



UMass Extension 4-H Program

July 10, 2021

Weekly NewsBlast

The UMass Extension 4-H E-NewsBlast is sent to all 4-H families and volunteers in Massachusetts. 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/>

Pen Pal Project

Have you ever corresponded with someone in another state? Are you curious about other places? Sign up for this program that is sponsored by a collaboration of UMass 4-H and six other states!

Meet a 4-H member from another state and get to know them, learn about their state, and be part of a Zoom "Meet Up" during National 4-H Week (October 3-9, 2021).



DEADLINE to Register is this Monday! July 13, 2021 at this link:
https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/Multi_State_4H_Pen_Pal_Sign_Up_237 .

For more information contact either Cathy Acampora, acampora@umass.edu or Angelica Paredes, angelica@umext.umass.edu .

The Second Annual Massachusetts 4-H Virtual Fair



Entries are now open through July 31, 2021 with the results announced on August 9th at 7pm. Some new classes are offered this year. You can enter your items in both the virtual and in-person fairs. The entry book and entry instructions are located on the MA 4-H website at <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/events/second-annual-massachusetts-4-h-virtual-state-fair> . Results of the fair will be announced on August 9th at 7pm.

NEW CHALLENGE CLASSES: Summer of Science Model, Club Earth Day Challenge, Code your Walk, Cardboard Arcade Game, Bird or Tree Model, or Mission Patch or Flag

PHOTOGRAPHY CHALLENGE – for the fun of it!

Take part in this new summer challenge! Each week a new photography challenge will be issued in the NewsBlast! Your mission, if you should choose to accept it, is to take a photo based on that week's challenge and submit it by the following Wednesday. Photos will be featured in future NewsBlasts, state 4-H Facebook posts, and wherever we can brag about our amazing 4-H members! Up to 2 photos can be submitted each week per person – we know that it can be difficult to choose, but we know you can do it!

One BIG rule – no pictures of people. This is to avoid any issue with photo releases so that we can share the pictures.

This week's challenge: WATER
Submit photo(s) taken by: Wednesday, July 14
Submit photo(s) to: ywallace@umext.umass.edu

Please Note: This summer photography challenge does not replace the annual state photography contest

Global Citizen Program
Speak live with teens and young adults from other parts of the world!

Join this 4-H virtual program and explore the world! Visit all of the continents, meet people from different countries, learn travel information and become a better global citizen. What's it like to be a teenager in Kenya? Do you wear school uniforms in Brazil? How do you say "Good Morning" in Chinese? This program is for youth ages 12-18. Register at this link: <https://bit.ly/2Tx4rrt>. Contact Angelica Paredes for more details or information.



ANIMAL SCIENCE

Contact Carrie Sears with any questions or to register for any of the events below at ccsears@umext.umass.edu

Zoom Meetings & Workshops

July 14 – 7pm - New England 4-H Horse Delegates Meeting

Premise ID's

Youth interested in showing dairy and beef cattle need to have a premise id before ordering their RFID tags. First step is to contact Carry Shulock Sexton at The MA Division of Animal Health – Carry.shulock-sexton@mass.gov, or call 857-348-3922. Carry will assign you a premise id which you will need before you order your RFID tags for your cattle. RFID tags are becoming a requirement some of the larger shows in the state and throughout the country. It is a way to track the movement of the animal if sold or exhibited at fairs. RFID tags can be ordered from your respective breed associations. Important - you must have the 840 number on the electronic button tag. Please remember this when ordering. If you have any questions, please contact Carrie Sears at ccsears@umext.umass.edu

Poultry Testing For Shows

The MA Poultry Inspectors can now go into the field to test poultry for shows. Families should contact the MA Dept. of Animal Health – Poultry Testing- Megan Megrath at Megan.Megrath@mass.gov or phone 617-626-1798

The Big E – September 17-October 3, 2021

The Big E is looking for 4-H livestock demos at the fair on the weekends that the 4-H livestock shows have been held in the past years. Dairy – September 18 & 19, Beef – September 25 & 26 (Steer show and sale will be held at this time), Sheep & Goats – October 1. If you are interested in participating, please contact Carrie Sears for further details at ccsears@umext.umass.edu

Massachusetts 4-H Dairy Show

Open to enrolled 4-H youth ages 11-18 as of Jan 1st, 2021. The show is August 6-8 at the Franklin County Fairgrounds in Greenfield, MA. The Entry Book is on-line at https://aq.umass.edu/sites/aq.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/2021_ma_4-h_show_entry_book.pdf Youth will participate in quiz bowl, judging, grilled cheese and milk shake contests as well as dairy showmanship and breed classes. For further information, please contact Carrie Sears at ccsears@umext.umass.edu

Animal U from Iowa State:

This innovative online learning tool to engage kids in learning about the science behind livestock production. Explore 85+ lessons in beef, swine, and careers that youth may access at any time!
<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/animalu/>

Survey for UMass 4-H Career Exploration Series

Do you have a career you would like to see presented about? Let us know! The link for the survey (3 questions) is: <https://bit.ly/3695cdr>

Career Exploration Series

<p>July 21</p>	<p>Kerry Henry</p> <p>Registration Link: https://bit.ly/3vi0uVK</p>	<p align="center">Kerwin (Kerry) Henry Head Miller, Ardent Mill, Ayer, MA</p> <p>Have you ever wondered how the flour you bake with ends up in your kitchen? Kerry Henry is the Head Miller at Ardent Mills in Ayer, MA, where he helps to get it there! Originally from Vermont, Kerry started in millwrighting and traveled throughout New England working on feed mill equipment. After moving to Ayer, MA with his family, Kerry worked his way up at the mill in that town for more than a decade. Every day at the mill is different, but the main goal remains the same: getting everything you can out of the wheat kernels that are dropped off by rail and truck. Different parts of that wheat kernel become things you see all the time, like your kitchen flour and feed for animals. Some of Kerry's main tasks are running the mill smoothly to make as much product as possible, making sure everyone remains safe, and maintaining food safety through activities such as audits and sanitation protocols.</p>
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FAIRS

UMass 4-H fairs will occur throughout the summer, offering 4-H members many opportunities to show what they have learned in their project areas. For most of these fairs, all registered Massachusetts 4-H members are welcome to enter classes. However, be sure to check with the contact person listed below to obtain a link to the fair entry book and before entering your projects!

Not entering items in a fair? Be sure to visit at least one and get some ideas for what you might participate in during the next 4-H year!

Fair and Date(s)	Open to all MA 4-H members	Location	Contact Person
Barnstable Fair – July 19-25	Yes, and open youth	Cape Cod Fairgrounds, Falmouth	Sandi Shepherd-Gay
Hampden Co 4-H Fair - July 24	Yes	Big E Fairgrounds	Tom Waskiewicz
The New England Summer 4-H Fair at Eastern States Exposition - July 26-29	Youth registrations deadlines have passed	Eastern States Exposition 1305 Memorial Avenue West Springfield MA	Carrie Sears
MA State 4-H Dairy Show August 6-8	Yes	Franklin Co Fairgrounds	Carrie Sears
Hampshire Co 4-H Fair August 14	Yes	Cumington Fairgrounds	Tom Waskiewicz
Marshfield Fair August 20-29	Open to all New England 4-H members and open youth Still being determined	Marshfield Fairgrounds	Molly Vollmer
Middlesex Co 4-H Fair August 28&29		Middlesex County Fairgrounds	Pam LeFave
Worcester County 4-H Fair August 28	Yes	Barre, Mass	Meg McDermott
East Middleboro 4-H Fair September 4&5	Yes	E Middleboro 4-H clubhouse; Thompson St, Middleboro	Molly Vollmer
Topsfield Fair October 1-11	There are 4-H classes; check with contact person	Topsfield Fairgrounds, Essex	Nancy McCarthy

4-H Day at the Big E - Saturday, September 18, 2021



Come to the Big E for a day of fun and learning. Visit the state buildings, take a ride at the carnival and view the many sights and sounds only found at the Big E! Visit Mallary Arena and the New England Center to meet 4-H members from our state or other New England states. The Big E provides complimentary tickets to enrolled 4-H members and volunteers for 4-H Day. Quantities are limited. Tickets are distributed on a first-come, first-served basis, so be sure to get your order in early.

The deadline to order 4-H Day tickets is August 13.

Please complete this order form at

https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/2021_4-h_day_at_the_big_e_ticket_order_form.pdf

Submit this form to Deb Comeau by email to: dcomeau@umext.umass.edu By mail to: MA 4-H Youth Development Program, 100 Venture Way, Suite 334, Hadley, MA 01035-9462

State 4-H Community Service Project

This summer and early fall, all 4-H members are invited to join in a statewide effort to support youth and families in transition. Unfortunately, social services doesn't have the financial means to purchase suitcases to pack a child's belongings before being brought to a foster home. If the child does not have any donated duffel bags/suitcases, social services must use trash bags for a foster child's belongings. Moving is a stressful enough time, but then to have all of his/her belongings placed into trash bags often places a feeling of emptiness on the child. For a foster child who frequently moves from home to home, having an item to keep along the way can make them feel at home, which is important when coping with intense emotions.

There are two ways you can participate in this short-term project:

1. You can collect gently-used suitcases for the Foster Program.
2. You can make a unique pillowcase for a foster child. To the children, these are more than pillowcases. For this project, you will receive simple and fun instructions for creating your own whimsical pillowcase.

For ease and efficiency, there will be several drop-off points for you to bring your suitcases and/or pillowcases. Please note the dates and locations. If these dates/times are not convenient for you, please email Tom at waskiewicz@umext.umass.edu

Drop-off dates are coming-up soon!

July 24	Hampden County 4-H Fair	Big E Fairgrounds, W. Springfield
August 14	Hampshire County 4-H Fair	Cummington Fairgrounds
August 28-29	Middlesex County 4-H Fair	Westford
August 28-29	E. Middleboro 4-H Fair	Middleboro
August 26-27, 11-6PM	Worcester County 4-H Fair	Barre

To register for participation and to receive your pillowcase pattern and instructions, email Tom at waskiewicz@umext.umass.edu by July 20th.

4-H At Home

Be sure to visit <https://4-h.org/about/4-h-at-home/> often! Activities and projects are always changing on this site throughout the year. This week, fine Activity guides that contain over 100 activities focusing on STEM, crafting and more. Also find Food Fun – Craft Your Own Food and activities for an at-home Virtual 4-H Camp and Solar Oven Smores. Some of the projects you make can be entered in 4-H fairs this summer. Have fun exploring!

2021 4-H STEM Challenge



Designed by Clemson University, the 2021 4-H STEM Challenge, Galactic Quest, focuses on the mysteries and adventures of space exploration. Kids learn foundational STEM skills while they wrestle with the same questions as today's top aerospace scientists and engineers! Activities can be done all at once or individually, making it great for classrooms, afterschool programs, clubs, parents and more. Visit this website <https://4-h.org/parents/4-h-stem-challenge/> to learn more about this hands-on event and watch for more Massachusetts 4-H STEM Challenge events! Kits will be available at www.shop4h as well as through you 4-H office in the near future.

Astro Adventure

This unplugged board game promotes teamwork as kids gather the resources needed to live and work in deep space.

Stellar Optics

In this offline activity, kids build a telescope and learn about physics and light and how telescopes have been used to explore space.

Cosmic Claw

Kids work hands-on to engineer a mechanical arm that works to harvest crops in space.

Cyber Satellite

In this computer science activity, kids learn about cyber security and decoding to stay safe from obstacles in orbit.

"Space: the 4-H Frontier" Lifted Off Last Week!

Contact Kim Pond at kima@umext.umass.edu for more details.

This program is broken down into 3 main stages:

- Training Academy: Prepare for space
- Are You ready? Aerospace Adventures
- SPACE Explorer
- Mission Control/Debrief

These activities are great to use with a 4-H group, at home with your children or in any other program with youth. The activities are designed for youth 8 and older and excite participants for this Fall's 2021 STEM Challenge: Galactic Quest. If you were unable to join us in July, but would like to use the program later contact Kim Pond at kima@umext.umass.edu for more details.

UMass Extension 4-H Offices and Contact Information:

The 4-H Program is operating remotely; we are available to answer questions. It is best to reach out to your local office by email. Phone numbers are available at the 4-H Website at <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/about/office-locations-contacts>

State 4-H Office: Linda Horn, Interim Director lrhorn@umext.umass.edu

Carrie Sears, 4-H Animal Science Program Manager – ccsears@umext.umass.edu

Kim Pond – 4-H SET Program Manager – kima@umext.umass.edu

Deb Comeau – State 4-H Administrative Assistant – dcomeau@umext.umass.edu

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

Tom Waskiewicz, 4-H Educator – waskiewicz@umext.umass.edu
Angelica Paredes, 4-H Educator – angelica@umext.umass.edu
Lauren DuBois, Urban 4-H Educator – ldubois@umext.umass.edu
Lizmarie Lopez Ortiz, Urban 4-H Program Assistant - llopezortiz@umext.umass.edu

Southeastern MA (Bristol and Norfolk):

Cynthia A. Bushey, 4-H Educator – cabushey@umass.edu
Kim Henderson, Administrative Assistant – khenders@umext.umass.edu

Central MA (Worcester County):

Meg McDermott, 4-H Educator – memcdermott@umass.edu
Martina Jasiewicz, Administrative Assistant – mjasiewicz@umext.umass.edu

Northeastern MA (Essex, Middlesex, Suffolk):

VaShon Wallace-Hiltbold, Acting 4-H Educator – vwallace@umext.umass.edu
Pam LeFave, Program Assistant – plefave@umext.umass.edu
Debbie Beaubien, Administrative Assistant – debbieb@umext.umass.edu
Nancy McCarthy, Program Assistant – nmccarthy@umext.umass.edu

Plymouth County:

Molly Vollmer, 4-H Educator: mvollmer@umext.umass.edu
Cathy Acampora, 4-H Educator: acampora@umext.umass.edu
Tia Quinn, Administrative Assistant: tquinn@plymouthcountyma.gov

Barnstable County:

Sandi Shepherd-Gay, Barnstable County Youth Extension Educator:
sandi.shepherdgay@barnstablecounty.org
Dawn Johnson, Administrative Assistant: dawn.johnson@barnstablecounty.org



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