

Safety, Responsibility and Shooting Sports

The Douglas County 4-H Shooting Sports program will teach you how to be safe and have fun in a 4-H Shooting Sports activity. The 4-H Shooting Sports program should help you understand and promote the safe, responsible, and ethical use of firearms. Always practice the safety guidelines this program and your adult leader outlined for you.

Douglas County CSU Extension

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<https://douglas.extension.colostate.edu/4-h/programs-2/shooting-sports/>

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Welcome to Douglas County 4-H Shooting Sports

Are you interested in firearms or archery and learning to handle them correctly and safely? Then the Douglas County 4-H Shooting Sports Program is for you!

4-H Shooting Sports is unique because it is oriented to the individual. Shooting is an activity that can be practiced throughout life, and the entire family can participate. Douglas County's 4-H Shooting Sports program provides an opportunity for kids, ages 8 to 18, to learn marksmanship, the principles of hunting and archery, and the safe and responsible use of firearms. We promote the highest standards of sportsmanship, safety, and ethical behavior.

Our program also encourages an appreciation of natural resources and teaches decision-making, self-discipline, and problem-solving, while helping kids to build character and leadership skills.

The best part of the Douglas County Shooting Sports program? 4-H is a great place to meet and make new friends that last a lifetime, while sharing fun learning activities!

You can learn any or all these disciplines:

1. .22 Rifle
2. .22 Pistol*
3. Air Rifle
4. Air Pistol
5. Shotgun
6. Archery
7. Muzzleloading
8. Outdoor Skills
9. Western Heritage*

* Members need to be at least 9 years of age with a **minimum** of 1 year of 4-H live fire experience in Douglas County. (Ex:.22 rifle or shotgun)

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Shooting is a skill that requires self-discipline, concentration, and individual effort. It can also require considerable financial resources. It is important that you keep a good record of what you have learned and how you learned. You will also keep a record of practices, leadership roles, expenses, property and equipment, expenditures, and other aspects of your shooting experience. Your shooting experience will mean more to you when you look at your records and see how you have progressed from a beginner to a skilled shooter!

Studying and learning about shooting is fun. The Colorado 4-H Shooting Sports curriculum is designed to help youth learn how to care for and the safe use of shooting sports equipment. Members will learn the safe use of firearms through practices, talks, demonstrations, and exhibits. The key to any 4-H project is for youth to enjoy themselves and to evolve at their own pace.

4-H Shooting Sports offers many educational experiences, from learning the shooting basics, critical safety practices, to poise and concentration. Parents can be a big help if they are involved with their child's learning, especially for younger 4-H members. Youth are more excited to learn if they have parental support and interest in what they are doing. Therefore, parents are encouraged to sit in on meetings and ask their child about what they learned. As they mature, youth should take on more responsibility for their learning and move to independent learning. Parental involvement will reinforce what youth learn at any age.

In addition to learning about the safe use of firearms, youth enrolled in 4-H shooting sports are also eligible to participate in numerous leadership development and educational activities including: County and State Fair competition, out of county trips, state and national trips, club officer training, scholarships, citizenship, community service, and recreational activities.

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How do I enroll?

Douglas County 4-H Enrollment is open from **October 1 – March 1. The deadline to enroll in 4-H is March 1 of the current year.** For example, for the 2022-2023 year, registration opens October 1, 2022 and closes March 1, 2023. **The deadline to enroll in a Shooting Sports Project is also March 1 each year.** You can enroll by contacting the Douglas County CSU Extension Office at (720) 733-6940. Our friendly and helpful 4-H staff will provide you with the names of 4-H clubs and leaders in your area. You'll attend a club meeting and find the club that fits you best.

Where can I get more information?

Douglas County CSU Extension Office
410 Fairgrounds Rd.
Castle Rock, CO
720-733-6940

Jacie Rex, Douglas County 4-H Extension Agent (Shooting Sports & General Projects)

Email: jacie.rex@colostate.edu

Douglas County 4-H Shooting Sports Website:

<https://douglas.extension.colostate.edu/4-h/programs-2/shooting-sports/>

or

Colorado State University 4-H Shooting Sports Website:

<http://co4h.colostate.edu/program-areas/shooting-sports/>

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Parents!

Parental support in 4-H is just as important as parental support in school. Friends and volunteer 4-H leaders get youth interested in joining 4-H; it is up to the parents to keep their children interested and encouraged.

Parents of shooting sports members should attend practices. When parents attend, this helps ensure the safety of the child or children during training. It also helps keep parents involved in what their child is learning and doing, which is critical for your child's development, self-esteem, and educational experience.

4-H PLEDGE

I pledge my **HEAD** to clearer thinking,
my **HEART** to greater loyalty,
my **HANDS** to larger service,
and my **HEALTH** to better living,
for my club, my community,
my country, and my world.



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How to participate in Shooting Sports Events

To participate in the Douglas County Shoot: Members who meet these requirements will be eligible to participate at the Douglas County Shoot.

1. Be in good standing with their club and with 4-H.
2. Fulfill their club meeting requirements.
3. Give a club demonstration.
4. Participate in their Club Community Service activity.
5. Attend a safety class before member can shoot.
- 6. Have a valid Colorado Hunter Safety Certification Card.**
 - 1. Upload Hunter Safety Card in 4-H Online by April 15th.**
7. Submit enrollment in the Douglas County Exhibit Day & Fair in Fair Entry.
 1. Window to sign up is June 1st – June 16th.
8. Record Book and Display Board or Stand-Alone project must be turned in at Exhibit Day. (July 22nd)
 1. Record Book must be at least **70%** complete, signed by a certified Shooting Sports Leader in at least one discipline in which the member is enrolled.
9. Participate club practices with certified leaders of that discipline in order to count.
 1. 3 practices for one discipline is required.
 2. 3 practices per discipline for multiple disciplines is required. These are measured by the broader classes of Pistol, Rifle, Shotgun and Archery.
10. Champion & Reserve Champion Awards are determined by points received from the points possible in the following areas:
 1. **Archery**
 1. Compound – Limited, Unlimited or Traditional
 2. Recurve – Traditional, Limited

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2. **Shotgun**
 1. Trap
 2. Skeet
 3. Sporting Clays
3. **Rifle**
 1. Hunt
 2. Scope
 3. 3-P
 4. 4-P
4. **Air Rifle**
 1. 25' Utility
 2. 4-P
 3. 3-P
 4. Olympic Off-Hand
5. **Air Pistol**
6. **.22 Pistol**
7. **Muzzleloading**

Regional and Non-County Shoots: There may be other county sponsored events throughout the state. This does not include the Douglas County Spring Shoot, Douglas County Shoot or Colorado 4-H State Championships Shoot. To participate as a 4-H member in these events, youth must:

1. Be in good standing with their club and 4-H.
2. Attend a shooting sports safety training.
3. Participate in a minimum of **3** practices in each discipline to count.

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4. Member's registration form for a competitive event must include a signature from a certified leader from at least one of the disciplines entered.

To participate in the Colorado 4-H State Championships Shoot:

Members who meet these requirements will be eligible to be entered for the Colorado 4-H State Championships Shoot.

1. Be in good standing with their club and with 4-H.
2. Fulfill their club meeting requirements.
3. Give a club demonstration.
4. Participate in their Club Community Service activity.
5. Attend a 4-H safety class before member is allowed to shoot.
6. **Have a valid Hunter Safety Certification Card.**
 1. **Upload Hunter Safety Card in 4-H Online by April 15th.**
7. Submit enrollment in the Douglas County Exhibit Day & Fair in Fair Entry.
 1. Open the first two weeks in June
8. Record Book and Display Board or Stand-Alone project must be turned in at Exhibit Day. (Event is in July each year)
 1. Record Book must be at least **70%** complete, signed by a certified Shooting Sports Leader in at least one discipline in which the member is enrolled.
9. Participate club practices with certified leaders of that discipline in order to count.
 1. 3 practices for one discipline is required.

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2. 3 practices per discipline for multiple disciplines is required.
10. Must qualify at County Shoot to be eligible for State Shoot.
11. Contest rules can be found at: <http://co4h.colostate.edu/program-areas/shooting-sports/> under notices, forms and rulebook tab.

Downloading Your E-Record

Colorado 4-H Shooting Sports projects have e-records and supplements. Both e-records and supplements can be filled out on the computer or by hand. Either way is acceptable, and you will not be penalized if your record book isn't typed.

E-records and supplements are available online at:
<https://douglas.extension.colostate.edu/4-h/programs-2/shooting-sports/>

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Where will I shoot?

The Douglas County 4-H Shooting Sports program operates at several different ranges based on your club. The Douglas County Shoot is held at Douglas County Fairgrounds, Highlands Ranch Law Enforcement Range & Pikes Peak Gun Club.

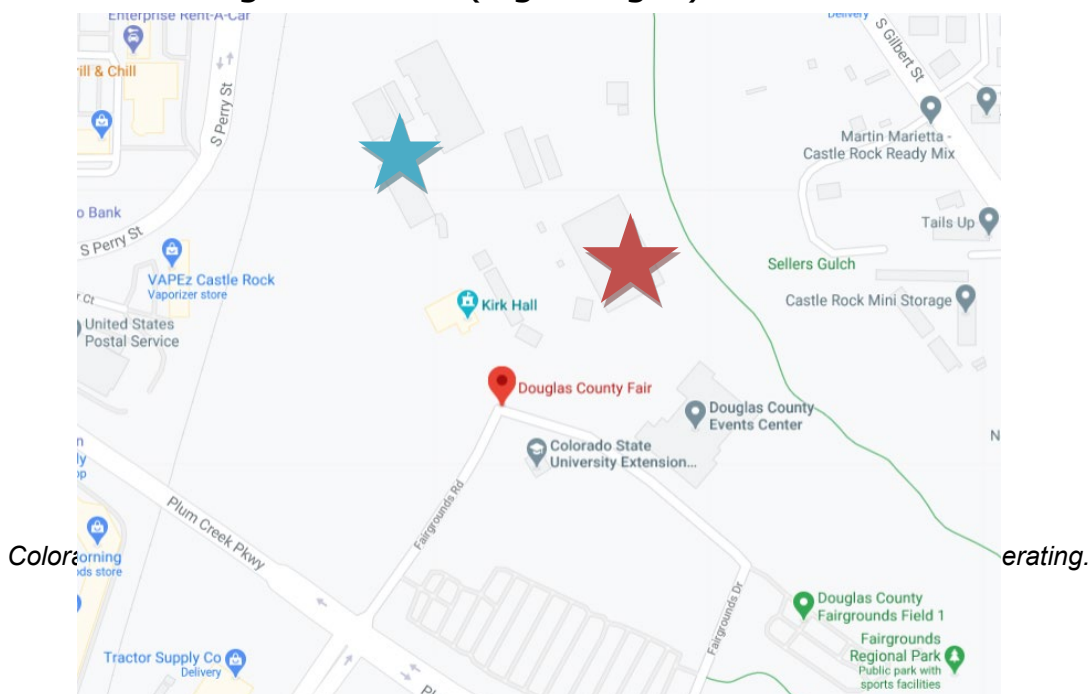
Douglas County Fairgrounds [Indoor Arena (red) and Multipurpose Barn (blue)]

Directions to the Fairgrounds and Events Center from the south

1. Take I-25 north to exit 181.
2. Turn right onto Plum Creek Blvd.
3. Go east on Plum Creek Parkway approximately 1 mile to Fairgrounds Road (3rd signal light)
4. Turn left on Fairgrounds Rd.

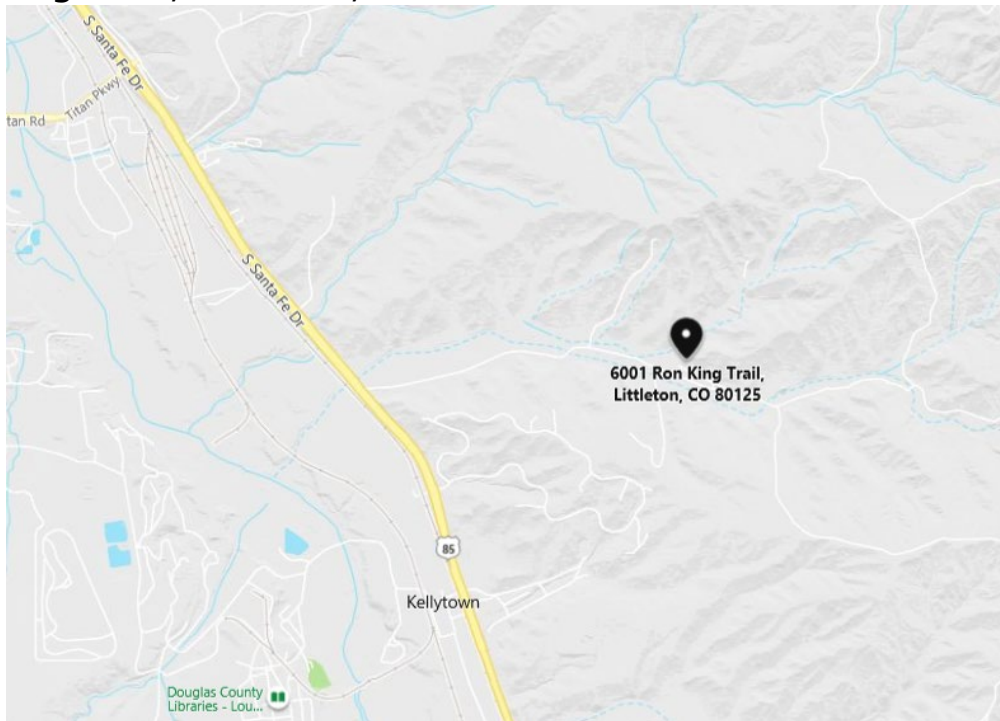
Directions to the Fairgrounds and Events Center from the north

1. Take I-25 to the Plum Creek Exit #181. Turn left at signal, this is Plum Creek Blvd.
2. Go east on Plum Creek Parkway approximately 1 mile to Fairgrounds Road (3rd signal light)
3. Turn Left on Fairgrounds Rd (signal light).



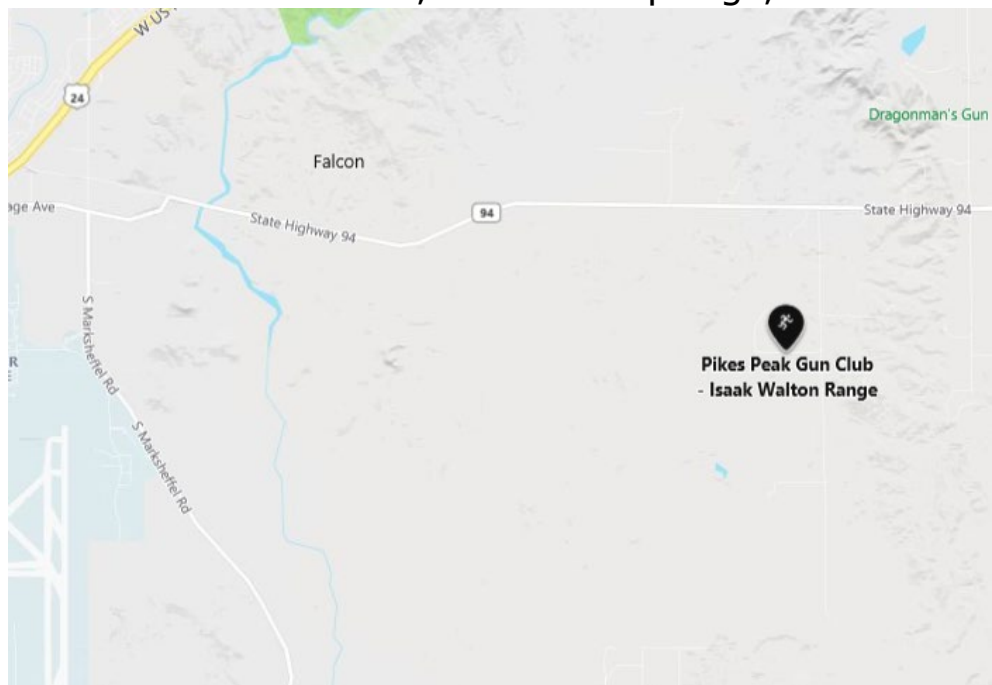
Highlands Ranch Law Enforcement Range

6001 Ron King Trail, Littleton, CO 80125



Pikes Peak Gun Club

450 S Franceville Coal Mine Road, Colorado Springs, CO 80929



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Safety~Safety~Safety

Eyes and Ears

Youth involved in shooting activities need to understand the importance of protecting their eyes and ears. Approved eye and ear protection is required when participating in any 4-H Shooting Sports practice or competition.

Range Safety

Members, parents, and leaders should be aware that safe use of the range is critical for everyone to have a fun learning experience. Here are a few safety rules to follow (check with your range officer for more instruction):

1. No youth under 8 years of 4-H age on the range.
2. Dogs and other pets are not allowed on the range.
3. No climbing or playing on the berms or hills.
4. All spectators are to remain in designed areas.
5. All plants and wildlife are to be left undisturbed.

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6. Participants and spectators are encouraged to bring their own shade, water and sunscreen as needed.
7. Upon arrival at the range, shooters are to leave their firearms in their vehicle. Shooters will bring their firearms to the firing line only when instructed by their range instructor.
8. Shooters are responsible to bring their own firearms, ammo, ear and eye protection and appropriate equipment and supplies.
9. Firearms utilized by all shooters are subject to the approval of certified discipline leaders for the compliance with state 4-H Shooting Sports requirements and safety factors.

Hunter Safety Certification Card

Hunter Safety Education is an important part of 4-H Shooting Sports. Shooting Sports members must have a Colorado Hunter Safety card to participant in County Competition. Classes can be found here:

<https://www.hunter-ed.com/colorado/>

You don't have to shoot to participate!

4-H Shooting Sports Display Requirements:

So, what do you do if you just want to learn more about firearms and ammunition? How do you do that and still participate in the County and State Fair? Well, Douglas County 4-H offers an option to create a Shooting Sports display that you can take to these events. In Douglas County, you may compete in the County and State Fair by completing a display board and qualifying for the State Fair.

However, in Douglas County, to compete in the State Fair Shoot, it is required to complete a display board or a stand- alone project along with qualifying at the County Shoot.

Project Exhibit Rules:

All Standalone Exhibits and Decorative Items will consist of the following:

1. Completed E-record with all pages being complete and in order. N/A should be written on disciplines not applicable for youth.
2. Record Book should be exhibited in a binder with prongs or rings. The Douglas County Extension Office has Record Book covers for sale.
3. Stand-alone items are items that are made to enhance the discipline, such as a quiver, gun case, gun stand, etc. No display boards are allowed in the Stand-Alone Classes.

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4. The Decorative Item class are items that are used to decorate a room, building, etc. Be sure to look at the classes to determine where your exhibit item fits.
5. For those items that will be displayed on the floor there will be a maximum size of 3 feet in width and 3 feet in depth and 7ft in height, because of limited floor space.
6. The item must be stable when standing to be displayed and must be secure when transporting as to not disassemble.
7. If an exhibit is larger than this, a notebook can be used as an exhibit showing how and what was made.
8. No stand-alone items that are an exhibit at the time of the contests will be allowed to be removed from the building to be used at the contests.

Display Board:

1. Completed E-record with all pages being complete and in order. N/A should be written on disciplines not applicable for youth.
2. Record Book should be exhibited in a binder with prongs or rings. The Douglas County Extension Office has Record Book covers for sale.
3. The standardized display board should be 4ft x 3ft in size. The Douglas County Extension Office has Display Boards for sale.
4. The display board topics should stay in close relationship with your discipline. Please do not use topics outside the scope of your 4-H project.
5. No live ammo, broadheads, knives, or functional firearms are allowed to be displayed. Do not use pictures of primarily tactical in design

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firearms in you display, i.e., AR platform or military type firearms. Do not use the word weapon when creating your display.

6. Cardboard, paper cutouts or décor resembling firearms or bows are allowed for display purposes
7. No additional items may be included on or in front of display board.
8. Make sure that there are no safety violations in your display.
9. See attached example display board.

Display Board Guidelines for State Fair 4-H Exhibits

Display boards are a great way to share information, but when viewers walk by, they spend only 60-90 seconds looking at each display board. Make yours stand out by highlighting the main points of your project in a fun, interesting way.

Follow these guidelines to create a display board for the state fair.

SHAPE
Design your exhibit so information fits on the display. Remember, you have 1 large surface, and 2 smaller side wings.

SPACE
Your display should only discuss one main topic. This will help it look neat and uncrowded.

ATTACHMENTS
Make sure pictures and objects are securely attached to the board. Use glue for pictures and paper, and consider wires, zip ties or staples to attach bulkier items. Do not attach items that are so heavy that your board can't stand or fold.

TEXT
Make sure that all the text on your display is easy to read. Use a large font for the title, and smaller fonts for the headings and body text. Text must be readable from 3-5 feet away. Use large bold letters. Dark letters on a light background works best.

SIZE
Display boards for the state fair must measure 4 ft. wide x 3 ft. tall. They should be made of lightweight cardboard, but not poster board. Pre-cut boards are available at most craft and shopping centers. No part of your display may extend beyond these boundaries.

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Complementary Projects

Outdoor Adventure

Do you like to camp? Then this is the project for you! This project progresses from day to overnight camping trips, to finally planning an extended backpack expedition. Great fun for adventures!

Wildlife

Colorado's wildlife is one of our state's biggest attractions. This project will teach about wildlife behavior, habitat requirements, how wildlife species fit into nature's scheme, how they managed, and how they relate to humans.

Sportfishing

Make this your year to try the Sportfishing project. As a member you will learn casting methods, selection of tackle, water quality, learn how to tie fishing knots, and much, much more!

Contact the Douglas County Extension Office for more information on these projects today!

4-H is a **community** of **young people** across America who are learning **leadership, citizenship** and **life skills.**



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Colorado 4-H Rimfire & Centerfire Pistol / Western Heritage Project Permission to Fire a Handgun Form

The Youth Safety Handgun Act (<https://www.atf.gov/firearms/docs/atf-i-53002-%E2%80%94-youth-handgun-safety-act-notice>) as included in the Gun Control Act of 1968 puts restrictions on the use and possession of handguns by youth under 18 years of age. Youth participating in the Colorado 4-H Rimfire Pistol, Centerfire Pistol or Western Heritage Project must, at all times, follow all provisions of this act. Therefore, Colorado 4-H Rimfire Pistol, Centerfire Pistol or Western Heritage Project Leaders will require “the prior written consent of the juvenile’s parent or guardian who is not prohibited by Federal, State, or local law from possessing a firearm.” This written permission must be in possession of the youth or on file with a Colorado 4-H Rimfire Pistol, Centerfire Pistol or Western Heritage Project Leader – even if a parent/guardian is present. Please fill out the form below with the name of the youth, a parent’s name, address, as well as their signature, and that of a witness and dates. If participating with another club or 4-H Rimfire Pistol, Centerfire Pistol or Western Heritage event, the 4-H member can provide a copy of this form to any 4-H Pistol or Western Heritage Project Leader. Failure to have this document will require officials to disqualify the shooter to avoid violation of federal law.

I/we _____, **parent/guardians** of _____,
(**print shooter’s name**), grant permission to participate with a handgun in the Colorado 4-H Rimfire Pistol, Centerfire Pistol or Western Heritage Project and Events sponsored by County, State, and National 4-H organizations as per The Youth Safety Handgun Act.

Signature of 4-H Shooter _____

Signature of Parent/guardian _____

Address _____

City, State, & Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Date _____

Witness Signature _____

Date _____

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