

Saline County 4-H Connection



Monthly News for Saline County 4-H Members

April/May 2025

TO MAKE THE BEST BETTER!

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



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- Insert - Livestock Registration Sheet due May 15. Additional Copies are available at the office.



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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 2025 4-H Shows.



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COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
University of Illinois, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Local Extension Councils Cooperating.

Attention: Important Announcement



Our 4-H Office Support Assistant, Lois Jones, is retiring on April 30, 2025. Lois has been with us since 2014, and has kept Saline County 4-H running with her thoroughness and professionalism.

Lois said that she has enjoyed working with you all.

We are sad to see her go, but wish her all the best!



Please stop by the office before April 30th to say good-bye and good luck!

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 each year. **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 5th, at 11 am at the Saline County Fairgrounds prior to 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 BEFORE arriving on April 5.

Thank You to the Saline County Stockmen's Association for providing lunch at noon between the YQCA training and the Swine Weigh-in. They will also reimburse the \$3 fee after you complete the training.

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

The deadline for the YQCA Certification is June 1.

Additional instructor-led YQCA sessions are planned for April 18 in Hamilton County & May 10 in White 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.

To take the training, 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.

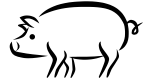
Livestock Committee News

The Saline County Livestock Committee met on March 10th 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. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 3, at 8:00 pm..

Swine Weigh-In



The Saline County 4-H Swine Weigh-In will be held on Saturday, **April 5** 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.



The required 840 tag must be in the animal's ear before the weigh-in.

Market Swine projects not weighed for Rate of Gain must be tagged with an 840 tag and reported to the Extension office within 10 days after the weigh-in - Tuesday, April 15.

840 Tags numbers for Breeding Swine projects must be reported by May 15.

Lamb & Meat Goat Weigh-In

The Saline County 4-H Lamb and Goat Weigh-Ins will be held on Saturday, **May 3** 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.

The required Scrapie tag must be in the animal's ear before the weigh-in.

Market Lamb and Goat projects not weighed for Rate of Gain must be tagged with an Scrapie tag and reported to the Extension office within 10 days after the weigh-in - Tuesday, May 13.

Scrapie Tags numbers for Breeding Sheep and Goat projects must be reported by May 15.

Important Livestock Tagging Changes

We are no longer using the A and B Tags for Rate of Gain and Non-Rate of Gain. We will use the required 840 tags for Beef and Swine projects and the required Scrapie tags for Goat and Lamb projects.

MARKET ANIMALS - Rate of Gain and Non Rate of Gain

RATE OF GAIN - 840 Tags for Cattle and Swine projects and Scrapie Tags for Goat and Lamb projects must be placed in animal's ear before weigh-in.

NON RATE OF GAIN (all Market Animals) - 840 Tag (Cattle or Swine) or Scrapie Tag (Goats or Lambs) must be placed in the animal's ear and the number turned in to the Extension office within 10 days of weigh-in.

BREEDING ANIMALS - 840 Tag number (Cattle - including Dairy - or Swine) or Scrapie Tag number (Goats or Lambs) must be entered on the Livestock Registration Form and turned in to the Extension Office by May 15.

All Breeding and Market Livestock Projects (Beef, Swine, Sheep, Goats, and including Dairy Cattle and Rabbits) must be entered on the Livestock Registration Form by May 15th - No Exceptions. (Report Tattoo # for Rabbits)

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.**



Stockmen's Youth Rabbit Show & Clinic

The Saline County Stockmen's Association is sponsoring a Youth Rabbit Show & Clinic on **Saturday, May 10, 2025**, at the Saline County Fairgrounds. Registration begins at 9:30 am and the Show will begin promptly at 10 am. This show is open to all youth ages 6-19.



There will be 3 placings in each class, along with awards for Best of Breed and Overall Grand and Reserve Champion. 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.

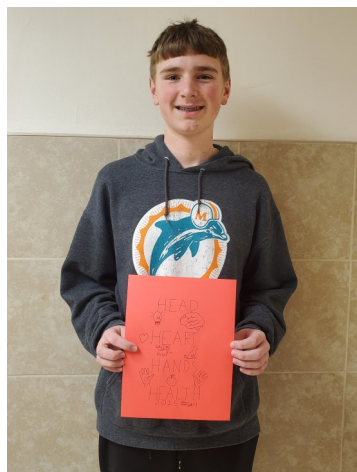
Don't have a Rabbit..No Worries! Superintendent Jodie Vinyard has offered to let you borrow a rabbit to show that day. This is your opportunity to tattoo your rabbits for the Saline County 4-H Rabbit Show in July. Rabbit entries with the tattoo number are due on the Livestock Registration Sheet on Thursday, May 15th.

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

Concessions Available: Hot Dogs, Chips, Snacks, and Drinks

Handbook Cover Contest Winner

Congratulations to Ethan Wenzel! Ethan's Handbook Cover entry was chosen as the winner this year! He is a member of Pleasant Valley Go-Getters 4-H Club. His entry will be the cover of our 2024-25 Saline County 4-H Handbook and he will receive recognition and a monetary award at Achievement Night.



Ellie DeNeal of the Country Clovers 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 Ethan and Ellie! 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.



Federation News

The Saline County 4-H Federation met at 5 pm on March 3rd at the Eldorado Elementary Gym before the 4-H Rally. We had a brief meeting and discussed Public Presentations, the upcoming Weigh-ins, YQCA, Experience Award Banquet and decided to meet again on June 16th at 7 pm, prior to the Management Committee Meeting at 8 pm.

Management Committee News

Saline County 4-H Management Committee met on Tuesday, March 18, 2025.

The committee heard reports from Federation and the Livestock Committee. Members present approved the 2024-25 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 16 at 8:00 pm.

Saline County Farm Bureau 2025 4-H Project Grant

The Saline County Farm Bureau is offering 4-H Project Grants again this year. All 4-H members ages 8-18 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 - \$125. 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 June 1, 2025 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 18, 2025.

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!!!!

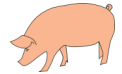
All 4-H members and Cloverbuds must register in Fair Entry between April 1 and June 1 to let us know exactly what exhibits you will be bringing to the Summer 4-H shows. Registration instructions will be emailed soon to all active families. New 4-H families will need to set up an account in Fair Entry.

Additional Goat Information

Goat Superintendent, Nathan Feazel, has requested that Boer Goat Exhibitors include the word Registered or the word Commercial in the Breed section of the Livestock Registration Sheet. Exhibitors must also include the registration number for that animal if it will show in the Registered classes.

This will help Nathan break the classes. Thank you.

Livestock Skill-a-thon and YQCA Hamilton County



The annual Multi-County Livestock Skill-a-thon along with an instructor-led YQCA training will be held on Friday, April 18 at the Hamilton County Fairgrounds. The event will start with registration at 9:00 am. There is a \$5 entry fee for the Skill-a-thon.

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 April 18th.

Call the Extension office if you plan to attend.



Showmanship Clinic and YQCA in White County

Current and former 4-H members who have exhibited at the State and National level will be giving Showmanship tips and Daily Care of Cattle, Swine, Goats and Sheep animals at the White County Showmanship Clinic.

The clinic is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, May 10th, beginning at 9:00 am at the White County Fairgrounds Livestock Barn.

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 10th.

Call the Extension office if you plan to attend.



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



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.

Dog Obedience Classes Begin April 29, 2025



Dog Obedience, Showmanship, and Agility classes will begin on Tuesday, April 29, at instructor Cheri White's Shop - 613 W. Elm St. in Harrisburg. Classes will continue each Tuesday, concluding on Tuesday, July 8. (There will be no classes on Tuesday, June 17.)

On April 29, **first year exhibitors** should arrive at **6 pm** for an introduction to the course. **Bring your dog's shot records, but leave your dog at home.** Exhibitors attending classes for their second year or more should arrive at **7 pm** with their dogs and shot records. If you have questions about these classes, please call Cheri White at 618-926-0787.

The Dog Agility and Rally 4-H Show - **Tuesday, July 15 at 7 pm** at Cheri White's.

Dog Care, Obedience, Showmanship and Cat Care - **Thursday, July 17 at 6 pm** at the Fairgrounds.

Dog Exhibitors and others - Cheri White had several big limbs come down during the ice storm. They are still in the agility field and have taken down some of her fence. If you can, please join us on **Sunday, April 6 at 2 pm** to help Cheri clean up the area and repair the fence to get ready for classes. Wear your rubber boots and bring gloves, tools, etc. Thanks!



2025 Fishing Hooks Us Together Virtual Tournament!

May 1 - July 31, 2025

This year, the tournament has a new look and sponsors.

The contest is open to all youth ages 5 - 18 years of age participating in fishing programs through the Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources, Chicago Park District and Illinois 4-H.

All IDNR fishing regulations must be followed. <https://ifishillinois.org/>.

Submit entries by scanning the QR Code or through this link: go.illinois.edu/fishing-hooks-us-together.



What to Do: You will need a smartphone to take 2 pictures of your catch - one picture of you holding the fish and one picture to clearly show the length of the fish in inches (take a picture of the fish with a tape measure for proof).

Prizes: \$25 gift cards to Bass Pro Shops to the longest verified largemouth bass, crappie, bluegill, and channel catfish (ties randomly selected) and 3 additional randomly selected entrants with any length or species of fish entered. These prizes are sponsored by Steve Moffitt, 4-H Fish Camp All-Star Volunteer.

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



Youth must enroll by May 1 to exhibit 4-H projects this summer! Don't Delay!

4-H CALENDAR

April 2025

- 5 - Instructor-led YQCA Training, 11 am, Fairgrounds. Lunch to follow at Noon.
- 5 - Swine Weigh-in, 1pm, Fairgrounds
- 6 - Clean up day at Cheri White's, 2 pm
- 18 - Livestock Skill-a-thon and YQCA Instructor-Led Training, 9 am, Hamilton Co. Fairgrounds
- 20 - **Happy Easter Sunday!**
- 29 - First Dog Obedience Class at Cheri White's, 6 pm & 7 pm



May 2025

- 1 - Last day to enroll in 4-H and in a project to exhibit at a 2025 Saline Co. 4-H Show. Horse Validation forms due.
- 3 - Livestock Fitting Clinic and Instructor-Led YQCA Training, 9 am, White Co. Fairgrounds
- 3 - Lamb/Goat Weigh-in, 1 pm, Fairgrounds
- 6, 13, 20, 27 - Dog Obedience class, 6 pm & 7 pm, Cheri's shop
- 10 - Stockmen's' Rabbit Clinic and Tattooing opportunity, 9:30 am, Fairgrounds
- 10 - Possible Livestock Showmanship Clinic and YQCA Training, 9 am, White Co. Fairgrounds
- 11 - 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.
- 26 - Memorial Day - Extension office closed.



June 2025

- 1 - QAEC and YQCA must be completed by this date. Last day to drop a project. Fair Entry Registrations due.
- 1 - Farm Bureau Project Grant applications due
- 3, 10, 24 - Dog Obedience Class, 6 pm & 7 pm, Cheri's Shop
- 3 - Livestock Committee Meeting, 8 pm, Extension office
- 13 - Small Pets Forms due
- 15 - Happy Father's Day to our 4-H Dads! We appreciate you!
- 16 - Federation Meeting, 7 pm, Extension office
- 16 - 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: _____

2025 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 Animal	Tattoo Number (Rabbit) 840 Tag Number (Cattle, Swine) Scrapie Tag Number (Goat, Sheep)

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).

I ILLINOIS
Extension



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.**