

# Lafayette 4-H Hotline

## Monthly Lesson Focus

### Communication

Communication is an important life skill that is key to being successful now and in the future. This lesson helps 4-H youth understand the lasting emotional impact of hurtful language and the importance of choosing words that build trust and inclusion. Through interactive activities like the Clover exercise, members experience firsthand how unkind remarks can leave lasting “scars,” even after apologies, fostering empathy and self-awareness. By practicing respectful dialogue, appropriate word choice, and sincere apologies, students strengthen communication skills that meet ELA standards and prepare them to contribute positively to their communities



## National 4-H Week

This year, National 4-H Week falls on October 5<sup>th</sup> through October 11<sup>th</sup>. Each year, we encourage clubs to get involved with National 4-H Week through volunteerism, service-learning, and kindness to all! For more information, along with promotional materials, visit [www.4-h.org](http://www.4-h.org). Check our social media to see how other members are celebrating!

## Officer Training

Officer Training will take place on Thursday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> at Lafayette Elementary School from 5:00-6:30 PM. The Junior Leaders have planned a mock meeting and individual workshops to help guide officers through their roles and responsibilities. Each club officer will receive from school Leaders a copy of the roles and responsibilities of the elected office along with any forms that may help carry out the job duties. We will begin judging club meetings starting next month, so make sure to review all materials shared, making your meetings run smoothly!

## October 2025



Lafayette Office

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Lafayette, LA 70501

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[www.lsuagcenter.com](http://www.lsuagcenter.com)

### Points of interest:

- Monthly Lesson Focus
- National 4-H Week
- Project Books
- 4-H is for EVERYONE!
- Fall Fest
- Join 4-H Junior Leader
- Officer Training
- Bash on the Bayou
- Fashion & Beyond on Tour



# 4-H is for EVERYONE!

4-H is fun! 4-H is learning! 4-H offers a whole new world of opportunities for youth to learn new things, go new places, and meet new friends. After all, 4-H is the largest youth organization in the United States!

## Who can join 4-H?

Any 4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grader who attends school in Lafayette Parish and is willing to follow the 4-H ideals and standards is eligible to join. Those who attend school outside of Lafayette Parish but live in Lafayette Parish are also eligible through our Member-at-large program.

(Re-)Enrollment will be done electronically through 4-H Online. We have successfully transitioned to this enrollment, program management, and event management platform. Whether a member is logging in to manage their record, a Volunteer Leader is completing their training or screening requirements, or a parent is viewing the 4-H program's online event calendar, 4-H Online will bring the Louisiana 4-H community together and keep everyone involved. 4-H Online is fully encrypted; Member and Volunteer information is safe, backed up continuously, and fully secured.

## How do I join 4-H?

1. Information has been shared with school club leaders and on [www.facebook.com/lafayette4h](http://www.facebook.com/lafayette4h)
2. All Members previously enrolled through 4-H Online last year will receive detailed instructions on re-enrollment.
3. Choose **one** project. If you choose a livestock animal project, you may choose more than one book.
4. All 4<sup>th</sup> graders must select the "Discovering the World of 4-H" project.
5. All 5<sup>th</sup> graders must select the "Exploring the World of 4-H" project.
6. Pay your dues online. Check with your school club Leader for the dues amount and due date.
7. If there is a 4-H Club at your school, you must be a member of that club.

8. If you plan to participate in livestock or shooting sports, please complete enrollment in 4-H Online as soon as possible; if you are new, please call the Lafayette Parish 4-H Office for program details.

This newsletter, the 4-H Hotline, will be distributed each month from September to May. These will be posted virtually in school clubs and on our website. If you have any questions concerning our Lafayette Parish 4-H program, call us at (337) 291-7090.

## Join 4-H Junior Leader

Be part of the action! Stand out in the crowd! Being part of the Junior Leader Club certainly has many advantages. The Junior Leader Club takes the lead role in Lafayette Parish service-learning. The club helps with contest days, workshops, serves as Camp Counselors, and more. This is one of the greatest experiences a 4-H'er can have.

Membership is open to all 4-H'ers in grades 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> in Lafayette Parish. If you missed the September meeting, come to the next one scheduled for 5:30 PM, Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at the 4-H Office.

## Project Books Arriving Soon!

Each 4-H member who paid their dues should receive either a project book or an activity guide. 4-H members should start reading and working in their booklets when received. Record sheets located in each book should be completed over the next five (5) months. These record sheets will be incorporated into the overall 4-H Record Book that 4-H'ers are to **turn in on February 27<sup>th</sup>**.

How to complete a 4-H Record Book will be discussed at a special **Record Book Workshop** that is scheduled for Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. The workshop will be held at J Wallace James with more details to be provided in the November Hotline.

## Fall Fest

One of our biggest contest days is Fall Fest, to be held at Live Oak Elementary on **Saturday, November 8th**.

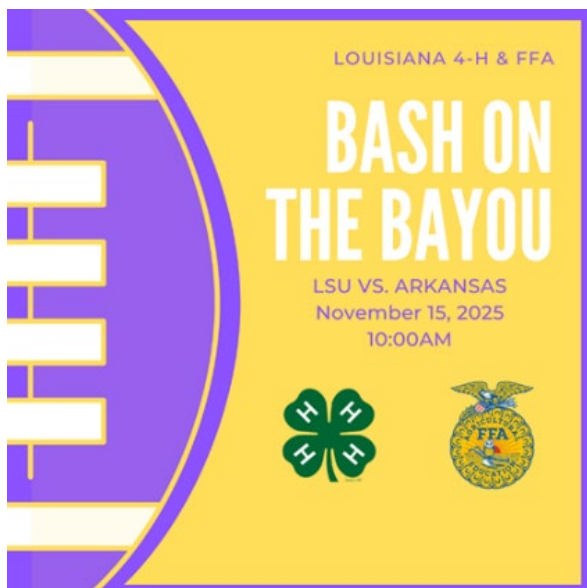
The contests will include Bicycle Rodeo, Poster Contest, Pumpkin Decorating Contest, Rabbit Show, Pet Show, and the Commodity Cookery Contest. Rules for the contests will be given to all 4-H'ers in October. The Rabbit Show requires pre-registration, so be sure to **submit rabbit entries by October 3<sup>rd</sup>**.

The day will be a ton of fun! Adult Volunteers are welcome to assist, so please call the 4-H Office to find out more.



## Cooking Club Meeting

The Louisiana 4-H Food Challenge offers members the opportunity to showcase their skills in the kitchen along with their general nutrition knowledge. Lafayette 4-H had members compete the last two years and will have an interest meeting on Monday, October 13, 2025 from 5:00-6:30 PM at the Lafayette 4-H Office (1010 Lafayette St. Suite 325, Lafayette, LA 70501). Anyone interested in learning more about the competition should attend. Please call the 4-H Office (337) 291-7090 to RSVP for the meeting.



## Bash on the Bayou

The 2025 Bash on the Bayou will be held on Saturday, November 15th in the 4-H Mini Farm. Doors will open at 8:00 am and close one hour before kickoff. The registration fee is \$5 per person, which includes sausage biscuits, donuts, coffee, milk, and juice, and plenty of opportunities to network with 4-H and FFA members from across the state. Game tickets can be purchased at a discounted rate of \$35 each. Please contact the Lafayette 4-H Office for the registration and tickets links if you are interested in attending.

4-H STATE FASHION BOARD - PROUDLY PRESENTS

### FASHION & BEYOND ON TOUR

Join us at one of our venues as we travel the state bringing fashion to your fingertips.

<b>Tour Ticket Price:</b> *Limit 60 per location <b>\$35 / person</b>	<b>Grades:</b> <b>5th-12th</b>
<b>January 19, 2026</b> 10:00 am - 3:00 pm <b>Acadia 4-H Office</b> 157 Cherokee Drive Crowley, LA 70526	
<b>January 24, 2026</b> 10:00 am - 3:00 pm <b>Alexandria Evacuation Center</b> 8125 Hwy 71 South Alexandria, LA 71302	
<b>Questions:</b> Contact your local 4-H agents for more details	
<b>Register:</b> <a href="https://v2.4honline.com/">https://v2.4honline.com/</a>	

## Fashion & Beyond on Tour

The 4-H Fashion Board would like to invite you to come experience the Fashion & Beyond On Tour. You will get a closer look at all aspects of the fashion world, from newspaper runways, color wheels, upcycling, fibers, to basic sewing fundamentals. You will engage in multiple sessions of activities planned by the fabulous fashion board.

Items to bring:

- Sack lunch
- Terry cloth dish towel (21"x27")
- 2.5 yards of 1.5 inch wide ribbon (choose a color that compliments your towel)

Join us at one of our venues as we travel the state bringing fashion to your fingertips!

# Louisiana Commodity Sale

Just in time for the holidays, the Lafayette Parish 4-H Foundation will be sponsoring a Louisiana Sweet Potato, Rice, and Pecan Sale! Prices are as follows:

- Orange or White Sweet Potatoes (10 lbs.): \$12.00
- Orange Sweet Potatoes (40 lbs.): \$25.00
- Peeled Pecans (1 lb. bag): \$12.00
- Peeled Pecans (3 lbs. box): \$30.00
- Aromatic Rice (2 lbs. bag): \$7.00
- Aromatic Rice (5 lbs. bag): \$13.00
- Aromatic Rice (20 lbs. bag): \$35.00
- LSU AgCenter Gardening Calendar: \$14.00

All checks should be made payable to the 'Lafayette 4-H Foundation' and can be mailed, along with an order form, to the Lafayette 4-H Office:

Lafayette 4-H Office  
1010 Lafayette St. Suite #325  
Lafayette, LA 70501

**Order deadline:** Monday, November 10<sup>th</sup>

**Pickup date:** Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup>

**Pickup location/directions:** Second Harvest Food Bank: 215 E Pinhook Rd: Head east on Pinhook toward the Evangeline Thruway, take left on East Vermilion, then left on Forrest St, and then left on Refinery Street. Line up on right hand side of the road closest to Second Harvest. Turn in gate and drive through.

**Pickup time:** 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.



Like us on Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/lafayette4h](https://www.facebook.com/lafayette4h)

Follow us on Instagram: [@lafayette4h](https://www.instagram.com/lafayette4h)

## Dates to Remember

### October 2025

- 1 First Day of Club Meetings
- 5-11 National 4-H Week
- 6 Livestock Advisory Board Meeting 4-H Office
- 10 Deadline for Enrollment submitted in 4-H Online
- 13 Cooking Club Meeting, 4-H Office
- 16 Junior Leader Meeting, 4-H Office
- 23 Officer Training Workshop, Lafayette Elementary
- 28-11/16 Louisiana State Fair, Shreveport

### November 2025

- 3 First Day of Club Meetings
- 8 Fall Fest, Live Oak Elementary
- 10 Validation Kits Due and Possession Deadline for all Market: Goats, Lambs, Commercial Does, Ewes, Heifers
- 10 Possession Deadline for Breeding; Beef, Dairy, Sheep and Goats
- 13 Commodity Sale Order Deadline, 4-H Office
- 15 Bash on the Bayou, Tiger Stadium- Baton Rouge
- 18-19 Challenge Camp, Acadian Baptist Center
- 20 Jr Leader Meeting, 4-H Office
- 20 Commodity Sale Pickup, Second Harvest Food Bank
- 25 Junior Leader Po-Boy Sale

Sincerely,

*Nicole Gerard*

Nicole Gerard

Assistant Extension Agent, 4-H Youth Development

**CHARLES HEBERT**

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County Agent, 4-H Youth Development

*Charlene Martin*

Charlene Martin

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