

Lafayette 4-H Hotline

4-H is for EVERYONE!

4-H is fun, educational, and full of opportunities! As the largest youth organization in the United States, 4-H opens doors to a world of new experiences for young people. Members have the chance to learn exciting new skills, explore diverse places, and make lifelong friendships. With its engaging programs and supportive community, 4-H is a place where youth can truly thrive and discover their full potential.

Who can join 4-H?

Any 4th through 12th grader who attends school in Lafayette Parish and is committed to upholding the 4-H ideals and standards is eligible to join. Students attending schools outside of Lafayette Parish but residing within the parish can also participate through our member-at-large program.

Enrollment and re-enrollment are conducted electronically via 4-H Online, a platform we successfully adopted three years ago for program and event management. This system streamlines record management, volunteer training and screening, and provides parents with access to our online event calendar. With its robust encryption, 4-H Online ensures that member and volunteer information is securely protected, continually backed up, and fully safeguarded.

How do I join 4-H?

1. Additional information will be available on www.facebook.com/lafayette4h and will be shared by September 1st.
2. If you were previously enrolled through 4-H Online last year, you will receive detailed re-enrollment instructions.
3. Choose **one** project. If you select an animal project, you may choose multiple project books.
4. 4th graders must choose the “Discovering the World of 4-H” project.
5. 5th graders must choose the “Exploring the World of 4-H” project.
6. Check with your school club leader for the amount and due dates of dues.
7. If there is a 4-H Club at your school, you must join that club.
8. **If you plan to participate in livestock or shooting sports, please complete enrollment in 4-H Online as soon as possible. New members should contact the Lafayette Parish 4-H Office for program details.**

The 4-H Hotline newsletter will be distributed monthly from September to May. It will be available virtually at school clubs and on our website. For any questions about the Lafayette Parish 4-H program, call us at (337) 291-7090.

September 2024

Lafayette Office

1010 Lafayette St., Ste. 325

Lafayette, LA 70501

Phone: (337) 291-7090

Fax: (337) 291-7099

www.lsuagcenter.com

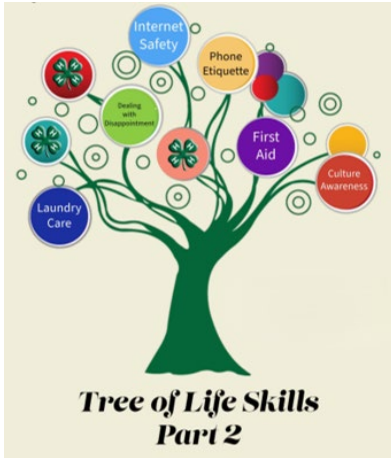
Points of interest:

- 4-H is for EVERYONE!
- Yearly Educational Focus
- National 4-H Week
- Challenge Camp
- State Record Book Contest
- Junior Leader Club
- State Boards
- Service-Learning Focus
- Livestock Exhibitors
- Livestock Validation
- Become a 4-H Volunteer



Yearly Educational Focus

This year we will continue exploring life skills through a series of lessons focusing on culture awareness, first aid, phone etiquette, internet safety, dealing with disappointment, and laundry care. All lessons will be interactive and designed to reinforce soft skills which are essential to building a well-rounded individual!



State Record Book Contest

This year, 24 record books were selected to compete in the State 4-H Record Book Competition. After judging the following members received awards for their winning records:

- Grace Simon- 4-H Ignite, Washington, D.C.
- Emmy Habetz- Alternate for 4-H Ignite, Washington, D.C.
- Julia West- National 4-H Congress, Atlanta
- Mia Arceneaux- Alternate for National 4-H Congress, Atlanta
- Abigail Puckett- 8th grade \$300 Award
- Tucker Berken- 8th grade \$300 Award
- Carlie Simon- 7th grade \$250 Award
- Addison Guillot- 6th grade \$200 Award
- Loni Pearl Callender- 5th grade \$150 Award
- David Landry- 4th grade \$100 Award
- Eva Landry- 4th grade \$100 Award

Congratulations to all who participated, we are very proud of your hard work and dedication!



Challenge Camp

2024 Southwest Region Challenge Camp will be held on November 19-20, 2024, at the Acadian Baptist Center in Eunice, LA. All members currently enrolled in 4-H and in 7th and 8th grades may apply to attend. Applications are due to the Lafayette 4-H Office by September 13th so that they can be reviewed, and notices sent out to those accepted in early October. Please contact Mrs. Nicole at ngerard@agcenter.lsu.edu if you need an application or have questions.



Junior Leader Club: Calling All 8th-12th Graders

Lafayette's Junior Leader 4-H Club is made up of older 4-H'ers from across Lafayette Parish who are in grades 8th-12th. Do you have teens that would like to be involved in the community in a leadership role, but just not sure how to go about it?

Junior Leader kick-off the new year with a "Party in the Park on Saturday, August 17th from 3:00-6:00 PM at Girard Park. All 4-H'ers in grades 8th to 12th are invited to attend. They will need to contact Nicole Gerard at ngerard@agcenter.lsu.edu to RSVP.



Lafayette 4-H'ers on State Boards

Each year, at 4-H University, 4-H members from around the state of Louisiana compete to be a part of state leadership boards. Lafayette Parish 4-H is well-represented this year; our state board members are as follows: **Braden Benoit** (Citizenship Board) **Ali Mejia** (Citizenship Board) **Carter Aucoin** (Executive Board and Livestock Ambassador) and **Lexi Savoy** (Livestock Ambassador). Congratulations to these exemplary members!

Livestock Exhibitors

As our 4-H year begins, some Members make plans to raise and show livestock projects. If you are one of these, there are several things you must do:

1. **New this year**, all members participating in a livestock project will need to add enrollment to the **Lafayette 4-H Livestock** club to enroll in their specie project. This will be the only place where the project list of all species is available to select. Members who will be showing animals as part of their school's FFA program will need to add the FFA club for their school to their member profile in 4-H Online.
2. Any animals that you plan to show at the 2025 4-H livestock shows in January-February 2025 must be in your possession and transferred into the exhibitor's name by the designated possession date for that species. Make sure you add the animals to 4-H online by the validation deadline.
3. Parents of new Exhibitors must also contact Mr. Keaton at the 4-H Office (337-291-7090) to discuss the 4-H livestock program and must attend one of the meetings scheduled for new Exhibitors.
4. The 1st Year Exhibitor meeting for livestock is scheduled for Monday, September 26th at 6:00 p.m. (beef, dairy, sheep, goat, swine & poultry). The 1st Year Exhibitor meeting for horse will be held in March. Contact Mr. Keaton at KBertrand@agcenter.lsu.edu for further details.

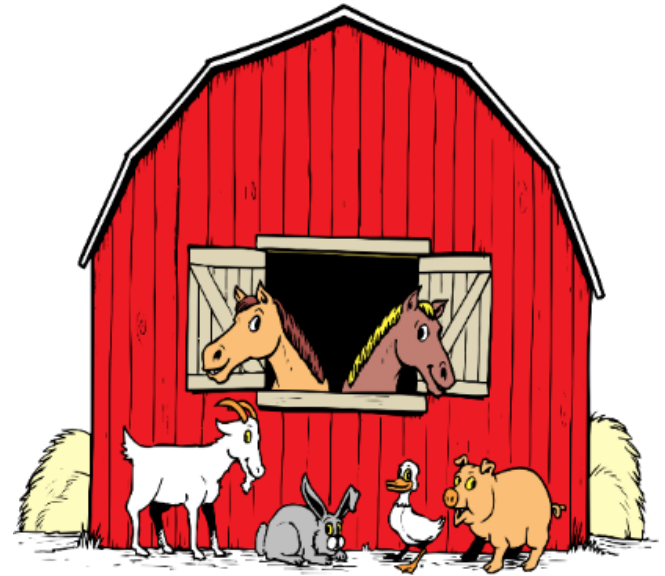
2025 LSU AgCenter Livestock Show Validation Procedure

LSU livestock validation deadlines for most species are approaching. All market and commercial animals must be validated to be eligible for exhibition in parish, district, and state LSU Livestock Shows. During validation, animals will be tagged, DNA tested, and preliminarily classified for entries. Validation kits cost \$7.00 per animal and can be picked up at our office. Payment is due when DNA hair samples are collected, and the kit is returned. Please make checks payable to "Livestock Show Office."

For assistance with validating and tagging your animal, please call 337-291-7090. All animals must be tagged, and DNA samples collected and turned into our office by 4:30 p.m. on the validation deadlines set by the state:

- November 11th: Beef and dairy commercial heifers, market lambs, commercial ewes, market goats, and commercial does
- December 2nd: Market and commercial hogs

Any animal not validated by these deadlines will be ineligible to show at the LSU AgCenter Livestock Shows. If you have any questions, contact us at 337-291-7090



Louisiana Service-Learning Focus

This Louisiana 4-H community service focus for the year is hunger and poverty. Clubs are encouraged to include the state service focus in their school club activities. An example of this would be to have monthly club programs which educate 4-H members on hunger and poverty issues. 4-H'ers are also encouraged to perform community service activities which relate to the state focus.

More information on the state service-learning focus will be provided by the state office in the coming month including activities in which clubs can lead.

National 4-H Week

This year, National 4-H Week falls on October 6th through October 12th. 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. Possible Ideas:

- Create a 4-H themed “billboard” to display in your hallways or on school website
- Say the 4-H pledge during morning announcements
- Promote 4-H in your virtual classroom
- Conduct service in your community



Inspire Change in Our Youth

Join us in creating life-changing experiences for young people in our community. There are countless ways for parents and volunteers to engage more deeply with the 4-H program. As an Adult Volunteer, you will:

- Mentor 4-H youth
- Serve as a leader
- Coordinate local community service projects
- Plan and run exciting events

You can volunteer at your child’s school or get involved at the parish, regional, or state level. To get started, register through 4-H online by creating a profile. For more information about registration and volunteer opportunities, contact our office at 337-291-7090. Make a difference today and become a 4-H volunteer!

Dates to Remember

September 2024

2	Labor Day Holiday, 4-H Office Closed
3	First Day of Club Meetings
3	Junior Leader Officer Meeting, 4-H Office
13	FIRST CALL – 4-H Enrollment Due
13	4-H Challenge Camp Applications Due, 4-H Office
18	Junior Leader Meeting, 4-H Office (Reg. Required)
25	1 st Year Livestock Exhibitor Meeting, 4-H Office

October 2024

1	First Day of Club Meetings
1	Junior Leader Officer Meeting, 4-H Office
6-12	National 4-H Week
11	FINAL CALL – Enrollment Due in Online System
16	Junior Leader Meeting, 4-H Office
29	Officer Training Workshop, Lafayette Middle
30-11/17	Louisiana State Fair, Shreveport



Like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/lafayette4h



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

Sincerely,

Keaton Bertrand

Keaton Bertrand
Assistant Extension Agent, 4-H Youth Development
Lafayette Parish

Nicole Gerard

Nicole Gerard
Assistant Extension Agent, 4-H Youth Development
Lafayette Parish

Charles Hebert

Charles Hebert
County Agent, 4-H Youth Development
Lafayette Parish