May 28, 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/

4-H Program Opening
From Linda Horn, Interim Director UMass Extension 4-H

UMass Extension 4-H Program Reopening Guidance

The UMass Extension 4-H Program will follow the guidance and policies provided by the state of Massachusetts for Health and Safety Standards in order to inform allowable 4-H program and outreach activities. The outline below provides current guidance for 4-H club, group, and program operations.

Both the University and UMass Extension will continue to monitor state guidelines and standards. As these change, UMass Extension and 4-H will readjust any guidance and provide updates and information to volunteers and families.

1. All outdoor 4-H Extension programming is allowed to resume immediately following all relevant Massachusetts state and CDC restrictions on gathering size, distancing, masking, and eliminating communal food.

2. All indoor 4-H Extension programming and club activities will be allowed to resume June 1, 2021 following all relevant Massachusetts state and CDC restrictions on gathering size, distancing, masking, eliminating communal food etc. in coordination with next phase of state guidelines. This date is consistent with permissions currently granted by the University.

3. Currently, the Governor’s emergency protocol is scheduled to end on June 15, 2021. After that date, participation in fairs of any kind will follow state compliance guidelines. All participants will be required to follow all Massachusetts state and CDC restriction for outdoor and indoor activities. 4-H Fairs controlled by UMass 4-H, through local authorized 4-H Fair Boards and Committees, will be allowed to go forward and be held in person in compliance with all regulatory standards. All enrolled 4-H members will be allowed to participate in UMass 4-H sponsored fairs.

4. Any fairs organized or operated by groups outside of 4-H or UMass are separate from the UMass Extension 4-H Program, and not controlled, organized, or operated by UMass 4-H. Enrolled Massachusetts 4-H youth may participate as individuals or with their clubs in other Agricultural fairs or those with specific 4-H classes.

5. Participation in the New England 4-H Summer Fair, to be held on the Big E grounds, West Springfield, in July 2021 will be allowed for registered Massachusetts 4-H members. This option is available to individuals or clubs for participation. Accommodations and chaperoning of 4-H participants is the responsibility of each family or club and will not be provided by UMass Extension 4-H. 4-H educators or other staff may be present and assisting at this event but will not be able to provide oversight for youth during the event or at night.

Please know that we appreciate your efforts during this unusual year. We appreciate your patience and commitment. If you have concerns or questions about 4-H Programming or this guidance, please reach out to either one of these individuals:

Kathleen Geary, Assistant Director of CAFÉ Administration
kmgeary@umass.edu

Linda Horn, Interim 4-H Program Director
lhorn@umass.edu

Online Programs and Activities

Trash to Treasure Workshop

Trash to Treasure Tiki Torch: Make a tiki torch out of a recycled bottle. Join this virtual program on June 2nd at 7:00PM. A list of materials will be sent after registration. Sign up at https://tinyurl.com/6f7pjivev Email Cathy Acampora acampora@umext.umass.edu with questions
Are You Ready to Stay Home Alone?

Join this virtual program held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 4-5:30PM starting on June 2. Open to all youth ages 10 and older, this meet up will talk about a variety of topics including basic first aid, simple meal ideas, and ways for young people to be safe and responsible if home alone. This is a collaborative program brought to you by UMass and UConn 4-H programs. Contact VaShon Hiltpold with questions and use the following link to register: https://forms.gle/LgXJfBGCnhYdme9Z9

Summer of Science: “Space the 4-H Frontier” - July 2021

There is still time to order your kit and to sign up for the Summer of Science with 4-H and learn about Space and science using everyday materials or by purchasing a kit. The projects are designed for ages 8 and older and final products can be entered in fairs or potentially used for school projects in the future!

Teens who participate will be given the opportunity to replicate the experiments and activities during the fall! Those teens who participate and wish to replicate the program will receive a free SET Challenge Kit

- Kit – Kits must be ordered by June 1 to receive them in time for the program. There are two steps to obtain a kit
  - Email Kim Pond with your name, contact information (email and phone), mailing address, age, and club or group that you belong to.
  - Send a check for $5 for registered Massachusetts 4-H youth or $20 for all others. Fee includes all materials and the cost of mailing your kit to you! Make checks payable to the Massachusetts 4-H Foundation and mail to: Massachusetts 4-H Foundation, 1671 Worcester Road Suite 403, Framingham MA 01701. Mark the envelope ATTN: Beth Bomars.

Choose to attend optional informational sessions which will be held on Fridays in July from 10am-noon. Sessions will include tips and tricks, Q & A sessions and more. After attending each session, complete the experiments in your own time. Sessions will be recorded.

- July 2 Training Academy: Prepare for space
- July 9 Are you ready? 7 Aerospace Adventures
- July 16 SPACE Explorer
- July 23 Mission Control/Debrief

4-H FilmFest 2021

FilmFest 4-H is a national film festival for youth that are filmmakers, visual artists, aspiring actors, and those that are just interested in meeting other creative people. FilmFest helps youth become producers, not just consumers, of digital media. The FilmFest will take place on August 7-8 online, via Canvas and Zoom.

Imagination, fun and curiosity are essential! Cameras, smart phones and mobile devices are strictly encouraged. Courtesy and creativity are always in style. All Massachusetts 4-H members are encouraged to submit videos!

New this year at FilmFest: Screenwriting competition!

In addition to traditional youth film submission categories, this year entries are welcome in the category of youth-created screenplays! More information about the category rules and guidelines can be found on the website below. Keep checking for updates and registration details, https://extension.missouri.edu/programs/missouri-4-h/4-h-projects-opportunities/4-h-opportunities/4-h-filmfest

Felting and Wool Crafts

Do you enjoy felting or other wool crafts? Then you might really enjoy this free resource available to download! This resource provides information about wool and spinning, weaving, knitting and more! The link will take you to the download site.

https://harrisville.com/products/woolworks-curriculum-guide-grades-3-8

Enrollment Deadline to Participate in 4-H Fairs

Individuals can join the Massachusetts 4-H program at any time throughout the year; there are no deadlines for joining. The date to have a completed enrollment submitted to your local 4-H office in has been updated. Membership enrollment paperwork and fees must be submitted by June 11.

Those who complete membership or are new members after June 11 are still allowed to join and to become 4-H members, of course! However, anyone completing membership after June 11 may not enter items in the Massachusetts 4-H fairs. Verification forms are still due by June 1. See the Animal Science Information in the NewsBlast for more details. Contact your local 4-H office if you need help completing your enrollment.

National 4-H Congress
November 26-30 2021

UMass 4-H Extension is planning to have a delegation of teens who can attend National 4-H Congress in person. We are able to add a few more teens to join the three delegates who are already selected from the cancelled event in 2020. This is a very short window of time to
Applications are due by June 14th, 2021. Each person selected as a delegate is expected to contribute $300 toward the cost of the experience; all remaining costs are paid by the Massachusetts 4-H Foundation.

What is National 4-H Congress?
National 4-H Congress has served as the flagship event of the 4-H program for over 90 years. Congress provides youth ages 15-18 a quality educational and cross-cultural experience that exceeds what any state independently provides. It is designed to address the needs and issues of youth while helping to develop capable, competent and caring citizens. For more information visit www.national4hcongress.com. This also will be a historic event to celebrate the 100th year of National 4-H Congress. To apply, you must submit a resume packet electronically at mass4hteens@gmail.com.

Your Application Packet must include (single sided only with a font size of 12 point or larger):
• A cover letter
• A resume (1 page preferred, 2 pages maximum)
• Your 4-H Story (double spaced, 5 page maximum)
• A completed 4-H Experience Sheet – This is not your 4-H Summary Sheet in your records.

The 4-H Experience Sheet answers these 4 questions on a separate sheet of paper
1. Briefly describe the leadership experiences that you have had in the 4-H program and through other organizations/school.
2. Why do you feel it is important to develop communication skills?
3. How will you apply your leadership experiences/skills to benefit the 4-H program in the next 2 years?
4. Discuss any Community Service work that you have done and how it has impacted you and/or your community.
• Two written references and can be emailed (1 from a 4-H affiliated person, 1 from non-4-H: these cannot be relatives).

In addition, you may include up to 5 pages of supplemental materials presented in a professional manner. Please avoid duplicating materials:

Resumes are a great way to categorize your work by skills and listing awards. A resume is meant to be a short synopsis of your 4-H activities and accomplishments. Your 4-H story and 4-H Experience Sheet is a way to let the judges know how your projects and experiences have had an impact on you or elaborate on your experiences in more detail. For additional information about the cover letter and resume, see the information under Resume Guidelines, found in the Communications Program section of the Massachusetts 4-H website.

Careers Exploration Series

Register at this link: https://bit.ly/3xrG4ed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>June 2</th>
<th>Scott D. Tingle</th>
<th>Astronaut NASA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPECIAL Program!</td>
<td>Celebrating the One-Year Anniversary of the Career Exploration Series!</td>
<td>Scott D. Tingle was selected by NASA in 2009. Raised in Randolph, Massachusetts, he earned a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Southeastern Massachusetts University, and a Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana. Following graduate school, Captain Tingle spent three years with the Aerospace Corporation, El Segundo, California, as a member of technical staff in their Propulsion Department. He was commissioned as a naval officer in 1991. Tingle most recently served as Flight Engineer on the International Space Station for Expedition 54/55. Register for this program at <a href="https://bit.ly/3bIKELR">https://bit.ly/3bIKELR</a></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>June 16</th>
<th>Lindsey Larson</th>
<th>Economist - World Bank</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lindsey is an Economist in the Agriculture and Food Global Practice at the World Bank. In this role, she oversees a portfolio of projects that address environmental sustainability, rural livelihoods, and food security. This includes serving as the Deputy Program Manager of FOLUR, a $300 million program covering 27 countries and 8 agricultural commodities. Before the World Bank, she worked for over a decade with conservation nonprofits. Lindsey holds a BA from Dartmouth College in Environmental Studies, a Master of Environmental Management from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, and an MBA from the Yale School of Management. A 4-H alum, she raised prize-winning dahlias and poultry as a member of the Flora, Fauna and Feathers club in Essex County, MA.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 7</td>
<td>Sara Schilling</td>
<td>Dancer</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sara has been competing professionally in dance since 2006 and has been a dance instructor for over 18 years. She and her partner, Evgueni Chaoulski, have had tremendous success in worldwide competitions, and continue to achieve even more, having a highly successful studio in Enfield, CT – EdanSe Company and Ballroom. Currently, they compete in the 10-dance divisions (International Ballroom and Latin styles), representing Canada. Sara and Evgueni are honored to have had the opportunity to compete at the World Championships, not once, but 9 times! Tokyo, Japan in 2009; Kiev, Ukraine in 2010; Gatineau, Canada in 2011; Valleyfield, Canada in 2012; Valleyfield, Canada in 2013; Innsbruck, Austria in 2014; Moscow, Russia in 2015; and in Penang, Malaysia in 2018. They were also crowned Canadian 10-Dance Champions in 2010 and have been consistently Canadian National Finalists. She holds her Licentiate degree in Standard and her Licentiate degree in Latin. Sara is a proud coach of UConn, UMass, Wesleyan University, Trinity College, and Team EdanSe Ballroom Teams. She judges all over the East Coast at collegiate competitions such as MIT, Harvard, Brown University and many more. Sara prides herself in teaching high quality lessons while striving to learning fun and inspiring.</td>
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Sara grew up wanting to ride horses, which her parents said would only happen if she learned about them through 4-H. The 4-H program proved to play a giant role in her life. Sara was part of the Mansfield Trottin’ Tribe, and the Uncle Remus Gang. She was president of the Uncle Remus Gang, showing rabbits. She showed horses, rabbits, dogs, and loved the activities building in the Tolland County 4-H Fair. She was Vice President for Tolland County 4-H Fair and helped to oversee all the exhibits in that building. She was Homemaker of the Year 3 years in a row and showed over 50 items ranging from cooking to horses. As an adult, she wanted to give her riding students the same teaching she had, so she started her own 4-H club called Stable Mates. Stable Mates even ran their own horse show! As Sara loved horses, she also began ballroom dancing. As dancing got bigger, she was pulled in 2 directions. With winter being hard for horse activities, and dancing professionally is an opportunity only for a short time frame, she decided to focus on her ballroom dancing for the time being. She still does equine work for 2 local families and is an equine wellness consultant for Yucc’ It Up Equine Supplements. She also began a side embroidery business that has grown by leaps and bounds, bringing back fond memories of her Homemaker of the Year days.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>July 21</th>
<th>Kerry Henry</th>
<th>Kerwin (Kerry) Henry</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Head Miller, Ardent Mill, Ayer, MA</td>
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<td></td>
<td>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 millweighting 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.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Zoom Meetings &amp; Workshops</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 1 – State 4-H Dairy Meeting – 7:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 2 – State 4-H Horse Advisory – 6:30pm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**The June 1st deadline for Verification Forms is fast approaching!**

If you have your project animal(s) selected and own or lease, you can start completing your Verification Form available on our website on each of the species’ page. You will only do on animals that you plan to show. Please return the completed form to your respective 4-H office, June 1st for sheep, goats, alpacas, llamas and swine. [https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-docppt/ma_4-h_animal_verification_form_3.pdf](https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-docppt/ma_4-h_animal_verification_form_3.pdf) Youth will receive a signed-off copy from their county office to keep with their project animal registration papers and veterinarian health charts for fairs.

**NEW – Dog Verification Form**

June 1st is the deadline to submit your Dog Verification Form on your project dog (owned or leased) to your county 4-H office. Please submit your form to your county 4-H office. The form is at [https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-docppt/2021_dog_verification_form.pdf](https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-docppt/2021_dog_verification_form.pdf)

**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

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**ANIMAL SCIENCE**

Contact Carrie Sears to register or with questions at ccsears@umext.umass.edu
The New England 4-H Summer Fair – July 26-29, 2021

To be held at Eastern States Exposition Fairgrounds, 1305 Memorial Avenue, West Springfield, MA

This is a new fair for youth to participate in July. It is similar to the former New England 4-H Show held in September in that youth ages 12 (as of January 1st, 2021) -18 years of age are eligible to apply. It has been created to give youth the opportunity to meet and compete with other 4-H youth from across New England, showcasing their livestock, horse and dog projects. The fair will be different from the past Big E 4-H animal competitions in that youth will not be housed overnight in the Moses Dorms. This year, parents, guardians and parent assigned chaperones will be in-charge of the youth. Youth will check-in and check-out daily with their parent or assigned chaperone. Each show will have assigned night volunteers to watch the animals in the evening. There will be available for a fee on the grounds camper and tent spaces. Youth may also stay in hotels.

The fair will not have any entry fees. The Big E will provide for the youth and designated volunteers their meals while at the show. Also, provided by the Big E will be the animal bedding. Youth will need to provide their own animal feed. **So how do I apply?**

First, take a look at the show packet for the project animal you plan on showing at https://www.thebige.com/p/competitions/4-h/packets. DO NOT ENTER YOUR ANIMAL UNTIL YOU ARE NOTIFIED. See below each project animal’s requirements.

Each species will have their own selection criteria set-up by their respective committee plus the youth must have a Verification Form on file. You will email Carrie Sears ccsears@umext.umass.edu of your interest in showing dairy, horse, goats, sheep and working steers. For the dog show, contact Meg McDermott memcdermott@umass.edu

**Requirements**

**Beef Cattle** – Entry Deadline has passed.

Dairy Cattle – Youth will notify Carrie Sears by June 7th and animals will be selected by designated volunteers. (limit one animal per youth and 35 animals total for the state).

Dogs – Youth will notify Meg McDermott of their interest by June 11th. The youth will have an evaluation done with their club leader.

Goats – Youth will notify Carrie Sears by June 7th. Youth must have 2+ years of 4-H goat project work. Youth will be selected with leader’s input.

Sheep – Youth will notify Carrie Sears by June 7th. Youth will be selected with leader’s input.

**Working Steer** – Youth will notify Carrie Sears by June 7th. Youth will be selected with leader’s input.

Horse – Youth will notify Carrie Sears by June 11th of their interest in participating. Submit a Verification Form to Carrie Sears by June 18th – Form is at https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/ma_4-h_animal_verification_form_5.pdf Youth will be selected with leader’s input.

**Junior Leaders:**

There are also junior leader positions available for most of the shows which is an option for youth who do not plan on showing an animal but would like to assist with the show. Notify Carrie Sears on the livestock and horse shows. Meg McDermott on the dog show.

Zoom orientations will be set-up prior to the show to go over rules and answer any questions for each of the species. Watch for dates and times.

**2021 4-H SUMMER DAILY SCHEDULE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)**

**SUNDAY, JULY 25**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00-10:00am</td>
<td>4-H Dog Arrival</td>
<td>Mallary East North End</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00-2:00pm</td>
<td>Youth Working Steer Arrival</td>
<td>Mallary North</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00-5:00pm</td>
<td>4-H Horse Committee Camper Arrival Available</td>
<td>Mallary East North End</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00-8:00pm</td>
<td>4-H Dog Activities</td>
<td>Mallary East (Ring 2)</td>
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**MONDAY, JULY 26**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Youth Working Steer Teamsters Meeting</td>
<td>Mallary North</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00am-12:00pm</td>
<td>4-H Dog Activities</td>
<td>Mallary East (Ring 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am-12:00pm</td>
<td>Youth Working Steer Showmanship</td>
<td>Mallary North</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am-2:00pm</td>
<td>4-H Beef Arrival</td>
<td>Mallary West South End</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00pm-2:00pm</td>
<td>4-H Dog Departure</td>
<td>Mallary East North End</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00pm-6:00pm</td>
<td>Youth Working Steer Cart</td>
<td>Mallary North</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8am</td>
<td>By 4pm</td>
<td>Mallary West North End</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00-6:00pm</td>
<td>4-H Dairy Goat Arrival</td>
<td>Mallary East North End</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30pm-4:30pm</td>
<td>4-H Beef Orientation</td>
<td>Mallary West</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00pm-6:30pm</td>
<td>4-H Beef Judging Contest</td>
<td>Mallary West</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00pm-7:00pm</td>
<td>4-H Dairy Orientation</td>
<td>Mallary West</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00pm</td>
<td>4-H Dairy Goat Milk Out</td>
<td>Mallary East (Ring 2)</td>
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**TUESDAY, JULY 27**

- **7:00am** 4-H Dairy Goat Milk Out  
  Mallary East (Ring 2)
- **7:00am-10:00am** 4-H Dairy Goat Arrival Continued  
  Mallary East North End
- **8:00am-1:00pm** 4-H Horse Arrival  
  C Barn
- **8:00am-1:00pm** Youth Working Steer Drag & Awards  
  Mallary North
- **8:30am-** 4-H Dairy Goat Showmanship  
  Mallary East (Ring 2)
- **9:00am-11:00am** 4-H Beef Marketing Contest  
  Mallary West
- **1:00pm-4:00pm** 4-H Beef Showmanship  
  Mallary North
- **2:00pm-3:00pm** Youth Working Steer Departure  
  Mallary North
- **2:00pm-6:00pm** 4-H Horse Show  
  Coliseum
- **3:00pm-5:00pm** 4-H Dairy Clipping Contest  
  Mallary West
- **4:00pm-6:00pm** 4-H Sheep Arrival  
  Mallary East South End
- **4:00pm-6:00pm** 4-H Dairy Goat Jr Doe Show  
  Mallary East (Ring 2)
- **5:00pm-8:00pm** 4-H Beef Cooking Contest  
  Mallary Rotunda
- **6:00pm-8:00pm** 4-H Horse Committee Set Up  
  Coliseum & Paddock N
- **7:00pm** 4-H Dairy Goat Milk Out  
  Mallary East (Ring 2)
- **7:00pm-8:00pm** 4-H Dairy Goat Jr Doe Departure  
  Mallary East North End

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 28**

- **7:00am-6:00pm** 4-H Horse Show  
  Coliseum & Paddock N
- **8:00am-2:00pm** 4-H Beef Type & Steer Show  
  Mallary North
- **8:00am-3:00pm** 4-H Dairy Goat Sr. & Un-Reg. Doe Show  
  Mallary East (Ring 2)
- **2:00pm-7:00pm** 4-H Dairy Type Show  
  Mallary North
- **4:00pm** 4-H Beef Records  
  Mallary
- **4:00pm** 4-H Dairy Goat Awards  
  Mallary East (Ring 2)
- **5:00pm-6:00pm** 4-H Dairy Goat Departure  
  Mallary East North End
- **6:00pm** 4-H Horse Non Gymkhana & Liberty Departure  
  C Barn
- **6:30pm-10:00pm** 4-H Horse Gymkhana & Liberty Arrival  
  C Barn

**THURSDAY, JULY 29**

- **8:00am-11:00am** 4-H Beef Skill-A-Thon  
  Mallary West
- **8:00am-1:00pm** 4-H Horse Gymkhana & Liberty Show  
  Coliseum
- **9:00am-1:00pm** 4-H Dairy Showmanship  
  Mallary North
- **1:00pm** 4-H Dairy Awards  
  Mallary North
- **1:00pm-2:00pm** 4-H Beef Awards  
  Mallary West
- **1:30pm** 4-H Horse Departure  
  C Barn
- **2:00pm-4:00pm** 4-H Dairy Departure  
  Mallary East North End
- **2:30-5:00pm** 4-H Beef Departure  
  Mallary West South End

**Memorial Day Weekend**

The UMass Extension 4-H Program wishes all 4-H members, volunteers, and families a Happy and Safe Memorial Day weekend. Here is some information about Memorial Day from The History Channel site. Learn more by visiting [https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/memorial-day-history](https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/memorial-day-history)

“Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Memorial Day 2021 will occur on Monday, May 31.

Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971. Many Americans observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries or memorials, holding family gatherings and participating in parades. Unofficially, it marks the beginning of the summer season.”

**4-H Office Contacts:**

The 4-H Program is operating, and we are available to answer questions. All 4-H staff is currently working remotely so 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](https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/about/office-locations-contacts)

State 4-H Office:  
Linda Horn, Interim 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)  
Kim Pond – 4-H SET Program Manager – [kima@umext.umass.edu](mailto:kima@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):  
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