The year 2012 marks the 15th year of the Clark County 4-H Shooting Sports Program. Last year over 50 youth enrolled and enjoyed the advisement of Indiana State 4-H certified instructors giving them firearm safety instruction and several "hands on" range experiences with shotguns, rifles and handguns.

Clark County's 4-H Youth Educator, Robert C. Allen, also an IDNR Hunter Education instructor, works with the County Shooting Sports Committee to build a foundation to use as a springboard to specialized firearm instruction in the future.

Allen states, "This is an excellent program to start with since many adults and youth specialize as they age. A basic understanding of sporting arms safety is critical in building a County 4-H Shooting Sports Program."

This program is especially designed to reach any Clark County youth grades 3-12, who would be interested in joining the 2012 program. Parents and legal guardians are asked to attend as well since 4-H is a family affair. It is required that youth ninth grade and younger attend with an accompanying adult. Adults with a special interest to teach youth firearm safety are also needed to assist with this growing 4-H program. If families have youth interested in learning the mechanics of shooting, please plan to attend the 4-H Shooting Sports program "call-out meeting" on Tuesday, March 20 at 6:30 p.m. in the Food Center at the 4-H fairgrounds near Charlestown.