



# UMass Extension 4-H Program

**April 22, 2022**

**Weekly NewsBlast**

The UMass Extension 4-H E-NewsBlast is sent to all UMass 4-H families and volunteers. Unless otherwise noted, all virtual programming is available to 4-H members everywhere, no matter where you live or what club or group you belong to! Check these sites and your local county Facebook page for more details and for updates to programs: <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h> and <https://www.facebook.com/Mass4H/>

*The NewsBlast will continue to be distributed weekly in April. Starting in May, the NewsBlast will be sent out on the first and third Fridays of each month (twice per month). Archived editions can be found at <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h>*

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## UMass Extension 4-H Program Safety Precautions

4-H clubs and groups are able to meet with no mask restrictions as of Wednesday, March 9. Individuals are welcome to wear masks at their own discretion and without question. Masks are recommended for individuals or anyone in their household who have a weakened immune system or an increased risk for severe illness. Individuals who are not fully vaccinated and boosted should also continue to wear masks indoors.

We encourage everyone to respect the choices that individuals will make about their own masking. The university also recognizes that COVID-19 presents a fluid public health situation, and we may need to require face coverings in the future should guidance change. Thank you for your cooperation in supporting health, safety, and wellbeing within our 4-H community.

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## 4-H Spring Spectacular

Join the fun at the 4-H Spring Spectacular on Saturday May 7 at the Plymouth County 4-H Office located at 44 Obery Street in Plymouth Mass. This free event features workshops that focus on a variety of 4-H project areas. Enrolled 4-H members ages 5-18, parents, and volunteers are all welcome to attend. Pack a lunch and beverages for the day!

Workshop topics include Agriculture and Gardening, Livestock, 4-H Fair and Festival prep, STEM. Activities, Cloverbud projects, and many more! Registration is required; go to [www.4honline.com](http://www.4honline.com). Once in the program, look for Events in the left-hand column, then click on 2022 4-H Regional Spring Spectacular.

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## Career Exploration Series

<p>May 4</p>	<p>Kevin Podkowka</p> <p>Registration link: <a href="https://bit.ly/36nGWbg">https://bit.ly/36nGWbg</a></p>	<p>Forester with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)</p> <p>Kevin became a Forester 25 years ago because he loved being outside. As a forester he has planned and supervised numerous logging operations, fought wildfires, served as a team member for major hydrologic restoration projects, worked with critically endangered species, helped build forest access roads, planned and supervised reforestation projects, planned and supervised large scale exotic vegetation control projects, and the list goes on.</p> <p>As a management forester Kevin is responsible for directing activities on state owned lands that meet the goals and objectives mandated by DCR. Log on to find out more about this and what a Forester does!</p>
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## Animal Science Programs

Contact Carrie Sears with any questions or to register for any events below at [ccsears@umext.umass.edu](mailto:ccsears@umext.umass.edu)

### Animal Science Meetings, Workshops and Contests

April 25 – Beef Workshop Zoom – 7pm

April 28 – Horse Chat Zoom – Tate Mason – 4-H Alum and Farrier -7pm

April 29 – State 4-H Horse Show Initial Zoom Meeting – 6pm

May 7 – Rabbit Workshop – The Big E, Stroh Building – West Springfield Link

[https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/2022\\_state\\_4-h\\_rabbit\\_workshop\\_1.pdf](https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/2022_state_4-h_rabbit_workshop_1.pdf)

May 25 - Horse Teams Orientation – In-Person Meeting – 7pm – Worcester County 4-H Office – Auburn

### HOLD THE DATES

June 11 – UMass Dairy Cattle Academy-**Fletcher Farm, Southampton, MA**

**Katie Coyne – Mill-Wheel Show Clinics, NY Clinician**

June 18 & 19 – UMass Exploring Veterinary Science – UMass Hadley Farm, Hadley

### UPCOMING ANIMAL SCIENCE EVENTS

#### 2022 UMass 4-H Beef Academy

New format this year. Zoom sessions will be held every Monday evening April 25 -May 16. The in-person event will happen on May 21 at the Three County Fairgrounds in Northampton, MA where you will bring your heifer or steer.

Activities will include, fitting & showmanship, team fitting contest, livestock judging and the bovine obstacle

course. Zoom session <https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/95701822598> Schedule is located on the 4-H website at

<https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/clubs-programs/animal-science-program/beef-dairy-cattle>

**Youth planning on exhibiting in the New England 4-H Beef Show must participate in the 2022 Beef Academy plus exhibit at the May Big East Show.**

Zoom Sessions: All will be held at 7pm.

April 23 – Carrie Sears - Big E 2022 – Required forms to be returned overview. **NEW**

May 2 – Steer and Heifer Nutrition

May 9 – Dr. Katie Beltaire, UMass – How to read medicine labels, Basic First Aid Kit, and animal vitals.

May 16 – Bill Collins - Ask the Chef – Simple recipes, food safety and prepping meals. **NOTE: Zoom starts at 5pm and followed by a 7pm with Chef George Nickolopoulos**



#### Rabbit Health Requirements for Massachusetts Fairs

All rabbits that are exhibited at fairs, and events in Massachusetts are required to have a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) that is issued by an accredited veterinarian. The CVI is good for the entire show season, but the fairs/events need to be listed and attached to the CVI. The CVI needs to have a permanent tattoo id or microchip id on it for each rabbit. This would include pet rabbits. Microchips are expensive but an alternative to tattoos. We are working on setting-up clinics across the state to have low-cost programs that youth can get their rabbits charted by an accredited veterinarian.

#### Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in Massachusetts – Impact on shows and events

The Massachusetts Division of Animal Health has announced that due to HPAI in our state, all rabbit events, swaps, and shows will be postponed until July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. At that time, the ban may be lifted pending review of the outbreak.

#### Important Dates for Animal Science Projects:

If you plan on showing your animal project at 4-H fairs, please note the following deadlines. All forms are located on the specific species pages.

Verification and Model Lease Forms:

Due by **May 1** to your local 4-H Office – Dairy and Beef cattle

Due by **June 1** to your local 4-H Office – Goat, Sheep, Swine, Alpaca, and Llamas

Due by June 1 to your local 4-H Office - Dog Verification Form located at <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/clubs-programs/animal-science-program/dogs>

**Beef** – If planning on showing a heifer at the New England 4-H Beef Show in September, please enter on the Big E 4-H site plus send in a copy of the Heifer Signature page to Carrie Sears. Also note, a new lease form is required by May 1<sup>st</sup>. Lease form is located on the 4-H beef page.

**Horse** – Need to complete only if you plan on showing at the New England 4-H Horse Show (Big E) in September. Please complete the Horse Verification Form located at <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/clubs-programs/animal-science-program/horses> DUE BY MAY 1st to Carrie Sears – [ccsears@umext.umass.edu](mailto:ccsears@umext.umass.edu)

### **New England 4-H Shows**

The 4-H livestock, horse and dog shows at this time will be back with the Big E Fair in September. The dorms will also be available to our delegates. Each of the species committees are reviewing their show schedules and determining the number of days the delegates will be at the fair. Right now, it looks like the 4-H shows are going to be held during their regularly scheduled weekends.

So far announced:

**Beef 4-H Show** – Friday, September 23-Monday, September 26

**4-H Horse Show** – Committee is reviewing possibly reducing the # of days. Regular schedule is Wednesday, September 21-September 25

**Dairy Goat 4-H Show** - Thursday, September 29-Saturday, October 1

**Dog 4-H Show** - Friday, September 30-Sunday, October 2

**Sheep 4-H Show** - Friday, September 30-Sunday, October 2

### **4-H Horse Shows**

Our 4-H horse shows entry books are starting to be posted on-line at <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/clubs-programs/animal-science-program/horses> under the Contest/resources tab.

Posted this week:

Norfolk County 4-H Horse Show – May 1<sup>st</sup> Entry deadline is April 25<sup>th</sup>.

The Regional 4-H Horse Show – July 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Entry deadline is June 17<sup>th</sup>.

### **Equine Career Insights**

*Insights* is a career awareness series created by the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame for middle and high school students considering work in the horse or racing industries. <https://www.racingmuseum.org/education/insights>

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## **National 4-H Conference and National 4-H Congress**

Thanks to all those who joined us for National 4-H Conference information session on April 6<sup>th</sup> to learn more about the 2022 National 4-H Congress event. Here is the schedule of when the National 4-H Congress and National 4-H Conference take place:

- National 4-H Conference – Takes place in Spring during years ending with an even number
- National 4-H Congress – Takes place in Fall during years ending with an even number

Visit the National 4-H Congress website to learn even more about this impactful experience.

[www.national4hcongress.com](http://www.national4hcongress.com)

Delegates will be selected based on the application process which is posted below or on the Events page of the 4-H website. <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/upcoming-events>

Each delegate is expected to contribute \$350 toward the cost of the experience; all remaining costs are paid by funds raised for the 4-H program by the Massachusetts 4-H Foundation. Delegates can also contact their local 4-H Educator for additional funding sources, such as advisory councils, fair boards, or other sources.

**Deadline to apply for National 4-H Congress (fall 2022) is May 20<sup>th</sup>.**

Send your application to Kim Pond

[https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/nationaltrip\\_application\\_2021.pdf](https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/nationaltrip_application_2021.pdf)

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## **4-H Dog Academy – May 14**



The UMass 4-H Dog Committee is hosting an all-day 4-H Dog Academy on Saturday, May 14th from 9AM-5PM at the Marshfield fairgrounds. This will be a fun day of learning, socializing, and working with dogs. The Dog Academy is open to all UMass 4-H members who would like to learn about showmanship, obedience, agility, dog safety, and basic training. The program will include both beginner and advanced tracks, as well as options for those that do not have a dog or do not feel comfortable bringing their dog. The cost for the day is \$25.00 and includes lunch, a t-shirt, and instruction from professional trainers. Please register in 4H Online: <https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in> under the events tab and mail a rabies certificate and check to Meg McDermott. **Please make the check payable to: MA 4-H Dog Committee**, UMass Extension, ATTN: Meg McDermott; 7 Midstate Drive Suite 102, Auburn, MA 01501

Please reach out to Meg McDermott, [memcdermott@umass.edu](mailto:memcdermott@umass.edu) or Cathy Acampora, [acampora@umass.edu](mailto:acampora@umass.edu) with any questions.

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## State 4-H Photography Contest



**PLEASE NOTE:** The Due Date for Photos was incorrect in last week's NewsBlast. We apologize! Photos must be submitted by June 17, 2022.

The UMass 4-H State 4-H Photography Contest encourages self-expression and provides youth participants to demonstrate skills learned in the area of photography, including the use of photographic equipment, the process of photography, and use of software.

Consider entering and showing your talent and skills! Entrants must be currently enrolled UMass 4-H members; a special category for Cloverbuds has been added this year!

Find all the rules and contest information on the UMass 4-H website under the Clubs and Programs tab (<https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/clubs-programs>). Be sure to scroll down the page and look under State Level Program Opportunities. All entries must be submitted by Saturday, June 17, 2022. Contact Molly Vollmer with any questions at [mvollmer@umext.umass.edu](mailto:mvollmer@umext.umass.edu)

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## Explore UMass Conference for 4-H Teens

The Explore UMass conference for enrolled UMass Extension 4-H members ages 12 through 16 will take place on June 26-28 at the UMass Amherst campus. We hope to have registration open by April 30<sup>th</sup>

We are excited to be going back to campus and the tracks for 2022 are:

- Farming in the Modern World – Exploring Agriculture
- Food Science
- Health Science & Biomechanics with the UMass Nursing program
- Veterinary Science

Explore UMass is an overnight 4-H teen conference. Participants choose from different workshop tracks, sleep in the dorms, and experience dining on campus.

The fee for this conference is being subsidized by the Massachusetts 4-H Foundation; the cost for each participant is \$100 per person.

There are a variety of scholarship sources should you need additional financial support. Reach out to your local educator to find out how to contact the advisory council or state 4-H office for more details.

Youth participants must be 12 years old by June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022 or attending grades 7-11 for the 2021-2022 school year. This year, Explore UMass is open to those enrolled in the Massachusetts 4-H program only. Contact Kim Pond with any additional questions you may have.



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## Northeast 4-H Speak Up Festival

Take your visual presentation to the next level!!! Save the date for a virtual 4-H VP event which will be held on September 10, 2022, for 4-H members ages 13-19. Registration will be open in summer 2022. More information about this exciting opportunity will be coming out soon. This event will be open to qualifying 4-H members from the entire Northeast region.

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## SET Resources

**April 22<sup>nd</sup> – Earth Day** – Check out last year's resources for the Club Challenge at <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/news/earth-day-4-h-club-challenge>

**April 25<sup>th</sup> DNA Day** – Check out our Green Genes Curriculum. <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/programs/science-engineering-technology/green-genes-genetics>

**April 29<sup>th</sup> – Arbor Day** – Happy 150<sup>th</sup> - If you were not able to make a shoebox float for the STEAM Festival, consider making one to enter in next year's event! <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/news/2022-steam-festival>



**Coming up Soon** – Stars Wars Day May 4<sup>th</sup> and Space Day May 6<sup>th</sup>. There is no specific event planned for these dates; however, any clubs interested in activities or holding a zoom on these topics should reach out to Kim Pond [kima@umass.edu](mailto:kima@umass.edu) who can hold something for you on Monday May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7pm.

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### MIT MakerLab – Webinars and Resources

The K-12 MakerLab at Massachusetts Institute of Technology Edgerton Center is offering FREE Maker webinars in April and May. Join to learn how to make easy projects with your laser cutter, 3D printer, and vinyl cutter. The people running this event are educators passionate about empowering students; they create Maker projects that can be adapted for any subject area. This series of webinars includes:

Light-Up Acrylics  
Clothespin Characters and  
Paper Lanterns.

Find more information and register: [k12maker.mit.edu/webinars](https://k12maker.mit.edu/webinars)

Interested in Making? Check their website [k12maker.mit.edu](https://k12maker.mit.edu) full of free resources for Maker educators. For news and events, go to their [newsletter](#).



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### JOANN Fabrics – a 4-H Partner

There is still time to support 4-H when you purchase items from JoAnn Fabrics online or pay via PayPal on their website. Don't forget that 4-H members and leaders can up for the JoAnn's rewards program where you can save a percentage of your purchases. Go to this link for more information: <https://www.joann.com/4-h/>



4-H and JOANN Fabric & Craft Stores are partnering to ensure every child has an equal opportunity to succeed. Through in-store donations, custom 4-H products and digital experiences, JOANN customers and 4-H supporters are helping to empower the next generation of makers to lead lives with their hearts, hands, and minds.

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### National Community Service Opportunity on Food Insecurity

Are you interested in helping with a national 4-H effort? The National 4-H GIS Leadership Team is looking for clubs interested in helping to add data to the "Where's the Food Dashboard". With the community service work and food drives our 4-H'ers are engaged with this is a great connection with a technology twist. Visit [www.wheresthefood.us](http://www.wheresthefood.us) for more information, to check out the database, and sign up to help.



The National 4-H GIS/GPS Leadership Team supports youth and adult partners, using the power of GIS to visualize data, raise awareness and spark positive change in communities. Check this website to see what the National 4-H GIS/GPS leadership team accomplished in 2020:

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/961ab016c8934afd9c77ba56782b1e4c>

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### Tractor Supply Paper Clover Campaign



NATIONAL 4-H  
COUNCIL

The 4-H and Tractor Supply Company Spring Paper Clover campaign will occur from April 27-May 8. Customers can donate \$1 and purchase a paper 4-leaf clover to support the 4-H in their state. Each state 4-H program receives 90% of the funds raised, with National 4-H Council receiving 10%. All funds are designated to be used for leadership programs only. We have been using these to help defray costs of national 4-H congress, conference, academies, and other programs.



This spring, 4-H members will be allowed back in stores to present information about their projects and the 4-H program. They are allowed to ask for donations from the public for their club. Check with Carrie Sears regarding regulations for 4-H members to bring any animals to this event. Also, be sure to inform your 4-H members to check with their local store if they wish to be present during the paper clover campaign to arrange a date and time.

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### UMass 4-H Facebook Page

Visit us at <https://www.facebook.com/Mass4H> each day to see posts about these topics:  
Monday – Healthy Lifestyles with a focus on mental health, but also exercise and nutrition

Tuesday - Deadlines, tips, record book reminders, and icebreakers

Wednesday – Animal Science and Agricultural Information

Thursday – Civic Engagement, including club officers, community service, teen leadership and clubs in the news

Friday – Science, Engineering and Technology.

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## UMass Extension 4-H Offices and Contact Information:

Contact the 4-H person you wish to meet with prior to visiting any of the 4-H offices to ensure they are scheduled to be in. Thank you.

State 4-H Office: 100 Venture Way, Suite 334; Hadley MA 01035

Linda Horn, UMass Extension 4-H Program Director – [lrhorn@umext.umass.edu](mailto:lrhorn@umext.umass.edu)

Carrie Sears, 4-H Animal Science Program Manager – [ccsears@umext.umass.edu](mailto:ccsears@umext.umass.edu)

Deb Comeau – State 4-H Administrative Assistant – [dcomeau@umext.umass.edu](mailto:dcomeau@umext.umass.edu)

Western MA: Franklin, Hampshire, Hampden, and Berkshire Counties

100 Venture Way, Suite 334; Hadley MA 01035

Angelica Paredes, 4-H Educator – [angelica@umext.umass.edu](mailto:angelica@umext.umass.edu)

Lauren DuBois, Urban 4-H Educator – [ldubois@umext.umass.edu](mailto:ldubois@umext.umass.edu)

Lizmarie Ulloa, Urban 4-H Program Assistant - [llopezortiz@umext.umass.edu](mailto:llopezortiz@umext.umass.edu)

Central and Southeastern MA: Auburn 4-H Office: 7 Midstate Drive, Suite 102; Auburn MA 01501

Bristol and Norfolk Counties:

Cynthia A. Bushey, 4-H Educator – [cabushey@umass.edu](mailto:cabushey@umass.edu)

Kim Henderson, Administrative Assistant – [khenders@umext.umass.edu](mailto:khenders@umext.umass.edu)

Worcester County:

Meg McDermott, 4-H Educator – [memcdermott@umass.edu](mailto:memcdermott@umass.edu)

Martina Jasiewicz, Administrative Assistant – [mjasiewicz@umext.umass.edu](mailto:mjasiewicz@umext.umass.edu)

State 4-H STEM Program Manager:

Kim Pond – 4-H SET Program Manager – [kima@umext.umass.edu](mailto:kima@umext.umass.edu)

Northeastern MA: Essex, Middlesex & Suffolk Counties:

UMass Mt. Ida Campus, Hallden Hall; 100 Carlson Avenue, Newton, MA 02459

VaShon Wallace-Hiltbold, Acting 4-H Educator – [vwallace@umext.umass.edu](mailto:vwallace@umext.umass.edu)

Pam LeFave, Program Assistant – [plefave@umext.umass.edu](mailto:plefave@umext.umass.edu)

Debbie Beaubien, Administrative Assistant – [debbieb@umext.umass.edu](mailto:debbieb@umext.umass.edu)

Nancy McCarthy, Program Assistant – [nmccarthy@umext.umass.edu](mailto:nmccarthy@umext.umass.edu)

Plymouth County: 44 Obery Street, Plymouth MA 02360

Molly Vollmer, 4-H Educator: [mvollmer@umext.umass.edu](mailto:mvollmer@umext.umass.edu)

Cathy Acampora, 4-H Educator: [acampora@umext.umass.edu](mailto:acampora@umext.umass.edu)

Meghan Riley, Ag Extension Educator: [mriley@plymouthcountyma.org](mailto:mriley@plymouthcountyma.org)

Tia Quinn, Administrative Assistant: [tquinn@plymouthcountyma.gov](mailto:tquinn@plymouthcountyma.gov)

Barnstable County: Box 367, Barnstable MA 02630

Sandi Shepherd-Gay, Barnstable County Youth Extension Educator:

[sandi.shepherdgay@barnstablecounty.org](mailto:sandi.shepherdgay@barnstablecounty.org)

Dawn Johnson, Administrative Assistant: [dawn.johnson@barnstablecounty.org](mailto:dawn.johnson@barnstablecounty.org)



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