

**2023 Piscataquis County Fair - August 24-27, 2023**  
**4-H Project Categories**  
**4-H Club Exhibits**

CONTACT: Sheila Norman (207-564-3301) for further details.

**4-H EXHIBIT & JUDGING CARDS ARE AVAILABLE FROM PISCATAQUIS COUNTY OFFICE**

Please find Rules for the following contests by scrolling below:

1. Entries are open to 4-H members (5 years old but not over 18 as of January 1) in Piscataquis, Somerset and Penobscot Counties who are carrying on approved 4-H projects.
2. Entries must be from current 4-H projects in 2022/2023 4-H year. Exhibits will be judged by the Danish system and will be placed in three groups, BLUE-1st, RED-2nd, WHITE-3rd. Each qualifying exhibit will be awarded a ribbon and premium. Purple ribbons may be awarded to outstanding work done on the exhibit and attached 4-H Skills Card.  
  
**Premiums** for youth **ages 5-8** are:  
Green - \$1.00 (Cloverbuds) GREEN ribbons indicate their participation. They are not in competition with individuals or groups.  
  
**Premiums** for youth **ages 9-18** are:  
Blue - \$3.00  
Red - \$2.00  
White - \$1.00  
Purple - \$10.00 (Judges Awards)
3. Each exhibit must be plainly marked with a 4-H exhibit tag, which is available from the Piscataquis County Extension Office. Any special circumstances that should be considered by the judges should be noted on the back of the exhibit tag.
4. 4-H youth ages 9-18 are required to submit a Fair Exhibit Card and a Life Skills Wheel with their exhibits. Cards may be picked up from your Extension Office.
5. Club leaders are required to submit an "Official Registration Form for Piscataquis County Fair" with their club members' exhibits. This form certifies that all of their club's exhibits were actual 4-H projects. Independent members must also submit this form with their exhibits. This form is available from the Piscataquis County Extension Office (564-3301 or 1-800-287-1491).
6. A maximum of three exhibits per project will be allowed. For example, a 4-H'er may exhibit corn, peas and potatoes in the garden category, but not three corn varieties. Each exhibit will be judged on the basis of individual merit. For example, a 4-H'er may exhibit decoupage, ceramics and a seasonal craft in the Arts and Crafts category, but not three seasonal crafts. Please look for similar categories or call the 4-H Representative if you need assistance in matching 4-H projects with Exhibit Hall classes.
7. All 4-H exhibits (with completed Fair Cards & Exhibit Tags) must be delivered to the Bell Building on Tuesday, August 22, 2023 between 3 PM and 5 PM only. There will be no exceptions to this rule.
8. All 4-H exhibits must be removed from the Bell Building Sunday, August 27, 2023 between the hours of 4 PM and 5 PM.
9. Should any exhibits be of inferior quality or form, in the opinion of the judges, and unworthy of premiums offered, it will be eliminated from the judging.
10. NO "KITS" accepted! Definition of a kit: The prefabrication, assembly, or collection of component parts, which materially diminishes the exercise of those skills the 4-H project is designed to teach.
11. The management reserves the right to grant variances to the above regulations where extenuating circumstances warrant.
12. Disclaimer: The Piscataquis Valley Fair (PVF) will provide care and protection of all exhibits. However, PVF distinctly disclaims any liability for loss or damage to exhibits or personal property of exhibits

## 4-H PROJECT CATEGORIES FOR 2023

If you have any questions concerning the requirements for the project areas listed below, please contact Sheila Norman 207-564-3301

- 101 Aerospace:** Replaces Rocketry the atmosphere of the Earth and the region of space around it; the industry concerned with aircraft, missiles, satellites and spacecraft; travel in space. Projects in this area should focus on the knowledge and research of this frontier science field. No flammable fuels. (See Rule 10 above).
- 102 Agriculture:** The science, art, and business of cultivating the soil, producing crops, and raising livestock. Projects in this area should reflect work in the history of agriculture, global agriculture, current issues such as genetically modified crops, or any other related topic. Work should be thorough and clearly presented through various mediums.
- 103 Aquaculture:** Rearing aquatic animals or cultivating aquatic plants for food. Projects in this area should reflect work in this area, such as raising bait, developing trout ponds, etc. and may be presented through various mediums.
- 104 Art & Crafts:** Activities and hobbies that are related to making things with one's own hands and skills. Projects in this area could reflect work in pottery or ceramics, basket making, seasonal crafts, jewelry, leather craft, candle making, decoupage, glass, stonework, or other areas.
- 105 Beef:** Cattle that are raised for meat. Projects in this area should focus on the production, management, genetics, or skills necessary for the production of quality beef animals. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.
- 106 Bicycle:** Projects in this area all should have something to do with bikes; development of a bike trail, bike safety, research on effectiveness of bike helmets, rules of the road for riding bikes in traffic, uses of bicycles around the world for transportation, inventions of bike accessories, etc. and may be presented through various mediums.
- 107 Cats:** Projects in this area should focus on the care and ownership of this domesticated animal and may be presented through various mediums.
- 108 Child Care & Development:** Child Care is the service involving care for other people's children; development covers the biological and psychological changes that occur between birth and adulthood. Projects in this area should include strategies, tools, safety, child nutrition, and/or research covering stages of child development, etc. and may be presented through various mediums.
- 109 Clothing & Textile Arts:** Clothing includes coverings for the body; a textile is any kind of woven, quilted, knitted, knotted or tufted cloth or nonwoven fabric; this category includes home furnishings made of cloth and decorated cloth or clothing. Projects in this area should include examples of work that demonstrate different techniques and difficulty for level of participant.
- 110 Communications Arts:** The activity of conveying ideas written or verbal. Projects in this area should cover any form of communication including journalism using either traditional or new technology.
- 111 Composting & Recycling:** Composting is the decomposition of biodegradable organic matter; recycling is the art of processing used materials for use in creating new products. Projects in this area should research or demonstrate either composting or recycling by a format of your choice.
- 112 Computer Technology:** The activity of designing, constructing and programming computers. Projects in this area should focus on knowledge of and show examples of computer hardware or programs. Note: this is NOT the area for word processing, website design, or graphic illustrations.
- 113 Creativity Unlimited:** This is the category for all projects that are not listed anywhere else. One to Two projects may be entered in this category and all MUST BE PRE-APPROVED by the 4-H staff.
- 114 Dairy:** Cattle that are reared for their milk production. Projects in this area should focus on the production, management, genetics, or skills necessary for the production of quality dairy animals. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.
- 115 Dog:** Projects in this area should focus on the care, ownership and skills of the owner and animal. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.
- 116 Drawing, Painting, or Sculpture:** Creations that are original in nature and done by the artist. Projects in this category include the areas of charcoal sketching, watercolor or oil paintings, original

sculpture of wood, stone or clay.

- 117 Energy:** Any source of usable power. Projects in this area should research or demonstrate types of energy such as solar, geothermal, nuclear, hydroelectric, wind, coal, fuel oil, renewable, or research of energy efficiency, or projects dealing with electricity are expected, etc. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.
- 118 Engines, Tractors & Field Equipment:** Apparatus for agricultural production. Projects in this area should focus on the uses, maintenance, function, or development of this equipment. Results can be presented in various mediums.
- 119 Entomology & Bees:** The study of insects. Projects in this area should focus on insects, their habitats, their body structure, groups of insect families, current issues in insect health, care and maintenance of bee equipment, etc. No live insects. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.
- 120 Entrepreneurship & Economics:** The practice of business, economics or marketing. Projects in this area should center on business opportunities or business aids that you have developed. Photographs, descriptions of plans, products you have created, brochures, t-shirts or web pages explaining your business or product are all welcome. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.
- 121 Family Life:** All the members of a household under one roof including the strengths and needs of all. Projects in this area should include examples of family events such as game night, or methods of dealing with family stresses including births, hospice, or financial restrictions and how the family developed strategies to thrive during stress. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.
- 122 Foods:** Projects in this area may include samples of foods that have been prepared by the 4-H'er - include a sample of **3 servings on a disposable plate covered with plastic wrap** and write recipe on recipe card. Food will be judged on taste (if appropriate), texture, and appearance. Other examples might be weekly menu plan developed as a plan to good health or specialty purpose— weight loss or gain, diabetes, etc. This is the category for food preservation as well. 4-H'ers should include **two samples of food that has been processed** and include details about processing on the Life Skills wheel. Be aware that items need to be food safe for the judges and will be on display during hot weather.
- 123 Forestry:** The art and science of managing forests, tree plantations, and related natural resources. Projects in this area should research or demonstrate uses; products (including maple syrup), or critical issues in the area of natural forest resources. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.
- 124 Gardening & Horticulture:** This area includes cultivation of plants; fruits, vegetables, flowers, and ornamentals. Projects should reflect work in gardening (either indoors or outdoors) and the production of food items, flowers, herbs, etc. The vegetables should be displayed in the quantities listed:
- Beans or peas—10 pods
  - Radishes or Brussels sprouts—5 each
  - Corn—3 ears
  - Beets, cucumbers, carrots, parsnips, potatoes, onions, peppers or tomatoes (green or ripe) - 3 each
  - Turnips, rutabagas, cabbage, broccoli, melon, squash or pumpkin - 1 each
  - Indoor plant must be alive and healthy.
  - Herbs may be either dried or living
  - Flowers or corsages should be arranged by color, size and present a pleasing visual effect. They may be domesticated or wild flowers—no invasive or poisonous species, please.
  - Ornamentals should be presented by photos or landscape maps indicating the presentation of the planting's. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.
- 125 Goats:** Agile animals that are raised for dairy production, fiber, meat or companionship. Projects in this area should focus on the production, management, genetics, or skills necessary for the production of quality, healthy goats. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.
- 126 Healthy Living:** (Includes Health and First Aid) Taking responsibility by making smart health choices for today and the future. Projects in this area should include research and demonstration on fitness, smoking prevention, drug free activities for teens and families, first aid kits for the family, barn or ATV safety, personal safety of information on the internet, etc. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums
- 127 Hobbies & Collections:** A hobby is a spare-time recreational pursuit; a collection is several things

grouped together and viewed as a whole. Projects in this area should be clearly defined as to what they are and there should be a description of what the judge can expect to see when judging the project. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.

- 128 Home Environment:** (includes Landscape or Exterior Home Beautification, Home Improvement) Deals with the physical surroundings of the home. Projects in this area could deal with exterior decorating, weatherization, modification or repair, edible landscaping, housing for pets, etc. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.
- 129 Horse:** Projects in this area should focus on the management, genetics or skills necessary to produce or maintain quality, healthy animals. Work can be presented in a variety of mediums.
- 130 Industrial Arts:** Hands-on work demonstrating engineering, metalworking or carpentry; knowledge and skills needed to work with tools and machinery. Projects in this area should focus on design and skill development in the areas of industrial arts. Samples of work, design plans, demonstrations, research, etc. are all welcome.
- 131 Leadership:** The ability to influence a group of people to move toward a common goal. Projects in this area should focus on leadership opportunities and the results of those opportunities. These results can be presented in many different ways. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.
- 132 Outdoor Education, Recreation & Environmental Stewardship:** The act of going out into the natural environment, learning about and respecting the environment; forms of recreation that take place outdoors. Projects in this area may cover a specific topic or activity and should include research, demonstration, and a presentation of a specific area of expertise.
- 133 Performing Arts:** Arts or skills that require public performance. Projects in this area could include dance, drama, music, puppetry, mime, clowning, magic, etc. Presentations should include some type of visual that can be viewed or auditory that can be listened to by the judges and public. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.
- 134 Personal Development:** To guide oneself toward improvement and achieving their own aspirations. Projects in this area could focus on an area of self-improvement including but not limited to weight loss, flexibility, learning a new skill, etc. Results should be documented in a thorough way that shows this process but protects the privacy of the individual. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.
- 135 Pets:** Projects in this area will include any animal whose main purpose is companionship and does not have another specific category. Work should focus on the skills and knowledge necessary to own this animal. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.
- 136 Photography & Video:** Act of taking and printing photos; moving pictures stored on computer disk for editing or playback. Projects in this area would include samples of photos taken (4 for ages 9-12; 6 for ages 13 and up) or video clips taken by the 4-H'er and able to be displayed as a project. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.
- 137 Physical Science:** The term for the branch of natural science that studies non-living systems. Projects in this area could focus on rock formation, weather, geology, caves, etc.; may include collections of rock specimens (10 or more-if small; for heavy or large items, consider photography, etc.). Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.
- 138 Poultry:** Domesticated fowl kept primarily for meat and eggs. Projects in this area should focus on the skills and knowledge necessary to produce healthy, productive poultry. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.
- 139 Public Speaking:** Delivering an address to a public audience. Projects in this area can include written copy of any speech to convince, to deliver information, or to entertain on any appropriate topic. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.
- 140 Rabbits:** Domesticated and raised for pets, food, or fiber. Projects in this area should focus on the skills and knowledge necessary to produce healthy, productive rabbits. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.
- 141 Safety:** To view environment; to prevent adverse effects from causing harm to anyone or anything. Projects in this area could include family fire escape plan, toddler proofing plan, research about accident prevention, etc. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.
- 142 Science:** This category is for projects in the fields of biological science, astronomy, chemistry, animal

science, plant science, marine science or any science not covered by another category. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.

- 143 Sheep:** Animals that are raised for fiber, meat or milk. Projects in this area should focus on the skills, knowledge, and equipment necessary to produce healthy, productive sheep. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.
- 144 Swine:** Also called hogs or pigs and used as sources of food or leather. Projects in this area should focus on the skills and knowledge necessary to produce healthy, productive swine. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.
- 145 Shooting Sports:** The activities including hunting, marksmanship, archery, crossbow, and related firearms. Projects in this area may cover safety, equipment, ethics, landowner relationships, etc. and should contain a pictorial demonstration. No firearm and/or projectile equipment may be submitted by a 4-H member for exhibit in the 4-H Exhibit Hall. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.
- 146 Technology & Engineering:** Practical application of existing scientific and engineering techniques rather than theory and design. Projects in this area could focus on bridges, buildings, inventions, power sources, transportation systems, etc. Demonstrations and handcrafted models of ideas could be presented. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.
- 147 Veterinary Science:** The branch of medical science which deals with the study of diagnosis, treatment and prevention of diseases in companion, domestic, exotic, wildlife and production animals. Projects could include observations from a day with a vet, birthing experiences of your own animals; new techniques in veterinary science, etc. Work may be presented in a variety of mediums.

Club Exhibit Contest on next page

## 2023 4-H CLUB Exhibit

Deadline is August 16, 2023

Contact: Sheila Norman 564-3301 or email [Sheila.norman@maine.edu](mailto:Sheila.norman@maine.edu)

1. 4-H clubs are eligible to enter a club exhibit. The youth members MUST prepare exhibits. **You must contact the Piscataquis County Extension Office by Wednesday, August 16, 2023 4:30 PM, if your club plans on having a club exhibit.** NO late entries accepted. Premium may not be given if the August 16, 2023 notification deadline has not been met.
2. 4-H club exhibits must be set up between 3 PM and 5 PM on Tuesday, August 22, 2023 and removed before 5 PM on Sunday, August 27, 2023.
3. 4-H club exhibits will be judged from 10 feet away on the following criteria:
  - Exhibits Theme: (Should express ONE major idea or message) ..... 10 Points
  - Exhibit Title: (Brief and clearly visible in large 4-inch letters) ..... 10 Points
  - Attracts Attention (Objects well placed, sturdy & balanced; items seen 10' away) .. 10 Points
  - Originality (Was imagination and/or creativity used) ..... 10 Points
  - Explanation of 4-H to the public (see below): ..... 20 Points  
(May include: Community Service, Field trips, Demonstrations, Environmental  
&/or Health & Safety Awareness, Media Coverage like 4-H 4-U)
  - Arrangement & Design: (objects in exhibit should be well spaced and balanced) .... 20 Points
  - Workmanship: (quality and neatness of the exhibit; minimum 1-inch lettering) ..... 20 Points
  - TOTAL** ..... 100 POINTS
4. Your Club Name may be a part of the club exhibit! OR Each club may have a poster with their club name and town neatly printed on an 8.5-inch by 11-inch sheet of poster paper or other decorative sturdy paper to be placed on the club exhibit after it has been judged.
5. Premiums plus ribbons will be awarded as follows:
  - 1st - \$35
  - 2nd - \$20
  - 3rd - \$15
  - All others - \$10
6. Disclaimer: The Piscataquis Valley Fair (PVF) will provide care and protection of all exhibits. However, PVF distinctly disclaims any liability for loss or damage to exhibits or personal property of exhibits.