

DEPARTMENT 240 – 4-H EVENT

JUDGING DAY

CO-CHAIRPERSON – Dr. Rachel Pienta, Wakulla County 4-H Agent

CO-CHAIRPERSON – Heather Kent, NW District Regional Specialized Agent

ENTRY DEADLINE: PREREGISTRATION POSTMARKED by October 16, 2025

CHECK IN and REGISTRATION: Saturday, November 15, 2025, Time 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

JUDGING CONTESTS: Saturday, November 15, 2025, Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon

AWARDS PROGRAM: Saturday, November 15, 2025 Time: 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

CONSUMER CHOICES CHAIRPERSON: Judy Corbus, Holmes/Washington County FCS Agent, 9:00 – 12:00 Noon

AGRICULTURAL CHAIRPERSON: Robbie Jones, Gadsden County Extension Director (**SEND ENTRIES TO GADSDEN OFFICE**) 11:00 – 12:00 Noon

HORTICULTURAL CHAIRPERSON: Mark Tancig, Leon County Horticulture Agent 9:00 – 12:00 Noon

STEM CHALLENGE CHAIRPERSON: Dr. Sabrina Hayes, sabrina.hayes@famuedu 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

WILDLIFE ECOLOGY: Valerie Mendez Stansly, Leon County 4-H Agent 9:00 – 12:00 Noon

NEW - NW DISTRICT FOOD CHALLENGE CHAIRPEOPLE: Marie Arick, Liberty County 4-H Agent and Niki Crawson, Walton County 4-H Agent – **See Class 10 for details**

COMPETITION AWARDS CEREMONY CHAIRPERSON: Dr. Rachel Pienta, Wakulla County 4-H Agent

REGISTRATION FORM LINK – [Click here](#)

ENTRIES ARE OPEN TO FLORIDA, GEORGIA AND ALABAMA RESIDENTS

RULES & REGULATIONS

1. A Florida county may enter **two teams** per age division or participants may compete as individuals (a maximum of 24 participants total per county) in the Consumer Choices event, (the remainder of the rules outlined in the Rules and Regulations section will apply to Consumer Choices as well), **six teams** and unlimited individuals in the Agricultural Judging event, **four teams** in the Horticultural, and **four teams** (no individuals) for STEM Challenge events. Three or four members comprise a team unless stated otherwise. There will be no intermixing of age divisions on teams. Team members for all judging events must be from the same county. Counties will also be allowed to enter individual participants as well as teams. Individuals will be eligible to compete for individual awards. Registration forms must be postmarked by Friday, October 13, 2025, and mailed to the appropriate individual contest chairperson. Teams who do not pre-register by the deadline may participate but will not be eligible for awards or premium money.

2. Ties will be broken by the 4th individual's score on the team or pre-determined tiebreakers. If a tie cannot be broken (by the pre-determined tiebreaker(s)) and every category is identical, those tying will receive duplicate awards.
3. Judging teams should provide #2 pencils for judging. Clipboards would be very helpful for team members. No written materials allowed in contest area. No assistance is permitted from team coaches or parents during contest. **Teams/individuals not abiding by contest rules will be automatically disqualified.**
4. 4-H Judging **Participation** ribbons will be available for pick-up at the awards ceremony tent, by one designated person per county, on Saturday, November 15th immediately **after the awards ceremony**. Please have numbers of judging team participants from your county available.
5. Duplicate prizes will be awarded in both the 4-H Junior, 4-H Intermediate and the 4-H Senior Divisions.
6. For a new plant list for the Horticulture Judging, contact Leon County Extension Horticulture at (850) 606-5202 or visit <http://florida4h.ifas.ufl.edu/events/environmental-plant-sciences/horticulture/> The list may be revised so check the link.
7. For the plant/animal study material for the Wildlife Ecology Contest please contact the Leon County 4-H office at 850-606-5204
8. For a STEM Challenge Study guide, visit <https://sites.google.com/ufl.edu/nff-4-h-stem-challenge/home> – Dr. Sabrina Hayes
9. **All 4-H members, leaders, and agents will be admitted at no charge into the Fairgrounds until 2:00 PM.** All adults must have their 4-H card to enter. Vehicles should be parked outside of the Fairgrounds in free parking.

DIVISION A – 4-H JUNIOR DIVISION

Any 4-H'er who reaches his/her 8th birthday by September 1st of the current 4-H year and has not passed his/her 10th birthday by September 1st of the current 4-H year.

DIVISION B – 4-H INTERMEDIATE DIVISION

Any 4-H'er who reaches his/her 11th birthday by September 1st of the current 4-H year and has not passed his/her 13th birthday by September 1st of the current 4-H year.

DIVISION C – 4-H SENIOR DIVISION

Any 4-H'er who reaches his/her 14th birthday by September 1st of the current 4-H year and has not passed his/her 19th birthday prior to September 1st of the current 4-H year.

CLASS 1: AGRICULTURAL JUDGING – TEAM

CLASS 2: AGRICULTURAL JUDGING – INDIVIDUAL

Topics will be selected from the following:

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Market Beef (Steers) | 2. Breeding Beef (Heifers) |
| 3. Poultry | 4. Meat Evaluation |
| 5. Grass Hay | 6. Vegetable Evaluation |
| 7. Toxic Weed ID | 8. Peanut |

Six teams/unlimited individuals

CLASS 3: HORTICULTURAL JUDGING – TEAM

CLASS 4: HORTICULTURAL JUDGING – INDIVIDUAL

1. **Identification of ornamental plants**
 - Div. A** – 10 specimens – 7 minutes – 100 points
 - Div. B** – 15 specimens – 7 minutes – 150 points
 - Div. C** – 20 specimens – 15 minutes – 200 points
2. **Identification of fruits**
 - Div. A** – 10 specimens – 7 minutes – 100 points
 - Div. B** – 15 specimens – 7 minutes – 150 points
 - Div. C** – 20 specimens – 15 minutes – 200 points
3. **Identification of vegetables**
 - Div. A** – 10 specimens – 7 minutes – 100 points
 - Div. B** – 15 specimens – 7 minutes – 150 points
 - Div. C** – 20 specimens – 15 minutes – 200 points
4. **Identification of flowers and foliage**
 - Div. A** – 10 specimens – 7 minutes – 100 points
 - Div. B** – 15 specimens – 7 minutes – 150 points
 - Div. C** – 20 specimens – 15 minutes – 200 points

CLASS 5: WILDLIFE ECOLOGY – TEAM

CLASS 6: WILDLIFE ECOLOGY – INDIVIDUAL

Rules and Regulations: <https://sites.google.com/view/leon-4h-waw/north-florida-fair-contest>– see Valerie Mendez Stansly, Leon County

- I. Identification of Trees
 - Div. A – 15 specimens – 15 minutes
 - Div. B – 20 specimens – 15 minutes
 - Div. C – 30 specimens – 15 minutes
- II. Identification of Signs, Sound, Skins and Pictures for Mammals
 - All Age divisions will be asked the same specimens – 15 minutes
- III. Identification of Sounds and Pictures for Birds, Reptiles and Amphibians
 - Div. A – 15 Specimens – 15 minutes
 - Div. B – 20 Specimens – 15 minutes
 - Div. C – 25 Specimens – 10 minutes
 - Specimen list will be the same for all divisions.

CLASS 7: CONSUMER CHOICES – TEAM

CLASS 8: CONSUMER CHOICES – INDIVIDUAL

Topics will include:

- Protein Bars
- Wireless Routers
- Hats
- Robotic Vacuums – Oral Reasons Class

Please contact your county 4-H Agent for Consumer Choices study guides.

PREMIUM SCHEDULE (Classes 1-8)

(Each team member will receive a place strip ribbon.)

1st Place Team – \$100.00 & Rosette

2nd Place Team – \$75.00 & Rosette

3rd Place Team – \$50.00 & Rosette

4th thru 5th Place Team – \$25.00 per team & Rosette

1st High Score Individual – \$40.00 & Rosette

2nd High Score Individual – \$20.00 & Rosette

3rd High Score Individual – \$15.00 & Rosette

CLASS 9: STEM CHALLENGE – TEAM

The 2025 theme for this content is the Rubber Band Challenge. Using the engineering design process. 4-Hers will use problem-solving, teamwork, and communications skills with physics concepts to build, test, and demonstrate a car that is powered by the potential energy of a wound-up rubber band.

1. Each age division will be given age-appropriate criteria for their challenge as well as a supply kit to engineer their rubber band car. Challenges will not be released until 10:00 AM.
2. To prepare for this contest, a website with background information, lesson plans, activities, videos and other materials has been prepared to help teams learn and practice the concepts they will need to know to be successful. The guide can be accessed online at <https://sites.google.com/ufl.edu/nff-4-h-stem-challenge/home>
3. Teams will be asked to demonstrate their car in front of the judges and then give reasons. Reasons should include the following information:
 1. Which materials did you incorporate into your design and why?
 2. What type of modifications did you make and why?
 3. How did your team work together to design and build the car?
 4. What is your prediction for how well your car will perform and why?
4. Adults will not be able to assist members with the design or building of their car, but they may observe the competition.
5. All tools and supplies will be provided.
6. The scoring rubric is available on the resource website and each team will be given a copy when the challenge is released.

PREMIUM SCHEDULE (Class 9)

(Each team member will receive a place strip ribbon.)

1st Place Team – \$100.00 & Rosette

2nd Place Team – \$75.00 & Rosette

3rd Place Team – \$50.00 & Rosette

4th thru 5th Place Team – \$25.00 per team & Rosette

CLASS 10: NW DISTRICT FOOD CHALLENGE COMPETITION

Registration Starts: October 1, 2025 in 4HOnline

Entry Deadline: October 30, 2025 in 4Honline

Entry Fee: \$20 per team

Arrival Time: Friday, November 14 at 3 p.m. ET for contest check in

Contest Time: Friday, November 14 at 5 p.m. ET

Entries are only open to UF IFAS Extension Northwest District Counties.

Rules & Regulations

1. A UF IFAS Extension Northwest District County may enter one team per 4-H age division (junior, intermediate, senior)
2. Ties will be broken using the Food Appearance/Quality highest score
3. Teams will bring their own equipment and abide by the Florida 4-H Food Challenge competition guidelines <https://florida4h.ifas.ufl.edu/projects/healthy-living/4-h-food-challenge/> Teams not abiding by competition rules will be automatically disqualified.
4. Awards will be given post competition on the night of the event, Friday, November 14 at 8:15 pm ET.

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DIVISION C – 4-H SENIOR DIVISION

Any 4-H'er who reaches his/her 14th birthday by September 1st of the current 4-H year and has not passed his/her 19th birthday prior to September 1st of the current 4-H year.

PREMIUM SCHEDULE (Class 10)

(Each team member will receive a place strip ribbon.)

1st Place Team – \$100.00 & Rosette

2nd Place Team – \$75.00 & Rosette

3rd Place Team – \$50.00 & Rosette

4th Place Team – \$25.00 & Rosette

5th Place Team - \$25.00 & Rosette

6th Place Team – Participation Ribbons