



UMass Extension 4-H Program

April 14, 2023

Upcoming 4-H Calendar of Events

Date	Title	Time & Location	Registration Information
4/23	Goat Showing Clinic	Marshfield Fairgrounds 2:00-5:00 PM	4honline
4/24	Western Regional 4-H Horse Committee	Zoom 7:00 PM	
4/26	State 4-H Horse Advisory	Zoom 7:00 PM	
4/26	State Horse Show Committee	Zoom to follow State HAC	
4/28	State Horse Teams Orientation Meeting	Worcester County 4-H Office, Auburn, 7:00 PM	
4/29	Spring Spectacular	Middlesex County Fairgrounds	
5/12- 5/14	UMass 4-H Dog Academy	Camp Farley	
5/13	MA 4-H Goat Workshop	Erin DeCoste's Farm Lancaster	
5/15	4-H Discovery Club Meeting	Zoom 7:00 PM	New Interest Link
5/20- 5/21	MA 4-H Dairy & Beef Academy	Three County Fairgrounds, Northampton, MA	
6/3	Franklin County 4-H Horse Show	Craig Memorial Equestrian Center, 470 Long Plain Rd. Leverett, MA	Fair Book
6/24- 6/25	State 4-H Horse Show	Three County Fairgrounds, Northampton, MA	Show Book
6/25- 6/27	Explore UMass	UMass Amherst	Coming soon!
7/22	Hampden County Fair	ESE, Mallory Building West Springfield, MA	
7/28- 7/30	Worcester County 4-H Fair	Spencer Fairgrounds	
8/4- 8/6	MA State 4-H Dairy Show	Franklin County Fairgrounds, Greenfield	
9/8- 9/10	Western Regional 4-H Horse Show	Three County Fairgrounds in Northampton, MA	

Approaching Deadlines

Event/Application	Deadline	Link or Contact Info
4-H Camp Middlesex Barnyard Counselor	until filled	4-H Camp Middlesex Application
Plymouth County Goat Showing Clinic	4/20	4honline
Verification forms due: Dairy Cattle, Beef Cattle, and Working Steers	5/1	Livestock Verification Form, Livestock Lease Form, Beef Lease Form
UMass 4-H Goat Workshop	5/5	Goat Workshop Registration
Franklin County Fair Entries Due	5/20	Fair Book & Registration
Verification forms due: Goat, Sheep, Llama, Alpaca and Swine, Dog	6/1	Livestock Verification Form, Livestock Lease Form, Dog Verification Form
Worcester County 4-H Fair Class Entries Due	7/3	memcdermott@umass.edu

Get Involved!

Spring Spectacular

Learn about 4-H from 4-Hers, and more... The Middlesex Advisory Council (MAC) is hosting their second annual Spring Spectacular on **April 29th, 2023 at the Middlesex County Fairgrounds** located at 55 S. Chelmsford Rd. Westford, MA. This event will raise money to support the MAC 4-H Scholarship Program.

Come and check out baby animals, 4-H member presentations and demonstrations, cake walks, live entertainment and craft vendors (some vendors may accept multiple payment methods)! Grab some food and your whole family and join us for a full day of fun and memory-making! **Admission:** \$5 per person \$20 per family (cash only)

Join the City Nature Challenge!



The UMass Amherst Libraries are pleased to coordinate efforts for Western Massachusetts's participation in the eighth annual City Nature Challenge (CNC), from Friday, April 28, to Monday, May 8.

The global event calls on current and aspiring community scientists, nature and science fans and people of all ages and educational backgrounds to observe and submit photographic or audio evidence of wild plants, animals and fungi using the free mobile app, [iNaturalist](#), from April 28-May 1. Identification of photographed species will be crowdsourced through the online community from May 2-7, with results announced on May 8.

For more information, visit: <https://www.umass.edu/news/article/umass-amherst-libraries-bring-city-nature-challenge-western-massachusetts>

Explore UMass!

Explore UMass is an overnight program held on the UMass Amherst Campus for UMass Extension 4-H Members entering grades 7-11 (or equivalent for homeschoolers) in the 2023-2024 school year. Our popular tracks of Food Science, Veterinary Science, and Nursing will be back, and we are also developing a fourth track, new this year! Registration will open in 4honline in early May. Save the dates and watch for more details in the coming weeks!

Worcester County 4-H Fair

Worcester County 4-H Fair has a new location! We will hold this year's fair at the Spencer Fairgrounds **Friday, July 28th - Sunday, July 30th**. The 4-H fair is **open to all counties and all Massachusetts 4-H members**. Families are welcome to spend the weekend in campers or tents; camper hookups are available.

A schedule will be posted soon, and the Premium Book will be available May 15th. Class entries are due Monday, July 3rd and can be mailed to the Auburn Extension Office. Please [contact Meg McDermott](#) for more information.

Hampden County Fair

Save the date for the 70th Anniversary of the Hampden County 4-H Fair at the Mallary Complex at the Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield, MA on July 22nd. Stay tuned for details!

Animal Science Programs & Updates

Goat Showing Clinic

Plymouth County 4-H Alumni are hosting a Goat Showing Clinic on Sunday, April 23rd from 2:00 – 5:00 PM at the Marshfield Fairgrounds in Marshfield. UMass Extension 4-H members can register via 4-H Online. Registration ends 4/20/23. Contact [Cheryl Mechan](#) with questions via email or phone: (774) 404-7020.

UMass 4-H Goat Workshop

Registration is now open for the 2023 MA 4-H Goat Workshop. The workshop has been moved to a new location in Lancaster, MA. New workshops and goats will be provided for use by participants. Workshop details and registration is located at https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/2023_ma_4-h_dairy_goat_workshop.pdf. Deadline to register is May 5, 2023.

Animal Verification Forms

Now is the time to print off your Animal Verification Forms to plan for the upcoming show season. Lease Forms are also due at the same time. Animal Verification Forms are to be completed for all livestock, dogs, and horses that you plan to show at a 4-H fair, dog academies, and/or Big E 4-H Shows. *Note:* Lambs and kids born after June 1st are still eligible to show based on your fair's requirements, but you will still need to file a Verification Form on them once they are born.

Youth must complete and submit their verification forms and make sure they are enrolled in the corresponding animal project in 4honline so they receive timely and important updates as they arise. Remember, a 4-H member can join multiple clubs, but only one per project area. Verification Forms are due to your county/regional 4-H office by the following dates:

- May 1st – Dairy Cattle, Beef Cattle, and Working Steers
- June 1st – Goat, Sheep, Llama, Alpaca and Swine, Dog

Links to Verification and Lease forms:

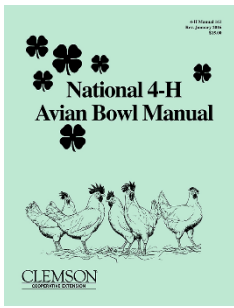
- [Livestock Verification Form](#)
- [Livestock Lease Form](#)
- [Beef Lease Form](#) (Youth cannot show a leased steer at the Big E)
- [Horse Verification Form](#)
- [Dog Verification Form](#)

Livestock Skill-a-thon & Judging Group

We plan to hold in-person sessions in the spring. The skill-a-thon contest is designed to give 4-H members with beef, swine, goat, sheep and alpaca/llama projects a format for enhancing their education. The Ohio Learning Kits are available in some of these project areas and they are a great club activity to prepare for skill-a-thon contests. Contact your local 4-H office. If interested in participating in the sessions on the livestock skill-a-thon, please contact Carrie Sears at ccsears@umass.edu

State 4-H Horse Show Entry Book

The State 4-H Show is back! The committee has planned a fun-filled weekend. You can show one day or stay the weekend. The show is June 24-25, 2023 at the Three County Fairgrounds in Northampton, MA. A great show to attend! The entry book is now on-line at https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/2023_state_4-h_horse_show_book.docx.pdf.



Avian Quiz Bowl Opportunity

Are you interested in learning facts about poultry and would like to participate in Avian Quiz Bowl? For information on Avian Quiz Bowl, check out the National Poultry Conference site at <https://national4hpoultry.ca.uky.edu/content/avian-bowl>. If interested in participating, please reach out to Carrie Sears at ccsears@umass.edu.

Horse Shows

Franklin County 4-H Horse Show — June 3 — [Entry Book](#)

State 4-H Horse Show – June 24 & 25 – Three County Fairgrounds, Northampton, MA

Western Regional 4-H Horse Show – September 8-10 — Three County Fairgrounds, Northampton, MA

Be sure to contact Carrie Sears at ccsears@umass.edu with any animal science questions.

STEM Programs & Updates

Did you know that there is the Annular Solar Eclipse in October and a Full Eclipse in April 2024?

Do you want to conduct a short-term project with your club or others?

For more information contact Kim Pond at kima@umass.edu

Science, Engineering, and Technology (SET) Resources:

April 22nd is Earth Day! Check out this resource if you are looking for ideas to do with your families or club:

https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/seasons_of_thanks_and_service_club_challenge_resource_list_1.pdf

April 25th is DNA Day! Check out our Green Genes Curriculum:

<https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/programs/scienceengineering-technology/green-genes-genetics>

Scholarship Opportunities



If you have received your college acceptance letter, now is the time to start researching scholarship opportunities. To assist you, we have listed some of the available 4-H scholarships on the [MA 4-H website](#).

Scholarships may also be available if you are a member of an organization, such as a fair, agricultural group, livestock association or science group. Another site to explore is the [Massachusetts scholarship listing](#). Plus, reach out to friends who are in college to give you advice.

Good luck to all of our school seniors as you apply for scholarships – “Apply early, apply often!”

Young Adult Summer Job Opportunities

4-H Camp Middlesex

4-H Camp Middlesex is currently seeking candidates to join their staff this summer as Barnyard Counselors. They have a small barn with pigs, sheep, chickens, rabbits, and goats. The counselors teach lessons about the animals, not only about their biology but also how to care for them and also help to maintain the barn. These counselors are also overnight counselors, working as regular camp staff for the summer. Open to individuals age 18 or older. [Apply here](#). For more information, [contact Jessica Briley](#), Hiring Manager at 4-H Camp Middlesex. For more information about the camp, visit campmiddlesex.com.

Farm and Garden Camp

Want to get your hands dirty while teaching kids and having fun? Come work at Farm and Garden Camp at the Hampshire College Farm Center! We pride ourselves on providing an environment for staff that enables personal and professional growth, a sense of community, and skill development as an educator. Farm and Garden Camp is hiring Instructors, Apprentices and CITs for this summer's staff. The camp is located at Hampshire College, near to PVT bus routes and operates through July and August.

Instructor job descriptions and information about paid Teen Programs (Apprenticeships and CITs) can be found here [on the website](#).

Farm and Garden Camp is a program of The Farm Education Collaborative (TFEC). TFEC designs and delivers authentic agricultural experiences that nurture the connections between families, farms, and food in the Pioneer Valley. Please direct your questions to Leigh Witzling, Camp Director, at farmcampdirector@gmail.com.

Community Service

Season 2 of the Seasons of Giving Program

Thanks to all who participated in the first Season of Giving Community Service Program. Club Leaders should have received the items they requested.



The second season (mid-January to mid-April) is wrapping up and clubs will soon be receiving the link to submit any community service they have done.

What is the Four Seasons of Giving Program?

Service to others has always been an important part of the 4-H club program. One part of the 4-H pledge states, "I pledge my hands to larger service." An entire section of the 4-H Summary Record is dedicated to the documentation of community service done by each 4-H member.

4-H groups often conduct community service projects in local communities where they meet. These projects include community beautification, collecting donations for food pantries, raising money for charities, volunteering in nursing homes and donating needed items to hospice and hospitals, to name just a few.

Find the details about our current list of ideas and incentives: [2022-2023 Four Seasons of Giving](#).

Club leaders will receive an email at the end of each season when it is time to report their results. Thanks in advance for contributing to this statewide effort!

If this is your club's first time participating, the first season options are available for your club to choose from (see past NewsBlasts or the Four Seasons of Giving link above for more information).

If this is your club's second season of participation this year, you have leveled up! Your club will have these prize options to choose from:



Zippered Portfolio



Scrapbook Kit & Cards



Gavel



Tote with Club Name

More information is on the website along with ideas for community service:

<https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/clubs-programs/community-service>

Massachusetts Park Serve Day



What started in 2006 as a day of stewardship in Massachusetts has grown into an annual event with thousands of participants!

Each year during Earth Week, DCR invites volunteers to Massachusetts state parks to take part in stewardship activities to prepare for the busy spring and summer recreation season. Park Serve day is your opportunity to help tend to your favorite state park by getting involved in a clean-up, painting, or other restorative project for one day. Parks across the Commonwealth decide on projects and invite volunteers for a day of work and fun.

Gather members of your 4-H club and get outside to help clean up your area state park on Earth Day!

Find out more information at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/dcr-park-serve-day#about-park-serve-day-> and plan your participation in Park Serve Day!

Celebrating 4-H Youth

Massachusetts Ag Day



Ag Day at the MA State House was a success! The 4-H'ers did an incredible job representing UMass 4-H and sharing with legislators about the impact 4-H has had on their lives. We heard many stories throughout the day of legislators sponsoring Bill 447, which would allow for 4-H related excused absences from school, after speaking with 4-H'ers.

Horse Communications Contest Results

Congratulations to the 4-H youth who placed in the State Horse Communications contest on April 1st!

Public Speaking: Susan Barrows – Worcester – 1st

Team Presentations: Eva Hourigan & Emma Pannone - Norfolk – 1st, Amanda King & Kathryn Portante - Middlesex – 2nd

Individual Presentations: Lizzie Tripp – Middlesex – 1st; Samantha Nappi – Middlesex – 2nd; Elsie Woodland – Plymouth – 3rd; Gabriella Pannone – Norfolk – 4th; Naia Kolodziej – Middlesex - 5th; Laura House – Middlesex – 6th; Norah Wilson – Norfolk - 7th; Faith Motta – Berkshire – 8th; Edith Volz – Middlesex - 9th

MA State Visual Presentations Rosette Winners

Congratulations to all State VP participants! The following 4-H youth earned rosettes for their presentations on April 1st:

BLUE ROSETTE WINNERS

Rupinika Golla*
Ailynn Cushman
Alex Murphy*
Alexandretta Grant*
Alyssa Turgeon
Amanda Forbes*
Bonnie Arrigo*
Bristol Card
Brooke Bisbee
Clara Arrigo*
Connor Quinn*
Danielle Delaney
Dylan McCoskery
Elisa Campanini*
Ellsbeth Nickerson
Emmy Summers
Harrison Sachs
Isabella Levesque
Kangwa Tou*
Lieselotte Drummond*
Lilah Canny*
Lucy Mongan
Makoto Sophie Oldmixon
Marco Santalucia*
Margaret Turpel*
Mariela Santalucia*
Mia Earnshaw*
Molly Quinn*
Nathan Murphy*
Rylie Bourbeau*
Sai Hitesh Vuppala
Saish Manshani*
Samuel Jackson
Siddharth Raj Monagari*
Sophia House
Victoria Nagle

RED ROSETTE WINNERS

Aarav Bhanoo*
Athena Sylvia
Ayla McCoskery
Benjamin Norris*
Bridget Macmillan
Charlotte Sonis
Christopher Drummond*
Dinah Blask
Elsa Swanson*
Hanna Sullivan-Fieldman
JenaRose Zawalski
Jessica Korzeniowski
Kate Vredevoogd*
Madelyn Germain
Madison Macmillan
Robert Peters
Savannah Judd
Summer Goyette
Viraj Harish*
Zackery Zawalski

4-H YOUTH INVITED TO BIG E

An asterisk (*) denotes youth who earned both a rosette for their visual presentation and have been invited to present at the Big E in September.

Additionally, the following youth earned an invitation to present at the Big E:

Gracie Dantin
Logan Barry
Mookie Lundgren-Lahav

Massachusetts 4-H Partnerships



It's Paper Clover Time!

Since 2010, Tractor Supply has partnered with 4-H to help create Opportunity4All and raise more than \$14 million through the Paper Clover campaign. The success of these campaigns has impacted over 81,500 youth by providing them with the tools and resources they need to move forward and reach their full potential.

100 percent of funds raised through the bi-annual Paper Clover campaign directly benefits 4-H youth. 90 percent of donations directly support 4-H youth in the state where the funds were raised, and the remaining 10 percent supports the overall mission and growth of 4-H nationally.

Dates for the 2023 Paper Clover Campaign: April 26th – May 7th

Month of the Military Child

April is the month of the military child. Many of our 4-H clubs have a military connected youth and we would love to hear your stories and ways to reach out to other military youth. Contact [Kim Pond](#) with your stories and ideas or to get more information.

Purple Up

Wear purple to celebrate military kids! Purple references the joint environment of the military, encompassing all service branches, Active Duty, Reserve, National Guard, and Veterans. Purple combines each branch's colors into one: the Air Force, Navy, and Coast Guard all use shades of blue, the Army uses green, and the Marines use red.

On April 14th and 21st, we ask that you wear purple to show your support to military children everywhere. We can't wait to see your photos! **#PurpleUpMA**.



Massachusetts 4-H Foundation

Club Grant for New 4-H Clubs

We are pleased to add a new club grant option to the Foundation's Grants Program. This specific grant is for \$150 and is available to new 4-H clubs to support start up needs such as meeting space cost, t-shirts, sweatshirts, program supplies, etc. [Club Grant for New 4-H Clubs Form](#)

Carrie Myers
Executive Director
cmyers@mass4hfoundation.org
508-881-1244



Massachusetts **4-H** Foundation
FOSTERING YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

4-H Health Safety Policy

UMass 4-H Policy on testing positive for Covid and isolating as consistent with UMass Amherst Policy:
<https://www.umass.edu/coronavirus/isolation-and-quarantine-guide>

Calculating Isolation:

Day 0 is your first day of symptoms or a positive viral test. Day 1 is the first full day after your symptoms developed or your test specimen was collected. If you have COVID-19 or have symptoms, isolate for at least five days. On Day 6, leave isolation (if you are able to wear a mask at all times when around other people, including in your household, through day 10). You may remove your mask prior to day 10, if you have had two negative tests taken 48 hours apart

Youth and volunteers may return to 4-H activities with a mask on Day 6 if they are asymptomatic. Please do not attend events if you are sick. Admittance to 4-H events is up to the discretion of the organizer. Attendees who are symptomatic may be denied entry or asked to leave.

UMass Extension 4-H Offices and Contact Information

State 4-H & Western MA Office: *Berkshire, Franklin, Hampshire, & Hampden Counties*

100 Venture Way, Suite 334; Hadley MA 01035

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

Angelica Diaz-Heyman, 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 Southeast MA Office: *Worcester, Norfolk, & Bristol Counties*

7 Midstate Drive, Suite 102; Auburn MA 01501

Cynthia A. Bushey, Southeast Region 4-H Educator – cabushey@umass.edu

Kim Henderson, Southeast Region Administrative Assistant – khenderson@umext.umass.edu

Meg McDermott, State 4-H Interim Director & Worcester County 4-H Educator – memcdermott@umass.edu

Martina Jasiewicz, Worcester County Administrative Assistant – mjasiewicz@umext.umass.edu

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

Northeastern MA Office: *Essex, Middlesex & Suffolk Counties*

UMass Mt. Ida Campus, Miller Hall; 100 Carlson Avenue, Newton, MA 02459

Heather Thibodeau, 4-H Educator – hthibodeau@umass.edu

Va Shon Wallace-Hiltbold, 4-H Educator – vawallace@umext.umass.edu

Debbie Beaubien, Administrative Assistant – debbieb@umext.umass.edu

Nancy McCarthy, Program Assistant – nmccarthy@umext.umass.edu

Plymouth County Office: *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

Cheryl Mechan, Administrative Assistant: cmechan@umass.edu

Barnstable County Office: *Barnstable County*

Box 367, Barnstable MA 02630

Sandi Shepherd-Gay, Barnstable County Youth Extension

Educator: sandi.shepherdgay@barnstablecounty.org

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

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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