



Lafayette 4-H Hotline

Close of the School Year

Congratulations on a wonderful 2025 – 2026 school year! While it is coming to a close, there is plenty to look forward to in 4-H. Read below and find out more!

Best wishes to our graduating 4-H'ers and thank you for all that you have done for our program. May the future hold all the best for you!



Honor's Night

The Honor's Night Program will be held on Thursday, May 7, 2026, at David Thibodaux STEM Magnet Academy (805 Teurlings Drive). The program will begin at 6:00 PM in the David Thibodaux Cafetorium. Invitations have been sent out to all members being honored and their parents to attend.

4-H Summer Camp

Selected 4-H members in the 4th, 5th, and 6th grades will spend July 27-30 at 4-H Camp Grant Walker near Pollock, LA. Selected 4-H'ers should have already turned in their camp registration along with a deposit. Balance letters will be sent out mid-May.

We have filled our original quota and have requested additional beds. Once we hear if we receive additional beds mid-May, we will notify those members on the waiting list in the order they were received.



May 2026

Lafayette Office
1010 Lafayette St., Ste. 325
Lafayette, LA 70501
Phone: (337) 291-7090
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Points of interest:

- Close of the School Year
- Honor's Night
- 4-H Summer Camp
- 4-H University
- LOST Camp
- Grilling Day Camp
- C.H.E.F. Camp
- 4-H Horticulture Camp
- A Little Farm Fun
- 2026 Livestock...
- Thank You!



4-H University

4-H University will be held June 23-26 at LSU; 4-H members from all around the state of Louisiana gather to compete in contests, participate in educational tracks, and show off their dance moves.

Contests available this year include...

- Career Preparation
- Public Speaking
- Photography
- Livestock Judging
- 4-H Has Talent
- Insect Identification
- Fashion Review
- ... and many more!

An Orientation meeting for all participants attending 4-H University will be held at the 4-H Office on **Tuesday, May 5, 2026 at 6:00 PM**. Please make all efforts to attend so that you can meet the other participants attending and review training opportunities as well as meet with your lead staff coach to arrange practice dates in preparation for your competition.

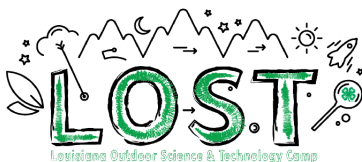
If any of you are interested in helping us train or would like to come as an Adult Leader, please contact Mrs. Nicole at ngerard@agcenter.lsu.edu. Please remind your members to contact us if they are interested in attending and have not submitted their registration form.



LOST Camp

Louisiana Outdoor Science and Technology Camp will take place Thursday, July 30 - Sunday, August 2, 2026, at Camp Gant Walker in Pollock, LA.

We are in the process of reviewing applications received for LOST Camp and will begin notifying campers who have been awarded a spot in the coming weeks.



Grilling Day Camp

Summer is right around the corner, and it's time to have some fun! Join the Lafayette 4-H Office for a grilling summer camp! The camp will focus on Food Safety, Meat Selection, and learning how to grill hamburgers! This camp is open to members in grades 6-8.

Date: Wednesday, May 27, 2026

Time: 9 am-2:00 pm

Location: Acadiana Park Campground

Fee: \$15 per member (includes lunch and snacks)

Registration closes: Monday, May 18, 2026

Registration will take place in 4-H Online. You can find the event listed as Lafayette 4-H Grilling Day Camp- May 27. 2026.

Once registration is completed and payment submitted online, you will receive a confirmation email from 4-H Online and then a follow-up email from LSU AgCenter Staff with further instructions.



4-H Horticulture Camp

Calling all aspiring gardeners and plant lovers! This hands-on camp will focus on both the science and the art of growing plants –as that's what Horticulture is all about! Located at the Ira Nelson Horticulture Center, you will have the opportunity to learn all about plants, landscape design, and much more. Lunch will be provided to all participants.

Date: Thursday, July 16th

Time: 9:00 AM-3:00 PM

Location: Ira Nelson Horticulture Center in Lafayette, LA

Eligible Participants: 4th-6th Graders

Fee: \$20 (lunch included)

Registration closes: Friday, May 30, 2026

Registration will take place in 4-H Online. You can find the event listed as Lafayette 4-H Horticulture Camp- 2026.

Once registration is completed and payment submitted online, you will receive a confirmation email from 4-H Online and then a follow-up email from LSU AgCenter Staff with further instructions.



A Little Farm Fun

With summer right around the corner, students are more than ready for a well-deserved break. To add something fun and meaningful to their time off, the Lafayette Parish 4-H Office is excited to make one of those summer days extra special with an event called *A Little Farm Fun!* Middle schoolers get to “roll up their sleeves” and discover the excitement of the 4-H horse and livestock projects firsthand!

Date: Friday, July 17, 2026

Time: 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM

Location: Acadiana High School FFA Farm (315 Rue du Belier Lafayette, LA 70506)

Eligible Participants: current 4th- 6th grade 4-H members

Fee: \$15 per member (includes lunch and snacks)

Registration closes: Friday, May 30, 2026

Registration will take place in 4-H Online. You can find the event listed as Lafayette 4-H A Little Farm Fun 2026. Once registration is completed and payment submitted online, you will receive a confirmation email from 4-H Online and then a follow-up email from LSU AgCenter Staff with further instructions.



C.H.E.F. Camp

Join our summer camp to discover delicious recipes and awesome nutrition information. Classes are hands-on and interactive, with cooking, tasting, and activities that make learning about food exciting! This camp is open to members in grades 4-5.

Date: July 21-23, 2026

Time: 9:00 am-2:00 pm

Location: TBD

Fee: Free to eligible members based on income requirements as part of EFNEP funding (no meal included, snacks will be prepared as part of the camp)

Registration closes: Friday, May 29, 2026

Registration will take place in 4-H Online. You can find the event listed as Lafayette 4-H C.H.E.F. Camp 2026.

Once registration is completed and submitted online, you will receive a confirmation email from 4-H

Online and then a follow-up email from LSU AgCenter Staff with further instructions.



2026 Livestock Possession Validation Dates

Members interested in participating in The State Fair of Louisiana this coming Fall should be aware of possession and validation dates for all show animals.

Market Steers - June 10, 2026

Commercial Heifers - July 10, 2026

Commercial Dairy - July 10, 2026

Market Lambs - July 10, 2026

Commercial Ewes - July 10, 2026

Market Goats - July 10, 2026

Wether Dam Goat - July 10, 2026

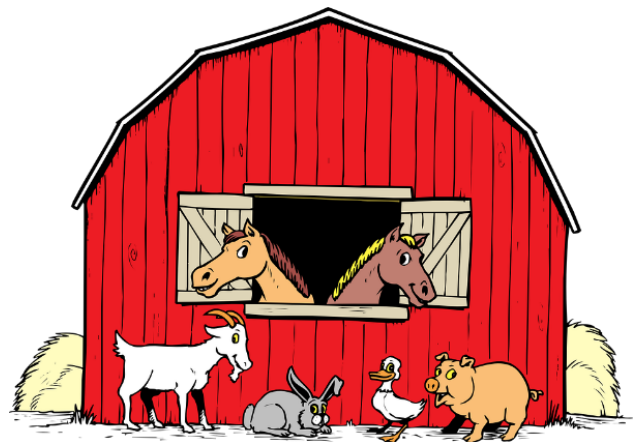
Commercial Dairy & Meat Does- July 10, 2026

Market Swine - August 10, 2026

Commercial Gilts - August 10, 2026

Visit StateFairOfLouisiana.com for more information.

If you will be participating in the State Fair Livestock Show, please notify Mr. Camden at coglesby@agcenter.lsu.edu of the dates you are showing so that a school excuse can be sent to administrators in advance. Requests for school excuses are due to the 4-H Office by October 15, 2026.



Thank You!

We are grateful for all the contributions of our 4-H'ers, families, Leaders, Volunteers, and the entire community supporting our Lafayette Parish 4-H program this year! We truly could not do what we do without the continued support from all of you. We look forward to all that will come, including our members' smiling faces each month!

Dates to Remember

May 2026

- 7 4-H Honor's Night, David Thibodeaux, STEM
- 10 Mother's Day
- 14-21 LPSS Graduation
- 21 LPSS Last Day of School
- 27 Grilling Day Camp, Acadiana Park Campground
- 28 Camp Counselor Training, Lafayette 4-H Office
- 29 4-H University Training, EVAC Center- Alexandria

June 2026

- 6 Tri-Parish Horse Show, AgArena Opelousas
- 11 4-H U Training for Horticulture & Poultry Judging, Ira Nelson Horticulture Center
- 16 4-H U Training for Zero Turn Mower, Outdoor Skills, Tractor Operations & Livestock Judging, McNeese Farm, Lake Charles
- 23-26 4-H University, LSU

July 2026

- 1-3 Acadiana District Horse Show, SugArena, New Iberia
- 3 Independence Day Holiday, Office Closed
- 7-10 State Horse Show. Beauregard Parish Covered Arena
- 14 Learn, Grow, Eat, Geaux Camp, Ira Nelson Horticulture Center
- 16 Horticulture Day Camp, Ira Nelson Horticulture Center
- 17 Farm Day Camp, Acadiana High School FFA Farm
- 21-23 C.H.E.F. Camp, Location TBD
- 27-30 4-H Camp, Camp Grant Walker
- 30 – 8/2 LOST Camp, Camp Grant Walker

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Follow us on Instagram: [@lafayette4h](https://www.instagram.com/lafayette4h)



Sincerely,

Nicole Gerard

Nicole Gerard

Assistant Extension Agent, 4-H Youth Development
Lafayette Parish

CHARLES HEBERT

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County Agent, 4-H Youth Development
Lafayette Parish

Charlene Martin

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4-H Program Assistant
Lafayette Parish

Camden Oglesby

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Assistant Extension Agent, 4-H Youth Development
Lafayette Parish

The LSU AgCenter is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Should you need ADA

Accommodations, please contact the Lafayette 4-H Office at (337) 291-7090 no later than two weeks prior to the scheduled event.