



# Wayne County 4-H



# PRE-FAIR INFORMATIONAL GUIDE



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## IMPORTANT FAIR DATES!

- **Animal Lease Paperwork Due – June 15**
- **Pre-Fair Meeting – June 23rd, 6:00pm @ CCE Wayne**
- **All Fair Animal Entries Due – July 10**
- **Fair Teen Leader/Superintendent Meeting – TBD**
- **4-H Building Setup – August 4, 4:00-8:00pm**
- **4-H Pre-Judging (Static Projects) – August 4, 4:00-8:00pm**
- **Animal Setup – August 7, TBD**
- **Small Animal Check-in – August 9, All Day**
- **Large Animal Check-in – August 9, 1:00pm-7:00pm**
- **Mandatory Barn Meeting/Welcome Picnic – August 9, 6:00pm**
- **Horticulture Judging – August 10, 5:00-6:30pm**
- **Wayne County Fair – August 10-16**
- **4-H Livestock Auction – August 14, 5:30pm**
- **Animal Release – August 16, 4:00pm**
- **4-H Building Exhibit Release – August 16, 6:00pm**
- **4-H Building/Club Booth Teardown – August 17, 9:00am**



## PURPOSE OF 4-H INVOLVEMENT AT FAIR

4-H is the youth education component of Cornell Cooperative Extension, representing a partnership between the Cornell Colleges of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Human Ecology, and County Cornell Cooperative Extension Associations. The emphasis for CCE's 4-H Youth Development involvement at Fair is to provide youth 5-18 years of age with opportunities to:

- Receive recognition for their accomplishments.
- Display how 4-H has helped them enhance individual learning and skill development, learn and recognize standards for quality project work, and apply research-based subject matter to everyday life experiences.
- Serve as a showcase for the public to observe a wide variety of 4-H projects in action.
- Present an accurate, contemporary image of 4-H as a relevant, year-round, non-formal educational program for youth of all backgrounds and interests.
- Attract youth and adults to become involved in the 4-H program.
- Educate the public about selected subject matter and issues, particularly those related to the expertise of Cornell University and the 4-H Youth Development program.
- Provide opportunity for volunteers to develop and demonstrate their leadership abilities through the planning and conducting of the Fair.
- Provide affordable family fun!

**Open Class Show** - 4-H'ers, Leaders and Parents are reminded that they are invited to enter items in the open class areas of the Wayne County Fair. For more information on open class entries, contact the superintendent in charge of that section. If you have not received a copy of the Open Class Fair Book it is available online at: [www.waynecountyfair.org](http://www.waynecountyfair.org)

**NOTICE:** \*4-H EXHIBIT HALL ITEMS MAY NOT BE ENTERED IN OPEN CLASS!\*

## Youth Development Programs

Youth Development Programs are open to all youth ages 5-18 (age as of January 1st) throughout New York State, regardless of geographic location, ethnic, racial, economic, and educational backgrounds. The mission of Cornell Cooperative Extension 4H Youth Development is to create supportive learning environments where diverse groups of youth and adults can reach their fullest potential as capable competent and caring citizens.

Focusing on the four H's: Head (Independence), Heart (Belonging), Hands (Generosity), and Health (Mastery), youth gain valuable life skills as they take on personal and social responsibility, learn the value of community service, develop decision making, problem solving, teamwork and communication skills; learn to make healthy lifestyle choices, set goals, plan, organize and resolve conflict; and become aware of personal safety issues.

Youth Development is the natural process of developing one's capacities. Positive youth development occurs through an intentional process that promotes positive outcomes for young people by providing opportunities, relationships and the supports to fully meet the challenges of adolescence and adulthood.

Participation in State Fair is yet another exciting opportunity for Positive Youth Development.



### **2026 Plants of the Year:**

- Vegetable – Burpless Cucumber
- Fruit – Blackberries
- Herb – Basil
- Flower – Dahlia
- House/Container – Spider Plant



### **Poultry Pullorum Testing**

Tuesday, June 16, 4:00pm  
Wayne County 4-H Office  
1581 Route 88-N, Newark, NY

Sign up: [forms.gle/Z3LVhoDxiNouKpvrZ](https://forms.gle/Z3LVhoDxiNouKpvrZ)

## **HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE IN THE FAIR?**

- The Fair Book and instructions on how to enter online are all available online at [ccewayne.org/4-h-youth-development/4-h-at-wayne-county-fair](https://ccewayne.org/4-h-youth-development/4-h-at-wayne-county-fair).
- To enter animals or exhibits go to [waynecountyfair4h.fairentry.com](https://waynecountyfair4h.fairentry.com)
- Want to make a bench that will have your club name on it? Contact Melissa at [mss466@cornell.edu](mailto:mss466@cornell.edu). This makes a great community service project!
- Parade – If you are interested in being a part of the Friday Night parade, August 14, please contact: Wendy Miller, 315-597-1299, [bvcsmillereyahoo.com](mailto:bvcsmillereyahoo.com).
- Dairy Booth – Sign up to work in the Dairy Booth! You can sign up for a time to help every day of the Fair! Registration link can be found on the last page.
- Milk and Cookies Contest – Friday, August 14th at 1pm. Register online!
  - Open to ALL 4-H YOUTH!
  - Participants are to prepare a batch of cookies, using any recipe they want, healthy recipes encouraged. Bring two dozen cookies with you – two cookies will be set aside for display and the remaining ones will be given to the audience to taste. Fair patrons will taste the cookies and select their favorite one.
  - All participants need to have their recipe in by August 5th.
  - Cookies must be cooled completely before competition.
  - Cookies must be to the 4-H Building by 10am on August 14th.

## **Pre-Fair Meeting**

Tuesday, June 23rd, 6:00pm @ CCE Wayne

Get ready for Wayne County Fair! This meeting is open to all 4-H members, parents and leaders. Everyone should plan to attend, especially if this is your first or second year.

The Pre-Fair Meeting will provide information about:

- The 2026 Wayne 4-H Fair Book
- Online animal registration
- Filling out paperwork
- Preparing your projects for Fair
- Participation opportunities





## IMPORTANT NOTICES

- You can download the 4-H Fair Book from our website at [ccewayne.org/4-h-youth-development/4-h-at-wayne-county-fair](https://ccewayne.org/4-h-youth-development/4-h-at-wayne-county-fair) OR pick one up at the CCE Wayne Office.
- Online entry registration can be found at [waynecountyfair4h.fairentry.com](https://waynecountyfair4h.fairentry.com).
- The Wayne County Fair requires all youth sleeping in barns be accompanied by their parent (check Wayne County Fair policy, additional Wayne County Fair barn rules apply). For camping information, contact the Wayne County Fair directly.
- 4-H is not responsible for any exhibits. Enter at your own risk!
- On Monday, the track will be closed from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. due to horse races. You will not be able to enter or exit the infield during the races.
- The front gate on West Jackson Street is open to walk-ins only.
- The side gate by the barn will only be open in the early morning for loading/unloading into/out of the barn. Everyone must use the gate off West Foster Street at all other times.
- The Wayne County Fair Board will once again be graciously giving a week long fair pass to every Wayne County 4-H member! Each family will need to pick up and sign out their own passes from the 4-H office (a family can designate someone to pick up passes on their behalf by contacting Melissa). Additional passes for parents/siblings can be purchased at the Wayne County Fair Office. Please be sure to visit the Fair, even if you are not exhibiting this year, and be sure to thank the Fair Board for their generosity!
- There is a 4-H office at the Fair! It is in the back of the Exhibit Hall. It is not always staffed, but it is a great place to start if you need assistance!

### Note

This is the most up-to-date information available as of mid June, and is subject to change when appropriate. The information made available in the Pre-Fair Information Guide is for your use only and should help clarify questions and concerns you may have about entering projects into the Wayne County Fair.

**Please feel free to contact the 4-H Office for further assistance at 315-331-8415.**

## SPORTSMANSHIP

All 4-H Members, Leaders, and Parents are expected to adhere to the following guidelines:

What represents healthy sportsmanship?

The award earned by showing at the Fair is not what is important; it's the experience youth gain from participating that helps them grow. Healthy sportsmanship is accepting reward and responsibility for the results of that effort or lack of it, holding true to your sense of pride in what you have accomplished, and using the knowledge gained from the experience in the future. This is all accomplished in an atmosphere of respect for everyone present including yourself.

### Examples of Poor Sportsmanship

- Cheating (bending the rules)
- Arguing
- Abuse of animals
- Swearing or foul language
- Destruction of property
- Making fun of other competitors
- Badgering, bad-mouthing or degrading others
- Name-calling
- Not cooperating with leaders, coaches, and supervising adults
- Rude comments or gestures made towards others (youth, adults, judges, leaders, staff)
- Discriminating behavior towards winners and/or losers
- Displaying anger towards others when you (or your child) does not receive the awards you think is deserved
- Bragging or rubbing in your (or your child's) accomplishments in a belittling manner

## YOUTH FAIR BASIC GUIDELINES

The following details are offered as basic guidance in helping members, parents and leaders prepare for 4-H participation at the Wayne County Fair.

- Only youth enrolled in the Wayne County 4-H program are eligible to exhibit projects in the Wayne County 4-H Shows. 4-H youth from other counties may be allowed to participate upon approval.
- NEW 4-H members must have been enrolled by April 1st of the current 4-H year in order to participate in these events.
- RETURNING 4-H members must have been enrolled by February 1st of the current 4-H year in order to participate in these events.
- Participation levels for all events unless otherwise noted: (age as of January 1, of current year)
  - Cloverbuds (5-7 years old)
  - Juniors (8-12 years old)
  - Seniors (13-18 years old)
- Equine Program—We follow the Equine Show Rulebook found at [www.cals.cornell.edu/nys-4-h-animal-science-programs/state-events/state-fair/nys-4-h-equine-show-rules-classes](http://www.cals.cornell.edu/nys-4-h-animal-science-programs/state-events/state-fair/nys-4-h-equine-show-rules-classes)
- All youth must show their own animals unless they have more than one animal in the same class. In this situation only, another 4-H youth exhibitor may assist them.
- On 4-H show day, all care, fitting, and grooming must be done by the Youth. No parents, adults or professional groomsmen may help with project animals.
- All animals must meet health requirements as set by New York State Department of Ag and Markets.
- All 4-H judging in Wayne County is done using the Danish System.

\*\*Under the Danish System, each exhibit is compared to an ideal for that category. Evaluators consider the age, experience level and difficulty of the project. Youth and projects are not compared to each other or judged against one another. Exhibits receive either an excellent (blue), good (red), worthy (white) award, or participation only (green) based on how closely the project meets the ideal.

Judges are not limited in the number of ribbons awarded. For example, in a class of fifteen items there may be four blues, three reds and eight whites as the judge sees fit. A judge may withhold ribbon awards if the project is not worthy.

Sometimes, in livestock or horse classes, the judge will line up the exhibitors in order of accomplishment, in order to qualify animals for State Fair.\*\*

# YOUTH BUILDING IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**All Non-Animal Exhibits:** No late entries will be accepted – all entries are due Friday, July 10th. An exhibit tag will be ready for you at the registration table at Pre-Judging. Bring a way to attach it (string, tape, zip tie, etc.)

**Release Time:** No 4-H building exhibit may be torn down or leave the building before 6pm on Sunday, August 16th. Exhibits may be picked up between 6pm and 9pm Sunday evening, or on Monday morning between 9am and 12pm.

**Booth Space:** New this year, 4-H building exhibits will be organized by PROJECT CLASS, unless your club specifically requests a booth. Contact Melissa at [mss466@cornell.edu](mailto:mss466@cornell.edu) to request a booth for your club.

Your club only did animal projects and doesn't plan to have any exhibits evaluated for the 4-H building? That is OK! You still have the right to a booth space if you'd like it. You could do an informational display about your animals, promote your club, put up photos of what you have worked on during the year, etc.

**What to expect on Pre-Judging Night:** When you arrive at the Fairgrounds, stations will be set up in different locations around the Livestock Barn. You will check in at the registration table, find the station for your project area, and meet with a judge. The judge will ask questions about your project, give feedback on things they like and ways to improve, and award you a ribbon. You can then bring your project to the Youth Building for display. If you have questions about the judging process, please contact Melissa at [mss466@cornell.edu](mailto:mss466@cornell.edu).

**\*All 4-H building projects, except Horticulture, will be judged on Tuesday, August 4th from 4-8pm.**

**\*All Horticulture projects will be judged on Monday, August 10th from 5-6:30pm.**

**ONLINE REGISTRATION CAN BE FOUND HERE:**

**[waynecountyfair4h.fairentry.com](http://waynecountyfair4h.fairentry.com)**





# IMPORTANT ANIMAL SCIENCE INFORMATION

**Animal Entries Forms Needed:** All animal entries need to be submitted online with a project record sheet and registration forms if appropriate. No late entries will be accepted - all animal entries are due July 10th.

**Rabbit/Cavy/Poultry Exhibitors:** Exhibitors of rabbits/cavies/poultry should bring one bag of shavings for every six animals you bring.

**Animal Set-Up:** The set-up of housing for animals at the Fair will take place on Friday, August 7. All exhibitors of these animals are EXPECTED to participate in set-up and clean-up. Large and small animal clean-up will be immediately following the release of animals Sunday night.

**Animal Costume Class:** Exhibitors showing project animals are encouraged to enter the Costume Show. All animals, large and small, and their exhibitors can join the fun.

**Poultry Pullorum Testing:** Required testing yearly, unless purchased from a certified pullorum negative hatchery. Proof of purchase must be provided. Testing for 2026 will be at CCE Wayne on June 16<sup>th</sup> at 4pm.

**Leasing vs. Owning:** When submitting your animal papers for the Wayne County Fair, if you are exhibiting a registered animal in beef, dairy, sheep, and/or goats you will need to also submit your registration papers. If the animal is not in your name, you will need to fill out lease papers. Lease papers are due by June 15th. If you do not have registration papers for your animal and you own your animal, you will need to enter them in the grade or nonregistered class.

**Animal Lease Information:** Please review the animal lease rules, these rules are in effect for ALL animals and correspond with the 4-H State leasing regulations.

- Youth can lease 2 project animals in the same species.
- Youth CANNOT own and lease in same species.
- Market animals cannot be leased.
- Lease paperwork is due June 15th to the 4-H office. If you need further information or have questions please feel free to contact the 4-H office.

**Animal Release Time:** All animals will be released at 4pm on Sunday, August 16.

*Calling all 4-H horse project participants!* Have you considered staying at the Fair rather than trailering in and out? It would be great to have several horses willing to stay for couple of days (even if not the whole Fair) to give fairgoers the opportunity to see more horses!

Let Kailey know at [kek255@cornell.edu](mailto:kek255@cornell.edu) if you are interested in finding out more!

## Animal Arrival

Large animal exhibitors, when arriving at the fairgrounds, you must do so through the south gate on West Foster St. You are requested to continue straight across the track and into the infield and wait in line to be checked in by NYS Ag and Markets. **\*\*UNLOADING ON THE TRACK IS PROHIBITED\*\***

**DO NOT** unload any animals prior to being checked in by NYS Ag and Markets.

Small animal exhibitors can continue to the poultry and rabbit/cavy tent. A teen leader will be check these species for any illness and report to 4-H Staff if there are any concerns.

NYS Ag and Markets will NOT be on the fairgrounds to begin the check in process until 1:00 PM. Please plan accordingly. **\*\*Do not arrive early and unload\*\***

Remember to have the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection available at arrival. It is a good idea to also take a picture of it, to have as a back-up until you are able to access it.



# CLOVERBUDS

## CLOVERBUDS: IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Cloverbuds must submit entries by July 10th.
- Cloverbuds entry cards will be printed and available at registration the night of pre-judging for static items. We suggest making a list of exhibits entered so you don't forget anything when you leave!
- Cloverbud youth will exhibit in ONE class only per species. This will be a showmanship class for all project animal species, with the exception of Equine.
- Equine Program – We follow the NYS 4-H Equine Cloverbud policies: [www.cals.cornell.edu/nys-4-h-animal-science-programs/livestock/horses/equine-cloverbuds](http://www.cals.cornell.edu/nys-4-h-animal-science-programs/livestock/horses/equine-cloverbuds)

### Cloverbuds should be able to do the following:

- Safely handle their animal in and outside of its cage or pen.
- Tell the judge how to take care of the animal.
- Cloverbuds may be asked the following items by a judge.
  - Identify the breed, sex and age of their animal.
  - Show where signs of illness might occur.
  - Tell the judge where the animal came from.
- Please do not stress if your child does not know the answer or if the child is unable to communicate an answer. These are simply some suggested topics for you to discuss with your child prior to fair involvement.





# WHERE IS 4-H AT THE FAIR?



## Monday - August 10

12:00pm – 4-H Poultry Show

5:00-6:30pm – 4-H Horticulture Judging

## Tuesday - August 11

10:00am – 4-H Driving Mini/Horse Show

11:00am – 4-H Goat Show

1:00pm – 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show

5:00pm – 4-H Dog Show

## Wednesday - August 12

10:00am – 4-H English (Huntseat) Horse Show

10:00am – 4-H Dairy Cattle Show

3:00pm – 4-H Beef Show

## Thursday - August 13

10:00am – 4-H Western/Ranch Horse Show

12:00pm – 4-H and Open Sheep Show

3:00pm – 4-H and Open Swine Show

## Friday - August 14

10:00am – 4-H Gymkhana Horse Show

1:00pm – 4-H Milk and Cookie Contest

5:30pm – 4-H Livestock Auction

## Saturday - August 15

11:00am – 4-H Large Animal Super Showmanship

2:00pm – 4-H Small Animal Super Showmanship

## Sunday - August 16

10:00am – 4-H Costume Class

11:00am – 4-H Herdsmanship Awards

**EXHIBIT BUILDING OPEN 10AM-10PM DAILY!**

**DAIRY BOOTH OPEN 11AM-10PM DAILY!**

Complete Fair Schedule can be found at: [www.waynecountyfair.org](http://www.waynecountyfair.org)

## **IMPORTANT DAIRY BOOTH INFO FOR 2026**

- **No** Cloverbuds will be able to work in the Dairy Booth.
- A **maximum of 8** people will be allowed in the Dairy Booth at one time (kids and adults total).
- Only the teen leader/assistant or an adult will be running the cash register.
- When you get a free ice cream ticket for working in the Dairy Booth, you will need to leave and come back as a customer.
- *If you sign up for a shift, please plan to stay the entire time.*



# 4-H Livestock Auction!

**August 14th**  
**5:30pm**

Come support the 4-H Livestock Auction Program members as they complete their 2026 Livestock Auction Program and all their hard work. Each member has made a commitment to attend mandatory meeting and clinics since October 2025.

**If you are interested in more information on how to join the program this fall, please contact Kailey at [kek255@cornell.edu](mailto:kek255@cornell.edu).**



## Sign-Ups

### Dairy Booth



[signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4FAEAE2AA7FDC16-64091983-dairy](https://signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4FAEAE2AA7FDC16-64091983-dairy)

### Pre-Judging Night



[signupgenius.com/go/10C0545AEAF2FA1FCC07-64095418-wayne](https://signupgenius.com/go/10C0545AEAF2FA1FCC07-64095418-wayne)

### Milk & Cookies



[forms.gle/bQgsu8dgTfZbztacA](https://forms.gle/bQgsu8dgTfZbztacA)

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## 2026 4-H EXHIBIT BUILDING THEME



**Red, White and Blue!**

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