

BUILDING EXHIBITS

Section G: Environmental Education

Class No.

1. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

- Nature Trails: e.g. Display of 4-H constructed nature trails or observations made along another nature trail.
- Geology: Simple collections must include the specimens' names, dates of collection, specific site(s) of collection (distance and direction to nearest town, county, state or province), and collector's name for 15 specimens. Inclusion of field journals is strongly encouraged and identification criteria must be completely and clearly defined. Exhibits showing evolutionary histories, adaptations of fossil organisms, vertical or horizontal studies of strata, or similar studies are encouraged.
- Field Identification Projects: Please note that wildflowers are evaluated in Section F – Horticulture, Fungi, in Section H – Plant Pathology, and Insects in Section I – Entomology. Collections of preserved specimens, photographs or sketches properly labeled and showing identification criteria may be displayed for any habitat in New York. Consult your local Department of Environmental Conservation for guidelines and permission in collecting specimens from the wild. Consult *Field Guides Made Easy* for additional activities and ideas.

2. FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES

- Exhibits may be displays or records of any Fisheries and Aquatic Resources related activity including, but not limited to, fishing techniques, aquatic sampling methods, aquatic insect ecology, habitat improvement or fisheries management and biology. Other fishing projects may be found in 4-H publications.
- Water Monitoring – project ideas may be found in *Water Worlds*, *Water Wise*, *Pond & Stream Safari*.
- County or self-initiated projects related to fish or fishing, including mariculture, aquaculture, commercial fisheries, sport fisheries or related equipment, skills or observations.

3. FORESTRY

- Displays and presentations may be based upon, but are not limited to, the following projects: *Know Your Trees*, *Timber Management for Small Woodlands (IB 180)*; *Wildlife and Timber from Private Lands: A Landowners Guide to Planning (IB 193)*; *Woods of New York*; *Trees: Dead or Alive*, *Know Your Tree Diseases*; *Maple Syrup Production for the Beginner*; and other forestry exhibits based upon national, regional, county or self-initiated projects.

4. RESOURCE-BASED RECREATION

- Shooting Sports – any exhibit or record based upon content of the NYS Shooting Sports Programs or any of the New York State DEC certification programs.

- Other Outdoor Recreation – Exhibits based upon related outdoor recreation activities, e.g. orienteering, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, wilderness camping, or outdoor cookery.

5. **WILDLIFE**

- Bird Study – Consult *Bluebirds of New York*, *Birds of Prey*, *Introduction to Bird Study*, or any other bird materials for exhibit ideas. Bluebird houses will be judged using the criteria from *Bluebirds of New York*. Please note, if a bluebird house is completed as a Wood Science project, it should be entered in Section J – Science, Technology & Engineering.
- Habitat Improvement – Consult *Wildlife Habitat Enhancement*, *Enhancement of Wildlife on Private Lands*, and/or *Managing Small Woodlots for Wildlife* for exhibit ideas.
- Trapping Furbearers – Exhibits based upon the NYS DEC Trapper Training Program are acceptable, as are displays of equipment, pelt preparation, and discussion of the role of trapping in wildlife management.
- Other Wildlife Projects – Exhibits based upon New York’s wildlife resources, *Environmental Awareness: Wildlife*, *Managing Small Woodlots for Wildlife*; *Wildlife Discovery*, *New York’s Wildlife Resources* (fact sheets), and *Wildlife in Today’s Landscapes*. County projects are acceptable. A good source of potential projects is the 4-H Forestry and Wildlife Invitational.

6. **SOLID WASTE**

- Exhibits based on recycling or composting projects in the home or community.
- Clothing, crafts, and other items created using post-consumer waste materials. Consult *Composting: Wastes to Resources*; *Wastewise*; *Woodsy’s Resource Goldmine*, *Recycling in Your School Makes Good Sense*; or *Recycling: Mining Resources from Trash or Composting in the Classroom* for exhibit ideas.

7. **OPEN CLASS**

- This class is an option for exhibits deemed by the County Youth Educator to be worthwhile, but fall outside the categories described above. The decision to bring such exhibits is left to the discretion of the Extension 4-H Educator. This class is also expected to follow the project story requirement listed at the beginning of this section.

Please remember in addition to a completed 3x5 card, all exhibits are required to include a project story on a separate piece of paper (see All Exhibits in Section G are required above).