



4-H NEWSLETTER SPRING 2019

**April is National
Volunteer Month**

**Thank You to our 2,403
Massachusetts 4-H
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 our amazing volunteers, we were able to reach 26,521 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!

Thank you to all of our wonderful 4-H volunteers for all that you do!

Hands to Larger Service

12th Year of Statewide 4-H 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 1500 pounds of food and donated it to shelters and food banks across the Commonwealth. They have also collected \$7,000, donated it to the American Cancer Society, Walton Foundation, and used it to purchase and donate food. Other efforts include clothing drives, working with seniors, donating pillowcases to hospitals and wreath laying at veterans cemeteries.

There will be a new on-line survey link created to report additional community service projects conducted this spring. Please make sure that your 4-H club's efforts are counted and report using this link or by emailing your local 4-H Educator. The link to the on-line survey will be emailed to all club leaders this spring.

Calling all Teens!

Exciting Opportunity to Apply for National 4-H Programs

Teens, ages 14-18, don't miss the opportunity to attend two great national programs;

- National 4-H Congress, November 29-December 3, 2019 in Atlanta, Georgia
- National 4-H Conference, March 28-April 2, 2020 in Chevy Chase, Maryland



Delegates will be chosen to represent Massachusetts 4-H based on an application packet. Each delegate must contribute \$200 toward the cost of the trip and the Massachusetts 4-H Foundation will cover the balance of the trip that includes registration, airfare, hotel and most of the meals. Application packet is due May 1, 2019. Go to http://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/nationaltrip_application2019.pdf for details on how to apply.

Support Massachusetts 4-H Through the Shop 4-H Affiliate Program

National 4-H Council has launched the Shop 4-H Affiliate Program. Massachusetts 4-H will receive 5% 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>



Summer 4-H STEM Ambassadors Program

We are growing our summer program to include summer staff in Springfield, Worcester, Newton and Walpole. If you are a 4-H alum age 18 or older with an interest in science and working with children ages 6-11 please consider applying for a paid job as a summer STEM Ambassador. You will be trained and provided with resources and supplies to go out and work with children at collaborating youth agencies. This year's theme is aerospace. Go to www.mass4h.org for information on how to apply. NOTE: Application deadline is April 19.

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 Walpole 4-H office by July 1. Go to <http://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 (6-8 sessions) programs 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. Others include Aerospace, Critter Care and Computer Science. 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 Celebrates the 50th Anniversary of the Apollo Moon Landing



In honor of this anniversary the summer science focus for MA 4-H will be aerospace. Science Coordinator Kim Pond will be offering Rocketry workshops around the state this spring and summer that will culminate in a rocket launch. There is a program scheduled in Medway on May 6 from 10 a.m. to noon. To register for that program or to schedule a program in your area contact Kim at kima@umext.umass.edu.

Join Us and Explore UMass!

Calling all youth entering grades 7-11 for the 2019-2020 school year. Join MA 4-H June 23-25 for Explore UMass, now in its 11th year. Don't miss this exciting opportunity to get a taste of what college life is like by living in a college dorm, eating in the dining commons and participating in workshops on the UMass Amherst campus. New this year will be two full days of tracks and theme days. We are offering some old favorites such as Food Science, Biology and Veterinary Science along with new ones including Computer Science, Exploring Water and Modern Agriculture. You can access information and registration materials on the 4-H website homepage, www.mass4h.org.

Beef, Dairy, Dairy Goat and Exploring Veterinary Science Academies

Brochures will be on the Massachusetts 4-H website at:

<https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/programs/animal-science-program/animal-academies>

Beef Academy – May 18 & 19

Dairy Cattle Academy – May 18 & 19

Katie Coyne, Mill Wheel Dairy Show Clinics from Johnson Creek, WI, will be joining this year!

Goat Academy – May 18

Exploring Veterinary Science – June 1 & 2



4-H Puppy Pawlooza, May 11, Barnstable County Fairgrounds

Spring brings better weather and more opportunities for 4-H dog project members to enjoy outdoor activities with their project animals. Join 4-H dog project members from across the state for a fun day of workshops and training. You may attend with or without your dog. For details, go to www.mass4h.org/news. Registration deadline is April 23.

Computer Science Pathways

MA 4-H is excited to announce that we received a grant from National 4-H Council to be a (CS) Computer Science Pathway Launcher. This allows us to expand the efforts we began last year with the Google grant. As a first step MA 4-H sent a team of youth and staff to a national training in Utah. Our CS team includes staff members Kim Pond and Lizmarie Lopez and youth members Caleb Cannon, Ciara Cabral and Suzie Barrows. Any teens interested in becoming a CS leader and helping with NYSD should contact Kim Pond. 4-H clubs, members and leaders, think about connecting with local libraries, schools or other groups and hosting a CS event in your community. Our team is ready to help you! For more information or to find out how you can get involved contact Kim Pond at kima@umext.umass.edu.

The 2019 Regional 4-H Horse Show, July 5-7 at Three County Fairgrounds

Going into its 35th year, the Regional 4-H Horse Show at the Three County Fairgrounds in Northampton 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 on-line at:

<http://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.



State 4-H Horse Show, August 2-4, Eastern States Exposition Fairgrounds

Make sure to save the dates for the State Show that takes place in a brand new location at the Big E! Check the Horse page of the 4-H website this spring for details.

2019 Massachusetts Health Regulations

The Massachusetts Department of Animal Health has issued the health regulations for the exhibition of animals during the 2019 show season. Go to:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/agr/animal-health/animal-imports-livestock-markets/>

Visual Presentation Big E Quality Ribbons - What do They Mean?

Youth that 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 13, 18 and 24. For more information go to <http://mass4h.org/programs/public-speaking-and-visual-presentations> and click on “Big E Winner – What to Expect.”

If you wish to perform on stage at the Big E (musical instrument, sing, dance, etc.) and you did not qualify through Visual Presentations, 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.

State Fashion Show at the Big E

Start now, there is plenty of time to sew, knit or crochet for the show on September 14! All 4-H members ages 5 and older can create garments, quilts and/or afghans to exhibit. Youth can model up to three outfits, quilts or afghans. All garments must meet the 4-H Dress Code. The event is non-competitive but there is an optional competitive event open to seniors. Program details are found at <http://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/forms-applications/big-e-forms>. Contact Fashion Show Coordinator Danica Brown with questions at 413-627-9641 or at danicalbrown26@outlook.com.

Please Help with the Baystate Children's Hospital Community Service Project

Baystate Children's Hospital cares for sick infants and kids from birth to age 18. They try to provide a homemade pillowcase to each child during their stay to comfort them and brighten up the room. We are asking that 4-H members make a pillowcase to be donated. Members may exhibit them in 4-H fairs and leave them at the fair to be donated or bring them to the Big E. To be part of this Baystate Hospital project the pillowcase must be delivered to the Big E by 8:00 am on September 14. The pillowcases will be displayed and then donated to the hospital. This is an optional community service project that all are encouraged to take part in. If you have any questions or would like a pattern, please contact Danica Brown at 413-627-9641 or email her at danicalbrown26@outlook.com.

Livestock Verification Forms Required for Big E Participation

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 on-line at:

http://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/2010_livestock_verification.pdf

Verification Forms must be turned into your local 4-H office. Deadlines are as follows:

- Beef /Dairy Cattle – May 1, 2019
- Sheep/Goats – June 1, 2019

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.

Important On-Line Entry Deadlines for the Big E

- 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 1-4 at the Franklin County Fairgrounds in Greenfield, MA.

Big E RFID Tags for Dairy and Beef Cattle

Animal Identification for Eastern States Exposition (Big E)

For 2019, it is **required** that cattle be identified with a 15 digit RFID tag.

The following forms 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 RFID tags may be purchased at NASCO or ordered from your respective breed association.

The tags come in various sizes and colors and may be visual only or identified with variable frequency RFID technology. The visual imprinting of the AIN on the tag is the official identifier for AIN tags with radio frequency technology. AIN tags may be imprinted with additional information for program identity, e.g. age, source programs.

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.

Important points:

1. Cattle with these tags must be identified using these 15 digits on the Certificates of Veterinary Inspection paperwork.
2. Moving in this direction will allow a speedier health check in using new technology.
3. Exhibitors are reminded there is still a show check in utilizing registration numbers, tattoos and American ID tags. ESE 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.
4. All cattle, including those from Massachusetts, must meet the same ESE 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 Shows are on-line on the Big E website. They are located at <http://www.thebige.com/p/competitions/4-h/380> .

The Participation Health Form must also be completed and is found at [http://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).

Entry instructions 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 1/1/19. **All exhibitors must set-up their own on-line exhibitor account to enter on-line. 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.

Questions on the Big E Dog Show should be directed to Linda Horn at 413-577-0332 or lhorn@umext.umass.edu.

Working Steer Program for Youth at the Big E

The show packet for the Youth Working Steer Program is located at <http://www.thebige.com/p/competitions/337>. Note the new date this year; September 12-15. Please contact Carrie Chickering-Sears ccsears@umext.umass.edu or (413) 549-3257 for further details on the show. Youth must be age 12 by 1/1/19 in order to participate.

Dairy Goat Show at the Big E

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, 2019. The form is found at http://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/2010_livestock_verification_0.pdf .

The Big E application is due by August 1, 2019 and is found at <http://www.thebige.com/p.aspx?PID=competitions/4-h/380&>.

Shirley Kane Memorial 4-H Golf Tournament

Our 17th annual tournament will be September 23rd in Holden, Massachusetts. We are looking for both sponsors and players. Whether the tournament is an opportunity to host clients, gain community recognition, or to work on your swing with friends, your support matters. Please spread the word and tell local businesses and your golf friends about our tournament.

[Click here](#) for more information about our tournament.

Online Auction

The auction continues to be a successful fundraiser that benefits our 4-H programming. We will be hosting the auction this year from November 1st – November 15th. We are starting to collect donations and as always appreciate your help.

[Click here](#) for more information about the auction.

Raise Your Hand

The Raise Your Hand campaign has officially kicked off and runs until May 15th. You can help by asking 4-H friends to “raise their hands” to support kids in our community. It’s an online form where they vote for Massachusetts 4-H. Our program has the opportunity to win \$5K, \$10K or \$20K.

[Click here](#) for more information about the “*raise your hand*” campaign.

Visit our website for latest foundation information: www.mass4hfoundation.org



www.mass4h.org

UMass Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer, United States Department of Agriculture cooperating. Contact your local extension office for information on disability accommodations. Contact the State Extension Director's Office if you have concerns related to discrimination at 413-545-4800 or see www.extension.umass.edu/civilrights.

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