



# Virginia Cooperative Extension

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## Recommendations for 4-H In-Person Programming

### Events/Activities:

- Club Meetings and Day Camps
- Educational Contests - Local, District, and State Level
- Educational Programs/Clinics - Local, District, and State Level
- Animal Exhibitions/Shows - Local, District, and State Level
- Other Competitive Events or Programs

### Groups:

- Group size
  - Indoor programming: There are currently no state restrictions on group size, however some regions may have facility and/or occupancy restrictions that limit participant numbers.
  - Outdoor programming: There are currently no state restrictions on group size, however some regions may have facility and/or occupancy restrictions that limit participant numbers.
  - Livestock and horse shows: There are currently no state restrictions on group size, however some regions may have facility and/or occupancy restrictions that limit participant numbers. Please contact Katherine Carter for specific guidance.

### General Safety Procedures:

- Discourage attendance by anyone sick or showing signs of illness within the last 14 days
- Adhere to CDC Guidelines for Cleaning and Disinfecting
- Identify Frequently Touched Areas and Disinfect Regularly or between users
- Limit sharing of equipment or supplies
- All individuals at all Virginia Tech and VCE associated facilities located in areas of [substantial or high transmission](#) are required to wear a mask in indoor public spaces.

These include lobbies, foyers, atriums, hallways, and elevators accessible to the general public. This mask requirement does not apply to private work spaces, such as an office, work area, or employment meeting space that is not open to the public in the normal course of business.

- All 4-H youth program participants, both youth and adults, are required to wear an appropriate face covering/mask, regardless of vaccination status, when participating in **indoor** programs. This includes transportation (unless the transport vehicle occupants are from the same household). Vaccinated 4-H program participants are not required to wear a face covering/mask when participating in **outdoor** programs where six feet of physical distance can be maintained between individuals. Unvaccinated individuals participating in **outdoor** programs are required to wear a face covering/mask. A structure will be considered "outdoors" if there are a minimum of two sides that are open air, meaning completely open prior to opening any doors or windows and having no structural features other than support beams or support features. Specific guidance related to face coverings/masks in 4-H residential camping programs will be provided by the 4-H Educational Center where the event takes place.

Exceptions to the face covering/mask requirement are as follows:

- When handling an animal in certain areas where adequate physical distancing can be maintained and properly ensured, such as while on a horse, in a show ring, in a line-up area waiting to enter the show ring, or in a designated grooming area or wash rack.
- When standing on the firing line during shooting education programs; however, six feet of physical distance is required.
- During aquatic activities such as swimming, paddle boarding or kayaking.
- When a medical condition prevents the participant from wearing a face covering/mask. If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact your local extension office to discuss accommodations at least 5 days prior to the event.

Compliance with 4-H COVID guidelines promotes the health, safety, and well-being of all program participants. 4-H programs/events that are found to be in non-compliance may be immediately suspended, if compliance with 4-H guidelines are not demonstrated. The Immediate Corrective Action Notification of Non-Compliance of VCE COVID Guidelines form is a tool to identify action steps necessary to demonstrate compliance with 4-H COVID guidelines and can be found on the [VCE COVID site](#).

This form should be completed when there is a report or observation of non-compliance with 4-H COVID guidelines. Form must be submitted to the supervising Extension Agent for review no later than 10 days prior to the next scheduled 4-H activity. A second incident of non-compliance with similar guidelines may result in dismissal or permanent suspension of the 4-H activity. This completed form should also be electronically submitted to the State 4-H Office at [jejohns1@vt.edu](mailto:jejohns1@vt.edu). Completed forms will also be shared with the appropriate District Director.

**For questions, Contact:**

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|-----------------------------|------------------|--|
| • Animal Science Events     | Katherine Carter | <a href="mailto:carterke@vt.edu">carterke@vt.edu</a>       |
| • Other 4-H Events/Programs | Sam Fisher       | <a href="mailto:safishe3@vt.edu">safishe3@vt.edu</a>       |
|                             | Chad Proudfoot   | <a href="mailto:cnproudfoot@vt.edu">cnproudfoot@vt.edu</a> |