

4-H Youth Development Program

4-H News



Hands to Larger Service:

11th Year of Statewide Community Service Effort

Each year, 4-H clubs throughout Massachusetts conduct community service projects to benefit others. So far this year, club members have collected over 6,000 pounds of food and donated it to shelters and food banks across the commonwealth. They have also planted and harvested garden crops, gleaned apples and vegetables, distributed lunches to the homeless, and provided Thanksgiving meals to those in need.

Over 30 4-H clubs reported on their activities during the fall season. Outreach efforts continue throughout the year. Incentives are awarded to clubs that report their results! Please report your winter community service activities at www.surveymonkey.com/r/MA4-HWinter.

Massachusetts 4-H STATEWIDE NEWSLETTER

Spring 2018

April Is National Volunteer Month

Thank You to Our 2,127 Volunteers and Collaborators!

4-H volunteers serve as club leaders, short-term program facilitators, advisory and program council members, judges, fundraisers, food booth coordinators, chaperones, coaches, and more! Through these volunteers, we were able to reach nearly 23,000 youth last year with positive youth development. Volunteers are the heart of the 4-H program, selflessly donating their time to support and mentor youth. Please take the time in April (and throughout the year) to thank a 4-H volunteer!

Great New Opportunity for Massachusetts 4-H

National 4-H Council has launched the Shop 4-H Affiliate Program. Massachusetts 4-H will receive 5 percent of the value of most items purchased through Shop 4-H.

The only requirement is that Shop 4-H is accessed through the special link set up for Massachusetts 4-H. So shop often at Shop 4-H through this link: <https://shop4-h.org?rfsn=1043080.05136>.



4-H Club Grant Opportunities from the MA 4-H Foundation

Be sure to check out the 4-H Foundation website for 4-H club grant and funding opportunities. *All clubs requesting grant funds must have a club bank account, and checks must be payable to the 4-H club.* Go to mass4hfoundation.org/index.php/programs/grants.

Calling All Photographers!



All 4-H members are encouraged to enter the State 4-H Photography Contest. **Photographs taken since last July may be entered and are due to the Waltham 4-H office by July 1.** Go to www.mass4h.org/forms/contest-forms and click on "Photography Contest" for complete guidelines and instructions.

Opportunity to Facilitate 4-H Impact Programs

4-H Impact programs are *short-term programs (6–8 sessions)* usually delivered in collaboration with libraries or community organizations that serve youth. Our most popular 4-H Impact program is the 4-H Babysitters Training course. We are looking for adults who would be willing to facilitate and/or teach some of these courses; stipends are available. This would be a great opportunity for college students to earn some money during the summer. If you are interested, contact your 4-H educator for details.

4-H Summer of Science Program Expanded

4-H has an entire summer of fun, experiential science opportunities in store for members. Watch the 4-H website over this spring and summer for registration details or contact Kim Pond for more information at kima@umext.umass.edu.

June 9: MA 4-H Participates with WPI’s “Touch Tomorrow – A Festival of Science, Technology, and Robots.” Any 4-H youth and adults interested in helping with this exciting event should contact Kim Pond.

June 24–26: Explore UMass: Held on the UMass Amherst campus. Celebrating our 10th year with a new theme, “Animals and Apps.” Special price of \$100 for MA 4-H members, thanks to our great sponsors Tractor Supply, Tata Consultancy Services Limited, and the MA 4-H Foundation. *This conference is open to 4-H’ers ages 12–16, or in grades 7–11, for the 2018–2019 school year.* Participants will stay in the dorms, eat in the dining commons, and get a taste of what life is like as a student living on the UMass campus.

July 3 & 5: “4-H Robo Days”: Location TBA. Have fun coding while programming robots!

4-H Car Design Competitions: Takes place at the Worcester County 4-H Fair (Barre) on **August 25** and at Crackerbarrel Fair (Wrentham) on **September 16**. Prizes given for cars in the gravity car and battery car categories!

Remember 4-H Science When You Are Spring Cleaning! We can use Legos, K’NEX, old iPhones, laptops with Windows version 7 or higher, and even your old Christmas lights.

For more information on these events, visit our SET page on the website or contact Kim Pond, 4-H SET liaison, at kima@umext.umass.edu.

Computer Science

With our new Google devices (thanks to a donation from Google) and the new 4-H Computer Science curriculum, the time is right to get your club involved in a computer science activity. Kim Pond will be at State Visual Presentation Day with some of the new materials for you to try out. These include:

- Junk-Drawer Robotics and Computer Coding curriculum
- iPads (with Scratch Jr.)
- Chromebooks
- Virtual reality kits

If you will not be at State Visual Presentation Day and want to check some of these materials out, contact Kim Pond at kima@umext.umass.edu.

Beef, Dairy, and Exploring Veterinary Science Academies

Brochures will be on the Massachusetts 4-H website at: www.ag.umass.edu/mass4h/programs/animal-science-program/animal-academies.

Beef Academy (Sullivan’s Stock University) – May 19 & 20

New this year; Sullivan’s Show Supply will run their Stock University in place of our Beef Academy. The event will be open to youth throughout the northeast. 4-H members may stay overnight in the dorms for a fee. Non-4-H youth and parents will be provided with a list of hotels. Camper spaces will be available for a fee.

Goat Cattle Academy – May 19 & 20

Exploring Veterinary Science – June 2 & 3

4-H Dog Camp

May 11–13: Cod Sea Camp in Brewster

Spring brings better weather and more opportunities for 4-H dog project members to enjoy outdoor activities with their project animals. We hope you will save the dates for the State Dog Camp. Information about the Dog Camp and Dog Show will be posted to the 4-H website this spring. All questions should be referred to Dog Program Coordinator Molly Vollmer at mvollmer@umext.umass.edu.

Horse Program News

Important news: Horse verification forms are no longer required by Massachusetts 4-H. They are still required by The Big E. This means only youth that are considering showing at The Big E horse show need to turn a verification form into their local 4-H office. **The verification forms required for Big E participation are due April 1.**

The 4-H Horse Project Member of the Year award has been discontinued.

Upcoming dates:

- **Fitting and showmanship clinics** will take place on **April 7** at the Washtone Ranch in Westfield and on **April 29** at Hillside Meadows in Grafton
- **State Round Up** at Wheaton College on **April 28** and Judging at Hillside Meadows in Grafton on **April 29**
- **State 4-H Horse Show** at its NEW LOCATION of The Big E fairgrounds **August 3–5**

Any questions about the state 4-H horse program should be directed to 4-H Equine Coordinator Meagan Welch Coyne at meaganwelch@umext.umass.edu.

The 2018 Regional 4-H Horse Show

July 7–9: Three County Fairgrounds,
Three County Fairgrounds, Northampton, MA

Going into its 34th year, the Regional 4-H Horse Show is open to 4-H youth throughout the Northeast. Additional classes have been added this year for jumpers and alumni. Special events have been planned, including clinics. Numerous awards and prizes will be given out. Professional, reputable judges are hired who will educate youth during the judging process.



Scholarship and sponsorship forms are available online at www.ag.umass.edu/mass4h/programs/animal-science-program/horses/horse-show-resources.

Check us out on **Facebook – Regional 4-H Horse Show** Questions? Contact Show Manager Kelli Wainscott at kellimarie43@yahoo.com or by phone at 413-695-8343.

Tufts University Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine Adventures in Veterinary Medicine

Do you know an aspiring veterinarian? Adventures in Veterinary Medicine (AVM) is a fun and engaging career exploration program for middle and high school students interested in pursuing a veterinary career. For more information about the program, including dates, eligibility, and tuition, visit the AVM website: <http://vetsites.tufts.edu/avm/>.

UMass Livestock Classic

Saturday, April 14, 8 a.m.–2 p.m.

UMass Horse Farm, 111 North Maple Street,
Hadley, MA

Each year, students of the UMass Pre-Veterinary and Animal Science Club organize the Bay State Livestock



Classic, a livestock show founded in 1938 in which students and faculty take part. “The Classic” occurs in April and is open to the public. Fun, food, and activities are provided for kids of all ages. Student participants spend a

good portion of the spring semester training and fitting the animals that they have chosen to show during the Classic. The event culminates with the selection of the “Premier Showperson.” We hope to see you at the Classic!

Livestock Verification Form

If you are planning to exhibit a leased animal at any of our 4-H fairs and/or the New England 4-H Show in September at The Big E, you need to complete a **4-H verification form** that is located online at www.ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/2010_livestock_verification.pdf.

Verification forms must be turned in at your local 4-H office. Deadlines are as follows:

- **Beef/Dairy Cattle – May 1, 2018**
- **Sheep/Goats – June 1, 2018**

You must have your leader sign off on the form prior to sending it to your county 4-H educator: both leader and educator signatures are required. Remember to keep a copy of the form with your paperwork to take with you to the shows.

2018 Massachusetts Health Regulations

The Massachusetts Department of Animal Health has issued the health regulations for the exhibition of animals during the 2018 show season. Go to www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/agr/animal-health/animal-imports-livestock-markets/.

Tractor Supply Paper Clover Campaign



Since 2010, the Tractor Supply Company and National 4-H Council have collaborated to raise funds for 4-H through the Paper Clover Fundraising Campaign. Clubs are encouraged to host interactive displays at TSC stores in their area at any time during the year, but especially during the Paper Clover campaign. Funds raised are held by the MA 4-H Foundation and used to support 4-H leadership and overnight programs, as required by Tractor Supply. **The spring campaign takes place April 11–22. Please support this campaign!**

Big E Information

Visual Presentation Big E Quality Ribbons

Youth who received a Big E Quality Ribbon at County VP Day are eligible to participate in the New England Center at The Big E, but must **first attend one of three orientation sessions offered around the state to learn about what is required. Next, they must submit all the required paperwork by July 15. Orientation sessions are scheduled for June 12, 21, and 25.** For more information, go to mass4h.org/programs/public-speaking-and-visual-presentations and click on “Big E Winner – What to Expect.”

There is no performing arts contest this year. If you wish to perform on stage at The Big E (musical instrument, sing, dance, etc.), you must **contact Sherrie Guyott to arrange for an audition by May 26. The audition could be in the form of a video, YouTube, etc.**

IMPORTANT NEW INFORMATION

Big E RFID Tags for Dairy and Beef Cattle

Animal Identification for Eastern States Exposition (The Big E)

For 2018, it is suggested that cattle be identified with a 15-digit RFID tag.

The following forms of that tag will be accepted:

- A Canadian Cattle Identification Agency Radio Frequency Identification Device Tag
- A USDA AIN RFID Tag
- A USDA AIN Visual Tag

Animal Identification Number (AIN) "840" Tags

Provided directly to producers from manufacturers (or their distributors) or to producers through breed associations, accredited veterinarians, or animal health officials.

To begin the process, contact Carry Shulock-Sexton at the MA Department of Agriculture at 617-626-1797 to be assigned a premise ID. You must do this before you are able to purchase a RFID tag.

The tags come in various sizes and colors and may be visual only or identified with variable frequency RFID technology. Note that 840 AINs are available in microchip implants for equine and other species.



Moving in this direction will allow a speedier health check-in. Note that cattle with these tags must be identified using these 15 digits on the certificates of veterinary inspection

paperwork. Exhibitors are reminded there is still a show check in using registration numbers, tattoos, and American ID tags. The Big E does not recommend tags of any kind be removed. Exhibitors that have used American ID tags for registration purposes should not remove these tags. For show check-in, these tags tie the animal to their registration paper.

All cattle must meet the same Big E health check-in identification standard.

Big E 4-H Packets for Dairy Cattle, Dog, Goat, and Sheep

The entry packets for The Big E New England 4-H Show are online on The Big E website. They are located at www.thebige.com/p.aspx?plD=competitions/4-h/380&.

The Participation Health Form must also be completed and is found at [d2w7gersd1ix5b.cloudfront.net/files.ashx?t=fg&f=05ag4hhealthcard-1\(1\).pdf&rid=TheBigE](http://d2w7gersd1ix5b.cloudfront.net/files.ashx?t=fg&f=05ag4hhealthcard-1(1).pdf&rid=TheBigE).



Instructions on entering are located under each of the individual packets. Now is the time to start looking over the packets to prepare for the September Big E.

All participants must be at least 12 years old as of 1/1/18. All exhibitors must set up their own online exhibitor account to enter online. The Big E will not accept any paper entries. The Big E Participant Form (health form) needs to be sent to: Western MA 4-H Office, Attn: Carrie Sears, 101 University Drive, Slobody Building, Suite A-4, Amherst, MA 01002.

Questions about the beef, dairy, goat, or sheep programs should be directed to Carrie Chickering-Sears at 413-549-3257 or ccsears@umext.umass.edu.

Dairy Goat Youth

If you plan to participate in The Big E goat show, ***you must submit the 4-H Goat verification form to your local 4-H office by June 1, 2018. The Big E application is due by August 1, 2018*** and is found at www.thebige.com/p.aspx?plD=competitions/4-h/380&.

Important Online Entry Deadlines

- 4-H Beef Heifers – May 25
- Goats and Sheep – August 10

Please note: To be eligible to exhibit at the New England 4-H Dairy Show at The Big E, you must exhibit at the State 4-H Dairy Show and be selected to attend The Big E. The Massachusetts 4-H Dairy Show takes place August 3–5 on the Franklin County Fairgrounds in Greenfield, MA.

Big E Dog Program

Questions on the New England 4-H Dog Program at The Big E should be directed to Linda Horn at lrhorn@umext.umass.edu.

Youth Working Steer Program at The Big E

The show packet for the Youth Working Steer Program is located at www.thebige.com/p.aspx?plD=competitions/4-h/380&. Please contact Carrie Chickering-Sears at ccsears@umext.umass.edu or (413) 549-3257 for further details on the show. **Youth must be age 12 by 1/1/18 in order to participate.**

Congratulations to Our Stellar 4-H Members!

Five members were selected to represent the MA 4-H program at National 4-H Conference in Washington, D.C., which takes place April 7-12, 2018. Conference delegates will research and bring a youth voice to a variety of issues facing them today as they make presentations to various federal agencies.

Our 2018 delegates are:

Alexandra Enos, **Essex County**

Owen Golden, **Plymouth County**

Morgan Kerins, **Plymouth County**

Nicholas Ryan, **Plymouth County**

Henry Wilhelm, **Hampshire County**

www.mass4h.org

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UMass Extension

CENTER FOR AGRICULTURE



Massachusetts **4-H** Foundation

FOSTERING YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

4-H Publicity Incentive Program

4-H clubs can receive \$50 for each published, unique newspaper article that mentions their club name!

4-H Club Matching Grant Program

The Massachusetts 4-H Foundation offers a matching grant program to 4-H clubs that organize a fundraising activity or event to raise money for their club or community. We will match the amount of money a club raises corresponding to the number of club members.

4-H Club Grants

The Massachusetts 4-H Foundation is pleased to be able to provide direct support to enrolled 4-H clubs and program councils in Massachusetts in the form of club/council grants. These grants are available quarterly for special projects or needs that the group has which support the educational program and 4-H priorities.

Legislative Awareness Awards

If members of your club meet with or host a state or federal senator/representative, your club can receive \$50 for a photo of your club with the legislator or \$100 for a photo published in the newspaper.

Kent Lage Leadership Award

Two scholarships are awarded annually to 4-H members or alumni who have demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities.

4-H Camperships

The foundation offers a limited number of competitive camperships to attend one of the four 4-H camps in Massachusetts.

For more details and to apply, please visit our website:

www.mass4hfoundation.org

Shirley Kane Memorial 4-H Golf Tournament

September 17, 2018

Holden Hills Country Club



The 16th annual Shirley Kane Memorial Golf Tournament will be September 17, 2018, at Holden Hills Country Club. We are looking for sponsors. Sponsorships are available at varied levels with a number of benefits. Please help spread the word and tell your friends about our sponsorship opportunities.

For more information, download the golf tournament brochure: www.mass4hfoundation.org/images/2018-Golf-Brochure-for-web.pdf

Thank you for your support!