

2026 Wayne County 4-H / FFA / Jr. Fair Poultry Project Guidelines

PROJECT CHECKLIST

- Enroll in 4-H** through 4-HOnline (<https://oh.4honline.com/>) by April 1st. Individual clubs may set an earlier date.
 - Attend Quality Assurance Training:** dates for the 2026 QA sessions: April 7, April 11, May 7, June 2, June 9, and a last chance Quality Assurance will be held on July 21 (fee of \$25.00 will be charged for the last chance QA). Please see the 4-H App calendar for locations and times of these QA sessions. **QA must be completed by July 29, 2026, for the Wayne County Fair.**
 - Junior Fair Book:** Obtain and read a Wayne County Junior Fair Book for rules and regulations for our county fair.
 - Project Record Book:** Purchase, complete and **due** at Skillathon Interview Judging.
 - Possession Date:** Obtain and care for your animal(s) by June 1. The animal must remain in your care during the entire project period or through the duration of the fair (where applicable). See below for specific hatch dates for market poultry projects.
 - Animal ID:** Enter ALL possible and eligible animals (including family back-ups) that you may wish to enter in the fair through 4-H Online by June 1. Help sheets are available at wayne.osu.edu/help.
 - OME:** All exhibitors who wish to participate in the Outstanding Market or Breeding Exhibitor program will take an exam on July 7 or August 4 at the Event Center, Wayne County Fairgrounds. Please visit go.osu.edu/wcjrfairoutstanding to learn more details.
 - Project Completion:** Attend and participate in one of the following: Wayne County 4-H Skillathon Judging or State Fair Poultry Skillathon. *Proof of State Fair Skillathon completion must be submitted to the Wayne County Extension Office by August 6th.*
 - ***REMINDER *Outstanding Exhibitor Exams will NOT count for Skillathon completion.**
 - Fair Entries: Due by 11:59 PM on Aug.1:** Make ALL fair entries online at waynejrfair.fairentry.com for your animal(s). Including all applicable classes (showmanship, breeding, outstanding exhibitor, et.)
 - ***REMINDER* There will be no changes/additions/corrections after Aug 1**
 - DUNF:** All market animals, ALL lactating animals, and ALL feeder calves must complete an electronic DUNF before check-in at the fair. See the August edition of The Link for more information.
 - Read and follow all rules pertaining to your project animal(s) in the Jr. Fair Book. This book should be given to you by your 4-H club advisor in July.*
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Get Connected

- Check the 4-H calendar for the most up to date information regarding our program
 - <https://go.osu.edu/4hcalendarevents>
- News and Notes Email Updates
 - <https://go.osu.edu/newsandnotesemails>
- County Text Messages
 - <https://go.osu.edu/wctextalerts>

2026 Poultry Calendar of Events

- **Wayne County Skillathon:** will be held on July 8, July 9, & August 5 from 6:00-9:00 pm at the Event Center, Wayne County Fairgrounds. – This is a required event
- **Poultry Clinic** – June 9 @ at 7-8pm, Sheep/Goat Arena
- **OME Test:** July 7, 5:00-9:00 pm or August 4, 5:00-9:00pm – Event Center
- **Poultry / Rabbit Barn Set Up Day:** August 29 @ 9:00am–12:00pm – Event Center
- **Market Poultry Sale Photo:** September 7, watch for information in the News & Notes emails and Facebook for link to upload the photo
- **Wayne County Fair Poultry Check in:** Friday Sept. 12 from 12:00 – 9:00 pm
- **Poultry Meat Pick up:** September 22, Jr Fair Office, Wayne County 1:00PM-4:00PM (This date & time is tentative)
- **Poultry Auction:** Wednesday September 16 – Event Center

SHOW DATES

- **Markey Poultry Show:** Monday September 14 @ 8:00 am – Event Center
- **Exhibition and Showmanship Poultry Show:** Tuesday September 15 @ 8:00 am – Event Center

Important Notes

- **Junior Fair check in time is Friday, September 11 from 12:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Poultry will only be checked in on Friday.**
- **ALL POULTRY ANIMAL ID: MUST BE IN THE 4HONLINE SYTEM BY JUNE 1ST.**
- **Prohibited Grooming/Altering Practices:** See Ohio Laws & Administrative Rule 901-19-33
- **Poultry Exhibition:** Exhibitors are only allowed to take **6 Fancy chickens.**
- **Sale Photograph:** Champions are the only animals that will enter the sale ring. Our goal is to display a clean and professional photo of every exhibitor with their animal during the time each exhibitor is selling. Market poultry exhibitors will submit their picture by **September 7**, watch News & Notes for more information.
- **Awards:** All exhibitors who receive a trophy, plaque, or other award sponsored by a donor are

expected to write a Thank You note to the sponsor(s). The Thank You card will be provided with your award. Please turn in your unsealed thank you card to the award box located in the Coliseum or Jr. Fair office. Failure to turn in a thank you card may result in a loss of premium. The name and address of the sponsor can be found on the award. If you cannot find it, contact the Jr. Fair secretary.

- **Section 100 chickens** Class 2 and 4 for Production Hen and Pullet will be a single bird class. One dozen eggs produced by your flock must be brought in on the day of show.
- We will have a Champion and Reserve Champion for Production, Fancy and Bantam Poultry instead of having an overall poultry award.

Hatch Dates

- Geese must be hatched after January 1 of the current year.
- Turkeys earliest hatch date: May 21 or after of the current year.
- Ducks earliest hatch date: July 2 or after of the current year.
- Chickens earliest hatch date: July 16 or after of the current year.
- Fancy/Exhibition Birds must be hatched prior to May 31 of current year.

Wayne County Fair Poultry Weights
Market Chickens: Min 5 lbs. Max 8.5 lbs.
Market Ducks: 5 lbs. minimum
Market Goose: recommended 6 lbs.
Market Turkey: Min 20lbs Max 40 lbs.

Wayne County Fair Poultry Definitions
Cock: Male previous year
Cockerel: Male current year
Hen: female previous year
Pullet: female current year
Drake: male
Duck: female

Outstanding Exhibitor Awards Program

*All exhibitors who wish to participate in the Outstanding Market or Breeding Exhibitor program must complete ALL requirements of the contest to be eligible to compete.

Please visit <https://go.osu.edu/wcoutstandingexhibitorcontest> to learn more details.

- **Make a Fair Entry in the Outstanding Exhibitor program for your species by August 1.**
- Complete an OE Test: Dates: July 7 and August 4 from 5-9 pm.
 - If you are not able to attend on these dates, notify the Extension office ASAP. You may take the test at the office between July 7 and August 4 in the office.
- Complete a Wayne County Skillathon
- Show in the appropriate showmanship class AND animals breeding/market class.
- Complete a Project Book and turn in by October 2 to the OSU Extension Office

General Information

- Each member must participate in a state-approved Quality Assurance training AND the Wayne County or Ohio State Fair Poultry Skillathon in order to be eligible to exhibit at the Wayne County Junior Fair. If completing QA and/or Skillathon outside of the county, you must submit proof of completion to the Extension office no later than August 5.
- **SHOW Attire:** A long sleeved, plain white shirt or white coat, nice jeans, and closed-toe shoes are **required** for showmanship and breed classes. White jackets/shirts must be PLAIN. There will be no pins, patches, buttons, embroidery, or any supplemental decoration EXCEPT exhibitor number.
- Exhibitors in the Junior Fair are not permitted to wear any type of commercial advertisements or names on their clothing while in the show or auction ring.
- It is essential that all animals have clean water at all times during the fair. Please ensure that you have a watering bowl/container of adequate size for your poultry.
 - A gallon milk jug with the top cut off is a cheap option that works well! Make sure the container you choose is secured to the cage.
 - Keep in mind that ducks especially love to play in their water and may require a larger container.
- The Wayne County Junior Fair Book is available to all Junior Fair exhibitors in July. The Junior Fair Book should be distributed to club members by their advisor. All details pertaining to the fair are listed in this book and in the August "Link" newsletter, which is sent to every Jr. Fair family.
- **Poultry Limits: Exhibitors are only allowed to take six fancy or exhibition chickens to fair;** however, they may only make one entry per class. Members may only sell two poultry meat pens OR a poultry meat pen and a rabbit meat pen. ALL poultry and rabbit meat pen classes will be a terminal show and sale. All poultry meat pens will be sold on Wednesday at the Junior Fair Auction and must go to a market. All market rabbits will be turned.
- Exhibitors wishing to participate in showmanship must make an entry for their respective showmanship class when completing the Junior Fair Entry form due August 1. All ages are as of January 1 of the current year.
- All poultry projects must be in place by Friday, September 11 at 9:00 pm. Poultry projects can be checked in between 12:00 pm and 9:00 pm on Friday, September 11.
- All market poultry projects are required to fill out an electronic DUNF **AFTER** arriving birds are tagged at check-in. DUNF's MUST be completed prior to start of Poultry show.
- Do not bring your NPIP papers with you to check-in! Your NPIP papers must be uploaded into 4-H Online by August 1 or on file with the Extension Office.

- All animals MUST be checked prior to placing them in pen on arrival and will be sent home if exhibiting signs of illness or external parasites. Please bring clean birds to check in. If animals are not checked in during check in times, animals will be sent home. *The committee suggests putting shavings in the pens to keep them clean during transportation.*
- The breed and showmanship classes will be place top 1-5 exhibitors.
- Poultry that are overweight will be put into an overweight class and will not be eligible for champion.
- Junior Fair participants are not permitted to bring additional birds into the barn to sell or exhibit after Friday, September 11, at 9:00 pm. Members are not permitted to post "For Sale" signs on their cages at the fair.
- **Buyer/Add-on Thank You Notes:** ALL Jr Fair Exhibitors that have sold a market project or received add-on monies MUST write a "thank you" note to their buyer(s) or add-on donor(s). Exhibitors can find the name and address of the buyer or donor posted on our website *one week after the fair*. The "thank you" note needs to be placed in a stamped, sealed, and addressed envelope and delivered to the Extension Office before the checks will be sent to the exhibitors.
 - *Checks for the market projects or add-on monies will be sent to exhibitors only after a "thank you" note is presented to the Extension Office.*
- **Daily Care:** All animals being housed at the Wayne County Fair, MUST receive proper care, feed and water at least twice a day, exhibitors are to keep their animal pens clean. Those in violation will receive warnings from the committee, if not resolved those individuals will be turned into the Jr Fair Office, Extension staff or to the Wayne County Agricultural Society. Only the exhibitor or family members of the exhibitor are to maintain the care of their animals.

FANCY TURKEYS

Fancy Turkeys are not shown at the fair.
Fancy turkey projects may be exhibited as a still poster in the Junior Fair building.
The poster project must be judged at project judging and members must complete Skillathon.

Market Poultry

- **All Market Poultry needs to be in the 4HOnline system by June 1.**
- All market poultry projects are required to complete an electronic Drug Use Notification Form (DUNF) after arriving once birds are tagged at check-in.
- **Pen Cleaning:** Please remove feed from your market animal by 6:00 pm on Wednesday. Market exhibitors can clean their pens any time after animals leave on Wednesday night. (**Pens are NOT to be cleaned BEFORE the animal leaves.**)

- Chicken Meat Pen: (two birds) exhibitor must have ONE market chicken animal ID in the 4-H Online system by June 1. Must be hatched no sooner than the Wayne County Fair Hatch Date. It is required that chicks be from an approved NPIP hatchery. Chickens in the meat pen should be of the same sex and not under *5 pounds* or over *8.5 pounds per bird*. Meat pens with either animal under 5 pounds will not be able to exhibit, and the pen will be sent home. Animals sent home are disqualified and the participant is not eligible to show in the applicable class. Birds over 8.5 pounds may show in the overweight class but are not eligible for Grand or Reserve Champion.
- Meat Duck: (one bird) exhibitor must have animal entered in the 4-H Online system by June 1. Must be hatched no sooner than the Wayne County Fair Hatch Date. Meat ducks must reach a minimum weight of 5 pounds.
- Meat Goose: (one bird) must be of current year's hatch, exhibitor must have animal entered in the 4-H Online system by June 1. Recommended weight limit is 6 pounds, but there is not a minimum or maximum limit. Market geese are a very seasonal commodity; it is recommended that you order them in January to receive geese with a March hatch date. The best places to get market geese are Eagles Nest, Myers, Cackle, and Murray McMurray.
- Meat Turkey: (one bird) must be of current year's hatch, exhibitor must have animal entered in the 4-H Online system by June 1. Must be hatched between the Wayne County Fair Hatch Dates. Turkeys must come from an approved NPIP hatchery. Champion Class will consist of birds between 20 and 40 pounds at weigh-in. Meat turkeys that are under 20 lbs. will not be able to exhibit and will be sent home. Animals sent home are disqualified and the participant is NOT eligible to show in the applicable class. Birds over 40 pounds may show in an overweight class but are not eligible for Grand or Reserve Champion.

POULTRY HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

- It is recommended that you buy your chicks from an approved National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) hatchery; or that your supplier buys from an approved NPIP hatchery. **Be sure to request a dated proof of purchase to be turned in when fair entry is made.** This dated document must be on file with the Extension Office by August 1.
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Questions? Please contact your 4-H Advisor or the Wayne County Extension Office (330) 264-8722.

4HOnline Animal ID Instructions

Every animal that may be taken to the fair MUST be identified in Oh.4honline.com by June 1 including Market Poultry and Market Rabbits. Please complete the following steps through 4-HOnline to add your Animals' information.

Step 1:

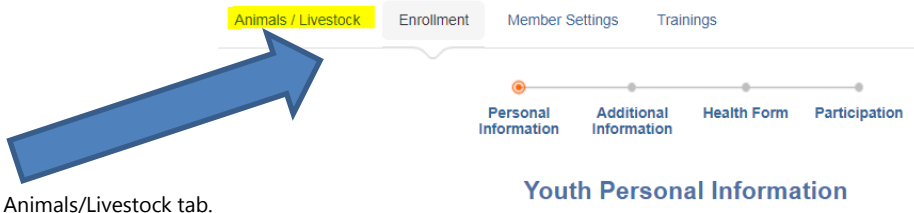
- Log in to Oh.4honline.com
- Click "I have a profile"



- Click



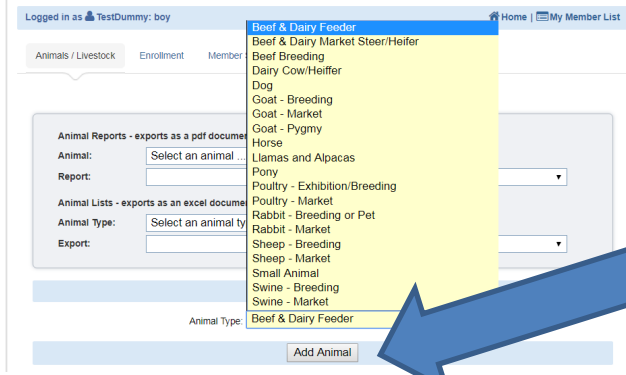
- To the right of your name, click



- Next, click on the Animals/Livestock tab.

Step 2:

- Select the animal type you want to submit then click "Add Animal"



Step 3:

- Fill in the information – **ALL BOLD FIELDS MUST BE COMPLETED!**
- Add documents and photos of your animal. Click the "Select" button and find the file or photo. (Acceptable file formats include PDF or .jpg)

Step 4:

- MAKE SURE ALL INFORMATION IS COMPLETE AND ACCURATE! You cannot edit the information once you hit save.



- After you have made sure everything is complete, click

** To add additional animals, start at Step 2 and repeat! **

If you happen to find a mistake on an animal that has already been submitted, it cannot be edited by members. You will need to create a new animal with the correct information, or you can contact the Extension office and they will make the change only if it is before the deadline. The ONLY exemption to this is if an animal tag is lost and replaced.

Species specific requirements can be found at wayne.osu.edu/help

The following table lists the fields in 4-HONLINE Animal ID Poultry Section and details which are required and which are optional to complete.

	Poultry Fancy (including breeding, exhibition, and production)	Market Poultry 1 Animal ID Per Pen
Animal Name*	Required*	Optional
Animal Age	Optional	Optional
Hatch Date	Required	Required
Breed	Required	Required
Breeder Name	Required – n/a if unknown	Required
Colors & Markings*	Required*	n/a
County Raised	n/a	n/a
Animal Gender	Required	Required
Tag (leg/wing band)	Optional	Optional
Type of Poultry (chicken, duck, turkey)	Required	Required
Files/Photos of Animal		
Front of Animal	Required	Required
Left Side of Animal*	Required*	Optional
Right Side of Animal*	Required*	Optional
Tag/Identifier Photo:	Optional	Optional
Pullorum Document	Required	Required
County Document (NPIP Paperwork)*	Optional	Required* - if NOT purchased through Extension Office
Animal Lease Agreement	Optional	Optional