

4-H Youth Development Program

4-H News



Massachusetts 4-H STATEWIDE NEWSLETTER

Spring 2017

April Is National Volunteer Month

Thank you to our 2,545 Volunteers and Collaborators!

4-H volunteers serve as club leaders, short-term program facilitators, advisory and program council members, judges, fund raisers, food booth coordinators, chaperones, coaches, and more! Through these volunteers, we were able to reach over 25,000 youth last year with positive youth development. Volunteers are the heart of the 4-H program, selflessly donating their time to support and mentor youth. Please take the time in April (and throughout the year) to thank a 4-H volunteer!

4-H Club Grant Opportunities from the MA 4-H Foundation

Be sure to check out the 4-H Foundation website for 4-H club grant and funding opportunities. All clubs requesting grant funds must have a club bank account, and checks must be payable to the 4-H Club. Go to mass4hfoundation.org/index.php/programs/grants.



Massachusetts 4-H Foundation

FOSTERING YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



Shirley Kane Memorial Golf Tournament July 18, Holden Hills Country Club, Holden, MA

The tournament in honor of longtime 4-H volunteer Shirley Kane is the foundation's largest fundraising event of the year. Please help make it a success by being a sponsor or player or by donating a raffle item. For more details, visit mass4hfoundation.org.

Calling All Photographers!

All 4-H members are encouraged to enter the State 4-H Photography Contest. Photographs taken since last July may be entered and are due to the Waltham 4-H office by **July 1**. Go to mass4h.org/forms/contest-forms and click on Photography Contest for complete guidelines and instructions.

4-H volunteer Joanne Brown is in her final year of coordinating this contest. She would like to work with a volunteer this year and train him/her to continue the contest next year. If you are interested, contact Sherrie Guyott at sguyott@umext.umass.edu.



Hands to Larger Service

Each year, 4-H clubs throughout Massachusetts conduct community service projects to benefit others. During 2016–2017, 40 clubs reported about their outreach activities in the Massachusetts 4-H Community Service Project Survey Monkey online report.

The clubs reporting indicated that 4-H members collected over 5,000 pounds of food, about \$7,000 in funds and gift cards, and provided Thanksgiving meals. Additionally, they collected cleaning supplies; food, cages, beds, and toys for animals; clothing, games, and bedding for shelters; and conducted a host of additional outreach efforts.

Many groups hold outreach activities yearly. Some of these activities include creating centerpieces for the Wreaths Across America, serving luncheon for veterans, placing flags and wreaths on veteran's graves, and working at soup kitchens. Others visited nursing homes with their small animals, created cards for residents, and led caroling sing-alongs.

The 4-H program encourages volunteering to be a part of club work. Young people involved in community service become connected to the needs of their neighborhood, town, state, and world.

Involvement in outreach helps youth members and leaders learn and practice caring, decision making, leadership, and citizenship.



Opportunity to Facilitate 4-H Impact Programs

4-H Impact programs are short-term (6–8 sessions) programs usually delivered in collaboration with libraries or community groups that serve youth. Our most popular 4-H Impact program is the 4-H Babysitters Training course. We are looking for adults who would be willing to facilitate and/or teach some of these courses; stipends are available. This would be a great opportunity for college students to earn some money during the summer. If you are interested, contact your 4-H educator for details.

4-H Summer of Science Program Expanded

4-H has an entire summer of fun, experiential science opportunities in store for members. Watch the 4-H website over this spring and summer for registration details, or contact Kim Pond for more information at kima@umext.umass.edu.

MA 4-H Participates with WPI's "Touch Tomorrow – A Festival of Science, Technology, and Robots."

Any 4-H youth and adults interested in helping with this exciting event should contact Kim Pond.

4-H Robotics: This one-day immersion program for youth **ages 8–12** will introduce them to robotics. It takes place on **June 17** at the Medway Library.

Explore UMass: Runs from **June 25 to 27** on the Amherst campus. The main tracks will be food science, movie making, veterinary science, and biology. This conference is open to 4-H'ers **ages 12–16** or in grades 7–11 for the 2017–2018 school year. Participants will stay in the dorms, eat in the dining commons, and get a taste of what life is like as a student living on the UMass campus.

4-H Car Design Competition: Happening at the Worcester County 4-H Fair on **August 25**. NEW this year will be a workshop space for building. Gravity car and battery car categories are offered, and prizes will be awarded at the fair closing ceremony.

4-H is looking for youth and adults interested in helping to develop a statewide robotics and computer science program. Kim Pond and Linda Horn will be holding some meet-and-greets across the state to gather your ideas. Contact Linda or Kim for additional information.

For more information on these events, visit our SET page on the website, like our Facebook page, or contact Kim Pond, 4-H SET liaison, at kima@umext.umass.edu.



National Youth Science Day: Incredible Wearables

The 2017 activity developed by University of Nebraska–Lincoln is a hands-on STEM project that challenges young people to build a wearable fitness tracker that will help people to lead healthier lifestyles.

To compete, youth must work together in a team to design and build a tracking device. Each 4-H office will have kits to conduct the activity this fall, so call your educator to reserve one or go to the national website for more information at 4-h.org/parents/national-youth-science-day.



Kim Pond, MA 4-H SET liaison, is working to update the old NYSD kits with new resources. If you have any old kits or resources around that you are no longer using, please return them to your local 4-H office so that we may recycle them. We would like to know what your favorite NYSD activities were. Share your memories of NYSD—we are looking for pictures, news articles, quotes, and reflections. You can submit them electronically to ma4HSET@gmail.com or mail to Kim Pond, 120 Stafford St., Suite 201, Worcester, 01603. All those that submit will be entered into a drawing for a special gift.

Applications Due May 1 for National 4-H Congress

Calling all 4-H members **ages 15–18**, do not 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 the application packet they submit. Each delegate must contribute \$300 toward the cost of the program, and the Massachusetts 4-H Foundation will cover the remainder of the cost including airfare, registration,

hotel, and most meals. Application packets are due by May 1. Don't wait, apply now! Go to ag.umass.edu/mass4h/programs/leadership/national-leadership for the application guidelines.

Beef, Dairy, Dairy Goat, and Exploring Veterinary Science Academies

Brochures will be located on the Massachusetts 4-H website at: ag.umass.edu/mass4h/programs/animal-science-program/animal-academies.

Beef & Dairy Academy – May 20 & 21

Goat Academy – May 20

Exploring Veterinary Science – June 3 & 4

4-H Dog Camp

May 19–21, Camp Farley in Mashpee

4-H Dog Show

June 17, Barnstable County Fairgrounds,
E. Falmouth

Spring brings better weather and more opportunities for 4-H dog project members to enjoy outdoor activities with their project animals. We hope you will save the dates for the State Dog Camp and Dog Show and join fellow dog project members for these exciting programs. Information about the Dog Camp and Dog Show will be posted to the 4-H website this spring. All questions should be referred to Nancy Searle at nsearle@umext.umass.edu.

Horse Program News

The State Roundup will take place on the weekend of **April 29 and 30**. Horse Bowl and Hippology will be held on the 29th at Saint Williams School in Tewksbury. Horse Judging follows on the 30th at Hillside Meadows in Grafton. Information can be found on the 4-H website's Horse page under "Contest Rules and Resources."

Any senior youth members wishing to register for Horse Project Youth of the Year can do so at Roundup prior to the start of the competition or before April 27 by emailing Meagan Welch at meaganwelch@umext.umass.edu. Youth that apply must complete 4-H records and participate in a minimum of three of the

Horse Program News *(continued)*

following four events/categories to be eligible: Hippology, Horse Judging, the State Horse Show, and Video Submission. For details and a registration form, go to the Youth of the Year section of the Horse page on the 4-H website.

The 2017 Regional 4-H Horse Show — YOU ARE INVITED!

July 7–9: Three County Fairgrounds, Northampton, MA

Open to 4-H youth from across the commonwealth and out-of-state

- Divisions for jumpers and alumni
- Special events have been planned
- Numerous awards and prizes

As soon as the show entry program is completed, it will be posted on the 4-H website on the Horse program page under Horse Events. Questions? Contact Show Manager Kelli Wainscott at kellimarie43@yahoo.com or by phone at 413-695-8343.

Tufts University Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine Adventures in Veterinary Medicine



Do you know an aspiring veterinarian? Adventures in Veterinary Medicine (AVM) is a fun and engaging career exploration program for middle and high school students interested in pursuing a veterinary career. For more information about the program, including dates, eligibility, and tuition, visit the AVM website: vetsites.tufts.edu/avm/.

UMass Livestock Classic

Saturday, April 8, 8 a.m.–2 p.m.

UMass Horse Farm, 111 North Maple Street, Hadley, MA

Each year students of the UMass Pre-Veterinary and Animal Science Club organize the Bay State Livestock Classic, founded in 1938, in which students and faculty take part in a livestock show. “The Classic” occurs in April and is open to the public. Fun, food, and activities are provided for kids of all ages. Student participants spend a good portion of the spring semester training and fitting the animals that they have chosen to show during the Classic. The event culminates with the selection of the “Premier Showperson.” We hope to see you at the Classic!

Leasing Verification Form

If you are planning to exhibit a leased animal at any of our 4-H fairs and/or the New England 4-H Show in September at the Big E, you need to complete a **4-H Verification Form** that is located online at ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/2010_livestock_verification.pdf.

Verification Forms must be turned in at your local 4-H office. Deadlines are as follows:

- **Beef/Dairy Cattle – May 1, 2017**
- **Sheep/Goats – June 1, 2017**

You must have your leader sign off on the form prior to sending it to your county 4-H educator: both leader and educator signatures are required. Remember to keep a copy of the form with your paperwork to take with you to the shows.

2017 Massachusetts Health Regulations

The Massachusetts Department of Animal Health has issued the health regulations for the exhibition of animals during the 2017 show season. The 2016 regulations are still posted but should be updated soon: mass.gov/eea/docs/agr/animal-health/docs/fair-regs-2016.pdf.

Tractor Supply Paper Clover Campaign



Since 2010, the Tractor Supply Company and national 4-H have collaborated to raise funds for 4-H through the Paper Clover Fundraising Campaign. Clubs are encouraged to host interactive displays at TSC stores in their area at any time during the year, but especially during the Paper Clover campaign. **Last fall, more than \$871,000 was raised nationally through this event: Massachusetts 4-H received \$7,341.** As required by TSC, these funds are used to support 4-H camps and leadership programs. **The spring campaign takes place April 26–May 7. Please support this campaign!**

Big E Information

Visual Presentation Big E Quality Ribbons

Youth who received a Big E Quality Ribbon at County VP Day are eligible to participate in the New England Center at the Big E, but must **first attend one of three orientation sessions offered around the state to learn about what is required. Next, they must submit all the required paperwork by July 15. Orientation sessions are scheduled for June 13, 22, and 26.** For more information, go to mass4h.org/programs/public-speaking-and-visual-presentations and click on “Big E Winner – What to Expect.”

There is no performing arts contest this year. If you wish to perform on stage at the Big E (musical instrument, sing, dance, etc.) you must **contact Sherrie Guyott to arrange for an audition by May 26.** The audition could be in the form of a video, YouTube, etc.

Big E 4-H Packets for Dairy Cattle, Dog, Goat, and Sheep

The entry packets for the Big E New England 4-H Show are online on the Big E website. They are located at thebige.com/p/competitions/4-h/380.

The Participation Health Form must also be completed and is found at [d2w7gersd1ix5b.cloudfront.net/files.asx?hx?t=fg&f=05ag4hhealthcard-1\(1\).pdf&rid=TheBigE](http://d2w7gersd1ix5b.cloudfront.net/files.asx?hx?t=fg&f=05ag4hhealthcard-1(1).pdf&rid=TheBigE).

Now is the time to start looking over the packets to prepare for the September Big E. **All participants must be at least 12 years old as of 1/1/17. This year, all exhibitors will have to set up their own online exhibitor account to enter online. The Big E will not accept any paper entries.** Exhibitor Health forms need to be sent to: Western MA 4-H Office, Attn: Carrie Chickering-Sears, 101 University Drive, Slobody Building, Suite A-4, Amherst, MA 01002.

Questions about the beef, dairy, goat, or sheep programs should be directed to Carrie Chickering-Sears at 413-549-3257 or ccsears@umext.umass.edu.

Dairy Goat Youth Planning to Attend the Big E Goat Show

Youth must complete the Massachusetts 4-H Goat Verification Form by **June 1, 2017** and the **Big E application by August 1, 2017.** The verification form is found on the Sheep and Goat page of the 4-H website.

Big E Dog Program

Questions on the New England 4-H Dog Program at the Big E should be directed to Nancy Searle at nsearle@umext.umass.edu.

Big E Dairy Program

Please note: the Big E 4-H Dairy Cattle show requires youth to first attend the State 4-H Dairy Show to be selected, since the Big E limits the number of delegates each state can send. The Massachusetts 4-H Dairy Show is August 4–6, 2017, at the Franklin County Fairgrounds in Greenfield, MA.

Youth Working Steer Program at the Big E

The show packet for the Youth Working Steer Program is located at <http://www.thebige.com/p/competitions/4-h/380>. Please contact Carrie Chickering-Sears ccsears@umext.umass.edu or 413-549-3257 for further details on the show. **Youth must be at least the age of 12 by 1/1/17 in order to participate.**



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Raise Your Hand

Spread the good news and raise money for your 4-H club with our Raise Your Hand campaign. Clubs can solicit online donors to “raise their hand” and give \$10. The donor simply types in the club name of their choice in the space provided on an online form. For each donation, the club gets \$5! 4-H’ers can share the link to the donation form by email or on social media. It’s that easy. Click the link below to go to the “Raise Your Hand” online donaton form.

form.jotform.com/70184439082154

Send a Kid to Camp

A generous donor has pledged a \$5,000 matching grant to the Massachusetts 4-H Foundation in a special campaign to raise at least \$10,000 for 4-H camperships. DONATE NOW AND DOUBLE YOUR DONATION. Every dollar goes directly to 4-H camperships to support kids going to 4-H camps. Share the link below and help us send more kids to camp this year!

mass4hfoundation.networkforgood.com/projects/26035-send-a-kid-to-camp-4-h-camp

Kent Lage Leadership Fund

A Kent Lage Leadership fund has been created in memory of Kent A. Lage, a lifelong supporter of 4-H and chairman of the foundation’s board from 2011–2016. The fund will support 4-H leadership programs. Please contact Laurie Flanagan, lflanagan@mass4hfoundation.org, for more information or to make a donation.

www.mass4h.org

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