

2026 Dodge County 4-H Premium Book

4-H Schedule

Friday, May 15

11:59pmAnimal ID Deadline

Thursday, June 11

11:59pmFairEntry Registrations Due

Tuesday, June 23

5:00pm - 7:00pmDemonstrations / Public Presentations / Performing Arts / Fashion Revue Day
(4-H Building on Fairgrounds)

Wednesday, July 8

5:00pm - 8:00pmFair Setup

Saturday, July 11

8:00amDog Show (Fairgrounds)

Monday, July 13

2:00pm - 3:00pmPet Show (picnic shelter across from 4-H Building)

3:00pm - 7:00pmGeneral Project Judging (Check-in at the 4-H Building on the Fairgrounds)

7:00pmLlama-Alpaca Check-in / Llama-Alpaca Interviews (Horse Barn)

Tuesday, July 14

3:00pm - 7:00pmRabbit & Poultry Check-in / Rabbit & Poultry Interviews (Poultry Barn)

5:30pmLlama-Alpaca Show (Show Arena) - ***New Time!***

7:00pmAll Animals in Place

7:00pmLQA Must be complete for State Fair Livestock Eligibility

7:00pmSheep, Dairy Goat, & Meat Goat Check-in (Tent on SW side of Show Arena Barn)

7:00pmSheep, Dairy Goat, & Meat Goat Interviews (South End of Show Arena Barn)

7:00pmHorse Check-in (Horse Barn)

7:30pmDairy Check-in / Dairy Interviews (Dairy Barn)

7:30pmBeef Check-in / Beef Interviews (Staging Tent) - ***New Time!***

Wednesday, July 15

8:00amPoultry Show (Show Arena)

9:00amHorse Show / Horse Interviews / Fun Show (Horse Arena)

9:00amSwine Check-in / Swine Interviews (South End of Show Arena Barn)

11:00amRabbit Show (Show Arena)

2:00pmSheep Show (Show Arena) - ***New Time!***

Thursday, July 16

8:00amDairy Show (Show Arena)

1:15pmLlama-Alpaca Costume Contest (Free Stage)
5:00pmBeef Show (Show Arena)

Friday, July 17

8:00amSwine Show (Show Arena)
1:00pmDairy Goat Show (Show Arena)
1:30pmMeat Goat Show (Show Arena)
5:00pm (or 1 hr after the conclusion of the Meat Goat Show).....Ribbon Auction Sign Up Deadline

Saturday, July 18

7:30amBuyers Breakfast (4-H Building) - **New Time!**
9:00am4-H Ribbon Auction (Show Arena)
1:00pmProject Talks (Ice Arena Stage) - **New Location!**
3:15pmFashion Revue Show (Free Stage)
3:30pmState Fair Trip Acceptance Deadline (4-H Building) - New Time!
4:30pmState Fair Paperwork Due - New Time!
5:00pmSupreme Showmanship (Show Arena)

Sunday, July 19

4:00pmAll Livestock Released
5:00-7:00pmGeneral Projects Released

Thursday, July 23

6:30pmMandatory State Fair Meeting (4-H Building)

4-H Extension Staff

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4-H at the County Fair

The Dodge County Fair is one of the highlights of the 4-H year. It is an opportunity for youth to showcase their special efforts, interests, and talents by exhibiting projects. Your County Fair experience should be a fun and enjoyable learning experience. 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. Ribbons and recognition are short-lived, but skills and knowledge are for life.

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2025 County Fair Award Sponsors

Ag Partners	Faulhaber Family Farms	Moosbrugger Law Office
Atypical Title	Folie Livestock	North Star Show Goats
Bigelow & Lennon Construction	Foot Care Professionals	Northern Exposure Livestock
Bob Faulhaber Memorial	Foot Care Professionals	Pam & Megan Justice
Brad & Sheryl Dohrmann	Frandsen Bank & Trust	Paul & Cathy Moenning
Brian & Jodi Klocke	Gabe & Amber Kasper	R&M Steel
Buehler's Trimming & Landscaping	Gray Family Farms	Red Barn Learning Farm
Buns & Bunnies Rabbitry	Hayfield T-Shirts Etc.	Rhonda Weis
Canisteo Young Farmers	Hodgman Drainage	Rich & Kris Scherger
4-H Club	Sally Chicos	Robinson Acres
Claremont Farmers Mutual Ins.	In Memory of Sherrie Robinson	Rochester Area Rabbit Club
Claremont Insurance Agency	Island Paws LLC	S&L Transport
Deb Kanable	Jane & Don Hesper	Scott Schley
DeCook Drainage	Jason & Shelly Gochnauer Family	Shannon Quam
Dodge County ADA	Jim Laumann	Shea Kiltinen
Dodge County Sheriff Posse	Joann Ronningan	Sporty Acres
Dodge Veterinary Clinic	Josh & Kaitlin Johnson	Stevenson Insurance
Donna Moenning	Just Like Home SACC	Team O'Malley Counselor Realty
Doug & Danella Marquardt	Katie Harreld	Thayer's Double T Ranch
Eat'N Acres LLC	Kevin & Diana Eipers Family	Top Shop of Rochester
Eden Progressive Gophers	KM Telecom	Tim & Michelle Kruckeberg
4-H Club	Larry & Merry Kruckeberg	Van Zuilen Family Farms
Edwards Family	Mary Ann Bucher	VS Family Farms -
Ellingson	Meeker Family Farms	GotHayWeDo.com
Espinoza Family	Meeker Family Farms	Windmill Livestock - Allen Family
Espinoza Holsteins	Meyer Family	
	Midwest Livestock Systems	

Participation Agreement & Code of Conduct

All Dodge County 4-H members 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 Dodge County Fair.

1. Participation Agreement:

- 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.
- 4-H members will abide by the Code of Conduct as stated. Any infraction 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. Infraction of the Code of Conduct may also result in the loss of eligibility to participate in future youth activities such as state trips, exchange trips, or camps for the current and/or upcoming 4-H year.
- Consequences of inappropriate behavior will be dealt with at the discretion and judgement of the Extension Staff.

2. Code of Conduct:

- The full [Code of Conduct](#) by which all 4-H members, volunteers, and parents will abide is available online at z.umn.edu/4h-policies.

Eligibility

Please study this premium book carefully as it contains all rules and other information pertinent to exhibiting as a 4-H member at the Dodge County Fair. Please note that information provided in the premium book is subject to change at the discretion of the Extension Office and major changes will be communicated to exhibitors via email as appropriate.

1. Only 4-H members (in grades K-13) are eligible to exhibit in 4-H at the County Fair. All grade level requirements listed refer to the grade completed by the 4-H member. Cloverbuds can enter only in the Cloverbud class(es).
2. County Fair Participation Policy: Dodge County 4-H members with, new enrollments received after May 15 or late enrollments, ID forms, and/or County Fair registration:
 - o You are still eligible to exhibit at the Dodge County Fair and receive a blue, red, white, or participation ribbon and premium for your exhibit(s).
 - o You will not be eligible in that particular species, project area, and/or exhibit for grand or reserve champions, honorable mentions, State Fair trips, State Dog Show trips, State Horse Show trips, or any additional awards.
3. [Competitive events, deadlines, consequences, and exemption option](#): 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.

Registration

County Fair registration will be done online using FairEntry - dodge-county.fairentry.com. Registration will open on May 18. The registration deadline is 11:59pm on June 11. No changes or additions can be made online after the deadline. To log into FairEntry, use your 4H Online username and password. You will have access to the county fair registrations any time. Contact the Extension Office if you need assistance.

Paper registration forms are available upon request, please contact the Extension Office if you would like one. All paper fair registration forms are due to the Dodge County Extension Office (721 Main St. N., Dept. 602 Mantorville, MN 55955) no later than 11:59pm. June 11, 2026 or postmarked by June 11. *The Extension Office is not responsible for paper forms not received.*

FairEntry submissions received after June 11, 2026 or paper registration forms not postmarked by June 11, 2026 will not be eligible for county grand/reserve champion placings or state fair, unless a member chooses to use their one-time exemption (if not used already). Members may exhibit at the fair, receive a ribbon placing, and participate in the auction, if they qualify. If you have questions, contact the Extension Office at 507-635-6325.

Arrival and Release of Exhibits

General exhibits will be judged in the 4-H Building on General Judging day, Monday, July 13, 3:00–7:00pm. All general exhibits must remain in place in the 4-H Building until Sunday, July 19, 4:00pm.

All Animals/Livestock must be in place by no later than Tuesday, July 14 at 7:00pm. All livestock exhibits will be released on Sunday at 4:00pm, except in the case of extenuating circumstances where the fair veterinarian, fairboard, and 4-H Extension Educators have agreed that early release is necessary due to health or other concerns for an animal. Exhibitors must have signatures from all three entities on the early release form from 4-H Extension Educators.

Youth with Disabilities or Injuries

General Project Judging

If a 4-H member is unable to participate in the conference judging process by himself/herself due to a disability or injury, the 4-H member and/or the member's immediate family must request permission for a conference judging assistant to be with the 4-H member during the conference judging of the member's general project(s). Arrangements and approval for a conference judging assistant must be made with 4-H staff prior to the beginning of the judging process. First preference for the judging assistant will be a 4-H age-eligible member of the 4-H member's immediate family or another age-eligible 4-H member from the county of membership. In some cases, a parent or personal aid may be appropriate; this option must be approved by the staff member.

Livestock Project Judging

If a 4-H member is unable to exhibit an animal by himself/herself due to a disability or injury, the 4-H member and/or the member's immediate family must request permission for a substitute show person to help with the exhibition of the 4-H member's livestock project(s). Arrangements and approval for a substitute show person must be made with 4-H staff prior to the day of the show. The substitute show person must be a 4-H age-eligible member of the 4-H member's immediate family or another age-eligible 4-H member from the county of membership.

For more information go to: z.umn.edu/4h-judging-experience

State Trip Information, Dates, and Meeting Schedule

State Trip Eligibility

To be eligible/compete at the State Fair, State Horse Show, or State Dog Show, 4-H'ers must have:

- Enrolled in 4-H Online by May 15
 - Completed 6th grade
 - Identified project animals by May 15 ID deadline and market beef by February 17 ID deadline
 - Pre-registered their county fair exhibits by the county fair registration deadline and met any other requirements
 - A 4-H member is eligible to take one Livestock exhibit trip, one General exhibit trip, one State Horse Show trip, one State Dog Show trip, one Llama-Alpaca trip, and/or participate in activities including Arts In, Cooking Events, Animal Science Educational exhibits, and/or Judging Teams. Exhibit must have earned at least a blue ribbon (see State Dog Show rules for exceptions)
 - 4-Hers 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).
1. 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).
 2. Members selected to represent the county at the State Fair and State Horse Show must have completed sixth grade.
 3. 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.

4. Exhibitors must complete LQA training by 7:00pm on Tuesday, July 14th.
5. [Competitive events, deadlines, consequences and exemption options](https://z.umn.edu/4h-policies) (z.umn.edu/4h-policies). 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.
6. 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.
7. 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.

State Fair Trip Notification and Accepting Process

1. All blue ribbon winners from the County Fair Dog Obedience Show and Rally Show advance to the State Dog Show. To represent the county the State Dog Show members must have completed 3rd grade. State Dog Show divisions will be grades 3-8 for junior and grade 9-13 for senior.
2. ***New in 2026** To accept a state trip, you must notify the 4-H staff at the 4-H Desk in the 4-H Building no later than **Saturday, July 18, 3:30pm** (It is your responsibility to check the state fair lineup sheets by the 4-H Desk in the 4-H Building to identify which trips you are eligible for.) When you accept your trip, you will be given a registration packet. The registration packet is due to the 4-H office by **4:30pm on Saturday, July 18th**. Payment will be taken at the state fair meeting. *You will not receive your tickets for the State Fair until payment is received.* No State trip registration changes will be made without prior approval of an Extension Educator.
3. If a 4-H member works a full shift in the 4-H Food Stand, Dodge County 4-H will pay the state fair *program* fee. Grab your [Food Stand shift](#) today!
4. 2026 State Fair Program Fees:
 - a. Livestock/Llama-Alpaca: \$65
 - b. General (In person): \$55
 - c. General (Virtual): \$30
 - d. Day Event Only (Arts In/judging contest/Engineering Design Challenge): \$40
 - e. Judging Contest
 - i. Dairy & General Livestock: \$20 (to include a meal)
 - ii. Poultry & Rabbit (\$10)
 - f. Each additional encampment: \$20/ea
 - g. Lodging: \$28/night
 - h. Meals: \$10/meal before State Fair paperwork deadline, \$12 after paperwork is turned in
5. State Horse & Dog Show costs will be announced at a later time.
6. State Trip Exhibitors Meeting: Every 4-H member accepting a State Trip and a parent/guardian must attend the mandatory State Fair Meeting on Thursday, July 23 at 6:30pm in the 4-H Building on the Fairgrounds. At this meeting, general orientation will be given regarding the trips, including an overview of rules and expectations. Meal tickets, admission tickets, and buttons will be handed out to families at this meeting after FULL payment is received.
7. Transportation of animals to the state fair is each member's responsibility. Species groups may discuss options at the state fair meeting.

8. State Fair Livestock Exhibitors are expected to fully participate in the complete State Fair experience. Exhibitors must be present for their scheduled judging experience and must be on the fairgrounds to provide daily care for their animals. Because 4-H is a youth-led program, exhibitors are expected to personally complete all daily animal care; adults may support youth with guidance, but they should not perform care tasks for them. Exhibitors may only be absent from the fairgrounds for more than 24 hours with prior approval from an Extension Educator.
9. For recommended weights for State Fair market animals, check under that specific [animal species](#) at z.umn.edu/mn4hanimalID.
10. MN State Fair will NOT be giving out premiums to 4-H exhibitors.
11. Check specific rules under your specific exhibit page.

State Event Dates

- Livestock Encampment - Wednesday, August 26 through Sunday, August 30
- Llama-Alpaca Encampment - Wednesday, September 2 through Friday, September 4
- General Encampment - Saturday, September 5 through Monday, September 7
- State Horse Show - September 18 - 21 at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds
- State 4-H Dog Show - TBD

Meaning of Ribbon Colors

We use award ribbons to recognize the accomplishments of the 4-H members. 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 overall Grand Champion and one overall Reserve Champion ribbon may be given out per State Fair line up category. Additional Grand and Reserve Class Champion ribbons may be awarded per project area per age division (grades 3-5, 6-8, 9+). Additional honorable mention ribbons are offered in some projects.

Premium Schedule

<u>Project Area</u>	<u>Blue</u>	<u>Red</u>	<u>White</u>
Booth/Banner/Club projects	15.00	10.00	5.00
Cloverbud/Participation	1.50		
Public Presentations/Fashion Revue	3.00	2.00	1.00
General Projects	3.00	2.00	1.00
Showmanship	1.50		
Beef, Dairy, Swine	10.00	8.00	6.00
Dairy Goat, Meat Goat, Sheep	7.00	5.00	3.00
Dog	5.00	3.00	2.00
Horse	8.00	4.00	3.00
Poultry, Rabbits, Llamas-Alpacas	5.00	3.00	2.00
Livestock Interviews	2.00		

General Projects

Rules

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. Cloverbud exhibits, including livestock posters, will not be judged blue, red and white. Instead, all will receive participation recognition.
4. There are lots of creative ways for youth to share what they've learned beyond a traditional poster or tri-fold display. Here are some engaging alternatives that 4-Hers might consider:
 - a. 3D models
 - b. Virtual or digital displays
 - c. Videos
 - d. Interactive experiences
5. Poster exhibits may not exceed 22" wide x 28" high. They may be smaller.
6. 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.)
7. All exhibits will be evaluated by a conference with the judge. Exhibit judging criteria:
 - a. Exhibit quality, educational value, attracts attention and holds interest - 50%
 - b. 4-Hers knowledge, involvement and ability to explain - 50%
 - c. The decision of the judge is final and may not be appealed.
8. Floor space for any exhibit should not exceed 20 square feet. If your exhibit exceeds this space limitation, contact the Extension office.
9. All exhibits must be labeled with name, club/group, 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.
10. 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.
11. Copyright Law and Infringement:
 - a. 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.
 - b. 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.
 - c. 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.
12. 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.

13. The University of Minnesota and 4-H policies prohibit the endorsement of commercial products or services. References to 4-H exhibition cannot be used to indicate support or endorsement of anything that is not official University or 4-H business, whether through clothing, signage, social media, or by mentioning the name.
14. Community Impact Recognition
 - a. 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).
 - b. 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.

Absentee Judging of General Projects

4-H members who have a conflict with the general project conference judging in their county of membership may be eligible for absentee judging. To be eligible to exhibit a project while being absent from the conference judging process the absence must be pre-approved with 4-H staff prior to the scheduled date of judging (or other county competitive event). The request will be allowed only in extreme situations such as:

- Death in the Family
- Once in a lifetime educational opportunity
- Optional event with no flexibility (e.g. wedding of immediate family)
- Illness/injury
- Exhibit(s) at the county fair (or other county competitive event) within scheduled timelines.

For more information on [absentee judging](#) go to: z.umn.edu/4h-absentee-judging

Club Activities

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

Club projects entries must be submitted via the [Club Exhibit Registration Form](#) by June 11th.

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 give 4-H'ers an opportunity for artistic expression through advertisement.

Two banners will be selected for the State Fair.

New in 2026 - Banners may also include digitally created vinyl or cloth banners.

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.
- Non-digital fabric banners can be 2-D or 3-D.
- Digital banners can be designed using a platform of choice and printed.

Requirements:

- Banner must be 3' x 5' and designed to hang vertically.
- Banner must be completed and equipped with a dowel (minimum size 3' 8") and ready to hang.
- Banner must be of fabric, cloth or vinyl (no paper).
- Banner can be one or two-sided. If 2-sided, indicate which side you want to be displayed.
- Attach a 3" x 5" card with the club name to the back of the banner.
- Banner design should be that of the 4-H members'.
- 4-H Clover Emblem Guidelines
 - Use only approved colors and formats for the 4-H clover
 - The clover must be PMS 347 green with white, black or metallic gold "H's"
 - Do not use gradients, shadow, or multi-colored effects on the clover
 - Include the "18 U.S.C. 707" notice in the same color as the clover leaves

- If you need the 4-H Emblem in a digital format or have questions on its usage, please contact your local Extension office.

Club Scrapbook

- Show and explain your club activities and participation in community and county events.

Club Community Pride

Project Description:

Share how your club or group makes their community better by being active citizens and act on the things they believe in.

Two exhibits will be selected for the State Fair.

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
- Food Partner Challenge digital story

Requirements:

- The exhibit 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 youth who participated in the project may represent the club/group 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.
- The youth that represent the club/group at the State Fair must meet the State Fair age requirement.

Note: Community Pride participants at State Fair may exhibit another individual project.

General Project Areas

Aerospace

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

Project Description:

Share what you've learned while exploring the world of flight! Discover the latest in aerospace technology — from airplanes and rockets to helicopters, drones, and balloons. Aerospace includes anything that flies, whether it's soaring through the sky or traveling into 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:

- 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.
- Rocket engines or batteries should be removed from planes after judging.

Bicycle

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

Project Description:

Ride for transportation, exercise or competition! If you like traveling, tinkering or racing, you probably like bicycling. Along with taking you from place to place using no fossil fuels, bikes can teach you about safety skills and keep you fit. Your bicycle project could be to take a bike trip, fix up a bike and document the process, plan a community bike race, or learn to ride a unicycle.

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.

Child & Family Development

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

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.

Civic Engagement (Citizenship)

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

Project Description:

Share what you've learned about your community, how decisions are made, what issues exist in your community, and how to take positive action on those issues.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Highlight of community projects and/or civic engagement activities which you or your club completed under your

leadership. Include plans of action as well as the impact of each.

- Describe your 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.
- Illustrate how you've researched, reflected, and learned more about yourself, your family, and your friends.
- Illustrate how you've researched, reflected on, and learned more about your community, its history, and how to be a good neighbor.
- Illustrate 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.
- Different parts of the world, highlighting their history, government, and decision-making structures.
- Interview decision-makers in your community to learn more about their role.
- Explain how you organized and led tours in your towns, communities, courthouse or historic places.
- How the government works or the functions of various government agencies.
- Community organizations, agencies or service departments like fire departments, police departments, sanitation, tourism, etc.
- Complete a service project and share what you did and why you did it.
- Take a training (ie, Emergency Response, babysitting, CPR/First Aid) to help in your community.
- Food Partner Challenge digital story.

Cloverbud General

General Judging Monday, July 13

Project Description:

A cloverbud project can be any kind of project that youth in grades kindergarten through 2nd grade want to do. They could put together a

Lego® creation, make a cardboard car, build a birdhouse, paint a picture, sculpt something in clay, research an animal, take a photograph, share a science experiment, or anything else they may want to do (provided it's safe for the child). Coming from the child's interests, a cloverbud project should get them excited about project learning and wanting to do more.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- We encourage cloverbuds to review the project area requirements in the general project and animal science project areas to learn more about what would be required of their project when they reach 3rd grade. (e.g. Photography- pictures require a mat and cannot be framed, recipe card with food project)
 - General exhibits could include: 3 cut flowers in a vase, a potted plant, vegetable or fruit art, a nutritious food snack (include a recipe card), a simple item you made for your home like a pillow, placemat, decoration, etc., rock collection, paper bag puppet, 4 interesting objects of nature, tree leaf collection, display of insects, simple craft item, or anything else you can think of. (Think about how your exhibit will be displayed at the fair, review the general project requirements within the specific project area for ideas for displaying or hanging your exhibits, poster or display sizes, etc.)
 - Animal Science posters could include how you care for your animal, animal breeds, fun things your animal can do, what your animal eats, etc.

Requirements:

- This is the only division Cloverbuds may enter. (Example: Do not enter food in "Food" Classes, enter in this division).
- Cloverbuds may exhibit up to 10 general project exhibits. (Fashion Revue, Pet Show, and Demonstrations do not count as one of the ten.)

- Cloverbuds are youth who have completed grades K-2. Cloverbud programs emphasize cooperative rather than competitive experiences—in accordance with our guidelines all cloverbuds will receive a participation ribbon, rather than the blue, red, white or champion ribbon.
- Cloverbud general exhibits can be made at home, at a 4-H or non 4-H meeting or event.
- Cloverbud animal science areas include live animals or posters in the following Beef, Dairy, Dairy Goat, Dog, Horse, Llama-Alpaca, Meat Goat, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep & Swine. Animal-related project areas must follow the MN 4-H Cloverbud policy (z.umn.edu/4h-cloverbud-Info) that requires a responsible person be with the Cloverbud members at all times during Cloverbud activities when in the presence of an animal. This includes pet and livestock projects.
- Review the Cloverbud Information Sheet (z.umn.edu/4h-cloverbud-Info) to ensure the exhibit is developmentally appropriate and follows 4-H cloverbud policies.

Cloverbud General Events

Demonstration - Individual (Judging June 23)

Demonstration - Team (Judging June 23)

Fashion Revue - (Judging June 23)

Pet Show is Monday July 13, at 2:00pm

- Pet Show (Must include educational poster, please bring to show)

Note: For Cloverbud animal science exhibits, see classes under each species.

Clothing and Textiles

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

Project Description:

Have you ever dreamed about designing your own clothing or accessories? With a clothing and textiles project, you can learn the basics of design, or sewing construction and how to make simple clothing, accessories, home decor, or other non-clothing related items. Develop skills in design and fashion illustration, business

and marketing, technology in sewing, and learn about careers in the textile industry, including how STEM meets textiles with “smart” clothing. Clothing and textiles aren't always about fashion, either. You could sew your own shirt or pillow case, or you could purchase clothes someone else made to design a historical or original look. You could also try “upcycling” a garment by updating or altering a used piece of clothing (like turning an oversized t-shirt into a dress).

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.

Clothing And Textiles - Fashion Revue

Fashion Revue, June 23, 5-7pm

Fashion Revue Show, July 18, 3:15-3:45pm

**Fashion Revue Constructed Clothing
Fashion Revue Purchased Clothing
Fashion Revue Upcycled Clothing**

Exhibit Suggestions (All Fashion Revue):

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

Requirements (All Fashion Revue):

- 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).

Consumer Education and Money Management

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

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

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

Limit of 6 exhibits per class (6 crafts & 6 fine arts)

Project Description:

Express yourself, be creative and make an impression! It will be messy and fun as you work with all kinds of materials to create something that no one has seen before. A fine art project is something you develop from your own ideas and imagination. A craft project develops from someone else's ideas and can be easily replicated, modified and repeated by others. Whatever the project, a crafts and fine arts project teaches you skills, techniques and tools in drawing, painting, sculpting, printing, fiber arts ceramics, glass arts, graphic design, etc.

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

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

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.)

Engineering Design

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

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:

- Rookie Level - grades 3-8, 5 steps
- Level 1 - grades 3 -8, 10 steps
- Level 2 grades 7 - 12, 10 steps

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 Handbook](http://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 Handbook](http://z.umn.edu/4hedc) (z.umn.edu/4hedc) for complete details.

Exploring Animals

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

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:

- Show or explain something 4-H'er made, did, learned, or may explore consumer issues, breeds or careers.
- Exhibit of an 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, Llama-Alpaca, Meat Goat, 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.

Fishing Sports

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

Project Description:

Share what you've learned about fish species, exploring habitats or trying different fishing techniques and equipment.

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
- 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.

Foods and Nutrition

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

Project Description:

Everyone eats, but not everyone makes healthy eating choices. Learn how to pick healthy foods, prepare nutritious meals and make smart food purchases.

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
- Careers in the food industry

Requirements:

- Exhibit 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 an 8 ½ 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.
 - 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

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. May also include a recipe.

Note: the judge may or may not taste the food.

Global Connections

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

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 different cultures - including cultures in your own community, or around the world. Learn about similarities and differences in government, history, people, art, and/or traditions.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Explore 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 that of another Minnesota group.
- Develop a travel plan to a country of interest highlighting the important landmarks to visit and experiences to take part in.
- 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.
- Illustrate 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

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

Project Description:

Explore anything you want related to how we can stay physically and emotionally healthy. Learn how to be active, eat right, stay safe and teach others how to lead a healthy lifestyle.

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

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

Project Description:

The home environment project is about the physical environment of the home. You could learn about decorating, arranging furniture for ease of use and aesthetics, or how to landscape a garden space to make a cozy outdoor space.

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

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

Project Description:

Horticulture projects emphasize hands-on learning in the growth and care of plants, including annuals, biennials, perennials, houseplants, vegetables, fruits, and ornamental plants. Exhibits should demonstrate sound horticultural practices, plant health, and youth learning.

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.
- Live plant material will be accepted if it can be maintained in a fresh condition with ease.

Indoor & Outdoor 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 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.

- 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.

Industrial Technology

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

Project Description:

Use tools to build a project of your choice and develop skills in shop, metal work and woodworking.

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.

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.

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

Mechanical Science

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

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

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

Project Description:

To include; Entomology, Environmental Science, Forest Resources, Geology and Water Resources projects.

Entomology

Project Description:

Share what you've learned with the study of insects and how they play a big part in our earth's ecosystem and food supply.

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:

- 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.

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:

- 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 journal used to keep track of environmental changes throughout a season.
- Showcase 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?

Requirement:

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

Forest Resources

Project Description:

Share what you've learned about the importance of trees and forests and find ways to help with conservation.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Identify the parts of a tree and what they do with a poster or collection of leaves, seeds, needles, etc.
- Show 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.

- Show layers of the forest; renewable versus non-renewable resources; forestry careers; leaf and twig identification; taxonomic keys; nutrient road maps.
- 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.).
- Woodland management such as policies created by the U.S. Forest Service or specialized design including shelterbelts/windbreaks and urban forestry.
- 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

Project Description:

Share what you've learned about geologic earth structures or features and materials used to make everyday objects.

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.
- The "science how's and why's" dealing with the principles of geology and natural earth sciences.
- Explain 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

Project Description:

Share what you've learned about how to protect wetlands and water quality, and how we depend on our state's wetlands.

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
- How water is necessary for life, such as a display on water/wetland ecosystem services like filtration or nutrient cycles from plants
- 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
- 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
- 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.

Requirement:

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

Needle Arts

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

Project Description:

Make it yourself! Use your creativity and skill in knitting, crocheting, embroidery or counted cross stitch to make a unique sweater, scarf or other creations.

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

Judging Tuesday, June 23, 5-7pm

Project Description:

Discover acting techniques, improvisation, costume and set design, makeup techniques, stage lighting, and more!

Requirements for all Performing Arts:

- 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)
- All members of a team/group must meet the State Fair age requirement to advance to the State Fair.

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 4-H'er.

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.

Pets

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

Project Description:

Which pets would fit into your family? How could you be an excellent caretaker? Learn about a variety of small pets, such as cats, dogs, birds, guinea pigs, iguanas, snakes or frogs.

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

Judging Monday, July 13, 2:00pm

At the picnic shelter by the 4-H Building

Includes cats, non-obedience dogs and pets.

Requirements:

- Pets are brought to the fair only for the show.
- Be prepared to answer questions about your pet's care.
- Cat & Dog exhibitors must bring a signed copy (by a licensed veterinarian) of the pet's vaccination history to the show. Cats over six months require a signed copy of vaccination history by a licensed veterinarian. Cats under six months of age need no certificate. All dogs must be vaccinated according to the requirements listed on the MN 4-H Dog Project Identification Form
- Pet must be domesticated for pet show.
- Animals that were raised as a part of another project may not be shown in the pet show.

Photography

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

Limit to 3 exhibits per class

Project Description:

A photography project is about learning both the art and science of photography. Photography is the process of capturing light with a camera to create an image. So many devices have cameras; a point-and-shoot

camera, your cell phone, tablet, drone, and more.

Photography can be not only a way to capture images, but also to express and share ourselves with others. What do we mean? The photography project will help you learn your own answer to that question!

Requirements for all photography:

- All photos exhibited must have been taken/produced/enhanced by the exhibitor during the current year.
- Stock photos are not allowed
- 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

Notes for all photography:

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. 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 visit the [Federal Aviation Administration on 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](#) (z.umn.edu/photo-release-english), [Spanish](#) (z.umn.edu/photo-release-spanish), [Hmong](#) (z.umn.edu/photo-release-hmong) and [Somali](#) (z.umn.edu/photo-release-somali).

[This presentation](#) (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](#) (z.umn.edu/mn4hmanipulatedphotos)

Digital art should be entered in Crafts & Fine Arts, not photography.

Elements Of Photography

Project Description:

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 office, 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

Project Description:

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](#)

(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

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

Project Description:

Plant Science projects focus on hands-on learning in plant growth and management, including agricultural technology, row and specialty crops, and weed and pest identification and management, with exhibits demonstrating sound practices, plant health, and youth learning.

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.
- Do not include [live or dried noxious weed samples](#) in your display. If you are bringing in a sample of weed seeds, put it in a sealed container.

Plastic Sculpture Challenge

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

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.

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, teams or clubs.
- 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

Note: Two exhibits from each county or tribal program will be selected for the State Fair. 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.

Public Presentations

Judging Tuesday, June 23, 5-7pm

Demonstrations

- Demonstration - Individual
- Demonstration - Team
- Demonstration - Cloverbud Individual
- Demonstration - Cloverbud Team

Livestock Demonstrations

- Livestock Demonstration - Individual
- Livestock Demonstration - Team

Presentations & Speeches

- Presentations & Speeches - Individual
- Presentations & Speeches - Team

Interactive Demonstrations

- Interactive Demonstration - Individual
- Interactive Demonstration - Team

Exhibit Suggestions:

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

- Livestock Demonstrations:
 - 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.
- Presentations & Speeches:
 - 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 Demonstrations:
 - 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.

Requirements:

- 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.
- 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.

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

Notes:

- 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.

- All members of a team must meet the State Fair age requirement to advance to the State Fair.
- 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.
- 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.
- Due to H5N1, poultry demonstrations with live birds cannot take place on the Barn Stage in the Cattle Barn at the State Fair, but can take place on the Moo Stage outside the Cattle Barn. The Moo Stage outside does not have a screen, so a slide presentation is not an option. If you have a poultry demonstration with live birds and a slide presentation, you will need to do your demonstration in the 4-H Building.

- Finishing techniques may be machine quilted, hand quilted or hand tied. If not quilted or tied by the 4-H'er, 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.

Quilting

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

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.

Safety

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

Project Description:

The safety project is about keeping yourself safe and helping others stay safe, too.

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

Science Inquiry

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

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

- Exploration of the physical properties of slime using different materials/recipes to make slime
- Types of bird feeders you used to determine if there is a preferred bird feeder type in your backyard
- 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
- Different types of treats and the data you collected as you explored how your dog responds to different treats during training
- Results of your investigation of different types of sunscreen to see their effects on UV beads
- Different water filtration systems you tested and the results you analyzed to identify which one resulted in the cleanest water
- Rock candy created as a result of investigating how the concentration of sugar affects crystal growth
- Test how different light sources, soil types, or fertilizers affect plant growth. Show your research question, method, and results with photos or samples.
- Which natural substances make the best cleaners?

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

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

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

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

Project Description:

Share what you've learned about ethical behavior and responsibility when it comes to shooting sports and equipment.

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.

Technology

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

Note: Includes Aquatic Robotics, Computer & Robotics exhibits.

Project Description:

Share what you've learned about Aquatic Robotics, computers, or robotics — such as programming, building, 3D printing or operating robots — and create a 4-H fair exhibit to show what you've discovered.

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. Show how you planned your app by including sketches, wireframes, or screenshots, and explain how it helps users learn.
- Explore careers in this project area and explain why they interest you
- Design computer hardware/software
- An object made using a 3D printer

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
- Remove batteries from technology exhibit after judging

Vegetable, Fruit And Herb Gardening

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

Project Description:

Exhibitors showcase their vegetables, fruits, and herbs, demonstrating their gardening techniques and an understanding of plant growth and care.

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).

Largest Vegetable

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

Exhibit Suggestions:

- 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.**

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 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.

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.**

Veterinary Science

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

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

- 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

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.

Video & Filmmaking

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

Project Description:

You can use videos in your daily life, for school projects or in a future career. Videography is art, communications and technology together. Becoming good at making videos teaches media literacy—the ability to fully understand media messages that come at you every day.

Video/Filmmaking

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

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Showcase various video/film techniques
- A selected subject. Include a short storyboard or outline
- Illustrate 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 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.

Note: This is not a slideshow (see [Manipulated Photography](#) for slideshow). 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 visit the [Federal Aviation Administration on unmanned aircraft systems](#).

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](#) (z.umn.edu/photo-release-english), [Spanish](#) (z.umn.edu/photo-release-spanish), [Hmong](#) (z.umn.edu/photo-release-hmong) and [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).

Wildlife Biology & Management

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

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

- 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

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

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. Share how you'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
- Illustrate how you've shared 4-H with others.
- 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)
- Share how you led your group's Food Partner Challenge

Animal Science Exhibits

Rules and Information

2025 Minnesota 4-H Health & Animal Id Requirement

1. All animal health regulations as stipulated by the Minnesota Board of Animal Health and the County Agricultural Society will be in effect. Local veterinarians have authority over all health aspects of animals at the fair.
2. It is your responsibility to contact your personal choice of veterinarian and have the appropriate tests and health papers for exhibiting. Be sure to contact your vet at least two weeks prior to the fair. If you have questions, call the Extension Office or your local veterinarian.
3. All livestock will be inspected by the official fair veterinarian on opening day and daily during the County Fair. The official veterinarian will order the immediate removal from the fairgrounds of any livestock with symptoms of infectious or communicable diseases, including ringworm, warts and fungus. A statement from a veterinarian that an animal is being treated for these diseases is NOT acceptable.
4. See specific species for further guidelines.

Livestock Judging

4-Hers and their animals are judged differently than general projects. During the species show, judges will be looking mainly at the animal being shown. The quality of the animal should be a reflection of your care and training of the animal. You will be awarded a ribbon (blue, red, or white) based on the quality of your animal. During showmanship, you will be judged on how well you lead the animal, and you may be asked questions about your animal (how you care for it, what the different body parts are). All Cloverbuds receive a Cloverbud participation ribbon. All showmanship participants will earn a participation ribbon. Grand Champion, Reserve Champion, and Honorable Mention may also be awarded for showmanship.

General Information

1. All animals MUST be in place by 7:00pm Tuesday, July 14, 2026.
2. IDs: 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 be identified following the MN 4-H Health and Animal ID Requirements. Animal ID data must be submitted online, arrive in the Extension Office, or be postmarked by May 15 (with the exception of Market Beef due Feb. 17).
3. All animals exhibited must be owned solely by the member, member's family or leased by agreement. The family includes the 4-Hers 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. 4-Hers exhibiting livestock at the County Fair are responsible for the care and feeding of animals they exhibit.
5. All livestock exhibits must be registered in FairEntry by June 11 (day of registrations for showmanship are allowed). Members in animal projects may exhibit two animals per class, unless stated otherwise.
6. 4-Hers must show their own animal in the class. If the 4-Her has multiple animals in one class, another 4-H member(s) from the same county can show the other animals.
7. All 4-Hers exhibiting livestock at the county fair are eligible to participate in showmanship and must show their own animal. Showmanship will be divided into three divisions: Senior (gr 9+), Intermediate (gr 6-8), and Beginner (gr 3-5).
8. County & State Fair Grooming & Fitting Rules:
*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), any other enrolled Minnesota 4-H member, or a livestock resource person (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) chosen by the 4-H family. The 4-Her exhibiting the animal must be present and involved in the fitting process.
9. To show in registered breed classes, 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. Animals without proper registration papers turned in to the office by **June 30th** will be shown as commercial or grade.
10. LQA certification is required for 4-H members to be eligible for participation in the MN State Fair Livestock shows. All youth participating as a State Fair 4-H Livestock exhibitor in beef, dairy, dairy goat, llama-alpaca, meat goat, poultry, rabbits, sheep, and swine must have completed a livestock quality assurance training. There are two training options available: 1) a 3 hour in-person

workshop (LQA&E), or 2) a 1-hour online training (YQCA). Training must be completed by Tuesday, July 14, 2026 at 7:00pm.

11. Final weighing of all market livestock will be done at specie specific check-ins. Weights will be used to determine show weight classes. If you do not weigh in a market animal, that animal will be ineligible for competition.
12. There will be no switching of animals to other siblings once the animal is checked in at the County Fair. Once an animal hits the scale, it is tied to that member throughout the County Fair and the State Fair. There can be NO change after Fair check in. NO exceptions.
13. Exhibitors must bring their own tack, grain, hay, and bedding. With the exception of rabbit, poultry, and beef as the Fair Board will be providing the bedding. Beef tie out bedding will be arranged by the Fair Board Superintendent and exhibitors will be charged per head of cattle.
14. Awarding of Grand Champion and Reserve Champions is at the discretion of the judges. Not every eligible division will have a Grand Champion and/or a Reserve Champion awarded. Judges' decisions are final and are not eligible for appeal.
15. Supreme Showmanship Contest: Supreme showmanship participants must sign up by Friday, July 17th at 5pm (or one hour after the conclusion of the last show) after being selected by the judge. Please see the full list of rules at: z.umn.edu/SupremeShowmanRules
16. Livestock interviews are designed to further enhance educational opportunities for young people exhibiting livestock. The interview process may vary from one species to the next. Interviews are encouraged but not required. See specie page to learn more information.
17. All animal health regulations will be in effect as stipulated by the Minnesota Board of Animal Health and the County Agricultural Society.

Leased Animals

The following animals may be leased: beef breeding heifers, prospect calves, breeding ewes, dairy cattle, dairy goats, breeding meat does, breeding rabbits, dogs, breeding poultry, horses, and breeding swine. Lease papers must be completed and uploaded to 4-H Online by May 15. Families can upload the lease paper themselves or submit it to the Extension Office by May 15 and Extension staff will upload it. Details about the [lease program](#) are available online.

Herdsmanship

Judging begins Wednesday 6pm and continues through Saturday 6pm and can happen at any time, other than during the species' show time frame. Members need not be present for judging, but it should appear that animals and equipment are taken care of at all times. Each club will compete in the Herdsmanship Contest. Herdsmanship results will be displayed in the 4-H Building during the fair for youth to see how they are doing. Herdsmanship winners will be posted on the State Fair lineup board by Sunday 1:00pm and will be awarded their prize in the fall.

Animal Sales And Advertising

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.

Livestock Ribbon Auction

For the past 50+ years the Dodge County business community and friends of 4-H have been supporting the efforts of the Dodge County 4-H program by purchasing duplicate ribbons at the Dodge County 4-H Ribbon Auction of 4-H members exhibiting livestock at the County Fair. Buyers are invited to enjoy a breakfast that will be served from 7:30am to 8:45 am in the 4-H Building, followed by a welcome and orientation with the Ribbon Auction starting at 9:00am on Saturday at the Livestock Show Arena.

Proceeds from this auction are shared with 4-Hers. The remainder of the funds go to the Dodge County 4-H program. This revenue generates more than one half of the revenue used by Dodge County 4-H to provide programming for more than 300 members in the program. All payments must be received and invoices paid for the prior year before a business can participate in the current year's Ribbon Auction.

Ribbon Auction Scholarships of \$500 are available to 4-H youth to be used for an educational purpose. Eligible youth include those who have completed eleventh grade, twelfth grade or one year past high school. Applications can be obtained from the Extension Office and must be completed and submitted by mid-June of each year to be considered. Five scholarships are typically given out each year. Youth may only receive this scholarship one time in their 4-H career. Ribbon Auction Scholarships will be awarded after the Ribbon Auction when checks are distributed.

Ribbon Auction Exhibitor Rules

1. Members are to have their animals well groomed. Members should also be wearing clean clothes and look "show ready" themselves for the Auction. Exhibitors are to be ready by 8:30am for the Auction. Out of respect for the buyers, the Ribbon Auction will begin promptly at 9:00am.
2. Members may auction one exhibit ribbon. The Extension Office has a list of eligible champion ribbons to see as a reference for signing up the correct ribbon placing. Showmanship (with the exception of llama-alpaca) and Cloverbud ribbons will not be sold at the auction.
3. Exhibitor Registration - Members wishing to participate in the 4-H Ribbon Auction must fill out the google form by 5:00pm or 1 hour after the final 4-H Show on Friday, July 17, 2026. QR codes can be found in the barns and 4-H building. *Please ensure you receive a confirmation response email from google. If you do not receive one then you are not signed up!* If help is needed please see staff at the 4-H Fair Office. Youth who submit entries late will only receive 40% of the sale and may not be printed in the auction program. Late entries will NOT be accepted after the 4-H county fair office has closed on Friday. A committee representing 4-H Ribbon Auction will rule on any Ribbon Auction interpretations and exceptions.
4. Members and animals which ribbons were awarded to must be present to sell their ribbon. If a member is not lined up and ready to enter the arena with the others, in proper order, the member will be disqualified.
5. All participants are required to turn in a written thank you note to the buyer prior to receiving a ribbon auction check. Thank you notes will be available between 11:00am and 3:00pm on Sunday at the 4-H office. Checks will not be distributed until all auction money has been received. This can take a month or so after the county fair. *Any member who will receive \$2,000 or more must fill out a W-9 tax form at the fair along with their thank you notes before they will be eligible to collect their ribbon auction check.*

Ribbon Auction Buyers Breakfast

A free breakfast to buyers will be served by 4-H on Saturday morning 7:30am. Buyers that have not pre-registered will register and get a number as they come. The rules will be presented along with a short orientation following the breakfast. It is very important that the 4-Her's invite business people, family members and friends to attend the buyers breakfast.

Sale Order and Procedure

The order of the sale rotates every year.

This year the order is as follows:

- | | |
|----------|-----------------|
| 1. Horse | 6. Sheep |
| 2. Swine | 7. Llama-Alpaca |
| 3. Dog | 8. Beef |
| 4. Dairy | 9. Rabbit |
| 5. Goat | 10. Poultry |

*Poultry exhibitors will be responsible for helping with the Ribbon Auction Breakfast.

4-Hers are guaranteed the following amounts for all livestock species:

- Grand Champion 75% of sale
- Reserve Champion 65% of sale
- Blue 55% of sale
- Red 55% of sale
- Late Entry 40% of sale

***The 4-H fair office will have a list of all eligible Grand and Reserve Champion ribbons. All other ribbons will be sold as Blue/Red.*

Thank you to our 2025 Ribbon Auction Buyers!

A to Z Farms	Folie Livestock	Mantorville Restoration
Ag Partners	Footo Trucking	Association
Anderson Vet Clinic	Frandsen Bank & Trust	Nelson Farms
Andy Schultz	Franke Brothers Farms	North Star Boer Goats
Ashland Ag Systems	Garcia Ventures	Northern Exposure Livestock
Atypical Title	Gene & Lori Faulhaber	Nutrien Ag Solutions
Austin Tank Wash	Gillis Family	Oak Grove Beef
Bakkedahl Trucking	Grace Lutheran DC Farm Members	Oak Grove Welding
Bale Farms	Hayfield T-Shirts	Offord Farms
Blooms of Love	Hidden Spring Acres	Pete & Jenny Wyttenbach
Bob Schaudenecker	Home Improvement	R&M Steel
Brad & Sheryl Dohrmann	Professionals	Randy & Teresa Ness
Briana Whittington	Hovs Plumbing	Red Barn Learning Farm
Buehler's Trimming & Landscape	Hy-Vee	Rochester Motor Cars
CHS	Hyland Systems	S&L Transport
Claremont Insurance Agency	JDP Retrievers	Safeway Insurance Company
CrazyT Boer Goats	Jim Checkel	Schley Family
CRC Farm	Johan Holsteins	Scott Schley
Deb Kanable	JSA CPA	Seneca Foods - Montgomery
DeCook Farms	Klein Enterprise	Severson Farms
Destination Building Center	KM FFA Alumni	Spirit Valley Farm
Dodge Co. Corn & Soybean	Kratos Athletic Center	Sporty Acres
Growers	Lamphere Drywall	Tags Drywall
Dodge County Fair Board	Larson Siding, Windows, & Roofing	Terra McCree Holsteins
Dodge County Farm Bureau	Linbo Insurance	Top Shop of Rochester
DW Electrical Services	Marilyn Lermom	Travis & Jana Delzer
Edina Realty	Mary Ann Bucher	Two Ten Cattle
Eipers Repair	MBT Bank	Wade Bolster
Ellingson Companies	McKern Financial Group	Warren Fay Family Farms
Energy Economics	Midas Auto Service	Weis Crest Farm
Fahning & Associates	MN Ag Group	Whittington Farms

Science Of Animals Educational Exhibits

Judged on Monday, July 13, 3 -7 pm

Note: The following animal types are eligible for Science of Animals exhibits: Beef, Dairy, Dairy Goat, Meat Goat, Poultry, Rabbits, Sheep and Swine.

Health/Breeding/Production Exhibit

Zoonotics Exhibit

Other Exhibit

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

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.

Beef

Check-In: Tuesday, July 14th at 7:30pm

Show: Thursday, July 16th at 5:00pm

Superintendent: Mike Faulhaber

Show Requirements:

- Members may exhibit two animals per class, per lot for breeding, market beef, and dairy steers.
- All cattle (beef & dairy) tagged/identified on or after November 5, 2024 must have an RFID tag (per USDA & BAH rulings)
- No health papers are required for beef originating within the state.
- Animals treated for ringworm or warts are not acceptable if there is any evidence of hearts or ringworm on the animal.
- All registered animals need to have proof of registration by June 30th. If papers are not produced, animal will be shown in commercial class.

Class	Birthdates
Breeding Heifer - Spring Calf	Jan. 1 - May 15, 2026
Breeding Heifer - Fall Calf	Sept. 1 - Dec. 31, 2025

Breeding Heifer - Summer Yearling	May 1 - Aug. 31, 2025
Breeding Heifer - Junior yearling	Jan. 1 - April 30, 2025
Breeding Heifer - Senior yearling	Sept. 1 - Dec. 31, 2024
Cow/Calf	Calves must be born between Jan. 1 - May 15, 2026
Prospect Market Calves	Jan. 1 - May 15, 2026
Market Beef	Jan. 1 - Aug. 31, 2025
Dairy Steers	Jan. 1 - Aug. 31, 2025

Breeding Heifer

Note: Registered and commercial will be shown together unless class numbers warrant breaks

- Beef - Registered Spring Calf
- Beef - Registered Fall Calf
- Beef - Registered Summer Yearling
- Beef - Registered Junior Yearling
- Beef - Registered Senior Yearling
- Beef - Commercial Spring Calf
- Beef - Commercial Fall Calf
- Beef - Commercial Summer Yearling
- Beef - Commercial Junior Yearling
- Beef - Commercial Senior Yearling

Cow and Calf

- Beef - Cow and Calf Pair

Prospect Calf

Beef - Heifer Calf

Beef - Steer Calf

Beef - Dairy Steer Calf *County Only Class - No advancement to State Fair*

Requirements:

- No intact males can be shown

Beef Herd *County Only Class - No advancement to State Fair*

Three animals owned by one member. One must be a heifer.

Market Beef

Beef - Market Steer

Beef - Market Heifer

Requirements:

- Recommended minimum weight for State Fair is 1,000 pounds; recommended maximum weight is 1,500 pounds.
- All market beef receiving a purple ribbon will be mouthed as they exit the show ring at State Fair. Any market beef with two or more visible eruptions of permanent teeth will be lowered one ribbon placing. They are not eligible for champion honors nor the auction at State Fair. Counties are encouraged to mouth market beef at the county fair and before bringing them to the state fair.

Dairy Steer

Beef - Pure Breed Dairy Steer

Beef - Crossbred Dairy Steer

Requirements:

- Recommended minimum weight for State Fair is 1,000 pounds; recommended maximum weight is 1,600 pounds. Pure Breed Dairy Steers must be 100% dairy breed. The following 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 Pure Breed 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.

Beef Showmanship

Senior Beef Showmanship - Grades 9+

Intermediate Beef Showmanship - Grades 6-8

Beginner Beef Showmanship - Grades 3-5

Beef Poster

County class only. If entered with state advancement intent, enter in Science of Animals or Exploring Animals

Beef Interview

Beef Interviews will be held on July 14th at 7:30pm during check-in.

Beef Cloverbud

Beef Cloverbud Animal Exhibit- 1 entry

Beef Cloverbud Poster

Dairy

Check-in: Tuesday, July 14 at 7:30pm

Show: Thursday, July 16 at 8:00am

Show Superintendent: Scott Schley

Show Requirements:

- Members may exhibit two animals per class. If exhibiting two animals in the same class, one animal must be shown by the member and the other by another current 4-H member.

Class	Birthdates
Spring Calf	March 1, 2026 - May 31, 2026
Winter Calf	Dec. 1, 2025 - Feb. 28, 2026
Fall Calf	Sept. 1 - Nov. 30, 2025
Summer Yearling	June 1 - Aug. 31, 2025
Spring Yearling	March 1 - May 31, 2025
Winter Yearling	Dec. 1, 2024 - Feb. 29, 2025
Fall Yearling	Sept. 1 - Nov. 30, 2024
Milking Yearling	Born Sept 1, 2024 or later that has freshened & in milking form

Junior Two Year Old	March 1 – Aug. 31, 2024
Senior Two Year Old	Sept. 1, 2023 – Feb. 29, 2024
Three Year Old Cows	Sept. 1, 2022 – Aug. 31, 2023
Four Year Old Cows	Sept. 1, 2021 – Aug. 31, 2022
Aged Cow	Born before Sept. 1, 2021
Dry Cow	Dry cow of any age

Divisions

Holstein Registered & Grade

Colored Breeds Registered & Grade

- Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Jersey, Milking Shorthorn

*Divisions will be divided into classes based on the animal's birthdates. Smaller classes may be combined at the discretion of the Superintendent and 4-H staff.

- Dairy - Spring Calf
- Dairy - Winter Calf
- Dairy - Fall Calf
- Dairy - Summer Yearling
- Dairy - Spring Yearling
- Dairy - Winter Yearling
- Dairy - Fall Yearling
- Dairy - Milking Yearling
- Dairy - Junior Two-Year-Old Cow
- Dairy - Senior Two-Year-Old Cow
- Dairy - Three-Year-Old Cow
- Dairy - Four-Year-Old Cow
- Dairy - Five-Year-Old and Older (Aged Cow)
- Dairy - Dry Cow

Dairy Showmanship

Senior Dairy Showmanship - Grades 9+

Intermediate Dairy Showmanship - Grades 6-8

Beginner Dairy Showmanship - Grades 3-5

Other Dairy

Dairy Herd *County Only Class -

*No advancement to State Fair**

- Exhibit to consist of three dairy females exhibited by one member. Each of the three must be of a different age classification. They may be grade or registered.

Dam & Daughter *County Only Class -

*No advancement to State Fair**

Dairy Poster

*County class only - If entered with state advancement intent, enter in Science of Animals or Exploring Animals

Dairy Interview

Dairy Interviews will be held on July 14th at 7:30pm during check-in.

Dairy Cloverbud

Dairy Cloverbud Animal Exhibit

Dairy Cloverbud Poster

Minnesota 4-H Dairy Showcase

Recognizing the involvement, dedication, and passion of Minnesota's dairy youth. Learn more on the [Dairy Showcase page](http://z.umn.edu/SFdairyshowcase) (z.umn.edu/SFdairyshowcase).

Dairy Goat

Check-in: Tuesday, July 14 at 7:00pm

Show: Friday, July 17 at 1:00pm

Superintendent: Rich Scherger and Erin Quam

Show Requirements:

- Limit of 3 entries per class
- Dairy Goat breeds include: Alpine, Golden Guernsey, Lamancha, Nigerian Dwarfs, Nubian, Oberhasli, Saanen, Sables, Toggenberg, Recorded Grades and Unrecorded Grades
- Unrecorded Grades are limited to the nine recognized ADGA breeds or any combination thereof
- Dairy Goats must be fitted and completely clipped for the show

<i>Class</i>	<i>Birthdates</i>
Junior Doe Kid	April 1 – June 30, 2026
Senior Doe Kid	Jan. 1 – March 31, 2026
Dry Yearling Doe (never kidded)	Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2025
Milking Yearling Doe	Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2025
Milking Two Year Old Doe	Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2024
Milking Doe – 3 Years and under 5 Years	Born in 2022 or 2023
Milking Doe – 5 Years and older	Born before 2022

Dairy Goat

Dairy Goat - Junior Doe Kid
Dairy Goat - Senior Doe Kid
Dairy Goat - Dry Yearling Doe
Dairy Goat - Milking Yearling Doe
Dairy Goat - Milking 2 Year Old Doe
Dairy Goat - Milking 3 - 4 Year Old Doe
Dairy Goat - Milking 5+ Year Old Doe

Note: For safety reasons all dairy goats must be dis-budded/dehorned. Regrowth of less than **one inch** allowed.

Dairy Goat Dam and Daughter

Dairy Goat - Dam & Daughter **County Only Class - No advancement to State Fair**

Dairy Goat Showmanship

Senior Dairy Goat Showmanship - Grades 9+
Intermediate Dairy Goat Showmanship - Grades 6-8
Beginner Dairy Goat Showmanship - Grades 3-5

Dairy Goat Poster

County class only. If entered with state advancement intent, enter in Science of Animals or Exploring Animals

Dairy Goat Interview

Dairy Goat Interviews will be held on July 14th at 7:00pm during check-in.

Dairy Goat Cloverbud

Dairy Goat Cloverbud Animal Exhibit- 1entry
Dairy Goat Cloverbud Poster

Dog

Show: Saturday, July 11 at 8:00am
Superintendent: Rhonda Weis

Show Requirements:

A dog may be shown in the dog show or the pet show, not both.

- 4-H'ers - 3rd grade and up are eligible for county and state dog show.
- All dogs must be vaccinated according to the requirements listed on the MN 4-H Dog Project ID Affidavit and Vaccination Form.

4-H'ers shall exhibit in the classes corresponding to the level of training they and their dog have received. Additional information, class requirements, and rules/regulations can

be found in the Minnesota 4-H Agility, Obedience, Rally and Showmanship rules and guidelines (four separate publications) available on the [MN 4-H dog project website](http://z.umn.edu/mn4hdogproject) (z.umn.edu/mn4hdogproject).

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

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

Dog Showmanship

Dog - Showmanship Novice Junior
Dog - Showmanship Novice Senior

Dog - Showmanship Open Junior
Dog - Showmanship Open Senior
Dog - Showmanship Excellent

Dog Interview

Dog Cloverbud

Cloverbud Showmanship

Horse

Check-in: Tuesday, July 14 at 7:00pm

Show: Wednesday, July 15 at 9:00am

Superintendent: Pam Justice

The horse arena closes at 9pm. No working horses after 9pm unless in case of emergency.

Strongly Encouraged Tips for Success:

- Exhibitors should attend 3 of the county's practice sessions, including two with their horse.
- Members should complete one half of one skill level in the MN 4-H Horse Member Achievement Program.
- Showmanship is strongly encouraged.

Horse Show

1. Horse Training and Achievement
2. Horseless Horse
3. Showmanship at Halter
4. Cloverbud
5. English Pleasure
6. English Equitation
7. Western Pleasure
8. Western Horsemanship
9. Ranch Pleasure
10. Trail Class
11. Pole weaving
12. Key Race
13. Barrel Race
14. Jumping Figure 8

Exhibition – Opportunity to share special activities with your horse that are not offered as a class. Ex. Driving, Roping, Jumping or Freestyle routine to music. Participation awards will be given. Does not count towards the Grand/Reserve or State 4-H Horse Show. Exhibition will be held on Wednesday at the Fun Show.

English Equitation

Horse - English Equitation - Grades 9+
Horse - English Equitation - Grades 6-8

Horse - English Equitation - Grades 3-5
Horse - English Equitation - Novice

English Pleasure

Horse - English Pleasure - Grades 9+
Horse - English Pleasure - Grades 6-8
Horse - English Pleasure - Grades 3-5
Horse - English Pleasure - Novice

Western Horsemanship

Horse - Western Horsemanship, All Gaits, Grades 9+
Horse - Western Horsemanship, All Gaits, Grades 6-8
Horse - Western Horsemanship, All Gaits, Grades 3-5
Horse - Western Horsemanship, All Gaits, novice

Western Pleasure

Horse - Western Pleasure - Grades 9+
Horse - Western Pleasure - Grades 6-8
Horse - Western Pleasure - Grades 3-5
Horse - Western Pleasure - Novice

Pole Weaving

Horse - Pole Weaving, Grades 9+
Horse - Pole Weaving, Grades 6-8
Horse - Pole Weaving, Grades 3-5
Horse - Pole Weaving, Novice

Jumping Figure 8

Horse - Jumping Figure 8, Grades 9+
Horse - Jumping Figure 8, Grades 6-8
Horse - Jumping Figure 8, Grades 3-5
Horse - Jumping Figure 8, Novice

Key Race

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

Barrel Race

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

Trail Class

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

Ranch Pleasure Class

Horse - Ranch Pleasure Class, Grades 9+
Horse - Ranch Pleasure Class, Grades 6-8
Horse - Ranch Pleasure Class, Grades 3-5
Horse - Ranch Pleasure Class, Novice

Horse Showmanship

Horse - Showmanship Grades 9+
Horse - Showmanship Grades 6-8
Horse - Showmanship Grades 3-5
Horse - Showmanship, Novice

Horse Interview

Horse - Interview Grades 9+
Horse - Interview Grades 6-8
Horse - Interview Grades 3-5
Horse - Interview, Novice

Equestrians with Disabilities

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 Helmet Policy:

All 4-H'ers 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.

Additional information can be found on the [Horse project page](http://z.umn.edu/4HHorseProject) (z.umn.edu/4HHorseProject)

Horse Cloverbud

Horse - Cloverbud Barrels
Horse - Cloverbud Western Pleasure
Horse - Cloverbud Horse Showmanship
Horse - Cloverbud Horse Poster

Horse Training

Horse - Training Steps 1 - 5 (Step 6 judged at State Horse Show)

For more information on horse training please see the link below:

z.umn.edu/4horseprojectrulebook

Horse Related

Judging Monday, July 13. 3-7pm

Requirements:

- This exhibit area is for youth who exhibit a horse; horseless horse is for youth who do not exhibit a horse.
- 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 on General Judging day.

Horse- Horse Related, Grades 6+

Horse - Horse Related, Grades 3-5

Horseless Horse Exhibit

Judging Monday, July 13, 3-7pm

Requirements:

- This exhibit is for youth who do not exhibit a horse; horse related is for youth who exhibit a horse.
- 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 on General Judging day.
- Youth should exhibit in this category if they participate in the horseless horse program with a mentor horse.

Horse - Horseless Horse, Grades 6+

Horse – Horseless Horse, Grades 3-5

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

Requirements:

- Youth will complete a level in the

[horseless horse booklet](#) 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, one 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).

Barn Rules:

- Horses must be led to and from the arena.
- Members are responsible to clean up and dispose of manure in the barn or when a horse is being led outside of the barn.
- Horses must remain in designated livestock areas.
- Feed, bedding, and tack must be stored in designated areas.
- Horses must remain on grounds, unless excused by veterinarian, fairboard and extension educator with signed form (please see the extension office for form). If there isn't enough space available for all horses to be stalled (based on the number of horses registered to be shown) appropriate adjustments will be made.

- Feed and water pails must be securely attached inside the stall at horse's chest level. Hay bags/nets will be permitted if properly hung in stalls. Hay can be fed off ground without herdsmanship penalty.
- Emergency contact information must be displayed behind the stall card for veterinary review.

Show Rules:

- Lot Divisions: Novice (Walk, Trot): This division is meant for novice members with minimal experience (Recommended for members with limited exhibiting experience, individuals who have difficulty controlling their horse at the lope, or are uncomfortable loping). Class does not qualify for State Horse Show or other awards. The same horse may be used in the Novice division for one rider and in a qualifying division with another rider.
- If showing in novice games or pleasure, an individual loping, cantering or running will be disqualified.
- An exhibitor showing novice classes will be required to exhibit in that classification (Pleasure or Games) for all classes in classification.
- Example: If riding one Novice Pleasure event you must ride ALL Novice pleasure classes. If you ride one Novice Game event you must ride ALL novice games. However you may ride Novice Pleasure and Regular games or vice versa.
- Any horse to be shown at a 4-H show must be enrolled as a 4-H project animal and be properly identified on the 4-H Horse Identifications form. This form must be submitted to the Extension Office on or before May 15th of the current year. If substitution, for any reason, occurs after that date, the horse is ineligible for the State 4-H Horse Show or other awards and premiums.
- A member must either own or lease the mare or gelding shown. The same horse may be used as a project animal by more than one member as long as all requirements are met. The 4-H member

should have primary responsibility to provide care, feeding, grooming, training and exercising beginning no later than May 15.

- No stallions may be entered. Male foals under one year old may be exhibited.
- Members are allowed to use the same horse or pony as a project animal but can only be shown once per class.
- Classes will be judged under the Minnesota 4-H Horse Program Rules.
- Exhibitors may show more than one horse. Stalling for the 2nd horse will be provided based on availability. Cloverbud horses can be stalled at the fair as stalling availability allows.
- Horses and ponies must be checked in by 7:00 pm on Tuesday and are required to stay until 4:00pm on Sunday. Early release of animals may only be approved by the veterinarian, fairboard and extension educator with a signed release form.

Members exhibiting the same horse in games and pleasure need to pick at entry time in order to determine trip allocation.

Horse project exhibitors (excluding Cloverbuds) are eligible to participate in the Ribbon Auction held on Saturday morning. See Livestock Auction section for details.

The following point system will be used to calculate the State Horse Show LineUp and Grand and Reserve Awards.

Timed and Performance Classes:

- Points are totaled for each horse and rider combination
- Points are awarded based on the results of combined classes (straight time)
- Points are not calculated on Novice classes
- Points are only given on Blue Ribbon rides
- Points are awarded for the first six placings of combined classes (straight time)
 - First Place Blue = 6 Points
 - Second Place Blue = 5 Points
 - Third Place Blue = 4 Points
 - Fourth Place Blue = 3 Points

- Fifth Place Blue = 2 Points
- Sixth Place Blue = 1 Points
- Non-placing Blues = 1 Point
- Red or White ribbons with any placing will not be awarded any points

Both English and Western Pleasure classes will ride a combined Champion class where the top 3 Blue Ribbon riders from each division (except Novice) will ride one combined class. The riding test in these classes will be at the judge's discretion. The points for this class will be scored as a combined class not by grade class. Champion Class placings will be used to resolve any ties in scoring. If a tie still remains after Champion classes are placed, the Tie Breaker will default to the Showmanship score. Grand and Reserve Performance and Timed will be awarded to the highest two point earners in each of these categories. The trip quotas are determined by the State 4-H Horse show prior to the start of the show. The distribution of trips between performance and games will be determined based on entries in each category. Horse project exhibitors (excluding Cloverbuds) are eligible to participate in the Ribbon Auction, see Ribbon Auction section for details.

Llama-Alpaca

Check-in: Monday, July 13 at 7:00pm

Show: Tuesday, July 14 at 5:30pm

Superintendent: Lauren Meyer

Birth Dates:

- 4-H Llama-Alpaca projects must be born prior to January 1, 2026.

Requirements:

- No sexually intact male over 18 months is eligible for exhibition.
- No companion animals (no buddies crias, or nursing mother's allowed)
- You can show multiple llamas-alpacas at the county level, but the animal shown in showmanship class at the county fair is the animal eligible for state fair trip.

Llama-Alpaca – Costume (Exhibitor must be on foot)

Thursday, July 16 at 1:15pm at the Free Stage

Llama-Alpaca – Obstacle Course
Llama-Alpaca - Public Relations
Llama-Alpaca Showmanship

Llama-Alpaca Poster

Educational or promotional poster may be selected to advance to the state fair. See state fair poster requirements under Llama-Alpaca information. For more information please see this document. <https://z.umn.edu/llamaalpaca>

Llama-Alpaca Interview

Llama-Alpaca Interviews will be held on July 13th at 7:00pm during check-in.

Llama-Alpaca Cloverbud

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

NOTE: 4-H'ers 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.

Meat Goat

Check-in: Tuesday, July 14 at 7:00pm

Show: Friday, July 17 at 1:30pm

Superintendent: Rich Scherger and Erin Quam

*Limit 3 entries per class

<i>Class</i>	<i>Birth Dates</i>
Meat Market Goat (wether)	Nov 1, 2025 – April 30, 2026
Meat Market Goat (doe)	Nov 1, 2025 – April 30, 2026
Dairy market goat (wether)	Nov 1, 2025 – April 30, 2026
Wether dam yearling (never kidded)	Sept 1, 2024 – Aug 31, 2025
Wether dam kid	Sept 1, 2025 – April 30, 2026
Senior Yearling Meat Breeding Doe (never kidded)	Sept 1, 2024 – Feb 28, 2025
Junior Yearling Meat Breeding Doe (never kidded)	March 1, 2025 – May 31, 2025
Fall Yearling Meat Breeding Doe (never kidded)	June 1, 2025 – Nov. 30, 2025

Senior Meat Breeding Doe Kid	Dec 1, 2025 – Feb. 28, 2026
Junior Meat Breeding Doe Kid	Mar 1, 2026 – May 31, 2026

Note: Pygmy Goats are classed as Meat Goats

Market Goat

Meat Market Goat - Wether
 Meat Market Goat - Doe
 Dairy Market Goat - Wether

Wether Dam

Wether dam yearling (never kidded)
 Wether dam kid

Meat Goat Breeding Doe

Meat Goat - Senior Yearling Breeding Doe, registered or grade (never kidded)
 Meat Goat - Junior Yearling Breeding Doe, registered or grade (never kidded)
 Meat Goat – Fall Yearling Breeding Doe, registered or grade (never kidded)
 Meat Goat – Senior Meat Breeding Doe Kid, registered or grade
 Meat Goat – Junior Meat Breeding Doe Kid, registered or grade

Requirements:

- The recommended minimum weight for Market Goats at the State Fair is 40 pounds, and the recommended maximum weight is 110 pounds.
- 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.

Meat Goat Showmanship

Senior Meat Goat Showmanship - Grades 9+
 Intermediate Meat Goat Showmanship - Grades 6-8
 Beginner Meat Goat Showmanship - Grades 3-5

Meat Goat Poster

County class only. If entered with state advancement intent, enter in Science of Animals or Exploring Animals

Meat Goat Interview

Meat Goat Interviews will be held on July 14th at 7:00pm during check-in.

Meat Goat Cloverbud

Meat Goat Cloverbud Animal Exhibit- 1 entry

Meat Goat Cloverbud Poster

Poultry

Check-in: Tuesday, July 14 at 3pm-7:00pm

Rabbit/Poultry Barn

Show: Wednesday, July 15 at 8:00am

**Superintendent: Brenna Scanlan and
Velerie Faulhaber**

<i>Class</i>	<i>Hatch Dates</i>
Dove Breeding Pair (one male and one female)	Dec. 31, 2025 or earlier
Pigeon young bird (one male or female)	Jan. 1 or after
Pigeon breeding pair (one male & one female)	Dec. 31, 2025 or earlier

Show Requirements:

- All exhibited birds (except breeding pigeons and doves) must be of this year's hatch. See the [Poultry Information Sheet \(z.umn.edu/poultryinfosheet26\)](http://z.umn.edu/poultryinfosheet26) for suggested hatch dates.
- All breeding birds must be purebred and listed as an American Poultry Association (APA) recognized breed. More information about APA recognized breeds can be found in the APA Standard of Perfection handbook or on the American Poultry Association website under [Accepted Breeds and Varieties](#).
- All pigeons and doves will be judged according to the National Pigeon Association (NPA) Book of Pigeon Standards.
- Commercial breeds are recommended for all market and egg production classes.
- All poultry, except waterfowl and pigeons, must have health certificates. Chicken and turkey exhibits must be accompanied by a statement of origin certificate indicating their bird(s) is from a Pullorum-Typhoid free flock within 12 months prior to entry day or a MN State Board of Animal Health Certificate stating that your bird tested negative. Certificates must be official, signed and dated. A mailing label or other document

with the testing logo alone is not acceptable.

- Turkeys must be tested negative or originate directly from parent stock that is tested negative for Salmonella typhimurium, Mycoplasma gallisepticum and Mycoplasma synoviae. Check with your hatchery or breeder for a certificate.
- Show and hobby must also have a certificate.

Chickens

Limit 2 pens per lot

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

Limit 1 pair of breeding Doves

Doves - Purebred breeding pair (one male and one female of the same breed)

Ducks

Limit 2 pens per lot

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

Limit 2 pens per lot

Geese - Market pen of two males or two females

Geese - Breeding pen of one male & two females

Guinea

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

Limit 1 pair of breeding pigeons.

A pair consists of 1 male and 1 female of the same breed. A young bird is one purebred bird male or female, this year band

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

Requirements:

- All breeding pairs must have been bred the previous year or earlier. This means that birds must be at least one year old to be part of a breeding pair.
- You must exhibit the same birds at the state fair that you won a trip with at the county fair.
- The same birds cannot be exhibited two years in a row, even by another exhibitor, except a young bird may come as a young bird first year and come back the following year as part of a breeding pair.
- All birds must be banded. Must have previous year's band or older on breeding pair. Bands must be seamless and the correct size for the breed. Seamless bands within one size will be accepted.
- No health certificate is required. Any bird that looks ill or diseased will not be allowed to be shown. It is recommended that you practice a vaccinating program.
- All pigeons & doves will be judged according to the Pigeon Standard book.
 - 50% = Breed Characteristics (true to breed; refer to pigeon standard)
 - 25% = Condition (clean feathers and feet; evidence of extra work in preparing bird for show)
 - 25% = Presentation (showmanship)

Turkeys - Domestic Only

Limit 2 pens per lot

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

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

Requirements:

- Egg production pen of two pullets will have two separate lots – one for white egg layers and one for brown egg layers. White egg layers must be hybrid. Brown egg layers must be commercial purebred or hybrid; hybrids are preferred.
- Poultry exhibited must be of this year's hatch, (except advanced classes). All, except waterfowl and pigeons, must have a health certificate and must be identified by a numbered leg band.
- Breeding classes will be judged on breed characteristics using the American Standard of Perfection as a guide.

Show and Hobby *County Only Class - No advancement to State Fair*

Pheasants

Quail

Other Fowl (Please email mnext-dodge@umn.edu with species. Chickens, Ducks, Geese, Turkeys, Pigeons and Guinea Fowl are not eligible)

Requirements:

- Birds exhibited in this class may be brought in on the day of the show or housed for the week. They should arrive in the cage that they will stay in and should NOT be handled or removed during the show.
- Show and hobby birds may be aged.

Poultry Showmanship

Senior Poultry Showmanship Grades 9+

Intermediate Poultry Showmanship Grades 6-8

Beginner Poultry Showmanship Grades 3-5

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.

Poultry Interview

Poultry Interviews will be held on July 14th at 4:00-5:00pm during check-in.

Poultry Cloverbud

Poultry Cloverbud Animal Exhibit

Poultry Cloverbud Poster

Rabbits

Check-in: Tuesday, July 14 at 3-7:00pm

Show: Wednesday, July 15 at 11:00am

Superintendent: Michelle Kruckeberg

Show Requirements:

- A maximum of 14 animals may be shown by one 4-H member. (This includes a Market pen or Fryer and Doe & Litter).
- Doe & Litter, one entry only.
- May enter 2 rabbits per lot, per breed.
- Cavies will be judged on health, type and condition.
- Cavies will only come for the show and must go home following the show.

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

Small breeds (4 class): Dutch, American Fuzzy Lop, American Sable, English Angora, French Angora, Satin Angora, Belgian Hare, Blue Holicer, Britannia Petite, Mini Californian, Standard Chinchilla, Czech Frosty, Dwarf Hotot, Dwarf Papillon, English Spot, Florida White, Harlequin, Havana, Himalayan, Holland Lop, Jersey Wooly, Lilac, Lionhead, Mini Lop, Mini Rex, Mini Satin, Netherland Dwarf, Polish, Rex, Rhinelander, Silver, Silver Martin, Tan, and Trianta

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

Large breeds (6 class); American, Giant Angora, Agent Brun, Beveren, Blanc de Hotot, Californian, Champagne D'Argent, Checkered Giant, American Chinchilla, Giant Chinchilla, Cinnamon, Creme D'Argent, English Lop, French Lop, New Zealand, Palomino, Satin, Silver Fox, and Flemish Giant

Requirements

- All rabbits must be purebred and an American Rabbit Breeders Association (ARBA) recognized breed. More information about ARBA recognized breeds can be found in the ARBA Standard of Perfection or [ARBA website](#).
- Each rabbit must be permanently tattooed in the left ear for identification purposes.

Running Breeds

Senior Buck over 8 months of age

Senior Doe over 8 months of age

Intermediate Buck 6-8 months of age

Intermediate Doe 6-8 months of age

Junior Buck under 6 months of age

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

Rabbit & Cavy Showmanship

Senior Showmanship - Grades 9+

Intermediate Showmanship - Grades 6-8

Beginner Showmanship - Grades 3-5

Poster

Rabbit Poster - Educational
 Rabbit Poster - Promotional
 Cavy Poster *County Only Class - No advancement to State Fair*

Cavy Poster Requirements:

- Your poster must have a photo of you and your Cavy/Pig.
- It must be 14" wide x 22" high. The poster will be at the fair, as your Cavy/Pig will go home after the show. Bring the poster to the fair on Wednesday to the Rabbit Barn.

Rabbit Educational or promotional poster may be selected to advance to the state fair. See state fair poster requirements in the Rabbit Information Sheet. Posters do not need to be exhibited at the county fair to advance to the State Fair. Posters to be judged during the show, first thing.

Rabbit Interview

Rabbit Interviews will be held on July 14th at 4:00-5:00 pm during check-in.

Doe & Litter *County Only Class - No advancement to State Fair*

Requirements:

- Doe must be on ID form
- Litter must be 6-8 weeks of age
- Litter is judged on uniformity, conformation, size, size of litter and condition of Doe

Cavies *County Only Class - No advancement to State Fair*

Senior Boar over 8 months of age
 Senior Sow over 8 months of age
 Intermediate Boar 6-8 months of age
 Intermediate Sow 6-8 months of age
 Junior Boar under 6 months of age
 Junior Sow under 6 months of age

Requirements:

- The premiums for the Cavy project will be the same as the rabbit premiums. There will be no premium for the poster contest. All of the breeds will be judged together. We will divide the classes on the day of the show.

Rabbit & Cavy Cloverbud

Rabbit Cloverbud Animal Exhibit
 Cavy Cloverbud Animal Exhibit
 Rabbit Cloverbud Poster

- Posters may be sent to the state fair.
- Youth will not be present for judging and will receive participation ribbons.

Sheep

Check-in: Tuesday, July 14 at 7:00pm

Show: Wednesday, July 15 at 2:00pm

Superintendent: Sheryl Dohrmann

<i>Class</i>	<i>Birth Dates</i>
Fall Ewe Lamb	Born between Sept. 1 – Dec. 31 of previous year
January Ewe Lamb	Born in January of current year
February Ewe Lamb	Born in February of current year
March Ewe Lamb	Born in March of current year
Yearling Ewe	Over 1 yr and under 2 yrs of age & not show evidence of 4 permanent incisors
Wether Dam Ewe Lamb	Born on or after December 1 of previous year
Wether Dam Yearling Ewe	Over 1 yr and under 2 yrs of age & not show evidence of 4 permanent incisors
Market Lamb	Born on or after December 1 of previous year.

Breeding Ewe

Sheep - Yearling Ewe
 Sheep - Fall Ewe Lamb
 Sheep - January Ewe Lamb
 Sheep - February Ewe Lamb
 Sheep - March Ewe Lamb
 Sheep - Wether Dam Ewe Lamb
 Sheep - Wether Dam Yearling Ewe

Market Lamb

Market Lamb - Black Face
 Market Lamb - White/Speckle Face
 Market Lamb - Hair Breeds

Requirements:

- Limit 3 market lambs per member.
- Limit 2 females per class per member.

- 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 [2026 Animal Science Updates](http://z.umn.edu/4-HAnSciUpdates) (z.umn.edu/4-HAnSciUpdates) for more information.

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.

Trio of Market Lambs **County Only Class - No advancement to State Fair**

Requirements:

- Judged on market basis
- All lambs in trio must be entered under one exhibitor name
- May include one breeding ewe

Sheep Showmanship

Senior Sheep Showmanship - Grades 9+
 Intermediate Sheep Showmanship - Grades 6-8
 Beginner Sheep Showmanship - Grades 3-5

Sheep Poster

County class only. If entered with state advancement intent, enter in Science of Animals or Exploring Animals

Sheep Interview

Sheep Interviews will be held on July 14th at 7:00pm during check-in.

Fleece

Requirements:

Fleece exhibits must come from sheep in the flock owned by the exhibitor. In the case of a leased animal, fleece exhibits may come from the flock of the leased animal.:

Note: All 4-H'ers receiving a blue ribbon on their fleece may exhibit at the State Fair.

Sheep Cloverbud

Sheep Cloverbud Animal Exhibit- 1 entry
 Sheep Cloverbud Poster

Swine

Check-in: Wednesday, July 15 at 9:00 am
Show: Friday, July 17 at 8:00am
Superintendent: Scott Schley

<i>Class</i>	<i>Birth Dates</i>
January Gilt	Born in January of current year
February Gilt	Born in February of current year
March Gilt	Born in March of current year
Market Barrow	Born on or after January 1 of the current year. Recommended farrow date in January or February
Market Gilt	Born on or after January 1 of the current year. Recommended farrow date in January or February

Breeding Gilts

Swine - Registered January Gilt
 Swine - Registered February Gilt
 Swine - Registered March Gilt
 Swine - Crossbred Breeding Gilts

Market Swine

Swine - Future Market Barrow
 Swine - Heavyweight Market Barrow **County Only Class - No advancement to State Fair**
 Swine - Market Gilts will be shown by weight

Requirements:

- Limit of 4 barrows and 4 gilts per member
- Future market barrows must be under 260lbs. All market barrows 261 lbs and over will be put in the heavyweight

market barrow class which is not state fair eligible.

- 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 - Pen of Three **County Only Class - No advancement to State Fair**

Requirements:

- Must include at least one barrow. All three must be from same exhibitor

Swine Showmanship

Senior Swine Showmanship - Grades 9+

Intermediate Swine Showmanship - Grades 6-8

Beginner Swine Showmanship - Grades 3-5

Swine Poster

*County class only. If entered with state advancement intent, enter in Science of Animals or Exploring Animals

Swine Interview

Swine Interviews will be held on July 15th at 9:00am during check-in.

Swine Cloverbud

Swine Cloverbud Animal Exhibit - 1 entry

Swine Cloverbud Poster