

🍀 What is Lane County 4-H? 🍀

4-H is a youth development program, offering hands-on learning experiences and fun opportunities for youth ages 9-18. Lane County 4-H is dedicated to the three 4-H mission mandates: healthy living, citizenship, and science. Clubs engage in activities and learning experiences throughout the 4-H year in each of these areas. 4-H gives youth a community to call home, plus life-long friendships and skills! In 4-H, youth are learning today, and leading tomorrow.

4-H members, staff, and volunteers all work together to make the most out of their 4-H experience and live by our motto, "To Make the Best Better!"

Who is your 4-H staff?

- 4-H Program Coordinator
- 4-H Education Program Assistant
- 4-H Office Support
- Administrative Program Assistant

Lane County 4-H members are a part of ***Community Clubs***. Community Clubs meet once a month. Within these clubs they participate in a variety of activities:

- Community Service Project
- Record Book Keeping
- Fundraising
- Team Building Games

There are nine community clubs around Lane County:

- Spencer Creek
- East Lane
- South Lane
- North Lane
- Junction City
- London Springs
- Springfield
- West Lane
- Eugene

Within community clubs, there are project groups. Project groups each have a focus on one 4-H project that the group learns about together all year long. Project groups meet at least once a month, but sometimes more. ***Some 4-H projects are:***

- Swine
- Rabbits
- Sheep
- Chickens
- Goats
- Horse
- Beef
- Guinea Pigs
- Dairy Cattle
- Shooting Sports
- Statics

What are Statics? 4-H Static projects are all projects that do not involve raising and showing an animal or physical activity. Some examples include:

- Robotics
- Photography
- Arts and Crafts
- Baking
- Communications
- Sewing
- Entomology
- Gardening
- Wood working
- Poetry
- Performing Arts
- And SO much more!

You can learn more about all 4-H projects offered in Oregon here:

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/4h/project-resources>

There are many opportunities in 4-H that help youth expand their leadership skills!

- Club Officer
- Youth Superintendent
- County Ambassador
- State Ambassador

You can learn more about **youth leadership opportunities** here:

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/4h/lane/member-leadership-opportunities>

I'm not 9 years old yet, can I participate in 4-H? Youth ages 5-8 are considered Cloverbuds! Cloverbuds explore various 4-H project areas to find where their interests are. Cloverbuds attend monthly 4-H meetings, just like 4-H members. Being a Cloverbud is all about having fun, learning, and finding your love for your future 4-H projects.

4-H sounds like so much fun! How do I sign up? You can learn more about enrollment and find the forms here: <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/4h/lane/get-involved-enroll>. It costs \$70 for the 4-H year enrollment, and \$40 for Cloverbuds. If you are unsure of what Community Club you'd like to join, you can leave that section blank and we will help you find a great fit!

What are 4-H Record Books? 4-H Record Books are required to be filled out by all youth in 4-H. These allow you to track what activities you do in 4-H, how often you meet with your club, and your 4-H expenses. Record Books build great record keeping skills for youth! You can learn more about 4-H Record Books and print off forms here: <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/4h/record-books>.

Where can I find educational materials on my 4-H Projects? Part of your 4-H enrollment fee is access to free, educational materials! The Lane County Extension Office, the home of Lane County 4-H staff and programming, has closets full of free curriculum and resources for each 4-H Project! If you are new to the project area, reach out to your club leader or the 4-H staff, and they'll set you up with the appropriate curriculum!

Do I have to participate in the 4-H Fair to be in 4-H? No! 4-H is a year-round program and hands-on, educational experience. You can be greatly involved in 4-H without participating in Fair. Besides regular community club and project group meetings, there are many 4-H events and workshops throughout the year that youth can participate in.

What is the 4-H Fair? The 4-H Fair is an opportunity to show the public and 4-H community what you have been learning throughout the year. Those who raise animal projects will show them throughout the fair week. The animals stay all week during the fair. They move in Tuesday and go home Sunday. 4-H members are expected to be present each day of fair to care for their animals. 4-H is a program to do hands-on work, so during Fair, parents are not allowed to help their youth care for or show their animals, unless there is a safety concern to address. For Static projects, everyone shows the weekend before Fair, then throughout the Fair the projects are displayed for family, friends, and the public. There also fun youth events at Fair exclusively for 4-H youth.

Can Cloverbuds participate in the 4-H Fair? Cloverbuds have the opportunity to participate in fair by entering Static projects, or bringing a small animal to the Cloverbud Show N Tell. Small animals include rabbits, chickens, and cavies, which are shown in front of a judge.

How do I register for the 4-H Fair? In order to be eligible for Fair, you must enroll in 4-H by January 15th. Fair Registration is open from May to June, the exact dates may vary each year. Registration happens

both online and on paper for the 4-H Office's records and online system. Signing up for fair is an additional \$20 fee for 4-H youth.

What does 4-H look like during COVID? 4-H is still here during our current pandemic! The majority of 4-H meetings will happen over Zoom, and some lessons will be through pre-recorded videos. It is good to be in regular contact with your club leader to see what your club is doing during the pandemic. There will also be a series of county-wide virtual workshops on a variety of topics. Depending on what phase our county is in, we will start having small in-person meetings for activities that cannot be done virtually. Lane County 4-H is dedicated to following OSU, OSU Extension, and Oregon Health Authority protocols and regulations to keep our youth and families safe and healthy.