

DEPARTMENT I-18 – Natural Resources

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Entries must be completed online at www.carrollcountyfair.com. Entry fees need to be paid by credit card only. No late entries will be accepted.

Due to proposed Maryland budgetary constraints that are beyond the control of the Carroll County 4-H/FFA Fair Board, Inc., the Board reserves the right to withhold a portion of premium monies, up to and including all of an exhibitors earned premium payment, for the 2025 4-H/FFA Fair.

- A 4-H or FFA member must be enrolled in aquatic-science project, a conservation, marksmanship, entomology, forestry, craft, photography, or wildlife project in order to enter the Natural Resources Dept. at the Fair.

RULES AND REGULATIONS – General

1. Exhibits must include work completed since August 1, 2024. Continuing projects should show growth and development from previous year.
2. Project displays less than 30" X 18" X 36" will be displayed at the fair. Display photos of projects greater than 30" X 18" X 36" may be taken for display at the fair and the project returned to the exhibitor.
3. Posters less than 22" X 36" will be displayed at the fair. Photos of posters larger than 22" x 36" may be displayed instead of the original poster.
4. Any "special" equipment such as computers must be supplied at the owner's discretion or call by July 7 to arrange to use the Extension Office's equipment.
5. No domestic animals can be the subject of displays (see General Department). Domestic animals may be part of a display with a natural resource or environmental theme. For example, goats used to clear land for bog turtle conservation.
6. Exhibitors must have done all the work on the exhibit.
7. All exhibitors must be prepared to give a short presentation to the judges. Presentation does not need to be memorized, note cards permitted.
8. All displays must conform to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Rules and Regulations, i.e., collections of bird nests or feathers are not permitted in Maryland. A copy of these regulations can be found under the specific sections at <https://i18natres.wordpress.com/> .
9. Live animal and insect displays must be native species to Maryland. They must have proper enclosures and are the 4-her's responsibility to care for throughout the fair week. All live displays must be approved by email by department superintendents by 6/1 and the approval email must be presented when the live display is entered in the fair.
10. Premiums – Class Champion - \$5; Blue Award - \$4; Red Award - \$3.75; White Award - \$3.50; Clover Award - \$3.00

RULES AND REGULATIONS – Collections

1. Each item within a collection should be labeled with, if applicable: Common Name – Scientific Name – Area of Origin – Date Found
2. Collections will be judged on:
 - a. Accuracy in naming and grouping by order
 - b. Variety of species
 - c. Neatness in labeling
 - d. Neatness in displaying specimen.
 - e. Growth of collection
 - f. Knowledge of collection
3. Insects should be mounted according to the instructions which can be found by following the links on this page, <https://i18natres.wordpress.com/wildlife-insects/insect-collection/> . Insects of the same order should be grouped together. Specimens should be mounted on standard insect pins. Each specimen should be labeled as described in #1 above. Boxes should be covered with glass or another transparent top.
4. Rock, Shell or Arrowhead Collections should be grouped logically and labeled as described in #1. Each collection container should be covered with a transparent top.
5. Forestry Collections can be entered in a notebook, on poster board, or other display material. Follow above labeling guidelines.
6. Collection containers less than 30" X 18" X 36" will be displayed at the fair. Individual containers larger than 30" X 18" X36" may be displayed at the fair or photos may be taken for display and the containers returned to the exhibitor. Collections may have multiple containers.

RULES AND REGULATIONS- Series of Photographs

1. Natural Resource photographs will consist of a series of 3 to 5 pictures. Displayed together in an album, on a poster board or other media.
2. All pictures should be labeled with, if applicable: Common Name, Scientific Name, Location picture taken, Date picture taken.

Section 001 – Aquatics

<u>Jr. (8-10)</u>	<u>Int. (11-13)</u>	<u>Sr. (14-18)</u>	
1002	2002	3002	Shell Collection –Collections should have 6 or more different specimens. At least 3 new specimens should be added each year the exhibit is displayed
1003	2003	3003	Shell Collection – First year of collection
1004	2004	3004	Aquatic Habitat or Investigation Item – Single item, made by exhibitor which will educate about, improve the habitat or aid in the investigation or identification of aquatic species
1007	2007	3007	Aquatic Discovery Kit or Backpack – At least 3 items in a container that could be used to explore, investigate, analyze or teach about streams, ponds or wetlands. Items might include aquatic identification cards, collection devices (net, seine, etc.), under water viewer, secchi disk or tube, etc. The container might be a tub, backpack, drawstring bag, etc. Items entered in previous years in other categories may be entered as part of the kit. Kits entered in previous years must show signs of growth.
1008	2008	3008	Live Aquatic Display – might include blue gills, macroinvertebrates, cray fish, native or recreational fish. All live displays must be approved by email by department superintendents by 6/1 and the approval email must be presented when the live display is entered in the fair.
1009	2009	3009	Aquatics photo series
1010	2010	3010	Self- determined aquatics project

Section 002 – Wildlife: Insects

<u>Jr. (8-10)</u>	<u>Int. (11-13)</u>	<u>Sr. (14-18)</u>	
1011	2011	3011	Butterflies – If you are interested in raising monarchs for display at fair you must contact the Natural Resources superintendent via email by 6/1. If eggs are available, you will receive eggs and training to raise monarchs for display at the fair You may also raise monarchs or other butterflies from eggs or caterpillars collected from the wild in Carroll County. These caterpillars or chrysalis will be displayed at the fair, but any butterflies will be returned to the youth to be released. Any butterflies eclosing (hatching) during the fair will be released within 24 hours. Youth are responsible for making sure their caterpillars have the proper food at all times during the fair and cleaning their cages daily. More information can be found at this link https://i18natres.wordpress.com/wildlife-insects/raising-monarchs/
1012	2012	3012	Insect Collection (entomology) should have 6 or more different specimens, at least 5 new specimens should be added each year the exhibit is displayed.
1013	2013	3013	Insect Collection – First year of collection
1014	2014	3014	Insect Habitat or Investigation Item —single item, made by exhibitor, which will educate about, improve the habitat of or aid in the investigation or identification of insects.

<u>Jr. (8-10)</u>	<u>Int. (11-13)</u>	<u>Sr. (14-18)</u>	
1017	2017	3017	<p>Insect Discovery Kit or Backpack – At least 3 items in a container that could be used to explore, investigate, analyze or teach about insects. Items might include magnifiers, field guides, collection jar, magnifying bug jar, butterfly net, net cage, journal, etc.</p> <p>The container might be a tub, backpack, drawstring bag, etc. Items entered in previous years in other categories may be entered as part of the kit. Kits entered in previous years must show signs of growth.</p>
1018	2018	3018	<p>Live Insect Display – may be ant farm or other insect. All live displays must be approved by email by department superintendents by 6/1 and the approval email must be presented when the live display is entered in the fair.</p>
1019	2019	3019	Insect photo series
1020	2020	3020	Self- determined insect project

Clover Class – 101

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Section 003 – Wildlife: Birds

<u>Jr. (8-10)</u>	<u>Int. (11-13)</u>	<u>Sr. (14-18)</u>	
1021	2021	3021	Bird Box – for specific species. Box will be judge on how well the box meets the criteria for the species and your knowledge of the species. Be prepared to discuss where you have used or plan to use the bird box
1022	2022	3022	Bird Feeder – any item designed to feed birds. May be a pinecone feeder, log or other suet feeder, seed ornament (include recipe) or suet cake or log (include recipe), etc. Be prepared to discuss where you plan to put the feeder and what type of birds you hope to attract.
1023	2023	3023	Bird Habitat or Investigative Item — single item, made by exhibitor, which will educate about, improve the habitat of or aid in the investigation or identification of birds
1026	2026	3026	Bird Discovery Kit or Backpack – At least 3 items in a container that could be used to explore, investigate, analyze or teach about birds. Items might include field guide, activity guide, coloring book, egg replicas, beak replicas, nest replicas, feather replica, stickers, stamps, storybooks, etc. The container might be a tub, backpack, drawstring bag, etc. Kit may be for birds in general, a specific bird behavior – feeding, migrations, etc., or a specific bird species – bluebird, owl, saw whet owl, etc. Items entered in previous years in other categories may be entered as part of the kit. Kits entered in previous years must show signs of growth.
1027	2027	3027	Bird photo series
1028	2028	3028	Self- determined bird project

Section 004 – Wildlife: Mammals

<u>Jr. (8-10)</u>	<u>Int. (11-13)</u>	<u>Sr. (14-18)</u>	
1029	2029	3029	Mammal Collection – castings, skulls, furs, deer jaws or any other collection. Label with common name, scientific name, date & location.
1030	2030	3030	Mammal Habitat or Investigative Item — single item, made by exhibitor, which will educate about, improve the habitat of or aid in the investigation or identification of mammal(s).
1033	2033	3033	Mammal Discovery Kit or Backpack – At least 3 items in a container that could be used to explore, investigate, analyze or teach about mammals. Items might include box instructions & example, skull, fur, track, scat replica, puppet, model, field guide, books, rubber stamp, stickers, activity guides, etc The container might be a tub, backpack, drawstring bag, etc. Kit might be for bats, beavers, deer, rabbits, squirrels, raccoon, black bear, etc. Items entered in previous years in other categories may be entered as part of the kit. Kits entered in previous years must show signs of growth.
1034	2034	3034	Mammal photo series
1035	2035	3035	Self- determined mammal project

Section 005 – Wildlife: Reptiles, Amphibians & Others

<u>Jr. (8-10)</u>	<u>Int. (11-13)</u>	<u>Sr. (14-18)</u>	
1036	2036	3036	Wildlife Habitat or Investigative Item not insects, birds or mammals — single item, made by exhibitor, which will educate about, improve the habitat of or aid in the investigation or identification of wildlife: Examples: Toad Abode or house
1039	2039	3039	Wildlife Discovery Kit or Backpack not insects, birds or mammals – At least 3 items in a container that could be used to explore, investigate analyze or teach about reptiles, amphibians or other wildlife. Items might include skull, snakeskin, turtle shell, track, scat replica, puppet, model, field guide, books, rubber stamp, stickers, activity guides, etc. The container might be a tub, backpack, drawstring bag, etc. Kit might be for turtles, frogs, toads, snakes, salamanders, etc. Items entered in previous years in other categories may be entered as part of the kit. Kits entered in previous years must show signs of growth.
1040	2040	3040	Wildlife Live display – May be a worm habitat or meal worm jar or other live animal display that complies with Maryland DNR guidelines. All Live displays must be approved by email by department superintendents by 6/1 and the approval email must be presented when the live display is entered in the fair.
1041	2041	3041	Wildlife photo series not insects, birds or mammals
1042	2042	3042	Self- determined wildlife project not insects, birds, or mammals

Section 006 – Forestry & Plants

<u>Jr. (8-10)</u>	<u>Int. (11-13)</u>	<u>Sr. (14-18)</u>	
1043	2043	3043	Forestry Collection –Includes leaf, bark, tree ring, acorns, pinecones, and any other forestry related collection. The collection should have 5 or more different species; at least 3 new specimens should be added each year the exhibit is displayed
1044	2044	3044	Forestry Collection – First year of collection
1045	2045	3045	Plants and Fungus Collection – Any domestic species included in collections must have wildlife or environmental value. Collection may have a specific theme like wildflowers, invasive species, host or nectar plants, etc.
1046	2046	3046	Forestry or Plants Habitat or Investigative Item – single item which will educate about or aid in the investigation or identification of forest and plants.
1049	2049	3049	Forestry or Plants Discovery Kit or Backpack – At least 3 items in a container that could be used to explore, investigate, analyze or teach about forests or plant communities. Items might include Biltmore sticks, diameter tapes, identification items, field guide, books, rubber stamp, stickers, activity guides, etc. The container might be a tub, backpack, drawstring bag, etc. Items entered in previous years in other categories may be entered as part of the kit. Kits entered in previous years must show signs of growth.
1050	2050	3050	Forestry/Plant photo series
1051	2051	3051	Self- determined Forestry/Plant project

Section 007 – Soils & Rock

<u>Jr. (8-10)</u>	<u>Int. (11-13)</u>	<u>Sr. (14-18)</u>	
1052	2052	3052	Rock, Minerals, and/or Fossil Collection –should have 6 or more different specimens; at least 3 new specimens should be added each year the exhibit is displayed
1053	2053	3053	Rock, Mineral, and/or Fossil Collection – First year of collection
1054	2054	3054	Rock, Fossil or Soil Item – cards, poster, game, display or other item for identification of or education about rocks, soil, or fossils
1056	2056	3056	Rock, Fossil and/or Soil Discovery Kit or Backpack - At least 3 items in a container that could be used to explore, investigate, analyze or teach about rocks, fossils or soil. Items might include small shovel, strainer, pick, field guide, books, rubber stamp, stickers, activity guides, etc. The container might be a tub, backpack, drawstring bag, etc. Items entered in previous years in other categories may be entered as part of the kit. Kits entered in previous years must show signs of growth.
1057	2057	3057	Soils, Rocks or Fossils photo series
1058	2058	3058	Self- determined Soils, Rock or Fossils project

Section 008 – Recreation & Misc.

<u>Jr. (8-10)</u>	<u>Int. (11-13)</u>	<u>Sr. (14-18)</u>	
1059	2059	3059	Recreation/ Misc. Habitat or Investigative Item - single item which will improve or aid in the investigation of recreational areas.
1061	2061	3061	Hiking or Kayaking Backpack – A backpack or dry bag prepared for a day or overnight hiking experience or for a canoe or kayaking expedition. Items entered in previous years in other categories may be entered as part of the kit. Kits entered in previous years must show signs of growth.
1062	2062	3062	Recreation/ Misc. photo series
1063	2063	3063	Self- determined Recreation/ misc. project

Section 009- Natural Resource Special Awards

Class 1064	Champion & Reserve Natural Resources Exhibit Junior – rosette & rosette
Class 2064	Champion & Reserve Natural Resources Exhibit Intermediate – rosette & rosette
Class 3064	Champion & Reserve Natural Resources Exhibit Senior – rosette & rosette
Class 4064	Grand Champion & Reserve Natural Resources Exhibit – rosette & rosette