



UMass Extension 4-H Program

June 17, 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.

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

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

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

Explore UMass Conference for 4-H Teens

Explore UMass will now be held as a one day in-person event. Registration is open to 4-H members from Massachusetts and neighboring states. This one day conference will be held on Monday, June 27 from 10AM – 4PM at the UMass Amherst campus.

Participants must be fully enrolled 4-H members who are at least 12 years old or attending grades 7-11 for the 2022-2023 school year. Participants can choose from two workshop tracks:

- Food Science (Capacity of 13 participants)
- Veterinary Science/Farming (Capacity of 27 participants)

Schedule (subject to change)

- 9:45 am: Participant Registration at Ag Learning Center
- (911 N Pleasant St, Amherst, MA 01002)
- 10 am: Welcome, introductions, name game icebreaker
- 10:15 am: Separate into tracks and walk to assigned track.
- 10:30 am: Tracks begin
- 12:30 pm: Walk to Lunch at Dining commons
- 1:15 pm: Re-group with your track participants and walk back to track
- 1:30 pm: Tracks resume
- 3:30 pm: Tracks end, walk back to Ag Learning Center
- 3:45- 4:00 pm: Pick up and sign-out, see Lauren DuBois for dinner tickets if you plan on going on a campus tour that starts at 4 pm and ends at the dining commons for dinner at 5 pm.

Registration: Massachusetts 4-H members may register through 4-H online. Cost is \$25 for the conference plus lunch; or \$50 for the conference, lunch and dinner for the participant and a parent. For more details about registration and to obtain your packet with directions for the campus location, contact Lauren DuBois at ldubois@umass.edu

Want to help shape the new 4-H Records?



4-H staff have been working this year to redesign UMass 4-H 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>

What will we ask of you?

We are asking participants to be available for three Zoom meetings on Wednesday evenings (July 13th, August 17th, September 14th), 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,*
- *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 as well as those who have completed them for years. You may participate if you have already started your records for this year, or if you have not yet started them. If you are a parent or 4-H volunteer, we ask for you to join the meetings and provide feedback about how the process went for your club members as well as your experiences while supporting the youth.

Have questions? Contact Cynthia Bushey at the email listed below.

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.

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 – 80th 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/3xWzxug>
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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.

4-H Club Grant Opportunity

The Massachusetts 4-H Foundation is pleased to be able to provide club grants to enrolled 4-H clubs and programs in Massachusetts. Grants are available for clubs' special projects or needs which support the 4-H educational program and 4-H priorities.

Grants are not awarded for travel expenses, community service projects, tee shirts, etc. The amount of each grant awarded will be based on the merit of the project and the number of people served. **Clubs with 4 - 8 members will qualify for up to \$100, 9 to 15 members up to \$300, over 15 members up to \$500. This criteria is effective 10/1/21. Clubs are eligible for one grant per calendar year.**

Grants will be awarded quarterly. Applications will be reviewed on March 31, **June 30**, September 30 and December 31. If all allocated funds are awarded before the end of the calendar year, applicants will be notified and invited to resubmit their requests the following year. Please contact Kathy Harvey-Ellis, Marketing & Communications Associate, with any questions: kellis@mass4hfoundation.org. To review the application or submit one, go to <https://form.jotform.com/61925692127158>

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 by June 30th 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 the purchase the book or recertification answer sheet.

Animal Science Programs

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

Animal Science Meetings and Workshops

June 22 – State 4-H Horse Show Planning Meeting Zoom – 7:00pm

June 23 – Regional 4-H Horse Meeting – Three County Fairgrounds, Northampton – 6:30pm

June 23 - State 4-H Dairy Advisory Committee Zoom – 7:00pm

Verification Forms

Horse – Need to complete only if you plan on showing at the New England 4-H Horse Show (Big E) in September. Please contact Carrie Sears at ccsears@umext.umass.edu

State 4-H Dairy Show

The State 4-H Dairy Show is being held on August 5-7 at the Franklin County Fairgrounds in Greenfield. Registration is now on-line at https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/2022_state_4h_dairy_entry_book_0.pdf Youth ages 11-18 as of January 1st, 2022 are eligible to attend. **This is the qualifying show for youth who would like to attend the New England 4-H Dairy Show at the Big E in September.** Deadline for early entries is postmarked by July 15.

New England 4-H Shows

The 4-H livestock, horse and dog shows 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.

Announced as of now:

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

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:

The Regional 4-H Horse Show – July 1st-3rd Open to NE 4-H youth and 4-H alumni

The State 4-H Horse Show is returning on July 15th -17th at the Topsfield Fairgrounds in Topsfield, MA.

NEW – Middlesex 4-H Horse Series – Throughout the summer. Entry book located at <https://4hmiddlesexhac.org/>

Horse Show Exhibitors – New England Horse Show Rule Book and MA 4-H Addendum – Updated May 2022

A must read before you start showing the 4-H show circuit. Review the latest rules, what is legal show equipment, the latest horse show forms, and other horse show details so that you are up-to-date before entering the ring. <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/clubs-programs/animal-science-program/horses> Under the Program Policies and Forms section.

2022 Animal Health Requirements for Fairs & Shows

In-State Shows - https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/2022_ma_animal_health_fair_rules_0.pdf

New England Shows - https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/ne_fairs_shows_cvi_requirements_2022_0.pdf

Biosecurity for Fair Season

4-H fairs and shows will be starting soon and a good time to review biosecurity protocols especially when bringing animals to and from shows. You need to make sure that your animal is healthy before leaving for the show. Inspect your project animal(s) from nose to tail to make sure you do not find ringworm, warts or any suspicious growths. If you are not sure on the health of your animal, please reach out to your 4-H leader or contact your veterinarian. Below are some useful resources based on various species that you should review prior to leaving for a show or event.

Biosecurity Resources -

Horses - https://esc.rutgers.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/bro_keep_horses_healthy.pdf?fbclid=IwAR2vjgPzsciJViXgwPadVtcpAO-ZahjMKMiGGnBBzR_T2LzZOCzhs98g30Y

Livestock & Poultry

– [https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.aphis.usda.gov%2Fpublications%2Fanimal_health%2Fcontent%2Fprintable_version%2Ffs_bio_sec_07.pdf%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR0xH9II7LZGB0svBYtNW0DEKY1knT82unssINdOhlgSXOOilzcaFkeX3Xg&h=AT1FS0qVEbb1ztdhMauQYJex4gZB0jqPXYHkibzZnGXadWmS2t8M5eibFOspy7Cho51WA3T85dUZ_eL3zO3V2ZvZ584I0i5DAfmZoETCLnM-9AhvIOSpjuRpSPHVxSLMtw&tn=-UK-R&c\[0\]=AT3FPktWwrM7tdtO_ZuXZc9BSKkBgToM57pX2o-YhO9SI2qBx25DP54EQ3AzOoxPxoPLJEg8lqQ1LsLRxGmPpoGtDKYKZwVf94i8BYaAdFyWkx7-1bhmyhThK0cDtx9cZnljuklrSdKXFoPulXJdRQKoRD3vb1lbekYmQ7sdhAa05aGqeDsoBuRZvIR_aHJuNoLBXYt2L4qJLapN81APknuPVsEd4haFog](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.aphis.usda.gov%2Fpublications%2Fanimal_health%2Fcontent%2Fprintable_version%2Ffs_bio_sec_07.pdf%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR0xH9II7LZGB0svBYtNW0DEKY1knT82unssINdOhlgSXOOilzcaFkeX3Xg&h=AT1FS0qVEbb1ztdhMauQYJex4gZB0jqPXYHkibzZnGXadWmS2t8M5eibFOspy7Cho51WA3T85dUZ_eL3zO3V2ZvZ584I0i5DAfmZoETCLnM-9AhvIOSpjuRpSPHVxSLMtw&tn=-UK-R&c[0]=AT3FPktWwrM7tdtO_ZuXZc9BSKkBgToM57pX2o-YhO9SI2qBx25DP54EQ3AzOoxPxoPLJEg8lqQ1LsLRxGmPpoGtDKYKZwVf94i8BYaAdFyWkx7-1bhmyhThK0cDtx9cZnljuklrSdKXFoPulXJdRQKoRD3vb1lbekYmQ7sdhAa05aGqeDsoBuRZvIR_aHJuNoLBXYt2L4qJLapN81APknuPVsEd4haFog)

Rabbits

- https://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal_health/content/printable_version/fs_bio_sec_07.pdf?fbclid=IwAR0xH9II7LZGB0svBYtNW0DEKY1knT82unssINdOhlgSXOOilzcaFkeX3Xg

Canines –

<https://vet.osu.edu/sites/vet.osu.edu/files/documents/preventive-medicine/Infectious%20Disease%20in%20Dogs%20Final.pdf?fbclid=IwAR1o6gZFfsYp-8oxH3Vj4cVkbJrFIO3XKyNbJ7kKXkrkK0RONKeLaKGDlk>

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 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

State 4-H Photography Contest Deadline for submissions – Today - June 17!

Final call to send in your photos for the 4-H State 4-H Photography Contest. You can use any type of photographic equipment, from a digital camera, film, or smartphone!

What items can you capture in photos showing where you live, something about your project, or a place you visit? Enter your photos and share your skills and talents. Thirteen of the top photos will be printed and displayed at the Big E in the New England Center throughout the 17 days of the fair.

Entrants must be currently enrolled UMass 4-H members; all ages can enter! 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



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>



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>

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.

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
Carrie Sears, 4-H Animal Science Program Manager – ccsears@umext.umass.edu
Deb Comeau – State 4-H Administrative Assistant – 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
Lauren DuBois, Urban 4-H Educator – ldubois@umext.umass.edu
Lizmarie Ulloa, Urban 4-H Program Assistant - 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
Kim Henderson, Administrative Assistant – khenders@umext.umass.edu

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

State 4-H STEM Program Manager:
Kim Pond – 4-H SET Program Manager – 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 – email coming soon
VaShon Wallace-Hiltbold, 4-H Educator – vwallace@umext.umass.edu
Pam LeFave, Program Assistant – plefave@umext.umass.edu
Debbie Beaubien, Administrative Assistant – debbieb@umext.umass.edu
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