- This is a Jackson County 4-H class and is not eligible for a state fair trip.
- Bull calves MUST be castrated before the county fair.
- Judging will be based on quality, production, and future potential relative to breed, sex, breeding, or market

NEW VISION CO-OP CALF

Beef - New Vision Calf

Requirements:

- The New Vision Co-op Calf class is only for those signed up for the Jackson County Co-op Calf Project sponsored by New Vision Co-op.
- Co-op calves can be shown in the Dairy Beef Steer Prospect calf class
- **A required livestock interview on Tuesday, July 29 from 12 - 3:00 p.m.**
- **Note:** Youth who are participating in the New Vision Co-op Calf Project can also participate in beef showmanship.

BEEF SHOWMANSHIP

- Junior – completed grades 3-5
- Intermediate – completed grades 6-8
- Senior – completed grades 9+ (eligible for Senior Premier Showmanship Contest)

To learn more about showmanship, view "[Showmanship](#)"

BEEF INTERVIEW

- Junior – completed grades 3-5
- Intermediate – completed grades 6-8
- Senior – completed grades 9+ (eligible for Senior Premier Showmanship Contest)

To learn more about animal science interviews, see "[Animal Science Interviews](#)"

BEEF SCIENCE OF ANIMALS EXHIBIT - See "[4-H Science of Animals Educational Exhibits](#)"

DAIRY

Superintendent: Jeff Hinkeldey

Quota: 12 animals; 1 per example

Enter in the Dairy department in [FairEntry](#).

Dairy ID Check

Tuesday, July 29, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. in the Beef Barn

Dairy Interviews

Tuesday, July 29, 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. in the Olson Pavilion

Dairy Show

Thursday, July 31 at 5:00 p.m. in the Olson Pavilion

DAIRY CLOVERBUDS: See "[4-H Cloverbud Animal Science Exhibits](#)" section

Requirements:

- **Grades and Registered animals will be shown together in all classes.**
- Dairy-Crossbred & Other Breeds will indicate their breeds in FairEntry.
- Classes may be combined depending on the number of registrations.

HOLSTEIN (Registered and Grade)

Dairy - Spring (Junior) Calf	March 1 - May 31, 2025
Dairy - Winter Calf	Dec 1, 2024- Feb 28, 2025
Dairy - Fall calf	Sept. 1 - Nov 30, 2024
Dairy - Summer Jr. Yearling	June 1 - Aug 31, 2024
Dairy - Spring Jr. Yearling	March 1 - May 31, 2024
Dairy - Winter Sr. Yearling	Dec 1, 2023 - Feb 29, 2024
Dairy - Fall Sr. Yearling	September 1 - November 30, 2023
Dairy - Milking Yearling	Born Sept 1, 2023 or later that has freshened & in milking form
Dairy - Junior 2-Year-Old Cow	March 1 - August 31, 2023
Dairy - Senior 2-Year-Old Cow	September 1, 2022 - February 28, 2023

Dairy - Three-yYear-Old Cow	September 1, 2021 – August 31, 2022
Dairy - Four-Year-Old Cow	September 1, 2020 – August 31, 2021
Dairy - Aged Cow (Five-Year-Old and Older Cow)	Born before September 1, 2020
Dairy - Dry Cow	Dry Cow of any age

MIXED COLORED (Registered and Grade)

Dairy - Spring (Junior) Calf	March 1 - May 31, 2025
Dairy - Winter Calf	Dec 1, 2024– Feb 28, 2025
Dairy - Fall calf	Sept. 1 - Nov 30, 2024
Dairy - Summer Jr. Yearlin	June 1 - Aug 31, 2024
Dairy - Spring Jr. Yearling	March 1 - May 31, 2024
Dairy - Winter Sr. Yearling	Dec 1, 2023 - Feb 29, 2024
Dairy - Fall Sr. Yearling	September 1 – November 30, 2023
Dairy - Milking Yearling	Born Sept 1, 2023 or later that has freshened & in milking form
Dairy - Junior 2-Year-Old Cow	March 1 – August 31, 2023
Dairy - Senior 2-Year-Old Cow	September 1, 2022 – February 28, 2023
Dairy - Three-yYear-Old Cow	September 1, 2021 – August 31, 2022
Dairy - Four-Year-Old Cow	September 1, 2020 – August 31, 2021
Dairy - Aged Cow (Five-Year-Old and Older Cow)	Born before September 1, 2020
Dairy - Dry Cow	Dry Cow of any age

DAIRY SHOWMANSHIP

- Junior – completed grades 3-5
- Intermediate – completed grades 6-8
- Senior – completed grades 9+ (eligible for Senior Premier Showmanship Contest)

To learn more about showmanship, view "[Showmanship](#)"

DAIRY INTERVIEW

- Junior – completed grades 3-5
- Intermediate – completed grades 6-8
- Senior – completed grades 9+ (eligible for Senior Premier Showmanship Contest)

To learn more about animal science interviews, see "[Animal Science Interviews](#)"

DAIRY SCIENCE OF ANIMALS EXHIBIT - See "[4-H Science of Animals Educational Exhibits](#)"

DAIRY GOAT

Superintendents: Jeff Hinkeldey

Quota: 8 Dairy Goats

Enter in the Dairy Goat departments in [FairEntry](#).

Dairy Goat ID Check

Tuesday, July 29 at 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in the Goat Barn

Dairy Goat Interviews

Tuesday, July 29, 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. in the Olson Pavilion

Dairy Goat Show

Thursday, July 31 at following the Dairy Cattle Show in the Olson Pavilion

DAIRY GOAT CLOVERBUDS: See "[4-H Cloverbud Animal Science Exhibits](#)" section

Requirements:

- For safety reasons all dairy goats must be Dis-budded/dehorned. Regrowth of less than ONE INCH allowed.

DAIRY GOAT

Dairy Goat - Jr. Doe Kid	Apr. 1 – June 30, 2025
Dairy Goat - Sr. Doe Kid	Jan. 1 – Mar. 31, 2025
Dairy Goat - Dry Yearling Doe (never kidded)	Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2024
Dairy Goat - Milking Yearling Doe	Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2024
Dairy Goat - Milking 2-Year-Old Doe	Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2023
Dairy Goat - Milking 3 & 4-Year-Old Doe	Born in 2021 or 2022
Dairy Goat - Milking 5+ Year-Old Doe	Born before 2021

DAIRY GOAT SHOWMANSHIP

- Junior – completed grades 3-5
- Intermediate – completed grades 6-8
- Senior – completed grades 9+ (eligible for Senior Premier Showmanship Contest)

To learn more about showmanship, view "[Showmanship](#)"

DAIRY GOAT INTERVIEW

- Junior – completed grades 3-5
- Intermediate – completed grades 6-8
- Senior – completed grades 9+ (eligible for Senior Premier Showmanship Contest)

To learn more about animal science interviews, see "[Animal Science Interviews](#)"

DAIRY GOAT SCIENCE OF ANIMALS EXHIBIT - See "[4-H Science of Animals Educational Exhibits](#)"

DOG

Superintendents: Kim Lambert & Anne Wagner

SW MN Regional 4-H Dog Show

Monday, August 4 at 8:00 a.m. at Nobles County Fairgrounds

Quota: Members may show up to 2 dogs

Enter in the Dog department in [FairEntry](#).

DOG CLOVERBUDS: See "[4-H Cloverbud Animal Science Exhibits](#)" section

Requirements:

- A dog may be shown in the dog show and the pet show.
- 4-Hers grade 3+ are eligible for the county and state dog show.
- 4-Hers shall exhibit in the classes corresponding to the level of training they and their dog have received. All dogs must be trained by the 4-H member showing them.

- All dogs must be vaccinated according to the requirements listed on the MN 4-H Dog Project ID Affidavit and Vaccination Form. Dog health certificates must be on file in 4-H Online.
- Dogs must be over six months old to compete.
- More information, class requirements, and rules/regulations can be found in rules and guidelines (four separate publications) available at [4-H Dog Project](http://z.umn.edu/4HDog) website (z.umn.edu/4HDog).
- Dogs should be brought to the fairgrounds on Show Day only and are not housed at the fairgrounds during County Fair.

DOG AGILITY

Dog - Pre-Agility
Dog - Agility Beginner
Dog - Agility Elementary
Dog - Agility Intermediate
Dog - Agility Senior
Dog - Agility Advanced
Dog - Limited Agility
Dog - Jumpers 1A
Dog - Jumpers 1B
Dog - Jumpers 2
Dog - Jumpers 3
Dog - Limited Jumpers

Requirements:

- Dog agility combines the elements of a dog's agility, briskness, confidence, and a handler's control through an obstacle course designed for dogs. To be eligible to participate, a member must have participated in at least 6 of the dog agility classes conducted at the 4-H Dog Agility Training Course. Members may show 2 dogs.
- A 4-H member and their dog has to complete one year of obedience and has earned a 170 or above score in the Foundation or a Beginner class; or completed 2 years of obedience in order to participate in agility.

DOG RALLY

Dog - Rally Foundation
Dog - Rally Beginner
Dog - Rally Novice
Dog - Rally Graduate Novice
Dog - Rally Intermediate
Dog - Rally Advanced
Dog - Rally Pre-Excellent
Dog - Rally Excellent
Dog - Rally Pre-Master
Dog - Rally Master
Dog - Rally Veterans

DOG OBEDIENCE

Dog - Obedience Foundation
Dog - Obedience Beginner

Dog - Obedience Graduate Beginner
Dog - Obedience Novice
Dog - Obedience Graduate Novice
Dog - Obedience Pre-Open
Dog - Obedience Open
Dog - Obedience Graduate Open
Dog - Obedience Pre-Utility
Dog - Obedience Utility
Dog - Obedience Veterans
Dog - Obedience Brace
Dog - Obedience 4 Dog Team

Requirements:

- Foundation Class - A 4-Her and/or dog in the first year of training. The dog may participate in this class only once during its 4-H Career. A dog entering this class with more than ten (10) weeks of training in an organized class prior to enrolling in the Foundation level 4-H training class is ineligible. A dog with one leg of an AKC-PCD, AKC-CD, or an AKC-BN obedience title (or equivalent) or Rally RN (or equivalent) is ineligible. The dog will move to Beginner the following year.
- Beginner Class - Limited to 4-Her's having previous obedience experience but who are working with a new dog, a 4-H member in their first year of obedience training with a dog that has previous training, or a 4-H member who did not receive a score of 170 or above in Foundation.
- Graduate Beginner and Above - A member winning a 170 or above score in any of these classes must proceed to the next higher class the following year.

DOG SHOWMANSHIP

Dog - Showmanship Novice
Dog - Showmanship Open
Dog - Showmanship Excellent (**NOT** eligible for Senior Premier Showmanship Contest)

Note: Showmanship classes can be broken into junior and senior divisions if numbers warrant.

Requirements:

- Showmanship classes are judged on the ability of the handler to properly show his/her dog based on breed standards and his/her knowledge of dogs. The dogs are not judged except for the grooming and their response to the handler. A crossbred dog should be shown and groomed by the breed standard it most resembles. The handler will be in Jr. or Sr. Novice until he/she receives a purple ribbon, after which time he/she will enter either Jr. or Sr. Open depending on age.

HORSE

Superintendents: Mary Hedstrom and Janeen Ruby

Quota:

- 2 Horses PER member (1 foal or yearling)
- 1 Horse for 4-H Horse Training Program

Enter in the Horse department in [FairEntry](#).

Horse Interviews

Tuesday, July 29, 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. in the Olson Pavilion

Horse Show: Thursday, July 31, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. at the Horse Arena in the Jackson County Fairgrounds in Jackson, MN. Jackson County Horse show also hosts 4-H youth from Nobles county.

- Classes will be split by age division after registration closes. Classes may then be combined show day depending on the number of entries.

IMPORTANT: Horses from other counties will not be stalled at the Jackson County Fair; youth will instead work from their trailer. Once the show is over, all horses from other counties will leave.

HORSE CLOVERBUDS: See "[4-H Cloverbud Animal Science Exhibits](#)" section

Requirements:

- The Minnesota 4-H Horse Program Rule Book is the official rule book for all 4-H horse project members. Download from the [4-H Horse Project website](http://z.umn.edu/HorseProject) (z.umn.edu/HorseProject) or request a copy from the Extension office.
- **Horse Helmet Policy:** All 4-Hers participating in any 4-H sponsored mounted activity are required to wear properly fastened ASTM/SEI approved protective headgear. Helmet use is required when mounted. This policy also extends to 4-H volunteers when they are working with 4-H youth in a 4-H volunteer role during mounted activities.
- Classes may be combined or split depending on the number of entries.
- Tack and Attire: Please see the [Minnesota 4-H Horse Rule Book](#).

State Horse Show Trip Selection Process:

- Although the county horse show is combined with Jackson county, State Horse trips for Jackson county are separate from Nobles county trips.
- Trips are awarded for pleasure and games, and one trip will be awarded to each discipline. The remaining number of each type of trip is determined by the % of State Fair eligible riders participating in each discipline. In case of a tie or discrepancy, staff will decide on the appropriate action. The state has a quota on the number of exhibitors per county participating in Trail. Trail trips will go to the 4-Her(s) with the highest overall points.
- The following division classes will be used to count toward State Fair Trip selection. Games classes include: Barrels, Poles, Key Race and Jumping Figure 8. Pleasure classes include: Western or Ranch Pleasure, Western Horsemanship, Showmanship, English Pleasure, English Equitation and Trail.
- The point system will be based on blue (or purple) ribbons only. There will be 10 points for 1st Blue, 9 points for 2nd Blue, 8 points for 3rd Blue down to 1 point for the 10th Blue. Points will only be given for the top 10 Blue ribbons.
- Top recorded times on games will count as basis for blue ribbon ranking. Knocking down an obstacle is a 5-second penalty for each obstacle knocked down.
- If an exhibitor has two horses, the points are kept separate on each horse and are not combined for State Horse Show trips. If an exhibitor has two horses that receive State Horse Show trips, he/she must choose which horse will go to the State Horse Show by 5 p.m. on August 4 in the Jackson 4-H Office.
- Trips for Horse Related Exhibitors will be given first to the highest ranking horse related exhibitor with a blue award NOT bringing a horse to the state show. Then, if needed to fill the quota, those bringing a horse may also bring their horse related exhibit.

- The State Horse Show Trip winner for Horse Related must be present at the State Horse Show for conference judging.
- Horseless Horse exhibitors are considered State Horse Show trip winners. Horseless Horse members &/or their family members should not own a horse. The State Horse Show Trip winner for Horseless Horse must be present at the State Horse Show for conference judging.

ENGLISH EQUITATION

Horse - English Equitation - Grades 10+

Horse - English Equitation - Grades 8-9

Horse - English Equitation - Grades 6-7

Horse - English Equitation - Grades 3-5

Horse - English Equitation - Novice

ENGLISH PLEASURE

Horse - English Pleasure - Grades 10+

Horse - English Pleasure - Grades 8-9

Horse - English Pleasure - Grades 6-7

Horse - English Pleasure - Grades 3-5

Horse - English Pleasure - Novice

WESTERN HORSEMANSHIP

Horse - Western Horsemanship, All Gaits, Grades 10+

Horse - Western Horsemanship, All Gaits, Grades 8-9

Horse - Western Horsemanship, All Gaits, Grades 6-7

Horse - Western Horsemanship, All Gaits, Grades 3-5

Horse - Western Horsemanship, All Gaits, novice

WESTERN PLEASURE

Horse - Western Pleasure - Grades 10+

Horse - Western Pleasure - Grades 8-9

Horse - Western Pleasure - Grades 6-7

Horse - Western Pleasure - Grades 3-5

Horse - Western Pleasure - Novice

POLE WEAVING

Horse - Pole Weaving, Grades 10+

Horse - Pole Weaving, Grades 8-9

Horse - Pole Weaving, Grades 6-7

Horse - Pole Weaving, Grades 3-5

Horse - Pole Weaving, Novice

JUMPING FIGURE 8

Horse - Jumping Figure 8, Grades 10+

Horse - Jumping Figure 8, Grades 8-9

Horse - Jumping Figure 8, Grades 6-7

Horse - Jumping Figure 8, Grades 3-5

Horse - Jumping Figure 8, Novice

KEY RACE

Horse - Key Race, Grades 10+
Horse - Key Race, Grades 8-9
Horse - Key Race, Grades 6-7
Horse - Key Race, Grades 3-5
Horse - Key Race, Novice

BARREL RACE

Horse - Barrel Race, Grades 10+
Horse - Barrel Race, Grades 8-9
Horse - Barrel Race, Grades 6-7
Horse - Barrel Race, Grades 3-5
Horse - Barrel Race, Novice

TRAIL CLASS

Horse - Trail Class, Grades 10+
Horse - Trail Class, Grades 8-9
Horse - Trail Class, Grades 6-7
Horse - Trail Class, Grades 3-5
Horse - Trail Class, Novice

RANCH PLEASURE CLASS

Horse - Ranch Pleasure Class, Grades 12-13
Horse - Ranch Pleasure Class, Grades 10-11
Horse - Ranch Pleasure Class, Grades 8-9
Horse - Ranch Pleasure Class, Grades 6-7
Horse - Ranch Pleasure Class, Grades 3-5
Horse - Ranch Pleasure Class, Novice

EQUESTRIANS WITH DISABILITIES

Requirements:

- This program is designed to allow special needs or disabled 4-H members the opportunity to explore the horse project.
- Unauthorized and unnecessary assistance from volunteers will result in penalties for the riders.
- Lead volunteers must walk behind the horse's nose.
- Riders may NOT cross enter into other classes.

Horse - Assisted: Flat Class-Western or English Equitation, walk, trot with volunteer/mentors as needed

Horse - Assisted: Obstacle Game Class, Key Hole pattern, walk, trot with volunteer/mentors as needed

Horse - Unassisted: Flat Class-Western or English Equitation, walk, trot, unassisted (spotter requested)

Horse - Unassisted: Obstacle Game Class, Key Hole pattern, walk, trot, unassisted (spotter requested)

HORSE TRAINING

Horse - Training Steps 1-6

- Any age horse may qualify provided that it has had no training beyond lounging. Your horse may not have been previously ground-driven or ridden.
- You must follow the process and document your progress while you are training.
- Exhibitors must submit their Training Program booklet to the Extension office one week prior to the horse show. Information are available at the [4-H Horse Project website](http://z.umn.edu/4HHorseProject) (z.umn.edu/4HHorseProject)

HORSE SHOWMANSHIP

- Junior – completed grades 3-5
- Intermediate – completed grades 6-8
- Senior – completed grades 9+ (**NOT** eligible for Senior Premier Showmanship Contest)

To learn more about showmanship, view "[Showmanship](#)"

HORSE INTERVIEW

- Junior – completed grades 3-5
- Intermediate – completed grades 6-8
- Senior – completed grades 9+

To learn more about animal science interviews, see "[Animal Science Interviews](#)"

HORSE RELATED

Horse - Horse Related, Grades 6+

Horse - Horse Related, Grades 3-5

Requirements:

- Must be enrolled in the Horse project to exhibit in this division
- Exhibits may be a model, poster, scrapbook, essay, and/or article. The exhibit should show or explain something the 4-H member has made, done, or learned in the project.
- Exhibits are conference judged with the exhibitor present.

HORSELESS HORSE EXHIBIT

Horse - Horseless Horse, Grades 6+

Horse - Horseless Horse, Grades 3-5

Requirements:

- Exhibits may be a model, poster, scrapbook, essay, and/or article. The exhibit should show or explain something the 4-H member has made, done, or learned in the project.
- Exhibits are conference judged with the exhibitor present.
- This exhibit area is for youth who do not own or lease a horse. Youth should exhibit in this category if they participate in the horseless horse program with a mentor horse. If they do own or lease their own horse, they may exhibit the same style exhibit in the Horse Related area.

These exhibits are judged on Monday with general project exhibits and will be displayed in the 4-H Exhibit Hall.

Two exhibits in each area will be awarded trips to the 4-H State Horse Show (not Minnesota State Fair). Trips will be given first to the highest ranking horse related exhibitor with a blue award NOT bringing a horse to the state show. Then, if needed to fill the quota, those bringing a horse may also bring their horse related exhibit.

HORSELESS HORSE SKILLS CLASS

- Horse - Horseless Horse Level 1, Grades 6+
- Horse - Horseless Horse Level 1, Grades 3-5
- Horse - Horseless Horse Level 2, Grades 6+
- Horse - Horseless Horse Level 2, Grades 3-5
- Horse - Horseless Horse Level 3, Grades 6+
- Horse - Horseless Horse Level 3, Grades 3-5

Requirements:

- Youth will complete a level in the horseless horse booklet [level 1](https://z.umn.edu/horselesshorseLevel1) (z.umn.edu/horselesshorseLevel1) or [level 2](https://z.umn.edu/horselesshorseLevel2) (z.umn.edu/horselesshorseLevel2) prior to the show. The booklet will include answering knowledge questions and learning hands-on skills. An example of a knowledge question would be to list 4 breeds of horses and describe their uses. An example of a skill to demonstrate would describe and demonstrate how to properly back a horse on the halter 4 steps.
- The booklet must be signed prior to the show by a Horseless Horse Volunteer, Mentor or 4-H Extension Staff attesting to that the youth has completed the booklet, can complete the skills and is prepared for the judging experience.
- Youth can only test and exhibit one level per year.
- They will use a mentor's horse in the ring. The horse will be used to aid in answering the judges questions and demonstrating skills.
- Youth will demonstrate and interview one-on-one with the judge, on exhibitor at a time.
- The judging will be a combination of demonstrating these skills and answering interview questions from the judge. The judge will select a number of skills and knowledge based questions related to the booklet (not all of them).

JACKSON COUNTY SPECIFIC HORSE CLASSES - NO points awarded toward State Fair trips or county fair awards.

- Halter
- Walk Trot
- Egg and Spoon
- Pole Bending

Llama-Alpaca Superintendent:

Quota: 2 Llamas/Alpacas per member

Enter in the Llama/Alpaca department in [FairEntry](#).

Registration for the Llama-Alpaca show will take place via the Jackson County 4-H FairEntry and must be completed by June 25th. Jackson County Fair will have an area for stalling of the Llama-Alpaca animals as long as the family contacts the Extension office by July 16, 2025.

Llama-Alpaca ID Check

Tuesday, July 29, 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. in the sheep/goat barn.

Llama/Alpaca Interviews

Tuesday, July 29, 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. in the Olson Pavilion

Llama-Alpaca Show

Note: Members in the Llama Project will be showing their Llama-Alpaca in the Murray County Llama-Alpaca Show on **Friday, August 16, 2024, at 12:00 pm (subject to change)** at the Murray County Fairgrounds in Slayton, MN.

- **IMPORTANT: Llama will not be stalled at the Murray County Fair.** Youth will instead work from their trailer. No Llama from Jackson County will remain at the Murray County Fair throughout the week, once the show is over all llamas from other counties will leave.

LLAMA-ALPACA CLOVERBUDs: See "[4-H Cloverbud Animal Science Exhibits](#)" section

LLAMA-ALPACA

- Llama-Alpaca - Costume (Exhibitor must be on foot)
- Llama-Alpaca - Obstacle Course/Public Relations
- Llama-Alpaca - Showmanship (Required)

Requirements:

- 4-H llama-alpaca projects must be born prior to January 1, 2025
- No sexually intact male over 18 months is eligible for exhibition.
- No companion animals (no buddies and no nursing mothers allowed)

NOTE: 4-H members who participate in the Llama - Alpaca Costume Contest at the State Fair will receive a cash award. These payments are made in October. 4-H'ers must be grade eligible to participate at the State Fair.

LLAMA-ALPACA FLEECE

- Llama/Alpaca - Fleece

Requirements:

- Fiber must be from llama shown at the county fair for the current year. Fiber must be from current year shearing.
- Place 2-3 oz. of fiber from current year llama and your name on a card in a gallon bag and submit during registration/ID time on Wednesday of county fair during llama check-in.

LLAMA-ALPACA POSTER

- Llama-Alpaca - Poster – Educational or promotional posters may be selected to advance to the state fair.

Requirements:

- Any 4-H'er enrolled in the Llama-Alpaca Project may enter a poster.
- Educational or promotional posters may be selected to advance to the state fair. You do not have to be exhibiting a llama-alpaca at the state fair to enter.
 - See all state fair poster requirements on the [Llama-Alpaca Information Sheet](http://z.umn.edu/llama-alpacaID) (z.umn.edu/llama-alpacaID)

LLAMA-ALPACA SHOWMANSHIP

- Junior – completed grades 3-5
- Intermediate – completed grades 6-8

- Senior – completed grades 9+ (**NOT** eligible for Senior Premier Showmanship Contest)
To learn more about showmanship, view "[Showmanship](#)"

LLAMA-ALPACA INTERVIEW

- Junior – completed grades 3-5
- Intermediate – completed grades 6-8
- Senior – completed grades 9+

To learn more about animal science interviews, see "[Animal Science Interviews](#)"

MEAT GOAT

Superintendent: Larry Liepold and Kristin Zipperlen

Quota:

- 8 Meat Goats
- UP TO 4 Market Goats & 4 Breeding Does

Enter in the Meat Goat department in [FairEntry](#).

Meat Goat ID Check

Tuesday, July 29, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in the Goat Barn

Meat Goat Interviews

Tuesday, July 29, 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. in the Olson Pavilion

Meat Goat Show

Wednesday, July 30 at 7:00 pm. in the Olson Pavilion

MEAT GOAT CLOVERBUDS: See "[4-H Cloverbud Animal Science Exhibits](#)" section

Requirements:

- **NOTE:** Pygmy Goats are classed as Meat Goats

MARKET GOAT

Meat Market Goat - wether	Nov 1, 2024 – April 30, 2025
Meat Market Goat - doe	Nov 1, 2024 – April 30, 2025
Dairy Market Goat - wether	Nov 1, 2024 – April 30, 2025

WETHER DAM

Wether dam yearling (never kidded)	Sept 1, 2023 - Aug 31, 2024
Wether dam kid	Sept 1, 2024 - April 30, 2025

MEAT GOAT BREEDING DOES (registered or grade)

Meat Goat - Senior Yearling Breeding Doe (never kidded)	Sept 1, 2023 – Feb 29, 2024
Meat Goat - Junior Yearling Breeding Doe (never kidded)	March 1, 2024 – May 31, 2024
Meat Goat - Fall Yearling Breeding Doe (never kidded)	June 1, 2024 – Nov 30, 2024
Meat Goat - Senior Meat Breeding Doe Kid	Dec 1, 2024 – Feb 28, 2025
Meat Goat - Junior Meat Breeding Doe Kid	Mar 1, 2025 – May 31, 2025

Requirements:

- Market animals must be a minimum of 40 pounds; recommended maximum weight of 110 lbs for state fair.
- Market wethers must be disbudded/de-horned. Re-growth must not exceed one inch. Cut (sawed) off horns are not permitted
- Meat breeding does, wether dams and market does may have horns and they do not need to be capped or blunted. **However, if an animal is deemed a safety concern at the discretion of the committee, additional safety measures may be required.**

MEAT GOAT SHOWMANSHIP

- Junior – completed grades 3-5
- Intermediate – completed grades 6-8
- Senior – completed grades 9+ (eligible for Senior Premier Showmanship Contest)

To learn more about showmanship, view "[Showmanship](#)"

MEAT GOAT INTERVIEW

- Junior – completed grades 3-5
- Intermediate – completed grades 6-8
- Senior – completed grades 9+ (eligible for Senior Premier Showmanship Contest)

To learn more about animal science interviews, see "[Animal Science Interviews](#)"

MEAT GOAT SCIENCE OF ANIMALS EXHIBIT - See "[4-H Science of Animals Educational Exhibits](#)"

POULTRY

Superintendents: Drew Wedebrand and Cyndi Hansen

Quota: 7 Exhibits; 2 per example

Enter in the Poultry department in [FairEntry](#).

Poultry ID Check

Tuesday, July 29th, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. in the Poultry Barn

Poultry Interviews

Tuesday, July 29, 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. in the Olson Pavilion

Poultry Show

Wednesday, July 30, at 8:00 a.m. in the Olson Pavilion

POULTRY CLOVERBUDS: See "[4-H Cloverbud Animal Science Exhibits](#)" section

Requirements:

- Poultry animals will be issued leg bands at ID Check.
- All poultry (except waterfowl, doves and pigeons) must have a statement of origin from their hatchery or health certificates submitted to the office by **July 16**.
- All birds exhibited in breeding classes must be purebred and will be judged according to the American Poultry Association (APA) "Standard of Perfection"
- Poultry exhibitors are responsible for bringing their own waterer, feeder, and feed to the fair. A waterer and feeder that can be tied to the cage with a string or wire works best.

Hatch Dates: All exhibited birds (except pigeons) must be of this year's hatch. SUGGESTED hatch dates are:

- Breeding Poultry and Waterfowl - January 1 or after
- Egg Production Chickens (hybrid recommended) - March 1 or after
- Market Chickens - March 1 or after (not to exceed 10 pounds, should be 7-9 weeks old at fair).
- Domestic Turkey and Market Waterfowl - March 1 or after
- Guinea (pearl, white, or lavender) - January 1 or after

CHICKENS

Chickens - Market pen of two males or two females

Chickens - Breeding pen of one male & two females

Chickens - Bantam Breeding pen of one male & two females

Chickens - Egg production pen of two pullets, White egg layers

Chickens - Egg production pen of two pullets, Brown egg layers

DOVES

Doves - Purebred breeding pair

DUCKS

Ducks - Market pen of two males or two females

Ducks - Breeding pen of one male & two females

Ducks - Bantam Breeding pen of one male & two females

GEESE

Geese - Market pen of two males or two females

Geese - Breeding pen of one male & two females

GUINEA

Use the following Classes, with the Divisions to indicate the type of your project animal(s).

Note: ONLY Pearls, Whites and Lavender breeds can be shown:

Guinea - Market pen of two males or two females - same breed

Guinea - Breeding pen of one male & two females - same breed

PIGEONS

Pigeons - Utility, 1 Breeding Pair

Pigeons - Utility, 1 Young bird Male or Female, 1 young bird, this year band

Pigeons - Fancy, 1 Breeding Pair

Pigeons - Fancy, Young bird Male or Female, 1 young bird, this year band

Pigeons - Flying, 1 Breeding Pair

Pigeons - Flying, Young bird Male or Female, 1 young bird, this year band

TURKEYS - Domestic only

Turkeys - Domestic Only - Market pen of two males or two females

Turkeys - Domestic Only - Breeding pen of one male & two females

Requirements:

- Fancy-Hobby projects may be any type of poultry that does not fit into an above class. Examples include rare and unusual breeds of chickens, pheasants, peacocks, etc.
- Each class contains one bird of any age.
- This class is not state fair eligible.

POULTRY SHOWMANSHIP

- Junior – completed grades 3-5
- Intermediate – completed grades 6-8
- Senior – completed grades 9+ (**NOT** eligible for Senior Premier Showmanship Contest)

To learn more about showmanship, view "[Showmanship](#)"

POULTRY INTERVIEW

- Junior – completed grades 3-5
- Intermediate – completed grades 6-8
- Senior – completed grades 9+

To learn more about animal science interviews, see "[Animal Science Interviews](#)"

POULTRY POSTER

Poultry Poster - Educational or promotional poster may be selected to advance to the state fair. See state fair poster requirements in the Poultry Information Sheet. Posters do not need to be exhibited at the county fair to advance to the State Fair.

RABBIT

Superintendents: Anne Wagner

Quota: 8 Exhibits

Enter in the Horse department in [FairEntry](#).

Rabbit ID Check

Tuesday, July 29, caged by 2:00 p.m. and ID verification starts at 2:30 p.m. in the Rabbit Barn

Rabbit Interviews

Tuesday, July 29, 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. in the Olson Pavilion

Rabbit Show

Wednesday, July 30, 12:00 p.m. in the Olson Pavilion

RABBIT CLOVERBUDS: See "[4-H Cloverbud Animal Science Exhibits](#)" section

Requirements:

- All breeds recognized by the American Rabbit Breeders Association are eligible. Rabbits will be judged according to ARBA standards.
 - Judging will be based on health and vigor, uniformity of development, coat, condition and degree of fleshing.
 - Standard recognized breed characteristics will be considered in judging breeding classes.
- Rabbit exhibitors are responsible for bringing their own water dishes, feeders, and feed to the fair. A water dish that can be attached to the cage works best.

- No locks allowed unless prior approval by the Rabbit Committee.
- Small Breeds, Large Breeds, or Running Breeds, will indicate their breed in FairEntry.

SMALL BREEDS

Rabbit - Small Breed Senior Buck over 6 months of age
Rabbit - Small Breed Senior Doe over 6 months of age
Rabbit - Small Breed Junior Buck under 6 months of age
Rabbit - Small Breed Junior Doe under 6 months of age

4 Class (small) rabbit breeds include Dutch, Florida White, Holland Lop, Jersey Woolly, Mini Lop, Mini Rex, Netherland Dwarf, Polish, Rex, American Fuzzy Lop, American Sable, Dwarf Hotot, English Angora, French Angora, Satin Angora, Belgian Hare, Britannia Petite, Standard Chinchilla, English Spot, Harlequin, Havana, Himalayan, Lilac, Lion Head, Rhinelander, Silver, Silver Marten, Thrianta and Tan.

LARGE BREEDS

Rabbit - Large Breed Senior Buck over 8 months of age
Rabbit - Large Breed Senior Doe over 8 months of age
Rabbit - Large Breed Intermediate Buck 6 - 8 months of age
Rabbit - Large Breed Intermediate Doe 6 - 8 months of age
Rabbit - Large Breed Junior Buck under 6 months of age
Rabbit - Large Breed Junior Doe under 6 months of age

6 Class (large) rabbit breeds include New Zealand, Satin, American Giant Angora, Bevern, Californian, Champagne d'Argent, Checkered Giant, American Chinchilla, Giant Chinchilla, Cinnamon, Crème d'Argent, Flemish Giant, French Lop, Hotot, English Lop, Palomino and Silver Fox.

RUNNING BREEDS

Rabbit - Running Breeds Senior Buck over 8 months of age
Rabbit - Running Breeds Senior Doe over 8 months of age
Rabbit - Running Breeds Intermediate Buck 6-8 months of age
Rabbit - Running Breeds Intermediate Doe 6-8 months of age
Rabbit - Running Breeds Junior Buck under 6 months of age
Rabbit - Running Breeds Junior Doe under 6 months of age

Requirements:

- Breeding Rabbit requirements apply to Running Breeds
- Running Breeds include Checkered Giant, English Spot, Rhinelander and Tan

MARKET RABBIT

Rabbit - Single Fryer, 3 ½ to 5 ½ pounds, not over 70 days old
Rabbit - Pen of three fryers, 3 ½ to 5 ½ pounds, not over 70 days old

BEST DRESSED BUNNY - (MUST be entered in regular show)

- **NOT ELIGIBLE FOR STATE FAIR**
- Immediately follows 4-H Rabbit Show
- ALL AGES
- Only 1 entry per 4-H member, but it can be a single rabbit or a pair entry

- Dress bunny in your best costume/themed attire (remove costume upon caging rabbit).
- Small props may be used if the prop can be set on the table.
- Awards for 1st - 4th place.

RABBIT SHOWMANSHIP

- Junior – completed grades 3-5
- Intermediate – completed grades 6-8
- Senior – completed grades 9+ (**NOT** eligible for Senior Premier Showmanship Contest)

To learn more about showmanship, view "[Showmanship](#)"

RABBIT INTERVIEW

- Junior – completed grades 3-5
- Intermediate – completed grades 6-8
- Senior – completed grades 9+

To learn more about animal science interviews, see "[Animal Science Interviews](#)"

RABBIT POSTER

Any 4-H member enrolled in the Rabbit Project may enter a poster.

- Educational or promotional posters may be selected to advance to the state fair. You do not have to be exhibiting a rabbit at the state fair to enter.
- There are two categories: 1) Promoting 4-H Rabbits and 2) Education 4-H Rabbit.
- See state fair poster requirements in the [Rabbit Information Sheet](#) (z.umn.edu/rabbitID).

SHEEP

Superintendents: Jim Nesseth

Quota:

- 4 Market Lambs - can be any combination of Wethers & Ewes
- 4 Breeding Ewes Lambs
- 2 Yearling Ewes

Enter in the Sheep department in [FairEntry](#).

Sheep ID Check and Weigh-In

Tuesday, July 29th, 1-3 p.m. Sheep Barn

Sheep Interviews

Tuesday, July 29, 12-3 p.m. Olson Pavilion

Sheep Show

Wednesday, July 30, 11 a.m. Olson Pavilion

SHEEP CLOVERBUDS: See "[4-H Cloverbud Animal Science Exhibits](#)" section

BREEDING EWES & LAMBS - Registered or Commercial

Sheep - Yearling Ewe Over 1 yr and under 2 yrs of age & not show evidence of 4 permanent incisors

Sheep - Fall Ewe Lamb Born between September 1 - December 31 of previous year

Sheep - January Ewe Lamb	Born in January of current Year
Sheep - February Ewe Lamb	Born in February of current Year
Sheep - March Ewe Lamb	Born in March of current Year

Requirements:

- Commercial ewes are judged on body type to produce feedlot lambs. See [fact sheet](https://z.umn.edu/4HWetherdaminfo) (z.umn.edu/4HWetherdaminfo) for the difference between the wether dam and a commercial ewe class.
- Pairs are any 2 breeding ewes/lambs shown by the same exhibitor. Pairs classes are not state fair eligible.

WETHER DAM

Sheep - Wether Dam Ewe Lamb	Born on or after December 1 of previous year
Sheep - Wether Dam Yearling Ewe	Over 1 yr and under 2 yrs of age & not show evidence of 4 permanent incisors

Requirements:

- Wether dams are shown by weight but follow breeding class birthdate guidelines.
- Classes may be divided/combined depending on number of registrations.
- Yearlings Ewes may not show evidence of four permanent incisors.
- All Wether Dams and Market Lambs must be closely shorn (no more than ¼ inch) at weigh-in. If the wool length is determined to be too long for careful inspection, shearing will be required before re-inspection can occur.
- Wether dams are judged on traits to produce market lambs for show lambs (club lambs). See [fact sheet](https://z.umn.edu/4HWetherdaminfo) (z.umn.edu/4HWetherdaminfo) for the difference between the wether dam and a commercial ewe class.

MARKET LAMBS

Market Lamb - Speckle Face	Born on/after Dec. 1, of previous year
Market Lamb - Black Face	Born on/after Dec. 1, of previous year
Market Lamb - White Face	Born on/after Dec. 1, of previous year
Market Lamb - Hair Breeds	Born on/after Dec. 1, of previous year

Requirements:

- Recommended minimum weight for State Fair is 105 pounds; recommended maximum weight is 170 pounds.
- **Lambs shown in the hair breeds division must be of straight hair sheep breeding. Crossbred hair sheep and wool breeding is not acceptable. See [2025 Animal Science Updates](https://z.umn.edu/4-HAnSciUpdates) (z.umn.edu/4-HAnSciUpdates) for more information.**
- Classes may be divided/combined depending on number of registrations.
- Lambs are to be weighed dry and clean, without blankets.

LAMB LEAD

Lamb Lead

Requirements:

- Lamb lead exhibitors must groom and train a sheep and must wear a garment made from at least 60% wool. Garment is defined as a piece of clothing covering a main part of your body (not socks or accessories).

- Exhibitors will be judged based on project knowledge, poise, their outfit, and their lamb.
 - Classes may be combined depending on number of entrants

NOTE: 4-H'ers who participate in Lamb Lead at the State Fair will receive a \$30 cash award, provided by the Minnesota Livestock Breeders' Association (MLBA). These payments are made in October. 4-H'ers must be grade eligible to participate at the State Fair.

FLEECE

Sheep Fleece

Requirements:

All 4-H'ers receiving a blue ribbon on their fleece may exhibit at the State Fair; no housing will be provided!

SHEEP SHOWMANSHIP

- Junior – completed grades 3-5
- Intermediate – completed grades 6-8
- Senior – completed grades 9+ (eligible for Senior Premier Showmanship Contest)

To learn more about showmanship, view "[Showmanship](#)"

SHEEP INTERVIEW

- Junior – completed grades 3-5
- Intermediate – completed grades 6-8
- Senior – completed grades 9+

To learn more about animal science interviews, see "[Animal Science Interviews](#)"

SHEEP SCIENCE OF ANIMALS EXHIBIT - See "[4-H Science of Animals Educational Exhibits](#)"

SWINE

Superintendents: Greg Krahn, Jeremy Michelson, Bruce Ihnen, Greg Tusa

Quota: 5 Swine of ANY COMBINATION

Enter in the Swine department in [FairEntry](#).

Swine ID Check and Weigh-In

- Tuesday, July 29 by 8:00 p.m. - all pigs penned.
- Pick up weigh cards from the 4-H Office.
- **Weigh cards are due to the 4-H office by 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 30.**
- **ID verification will begin at 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 30, in the Swine Barn**
- **A 4-H family member MUST be present, by the swine pens.**

Swine Interviews

Tuesday, July 29, 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. in the Olson Pavilion

Swine Show

Wednesday, July 30th, 3:00 p.m. in the Olson Pavilion

SWINE CLOVERBUDS: See "[4-H Cloverbud Animal Science Exhibits](#)" section

Requirements:

- A gilt may be shown as breeding or market, but not both.
- Crossbred Breeding Gilts will be shown by weight

BREEDING GILTS

Swine - Registered January Gilt Born in January of current year

Swine - Registered February Gilt Born in February of current year

Swine - Registered March Gilt Born in March of current year

Swine - Crossbred Breeding Gilts will be shown by weight

MARKET BARROW/MARKET GILT

Swine - Market Barrow - Born on or after January 1 of the current year. Recommended farrow date in January or February

Swine - Market Gilt - Born on or after January 1 of the current year. Recommended farrow date in January or February

Requirements:

- Absolutely NO snaring/clipping pigs on the fairgrounds! This should be completed prior to coming to the fair.
- Recommended minimum weight for State Fair is 220 pounds; maximum State Fair weight is 300.
- Market barrows and market gilts weighing less than 220 pounds will show in their own class "Super Lightweights" and those 301 pounds and over will show in their own class "Super Heavyweights" and will be eligible for blue, red or white ribbons and are not eligible for champions at State Fair.

SWINE SHOWMANSHIP

- Junior – completed grades 3-5
- Intermediate – completed grades 6-8
- Senior – completed grades 9+ (eligible for Senior Premier Showmanship Contest)

To learn more about showmanship, view "[Showmanship](#)"

SWINE INTERVIEW

- Junior – completed grades 3-5
- Intermediate – completed grades 6-8
- Senior – completed grades 9+

To learn more about animal science interviews, see "[Animal Science Interviews](#)"

SWINE SCIENCE OF ANIMALS EXHIBIT - See "[4-H Science of Animals Educational Exhibits](#)"