

40th ANNUAL MASSACHUSETTS 4-H RABBIT WORKSHOP

Saturday, May 7, 2022

Registration – 9:00am-9:45am Ends at 2:00 pm
Eastern States Exposition, 1305 Memorial Avenue
West Springfield, MA- THE STROH BUILDING



This year we will **only** be accepting pre-registrations. Workshops have a limit to the number who may participate. Preference will be given based on the arrival of your registration form. You will not send in your payment but will pay the day of the event. The 4-H registration fee is seven dollars (\$7.00) per person (this fee also applies to 4-H family members).

To register - <https://forms.gle/KpP2QtKKRWym4r5o7> Deadline to register – April 25, 2022. Please make check payable to “**MA 4-H Rabbit Advisory Committee**” hand-in on the day of the event at the registration table. No telephone registrations. Youth **do not** bring their rabbits with them.

Food Services: A food truck will be on-site. Participants may choose to bring a bag lunch.

Raffle: There will be a raffle to help defray the costs of conducting this program. Each family is asked to bring a donation for the raffle (rabbit related or other). **No live animals can be used for raffle.**

4-H Items: Tshirts will be available for sale.

NO SALE OF ANIMALS IS ALLOWED IN THE BUILDING. ONLY RABBITS BEING USED IN A WORKSHOP ARE ALLOWED IN THE BUILDING.

Directions to the Eastern States Exposition – GPS – 1305 Memorial Avenue, West Springfield, MA USE GATE 1 to enter. As you enter, mention to the gate attendant that you are attending the 4-H Rabbit Workshop so you are not charged for parking. Go straight to the Mallory Complex Gate 10. Parking will be available. Then go to the Stroh Building. See map below. Watch for 4-H signs to enter the Stroh Building.



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WORKSHOP SELECTIONS

Following each workshop description there will be an abbreviation that indicates the level the workshop is suitable for. **B** = beginners, **I** = intermediates, **T** = teens and adults, **A** = suitable for all levels.

Workshops for Session A, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Basic Handling Skills: Proper handling is important for both you and your rabbit. New project members will practice safe handling. **Stephanie Thrasher (B)**

Picture Perfect: Learn how to take professional photos of your rabbits. **Michelle Lee (A)**

Rabbit Diseases: Maintaining healthy animals is a combination of appropriate care and nutrition, and awareness of diseases. This session will present information about common rabbit diseases, how to prevent them, how to spot them, how to treat them, and when to call a vet. **Margaret Delano, DVM (A)**

Rabbit Conditioning: In this workshop you'll learn the do's and don'ts of rabbit conditioning, whether you are preparing for the ARBA Convention or your local fair. Suggest to take the Feeding & Nutrition Workshop in Session B as a follow-up to this session. **Juan Perez (A)**

Coat Color Genetics Session I: You will learn about alleles, dominant vs recessive genes, agouti pattern vs. solid, tort, chin, etc. We'll delve into the science of coat color genetics, so not for the very young. Two sessions taken back to back will get you on your way to understanding what will happen if you breed that blue to a tort, and how to decide it that's what you want to do. (2 Sessions, Parts I and II) **Leslie Ardison (I & T)**

Workshops for Session B, 11:10 a.m. – 12:10 p.m.

Commercial Breeds: Learn about the often-overlooked commercial breeds, including their care and how they are shown. **Michelle Lee (A)**

Biosecurity: Learn simple steps that you can take to protect your rabbits from diseases. **Erika Hamilton, PhD (I & T)**

Cavy Diseases: Learn about common cavy diseases, how to spot them, how to treat them, and when to call a vet. **Margaret Delano, DVM. (A)**

Social Media: In this workshop you'll learn how to interact and use social media in a courteous, respectful and professional way. **Juan Perez (A)**

Therapy Bunnies: Learn what therapy rabbits do, what characteristics make a good therapy animal and how you can get involved with your bunny in a therapy program. **Diane Mas, Ph.D. (I & T)**

Coat Color Genetics Session II: See description for session I. This is a continuation. Both sessions should be taken together. We will be picking up where we left off in session I. (2 Sessions, Parts I and II) **Leslie Ardison (I & T)**

Angoras: Explore the angora breeds and learn about the care and needs of angoras. **Jackie Korzenowski (A)**

Workshops for Session C, 12:10 p.m.– 1:00 p.m.

These workshops will be in small groups to ensure hands-on experience for all youth participants. Enrollment is limited by the workshop presenter. Registered adults are welcome to attend these sessions and may assist the youth participants; however, **materials will be for youth participants.**

Showmanship Skills: Learn tips from the pros on how to prepare for showmanship contests. How you can work with your rabbit as a team to bring home the blue. **Leslie Ardison & Juan Perez (A)**

Rabbit Toys: Keep your rabbit busy and happy by providing a variety of toys that you will make. **Diane Mas (A)**

The Art of Spinning: Learn about spinning and how you can start at home. **Jackie Korzenowski (I & T)**

