To Make the Best BETTER

May
1 Fair Entry Opens
1 Edwards County 4-H Cereal and Canned Vegetable Food Drive Begins
1 Dog Obedience at the Arena at 6:30 p.m.
1 Registration opens for Unit Tractor Driving Contest
8 Dog Obedience at the Arena at 6:30 p.m.
9 Bone Gap Cardinals Meeting Christian Church 6:30 p.m.
13 4-H Project Yard Sale 8:00 a.m.—noon COUNTRY Financial Hall
13 Gardening Workshop Tag-A-Longs 9:00-11:00 a.m.
15 Dog Obedience at the Arena at 6:30 p.m.
16 Blue Ribbon Meeting 6:00 p.m. at COUNTRY Financial Hall
17 Yankee Meeting 7:00 p.m. at Moravian Church
22 Dog Obedience at the Arena at 6:30 p.m.
24 Ellery Panthers Meeting LPCC 6:00 p.m.
27 Shooting Sports Mtg./Shoot 8:00 a.m. at Sportsmen’s Club
29 Dog Obedience at the Arena 6:30 p.m.
Little Wabash Ramblers TBA

June
1 QAEC & YQCA Deadline!!!
1 Fair Entry Deadline
1 Lease Papers Due
1 Off Premise Forms Due
19 Food & Clothing Show Reg. 5:00 p.m. Judging 5:30 p.m.

ATTENTION!!! You should have received in the mail instructions on how to register your projects for fair. With this online system, you can sign up day or night! Deadline is June 1st.
Do Not Wait till the Last Minute to do this!
Youth Auction Check Change

We will be making a change this year on when Youth Auction checks will be distributed. They will be available on Friday morning when youth come to move their animals home and clean-up their livestock areas. Debra will be there to hand out checks at that time. Any checks that are not picked up during this time, can be picked up at the Extension office at their convenience. This change is being implemented due to make sure all checks are together for everyone. With the addition of the add-ons last year, there were more checks, than just from the buyers. We want to make sure everything is in order before distributing the checks.

Register at: https://go.illinois.edu/edwardscloverbudgardening

Unit #25 Showmanship Clinic in Wabash County

June 24, is the date for the Unit Showmanship Clinic. Mark your calendars! It will be held at Mable A. Courter Youth Center (Wabash County Fairgrounds).

More information will be made available soon!
4-H Changes
A few changes have been made for the upcoming 2023 Edwards 4-H Fair that families need to be aware of, on the livestock portion of shows.

**Master Showmanship Contest Rule Changes**

- The winners of the senior showmanship division for beef, swine, sheep, and goats will be eligible to participate. If the winner chooses not to participate, the reserve showman for that species will be asked to participate. There will be no 2nd alternates selected.

- A 4-H member who qualifies for this contest in more than one species must represent the species that they are exhibiting the largest number of entries in, assuming they want to move up to Master Showmanship competition. The second place winner of the species not selected will be asked to participate.

- Each participant will be responsible for selecting their own animals for the competition. They may use their own 4-H animals, they have shown or use other 4-H members animals. If assistance is needed by an individual in getting a specific specie(s), the Chairperson of each specie will be available for assistance.

**General Rule Change**

- In order for a 4-H member to participate in showmanship classes, they must use an animal they have entered and shown in the specific specie show.

**Livestock Departure Times**

Due to safety issues we are asking that the moving of livestock, from the fairgrounds be done at these times.

- Animals not in the auction will be allowed to be moved between the hours of noon and 4:00 p.m. on August 3.
- Animals that go through the Auction will need to stay on the grounds until 6:00 a.m., Friday August 4th.
  If a family has a reason for leaving grounds early, with their livestock, they need permission from Fair Board President Neil Fearn and the Chairperson of the species. 
  **Please park trailers in an area that will leave more space for Auction Buyers!**
Sing the National Anthem at State Fair! We’d love to hear your voice on the stage representing Illinois 4-H this August. To be considered, please submit your information and a 30 - 60 second singing audition clip using this link: https://go.illinois.edu/StateFairAnthem Please submit by June 15, 2023 and a panel of judges will make a final decision on the winner the following week. Event Details: Need to be available the morning of August 11th, 2023 with transportation to the State Fair Grounds in Springfield. Specific timing details to follow. Must be a 4-H Teen Leader Camp

Teen Leader Camp

Ready for the ultimate cool summer camp?

Illinois 4-H Leadership Camp is an opportunity for 9th-12th graders to participate in a variety of activities designed to help them understand the fundamentals of leadership, practice effective communication, work as a team, and become self-confident and motivated individuals. And it's all happening July 6-8!

PLUS youth will experience everything they love about camp like swimming, hiking, campfires and more at 4-H Memorial Camp in Monticello!

Register by 6/1 when you head to go.illinois.edu/4HTeenCamp member to audition.

4-H By the Decades

4-H BY THE DECADES 2011 – Present
Tuesday, May 23, 2023

We are seeking Illinois 4-H History from our 4-H alumni by the decades! Join us to visit about how 4-H impacted your life during the 2000s growing up in the Illinois 4-H program. We will also be seeking photos of special memories, mementos, and awards of each decade to share on a new Illinois 4-H History website to be developed. Share with us your 4-H story!

Register by Friday, May 19 - https://www.jotform.com/build/230640732381147
The link will be sent to registered attendees on Monday, May 22.
Sponsored by the Illinois 4-H Alumni Association
Leases on Animals

If you plan to lease an animal be sure to have a written agreement with both parties involved. Also, drop a copy by the Extension office by June 1. Anyone needing a basic lease form may stop at the office to receive one or look on the website!

Off Premise Forms

Off Premise forms are due to the office by June 1, 2023. You only need one of these if you have animals and they are not located on your own property. Stop in the office to pickup a form or go to the Extension website under Edwards Co. forms. Thanks!

Congratulations to all of our 4-H 8th Grade & Senior Graduates!

Dog Obedience Classes

Dog obedience classes are starting. They are being held on Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m. at the 4-H arena.

State Fair Jr Shows

Be sure to read complete rules and regulations for State Fair Jr. entries. The 2023 Illinois State Fair Premium Book is posted to the State Fair website: https://www2.illinois.gov/statefair/competitions/premium-books/Pages/default.aspx

Again this year Jr. Show Entries for the 2023 Illinois State Fair may be sent directly to the Entry Department by the Exhibitor. Again this year a signature is required to verify your 4-H status. Stop by the Extension office to have your entry form signed before you mail it. Entries must be postmarked by July 1.

QAEC Still Needed

We still have a few that must complete the QAEC by the deadline of June 1st! This is an absolute date and it is your responsibility to do this. This rule applies to 4-H members who exhibit live animals and poster exhibits. It is a one time certification! Training is at: http://web.extension.illinois.edu/qaec

Project Grant Winners

If you were a project grant winner, please send a picture of yourself and what you purchased to Edwards County Farm Bureau. The pictures can be emailed to Rebecca Perry at mangerecfb@gmail.com

YQCA Certification

If you haven’t completed YQCA and you want an instructor led training call the office @ 618-445-2934. Deadline is June 1!
Goal Sheets/Livestock Records

You should have received goal sheets and livestock records, at your club meeting. You can also, find them on the Edwards Co. Extension website, ZSuite website or stop by the office.

If members and families have questions about goal sheets or livestock records, be sure to call the office or ask your leader for help. Goal sheets will need to be completed and brought to the shows with your project. Livestock records will need to be completed and turned in at Fair Clean-up.

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/4HOutdoorSkillsChallenge

4-H Hooks - Us Together

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 participate are here: https://go.illinois.edu/4HFishingTourney2023

April - Crappie State 4-H Tournament

May - Largemouth Bass 4-H State Tournament

June - Channel Catfish 4-H State Tournament

Little Roots Gardening

Little Roots Gardening will be starting soon. Participants will be receiving radish, pumpkin, sunflower, zinnia and basil seeds. They will also be receiving a tomato and pepper plant to transplant. Be watching Edwards County Facebook this spring and summer to watch the progression of their gardens!
Unit 25 Tractor Driving Contest

Saturday, June 10, 2023
8:00 AM
Edwards County Fairgrounds

Registration May 1-26
Tractor Safety Test May 27-June 7
Driving Times will be assigned and sent out to participants by June 1.

To register go to:
go.illinois.edu/tractordrivingcontest
or scan the QR code below!

Registration Closes: May 26, 2023
Edwards and Wabash County Farm Bureau Young Leaders host:

Help your local 4-H Club by donating cereal or canned vegetables

COLLECTION FROM MAY 1 – JUNE 15

Ask a 4-H member, Club Leader, or the Extension office for more details