Your Guide To 4-H In LaPorte County
What is 4-H?

4-H is an extracurricular, volunteer led, family-oriented program.

4-H is activities for boys and girls in grades 3 through 12.

4-H is for urban as well as rural youth.

4-H helps young people develop life skills. A life skill is an ability that one can use in everyday life. The basic life skills are:

2. Developing an inquiring mind and making decisions.
3. Setting and meeting goals.
4. Relating to other people.
5. Developing a concern for the community.
6. Developing leadership skills.

MOTTO

"To make the best better."

EMBLEM

The 4-H emblem is the four-leaf clover with the letter "H" on each leaf. The Hs stand for Head, Heart, Hands, and Health.
COLORS

The 4-H colors are green and white. Green symbolizes nature’s most common color and represents life, springtime, and youth. White symbolizes purity.

THE 4-H PLEDGE

I pledge

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

MEMBERSHIP

More than 7 million boys and girls are 4-H members throughout the United States. In Indiana, there are over 284,000 boys and girls who are 4-H members. LaPorte County currently has a 4-H enrollment of about 1,100.

4-H YEAR

A new 4-H year starts January 1 of each year and ends December 31 of that same year.

AGE FOR MEMBERSHIP

4-H membership is open to all boys and girls in LaPorte County who will be in grades 3 through 12. Youth may participate a maximum of ten years in traditional 4-H.

All young persons in kindergarten, first and second grades may participate in the Mini 4-H program.
4-H PARENT (HOME HELPER)

Purpose: Provide support to your child in 4-H.

Responsibilities:
1. Help your child enroll in the 4-H Club and meet the 4-H requirements.
2. Help your child select one or more suitable 4-H Projects to complete.
3. Make sure your child attends the 4-H Club meetings. Post and help your child use the club calendar. Provide or arrange for transportation.
4. Help your child to complete any 4-H responsibilities he or she may have volunteered for, been elected to, or selected for.
5. Attend a few meetings with your child, especially the first and last meeting of the year.
6. Help with at least one 4-H club activity during the 4-H year. Volunteer, don’t wait to be asked.
7. Support your child’s 4-H project work.
   A. Make sure your child attends any project workshops. Provide or arrange for transportation.
   B. Help your child gather any materials needed.
   C. Help your child complete one or more articles for exhibit and make sure he/she can exhibit them at the County 4-H Fair. Provide transportation and encouragement.
   D. Help your child complete, and turn in on time, 4-H project records.
8. See back side of this sheet for other ways that you can help as a 4-H Parent.

Assistance Available:
1. 4-H Club Organizational Leader
2. 4-H Project Leader
3. Experienced 4-H Parents
4. 4-H Project Manuals
5. 4-H Project Records
6. Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service Office – LaPorte County

Time Commitment:
One 4-H year includes about 1.5 hours per month for club meetings and time each week for 4-H project work. A total of 15-30 hours per year is required.

Benefits:
Help your child learn and grow, share experiences with your child, improve relationships with your child, make a contribution to youth in your community, and develop a sense of accomplishment.

Qualifications:
• Interest in child’s activities.
• Commitment of time and energy to 4-H members.
• Ability to assist, but still allow the member to do his/her own work.
OTHER WAYS THAT 4-H PARENTS CAN HELP:

1. Learn about 4-H: what it stands for, how it operates, how it is funded.
2. Advise your child in selecting 4-H projects.
3. Show your interest and enthusiasm for the projects selected. Find out what is suggested for the members to do and learn.
4. See that when a project is started, it is also completed.
5. Encourage your 4-Her when he/she succeeds and provide even more encouragement when he/she fails.
6. Be an example! Help your 4-Her to be a good sport, and appreciate the successes of others.
7. Keep informed about 4-H through information that comes to members of your family. Be a 4-H booster in your community.
8. Make 4-H Club work FAMILY work, but, let the boys and girls do their work and carry their own jobs to completion. Be their guide only.
9. Provide transportation to local meetings and county events in which your child and others of the club are interested. Or, provide refreshments for meetings or special functions. Don’t wait to be asked; just volunteer this help!
10. Attend 4-H meetings and other special events.
11. Help your 4-Her find a way to participate in special events that interest him/her such as county contests, camps, Fairs, displays, or shows.
12. Support your local 4-H leaders. Get acquainted with them. Let them know you appreciate their efforts.
13. Offer your services to assist the local leaders. You have knowledge and skills that are needed in 4-H.
14. If the need arises, help find local leaders for your 4-H Club. Several kinds of leaders are needed: organization, project, and activity leaders. Consider helping in one of these ways yourself. Volunteer applications are available in the Extension Office.
15. Remember that the real object of 4-H is to develop your sons and daughters into finer citizens. The way they work on projects, participate in meetings, and conduct themselves at competitive events, etc., will help set work and character standards for the rest of their lives.
WHO'S WHO IN 4-H

LOCAL LEVEL

4-H Member
Any child currently in grade 3 through grade 12 who fills out an enrollment form and meets the club requirements.

Club Leader
An adult volunteer who is responsible for the organizational aspects of the club. All 4-H volunteers go through a stringent screening process which includes a background check before being allowed to work with 4-H members.

Junior Leader
A 4-H member who is in grade 7 through 12. The Junior Leader year runs from September through August. The group has monthly meetings, performs community service projects, and sponsors various events.

Parents
Important to the success of the child in 4-H. Parents are ENCOURAGED to attend club meetings as well as county-wide events with their child.

COUNTY LEVEL

4-H Council
This is the short name for the LaPorte County 4-H Council, Inc. The 4-H Council meets quarterly and is the policy-making organization for LaPorte County 4-H. Membership consists of township representatives, Junior Leader representatives, Chairperson of the Booster & Alumni Association, 4-H leader representatives, Animal Committee Chairpersons, representatives from Extension Homemakers and Farm Bureau, and five ex-officio, non-voting members: Fair Board representative, past 4-H Council President, and the two Extension Educators.

4-H Booster & Alumni
The 4-H Booster and Alumni Association is a subcommittee of the 4-H Council. As volunteers, their purpose is to provide financial support for the 4-H program. Individuals, families, and entire clubs can become members.

Project Superintendent
A volunteer who answers questions a 4-Her may have about a project. This person is often a 4-H parent with special expertise in a particular subject area. The Project Superintendent names are found in the 4-H Handbook under each project area.

Extension Educators
They are professionals who help to carry out the 4-H program and serve as a source of research-based information. Our county has two 4-H Educators: Patty Keating and Hugh Tonagel. Together they work with the county 4-H program.
STATE LEVEL

Purdue University  Purdue is a land grant college that has the responsibility for taking education to the people of the state. The 4-H program is part of that directive in the Youth Development & Agricultural Education Department.

State 4-H Program  The State 4-H Program Leader has the responsibility for 4-H Leader programming at the State Level. The 4-H Program Leader is based at Purdue University, Department of Youth Development and Agricultural Education.

State Specialist  State Specialists have responsibility for the 4-H program on a statewide basis. Each one has a specific part of the total 4-H program. They are based at Purdue University and are under the direction of the State 4-H Program Leader.

Indiana 4-H Foundation  This nonprofit organization works to provide additional resources for the 4-H program. They sponsor scholarships, funding for county and state programs, finance the State 4-H Leaders recognition, trips for outstanding youth to National 4-H Congress, as well as underwrite the cost of many 4-H trips offered on the state level. Forms for donation are available at the County Extension Office. They also sponsor the 4-H license plate program. Contact the Extension Office for information about license plates for your vehicles.

4-H CLUBS

4-H clubs usually meet twice a month from January until the fair in July. Some clubs meet once each month, year round. Each club elects officers from the club membership. The officers conduct the business portion of the club meeting.

4-Hers may belong to any 4-H Club in the county. Residence does not restrict club membership. However, most 4-Hers belong to the club closest to where they live or attend school. Many clubs have yearly dues of no more than $5 per member. Dues vary by club.

4-Hers may change membership to another club if they wish. It is important to notify the Extension Office (324-9407) and the leaders of both clubs (the one you are leaving and the one you are joining).
### 2009 La Porte County 4-H Meeting Places

*Meeting places and times are subject to change call leader to check to confirm*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club Name</th>
<th>Leader Name</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Meeting Place and Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CASS MERRYMakers</strong></td>
<td>Andrea Mitzner</td>
<td>733-2721</td>
<td>Wanatah School 3:30 pm; every other Thursday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CASS CHAMPIONS</strong></td>
<td>Michelle Dyjak</td>
<td>733-9336</td>
<td>Wanatah School 6:30 p.m. Wednesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CENTER TOWNSHIP 4-H CLUB</strong></td>
<td>Joe Biernacki</td>
<td>362-0052</td>
<td>Bethany Lutheran Church (LP) 6:30 pm 1st &amp; 3rd Mon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CLINTON CLIMBERS</strong></td>
<td>Donna Matuszak</td>
<td>733-2179</td>
<td>South Central Once a month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CLINTON LIVEWIRES</strong></td>
<td>Sharon Hagenow</td>
<td>785-4405</td>
<td>South Central</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>COOLSPRING CHAMPS</strong></td>
<td>Christine Rumbaugh</td>
<td>219-210-8930</td>
<td>Michigan City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>COOLSPRING CHAMPIONS</strong></td>
<td>Carol Nowatzke</td>
<td>325-0403</td>
<td>Coolspring School 6:30 p.m. 1st &amp; 3rd Mon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CREATIVE CLOVER KIDS</strong></td>
<td>Annette Haschke</td>
<td>324-4056</td>
<td>La Porte Library (Main) 3p.m. 4th Mon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DEWEY ADVANCERS</strong></td>
<td>Vern Schafer</td>
<td>754-2329</td>
<td>LaCrosse High School 7:00 p.m. Mon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HANNA-NOBLE 4-H CLUB</strong></td>
<td>Peggy Schoof</td>
<td>767-2453</td>
<td>South Central 7:00 p.m. Alt Tues &amp; Thurs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HUDSON HUSTLIN’ HELPERS</strong></td>
<td>Lori Keller</td>
<td>654-3405</td>
<td>Prairie View Elem. 6:30 pm 2nd Wednesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>JOHNSON PRAIRIE FARMERS</strong></td>
<td>Jon Smith</td>
<td>586-3077</td>
<td>Johnson Twp. Comm. Bldg. 7:00 pm (SB)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>KANKAKEE HUSTLIN’ HOOSIERS</strong></td>
<td>Shelby Fultz</td>
<td>324-5428</td>
<td>1st Christian Church, RP 6:30 pm 3rd Mon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LA PORTE CITY FIRESTARS</strong></td>
<td>Katrina Bohlin</td>
<td>362-1242</td>
<td>I Street Fire Station 6:30 pm 1st &amp; 3rd Tuesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LA PORTE CITY HELPING HANDS</strong></td>
<td>Stacy Tharp</td>
<td>326-5539</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LINCOLN HOTSHOTS</strong></td>
<td>Julie MacLeod</td>
<td>369-1544</td>
<td>Doig Residence (Fish Lake) 6:30pm 2 &amp; 4 Thurs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NEW DURHAM CLEVER CLOVER</strong></td>
<td>Mary Howard</td>
<td>785-4367</td>
<td>Westville Elem. Library 3:00 pm 2nd Mon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NEW DURHAM 95ERS</strong></td>
<td>Carrie McKibben</td>
<td>326-8407</td>
<td>Westville Library 4:00 pm 1st &amp; 3rd Thurs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PLEASANT CLOVERS</strong></td>
<td>Dawn Carriveau</td>
<td>324-0205</td>
<td>Pleasant Twp Fire Dept 6:30 p.m. 1st Tuesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PLEASANT FARMS</strong></td>
<td>Joy Wills</td>
<td>851-2421</td>
<td>LP Farm Bureau Building 6p.m. 2nd &amp; 4th Monday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PLEASANT FARMERS</strong></td>
<td>Pam Mark</td>
<td>325-0950</td>
<td>Springfield School 7pm 2nd &amp; 4th Wed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SCIPIO SENSATIONS</strong></td>
<td>Cindy Ault</td>
<td>362-6394</td>
<td>Kingsbury School 7pm 2nd &amp; 4th Mon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SPRINGFIELD COUNTRY COUSINS</strong></td>
<td>Pam Mark</td>
<td>325-0950</td>
<td>SF Free Meth Ch 6:30 pm 2nd &amp; 4th Mon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SPRINGFIELD HOOSIER REBELS</strong></td>
<td>Norma Rauschenbach</td>
<td>326-8231</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SPRINGFIELD SPITFIRES</strong></td>
<td>Nora Werner</td>
<td>325-8021</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>UNION LUCKIES</strong></td>
<td>Kevin Young</td>
<td>393-5155</td>
<td>Kingsford Heights School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WASHINGTON RANCHERS</strong></td>
<td>Becky Fischer</td>
<td>362-8661</td>
<td>Indian Trail 6:30 p.m. Wednesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WILLS WILLING WORKERS</strong></td>
<td>Amy Stanish</td>
<td>778-9972</td>
<td>New Prairie JHS 7pm 2nd &amp; 4th Tuesday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HAPPY HOUNDS-DOG CLUB
Sharon Reese 326-8426
County Complex 6:30pm 2nd & 4th Tuesday
Training-Show Arena every Tue, Apr-Jul

EASY RIDERS-HORSE & PONY CLUB
Bruce Hoover 797-5024
Comm. Bldg. 7pm 3rd Tuesday

HORSELESS HORSE
Penny Mrozinski 767-2241
Comm. Bldg. 6 pm 3rd Tuesday

WAGONMASTERS
Robert Mrozinski 778-2346
Riley Elem. 6:30 pm 2nd & 4th Tue.

4-H NEWSLETTER

Newsletters are sent 4-5 times during the year to every 4-H home in LaPorte County. Read your newsletter to find out about club meetings, project workshops, and other timely 4-H news!

4-H PROJECTS

4-H projects are learning experiences for the 4-H members. 4-H members must sign up for at least one project each year and complete the records for that project. A member is encouraged to exhibit at the Fair as part of their project completion.

Some projects are divided by grade, while others are divided by the number of years of participation in that project. Grade is determined by the grade the member was in at the time of enrollment, or the school year preceding the Fair.

4-H members may add or drop projects until May 15 at 4:00 p.m. To add or drop a project, call the Extension Office at 219-324-9407. You should also inform your local club leader.

4-H HANDBOOK

Each 4-H family will receive a 4-H Handbook from their Club Leader. The Handbook has the information members need to know about what their Fair exhibit should include.

Members may also ask the project superintendent about the project and the completion and Fair exhibit requirements for that project. 4-H Project Superintendent names are included in the 4-H Handbook.

4-H PROJECT MANUALS AND RECORD SHEETS

Most 4-H projects have manuals that give in-depth information for that project. There is a record sheet for each project. Project manuals and record sheets are handed out by the 4-H Club Leaders. Record sheets are required to verify completion in a project.
MY RECORD OF 4-H ACHIEVEMENT

White cards labeled "My Record of 4-H Achievement" should be filled out completely each year. These are available from 4-H Club Leaders and the County Extension Office. It is important that these be filled out accurately in order to remember what you have done in 4-H and to apply for trips, awards and scholarships throughout your 4-H career. The "My Record of 4-H Achievement" is to be kept in the front of your Record Book, with your project record sheets. Be sure to update your information every year.

4-H records should be filled out as completely and accurately as possible. Parents may oversee the child's work, but we expect the child to do his or her own writing.

An example of how to complete the "My Record of 4-H Achievement" in the front of the Project Handbook.

PROJECT SELECTION

In choosing a project, a member will consult with his or her parents and 4-H leader(s). After considering all the projects available and the requirements of each, he or she should select one based on:

1. Interest, needs, and capabilities
2. Family situation
3. Suitability of the area in which he or she lives

Members enrolling for the first time will take a minimum of one project. As a member gains knowledge and experience, the scope of the project may be increased and additional projects selected. A brief explanation of each project is included in this 4-H Family Guide. Members may also ask the project superintendent about the project and the requirements for that project.

Early in the 4-H career, a member needs to consider developing a tentative project plan to guide him or her until he/she is past 4-H age. Some projects should be continued each year, with increases in the size of the project when possible. Members may also want to try to enroll in additional projects which are related to his or her other project work. For example, a Wildlife member may want to enroll in Forestry or Soil & Water Conservation.

The project work is the core of the 4-H member's experience. Successful project completion results in member satisfaction and expansion of future project work. The learning experiences one obtains through his or her project could even lead to career/vocation possibilities.
FAIR JUDGING

Projects exhibited at the 4-H Fair will be judged, although members may choose to exhibit without being judged and receive a participation ribbon. Non-livestock exhibits will be checked in and judged the week prior to fair. The judging method we use is called "open judging".

Open judging means that your Fair exhibits will be judged in your presence, as you check in. Here are some questions that you may be asked in an open judging setting.

✓ What new things did you learn?
✓ Have you taken this project before?
✓ How much time did you spend on this project?
✓ What were your goals for this project?
✓ What would you like to change about your exhibit?
✓ Tell me something about this exhibit that you want me to know.
✓ What did you like best (or least) about this project?
✓ Did you have any difficulty with this exhibit or do you have any questions that I may be able to answer?

PROJECT EXHIBIT TAG

You will be issued an exhibit tag when you check in your project. This tag will be attached to your exhibit so that your name, club, project and division will be clearly displayed. Those completing poster projects should leave room for this tag at the bottom right-hand corner of their project (6” high x 4 ½” wide).

RIBBONS

4-H uses the Danish system of ribbon awards. In this system, the ribbon placings are defined as follows:

Purple .................. Outstanding work
Blue ...................... Above the average of the group
Red ..................... Average
White .................. Below the average of the group

PREMIUM MONEY

4-H members receive cash based on the ribbons they are awarded at the Fair. Generally, 4-H members receive $2.00 for each “A” and $1.50 for each “B” grade. Specific details of amounts awarded are found in the 4-H Fair Premium Book, which is distributed each year in June. The money is distributed by the Club Leader after the Fair or at the next 4-H Club meeting.
AWARDS & TRIPS
Awards are given to 4-H members at the local club achievement programs held in the fall. Pins are presented to all members upon completion of a 4-H year.

Some 4-H members are eligible to apply for trips that usually take place in June and July. Many of these are educational workshops at Purdue University. The trip and award information is mailed to all 4-H members in the 4-H newsletter.

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS
Each club will have special activities for their club members throughout the year. In addition, there are county-wide events in which a 4-Her may participate.

Project Workshops- A variety of workshops in different project areas are offered each year. Be sure to read your monthly newsletter to know what workshops are offered.

Officers Training- This is held for current officers of 4-H Clubs to give them ideas and helpful hints about their jobs and responsibilities. It is held in late March.

Share-the-Fun- This annual talent show is an event of fun and learning for 4-H Clubs as well as individual 4-H members.

4-H Camp
This three day, two night camp takes place each June and is open to 4-H members in grades 3-8. The 4-H members participate in many outdoor activities as they learn by doing. We camp at Camp Mack in Milford, IN with 4-Hers from Porter County. 4-Hers in grades 8-12 may apply to be Counselors.

4-H Demonstration and Public Speaking Contests
Each 4-H member gives a demonstration during one of their local club meetings. This “show-and-tell” presentation gives members a chance to speak in front of a group and develop public speaking skills. For those who enjoy public speaking, there is a regional contest, as well as the opportunity to speak at the Indiana State Fair.
PROJECT AREAS AVAILABLE THROUGH 4-H

ANIMAL SCIENCES
Develop basic understanding of animals - their purpose and functions. Also proper care, feeding and fitting of animals are emphasized, with accurate records expected. Some project meetings, tours, etc. are required for each.

Aquatic Science  Beef
Birds  Cat
Cat Poster  Dairy
Dairy Feeder Steer  Dairy Steer
Dog  Dog Poster
Dogless Dog  Draft Horse
Duck  Geese
Goat  Horse & Pony
Horseless Horse  Miniature Equine
Misc. Pets  Pigeon
Poultry  Poultry Display
Poultry Science  Rabbit
Rabbit Education  Reptiles
Sheep  Small Mammals
Swine  Turkey
Vet Science

CREATIVE SKILLS
Learn to use your imagination and express it through various projects.

Aerospace  Basic Crafts
Ceramics  Clowning
Collections  Creative Writing
Farm Model Display  Fine Arts
General Crafts  Hoosier Christmas Dec.
Latch Hook  Lego's
Model Cars  Model Plastic Aircraft
Model Watercraft  Needle Craft
Photography  Scrapbooking

LEADERSHIP
Develop leadership skills through activities in your local club and also at the county and state level.

Junior Leader  4-H Portfolio

CONSUMER & FAMILY SCIENCES
Develop skills in home economics, nutrition, family relations, food preparation, and personal development. Consumer projects teach good shopping skills.

American Heritage  Cake Decorating
Child Development  Consumer Clothing
Dairy Foods  Foods
Food Preservation  Genealogy
Gift Wrapping  Health
Home Environment  Microwave Cooking
Personality  Sewing

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
Learn about natural resources, wildlife, conservation practices, and issues affecting our environment.

Archery  Entomology
Forestry  Recycling
Sport Fishing  Soil & Water Conversation
Weather  Wildlife

MECHANICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES
Some of the following projects have a minimum grade requirement. Most require special meetings and workshops for completion.

ATV  Computers
Electric  Lawn Tractors
Small Engines  Tractor Maintenance
Woodworking

PLANT SCIENCE
Learn to plant, grow, and care for vegetables, flowers, plants, and crops. Proper records must be kept.

Container Garden  Corn
Floriculture  Garden
Potato  Small Grains
Soybean
4-H Terms Used in LaPorte County

Achievement Night: Most local clubs have an achievement program in the fall to recognize members. Members receive a pin for every year they are in 4-H, their graded record sheets, and any ribbons that were not picked up during the fair. They also receive a premium check for their work (usually $2.00 for each "A", $1.50 for each "B"). Premium information can be found in the fair book.

Achievement Scholarship: A cover letter and resume that teens in grades 10 and above can submit to win trips and scholarships. Younger members should keep track of their activities on the "My Record of 4-H Achievement" card in preparation of this activity.

Adult Leader: A person who volunteers their time to recruit, plan, organize, counsel, taxi, encourage, nag, compliment, redirect, and whatever else it takes to make sure members have a great 4-H experience. These people are not paid, so please be considerate of their time and let them know how much they are appreciated.

Beef/Sheep/Goat ID Day: Beef, sheep, and goats must be tagged and retinal scanned for identification purposes. Beef are done in early January, dairy feeder steers are done in April, and sheep & goats are done in May.

Booster and Alumni Association: A group of dedicated volunteers who promote 4-H, plan fund raisers, and provide money for 4-H materials and programs.

Booster and Alumni Membership: Interested people who want to support the 4-H program through an annual membership of $10.00 ($100.00 lifetime).

Community Service Project: Each club is required to complete a service project that helps their community.

County Camp: All 4-H members are invited to attend camp in the middle of June. This 3-day event is held at Camp Mack in Milford, IN. Campers experience a variety of hands-on learning experiences in a beautiful outdoor setting, while meeting new friends and having fun. Activities include swimming, crafts, canoeing, outdoor cooking, recreation, and songs.

Demonstrations and Demonstration Contest: Each member is required to give a demonstration in their local club. This is a “show-and-tell” to share something the member has learned with the group. Some clubs require a poster be made, some require the topic to be a current 4-H project – please check with your local leader. A contest is held in June for those members who would like to compete with a speech or demonstration. Members may advance to the State Fair and can win a trip to Washington, D.C.

Drop/Add Deadline: If you would like to add a project or delete one that you had signed up for, contact the Extension Office by May 15. Dropping a project after this date, or not completing the project, will result in lost points on your 4-H record.

E-Mail Blasts: We occasionally send out e-mails with important reminders and program information. If you would like to receive these, make sure to clearly print your e-mail address on your child’s 4-H enrollment form – or call the Extension Office. We will never give out this information to third parties.
**Exhibit Tag:** Each 4-H project will be identified with an exhibit tag during the fair. These are provided at project check-in and contain the 4-H member's name, club, project, and division. Members completing poster projects should leave space in the lower right-hand corner for this tag (6" high x 4 ½" wide).

**Extension Educator:** The title given to a professional employed by Purdue University to coordinate the 4-H program on the local level. LaPorte County has two 4-H Educators: Hugh Tonagel and Patty Keating. The Extension Office also has educators in other program areas: Walt Sell, Economic and Community Development; Allison Goshorn, Consumer & Family Sciences; and Gene Matzat, Agriculture and Natural Resources.

**Fair Board:** The LaPorte County Fair Board plans and organizes the entire fair, from the carnival and grandstand events to open class judging. The Extension Office is responsible for and in charge of those things associated with the 4-H part of the fair, but the Fair Board plans and runs the fair. They are also responsible for scheduling and building upkeep.

**Fair Premium Book:** This is distributed in June and gives the times and locations for judging. It also contains detailed rules for livestock projects.

**Fashion Revue:** A public fashion show for members in the clothing project who choose to participate. 4-Hers are judged on modeling, style, accessorizing, and fit. Consumer Clothing members MUST participate to complete their project.

**Geranium Sale:** This is a county-wide fund raiser. Members are asked to help sell plants by taking orders and collecting money ahead of time. The local clubs receive a portion of the profit and the rest goes toward future meeting facilities for 4-H and Extension.

**Indiana 4-H Foundation:** A statewide "4-H booster" association that provides funds for trips, scholarships, materials and grants for programs all over the state.

**Indiana State Fair:** Held in Indianapolis at the State Fairgrounds. Projects eligible for the fair must be checked in ahead of time. Animal projects must be entered by June 1. Many small projects and horticulture projects are taken down by volunteers.

**Judging Teams:** These are usually livestock judging teams. Members learn to evaluate animals and defend their evaluations by giving oral reasons before an experienced judge. LaPorte County currently has Horse & Pony, Livestock, Poultry and Dairy judging teams. The rabbit project has its own contest in May.

**Junior Leaders:** County wide project for members in grades 7 and above focusing on leadership, citizenship and fun.

**LaPorte County Fair:** The culmination of the 4-H year! Members display their projects, show livestock, and participate in special events throughout the week.

**Livestock Enrollment Forms:** Each livestock project has animal enrollment forms. These are in addition to the county enrollment forms that sign youth up for 4-H. Copies of these go to the state 4-H office, copies
stay in the office and, for those going to state fair, copies are sent there. A premise ID number is required for each form.

**Mini 4-H:** A "pre-4-H" program for children in grades K-2. Members take one or two projects, attend a workshop, exhibit at the fair, and have an achievement party. Enrollment deadline is April 1.

"**My Record of 4-H Achievement**": This white card is turned in with project record sheets before the fair. You keep these cards for your entire 4-H career. When one is full, ask for another. Be certain both sides are filled in because both sides are used to calculate the number of points you've accumulated. Your points help to determine winners of future trips and scholarships.

**Newsletter:** This comes from the Extension office four-five times per year. It's filled with very important information and is our main source of communication with 4-H families. **Please read it and share it!**

**Officers:** Each club elects their own officers to include President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Recreation, and Song Leaders. Members learn to conduct business through active leadership.

**Officers’ Training:** This program is usually held in March. Officers from all clubs are invited to workshops to learn what is involved in performing the duties of their elected office.

**Open Judging:** A style of judging where the 4-H member can talk directly with the judge while their project is being graded. Parents may attend open judging, but are not allowed to speak to the judge.

**Pen Reservation:** Each member taking livestock to the fair must turn in a pen reservation form so that livestock superintendents will know how many animals to expect and plan where they will be housed. These are in the back of the fair book and are due at the end of June.

**Points:** Each activity, project, office, trip, etc. that you participate in while in 4-H has a point value to it. These are calculated at the Extension Office and kept in your permanent file. Points are used to determine trip and scholarship winners.

**Poster Project:** Many projects must be completed on a 22” x 28” poster displayed horizontally. They must be covered in heavy plastic (not saran wrap) and have space in the lower right hand corner for an exhibit tag. You can purchase plastic sleeves at the Extension Office, which makes it very easy to cover your poster.

**Premise ID:** A number given by the Indiana State Board of Animal Health to identify locations where animals are housed. All livestock members will need to submit their premise ID number on the enrollment form. More information is available at [www.in.gov/boah](http://www.in.gov/boah).

**Premium Money:** As an incentive for members to complete their projects and do their best, LaPorte County offers a “premium” for each “A” and “B” grade that members receive. This premium is usually $2.00 for each “A” and $1.50 for each “B”. Livestock projects offer premiums for placing in various classes, ranging from $4.00 for 1st to $2.00 for 5th place. Premiums are paid by check and distributed at local achievement programs in the fall. All checks need to be cashed before December 31 of the current year.
Project Manual: Most projects have manuals that provide educational material and/or learning activities for members.

Project Summary Book: Handed out in January, this book describes all projects, many activities and awards. It contains all the rules for non-livestock projects and should be used as a reference throughout the year. Read EVERYTHING related to your projects so you will not be disappointed on judging day.

Project Superintendent: Each project has someone who is in charge. They plan workshops, work with the judge on judging day, and display projects for the fair. They are also available to answer any specific questions you have about project activities and requirements.

Pullorum-Typhoid testing: It must be certified that all poultry at the fair have come from Pullorum-typhoid free flocks or they must be tested and found free of Pullorum-typhoid. This is done on an announced Saturday before the fair.

Record Book: What you turn in to your local club leader before the fair. This includes the green/white 4-H folder that every new member receives free, the white record of achievement card, and project record sheets to be graded.

Record Sheet: Most projects have record sheets or activity books that must be turned in BEFORE the fair to complete. Check the project handbook to find out whether your record sheets are turned in to your local leader or turned in with your project.

State Fair Livestock Entry: Livestock entries for state fair exhibition are due June 1. You must come to the Extension Office and pick up one of the multiple copies of your Livestock Enrollment Form. Send it along with the entry fee to the State Fair by June 1.

Tattooing: Goats new to the project must receive a specific ear tattoo. This is done the first Saturday in May. Rabbits are tattooed in July.

Township Representative/4-H Council: Each township has someone who serves on the 4-H Council. This group meets four times during the year to make decisions concerning the administration of the LaPorte County 4-H program.

Web Site: 4-H information is provided on-line at LaPorte County Extension's web site. Visit www.extension.purdue.edu/laporte for updated calendars, newsletters, project information and forms.

Workshop-O-Rama: Many project workshops offered on one day (usually in April) for the convenience of 4-H members and their families. Topics vary from year to year.

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