



Lafayette 4-H Hotline

Consumer Decision Making

What was the last thing you purchased? Was it the only item you looked at or did you have to choose? How did you decide to purchase that item? Consumer Judging is making a decision and telling why you made it. Seldom does a day go by that you don't have decisions to make. When your family buys groceries, you must constantly choose between brands while considering quality, size and cost in making a purchase.

In 4-H, consumer judging is essentially a matter of comparing items and deciding which is better and why.

Our goal is to teach 4-H'ers to make wise consumer choices.

This lesson reinforces the following standards for LEAP testing.

- Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions.
- Report on a topic or text, present an opinion, and use appropriate facts and relevant details to support ideas.



Fashion Show

This year Lafayette Parish 4-H will host the 2026 Fashion Show as part of Achievement Day on Saturday, March 21st at Martial Billeaud Elementary. Prejudging of all garments be held ahead of Achievement Day on Saturday, March 14th at 1:00 p.m. Registration is required by February 27, 2026, in order to participate. If any 4-H Leaders are interested in being a judge for this event, please contact Mrs. Nicole.

February 2026

Lafayette Office

1010 Lafayette St., Ste. 325

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Points of interest:

- Consumer Decision Making
- Fashion Show
- Project Books Due!
- 4-H Talent and Art Contest
- Achievement Day
- Summer Camp
- Eco Quest Workshop



Project Books Due!

How are those project books coming along? At this time, they should be close to completion (or completed!). **All record/project books are due to the Lafayette 4-H Office on Friday, February 27th.** Here are a few things to remember when working on record books:

- Put your name, grade, and school on the outside cover of your book (there may already be a sticker in place with this info; if not, please make sure to write it).
- **4th and 5th graders-** your entire book, including the projects in it, should be as complete as possible. Make sure to complete the end of the book and the questions that are asked there!
- **6th-12th graders-** make sure you turn in a portfolio with your record book. Your record book may be an entire book, or it may be an activity guide (smaller paper pamphlet).
- Awards at the parish level include ribbons and/or cash prizes. If your record book is chosen for the state competition, you can win award trips!

Please call the 4-H Office at (337) 291-7090 with any questions concerning record books. Good luck to all!

Leaders: you may wish to collect record books from your club and then deliver them to the office. You are welcome to set a due date prior to ours if you choose.



4-H Talent and Art Show

Have a talent you want to share with others? Created art that you want to display? The 2026 Lafayette Parish 4-H Talent and Arts Show planning is underway! All 4-H Members are invited to participate.

We are planning for a virtual contest again this year. All contest entries will be submitted electronically using photographs and videos. Registration and entries are due electronically by midnight on Monday, March 2nd.



Achievement Day 2026

It is not too early to start making plans for the upcoming 4-H Achievement Day, Saturday, **March 21, 2026** at Martial Billeaud Elementary. It is our BIGGEST contest day of the entire year! For those members or parents not familiar with Achievement Day, it is the culminating event of the year. It is an opportunity for members to give demonstrations, showcase exhibits, take tests, and participate in workshops.

All 4-Her's should receive a copy of the rules this month and start preparing. Make plans now to participate in Achievement Day and earn points for Outstanding 4-H'er of the year!

Summer Camp Update

Camp applications are still being accepted from 4th, 5th and 6th graders interested in attending summer camp. Once our initial quota has been filled, we will begin a waitlist. Registration invitations will be sent out this month for those that have approved applications.

Each child must have an administrator from the school sign on the back of the form verifying that the student has no major discipline issues. Before any applications are turned in from your club, a leader will need to rank their members based on involvement and participation in the 4-H program. A space is available on the back of the application for your signature and ranking. This is based on how active the members have been beginning from "1" through the total applications received. We will continue taking applications through March or until we reach our quota.

Campers needing financial assistance are encouraged to take advantage of the 4-H Camper Assistance Program. This assistance program is available to members on free or reduced lunch.

4-H Camp will be held **July 27-30, 2026**. Parents, please look at your summer schedule to see if there is a possibility you can attend as an overnight chaperone! Overnight Chaperone training takes about an hour and is good for four (4) years.



Eco Quest Workshop for 4th-6th Grade Members

Eco Quest is a one-day workshop for 4th–6th grade 4-H members where they dive into what it means to be great environmental stewards. Led by the Citizenship Board, these young explorers will embark on a hands-on journey through four exciting stations, each challenging curiosity, build awareness, and inspire action to help protect our planet!

Location: Evac Shelter, Alexandria, LA (9:30 A.M. - 2:30 P.M.)

Event Date: March 30, 2026
Lunch will be provided

Registration: open from **February 2 - 27, 2026**, on 4-H Online under the title - ***Eco Quest - Presented by the State Citizenship Board***

Registration Fee - \$25 per person - This fee must be submitted to complete registration

Members can pay in 4-H Online or via **check/money order payable to Louisiana 4-H Foundation**.

If a check/money order is being used, submit it to the following address:

Brittany Fisher
Attn: Citizenship Board Retreat
170 Knapp Hall
Baton Rouge, LA 70803



Dates to Remember



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February 2026

- 2 First Day of Club Meetings
- 14-21 State Livestock Show
- 13 Scholarship Deadline, 4-H Office
- 14 Valentine's Day**
- 17 Mardi Gras Day, 4-H Office is closed**
- 26 Junior Leader Meeting
- 27 Project Books Due, 4-H Office
- 27 Fashion Show Entries Due, 4-H Office

March 2026

- 2 First Day of Club Meetings
- 2 Talent and Art Entries Due
- 6-8 Junior Leader Conference, Camp Grant Walker
- 7 Parish Shooting Sports Tournament
- 14 Lafayette Parish Fashion Show Pre-judging
- 19 Junior Leader Meeting
- 21 Achievement Day, Marital Billeaud Elem.

Sincerely,

Nicole Gerard

Nicole Gerard

Assistant Extension Agent, 4-H Youth Development
Lafayette Parish

CHARLES HEBERT

Charles Hebert

County Agent, 4-H Youth Development
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