



# UMass Extension 4-H Program

August 26, 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.

## Upcoming 4-H Events and Fairs through August

Be part of these events or just come for a fun day out!



### Plymouth County 4-H @ Marshfield Fair

August 19-28; open to 4-H members  
60 South River Street, Gate E; Marshfield MA  
Contact Molly Vollmer at [mvollmer@umext.umass.edu](mailto:mvollmer@umext.umass.edu)

### 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Worcester County 4-H Fair

August 26-28  
Felton Field in Barre  
Contact Meg McDermott at [memcdermott@umass.edu](mailto:memcdermott@umass.edu)

### Middlesex County 4-H Fair

August 26-28; open to all 4-H members  
Middlesex County 4-H Fairgrounds  
55 S. Chelmsford Road, Westford MA  
Contact Heather Thibodeau at [hthibodeau@umass.edu](mailto:hthibodeau@umass.edu)

## Save the Dates for September Fairs!

**Topsfield Fair:** September 30-October 10 (4-H Day on Oct 8<sup>th</sup>), 207 Boston St, Topsfield, MA 01983

**Cracker Barrel Fair:** September 17-18, Wrentham Developmental Center, 131 Emerald St, Wrentham, MA 02093

**The Big E:** September 16-October 2 (4-H Day September 17), 1305 Memorial Ave, West Springfield, MA 01089

# THE BIG E

### **New England 4-H Animal Shows at The Big E**

4-H youth will compete with their livestock, and dogs between September 16 & October 2, 2022. For a list of Big E Ag Events, check out <https://www.thebige.com/p/agriculture/ag-daily-schedule> We hope to see you at the fair!

### **Big E New England Center Help Needed for Friday September 16th**

Massachusetts 4-H is still looking for a few 4-H'ers to help in the New England Center with two interactive pods/stations.

1. Military Appreciation – Have people sign a star or card and hand out flag stickers.
  2. Science Activity that will rotate throughout the day: Spin art, Scratch Jr., or Solar Beads.
- If interested reach out to Linda Horn at [lrhorn@umass.edu](mailto:lrhorn@umass.edu).

### **4-H Day Tickets**

4-H Day at the Big E is held on Saturday, September 17. 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! If you are interested in requesting tickets, you must complete the form found here: [https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/2022\\_4-h\\_day\\_big\\_e\\_ticket\\_order\\_form.pdf](https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/2022_4-h_day_big_e_ticket_order_form.pdf) Members and volunteers must have been registered and enrolled in a club or group by July 1 for this opportunity. Contact Martina Jasiewicz at [mjasiewicz@umext.umass.edu](mailto:mjasiewicz@umext.umass.edu) with questions.

## New 4-H Year Starts October 15<sup>th</sup>: Why the Change?

The 2022-2023 4-H Year will begin **October 15<sup>th</sup>**. See explanation and key details below:

- National 4-H Week is the first full week of October so an October 15<sup>th</sup> start is a great way to celebrate the ending of one year and recruit members for the new year.
- A mid-October start allows youth who are completing records and wish to include their fair participation in the current 4-H year the opportunity to include Big E and Topsfield Fair, both of which extend into October.
- The 2022-2023 enrollment fee will be \$40 for new and returning members. Fees for the 2022-2023 year can start being submitted in mid-September. Don't delay; remember that you cannot participate in any scheduled activities or programs such as winter forum, visual presentations or other workshops until you are re-enrolled and your membership fee is paid.
- Club financial reports are still due to regional extension educators by August 1st each year because these are aligned with the UMass fiscal year that ends June 30<sup>th</sup>, rather than the 4-H year.

### **4-H Financial Reports**

Financial reports **were due August 1<sup>st</sup>** for all clubs, fair boards, and advisories. Still confused or need assistance? Find information on here: <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/volunteers/financial-management-insurance-reports> or contact your local 4-H educator to arrange a time to meet or talk. Returning clubs and groups will be activated in 4honline and allowed to resume once the financial forms are received and approved. Those that do not file will not be allowed to open and may be subject to having their charter revoked.

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## Field Trips and Presentations

It is important that we have information about clubs conducting fundraisers or going somewhere outside of their regularly scheduled meetings or activities. Is your club or group planning to hold a 4-H demonstration, presentation, or activity at Tractor Supply, JoAnn Stores or somewhere else other than your 4-H fair? Do you plan to take a field trip with your club?

Check in with your local 4-H educator to be sure they know your plans. Thanks for the help!



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## Attention Tree-Enthusiasts – White Oak Acorn Collectors Needed!



The White Oak Genetics and Tree Improvement Program (WOGTIP), led by Dr. Laura DeWald, University of Kentucky, is working to ensure the health, viability, and sustainability of White Oak (*Quercus alba*) trees in our eastern forests. As many of us know, the presence of White Oak impacts the function and value of our forests through the value of their wood products, as well as by providing important ecological services, like wildlife habitat.

A critical first step in the WOGTIP is collecting acorns from as many individual White Oak trees as possible throughout the eastern U.S., including from the different environmental regions within each state. This Fall, join tree enthusiasts from across the eastern U.S. in lending your help in collecting mature acorns from White Oak trees.

For more information, visit [www.tinyurl.com/acorncollect](http://www.tinyurl.com/acorncollect)

Questions? Contact Dr. Laura E. DeWald ([Laura.DeWald@uky.edu](mailto:Laura.DeWald@uky.edu)) University of Kentucky

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## Scholarship Opportunities

Find opportunities at this site: <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/youth/awards-scholarships>



**The Scott Robinson "My Four Son's" scholarship** application is due September 30, 2022. This scholarship is open to any youth that has been a 4-H member in Berkshire County for at least 3 years. The purpose of this scholarship is to help further education, therefore can be applied toward college, a training, or certificate program. Previous winners can apply, but preference will be given to those that have not won in the past. The application can be found at: <https://bit.ly/Berk4Hscholarship>

## Animal Science Programs



Contact Carrie Sears with any questions or to register for any events below at [ccsears@umext.umass.edu](mailto:ccsears@umext.umass.edu)

### **Animal Science Meetings, Workshops and Events**

August 29 – National 4-H Dairy Conf. Zoom Meeting – 7:30pm

August 31 – Big E Sheep Orientation – 7:00pm

### **The Regional 4-H Horse Show**

The show is being held on September 10 & 11 at the Three County Fairgrounds in Northampton. Check out the new website with the entry book at: [www.regional4horse.com](http://www.regional4horse.com)

### **National 4-H Dairy Conference**

This conference is being held from October 1-5, 2022 in Madison, WI and hosts 200 youth from across the USA and Canada.

### ***Congratulations to our six dairy delegates selected to participate!***

Samantha Peila—Franklin County

Grace Clendenin—Hampden County

Dakotalyn Phelon—Hampden County

Samantha Donohoe—Plymouth County

Leigha Noto—Worcester County

Robert Shaw—Worcester County

Chaperone: Shanda Phelon

### **Ohio Learning Kits for Beef, Dairy, Sheep, Goats, Rabbit, Dog, Poultry, Horse and Plant Science**

Now is a good time to start planning for the new 4-H year and to take a look at resources that you can use for your club meetings. The Ohio Learning Kits contain various hands-on activities that both new and returning 4-H members can gain knowledge on their specific animal or plant science project. Your local 4-H offices have some of the kits in their resource library for your use. If you decide to purchase, the MA 4-H Foundation has matching grants that can help offset the cost of the kit.

For information on the various kits, check-out the following page <https://ohio4h.org/books-and-resources/learning-lab-kits>



Interested in science, technology, engineering, art, and math? Check out these amazing 4-H resources and opportunities!

### ***4-H Game Design Challenge***

Have you thought about making your own game to enter in a fair, or to submit in the 2023 UMass 4-H STEAM FESTIVAL? To learn more about the **UMass 4-H STEAM Festival** and some sample game designs visit:

[https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/news/pdf/steam\\_festival\\_2021.pdf](https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/news/pdf/steam_festival_2021.pdf)

There are several phases to game design!

Here is an outline to help you begin or continue on your already started project.

**READY, SET, DESIGN:** During this phase, your goal is to come up with an idea for a new game.

**THE GAMES BEGIN:** During this stage, you are making a prototype of your game.

**THERE ARE GAMES AFOOT:** This is the redesign phase, where you take what you have made and make it better!

**TO MARKET, TO MARKET:** Now it is time to make your final product!

For more details, contact Kim Pond at [kima@umext.umass.edu](mailto:kima@umext.umass.edu)

Here are some games submitted into a recent STEAM Festival:



#### **4-H Science with 4-H At Home**

- Humans aren't ready to explore the farthest reaches of space just yet, but we're getting closer. Explore a variety of activities and interactive videos with astronaut Isabella Hernandez and learn how to grow food in space, how to operate a lunar terrain vehicle, and see firsthand what it takes to live and work among the stars. Go to <https://4-h.org/about/4-h-at-home/> and click on Space Exploration.
- STEM in Clothing and Textiles from Tennessee 4-H <https://4h.tennessee.edu/wpcontent/uploads/sites/47/2020/04/W881.pdf>
- Last summer UMass 4-H held Space: the 4-H Frontier. If interested in the activities reach out to Kim Pond at [kima@umext.umass.edu](mailto:kima@umext.umass.edu) or check your local office to borrow either the "Galactic Quest" SET Challenge, "Marsbound" SET Challenge or the Arduino coding "Lost in Space" Kits to use with your club.

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## **4-H Foundation Annual Golf Tournament – September 12**

The 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Shirley Kane Memorial Golf Tournament for 4-H is on Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. Please consider playing, sponsoring, or volunteering for this fun day! We are also interested in 4-H youth attending that are available that day to share about their 4-H experience. Over 20 years the golf tournament has raised almost \$800,000 for 4-H programs in the state.

**Volunteer!** Not interested in playing but want to volunteer? We could REALLY use some help the day of the event. You can sign up to volunteer for a specific job through this survey or just let me know that you'll volunteer wherever we need help that day and we'll assign you a spot. [Click here for the volunteer sign up options](#)

**Sponsor!** if your advisory council, club or if you are part of a company or organization that would like to sponsor- please click the link below to learn more about sponsor opportunities.

**Play!** Looking to spend the day on the links? Bring a friend!

Click here for sponsor and play registrations: <https://www.mass4hfoundation.org/events/golf-tournament/>

Questions? Please contact Carrie Myers, [cmyers@mass4hfoundation.org](mailto:cmyers@mass4hfoundation.org)

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## 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.

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### 4-H Staff Changes

The UMass Extension 4-H Program director, Linda Horn, will be retiring on October 15<sup>th</sup>. Linda has been working with the administration team at the Center for Agriculture, Food and the Environment as well as with Educators Kim Pond and Carrie Sears to ensure a smooth transition. Starting on October 16, Meg McDermott will step into the role of interim director. She will be working closely with Kim, Carrie, and the rest of the 4-H team while the University conducts a search for a new director.

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**For all the youth heading back to school or off to college we wish you a happy, safe and productive year of learning and Positive Development- please share the word about 4- H programs.**

**Thank you for being part of 4-H!**

### UMass Extension 4-H Offices and Contact Information:

Be sure to contact the office or person you plan to meet with prior to visiting to ensure the office is open. 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](mailto:lrhorn@umext.umass.edu)  
Carrie Sears, 4-H Animal Science Program Manager – [ccsears@umext.umass.edu](mailto:ccsears@umext.umass.edu)

#### **Western MA:** Franklin, Hampshire, Hampden and Berkshire Counties

100 Venture Way, Suite 334; Hadley MA 01035

Angelica Diaz-Heyman, 4-H Educator – [angelica@umext.umass.edu](mailto:angelica@umext.umass.edu)  
Lauren DuBois, Urban 4-H Educator – [ldubois@umext.umass.edu](mailto:ldubois@umext.umass.edu)  
Lizmarie Ulloa, Urban 4-H Program Assistant - [llopezortiz@umext.umass.edu](mailto:llopezortiz@umext.umass.edu)

#### **Central and Southeastern MA:**

7 Midstate Drive, Suite 102; Auburn MA 01501

#### *Bristol and Norfolk Counties:*

Cynthia A. Bushey, 4-H Educator – [cabushey@umass.edu](mailto:cabushey@umass.edu)  
Kim Henderson, Administrative Assistant – [khenders@umext.umass.edu](mailto:khenders@umext.umass.edu)

#### *Worcester County:*

Meg McDermott, 4-H Educator – [memcdermott@umass.edu](mailto:memcdermott@umass.edu)  
Martina Jasiewicz, Administrative Assistant – [mjasiewicz@umext.umass.edu](mailto:mjasiewicz@umext.umass.edu)

#### *State 4-H STEM Program Manager:*

Kim Pond – 4-H SET Program Manager – [kima@umext.umass.edu](mailto: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 – [hthibodeau@umass.edu](mailto:hthibodeau@umass.edu)

Va Shon Wallace-Hiltbold, 4-H Educator – [vwallace@umext.umass.edu](mailto:vwallace@umext.umass.edu)

Pam LeFave, Program Assistant – [plefave@umext.umass.edu](mailto:plefave@umext.umass.edu)

Debbie Beaubien, Administrative Assistant – [debbieb@umext.umass.edu](mailto:debbieb@umext.umass.edu)

Nancy McCarthy, Program Assistant – [nmccarthy@umext.umass.edu](mailto:nmccarthy@umext.umass.edu)

**Plymouth County:**

44 Obery Street, Plymouth MA 02360

Molly Vollmer, 4-H Educator: [mvollmer@umext.umass.edu](mailto:mvollmer@umext.umass.edu)

Cathy Acampora, 4-H Educator: [acampora@umext.umass.edu](mailto:acampora@umext.umass.edu)

Meghan Riley, Ag Extension Educator: [mriley@plymouthcountyma.org](mailto:mriley@plymouthcountyma.org)

**Barnstable County:**

Box 367, Barnstable MA 02630

Sandi Shepherd-Gay, Barnstable County Youth Extension Educator: [sandi.shepherdgay@barnstablecounty.org](mailto:sandi.shepherdgay@barnstablecounty.org)

Laura Notarangelo, Administrative Assistant: [laura.notarangelo@barnstablecounty.org](mailto:laura.notarangelo@barnstablecounty.org)



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