



# UMass Extension 4-H Program

July 1, 2022

Email 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/>

Archived editions can be found at <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h>. The NewsBlast is sent to family emails unless specific requests are made.

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## 4-H Financial Reports

Each year, every registered 4-H club and group must submit a financial report to UMass 4-H by August 1 to their local 4-H office. All accounts (checking, savings, CD's, investment accounts, etc.) and an accounting of all income and expenses is also included. Even groups with no finances must submit a form. The financial form has been revised this year – your local office will be contacting you within the next week to send your group the new form. All 4-H clubs, councils, and fair boards are required to submit their financial accounting. Groups will not be able to re-enroll in the fall if the accounting has not been received and approved.

Your local 4-H office will submit any IRS 990-N forms for each club with assets less than \$50,000. All groups and committees with more than that amount are required to complete the IRS Form 990 EZ and provide proof of filing to their local 4-H office.

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## 4-H Volunteer Serv-Safe Training

UMass Extension 4-H will be hosting a ServSafe training at the Auburn office on **Tuesday, August 2, 2022 from 9AM-1:30PM**. The training will be conducted by a certified trainer from Barnstable County Extension. Those attending are required to study prior to attending. There will be a review session and exam on August 2, 2022.

The August 2 session is free; however the required instruction book is \$70.00. Half of the book cost will be reimbursed by the 4-H Foundation. Instructions will be provided for this at the training. There is a potential that your county Fair board or Advisory council may cover the remainder of the cost. It will be up to each person to reach out to their local council or board.

This is first come, first serve, with only 15 seats available. Please respond to Meg McDermott at [memcdermott@umass.edu](mailto:memcdermott@umass.edu) by June 30<sup>th</sup> if you wish to attend or with questions. In your email, please indicate whether you are taking the exam for the first time OR if you are being re-certified. Meg will reach out to confirm your spot and send the link to purchase the book or recertification answer sheet.

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## Scholarship Opportunities

Several scholarship application deadlines are approaching! Find opportunities at this site: <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/youth/awards-scholarships>

**The Big E Morris Scholarship** – due postmarked by August 1. This scholarship opportunity is open to a UMass 4-H member who has been an active participant in UMass sponsored 4-H shows or activities at the Big E for at least one year. The completed Application packet must be postmarked by August 1 to be considered. Completed applications are sent to the State 4-H office. See more at [https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/big\\_e\\_morris\\_scholarship\\_2021.pdf](https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/big_e_morris_scholarship_2021.pdf)

**Connie Agrella Scholarship** - Due postmarked July 31. This \$500 scholarship is given to a Bristol County 4-H member in their senior year of high school or currently enrolled in an institution of higher learning. The applicant must be an active member of the Bristol County 4-H program for at least 3 years. For additional information see [https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/connie\\_agrella\\_scholarship\\_information\\_and\\_application.pdf](https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/connie_agrella_scholarship_information_and_application.pdf)

**Scott S. Robinson 4-H Scholarship** - Due postmarked August 19. This \$500 scholarship is for 4-H Members who have been active in Berkshire County 4-H for at least three years and is awarded by the Robinson family. View more details at [https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/berkshire\\_county\\_scott\\_s\\_robinson\\_4-h\\_scholarship\\_0.pdf](https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/berkshire_county_scott_s_robinson_4-h_scholarship_0.pdf)

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### Manna Pro & 4-H Calling All Champions Photo Contest 2022

A new photography contest sponsored by National 4-H and Manna Pro!

Manna Pro & 4-H are happy to present our 2022 photo contest! Enter your photo of you in your 4-H shirt or other 4-H gear showing you and your animal for a chance to win your local 4-H program a \$1000 donation from Manna Pro on your behalf and the chance to win \$100 worth of Manna Pro Products for yourself. Manna Pro will also be donating \$10 per photo submission to National 4-H Council with a guaranteed donation of \$50,000, so be sure all your friends are aware of this fun and exciting contest where the winner will be selected from a random drawing, they won't want to miss out!

They encourage high-quality photos of you and your animals, and this contest is open to both current 4-H'ers and 4-H alumni! We look forward to your submissions and best of luck! Go to <https://companapetbrands.wishpondpages.com/sweepstakes/>

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### Want to help shape the new 4-H Records?



4-H staff have been working this year to redesign the records forms and processes and now *we need your help!* We are recruiting a group of members, parents, and volunteers to help us pilot the new forms this year before we roll them out to everyone.

If you would like to use these new forms for your records this year and agree to give us feedback on how well they work, please fill out this form to sign up to participate: <https://forms.office.com/r/D6kHhAAZJW>

**Deadline to register: July 8th. Each individual must register separately, even if they are from the same club or family.**

#### What will we ask of you?

We are asking participants to be available for three Zoom meetings on Wednesday evenings (July 13<sup>th</sup>, August 17<sup>th</sup>, September 14<sup>th</sup>), and for an optional pilot-completion party to be held in October (date TBD).

At each meeting, we will introduce a new set of forms and give instructions on how to use them. You will be asked to use the forms and give feedback about them at the following meeting and through completion of a short survey. The commitment from you involves **three meetings, four short surveys, and agreement to complete and submit at least one project record.**

#### What will you get out of this experience?

In return for your participation, you will get focused attention and support from 4-H educators in helping you complete your 2022 4-H records. You will also be instrumental in finalizing the look, feel, usability, and instructions for the new records program. In addition, we intend to throw a records-turn-in celebration for all participants!

#### Are you the right person for the job?

**Yes!** We are looking for participants who have never before completed records and those who have completed them for years. You may participate if you have already started your records for this year, or if you have been slow to get started. If you are a parent or volunteer, we will ask you to join the meetings and provide feedback about how the process went for your club members and children as well as your experiences while supporting the youth.

Have questions? Contact Cynthia Bushey at [cabushey@umext.umass.edu](mailto:cabushey@umext.umass.edu)

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### Upcoming Western Mass 4-H Events

Be part of these events or just come for a fun day out! For more information contact Angelica Paredes.

#### Hampshire County 4-H Fair

- Saturday, July 9, 9-4
- Cummington Fairgrounds, Cummington, MA
- Link: <https://bit.ly/3tE6kBM>

### Hampden County 4-H/Youth Fair (including Model Horse Show)

- Saturday, July 23, 9-5
- Eastern States Exhibition's Mallary Complex, Springfield, MA
- Link: <https://bit.ly/3Hutj87>

### Franklin County 4-H & Open Horse Show

- Saturday, July 30, 9 AM start (Secretary's Booth open at 8 AM)
- Apple Creek Farm, [850 Old Wendell Rd., Northfield, MA](#)
- Link: <https://bit.ly/3OdqWsx>

### Berkshire 4-H Fun Day & Youth Fair – 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

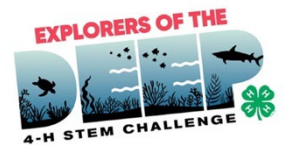
- Open to all youth 5-18
- Saturday, August 20
- Berkshire 4-H Fairgrounds, Pittsfield, MA
- Register to be emailed the book directly! Link: <https://bit.ly/3xWzxuq>

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## 2022 National 4-H STEM Challenge

### NEW 4-H STEM CHALLENGE COMING this Fall – Explorers of the Deep

Each year, National 4-H teams up with a land grant university to create the annual 4-H STEM Challenge Kit. Watch for Explorers of the Deep this fall! This kit will be packaged for use by 6 youth with the ability to just add on additional easy to find items to accommodate larger groups.



In late September, each 4-H office will have some kits available for clubs or families to sign out and use. This is a fun and exciting way to kick off the new 4-H year, to use with a special program or event, as a fun winter activity, or perhaps to use as a challenge. Maybe some VP's will be inspired from using this kit! Although these are not yet available for purchase, check the shop4h website if you are interested in obtaining your own kit.

Get a jump start and find out more about the kit by reading below. Check out the Rutgers University challenge lab at <https://rucool.marine.rutgers.edu/>

In **Explorers of the Deep** 4-H youth learn foundational STEM skills while they wrestle with the same questions as today's top oceanographers and scientists! Activities can be done all at once or individually, making it great for classrooms, afterschool programs, clubs, parents and more.

In **Ocean Robot Test Tank**, get your ocean robot ready for a research mission! Youth learn how to "ballast" their ocean robot by adding weights to create the sinking and floating behavior of a real ocean robot. Investigate data collected by ocean robots and learn about the value of ocean exploration.

In **Ocean Expedition**, play an ocean-inspired board game and navigate your ocean robot around the world while learning key ocean concepts such as aquaculture, climate change, technological innovation, human impact on the ocean ecosystem.

As an **Ocean Communicator**, investigate challenges that ocean scientists, engineers and technologists are currently exploring. Each challenge requires innovations and technical solutions that inspire public action.

Great opportunity to collaborate with your local library this Fall as the summer library theme for 2022 is "Oceans of Possibilities" or local afterschool program with Lights on Afterschool October 20<sup>th</sup>

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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)

### Three Tips to Prepare for the Fair



Help your child get the most out of 4-H shows and fair with these tips:  
Nurture sparks  
Model good behavior  
Remember the big picture  
<https://extension.illinois.edu/.../2022-06-22-3-tips-help...>

## The Big E



The Big E is a multi-state agricultural exposition and fair representing all six New England States. There are many commercial exhibits, a midway, and entertainment. But did you know that there are many ways 4-H members are able to participate at the Big E?

**4-H Day at the Big E** – Eastern States Exposition celebrates both 4-H and FFA on September 17, the first Saturday of the fair. The state 4-H office receives a limited number of tickets to give out to registered 4-H members and registered 4-H volunteers to attend for free on that day! Remember, there is a limited quantity; tickets are only available to registered 4-H participants and registered volunteers. Contact Martina Jasiewicz at [mjasiewicz@umext.umass.edu](mailto:mjasiewicz@umext.umass.edu) to request tickets.

**4-H at the New England Center – September 16 & 17** – 4-H members who qualified through the 4-H visual presentation program are invited to give their speeches or illustrated talks and conduct interactive action exhibits in the New England Center during these two days.

**4-H Livestock and Animal Shows** – Through a variety of qualifying contests and events, 4-H members ages 12 and above may qualify to showcase their animals and their showmanship skills at one of these events throughout the Big E.

- Dairy Cattle 4-H Show – Thursday, September 15-Sunday, September 18
- Beef 4-H Show – Friday, September 23-Monday, September 26
- 4-H Horse Show – Thursday, September 22-September 25
- Dairy Goat 4-H Show - Thursday, September 29-Saturday, October 1
- Dog 4-H Show - Friday, September 30-Sunday, October 2\*\* See article below!
- Sheep 4-H Show - Friday, September 30-Sunday, October 2

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### WEEKLY STEM CHALLENGE – Bird Identification

Thanks to our friends at the University of Illinois Extension 4-H Program for providing these activities online!

Try a new project or area of interest this summer. Get outdoors and observe the birds around you. (Backyard, neighborhood or park). There are many ways you can get involved to learn about birds and have some fun!

- Take pictures and pick your favorite to put in your local fair.
- Plant something in your yard to support birds: (Habitat, shelter or food).
- Research a bird topic like beaks, species... and make a poster/display.
- Use materials you have and make a 3-D sculpture (STEAM Festival 2023).
- Create an online game (with Kahoots), bingo board, or another item
- Make your own BINGO cards and play a game with your friends.
  - Bird species
  - Bird signs like nest, footprints in sand...

See more at <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/sites/4h.extension.illinois.edu/files/IL%204-H%20Bird%20Identification%20Challenge%20Details.pdf>

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This summer, bring the 4-H camp experience to your backyard with Virtual 4-H Camp. Explore nature, wildlife and even have a campfire sing-along. Choose from activities where you can learn about pollinators, classify animals, track signs of wildlife explore your environment, grow a variety of plants, and more. Explore all of these free activities at <https://4-h.org/about/4-h-at-home/virtual-camp>

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### Summer Photo Scavenger Hunt

The weather is warmer, the days are longer, and there is so much to see! Similar to last summer, we are going to give you prompts in the bi-weekly News Blast. Photos (without names) will be posted on the Mass 4-H Facebook page, local pages, and may even make the News Blast!



## Rules:

1. NO PEOPLE in the photos. We do not have the ability to get photo releases from everyone!
2. Submit a max of 2 pictures per prompt per person.
3. Have fun.

Prompt - CITIZENSHIP

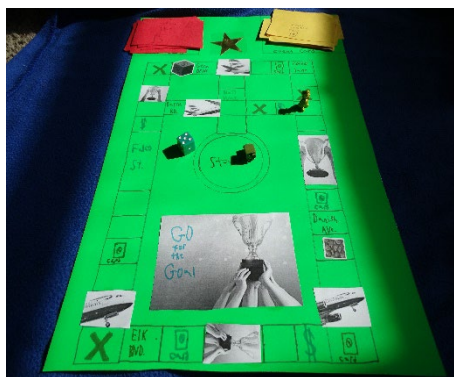
Deadline: July 8

Submit: Email photos to [vwallace@umass.edu](mailto:vwallace@umass.edu) with "Summer Photos" in the subject line. This will allow us to search and find entries that may go in spam.

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## 4-H Game Design Challenge

School is out for the summer and fairs are coming up so how about making your own game to enter in the fair, practice and submit to the 2023 UMass 4-H STEAM FESTIVAL. Below is a photo of a past winning design.



Iteration 1: An idea is born

Iteration 2: The Games Begin:

Iteration 3: There are games afoot

Iteration 4: To market, to market

### READY, SET, DESIGN- Iteration 1:

During this phase, your goal is to come up with an idea for a new game. The game can be a board game, a card game, or a dice game (or a combination of the three). During the first iteration, your goal is to come up with the concept of your game. Does your game have a storyline? What age is it for? Who would like to play your game? How many people can play it at once?

Is it a competitive game or a cooperative game? What is the logic behind your game? The game can be as simple or as complicated as you would like it to

be. Requirements for iteration 1: In order to get your new game off of the ground, you need to make a pitch to the game company to get the backing you need to design and produce your game. To do so, you need to create a pitch, a design sheet, and a business card.

**The Pitch** should be 3 to 5 sentences, written as if you were selling your game to a publisher. It should be a Quick synopsis hook on why they should publish your game. Provide enough information to a publisher to get you in the door to having them look at your game as a possible product in their line. This is a short elevator pitch, with key facts and the hook of what makes it special. This is not the time to explain all of the rules. You are giving an overview of the game, so the publisher can figure out if they would like to get more details. During the pitch you give the publisher a sell sheet. You can either send your pitch in writing, or share it in a 20-30 second video.

**The Sell Sheet** is a one-page advertisement for your game. This is a flyer that shows the publisher why your game is special. It should be an artistic version of your elevator pitch. Make something that will catch the eye of your publisher and future customers.

**The Business Card** will tell the publisher a little more about who you are. You can put your personality into this! The card can be either business card or index card size for this challenge.

For more information or all the steps now contact Kim Pond [kima@umass.edu](mailto:kima@umass.edu) and watch for a future game meet-up for people to share/ask questions. Feel free to check in or share any and all of your steps/iterations for feedback and giveaways.

**Games and computational thinking** <https://www.facebook.com/MA4HSET/videos/542963933308267/>

To learn more about the **UMass 4-H STEAM Festival** and some sample game designs visit:

[https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/news/pdf/steam\\_festival\\_2021.pdf](https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/news/pdf/steam_festival_2021.pdf)

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## Statewide 4-H Community Service theme 3, Climate Change is underway, May to August

### What is happening? How can we be part of the solution?

We were privileged to have postdoctoral researcher, Dr. Justin Gay, <https://justingay802.wixsite.com/justin-gay-ecology>, and PhD student Shealyn Malone, <https://entomology.wisc.edu/directory/shealyn-malone/> join on our information session June 15. Both of these scientists are conducting research on climate change at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Below please find some resources shared by the presenters that can provide insight into what is known based on scientific research. In addition, there are links to resources that can provide ideas to engage and support this theme individually, in your club, and in your county.

- Videos modeling planet warming
    - “A Year In the Life of the World’s CO2”: [NASA + CO2 Video](#)
    - “Global Warming from 1880-2021”: [Warming video](#)
  - U.S. Climate Resilient Toolkit: <https://toolkit.climate.gov/>
  - USDA + UFS Climate Change Resource Center: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/ccrc/education/managing-change>
  - World Resource Institute: <https://www.wri.org/insights/ipcc-report-2022-mitigation-climate-change>
  - World Resource Institute podcase on the new IPCC report on climate change: <https://soundcloud.com/world-resources-institute/big-ideas-into-action-49-the-ipcc-reports-on-climate-change>
  - Natural resource defense council blog on how to start a career in the climate space: <https://www.nrdc.org/stories/where-start-if-you-want-career-climate-space>
  - Climate Change resources and links to support local opportunities: <https://bit.ly/ClimateChangeLocalActionResources>
  - United Nations: Ten Impactful Climate Actions: <https://bit.ly/TenImpactfulClimateActions>
  - Vermont Energy Education Program: <https://bit.ly/VermontEnergyEducationProgram>
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### UMass Extension 4-H Program Safety Precautions

4-H clubs and groups are able to meet with no mask restrictions at this time. 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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### 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, State 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@umext.umass.edu](mailto:cabushey@umext.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, Miller Hall; 100 Carlson Avenue, Newton, MA 02459  
 Heather Thibodeau, 4-H Educator – [hthibodeau@umass.edu](mailto:hthibodeau@umass.edu)  
 VaShon Wallace-Hiltbold, 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)

Laura Notarangelo, Administrative Assistant: [laura.notarangelo@barnstablecounty.org](mailto:laura.notarangelo@barnstablecounty.org)



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