

Information Overview for 4-H Families

Welcome to Wirt County 4-H! We encourage you to go through the Parent and Member guide book provided to you by your club leader. This book has a table of contents to find helpful information on exhibiting at the Wirt County Fair, general 4-H information, project books, and activities we do throughout the year. If you have questions at any time, please reach out to your club leaders or the County Extension Office. You can reach the WVU-Wirt County Extension Office at 304-275-3101 or email Callie Daugherty, Wirt County Extension Agent, at callie.daugherty@mail.wvu.edu.

How many meetings should I attend?

We encourage 4-H members to attend every meeting they can! To exhibit at the Wirt County Fair, a 4-H member must attend 6 club meetings or county activities. Your club may have requirements for paying for camp or attending other events.

When is the deadline to turn in my enrollment form?

Please consider turning in your enrollment form at the first meeting you receive it! While 4-H is an open enrollment organization, meaning you can join and participate at any time, we encourage you to turn in enrollment forms by December 1st.

What project book do I have to take?

All first-year 4-H members must take This is 4-H. Older first-time 4-H'ers (12 and older) may elect to take the 4-H: Philosophies and Traditions book in place of This is 4-H. This book is more challenging and is designed for older youth. If you plan to show an animal, you must take a project book and record book that corresponds to that animal. We encourage all members to enroll in at least two project books each year.

How do I complete a project book?

Each project book comes with a scoresheet that explains exactly what you need to do to complete that project. Many project books are multi-year books, meaning you will do 6-7 activities in that book each year for 2-3 years until it is completed. If your struggling to complete activities, there is a project leaders guide for each book that can be checked out of the county office at anytime.

- Activities are usually 1-2 pages in your book. All activities are listed at the beginning of the book. You must do all activities and answer all questions within that activity for full credit.
- If you want to do the "More Challenges" activities, usually located in the bottom right or left-hand corner of the activity page, you must write 3-5 sentences about the activity answering Who? What? When? Where? and Why? To get credit for the activity. Just checking off the activity will result in a "zero" for that activity.

When should I work on completing my project book?

Project books are due to the county Extension Office by July 17th, 2019. Because most books only require 6-7 activities per year, make it a goal to complete one activity each month. Project books are scored based on effort and completion. There will be project book work days after school beginning in 2019.

When do I need to call the Extension Office?

The Extension Office keeps records on every 4-H member. You should call the office if:

- You are changing project books or you will not complete a project book. The deadline to turn in project books you won't complete is June 1, 2019. If you don't turn in uncompleted project books by this date, this will factor into your club's project completion rate.
- You have a change in address, phone, email, or other personal information that was turned in with enrollment forms. This includes health history or media releases.
- You would like to switch to a different project book.
- You have registered for an event and are no longer able to attend.

How will I know what's going on?

We use several methods to keep our parents, members and volunteers up to date. The first is our Facebook page – Wirt County WV 4-H. This is a group that has 2-3 posts per week. The Extension Service Facebook page, WVU-Wirt County Extension Service, which posts almost daily. The Extension Agent will send out monthly emails and bi-monthly newsletters to each 4-H family. Your 4-H community club is the best way to get information because each club makes announcements at every meeting about what is going on in the county.

Important Dates to Remember

- October 1st – Beginning of the New Club year
- November 15th – Club Officer Training – Wirt County Library 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- December 1st – Enrollment Forms are due to the County Extension Office
- December 1st – Volunteer Enrollment Forms/Re-enrollment Forms are due to the County Extension Office
- December 31st – All volunteer vetting information needs completed
- April 15th* – Camp Enrollment forms are sent out
- May 24th – Camp Enrollment forms are due
- June TBA – Wirt County 4-H Camp
- June 1st – Last Day to Drop a Project Book from your record for 2018-19

July 17th – All project books and activity records are due to the county extension office.

- August 3rd – Barn Cleanup
- August 6-10th – Wirt County Fair

Programs and activities offered by the West Virginia University Extension Service are available to all persons without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, veteran status, political beliefs, sexual orientation, national origin, and marital or family status.

Reasonable accommodations will be made to provide this content in alternate formats upon request. Contact the WVU Extension Service Office of Communications at 304-293-4222.