



# UMass Extension 4-H Program

December 10, 2021

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/>

Look for archived NewsBlast issues at <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h>

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## 4-H Program Participation Fee Changing Soon!

4-H Program Enrollment Reminder: 4-H members can enroll any time throughout the year. However, the participation fee changes as of January 1 2022 from \$40 per person to \$80 per person for returning members. Be sure to have all paperwork and check payment postmarked by or entered online by December 31 2021 to still be eligible for the lower rate. Any member may send in a check to their local 4-H office (written out to UMass 4-H Program) or pay by credit card at our secure portal (<https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/membership-payment>). Remember, full and half waivers are available through December 31. Half waivers will be available after that time. New members will continue to pay the \$40 participation fee after Dec 31.

Tips for Re-enrolling in 4-H Online:

If you are a *returning member*, here are some tips when using 4honline to complete your paperwork

(<https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>)

- Use Google Chrome or Safari not internet explorer
- Be sure your email is current! If it has changed you need to update it in 4honline. Need help, or forgot your password? Reach out to Kim Pond for assistance.
- Be sure to update your health form, club and project information and click through until you hit final "submit" button. You will get an automated response your re-enrollment was submitted so you know it went through and ready for the office to approve.
- Find resources and tips for using 4honline at <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/about/4h-online>
- For Payment: When you are In 4honline please select "Non-Electronic" payment and proceed to the end regardless of payment method. You will then be directed on where to mail your check or pay by credit card. You do not pay directly to 4honline, but instead pay at the 4-H portal <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/membership-payment>

Be sure to go online to re-register soon, as 4-H offices will be closed December 27 through January 3. Many 4-H events and programs occur at the beginning of the new calendar year and in order to participate you need to be fully enrolled! Stay informed and be ready to sign up for winter workshops, visuals, STEAM Festival and much more.

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## 4-H Dog Project Clinic

Remember to save the date of January 23, 2022 for the statewide 4-H dog project handling clinic! This is open to all 4-H members interested in working with their dogs in social settings and improving their skills with some basic training. The event will take place at the Pack of Paws Training Facility, 26 Trolley Crossing Road in Charlton MA from 10am-4PM. There will be beginner, intermediate, and advanced tracks to choose from. Stay tuned for registration information. Reach out to Meg McDermott or Cathy Acampora for more information.

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## UMass 4-H Babysitter's INSTRUCTOR training

The UMass Extension 4-H Program will be training adults to become Babysitter Program Facilitators. Adults who are currently screened UMass Extension 4-H volunteers can choose to be a facilitator by attending one of the trainings being held by Zoom on January 11 at either the 10 AM - noon, or 6:30-8:30 PM. To register go to <https://bit.ly/2ZQpDfE>

This training is only open to currently registered 4-H volunteers and to public librarians. Those who have been trained in the past need to attend as some information has changed. Those who complete the training will work with local 4-H educators to schedule and deliver programming.

## Upcoming National 4-H Summit Opportunities for Teens:

**National 4-H Agriscience Summit in Bethesda, MD:** The National 4-H Agriscience Summit in Bethesda, MD (right outside of Washington D.C) will take place on March 10-13, 2022. Teams from across the county will attend workshops, develop local plans/project and interact with industry professionals and develop the skills and knowledge needed for the challenges facing agriculture, food security, and sustainability. High School teens interested in the opportunity are encouraged to apply by January 7th, 2022 to Carrie Chickering-Sears [ccsears@umass.edu](mailto:ccsears@umass.edu) Applications can be found at <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/clubs-programs/leadership>

### **National 4-H Conference in Washington D.C.** March 19-24, 2022

Participants in National 4-H Conference work together in the four weeks prior to the conference to prepare briefings on important topics. During the conference, delegates will virtually present their prepared briefings to federal officials in Washington, D.C. Delegates also participate in workshops that increase their knowledge, resources, and skills while discussing topics affecting youth and 4-H programming nationwide. There will also be time to make appointments on Capitol Hill with their Congressional delegation. Delegates not only learn while at the conference: they are empowered to create positive social change in their communities and have the opportunity to practice and apply their skills in a real-world setting. Applications are found at <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/clubs-programs/leadership> and are due to Kim Pond ([kima@umass.edu](mailto:kima@umass.edu)) by January 7, 2021.

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### **Animal Science Programs**

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

December 16<sup>th</sup> – 7pm Horse Chat (Zoom)

December 19<sup>th</sup> – 11am MA 4-H Calf Sale & Clinics – Ag Office – Big E Fairgrounds

### **Rabbit Workshop Returns in 2022!**

The 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Massachusetts 4-H Workshop is scheduled for January 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield, MA in the Farm-A-Rama Building. The Massachusetts 4-H Rabbit Advisory is pleased to offer this event in-person with quality workshops and presenters. Watch for the details in December.

### **Animal Biosecurity**

People who raise animals are not the only ones who need to be concerned about diseases that can easily spread between humans and animals. These types of diseases are called zoonotic diseases, and anyone who encounters animals could be at risk. The best way to prevent the spread of zoonotic diseases is by having and using a plan that reduces the risk of disease transmission. This is known as biosecurity and it is an important step to making sure people and animals remain healthy. Michigan State University updated their site with resources that can be used by leaders, youth and fair staff.

Learn more information at these links:

(Zoonotic Diseases) [https://www.canr.msu.edu/animal\\_science/zoonotic-disease](https://www.canr.msu.edu/animal_science/zoonotic-disease)

(Fair & Exhibition Toolkit) <https://www.canr.msu.edu/fair-and-exhibition-animal-health/>

(One day Shows) <https://www.canr.msu.edu/fair-and-exhibition-animal-health/one-day-livestock-jackpot-and-pop-up-shows>

### **Horse Chat**

**December 16<sup>th</sup> at 7pm via Zoom.** The topic will be Equine Careers with Kara Waldron-Murray. Feel free to pass this information along to your county advisory members, parents and members. Meeting Link - <https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/99176056546>

### **Save the Date!**

Zoom on December 27<sup>th</sup> at 7pm - Gabe Brown is a nationally recognized rancher that has his own marketing brand of beef and a leading expert on the regeneration of pastures. He goes all over the world speaking on this topic and he has agreed to spend time with us. His website is <http://brownsranch.us/> Mr. Brown runs a 5000 acre operation, direct markets his beef plus farm tours and speaking engagements. Please email Carrie if you would like to participate at [ccsears@umext.umass.edu](mailto:ccsears@umext.umass.edu)

### **Career AGsperience Program**

Unlock the Mysteries and Learn the Untold Secrets of Preparing for a Successful Career. Explore: Planning, Resume Development Internship Acquisition, Interviewing Skills Business Etiquette, Agriculture Related Careers and Beyond. Open to any youth between 13-18 years old. This is a FREE program and will be held on January 12 – February 16, 2022 (Wednesday evenings) at 6:30-7:45pm. REGISTER

at [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdguolQyPXu2NMMyKpkfX3ln1a1hUoknd2wFYJGwaYuSAKC\\_Tw/formResponse](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdguolQyPXu2NMMyKpkfX3ln1a1hUoknd2wFYJGwaYuSAKC_Tw/formResponse)

### **New Hampshire Dairy Goat Seminar-39<sup>th</sup> Annual NH Farm, Forest & Garden Expo**

*Fencing Options for Small Ruminants – Saturday, February 5, 2022 10:30-12:00pm*

Double Tree by Hilton Manchester Downtown, 700 Elm Street - Manchester, NH. This will be held in the meeting room in the main lobby area. The meeting will include the following:

- 10:30 a.m. ADGA District #1 Meeting Phil Cassette, Second Vice President, American Dairy Goat Association (ADGA); Tom Cox, ADGA President; and District #1 Director, Lorene Toth
- 11:00 a.m. "Fencing Options for Small Ruminants-Dave Kennard, Wellscroft Fencing, Harrisville, NH

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### **UMass 4-H Community Service-Learning**

Let us know about your club's community service efforts so far this fall by taking a moment to fill out this quick survey: <https://bit.ly/3ITcpXL>. Be sure to join the kickoff for the next phase of the UMass 4-H Community Service-Learning initiative! The kickoff will take place on Tuesday, January 18, 2022, at 7:00 PM, via Zoom. The theme of the next initiative is Food Insecurity. The kickoff will include a speaker on the subject of food insecurity, along with information on how you & your club can make a difference. To join us for this kickoff, register at: <https://bit.ly/3rsIrl06>

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### **Hold the Date – Western Mass 4-H Winter Workshops**

The Western Mass 4-H Volunteer & Youth Winter Workshops will be held on Saturday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at Hopkins Academy in Hadley. This is planned as an in-person event; however we will continue to monitor the COVID numbers and may need to reschedule or hold the workshop virtually if necessary.

Workshop topics are wide-ranging, and will include Careers in the Animal Science Field, The 4-H World, An Introduction to Ozobots, Bunny 101, Poultry, 3-D Printing, What's Your Personality? and Quilting. Registration forms will be available next week to all enrolled volunteers and youth.

All 4-H program and UMass protocols for events during COVID will be in place, including wearing masks at this event. Thank you for helping to keep our 4-H community safe and healthy!

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### **Western Mass Teen Leaders Wanted!**

Teen members from all over Western Massachusetts meet on Zoom once a month to plan the 80<sup>th</sup> annual Berkshire Youth Fair! You may wonder why you might want to be part of this if you do not live in the Berkshires!

1. Unlike other fairs, this fair board is all teens!
2. It's an amazing leadership opportunity
3. After being a member for only 2 years you become eligible to apply for a \$500 scholarship. The scholarship can be used towards any post high school education (college, trade school, certificate program).
4. It is the oldest, continually run For Youth, By Youth fair in the U.S. (only paused due to the pandemic & gathering restrictions)
5. It is a great opportunity to be part of a one-day fair in August.

If you want more information about the group, contact Tom at [waskiewicz@umext.umass.edu](mailto:waskiewicz@umext.umass.edu). The next meeting will be held on Monday, January 31, 2022, 7:00 PM via Zoom.

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### **Career Exploration Series**

The UMass 4-H CES program will be back on January 19, 2022. We are gearing up to cover careers that deal with bugs, food, people, oceans, and more! If you have a suggestion for either an individual or a career you would be interested in, email Angelica and let her know at [adiaz@umass.edu](mailto:adiaz@umass.edu)

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### **Safety Measures and precautions**

UMass Extension 4-H continues to ask for your cooperation by wearing masks in any UMass building, including 4-H offices. In addition adult volunteers and youth members need to wear masks at any 4-H indoor club meetings or events. COVID guidance can change daily; following daily guidance of the CDC and UMass 4-H when holding 4-H club meetings is required. See below for more details. Thank you for helping to keep our 4-H members safe and healthy!

- Any 4-H club meetings or events held indoors: Masks must be worn by all participants and adults. All CDC/health guidance must be followed regarding social distancing at the time of the event or meeting.
  - Any 4-H club meeting or event involving youth under 12: Masks must be worn by all participants and adults. Youth must be socially distanced according to CDC guidelines at the time of the meeting or event.
  - Any outdoor 4-H club meetings or event: Masks must be worn by all participants and adults if youth under 12 are present. Youth must be socially distanced according to CDC guidelines at the time of the meeting or event.
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## UMass Extension 4-H Offices and Contact Information:

Please note that not all offices are staffed daily. Should you plan to visit one of the 4-H offices, be sure to call first to be sure that the office will be open. 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  
Tom Waskiewicz, 4-H Educator – [waskiewicz@umext.umass.edu](mailto:waskiewicz@umext.umass.edu)  
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 Lopez Ortiz, 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:

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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