

4-H Youth Development Program

4-H News



Thank You to Our Supporters!

The Massachusetts 4-H Foundation and National 4-H Council

The Massachusetts 4-H Foundation provides over \$200,000 each year in direct support to 4-H programs through new club kits, matching grants, and support to events such as Horse Round Up, Visual Presentation Day, and 4-H Congress/National 4-H Conference. In addition, the foundation supports staff positions by gifting funds to UMass to support the salaries of the four regional 4-H educators. New this year, the foundation is providing funds to hire 4-H club liaisons in each region. National 4-H Council provided \$134,564 to Massachusetts 4-H in 2016 and a total of \$290,355 over the last three years.

We are grateful for the support we get from both of our partners!

Massachusetts 4-H STATEWIDE NEWSLETTER

Winter 2017

Time to Think about Summer Camp and Camperships

Yes, it's cold outside but it's time to sign up for summer camp! Camperships are offered to 4-H members that plan to attend one of the five 4-H camps this summer. Go to <http://mass4hfoundation.org/images/forms/campership.pdf> for details on foundation 4-H camperships and contact your local 4-H office to find out if your county offers camperships.

The five 4-H camps are Camp Farley in Mashpee, Camp Leslie in Georgetown, Camp Middlesex in Ashby, Camp Marshall in Spencer, and Camp Howe in Goshen. Each has their own website, so check them all out!

George L. Farley Scholarship

4-H is proud to offer the George L. Farley Scholarship to a former MA 4-H member attending (or accepted for the 2017–2018 year) UMass Amherst. The application deadline is April 30, but we encourage you to get your application in now. For details, go to http://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/george_farley_scholarship_info_2016.pdf.

Calling All Teens (15 and Older): Exciting Opportunity to Attend Premier National 4-H Events

Calling all 4-H members ages 15–18, don't miss the opportunity to attend two great national 4-H programs, National 4-H Congress, and National 4-H Conference! Delegates are chosen to attend based on an application packet. Each delegate must contribute \$300 toward the cost of the program, and the Massachusetts 4-H Foundation will cover the remainder of the costs including airfare, registration, hotel, and most meals. **Application packets are due (postmarked by) May 1, 2017.**

NEW—Now you can apply for both programs with just one application packet by indicating which trip(s) you want to be considered for in your cover letter. All efforts will be made to provide youth who qualify with the opportunity to represent Massachusetts at one or both, as space allows.

We Need YOU to Report Results for the Statewide 4-H Community Service Project

We hope that your club participated in our 10th annual service project. Please help us to summarize and report the results of this important work by completing the online survey found at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/4-HCommService>.

If you don't want to do the online survey, you may call your local educator or send him/her an email with the results. Please make sure your club results get reported!

Do You Want to Perform on Stage at the Big E?

MA 4-H takes over the stage in the New England Center for two days of the Big E. Members love the opportunity to perform or present their visual presentation live, on stage for Big E fairgoers. We select 4-H members for this opportunity at the nine county/regional Visual Presentation Days held around the state. If you receive a Big E Quality Ribbon, then you are eligible for this opportunity and will be required to attend an orientation meeting in June to find out more. For detailed information, go to: https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/vp_big_e_winner_what_to_expect.pdf.

Planning to Run a 4-H Food Booth?

Any 4-H banquet, food booth, or grill that is run by 4-H for fundraising or any other purpose must have at least one person at the concession who is ServSafe certified. To find a list of courses, go to <http://www.servsafe.com/home> and click on "Students."



Partial scholarships (usually one half of the cost) are available from the 4-H Foundation through 4-H Director Sherrie Guyott. Go to <http://mass4h.org/volunteers/volunteer-resources> for the application. Click on "Application for Funds to Support Workshops" and follow the instructions.

CHECK OUT OUR EXCITING 4-H PROGRAMS COMING IN 2017

Check www.mass4h.org often for up-to-date program information.

4-H Regional Winter Workshops are scheduled for **January 21** in Hadley, **January 28** in Tewksbury, and **February 4** in Kingston. All 4-H volunteers, members, and parents are invited to attend one of these days of fun, learning, and sharing. Registration is required; go the 4-H home page for detailed information.

The 4-H State Rabbit Workshop takes place **January 28** at the Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical School in Upton.

The Massachusetts 4-H Blue Ribbon Calf Sale takes place at the Big E fairgrounds in West Springfield on **March 18**. Clinics will be held in the evening on **March 17**. Registered dairy calves from all the seven breeds will be offered for sale. Go to www.blueribboncalfsale.com for more information, and details are also on Facebook under the Massachusetts Blue Ribbon Calf Sale.

State 4-H Visual Presentation Day will take place in Bedford on **April 1**. All those participating must qualify at one of nine local Visual Presentation Days held around the state.

MA 4-H ambassadors and MA milk ambassadors will visit the State House and speak to their legislators and other officials on **Massachusetts Ag Day, April 4**.

State 4-H Horse Bowl and Hippology Contests will take place on **April 29** at Wheaton College in Norton. State Horse Judging Contest follows on **April 30** in Grafton.

MA 4-H Dairy and Beef Academy is scheduled for **May 20 and 21**.

UMass Exploring Veterinary Science Academy takes place **June 3 and 4**.

Date and location for the **4-H Goat Academy** are TBA.

Check Out Our Exciting 4-H Programs Coming in 2017 (continued)

Explore UMASS, open to 4-H members entering grades 7–11 for the 2017–2018 school year, takes place **June 25 through June 27**. Don't miss this exciting opportunity to get a taste of what college life is like by living in the dorm and eating in the dining hall on the Amherst campus. Participate in workshops taught by UMass professionals and create great memories with other 4-H'ers.

State 4-H Photography entries are due **July 1**. Check out all the categories today at http://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/state_photography17.pdf.



National Youth Science Day to Celebrate its 10th Anniversary!

4-H National Youth Science Day began in 2008 featuring Steve Spangler's "Hydrogels." Since then, NYSD have included diverse topics such as "Biofuel Blast," "Rockets to the Rescue," and this past year's "Drone Discovery." Visit www.4-h.org/nysd for more details and to see all nine 4-H NYSD activities.

Leading up to the 10th anniversary in October of 2017, Kim Pond, MA 4-H SET liaison, will be highlighting several of the past experiments at the regional Winter Forum Workshops and will be revamping the old NYSD kits with new resources. If you have any old kits or remnants kicking around, please return them to your local office or bring to a Winter Forum.

State 4-H Fashion Show at the Big E



Start now and you will have plenty of time to sew for the show in September! All members ages 7 and up can sew a garment or a quilt (or both!) to exhibit in the show. All items must be judged prior to coming to the Big E.

The top state blue ribbon garment winner (ages 8 and up) rides in a convertible in the Big E parade that evening. We can't wait to see what you have created! If you have sewing questions, feel free to contact Joanne Brown at jojofam@juno.com.

Due Dates for Animal Project Verification Forms NEW—Enter Your Animal Project Verification through 4hOnline!

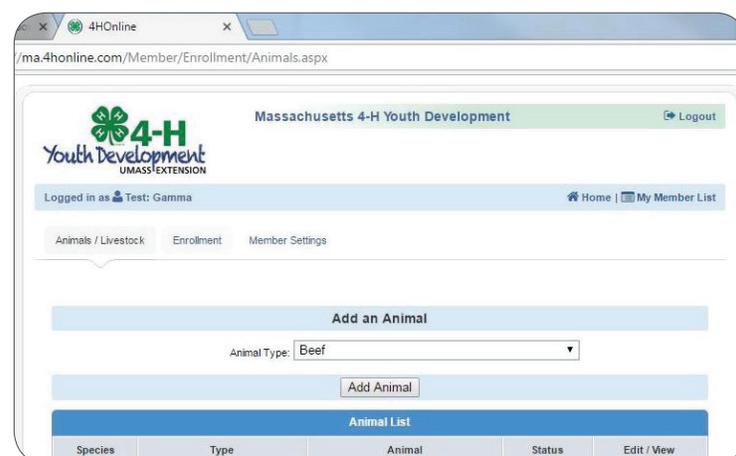
Project verification forms must be received in your local 4-H office by the required deadline:

Horse – April 1 or 90 days prior to the first horse show. Deadline for Big E is **April 1**.

Beef and Dairy – May 1

Goat, Sheep, Alpaca – June 1

Attention 4-H families! You may have noticed when you are in your 4hOnline profile that there is an animal tab just to the left of the enrollment button. You can enter information on your animal project online to meet the verification requirement. For online horse verification: you must complete all fields and upload a front and side view picture; uploading the Coggins is optional. Deadlines still apply so make sure to do this early to allow time for any technical glitches and to receive confirmation that the verification is complete!



Northeast Organic Farming Association's Winter Conference

January 14, Worcester State College

Over 70 workshops on organic farming, gardening, landscaping, homesteading, and more. For more information and registration information, go to www.nofa.org/winterconference.



The Masterful Massachusetts Milk Ambassadors on the Road

The Massachusetts 4-H Program received a grant sponsored by the Massachusetts Dairy Promotion Board in July 2016. The grant helps to provide training and materials for 4-H dairy ambassadors to promote the industry throughout the commonwealth. Nine ambassadors were selected: Bristol County: Dan and Trevor Clapp, Darcey and Karlene McMahon; Hampshire: Rachel Meacham; Plymouth: Corinne Lee; Worcester: Sadie Constantine, Barry Nadon, and Morgan Whitney. Advisors to the group are Carrie Sears, Robin Clapp, Mary Ann Meacham, and Nancy Buddington.

The ambassadors have designed promotional displays to exhibit at fairs, libraries, and school events. They provided calves for a community day at Bass Pro Shops. The Big E agricultural department recognized the ambassadors for their efforts in educating fairgoers during the fair in September. The youth spoke to the public on dairy facts and the benefits of milk in the Mallery Milking Parlor. The ambassadors will be busy this spring with various planned events, along with their participation at 4-H award banquets and MA Ag Day. Check out their Facebook page, Masterful Massachusetts Milk Ambassadors!

If you have an event that you would like to have the ambassadors attend, please contact Carrie Sears at ccsears@umext.umass.edu or 413-549-3257.

2017 National 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest

This contest is open to all enrolled 4-H club members and the **due date is February 21**. The topic this year is “How can MP3 (Managed Pollinator Protection Plan) more effectively protect honey bees from pesticide exposure?” **Top prizes of \$750, \$500, and \$250 will be awarded.** Request complete requirements and rules from Linda Horn at lrhorn@umext.umass.edu.



New Regulation—Veterinary Feed Directive

The new Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) will go into effect in **January 2017**. This new regulation will impact feed additives that are currently in some of the medicated feed products that you purchase. Now is the time to review the new directives and discuss them with your veterinarian. Club leaders: You may want to invite your local veterinarian to a club meeting to discuss this with your members. Have your members bring medicated feed labels and milk replacer labels to the meeting to see what they will need to look for. *Cowsmopolitan Dairy Magazine* had an information sheet that may be useful: <http://www.cowsmo.com/?news=facts-veterinary-feed-directive>. For full details, visit the FDA website at <http://www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/DevelopmentApprovalProcess/ucm071807.htm>.

2017 Big E 4-H Beef Show Application

Remember to enroll your beef steer prior to February 1 if you plan on showing at the 2017 Big E 4-H Beef Show. The 4-H beef forms will be online in January 2017 at <http://www.thebige.com/p/competitions/4-h/380>. **You need to enter online prior to February 1 in order to receive your steer's ear tag. Please contact Carrie if you plan on showing a steer. The heifer online entry form is due by May 1.** For further information, contact Carrie Sears via email ccsears@umext.umass.edu or by phone at 413-549-3257.



UMass Crops, Dairy, Livestock, and Equine Program

Questions on livestock and equine? Check out the UMass Crops, Dairy, Livestock, and Equine site for fact sheets and workshops at www.extension.umass.edu/cdle.

Careers with Animals

Most of us love animals, and as a young person you may spend at least some of your time considering a career in animal science. Some of us choose career paths which take us away from animals but maintain contact through our animal companions; others want a career that will keep animals as a focal point of their lives. The following are just some of the careers available where you can work with or around animals:

- Farming and Ranching
- Animal Breeding, Handling, and Training
- Wildlife Management and Zoos
- Animal Welfare Organizations
- Veterinary Medicine and Animal Health Science
- Biomedical Research
- Others: Extension, Agricultural Business, and Sales

Veterinary medicine is the career that is most often considered by young people who want to work with animals. To become a veterinarian, you need to be an outstanding student, particularly during your college career. You need to begin preparing for veterinary school while you are in high school, taking as many science and math courses as you can and doing well in these subjects. In college, you need at least a 3.5 (or better) grade point average. You need to gain experience in “the field” by volunteering or working in a veterinary practice.

There are only 27 veterinary colleges in the United States and many accept only students who are residents in their state. In Massachusetts, we have

Tufts University. The entrance rate into vet school is about one out of 2.5 applicants. Thus, it always pays to be the very best student that you can be.

One area that college admissions offices are looking at today is the applicant’s involvement in extracurricular activities. As a 4-H member, you have the advantage in this area. You should remember to highlight your 4-H career on your application, and if you still have a year or two before college, you should become involved in a variety of activities, i.e. clinics, judging, public speaking, and an ambassadorship program, and definitely apply to either National 4-H Conference or Congress. Colleges are looking for well-rounded students in their incoming freshman class.

If you are interested in learning more about the UMass veterinary and animal sciences department, you can check out their website at: www.umass.edu/vasci/ or if you are interested in visiting the campus, please contact Carrie Chickering-Sears at email ccsears@umext.umass.edu or phone 413-549-3257.

High School Seniors! Have You Started to Think about Scholarships?

Now that your college applications are set to go, the next step is to start applying for scholarships. Did you know that Dunkin Donuts offers scholarships as well as Big Y Supermarkets? (This applies if they are in your shopping area.) Search for scholarships if your parents are involved in professional organizations such as the Elks or Knights of Columbus, as well as professional unions. Five of the most popular sites for scholarships are: www.Fastweb.com, www.CollegeBoard.org, www.Scholarships.com, www.CollegeNet.com, and www.USAScholarships.com. If you exhibit animals, there are various breed-specific scholarships. You can check out the *Hoard's Dairyman* and National Dairy Shrine for dairy scholarships, the American Kennel Club for dogs, and beef and horse associations for their respective scholarships. The Big E fair offers various trustee scholarships to youth who have participated or exhibited at the fair. Some of your local fairs also offer scholarships to past exhibitors. The Massachusetts 4-H website is another good resource: <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/forms-applications/scholarship-application>. Remember to start your search early and check the sites regularly. Good luck!

National 4-H Dairy Conference Application

The National 4-H Dairy Conference is a leadership conference for 4-H dairy project members held in conjunction with World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wisconsin. The intended outcomes are to promote and sponsor an educational program which will provide a better understanding on the operations involved in the production, processing, marketing, and use of dairy products, as well as related areas. The conference allows youth to increase their understanding of the dairy industry, learn about vocational and professional career opportunities, and practice good citizenship and group participation.

Requirements: You must have completed 10th grade (15 years old), completed three years in the 4-H dairy project area, never attended this conference, and provided significant leadership in the dairy project at the local level. The application is online at <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/programs/animal-science-program/beef-dairy>. **Deadline is March 15, 2017.**

Congratulations to Our Blue Ribbon 4-H Members!

4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl Competes at Nationals

Trevor Clapp, Dan Clapp, Austin Norris, and Greg Norris, along with Coach Nicole Fletcher, attended the National 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl Competition in Louisville, Kentucky, in November. **The team placed 10th out of 19 teams. Congratulations!**



Congratulations to All the MA 4-H Members Who Represented MA 4-H at the Big E!

New England Center

Caroline Adam, Elizabeth Aspenwall, Isabella Belyshev, Collin Berube, Olivia Blaufuss, Meghan Connolly, Nina Dakin, Reese Dennison, Carolina DiCampo, Alex Enos, Vernon Gibbs, Dalia Goldberg, Crystal Gosiewski, Calista Hallet, Tisiphone Hallet, Alea Jalal, Liam Juergens, Sam Juergens, Hayden Kane, Julia Kane, Madison Knapp, Cole Kraus, Holly Lemay, Candace Loven, Alyssa Mackersie, Nathaniel Mallette, Gwen Mayer, Faith Motta, Hope Motta, Talia Muller, James Niall, Kate Norrish, Devin Payne, Michael Peterson, Shannon Reardon, Timmy Seale, Kaitlyn Smith, Nick Toth, Andrew Ventura, Annie Wiener, Maddie Wright, JennaRose Zawalski, Zackery Zawalski, Andrew Zeng, Anna Zeng

4-H Dog

Kaylee Anagnos, Sara Becker, Emma Brault, Jennifer Cash, Isabelle Denault, Matthew Finn, Abby Garcia, Ashley Hoyt, Alexa Lagrotteria, Alexanne Lavalley, Amy Nordahl, Isabel Pavlik, Gordon Smith, Caitlynn Tippet, Brooke Usowicz, Alyssa Wilton, Lauren Zalenski

4-H Goat

Elena Calawa, Sam Dykstra, Hannah Jutz, Aaron Kielbasa, Jodi Korzeniowski, Stephen Peterson, Monique Rocheleau, Derrick Seibold, Wyatt Seibert, Aaron Sherlin, Ashley Sherlin, Nicole Silva
Junior Leader: Gabrielle Godbout

4-H Horse

Madison Chyminski, Julia Harriman, Andrea Jernigan, Dizarre Lopez, Hannah Pomerantz, Katherine Stewart
Teen Leader: Sara Rau

4-H Sheep

Patrick Hussey, Peter Hussey

4-H Beef

Caitlyn Chernicki, Ashley DeMolles, Lily Dias, Tristan Dunn, Alayna Skyler Kelley, Annalee May, Jacquelyn May, Mirriam May, McKenzie McLarnon, Emily Mullen, Sarah Mullen, Peyton Spring, Alexis Washburn
Junior Leaders: Aliyssa Courville, Sam Dykstra

Congratulations to All the MA 4-H Members Who Represented MA 4-H at the Big E! (continued)

4-H Dairy

Lauren Adams, Sophia Apteker, Brian Belder, Daniel Clapp, Trevor Clapp, Sadie Constantine, Amanda Goodfield, Brynne Goodfield, Samantha Goodfield, Deanna Gould, Megan Howe, Monica Howe, Tiffany Howe, Sarah Jordan, Curtis Koebke, Gus Koebke, Emily Koehler, Corinne Lee, Rachel Meacham, Siobahn Moore, Barry Nadon, Dylanie Nichols, Kirbie Nichols, Austin Norris, Gregory Norris, Brian Peila, Hayden Pike, Christopher Porrovecchio, Alexis Puza, Abigail Shaw, Cynthia Shaw, Caitlin Small, Chelsea Smith, Kelley Sullivan, Chris Urgiel
Junior Leaders: Hunter Apteker, Timothy Noto, Samantha Riopelle

Dairy Teams:

Quiz Bowl: Daniel Clapp, Trevor Clapp, Austin Norris, Greg Norris

Dairy Judging:

Team A: Samantha Goodfield, Deanna Gould, Abigail Shaw, Caitlin Small

Team B: Daniel Clapp, Rachel Meacham, Austin Norris, Greg Norris

Alternates: Monica Howe, Cynthia Shaw

Coaches: Moira Poitras, Karl Hartshorn



Let's grow more #TRUELEADERS this year!

Massachusetts is working closely with National 4-H Council on the 4-H Grows Here campaign. We have access to a vast amount of marketing materials to engage alumni so they can get involved with today's programming. There are several resources available starting with the 4-H Marketing Online Resource Center (MORC library) filled with brochures, logos, public service announcements, and images you can use to advertise 4-H. If you haven't already, please take a look at the MORC library to see what you can use to advertise 4-H in your county. [Click here to go to the MORC library.](#)

Please help us gather contact information from 4-H alumni at your events. We are encouraging 4-H alumni to "share their story" on 4-H.org. This is a great opportunity to capture contact information so we can continue to communicate with 4-H alumni after the event. Make use of the alumni handouts at your next event and [check out the Alumni Toolkit.](#)

There is a webinar every month that anyone in Massachusetts can sign up for. The next webinar "Best Practices for Building the Brand via Your State and County Web Presence" is scheduled for **Wednesday, January 18, 2017, at 12 p.m.** [Click here to sign up for the webinar.](#)

Let's grow our 4-H programs in 2017! ***If you have any questions on how to get started utilizing the MORC library or promoting your program, please call us at the foundation: 508-881-1244.***



www.mass4h.org

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