



**Illinois Extension**  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

# McDonough County 4-H Clover

December 2022

To Make the Best  
**BETTER**



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**Monday Through Friday**  
8:00-Noon  
1:00 -4:30

[extension.illinois.edu/hkmw](http://extension.illinois.edu/hkmw)

**COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER &  
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES**

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If you need a reasonable accommodation to  
participate, please contact your local extension office.  
Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow  
sufficient time for meeting your access needs.

**Dear 4-H Families, Friends and Members,**

Happy Holidays from your 4-H Extension Team! Thank you for re-enrolling in 4-H by December 1st. In the newsletter there are many opportunities that you can take part in. Think about taking advantage of all that 4-H has to offer. There are several local, state, and national 4-H workshops or conferences that you can attend for a reduced fee due to the local 4-H Scholarships. Make sure you talk to the office before you register online. In addition, please read all the deadlines and if you have any questions, please contact us. You must be enrolled in all livestock and companion animal projects by **January 1!**. Again, Happy Holidays and enjoy your time with your families!

Please remember that the Extension Office will be closed December 23rd through January 2 and will resume normal business hours January 3. This means if you have questions about registering for your livestock project, we won't be available. Please don't delay. You can contact us at the office by phone or via email!

Yours in 4-H,

Shelby R. Carlson

## 4-H Can Make a Difference

Our clubs do an amazing job helping others in the community! This is a very busy time for community service and every extra helping hand counts. COVID has presented some unique challenges to our 4-H clubs but everyone is rising to the occasion. Please keep us in the loop of any projects you have planned this season so we can help get the word out. You can do so by emailing Beth Chatterton at [chattert@illinois.edu](mailto:chattert@illinois.edu) or calling the office at 309/837-3939.

**I PLEDGE...MY HEAD TO CLEARER THINKING**

## What Does It Mean?

Have you ever heard a term in 4-H and thought what does that mean? We are here to help! 4-H is an amazing youth program that has been active for over 100 years. In some families, 4-H is a tradition they pass on to the next generation with excitement. Some families are starting their 4-H journey for the first time this year. To help better understand our “4-H Lingo” we have provided a terms list in each green folder for our 4-H families. You will receive them during your 1st 4-H meeting. We are also going to highlight a few each newsletter as different terms will be used more frequently at different times of the year.

**YQCA:** Youth for the Quality Care of Animals. This is an annual livestock ethics training that must be completed May 1st by members planning on showing cattle, goats, swine, and sheep at the fair. *This is a requirement to show at the fair.*

**QAEC:** Quality Assurance and Ethics Certification. This is a livestock ethics training required one in a 4-H career by members planning on showing dogs, horses, rabbits, and poultry at the fair. *This is a requirement to show at the fair.*

## Ordering Your 4-H Project Manuals

Don't forget to order your manuals using the link - [go.illinois.edu/OrderProjectManuals](http://go.illinois.edu/OrderProjectManuals)

## Project Highlight: Welding

When you hear welding, you may think about farm equipment or industrial factory work. Welding can also bring personal satisfaction as you create art, utilities and items which make your life better!

In 4-H, members choose projects that interest them. View our full project guide to explore more projects at <https://go.illinois.edu/ProjSel21-22>



## Cloverbud

The Illinois 4-H Cloverbud Activity Book is a great resource for introducing Cloverbuds to all of the projects they can explore ~ with a fun activity from Aerospace to Woodworking and everything in between. Not a Cloverbud yet? Contact your local Extension office to learn more about 4-H experiences for youth ages 5-7.

Head to [go.illinois.edu/CloverbudBook](http://go.illinois.edu/CloverbudBook) to check out all the activities!

# Communication

In this project, you'll learn how to become an effective public speaker, writer, communicator, or reporter.

Write your story!

My name is \_\_\_\_\_  
and I am \_\_\_\_\_ years old.  
I live in \_\_\_\_\_ with my  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.  
My favorite food is \_\_\_\_\_ and my  
favorite thing to do in my free time is  
\_\_\_\_\_. When I grow up I want  
to be a \_\_\_\_\_.

**FUN FACT**  
Roughly 6,500 languages are spoken in the world today.

Ready to explore more?  
Head to [go.illinois.edu/communications-4-H](http://go.illinois.edu/communications-4-H)

**I PLEDGE...MY HEART TO GREATER LOYALTY**

## Unit-Wide Policies

- The new year begins September 1. Please make sure you read and understand the policies. We are trying to keep the deadlines consistent so it is easier for everyone to remember the dates. If a deadline lands on a weekend the paperwork needs to be turned in the drop box on Monday prior to 7:59 a.m. before the office opens.
- **December 1** - Re-enrollment, project selection, and RISK form need to be completed in ZSuites. **If you were a member last year, and you miss the December 1 re-enrollment deadline, you will not be eligible to participate in the 2023 4-H shows at the fair.** Check with your club leader about the \$20 program fee. Each club will be invoiced for the total amount due.
- Members will need to **attend at least four meetings** a year to be eligible to participate in your county's 4-H fair. This year attending meetings virtually as well as in person counts for attendance.
- At minimum members must complete a **talk or demonstration**. However, clubs may require both.
- Secretaries are required to **send attendance sheets to the Extension Office monthly** after each 4-H meeting. Attendance reports may be emailed, scanned, mailed, or dropped off. We ask that you use the online Secretary Record Book. You may print it out.
- Treasurers need to make sure they are **balancing accounts monthly** and providing reports during each meeting. Also, make sure you are using the required online Treasurer Record Book.
- **January 1** – Livestock and Companion Animal (dogs & horses) Project Enrollment deadline. This is the last date you may add **ANY livestock** project and still be eligible to show that project at the county 4-H fair.
- **March 1** – General Project enrollment deadline. This is the last date you may add a general project and still be eligible to show that project at the county 4-H fair. Remember that you already turned in your enrollment in December, but if you need to add a general project you may do so before this deadline.
- **May 1** - Horse project members' ownership/lease papers and pictures due to the office.
- **May 1** – **Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)** yearly certification is required of all livestock project members (aside from dogs, horses, poultry, and rabbits). For all other animals, QAEC will still be required. If you plan to show livestock at the county and/or state fair, this is now a state requirement for all of us at the county level. Ask your local extension office about ways to complete this training online or in person.
- **June 1** – Dog project members' ownership/lease papers due to the office.
- **June 8** – Online entries will be due at the close of the day. This is where you tell us what projects you are bringing to the fair. Keep in mind—do not delay!

## Registering for Events:

4-H has so many opportunities for its members to take part in. Did you know the local extension office will help cover the cost of state conferences and events? It's true! Make sure you follow the correct procedure so you don't miss out on any opportunities. The Extension office will cover half of the fee up to a total of \$300 per year per member. The local 4-H Foundation may choose to cover more of the cost.

- Contact your local program coordinator and let them know about the event
- Register for event and select the "pay by check" or "my county will pay" option
- Let your program coordinator reach out to the 4-H Foundation
- Once the Extension Office has paid their portion and the Foundation has covered the amount they choose, you will be invoiced for the remaining balance
- Please do not pay until you have been invoiced for the total remaining cost



## Summer Youth Camp

Summer Youth Camp dates for 2023 at 4-H Memorial Camp are set! Youth age 8-16 (actual age) can attend camp during the following sessions:

June 4-8

June 11-15

June 25-29

June 30- July 4 (check out is at 11am this session)

Online registration via the camp website will open for 4-H Club members on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Registration will open for non 4-H Club members on February 6<sup>th</sup>.

The fee for camp is \$315 for 4-H Club members, \$355 for non 4-H Club members.

Links for registration and additional details will be available on the 4-H Camp [website](#) closer to the time of registration. Please contact Andy Davis [ardavis1@illinois.edu](mailto:ardavis1@illinois.edu) or Monika Hammerschmidt [hammersc@illinois.edu](mailto:hammersc@illinois.edu) with any questions.

## Spring Family Camp

Spring Family Camp will be back again May 19-21. Bring the whole family to enjoy camp a weekend of camp fun! Registration will open up in late February. More details including activities and fees will be available soon! Please contact Andy Davis [ardavis1@illinois.edu](mailto:ardavis1@illinois.edu) or Monika Hammerschmidt [hammersc@illinois.edu](mailto:hammersc@illinois.edu) with any questions.

## Camp Corral

4-H Memorial Camp will once again be holding the Camp Corral July 16-21, 2023. This 6 day youth camp is for youth age 8-15 who has one or more parents or guardians who are military veterans. The Mission of this program is "To transform the lives of children of wounded, ill, and fallen military heroes by providing camp, advocacy, and enrichment programs." To learn more about this program, please visit the Camp Corral [website](#). Registration will open on January 18<sup>th</sup> via the Camp Corral website. You do not need to be a 4-H Member to attend this program. Please contact Andy Davis [ardavis1@illinois.edu](mailto:ardavis1@illinois.edu) or Monika Hammerschmidt [hammersc@illinois.edu](mailto:hammersc@illinois.edu) with any questions.

## Hiring

4-H Memorial Camp needs you! Running a successful summer camp program takes a lot of people. We will begin accepting applications for summer employment starting January 1<sup>st</sup>. We are looking to fill the following positions.

### Counselors

**Dates:** May 30- June 15, June 25-July 4, and July 16-21

**Positions:** Junior Counselors 16-17 years old, Senior Counselors 18+ years old

### Program staff: 18+ years old

**Dates:** May 15- July 28.

**Positions:** Seasonal Assistant Director, Outdoor Ed., Lifeguard, Recreation, Arts & Crafts, Creation Station, Climbing Tower

Applications and additional information will be available on our [website](#).

Please contact Andy Davis [ardavis1@illinois.edu](mailto:ardavis1@illinois.edu) or Monika Hammerschmidt [hammersc@illinois.edu](mailto:hammersc@illinois.edu)

## YQCA (There is that term again)

4-H members enrolled in dairy cattle, beef cattle, swine, sheep, and goats must completed their annual YQCA training either on-line at [yqca.org](http://yqca.org) (\$12) or at an in-person training (\$3) by **May 1**. An email from Beth will follow with details for registering. In-person trainings are scheduled as follows and subject to change pending weather. Details will be confirmed a week before the training. In-person trainings will be held at:

**Monday, February 20 , 1 p.m. at the 4-H Center, Macomb**

QAEC training is required for members enrolled in dog, horse, poultry, and rabbit. This training must be completed once in a members career. Training must be completed by **May 1**.

## 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.



## Time to Prepare for the Great Backyard Bird Count!

Get your bird feeders ready; download free awesome bird I.D. and species reporting apps; and decide if you want to report as an individual or a group!

Do this as a 4-H Club activity!

When? The official count is **February 17-20, 2023**

Learn more at: [www.birdcount.org](http://www.birdcount.org)



## 2023 Illinois State 4-H Food Action Summit!

The Illinois 4-H Food Action Summit is where young leaders meet to be inspired and share a vision for food security, food access and food justice in Illinois. University researchers, non-profit professionals, food advocates and civic leaders will be present to lead workshops designed to empower young people with the knowledge, confidence and resources they need to build their leadership capacity as they work to create food security in their communities.

Youth participants will have the opportunity to get support to put what they learn into action through the Food Advocacy Grant program in order to create positive changes where they live.

### Event details:

-February 10-12th

-I-Hotel & Conference Center - Champaign, IL 1900 S 1st St, Champaign, IL 61820

-REGISTER BY 01/21/2023

-OPEN to 4-H youth in 7-12th grade.

-Register here: <https://go.illinois.edu/4HFoodActionSummit>

COST is \$75 per participant.

### 4-H FOOD ACTION SUMMIT

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!



**FOR MY CLUB, MY COMMUNITY, MY COUNTRY, AND MY WORLD.**

## Youth Mental Health First Aid

One in five teens lives with a mental health condition. Over 5% of youth report having a substance use or alcohol problem. Adolescence is challenging for many young people and mental health issues can develop during that time of life.

Join an upcoming **Youth Mental Health First Aid training** to learn how to identify common signs and symptoms of youth mental illness or substance use. Gain skills to feel confident listening to and supporting a young person in crisis and leave with resources to connect them with appropriate care. The training is free, open to the public, and appropriate for any adults working with rural youth.



Register online at [go.illinois.edu/YMHFA](https://go.illinois.edu/YMHFA). Participants will complete a two-hour self-paced online training before joining the instructor for a live webinar at any of the sessions below. ISBE PD hours available.

- Wednesday, Jan 11, 2023 | 9am-3pm

For more information, please contact Emily Schoenfelder at [eschoe@illinois.edu](mailto:eschoe@illinois.edu).

## Youth In Action

December community activities and service projects are in full swing for our 4-H clubs. From Bake Sales to Crafts during Dickens on the Square in Macomb, to Canned Food Drives and Parade of Lights in Bushnell, to Collecting Wrapping paper and stocking for WIRC's Project Santa to shopping for the Angel Tree our 4-H members and their families take their pledge "Hands to larger service" to heart. Please join us in saying "Keep up the good work 4-H'ers!"



## What is Federation?

The purpose of the 4-H Federation is to cooperate with the University of Illinois Extension 4-H program in unifying and strengthening the 4-H Youth Development program in McDonough County. Federation bands together the local 4-H clubs into a central representative body for the improvement of the 4-H club program. Federation makes recommendations regarding the 4-H program, carries out unit-based 4-H activities and events such as camps, contests, fund-raising activities, recreational events and achievement night. Anyone interested in becoming a part of Federation is welcome! Please contact Beth for more information; 309/837-3939 or email [chattert@illinois.edu](mailto:chattert@illinois.edu).

***Our next meeting will be on Sunday, December 11 at 1 p.m. in the Extension Office***

## SPIN Corner

### 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

#### 2023 4-H Shooting Sports Leader Trainings:

- #1. Saturday, February 25, 2023  
Kane County Fairgrounds, St. Charles, IL  
Disciplines offered: Rifle; Pistol; Archery; Coordinator
  
- #2. Saturday, May 6, 2023  
4-H Memorial Camp, Monticello, IL  
Disciplines offered: Shotgun, Rifle; Pistol; Archery; Coordinator;  
Hunting/Outdoor Skills



If interested, contact your local University of Illinois Extension office for registration information. These dates are 9-hour “field days” which teach range management. An additional 3-hour on-line 4-H training will complete the certification process. Registration will be open Dec. 15, 2022 – Feb. 15, 2023. Questions? Contact Julian Inniss , SPIN Coordinator, by email [jinniss@illinois.edu](mailto:jinniss@illinois.edu) or call 309/342-5108.

### 4-H Robotics

On Saturday , December 3 the 4-H Macomb Bots and the 4-H McDoCo Bots participated at the 2022 First Lego League Challenge. Through the partnership of McDonough County 4-H, Macomb District 185 and WIU Department of Physics volunteers and youth worked together to learn how to code robot missions, design a unique “Innovation Model” and research ways to solve real-world problems related to energy. This was Learning by Doing at its best! Each team left the competition excited to improve their robotics. Way to go teams!



## Happy Birthday To You, Happy Birthday To You.....

A very Happy Birthday to all the 4-H members born in December! We want to celebrate with you! Please stop into the Extension office anytime during this month to pick out a 4-H birthday gift and let us wish you a "Happy Birthday."



# December 2022

**Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat**

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

December 1  
December 2  
December 23-January 2

**Re-Enrollment Deadline**  
Dickens on the Square Activity  
Office Closed

### 2023

January 1  
January 21-22  
February 10-12  
March 1  
March 4-5  
March 9-12  
April 1  
April 8  
April 14-19  
April 29  
May 13  
June 4 on –  
June 25-29

**Livestock Project Deadline**  
Youth Livestock Conference  
4-H Food Action Summit  
**General Project Deadline**  
4-H Changemakers  
Ignite by 4-H  
State Awards Banquet  
State Robotics Competition  
National 4-H Conference  
State Public Speaking Competition  
State Robotics Competition  
4-H Camp  
4-H Illini Summer Academies