Calendar of events  *(Dates are tentative and subject to change)*

**April**
- **1**  Livestock Judging Team @ Joliet Jr. College
- **6**  Livestock Judging Team @ Lincoln Land Jr. College
- **11**  Rabbit Workshop from 5:30 - 7:00 PM at the Lawrence County Fairgrounds
- **15**  Farm Bureau Grants and Scholarships are due to the Farm Bureau Office
- **19**  Allendale Twisters and Sprouts meeting at 6 PM
- **22**  Hi-Flyers meeting and community service day at 9 AM
- **22**  Richland County Passport to the World—1-3 PM
- **24**  Town and Country meeting at 6 PM

**May**
- **6**  YQCA Training 10:00 am @ Extension office

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**STATE FAIR NEWS**

- **Jr. Show entries /nominations**—All livestock entry papers will need to be signed by County Extension Staff before the exhibitor mails entry forms to State Fair Entry Office.
- **Horses**—Ownership, Lease papers, & pictures are due to the State by June 1, 2022. The County office needs this information by May 24th!!
Important Reminders:

- Every 4-H’er will be required to attend FOUR 4-H meetings this year, by July 1, in order to show at the fair. This can be club meetings or workshops that the extension office hosts.

Quality Assurance and Ethic Certification (QAEC)

All 4-H members enrolled in horses, poultry, rabbits, dogs & cats MUST complete online QAEC to show at Fair. This is a ONE TIME certification and is valid your entire 4-H career. You only need to take QAEC in one livestock area regardless of the number of livestock projects you are enrolled in. All new members enrolled in these projects and or any members who have not taken it before. The deadline to complete QAEC is JUNE 1. You can find the online training at: http://web.extension.illinois.edu/qaec. Please remember to print a copy of your certificate for your records. If you have trouble or questions, please call the Extension Office.

Off-Premise Form

- In certain instances, members may keep their livestock on property other than their own. The member is required to submit a livestock Off-Premises Form to the Extension office for approval (including horses). This form will indicate where the animal is being kept and must be signed by the 4-H member, the member's parent, the property owner, the 4-H club leader, and an Extension 4-H staff person. As noted on the form, the 4-H member is responsible for the daily care and feeding of his or her animal project. This form must be submitted to the extension office by June 1st, 2023. Go to https://go.illinois.edu/WabashOffPresmisesForm or you can contact the office to get a copy.

CHANGE OF DATE!

Saturday, May 6 @ 10:00 AM
At the Extension Office

YQCA is a training that is required by the state for all 4-H’ers who are exhibiting beef cattle, dairy cattle, swine, sheep, or goats. You are required to take this training each year. YOU MUST REGISTER TO ATTEND THE TRAINING! Create a new account, do not use your previous username/password. Go to https://yqcaprogram.org.
Illinois 4-H will celebrate the more than 11,000 4-H adult volunteers supporting and guiding 4-H members during National Volunteer Week, April 16 – 22. 4-H volunteers are the caring adults who are empowering and preparing youth for success as 4-H members provide service to others and in their communities. Today’s 4-H youth are engaged in diverse learning experiences where they practice skills employers want; grow and distribute food to communities in need; steward our natural resources; identify local issues and initiate positive change in local, state, national, and global issues; and they make and influence positive choices for healthy living. All of these things happen because of engaged volunteers in local communities.

In Wabash County, we are thankful for our volunteers who inspire youth involved in local 4-H programs.

### Wabash County Farm Bureau Foundation

**4-H Grants & Scholarships**

**Deadline is April 15**

**SCHOLARSHIPS -**

**WHO:** MCHS seniors and graduates.

**WHAT:** One $2,000 and one $1000 scholarships will be awarded to those pursuing a degree in agriculture.

**NEW!** This year, a $1000 scholarship to high school seniors studying ag or non-ag degrees.

**WHEN:** Application must be submitted to the Farm Bureau by April 15, 2023

For more information or to get a link to the application form, contact the Wabash County Farm Bureau at 618-262-5865 or email wabashcountyfb@gmail.com.

**PROJECT GRANTS -**

**WHO:** Wabash County 4-H members, age 8-12

**WHAT:** Grants ranging from $25 to $100 to assist with project expenses

**WHEN:** Application must be submitted to the Farm Bureau by April 15, 2023

If you have questions or want an application, check with your Club Leader or stop by the Wabash County Extension Office.
Registration for Fair

We are still working to get approval from the State for our Showbook. As soon as we have the approval, we will print it and have it ready for you.

*All Fair Entries will be done On-Line Again This Year*

4-H Fair entries will be done online by the 4-H Families.

Starting May 1st you can go online to:

http://wabash4-hfair.fairentry.com

All entries must be complete by June 1st. All 4-H members will receive an instruction sheet in soon!

Livestock Judging Team

The Livestock Judging Team had a fantastic second outing at the Lake Land College contest! Competing against 266 individuals and 84 teams in our division, we came away with 3rd High Overall Team, High Team Cattle, 2nd High Team Pigs; Gage Kennard was 2nd High Overall Individual and Mackenzie Gaither was 2nd High Individual Cattle. Congratulations Team! Our next competition will be April 1st at Joliet.
2023 Edwards & Wabash County Farm Bureau Young Leaders — 4-H Food Drive Challenge

Edwards & Wabash County 4-H club members connect with their family, friends, neighbors, and fellow 4-Hers to collect cereal and canned vegetables for local food pantries. More information will be given to clubs at the March and April meetings. Check with your club leaders for more information.

**Goal:** To supply both the WADI facilities in Edwards & Wabash County Counties food pantries each with over 150 boxes of cereal and over 300 cans of canned vegetables

**Collection Time Frame:** May 1, 2023 until June 15, 2023

**How It Works:** Edwards & Wabash County 4-H club members connect with their family, friends, neighbors, and fellow 4-Hers to collect cereal and canned vegetables for local food pantries.

**Prizes:**

1. Clubs that collect at least 1 box of cereal and 2 cans of canned vegetables per 2022-2023 registered 4-H general membership (without Cloverbuds) **will earn their 4-H club $100** (Every Edwards & Wabash County 4-H Club could earn $100)!

2. The club in each county that collects the most items per 2022-2023 registered 4-H general membership (without Cloverbuds) will earn their club a pizza and bowling party.

3. If the total of all items collected, by all clubs in each county, is equal to or more than 3 items per 2022-2023 registered 4-H general membership (without Cloverbuds) of that county, the respective county Farm Bureau Young Leaders will match the number of items donated, with similar items, (therefore doubling the number of donated items).

4. The county 4-H program that collects the most items per registered 4-H general membership (without Cloverbuds), **all 4-Hers in the winning county will be served an ice cream treat by the losing county, and representatives from the losing county Farm Bureau will be pied in the face.** The pieing and ice cream will be done during the respective county’s fair activities and be taped for all to see!

5. If over 1,500 items are collected cumulatively by both county 4-H programs, Tara Buerster (Extension County Director) will be pied in the face TWICE! One time in each county, sometime during fair activities.

**Other Information:**

- Items can be dropped off at the County Farm Bureau office in the county where the 4-H club is located on or before June 15, 2023.
- When dropping items off, indicate what club they are for.
- Staff of the Farm Bureau office will keep track of how much has been dropped off for each club.
- Results tabulated, and announcement of the winners on or before July 1, 2023.
RICHLAND COUNTY: 4-H PASSPORT TO THE WORLD

SATURDAY, APRIL 22 - 1:00 - 3:00 pm - Trinity Lutheran Church in Olney, IL This event is open to 4-H and non 4-H members.

Joins the Richland County 4-H Clubs in learning about foreign countries as part of the people-to-people 4-H intercultural emphasis. Attending the event you will be able to experience some of the excitement, flavor, and agriculture importance of each foreign country.

RICHLAND COUNTY: HORSE WORKSHOPS

FIRST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH - April, May, June and July—1-3 PM at the White Squirrel Saddle Club in Olney, IL This event is open to 4-H members.

Workshops will be taught by our Richland County Horse Superintendent, Katrina Williams. For more information and if you plan to attend, please contact Katrina at 618-599-6193.

LAWRENCE COUNTY: RABBIT WORKSHOP

TUESDAY, APRIL 11 - 5:30 - 7:00 pm - Lawrence County Fairgrounds Show Arena at 1100 N, Sumner, IL 62466. This event is open to all 4-H members age 8-18 New to the rabbit project or just want to learn more? Make sure to join Lawrence County 4-H for this exciting workshop taught by an industry professional! Learn all things from feeding to grooming to showmanship skills!

Register here 👈 https://go.illinois.edu/lawrencerabbitworkshop
Contact Maisie McClure if you have questions— (618) 943-5018 or maisie@illinois.edu
**4-H Outdoor Skills Challenge returns for 2023!**

Ready to challenge yourself and then prove it to your 4-H Leader or another trusted adult? You could teach them a thing or two! Learn these skill levels and compete for some great prizes that will help you enjoy the outdoors!

[https://go.illinois.edu/4-HOutdoorSkillsChallenge](https://go.illinois.edu/4-HOutdoorSkillsChallenge)

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**4-H Memorial Camp- Summer Youth Camp**

2023 4-H Camp registration is open for members (with open registration starting February 6)!

Register at: [https://go.illinois.edu/4HCamp2023](https://go.illinois.edu/4HCamp2023)

Youth age 8-16 (actual age) can attend camp in Monticello during the following sessions:

- June 4-8
- June 11-15
- June 25-29
- June 30- July 4

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**Save the date! Illinois Summer Academies will be back June 25-29 on the UIUC campus!**

Participants attend academy sessions led by university professors and enjoy a variety of engaging activities that provide a taste of just how cool college life can be. Imagine getting to work alongside university professors while you’re still in HIGH SCHOOL! Imagine spending four days with kids your age from all across Illinois. That’s what happens at Illini Summer Academies, so stop imagining it and just do it! This program offers teens the opportunity to explore various degree programs of University of Illinois and learn of potential careers associated with those degrees. Stay tuned for registration in the spring of 2023.
4-H members and clubs continue to demonstrate they are True Leaders in Service, as they work to support both their personal and club goals of making a difference in their community while focusing on the 4th “H” and pledging their HANDS to larger service!

Please share your story of how you and/or your club are supporting your community by going to the Illinois 4-H website’s Community Service page, https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/participate/4-h-community-service. To be identified as having participated in the National 4-H Day of Service, you first must click on the “Register You 2023 Event” box and share your plan for positively impacting your community. Once you have completed your service outreach efforts, then be sure to go back to the webpage use click the “Report 2023 Community Service” box and report what you accomplished and how you and your club made a difference. The accomplishments of both individual members and clubs will be highlighted on the Illinois 4-H Website so make sure you go use the reporting link to document your positive efforts. Please note – this site is open year-round so if you do multiple projects throughout the year, please continue to share that information both on the registration side and on the reporting side. The impact made by individual 4-H members and by clubs in their communities is valuable. It makes Illinois communities stronger; it helps support unity among community members; and it provides valuable support to those in need.

**Tell Your 4-H Story – Join the Speaking for Illinois 4-H Team**

We’re looking for 4-H members interested in spreading the great news about 4-H. 4-H members 14 years of age or older can join the Speaking for Illinois 4-H team. There will be a virtual training offered on Monday, April 10.

This virtual training, provided by the Illinois State 4-H Youth Leadership Team, gives you the chance to explore your own 4-H history and why you are involved, put that story into words, and learn the best ways to approach donors, civic groups, elected officials, and others to talk about 4-H. Learn why 4-H believes in Positive Youth Development and how we emphasize the essential elements of Belonging, Independence, Generosity and Mastery. All of this – and more – is a part of Speaking for Illinois 4-H! Once you’re trained, you’ll receive an invitation to be a part of our Legislative Connection events.

Registration is open NOW at https://4h.zsuite.org/event-registrations/20152. Registration will close April 7.
You’re Invited! Celebrate AG DAY at the Illinois State Fair

From corndogs and champions to fellowship and funnel cakes, the Illinois Department of Agriculture invites all active Illinois FFA members to celebrate agriculture with us. This year, Agriculture Day will be held on Friday, August 11. This move allows more of our youth exhibitors and their families to join us for this annual celebration on the state fairgrounds in Springfield. As a special treat, the Illinois State Fair is offering all Illinois 4-H and Illinois FFA members an exclusive opportunity to purchase tickets to this year’s Ag Day concert before the general public!

This year’s Ag Day concert will feature award-winning country music superstars OLD DOMINION.

This is a **two day sale** – so time is limited. Here’s what you need to know:

When: Pre-Sale starts 3/28 at 10am
Promo Code: AGDAY
Note: Sale ends 3/29 at 10pm

Get your tackle ready! The 2023 **4-H Hooks-Us-Together Statewide Fishing Tournament** will run from April 1 – June, 30 2023. Details on how to register coming later this month!

- **April** – Crappie State 4-H Tournament
- **May** – Largemouth Bass 4-H State Tournament
- **June** – Channel Catfish 4-H State Tournament

Where could a Career & Leadership 4-H Pathway take you?

To the Youth Leadership Team, to Teen Teacher training, to national conferences ... and that's just a start! Make goals, set your pathway for 2023, and explore everything 4-H has to offer using our Find Your Spark Guide at go.illinois.edu/LetsSparkSomething or contact your local Extension Office to learn more!
Illinois 4-H

Become an IL 4-H Influencer
Are you ready to try a social media career on for size? Applications are open for the NEW Illinois 4-H Influencers!

On this team, you will receive university-level social media management training as you get hands-on experiences and portfolio pieces for college/future careers in this awards-eligible statewide leadership team. You'll also strengthen your communications and marketing experiences ahead of college, award, and job applications. Apply here: go.illinois.edu/IL4HInfluencers

Illinois RiverWatch Network
Looking for a serious citizen science project with your 4-H Club? The Illinois 4-H Foundation will fund your training with the Illinois RiverWatch Network (a $40 value) for the first 20 members. Learn more about when and where training sessions will be in 2023 at: http://www.ngrrec.org/Riverwatch/

Save the Date for
Explore 4-H: Child Development
Are you ready to help shape the next generation? Learn about careers in the child development field while you learn best practices for caring and working with children in our upcoming virtual webinar on May 11 from 6pm-7pm. In just an hour you can grow your understanding on how kids grow while you learn safe ways to care for children, including making appropriate games and toys to engage youth of different ages. Ready to start exploring? Watch for registration info coming soon!

This webinar is part of the Explore 4-H series which consists of virtual statewide experiences for 4-H members to learn more about different areas of interest.