



UMass Extension 4-H Program

December 2, 2022

Upcoming 4-H Calendar of Events

Date	Title	Location	Link (for registration or attendance)	Deadline to Apply/ Register
Open Now	National 4-H IGNITE Summit Applications	N/A	https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/2023_national_agri-science_summit.pdf	1/6
12/8	Poultry Workshop	Zoom 7 PM	https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/98182793547	
12/12	State 4-H Horse Advisory	Zoom 7 PM	https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/98067041662	
12/13	Horse Chat	Zoom	https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/96799760249	
12/14	Regional 4-H Horse	Zoom 6:30 PM	https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/91827402067	
12/14	4-H Member's Reception	Zoom	https://forms.gle/eLdZacdHCq8TBCZv8	12/12
12/15	Poultry Workshop	Zoom 7 PM	https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/98182793547	
12/19	4-H Discovery Club Meeting	Zoom	https://forms.office.com/r/e7C8Rp8BDV	12/17 (new members)
12/20	Horse Chat	Zoom 7 PM	https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/96799760249	
1/3	Horse Judging Contest Prep	Zoom 7 PM	https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/94376350477	
1/7	State 4-H Dairy Meeting	Mallery Office 11 AM	Eastern States Exposition, West Springfield, MA	
1/9	Hippology Contest Prep	Zoom 7 PM	https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/94376350477	
1/10	Horse Communications Contest Prep	Zoom 7 PM	https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/94376350477	
1/11	Horse Judging Contest Prep	Zoom 7 PM	https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/94376350477	
1/12	Horse Bowl Contest Prep	Zoom 7 PM	https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/94376350477	
1/17	Horse Chat	Zoom 7 PM	https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/96799760249	
1/18	State 4-H Horse Advisory	Zoom 7 PM	https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/98067041662	
1/21	4-H Rabbit Workshop	Smith Voc/Ag HS	Coming soon	
1/23	Hippology Contest Prep	Zoom 7 PM	https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/94376350477	
1/24	Horse Communications Contest Prep	Zoom 7 PM	https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/94376350477	
1/26	Horse Bowl Contest Prep	Zoom 7 PM	https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/94376350477	

2/4	Western MA Regional 4-H Horse Roundup	1 st Floor Conference Room	100 Venture Way, Hadley (snow dates- 2/5 and 2/11)
3/14	STEAM Festival Awards	Zoom 7 PM	TBA
3/25	State 4-H Horse Round-up	Orange, MA	
4/1	State 4-H Horse Visual presentations for Senior Members	St. Williams	Tewksbury

See details on calendar events below and keep on the lookout for more dates and details in the next NewsBlast!

4-H Member's Reception



4-H MEMBER'S RECEPTION
VIA ZOOM DECEMBER 14, 2022, 7-8:30 PM
 HOSTED BY
 THE MASSACHUSETTS STATE 4-H TEEN AMBASSADORS

Attend the 4-H Member's Reception!

Whether this is your first year or your fifth year as a 4-H club member, we're excited to have you be part of our Massachusetts 4-H family. As a way to welcome you, the State 4-H Teen Ambassadors invite you to attend a Member's Reception on **12/14/22 from 7-8:30 PM via Zoom.**

Through 4-H you have the opportunity to meet new people, make new friends, participate in activities, and more so let's get started!

Register here by 12/12/22:
<https://forms.gle/eLdZacdHCq8TBCZv8>

National 4-H News & Opportunities

IGNITE National Youth Summit Series

The National Youth Summit Series is in its eleventh year and brings together some of the best and brightest students to focus on the 4-H STEM Pillars. Designed for high school students in grades 9 – 12, the 2023 IGNITE Combo Summit provides opportunities to learn technical skills, participate in hands-on activities, workshops and learn from leaders in the field. Ignite is a 4-day experience where teens connect, make memories and find their spark by exploring the best 4-H has to offer in STEM, Agriscience, Healthy Living, Career Readiness and Emotional Well Being.



[Applications](#) for the MA 4-H Delegation to the IGNITE Summit in Washington D.C. on March 9-12, 2023 are now being accepted. We are looking to send youth/adult teams for all tracks this year. Youth can find details on how to apply on [our website](#) and any interested volunteer can reach out to [Carrie Chickering Sears](#) or [Kim Pond](#).

Applicants must submit their application by **Friday, January 6th**. Interviews will start on Friday, January 13th. Email application to Carrie Chickering-Sears ccsears@umass.edu.

Animal Science Programs & Updates

Animal Program Zoom Meetings & Workshops

Horse Chat Series

All horse lovers are invited to attend. Open to both youth and adults. This series is held via Zoom at 7:00 PM. If you are not able to make a session, recordings will be available for your viewing. Please email Carrie Sears at ccsears@umass.edu for a copy of horse chat recordings. The series kicked-off on November 15th with Leora Barry discussing her *Transitions in Motion Program* and her career in the therapeutic riding field. <https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/96799760249>



12/13: Allie Cassarino is a UMass Extension 4-H alum and an equine major at SUNY Cobleskill equine major. She is currently interning in Maryland at Great and Small Stables as a volunteer coordinator.

12/20: UConn Polo Team – Learn about this exciting sport and how the members became involved on the collegiate level.

1/17: speaker TBA.
Photo: Allie Cassarino

Preparing for the 2023 Horse Roundup Contests

The new year will be here before we know it and the start of county horse knowledge contests for our 4-H youth. The county contests provide an opportunity for youth to qualify for the State 4-H Horse Roundup (horse judging, hippology and horse bowl) to be held the weekend of **March 25th** in Orange, MA. The State 4-H Horse Communications Contest for senior members (age 14 – 18 as of January 1) is scheduled for **April 1st** at St. Williams in Tewksbury, MA. Both of these state events are used to qualify youth to go onto the national teams that travel to the Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup in Louisville, KY that is held each November. Note that we are starting our contests earlier than in the past to give our coaches and team members more time to practice and select the final teams for nationals.

Youth who are interested in attending the county contests are strongly encouraged to attend the following Zoom sessions that are scheduled in January 2023 with the four coaches discussing the contests and how to prepare. Junior age members as well as parents and leaders are encouraged to join in on the sessions. All are scheduled for 7:00pm with the same link <https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/94376350477>

Horse Communications with Coach Darlene Welch

Tuesday, January 10th and Tuesday January 24th

Horse Judging with Coach Heather Chmura

Tuesday, January 3rd and Wednesday, January 11th

Horse Bowl with Coach Rose Blomgren

Thursday, January 12th and Thursday, January 26th

Hippology with Coach Cait Beachell

Monday, January 19th and Monday, January 23rd

To learn more about our state contests, resources and sample questions, check out the MA 4-H Horse Resource page <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/clubs-programs/animal-science-program/horses>

Livestock and Poultry Biosecurity

Two options for youth and leaders to learn more on-line on animal biosecurity. Biosecurity is becoming more important than ever in our interconnected world, and veterinary professionals play a crucial role in protecting the health of U.S. livestock and poultry. The free basic on-line course will give you information on how to prevent disease introduction and how to control disease spread with the herd/flock and to other farms. This

course is open for six months for you to complete. This course is for leaders, parents and older youth who raise animals. It introduces biosecurity concepts and provides an overview of biosecurity risk factors. Web-based interactive lessons include:

- Biosecurity Concepts
- Biosecurity Risks – Farm Factors
- Biosecurity Risks – Personnel, Animals, and Carcasses
- Biosecurity Risks – Fomites
- Biosecurity Risks – Vectors
- Maintaining a Healthy Farm

For more information and to register, go to <https://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/product/biosecurity-livestock-poultry/>

The second option is geared for newer 4-H members and younger youth who want to learn about animal biosecurity and how to protect their animals when they are brought to fairs and shows. The link for this program is at <https://bluenotflu.org/>

The 41st Massachusetts 4-H Rabbit Workshop

Saturday, January 21st, 2023 from 10 AM - 2 PM at the Smith Vocational Agricultural High School in Northampton, MA. Watch for the workshop packet and registration information coming soon on the MA 4-H website. A great lineup of speakers and topics are planned for 2023!

Save the Date!

Western Regional 4-H Horse – September 8-10, 2023 at the Three County Fairgrounds in Northampton, MA

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

Get Involved!

2023 UMass 4-H STEAM Festival Kick-off

Shoebox Parade Theme: *It's Great to be ME in 2023*

Are you an artist at heart? Do you love to dance? What's your favorite 4-H Project? Who do you aspire to be when you grow up? Save a shoebox or other small box and turn it into a mini-float. Let's celebrate our 4-H'ers by showcasing what you are passionate about or makes you smile!

NEW this year: Pixelation & Repeating Patterns

The revised book will be up later this month. Keep your eye out for resources, videos and zoom sessions. Start planning your entries now by looking over [last year's book](#) and help make this our best year yet!

Kim Pond will also be joining the State 4-H Discovery Club on 12/17 to showcase an activity and promote the Festival. Direct your questions to kima@umass.edu.



Statewide 4-H Discovery Club

Join us! Youth across MA have an opportunity to connect with each other and with 4-H Educators and talented adult volunteers to explore interesting topics and engage in 4-H programs across the state. The 4-H Discovery Club meets monthly via Zoom and is open to youth who are new to 4-H as well as youth already enrolled in their local clubs throughout the state. For questions, contact Cynthia Bushey at cabushey@umass.edu. To join our next meeting register here: <https://forms.office.com/r/e7C8Rp8BDV> (members who already enrolled in Discovery Club do not need to register again).

4-H Records Program

Updated records packets will be released soon on the Massachusetts Extension 4-H website. Stay tuned!

Computer Science Education Week December 5-11, 2022

[Computer Science Education Week](#) (CSEdWeek) provides an opportunity to raise awareness about the richness of computing careers and the critical need for equity in CS education. The 2022 theme is #CSEverywhere which highlights the impact of computer science and its relationship to different subjects, industries, career paths, and our daily lives.

You as 4-H'er are doing computational thinking every day and may not know it! How many of you have followed or created an Algorithm (Horse patterns at a show, following a recipe...)? What about learning conditionals like "If/Then" statements? Think about some of the games you play or some of the tools you use with sensors.

Check your 4-H office for curriculum, kits like "Code your World" and "Game Changers". Borrow a few "Lost in Space" kits, which is a 30-day programming challenge using Arduino's.

Leaders, want to run a short-term program on Computer Science and Coding? Reach out to Kim Pond at kima@umass.edu for materials and curriculum! Also, you can find a whole series of Computer Science videos on our MA 4-H SET Facebook Page. Here is a link to the CS #1 Video <https://www.facebook.com/MA4HSET/videos/542963933308267>

Where's the Food Webinar

Help improve access to healthy food in your community, especially for families with healthy food access issues. Join us for a webinar presentation on **December 5th at 8:30 ETA** by the National Youth Team who have designed and tested the tools for mapping healthy food locations in their own communities. Learn how to help pilot test *Where's the Food* by collecting and analyzing healthy food locations in your county/state. Contact Kim Pond at kim2@umass.edu for more information.

Community Service Opportunities

2022-2023 will have a Focus on Food Insecurity and we have brought back the "Four Seasons of Giving": [2022-2023 Four Seasons of Giving](#)

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.

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!

Celebrating UMass 4-H Youth

4-H youth are doing amazing things! If members of your club are up to something great, please share! We would like to highlight UMass Extension 4-H clubs and their members in our NewsBlasts. Please reach out to Cynthia Bushey at cabushey@umass.edu if you would like to have your club featured in an upcoming edition of our newsletter.

Massachusetts 4-H Foundation

What is the Massachusetts 4-H Foundation?

The Massachusetts 4-H Foundation provides marketing and raises funds for the 4-H program. Donations to the Foundation support programs including science & technology, animal science, 4-H Fairs & Scholarships, teen participation in National 4-H conferences, club grants, & MORE! If you have a question about club grants, giving to the 4-H program, creating an endowment, or stories you would like to share about your 4-H experience that we can share for marketing purposes, please contact the Foundation.

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



Massachusetts **4-H** Foundation

FOSTERING YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

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: mvolmer@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.



UMass Extension is a unit of the Center for Agriculture, Food & the Environment in the College of Natural Sciences. UMass Extension is an equal opportunity provider & employer, United States Department of Agriculture cooperating. Contact your local UMass Extension office for information on disability accommodations or the UMass Director if you have concerns related to discrimination, 413-545-4800 or refer to www.extension.umass.edu/civilrights.

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST