

# Saline County 4-H Connection



Monthly News for Saline County 4-H Members

April/May 2024

TO MAKE THE BEST BETTER!

912 S. Commercial, Suite 4, Harrisburg, IL 62946  
618-252-8391



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*University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.*

If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in any of these programs, please contact University of Illinois Extension at 618-252-8391. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time to meet your needs.



**You MUST Re-enroll by May 1 to Participate in any of these events**



**and to exhibit in the 2024 4-H Shows.**

## Livestock Committee News

The Saline County Livestock Committee met on March 7th at 7:00 p.m. at the Extension office. Members present finalized and approved the livestock pages in the handbook, discussed judges for the summer livestock shows, and approved the July Show calendar. Members also discussed the Overall Champion and Reserve prizes and decided that the extra prizes this year for livestock exhibitors will go to the Champion and Reserve Champion Showmanship winners.

### Swine Weigh-In



The Saline County 4-H Swine Weigh-In will be held on Saturday, **April 6 at 1:00 pm** at the Fairgrounds. 4-H members enrolled in Market Swine projects who want to participate in the Swine Rate of Gain Contest should plan to attend.



**840 tags may be substituted for A tags or B tags in Swine Projects.** If they are being used in place of A tags (at weigh-in) the 840 tag must be in the animal's ear prior to weigh-in. If they are being used in place of B tags, the 840 tag must be placed in the ear and the number reported to the Extension office within 10 days of the weigh-in.

### Lamb & Meat Goat Weigh-In

The Saline County 4-H Lamb and Goat Weigh-Ins will be held on Saturday, **April 27 at 1:00 pm** at the Fairgrounds. 4-H members enrolled in Market Sheep or Market Goat projects who want to participate in the Saline County Rate of Gain Contests should plan to attend.



**Goats** - Wethers born September to February must be banded or castrated by weigh-in. March-born wethers must be banded or castrated by **June 30** and reported to the Goat Superintendent. All bucks born April to fair must show in breeding buck classes.



Youth needing help with their goat tags should call the Extension office. Goat Superintendent Nathan Feazel would be happy to assist you.

### YQCA CERTIFICATION

4-H members exhibiting **Beef Cattle, Swine, Dairy Cattle, Goats, or Sheep** are required to complete the **Youth for the Quality Care of Animals** certification (YQCA). This statewide certification must be completed annually. **Youth MUST complete this training prior to the Saline County 4-H livestock shows.** This does not apply to youth exhibiting animal or veterinary science poster projects.

**Visit: <https://www.yqcaprogram.org/>. Detailed instructions have been sent to all exhibitors.**

**We have an instructor-led training scheduled for Saturday, April 6th, at 2 pm at the Saline County Fairgrounds following the Swine Weigh-in. The training will take approximately 1 hour. You must register online for the class, pay the \$3 fee, and take the pre-test prior to April 6.**

Thank You to the Saline County Stockmen's Association for offering to reimburse the \$3 to all those who register and attend this training.

You can also register and take the online course at your convenience. Cost for that option is \$12.

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**The deadline for the YQCA Certification is June 1.**

**Additional instructor-led YQCA sessions are planned for April 27 in White County & May 4 in Hamilton County.**

## QAEC

Exhibitors of Cat, Dog, Horse, Poultry, and/or Rabbits are required to take the **Quality Assurance and Ethics Certification (QAEC)** training.

QAEC training is only required once in the member's career and is offered free of charge. QAEC has moved to ZSuite.

Families will log into Zsuite, choose the profile of the youth needing to test, select Clover Academy find the course and click Enroll. A new window will open with the course. Youth complete the introduction and then select the animal they plan to exhibit. When finished, go back to the youth's profile and it will indicate 100% complete. Youth must print certificate and bring to the Extension office. **Detailed instructions have been sent to all exhibitors who need to take this training.**

**The deadline for the QAEC certification is June 1.**



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### Horse & Pony Validation Forms Due May 1

**Saline County 4-H Horse & Pony Project Validation Forms** (along with photos of your horse if you plan to show at State Fair) will be due in to the Extension office no later than May 1. **Youth will need to fill out one copy per horse that you may possibly bring to the show.**

Horse & Pony Validation forms are available at the Extension Office. Call to request a copy.

All Exhibitors must have a completed **4-H Lifetime Release from Liability** form on file at the Extension office or have signed the form electronically in ZSuite. **Helmets are required for all 4-H Horse & Pony mounted exhibitors in or out of the show ring.**



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### Stockmen's Youth Rabbit Show & Clinic

The Saline County Stockmen's Association is sponsoring a Youth Rabbit Show & Clinic on **Saturday, May 11, 2024**, at the Saline County Fairgrounds. Registration begins at 9:30 am and the Show begins at 10 am. This show is open to all youth ages 6-19.

A flyer with the full class listing has been emailed to all youth and was posted on the 4-H Facebook page. There will be 3 placings in each class, along with awards for Best of Breed and Overall Grand and Reserve Champion. In addition, there will be giveaways and drawings for prizes.

There is no entry fee.



This is a clinic, so bring your questions for the judge. Topics covered include: Nail Trimming, Grooming, Handling, Ear Mites, Sexing Rabbits, Showmanship, and Breed Facts.

This is your opportunity to tattoo your rabbits for the Saline County 4-H Rabbit Show in July. Rabbit entries with the tattoo number are due in to the Extension Office on the Livestock Registration Sheet on Monday, May 15th.

For more information, please contact Rabbit Superintendent Jodie Vinyard at 618-499-5438.



## National Night



National Night is planned for Monday, April 22nd, beginning at 6 pm at the Fairgrounds Livestock Building.

Leaders, please call the Extension office ASAP with your club's choice of state. And let me know if you plan to do a presentation.

Clubs study a state of interest to them, may dress in costume and prepare a table display and foods from that state. Clubs who wish to compete for a State Fair ribbon will then make a 5 - 10 minute oral presentation. Federation will provide monetary prizes for the top 3 clubs making presentations.

Clubs not wishing to make a presentation may prepare a table display, foods, and/or dress in costume. These clubs will be eligible for certificates. We will sample the foods after all clubs have made their presentations and the judges have been around to all tables.

States chosen so far are Kentucky, Texas, and Wisconsin

## Handbook Cover Contest Winner

Congratulations to Hannah Wenzel! Hannah's Handbook Cover entry was chosen as the winner this year! Hannah is a member of Pleasant Valley Go-Getters 4-H Club. Her entry will be the cover of our 2023-24 Saline County 4-H Handbook and she will receive recognition and a monetary award at Achievement Night.

Jayne Whitlock of the Lads & Lassies 4-H Club had the Honorable Mention entry this year. Her entry will be featured on the inside back cover of the handbook.

Congratulations to Hannah and Jaynee! And thanks to all who entered the contest.

**Handbooks will be available anytime after April 1st at the Extension office. We have printed one per family. Leaders are encouraged to pick up handbooks for their club members now.**



## Emerald Experience Award

Big Congratulations to Wyatt Arnold and Rachel Lands. They were honored in March at the Unit 24 Experience Awards Banquet at the Big Red Barn in McLeansboro. Wyatt earned the Emerald Clover level in Project Learning, and Rachel earned the Emerald Clover level in Leadership.

17 4-H members from Hamilton, Saline, and White counties reached Emerald status, and each received a certificate, a 4-H engraved cup, and a personalized travel chair.

Congratulations!



# Federation News

The Saline County 4-H Federation held a short business meeting on Monday, March 4, 2024 at the Eldorado Elementary Gym before the 4-H Rally. We discussed the success of Cosmic Bowling and the School Supply Community Service and made plans for National Night. Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 22nd at 4:30 pm at the Livestock Building prior to National Night.

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## Management Committee News

Saline County 4-H Management Committee met on Monday, March 18, 2024.

The committee heard reports from Federation and the Livestock Committee. Members present approved the 2023-24 4-H Handbook, including the Livestock changes, and the July Show Calendar.

The next meeting of the 4-H Management Committee is scheduled for Monday, June 17 at 8:00 pm.

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**\*\*\*Additional Livestock Registration Sheets are available at the Extension Office.\*\*\***

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## Saline County Farm Bureau 2024 4-H Project Grant



The Saline County Farm Bureau is offering 4-H Project Grants again this year. All 4-H members ages 8-14 are eligible to apply.

This grant program is designed to provide financial support to younger 4-H members to purchase materials needed to complete a successful 4-H project.

Grants will be awarded in amounts ranging from a minimum of \$25 - \$100. There is a limit of one grant per 4-H member per year.

Applications were emailed to all eligible youth, and additional copies are available at the Extension Office. Youth must have completed their enrollment in 4-H in order to be eligible. Applications are due by May 1, 2024 and must be signed by the 4-H Club Leader and a parent/guardian. All purchases must be made prior to exhibition at a Saline County 4-H Show, and receipts and a photo of items purchased must be submitted no later than July 1, 2024.

We encourage youth to apply for a project grant. It could be a great help with your project expenses.

Return completed grant applications to: Saline County Farm Bureau | 21 W Robinson St | PO Box 423 | Harrisburg, IL 62946

**THANK YOU SALINE COUNTY FARM BUREAU!!!!**



**LIVESTOCK FITTING WORKSHOP**  
Sponsored By The Enfield Blue Ribbon 4-H Club

April 27, 2024  
Time: 9:00 am Rabbits - 10:00am Fitting  
White County Fairgrounds  
4-H Livestock Barn

A fitting workshop where you will learn how to present your animal at your local 4-H fair/show.  
Davonne Long will talk cattle.  
Illinois 4-H Livestock Ambassador, Remington Curry will talk sheep, goats, and pigs.  
In-person YQCA will take place during the workshop.

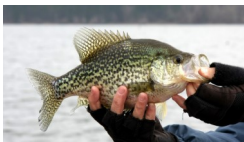
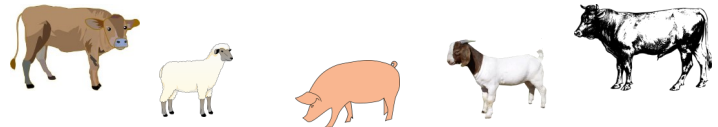
If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in any of these programs, please contact the Holly Healy (618)713-5990 or Karen McKinney (618)384-8293.

## Livestock Skill-a-thon & YQCA Hamilton Co.

The annual Multi-County Livestock Skill-a-thon along with an instructor-led YQCA training will be held on Saturday, May 4 at the Hamilton County Extension office. The event will start at 9 am.

Youth will participate in Livestock Equipment ID and Feed ID competitions. All youth in attendance will complete their YQCA training. But you **MUST** pre-register at: <https://www.yqcaprogram.org/>, pay \$3 online when you register, and take the pre-test before May 4th.

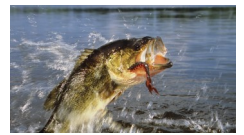
Call the Extension office if you plan to attend.



## Go Fish! The 2024 Illinois 4-H Hooks Us Together Fishing Tournament Is On!

It's time once again for the Illinois 4-H Hooks Us Together Fishing Tournament. And there are three months of challenges. April 1-30, Crappie; May 1-31, Largemouth Bass; and June 1-30, Channel Catfish.

This contest is open to all 4-H members from Illinois, but to win prizes these requirements must be met: Youth must be a current year Illinois 4-H member and enrolled in a 4-H Sportsfishing project; AND, All Illinois Department of Natural Resources fishing regulations must be followed. Gift certificate prizes will be awarded for the longest fish each month.



What to Do: You will need a smartphone to take a picture of your catch! In the picture, you must clearly show the length of the fish in inches (take a picture of the fish with a tape measure for proof). Then you'll submit your entries through this link: <https://go.illinois.edu/fish4H>

If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate, please contact Curtis Sinclair at: [sinclair@illinois.edu](mailto:sinclair@illinois.edu).

**All 4-H members and Cloverbuds must register in Fair Entry between April 1 and June 1 to let us know exactly what exhibits you will be bringing to the Summer 4-H shows. Registration instructions will be emailed soon to all active families. New 4-H families will need to set up an account in Fair Entry.**



## Saline County Illinois 4-H Facebook Page



Look for our Saline County Illinois 4-H page and request to join the closed group. I will keep the page updated with photos, meetings and events notices, and information to help you during the 4-H year.

## Volunteer Café Conversations

The Illinois 4-H Volunteerism Work Group is excited to bring you multiple opportunities this Spring for you to participate in Volunteer Training and Café Conversations! This is a great opportunity for you to strengthen your skills as a volunteer; gain a greater understanding of how to support positive learning experiences for youth; and to engage in conversations with volunteers across the State. We also see this as a great learning opportunity to encourage teens serving in leadership roles and/or as 4-H Club Officers to participate in since many of the topics provide content that will support them in their leadership roles. Encourage you teens to register!

Each virtual session runs from 7:00 - 8:15 pm. The dates and topics, along with registration links, are:

April 18: Stick to the Code! The Code of Conduct Creates an Environment Where Youth Thrive! <https://extension.illinois.edu/events/2024-04-18-virtual-4-h-cafe-conversation-stick-code-code-conduct-creates-environment-where>

May 9: School's Out for the Summer – Share Strategies to Keep Kids Engaged! <https://extension.illinois.edu/events/2024-05-09-virtual-4-h-cafe-conversation-schools-out-summer-share-strategies-keep-kids>

June 6: Sneak Peek at the New Extension Volunteer Website & Moodle Course Training Opportunities! <https://extension.illinois.edu/events/2024-06-06-virtual-4-h-cafe-conversation-sneak-peek-new-extension-volunteer-website-moodle>

Use the unique link provided with each Volunteer & Teen Leader/Club Officer learning experience to register in Zsuite – once you sign in you should be taken directly to the event registration page!

If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate, please contact Patricia C. McGlaughlin at: [patm@illinois.edu](mailto:patm@illinois.edu)

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## Mark Your Calendars - Southern Region 4-H Showcase at the Du Quoin State Fair



A Southern Region 4-H Showcase exhibition opportunity is planned at the Du Quoin State Fair and will be open to all 4-Hers in the lower 49 counties.

While this additional showing opportunity will not pay out Premiums, there will be Rosettes for General Projects and Banners for Livestock.

Registration for the event opened March 1 and will close on August 1.

General Projects show will be Saturday, August 17 (the Saturday before the Du Quoin State Fair starts). 4-H Exhibitors may enter a maximum of 3 projects and will be able to keep their project(s) up through the end of the Fair.

The Goat and Sheep Shows as well as the Swine Weigh-in will be held on Friday, August 23.

The Beef, Dairy, and Swine Shows will be held on Saturday, August 24.

The Department of Ag has waived the 72-hour rule for this event. There will be a \$5 stalling fee per animal.

Parking is free the first night. There will be \$10 parking the second night.

Southern Region 4H Showcase Showbook – [go.illinois.edu/RegionalShowbook](http://go.illinois.edu/RegionalShowbook)

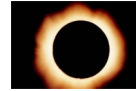
Southern Region 4H Showcase Registration – [go.illinois.edu/RegionalShowcase](http://go.illinois.edu/RegionalShowcase)

# 4-H CALENDAR



## April 2024

- 6 - Southern Region 4-H Horse Bowl/Hippology Contest, SIU-C
- 6 - Swine Weigh-in, 1pm, Fairgrounds - Instructor-led YQCA Training to follow at 2 pm
- 8 - Total Solar Eclipse - approximately 1:59 - 2:03 pm
- 22 - Federation Meeting, 4:30 pm, Fairgrounds Livestock Building
- 22 - Saline County 4-H National Night, 6 pm, Fairgrounds Livestock Building
- 27 - Livestock Fitting Clinic and Instructor-Led YQCA Training, 9 am, White Co. Fairgrounds
- 27 - Lamb/Goat Weigh-in, 1 pm, Fairgrounds
- 30 - First Dog Obedience Class at Cheri White's, 6 pm & 7 pm



## May 2024

- 1 - Last day to enroll in 4-H and in a project to exhibit at a 2024 Saline Co. 4-H Show. Horse Validation forms due.
- 1 - Farm Bureau Project Grant applications due
- 4 - Livestock Skill-a-thon and YQCA Instructor-Led Training, 9 am, Hamilton Co.
- 7, 14, 21, 28 - Dog Obedience class, 6 pm & 7 pm, Cheri's shop
- 11 - Stockmen's' Rabbit Clinic and Tattooing opportunity, 9:30 am, Fairgrounds
- 12 - Happy Mother's Day to our 4-H Moms! We appreciate you!
- 15 - Livestock Registration forms due by this date to the Extension office - all Breeding and Market animals.
- 27 - Memorial Day - Extension office closed.



## June 2024

- 1 - QAEC and YQCA must be completed by this date. Last day to drop a project. Fair Entry Registrations due.
- 4, 12, 18 - Dog Obedience Class, 6 pm & 7 pm, Cheri's Shop
- 6 - Livestock Committee Meeting, 8 pm, Extension office
- 15 - Small Pets Forms due
- 16 - Happy Father's Day to our 4-H Dads! We appreciate you!
- 17 - Management Committee Meeting, 8 pm, Extension office
- 19 - Juneteenth - Extension office closed.



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912 S. Commercial St., Suite 4

Harrisburg, IL 62946





Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2024 SALINE COUNTY 4-H LIVESTOCK REGISTRATION SHEET

Exhibitors of Cattle, Dairy, Swine, Sheep, Goats and Rabbits **must have** the following information filled out and returned to the University of Illinois Extension office by **May 15** of each year. (including Rate of Gain and Non Rate of Gain Market Animals.)

All Market Animals (including beef, goats, sheep, and swine) not weighed in and tattooed at weigh-ins must be tattooed (or ear-tagged/notched if swine) and reported to the office **within 10 days** of the weigh-in.

**All Breeding and Market Animals must be reported on this sheet.**

**Please separate or clearly indicate Breeding or Market.**

Species (cattle, sheep, swine, goat, rabbit)	Breed (and Registration Number if Registered Purebred)	Birth Date of Animal	Sex of Ani- mal	Tattoo, Tag, or Ear Notch Number

My 4-H animal project(s) will be kept at the following address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I understand that I am responsible for the care and feeding of my animal project(s).



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

**Return to the Extension Office no later than MAY 15.**  
**Projects not entered by May 15 will NOT be allowed**  
**to sell in the Livestock Auction.**