

University of Illinois  
Extension  
Richland County  
305 S. Fair  
Olney, IL 62450  
Phone: 618-395-2191

Office Hours:  
Monday-Friday  
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Closed 12 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.


## Extension Staff:

Tara Buerster  
County Extension Director

Samantha Gaither  
4-H Youth  
Development Educator

vacant  
4-H Program Coordinator

Sheri Pitts  
Office Support Assistant

Find us on   
Richland County Illinois 4-H



## Calendar of Events

### December

- 11 Spark at the Library
- 16 Project book order deadline
- 19 Office Closed - Staff Meeting
- 24-Jan 1 Office Closed - Holiday Break
- 31 Re-enrollment deadline

### January

- 4 Shooting Sports meeting 8am Lawrence Co. 4-H Bldg.
- 8 Spark at the Library
- 20 Office Closed - MLK Day
- 23 Sewing Workshop
- 25 New Member Workshop

### February

- 1 Beef Weigh-in Road Rally

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Beef weigh-in for Richland County will be Saturday, February 1 at 8:00 A.M. at the Richland County Fair Grounds. The electronic 840 tags you need for all Beef market animals will be supplied that day.



## NEW MEMBER WORKSHOP

**Come make a pillowcase  
with us.**



There will be a sewing workshop on Thursday, January 23 at 2:30 at the Extension Office. We will be making a pillowcase. Please watch our Facebook page for more information and registration link.

A SPECIAL WORKSHOP FOR ALL NEW 4-H MEMBERS WILL BE HELD SATURDAY, JANUARY 25TH AT 8:30AM AT THE RICHLAND COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE.

MEMBERS ATTENDING WILL LEARN MORE ABOUT 4-H MEMBERSHIP, HOW TO COMPLETE 4-H AWARD AND RECORD DOCUMENTS, 4-H PROJECTS AND FAIR, AND HAVE FUN PARTICIPATING IN ACTIVITIES IN THE "WELCOME TO 4-H" BOOK.

ALL FIRST YEAR 4-H MEMBERS AND ANY YOUTH INTERESTED IN JOINING 4-H IN THE COUNTY ARE INVITED TO ATTEND. CALL THE EXTENSION OFFICE 395-2191 WITH ANY QUESTIONS. THIS EVENT IS SPONSORED BY THE U OF I EXTENSION AND HILLTOPPERS 4-H CLUB.



The Federation is selling Richland County 4-H T-shirts. Order forms were passed out to the leaders at the end of the Awards Program. Orders are due December 9 - no exceptions.

## REMINDER:

**THE EXTENSION OFFICE IS CLOSED BETWEEN CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S SO THE STAFF CAN SPEND TIME WITH THEIR FAMILIES.**

**HAPPY  
Holidays**



**Save the Date**



**We have exciting news to share about the public speaking contest this year! The five counties have gotten together, and we will be providing a unit-wide public speaking contest. The event will be on February 17 at 6 in the evening in the basement of the Edwards County Farm Bureau office. How judging will happen is everyone will speak in front of two judges, and we will have an overall placement of 1-5 with awards. Then each county will have the opportunity to promote speakers from their counties to the state competition in April. If you have questions, please contact your local Extension office.**

The five-county unit is sponsoring a personal care drive within the five counties. Richland County will be collecting items for Good Samaritan. Items that are being accepted but not limited to are bars of soap (Irish Spring or Dove), body wash, shampoo, tampons, sanitation pads, toothpaste, toothbrush, hot hands, deodorant, and socks. Items may be dropped off at the Extension office between November 11 and December 11. If you have any questions please reach out to the office.

**HELPING HANDS**  
**PERSONAL CARE DRIVE**

**NOV. 11 - DEC. 11**

**COLLECTING ITEMS FOR GOOD SAMARITAN IN RICHLAND COUNTY**

**WE ARE ACCEPTING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**

- SOAP BARS
- BODY WASH
- SHAMPOO
- TAMPONS
- SANITATION PADS
- TOOTHPASTE
- TOOTHBRUSH
- HOT HANDS
- DEODORANT
- SOCKS
- GLOVES
- ETC.

**PLEASE BRING DONATIONS TO:**

**RICHLAND COUNTY  
EXTENSION OFFICE**

**ADDRESS:**  
306 S. FAIR ST.  
OLNEY, IL 62450

**PHONE: 618-395-2191**



**I**



**Important changes** to livestock are being made this year for exhibition at the state and county levels. All beef, dairy, and swine will be required to have a USDA official animal identification number ear tag (“840” tag). The tag must be both visually and electronically capable of reading. Thus, means at check-ins at fair staff/superintendents will be checking tags with an electronic reader.

Livestock changes for 2025 Fair

Illinois Extension

A green four-leaf clover logo with a white 'H' symbol on each leaf.

**Some common questions:**

**Who must have the 840 Tag?**

- Beef- All Heifers, All Cows, All Steers being exhibited at fair
- Dairy- All Heifers, All Cows, All Steers being exhibited at fair
- Swine- All Gilts, All Barrows being exhibited at fair

**Where do I get the 840 Tag?**

- Breeder you purchase your animal from
- Local Veterinarian
- Purchase Tag from a farm supply (Valley Vet, Nasco)

**How do I purchase my own tags?**

The location of where the animal is being kept will have to have a registered premise ID with the state of Illinois. With the premise ID you will be able to purchase tags from a farm supply store such as Valley Vet or Nasco to name a few.

**I do not have a Premise ID how do I get one?**

Obtain an application for the Illinois Department of Agriculture and send it in. The turn around time is very fast to get one. Search for a fillable premise form.

If you have any questions about the new changes to the 840 tag requirement for exhibition please contact your local Extension office.

