PURPOSE: To create an awareness of opportunities and awards offered to the youth in the Monroe County 4-H Program. More specific information is available upon request from the Extension 4-H Office.

AWARD DEFINITION: An award is recognition given to an individual who has made a specific accomplishment. In many program areas, the award is also an opportunity to learn. This adds a dimension of responsibility to the individual and to others. There are three important things to remember about awards:

1. It is an honor to receive an award. It is honorable to accept and carry out the responsibility of the award.
2. An award is recognition of things you have achieved in the past. After you have received your award you must set new goals for tomorrow.
3. Travel opportunities will give the member a chance to grow and to learn new skills.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE? Members do not have to be nominated but must have a recommendation from their community leader submitted with their award application. The leader and parent are encourage to assume an active supporting role in helping 4-H members complete their applications.

WHO SELECTS? The Monroe County 4-H Awards Committee.

HOW IS THE SELECTION MADE?

1. The purpose of the award is made known, what it does, etc.
2. The standards are made known-age, years of club work, etc.
3. The applicant’s information is reviewed-does the information meet the purpose and is the member qualified?
4. The awards committee may request to interview the applicants.

CHANGES: Changes may occur. Any changes will be announced in the monthly Network Newsletter.

MONROE COUNTY 4-H AWARD PROGRAM: The divisions are as follows:

1. **All Stars**: Any 4-H member between 7-10 years of age-sponsored by 4-H Council and Teen Ambassadors. (See pages 3-4)
2. **County Medals**: Any 4-H member 11-14 years of age is eligible, sponsored by the 4-H Council. (See page 4-5)
3. **Older Teen Awards**: Any 4-H member 15-19 years of age is eligible, sponsored by the 4-H Council. (See page 5)
4. **State Awards**: Any 4-H member 13-19 years of age is eligible, sponsored by State Donors, the State 4-H Youth Office, and the 4-H Council. (See pages 8-9)
5. **Mark of Excellence**: Any 4-H member 11-12 years of age is eligible, sponsored by State Donors, the State 4-H Youth Office and the 4-H Council.
6. **Educational Opportunities:** Any 4-H Member 13 years of age or older is eligible for these trips sponsored by various county 4-H organizations. (See pages 5-7)

7. **Key Club:** Any member 15-19 years of age meeting the requirement enclosed is eligible, sponsored by the Monroe County 4-H Council. (See page 7)

8. **I Dare You Award:** Sponsored by the American Youth Foundation and the 4-H Council. Any member demonstrating outstanding leadership abilities and nominated in writing by the 4-H members, leaders, parents, or Extension Staff is eligible for this award. (See page 7)

9. **4-H Scholarships:** Several scholarships are available to graduating seniors or leaders who are planning to attend college or a trade school. (See page 8)

**OPPORTUNITIES:** Some scholarships are for specific area, many will be for all members and not be specific.

**College Scholarships:** Scholarships are available to both current and former 4-H members. Members may also apply for the Michigan 4-H Scholarship to Michigan State University.

**Exploration Days:** Some scholarships are available. Members should contact the Extension 4-H Office for more details. Some scholarships are awarded on need, but many organizations provide scholarships for their members.

**LEADER AWARDS AND RECOGNITION:**

**Monroe County 4-H Meritorious Service Award:**

**Selection Process:**

1. The selection committee will consist of past recipients of the Meritorious Service award and Leader Banquet committee members, cooperating with the Extension 4-H Office.
2. The Meritorious Service Award may be given to 4-H leaders, and/or friends of 4-H.
3. A maximum of three (3) 4-H Meritorious Service Award recipients may be chosen each year (2 individual and 1 business). In the case of a couple receiving the award they will receive one plaque.
4. At least one (1) 4-H leader should receive the plaque each year.
5. Nominations and election procedures will be as follows:
   a. Nominations for prospective recipients will be accepted from the county 4-H Program membership and leadership.
   b. The final election will be done by past recipients and Leader Banquet committee members through ballots briefly describing the candidate sent to them and received at the Extension 4-H Office.
   c. Tabulation of the ballots will be done by two members of Council.
6. Each past recipient has one vote, except where the past recipient was a Mr. and Mrs. They will receive one voting privilege.
7. Selection will be kept secret until the annual 4-H Leader’s Recognition Banquet.
Criteria for Selection:

1. Has continuously contributed and supported the countywide 4-H Club Program.
2. Has contributed greatly in carrying out the responsibility of community 4-H Club Program.
3. Has throughout the year actively advocated and carried out the educational objectives of the 4-H Youth Program.

MONROE COUNTY 4-H ALUMNI AWARD:

Selection Process:

1. Nominations for prospective recipients will be accepted from the 4-H Program.
2. Final election will be done by past recipients and Leader Banquet committee members through ballots briefly describing the candidates. Ballots will be sent to past recipients and tabulated by the 4-H Council.
3. Selection will be kept secret until presentation at the annual 4-H Leaders Recognition Banquet.
4. No more than two (2) alumni shall be selected.

Criteria for Selection:

Set up and developed for use in selecting county, state and national winners.

1. Has shown citizenship by participating in civic, church, school, 4-H and other youth public service and related activities for the welfare of others.
2. Has shown leadership through qualities and acceptance of leadership responsibilities in civic, church, school, youth, professional, business and related activities.
3. Has exemplified career accomplishments by success in chosen profession or occupation.
4. Has shown evidence of the influence of 4-H training in recipient’s life in relationship to family, home, career, public service, skills, interests, adherence to ideals of 4-H.
5. The individual must have been out of 4-H work as a member for five (5) years or more.

Leader of the Year Award:

1. Has shown citizenship by participating in civic, church, school, 4-H and other youth public service and related activities for the welfare of others.
2. Final election by MSU Extension staff.
3. Has exemplified career accomplishments by success in chosen profession or occupation.
4. One (1) recipient will be selected per year.

Criteria for Selection:

1. The selection committee will consist of past recipients of the Meritorious Service award and Leader Banquet committee members, cooperating with the Extension 4-H Office.
2. The Leader of the Year Award may be given to 4-H leaders, and/or friends of 4-H.
3. A maximum of three (3) 4-H Leader of the Year Award recipients may be chosen each year (2 individual and 1 business). In the case of a couple receiving the award they will receive one plaque.

“All Star” Awards: This is for all members 7-10 years of age.

Criteria for selection:

1. Enthusiasm.
2. A positive youth driven involvement in club activities.
3. Potential for leadership skills.

Award presented during “Kids Day” activity in October. Award will include an appropriate award and certificate. All 4-Hers will be recognized.

4-H Club Award

Explanation: This has been designed to include many of the features that will help a club to have a type of program and activity which is meaningful for the participants and will in turn help to build a strong, active, enthusiastic 4-H group. The application is designed so that much of the information requested can easily be recorded at each community club meeting during the club year beginning in September and concluding with the July/August meeting. Completed applications are due mid-September of every year. The 4-H staff suggests that an adult and/or teen be identified to take the responsibility for obtaining and recording the information during the year. Completed applications will be reviewed by the Awards Committee. The clubs then will be recognized for their club programming and participation in 4-H activities. Awards will be presented at the Youth Recognition Day. Contact the 4-H Extension office for an application.

County Medals

Name and Description:

(County Award form plus leader recommendation)

1. Member must be 11-14 years old as of January 1 of the current year.
2. Medals should be presented to members with at least 2-3 years of experience.
3. A 4-H member will not be awarded more than 2 medals in a year.
4. A 4-H member can only win a medal once in a project area whether it is a county medal or an older teen award during 4-H career.

Criteria for Selection:

1. Select up to three (3) project areas for the Awards Committee to consider. (The committee may select you for a project area that you may not have chosen).
2. The summary is to be completed by the member and is due by mid-September.
3. A maximum of four (4) medals of Honor will be selected per category.
4. Award will be presented at the 4-H Youth Recognition Program

**Project areas in which medals will be awarded:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Achievement</th>
<th>Healthy Living</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aerospace</td>
<td>Hobbies &amp; Collections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>Home Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aquaculture</td>
<td>Horse</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beef</td>
<td>Industrial Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bicycle</td>
<td>Judging</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biological Sciences</td>
<td>Lamp of Knowledge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cats</td>
<td>Leadership</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cavies</td>
<td>Llama</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child Care &amp; Development</td>
<td>Outdoor Education &amp; Recreation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizenship</td>
<td>Performing Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clothing &amp; Textiles</td>
<td>Personal Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>Leadership</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Service</td>
<td>Pets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer Technology</td>
<td>Photography &amp; Video</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consumer &amp; Family Science</td>
<td>Physical Science</td>
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<td>Plant Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dairy</td>
<td>Poultry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demonstrations</td>
<td>Public Speaking</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Rabbits</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electricity</td>
<td>Safety</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engines, Tractors &amp; Field Equipment</td>
<td>Sheep</td>
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<tr>
<td>Entomology &amp; Bees</td>
<td>Shooting Sports</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Life</td>
<td>Swine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fashion Revenue</td>
<td>Technology &amp; Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food &amp; Nutrition</td>
<td>Veterinary Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forestry</td>
<td>Visual Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gardening &amp; Horticulture</td>
<td>Wildlife Fisheries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goats</td>
<td>Wood Science</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OLDER TEEN AWARD**

**NAME AND DESCRIPTION:**

(County Awards form plus leader recommendation required)

1. Member must be 15-19 years old as of January 1st of the current year.
2. A 4-H member will not be awarded more than two medals in a calendar year.
3. Medals should be presented to members with at least 2-3 years of experience.
4. A 4-H member can only win a medal once in a project area whether it is a county medal or an older teen award during his or her 4-H career.
5. A 4-H member who applies for an older teen award will automatically receive an application for a State Award.

Criteria for Selection:

1. The award is selected by the 4-H Awards Council
2. No more than 4 medals of Honor will be awarded per category.
3. The summary is to be completed by the member and is due by mid-September.
4. Award will be presented at the 4-H Youth Recognition program.

New Horizons

A 4-H Extension Office representative will work to assist with trip details and shall be an ex officio member. An adult advisor shall be chosen to assist with each group.

In order for the program to work we will need adults with enthusiasm and the desire to help 4-H’ers meet their goals.

Members wishing to become delegates to this program must complete the following process:

1. Complete and submit a county award form to the Extension 4-H Office by September 15th.
2. Take part in an interview with the awards committee.
3. Sign a contract detailing the program goals.
4. A member must complete their commitment before being eligible to attend.

All interested 4-H’ers, 13 years and older will be encouraged to become involved in this program.

The members, along with support from the Awards Committee and various county organizations and county businesses will earn all or part of their costs for the trip. A member may have to make a personal donation towards his/her cost of the trip.

Members will also be asked to attend service and educational activities directly relating to the program or trip.
4-H New Horizons will be a three part program consisting of:

1. Service
2. Education
3. Fund Raising

Examples of these activities could include:

Washington Focus:

1. Attend a Council or District Meeting.
2. Attend a session of local government meeting.
3. Assist at Spring Achievement or at a council activity center project.

Toronto:

1. Learn about the history of Canada and their programs.
2. Attend other fairs near Monroe to compare and gain new ideas.
3. Attend a livestock sale.

If a member cannot attend a fund raising activity, a friend or family member may attend in his/her place and the member will still receive credit.

A member must be willing to participate in 50% of activities held during the time the group is preparing for the trip. This will include attending both the educational service and fundraising activities.

The Council provides support to all members completing the program.

All monies earned for a trip will be used for that activity. If excess money is earned, it will be applied to the next year’s activity.

A member will be allowed to work multiple years towards a trip. If not enough funds are raised for the trip the member will pay the balance due. Monies cannot be carried over.

A member will be eligible to work on two trips back to back. Example: They can go to Washington in July and Toronto in November.

If a member drops out of the program, his/her funds stay in the program and cannot be designated to another individual.

All monies will be channeled through the advisor with separate books kept by each New Horizons Program.

An annual audit will be conducted at the end of each New Horizons Program.

A club will be encouraged to support all members on trips to any extent they desire.
NEW HORIZONS COUNTY EDUCATIONAL TRIP

(County Awards form plus leader recommendation required)

1. Members must be 13 years of age or older as of January 1st of the current year.
2. Members selected for a trip will only be eligible for the same trip once during their 4-H career.
3. Members will be able to attend both trips during the same year.
4. County award trips are sponsored by the 4-H Council and other 4-H organizations cooperating with the Extension Office to make the award an educational experience.
5. 4-H members will also be asked to fulfill the obligations as outlined in the New Horizons contract.

Toronto Royal Agricultural

Number selected: As many as qualified

Application Due: Mid-September

Presented: November of the following year

Washington D.C. Citizenship Short Course

Number Selected: As many as qualified

Age Requirement: Member should be 15 in the year they are traveling

Application Due: Mid-September

Presented: July of the following year

National 4-H Congress

National 4-H Congress is a unique leadership opportunity for 4-H members from all 50 states. The event focuses on leadership, youth empowerment, community service, career development, and cultural diversity. There are many outstanding workshops along with keynote addresses that round out the experience. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for 4-H members.

1. 4-H Members must be 16 years or older to participate.
2. Held in Atlanta Georgia over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.
3. Members need to indicate they are interested by April 1st of the year they plan to attend and make a $100.00 deposit.
4. The group will work together to earn the funds needed.
**National 4-H Conference, Washington D.C.**

The National 4-H Conference is the premier civic engagement opportunity for 4-H members ages 15-19, who are engaged in 4-H programs across the U.S.

1. Michigan will send five youth each year to brainstorm, plan and evaluate the current and future national programs.
2. Conference is six days at the National 4-H center, Washington D.C.
3. Cost to members is approximately $835.00.
4. Interested members should contact the 4-H Educator by November of the year prior to attending.

**Key Club**

(Michigan 4-H Key Club application form required.)

1. Member must be 16-19 years old as of January 1 of the current year.
2. Completed 3 years of club work.
3. Completed 4-H projects in at least two project areas.
4. Completed a teen leadership project.
5. Participated in three (3) State sponsored or State 4-H events.
6. Been recommended by his/her local leader.

**Selected By:** 4-H Awards Committee

**Number Selected:** One half of one percent of County 4-H membership

**Applications Due:** Mid-September

**When Presented:** 4-H Youth Recognition.

**I DARE YOU AWARD**

Awarded to member demonstrating outstanding leadership abilities.

1. Member nominations in writing are to be made by 4-H members, leaders, parents or Extension Staff.
2. Final Selections made by the 4-H Awards Committee.
3. The I Dare You Committee of the American Youth Foundation stresses four-fold development advocating healthy physical habits, an alert, ever-growing mind, and outreach of self in constructive social relationships within the home and community, and above all, excellence in character.

**Selected By:** 4-H Award Committee

**Number Selected:** 1 boy and 1 girl, when possible. No more than 2 total.

**Application Due:** Mid-September

**When Presented:** 4-H Youth Recognition
State Awards
Name and Description, State Award Form, Story and Project Pictures required.

1. Member must be 13 to 19 years old as of January 1 of the current year.
2. All applications are to be submitted via email to the State 4-H Awards Planning Committee at State4HAwards@anr.msu.edu. Hard copies will not be accepted.
3. Applications should be completed in full. Do not leave a question blank.
4. Applications must be typed and responses submitted within the 2016 State 4-H Awards Application.
5. Do not include or attach project reports, news clippings or letters. Answer the questions on the application and do not include supplemental items. You should only submit via email the 2016 State 4-H Awards Application and one picture of yourself. The picture you submit will be used during the State 4-H Awards Recognition Program, shared with donors and used to promote the State 4-H Awards Program and your accomplishments.
6. For individual junior and senior applicants, the picture should be a head-and-shoulder shot. We strongly recommend that you wear professional attire for this head and shoulder shot.
7. Following are a few additional guidelines for individual applicants.
   a. Email one photo as an attachment along with your 2016 State 4-H Awards Application.
   b. Submit a recent color photo of yourself from the shoulders up.
   c. Wear professional clothing, such as you would for an interview.
   d. Wear solid colors when possible to limit distractions.
   e. Do not submit a photo of you wearing a hat.
   f. Photo must be high resolution: a blurry photo will not be used.
   g. Be mindful of glare, shadow, overhead light placement and red eye.
   h. Photos taken outside work well.
8. Just like professional applications for scholarships, college, and employment, your State 4-H Awards applications should use a professional style 12 point, black-colored font, be single spaced and use a 1 inch margin on each of the four sides (top, bottom, left, right).
9. Each question has a maximum work limit. It is important to stay within that limit. There is not a minimum work limit. Most word-processing programs have a “word count” feature which can help you meet the maximum word limit requirement.
10. Information contained in the State 4-H Awards Application should be factual and concise, yet fully representative of all your major accomplishments in 4-H. Concentrate on content. The judges are evaluating your 4-H career, much as an employer would evaluate your resume.
11. Use correct grammar and spelling. Proofread your work for errors and have others assist you with proofreading.
12. After you have completed your State 4-H Awards Individual Application, review all the sections carefully. Your application should be an organized presentation of what you have learned and accomplished in the 4-H program. When accurately kept and carefully assembled, it is a useful tool for determining your own progress and personal growth. Completing a State 4-H Awards Individual Application will better prepare you to complete other professional portfolios, for example a job or scholarship application.

**Recognition Areas:**

Members may apply in either the junior or senior age division. Youth may only win one time in each age division for each award area. Members should keep in mind the recognition area they pick should reflect and emphasize the majority of their 4-H learning experience.

1. Beef Science (Programs, projects and activities related to beef science and management)
2. Biological Science (Aquatic science, biological science, entomology and bees, food chemistry such as meat science, embryology, veterinary science)
3. Birds and Poultry Science (Programs, projects and activities related to birds, poultry science and management)
4. Civic Engagement (Citizenship and civic engagement, global and cultural education, community service, service learning, Folk patterns, global and cultural heritage)
5. Communications and Expressive Arts (Communication, expressive Arts, visual arts, performing arts, photography)
6. Companion Animal Science (Dogs, cats, small animals, pocket pets, lab animals, llamas/alpacas)
7. Consumer and Family Science (Child development, child care, clothing and textiles)
8. Dairy Science (Dairy cattle, milk production and processing)
9. Environmental and Earth Science (Environmental resource management, environmental science and natural resources, outdoor education/recreation, soils and soil conservation, wildlife and fisheries, shooting sports)
10. Equine Science (Horse and Pony, horseless projects, Proud Equestrian Program)
11. Goat Science (Programs, projects and activities related to goat science and management)
12. Healthy Lifestyles (Food and nutrition, health and fitness, safety)
13. Leadership and Personal Development (Business and entrepreneurship, career exploration and workforce preparation, college and independent-living readiness, financial literacy, Introductory 4-H projects, leadership skills development, leisure education, life skill and character education)
14. Plant Science (Horticulture, agronomy, crops)
15. Rabbit and Cavy Science (Programs, projects and activities related to rabbit and cavy science and management)
16. Sheep Science (Programs, projects and activities related to sheep science and management)
17. Swine Science (Programs, projects and activities related to swine science and management)
18. Technology and Engineering (Aerospace, computer and digital technology, engines and transportation, GPS/GIS, mechanical sciences, robotics)
19. Group Award

Selection for Individual Applicants:

1. Once applications are received on February 1st, they will be forwarded to your county 4-H Program Coordinator and the 4-H leader you identified on your application for verification of accuracy of the application. Your application will only be eligible for evaluation after these two individuals confirm that the information in your application is factual.
2. Each award area has a selection committee who will review the junior and senior applications in their assigned award area. The selection committee will complete a State 4-H Awards Application Evaluation Form for each applicant.
3. Up to 12 applicants in each age division (junior and senior) may be selected to advance as State Award Delegates in the award area based on their scores.
4. All applicants will be notified by March 15 about whether or not they have been selected as a delegate for their award area in their age division. Feedback from the selection committee will be provided immediately to applicants not selected to be a delegate. Following the State 4-H Awards Recognition Program, applicants selected to be delegates will receive feedback from both the application and the interview.
5. During 4-H Exploration Days, senior delegates will complete an interview with the selection committee in their award area. The selection committee will complete a State 4-H Awards interview Evaluation Form for each delegate. During this time, the junior delegates will participate in a special leadership-development program.
6. State Award winners in both the junior and senior age divisions will be announced at the State 4-H Awards Recognition Program during Exploration Days. Selection for each age division will be as follows:
   a. Junior winner will be selected from the highest-scoring application.
   b. Senior winner will be selected from the highest-scoring interview. In the event of a tied score, the winner will be selected from the highest-scoring application between the tied individuals.
**Royalty**

Nominations of participants may be made by community clubs and/or county clubs, councils and boards.

**Expectations:**

- Serve as a role model and leader to other 4-H youth
- Mentor younger members
- Be of good character
- Talk positive about 4-H to others
- Be knowledgeable about the program and everything it offers so others will be encouraged to join
- Represent Monroe County and attend all County Events
- Lead pledges and hold speaking roles at events
- Be a part of Youth Leadership Board and attend meetings and events
- Remember you are the best of the best, so you must act and dress accordingly!

As Royalty, you will be expected to attend the following events:

- Pre/Post Fair meetings (May, September)
- Pledges at Small and Large animal auctions (August)
- SAA and JLA banquets (September)
- Spaghetti Dinner (November)
- County Awards (October)
- Kids Day (October)
- Leader Banquet (September)
- Spring Achievements (April)
- County Share the Fun (May)
- Agricultural Awareness Day (May)
- Clover Days (July)
- Royalty Interviews the following year (July)
- Fair Parade (August)
- Opening Ceremony (August)
- Royalty Ceremony (August)

**Eligibility:**

1. King/Queen: youth 4-H age 13 and up. Members may accept nomination so long as the individual does not turn actual age 20 years old during the time of their service/reign. For example, announcement of winners made on Wednesday of Fair week, youth cannot turn 20 before the Wednesday of the next year’s Fair week.
2. Prince/Princess: members who are 9-12 4-H age may be nominated
Selection:

1. Each individual member who wishes to accept nomination and further compete in the process for overall Monroe County 4-H Royalty will be required to attend formal interviews at a date set approximately 2 weeks prior to Fair. This date will be announced in the monthly Network newsletter. Phone interviews will not be accepted.

2. A winner, a 1st runner up, and a 2nd runner up will be chosen for each the King, Queen, Prince, and Princess.

3. During Fair week, each participant will be presented with a certificate. The announcement of all the top 3 in each of the categories will be announced. Those who receive awards as the 1st and 2nd runner ups will be provided with an additional certificate and trophy. The winners will be provided with a certificate, trophy, sash, and in the case of the Queen and Princess, they will also receive a tiara. All those announced as the top 3 must be present at the awards ceremony to receive the title/recognition. Should the winner not be present, the 1st runner up would then be announced as the winner and so on.