



UMass Extension 4-H Program

June 3, 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.

Lots to Plots: Congratulations to our Ag Summit Teens!

In March, two Massachusetts 4-H teen members, Hope Healy and Owen Weigel, were selected to participate in the National 4-H Agriculture Summit in Washington DC. In addition to attending exciting workshops from industry leaders, our youth were given an optional challenge to present a “Lead to Change” project that would address an agricultural issue in their state. Our two teens were excited to return home and they were joined by Sofia Black, Hope Motta and Faith Motta for this task. In late April, the group worked together to submit their presentation, the “Lots to Plots” program to a panel of judges.

Currently in Massachusetts, 40% of residents live in food deserts or are food insecure. Our teens wanted to create a program that creates a bridge for non-4-H teens to learn more about gardening and growing their own food. This program will be designed and taught by 4-H teens which will be a fantastic opportunity for them to share the knowledge that they have gained over their years in our program.

The teens did an amazing job during their presentation and had to answer some tough questions from the judges about how the program would be designed and implemented. Last week the teens were informed that their project was selected to receive a \$2,000 award! A huge congratulations to our teens and to Carrie Sears and Kim Pond for all their work to support this project. Our goal is to offer three workshops this summer into fall and then survey teens on ways that we can improve moving forward. We look forward to keeping you informed of their progress.

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 6 – Regional 4-H Horse Committee Meeting – 6:30pm – 4-H Office, Hadley

June 7 – State 4-H Horse Show Committee Meeting Zoom– 7:00pm All welcome to join. Contact Carrie for link.

June 9 – Horse Chat Zoom – 7:00pm Randy Prostak – Poisonous weeds to Equine

June 15 - State Horse Advisory Committee Zoom – 7:00pm (note later time)

Horse Chat

June 9th at 7:00pm with Randy Prostak – UMass Amherst Extension Weed Specialist

UPCOMING ANIMAL SCIENCE ACADEMY

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

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

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 Entry deadline is June 17th. Open to NE 4-H youth and 4-H alumni

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

NEW – Middlesex 4-H Horse Series – First show is June 12th – 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

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! Watch the next NewsBlast to see how you can apply to receive a ticket. Remember, there is a limited quantity and these are only available to registered members and registered volunteers.

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

Participation in the Big E Parade – The Big E is accepting applications for 4-H groups to participate with floats in the Big E parade. Walking contingents have been eliminated from the parade this year. Any 4-H club or group can apply to participate. The Big E has a committee that will review all applications. Groups can also apply to ride on the Big E trolley in the parade. This opportunity is organized and run by the Big E, not by 4-H. Learn more about the regulations and download a parade application at <https://www.thebige.com/p/entertainment/parade>. The deadline is June 10.

Career Exploration Series

The Career Exploration Series will take a summer break but will be back in September! Do you have some ideas for speakers or topics you would like to hear about? Email Angelica at angelica@umext.umass.edu

4-H Dog Project BIG E Information Session

Join this information session for the Big E 4-H Dog Program. This session is for dog project members who are 12 or older as of January 1, 2022 and are interested in finding out how to qualify as a UMass 4-H Dog Team member to the Big E. The agenda includes eligibility, dates of the Dog Program at ESE, and lodging for the weekend.



Save the date of Wednesday, June 8th for the 7PM Zoom. Email Meg McDermott memcdermott@umass.edu for link

State 4-H Photography Contest Deadline for submissions 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

Explore UMass Conference for 4-H Teens

Explore UMass teen conference is scheduled to be held on June 26-28 at the UMass Amherst campus. The deadline to enroll for this event is Wednesday, June 8!

Participants must be fully enrolled UMass Extension 4-H members who are at least 12 years old or be registered to attend grades 7-11 for the 2021-2022 school year by June 26th 2022. Contact Kim Pond with any additional questions you may have.

Tracks for this year's conference are:

- Farmers and Climate Change
- Food Science
- Health Science with the UMass Nursing program
- Veterinary Science

Each participant is responsible to pay \$100 registration; the additional fee amount is being subsidized by the Massachusetts 4-H Foundation as well as National 4-H partners, such as the Tractor Supply Paper Clover campaign. 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.

What to Expect if attending: Drop off for the conference will be on Sunday June 26 at our assigned dorm between 2 and 3 PM. Pick up to return home will be between 1:30 and 2:30 on Tuesday June 28. Those registering will receive more details, a packing list, and more when registrations are processed.

How to Register: Register through 4honline – sign in with your regular login and password. Look for the Events tab on the left.

- Select the family member you wish to register and click “Start Registration”
- Pick one session (track) and answer any questions you see
- Your health form will show; please update this document with any changes
- Select “Pay by Check”. You cannot pay through 4honline. Click Confirm
- Scroll down to see the blue “Next” button. Then click “Finish”
- You will receive an automated email about payment – this will show payment is pending

- Checks need to be made out to the Massachusetts 4-H Foundation and mailed to Kim Pond, 7 Midstate Drive Suite 102, Auburn MA 01501
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WEEKLY STEM CHALLENGE

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

This week's Challenge: Passport to the World – Design a Flag. Click on the links below for activity directions,

[Activity directions](#) (pdf)

[Instructional video](#) (YouTube)

[Flag design worksheet](#) (pdf)

Holiday Spotlight: Flag Day, June 14

Want to learn more about the flag: how it is to be displayed, proper way to fold and the meaning, raising and lowering of the flag or how to properly dispose of a flag? The American Legion Flag website has many resources.

<https://www.legion.org/flag>

Other Resources/Activities:

- Displaying the Flag with Images: <https://www.va.gov/opa/publications/celebrate/flagdisplay.pdf>
 - Flag Folding Activity: <https://extension.purdue.edu/4h/Documents/4-H%20Civic%20Engagement%20Activities/4-H%20Civic%20Engagement%20Flag%20Folding%20Activity.pdf>
 - Flag Etiquette for 4-H Meetings: <https://walworth.extension.wisc.edu/files/2011/02/Flag-Etiquette-for-4-H-Meetings.pdf>
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Gardening at Home

Learn about food, growing your own plants and herbs, and more by visiting the 4-H At Home series located here:

<https://4-h.org/about/4-h-at-home/gardening-at-home/#!/post-content>. Create a Plant Person, test out hydroponics, incorporate recycling, and beautify your yard, home or deck with a flower garden.

Download all the gardening at home activities by scrolling to the bottom of the page in the link and providing your name and email – if you are a 4-H member be sure to check with your parents before submitting your email.

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 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.

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, Hallden Hall; 100 Carlson Avenue, Newton, MA 02459

Heather Thibodeau, 4-H Educator – Starting on June 13!

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: 44 Obery Street, Plymouth MA 02360

Molly Vollmer, 4-H Educator: mvollmer@umext.umass.edu

Cathy Acampora, 4-H Educator: acampora@umext.umass.edu

Meghan Riley, Ag Extension Educator: mriley@plymouthcountyma.org

Tia Quinn, Administrative Assistant: tquinn@plymouthcountyma.gov

Barnstable County: Box 367, Barnstable MA 02630

Sandi Shepherd-Gay, Barnstable County Youth Extension Educator:

sandi.shepherdgay@barnstablecounty.org

Dawn Johnson, Administrative Assistant: dawn.johnson@barnstablecounty.org

Laura Notarangelo, Administrative Assistant: laura.notarangelo@barnstablecounty.org



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