



4-H FAMILY MONROE COUNTY

FEBRUARY 2025

NEWS

2025 LIVESTOCK UPDATES!

NEW this year: per USDA requirements, all **beef, dairy, and swine** exhibiting at state and county fairs must have an “840” electronic identification (EID) ear tag. Tag numbers will be required on all livestock health papers accompanying each animal and will be verified during vet checks at the fair.

Please see page 2 for more details.

Livestock Birth/Ownership/Tattoo Dates:

<https://go.illinois.edu/LivestockOwnershipDeadlines>

Livestock Exhibition Health Guidelines

(2025 coming soon!):

<https://go.illinois.edu/LivestockHealthRequirements>



STEER WEIGH-IN & WINTER SHOW

FEBRUARY 15

8:00 A.M.

Monroe County Fairgrounds Cattle Arena

SHOW ORDER* All 4-H & FFA steers participating in the Beef Premiere Program must weigh in.

SENIOR: 16-19

INT.: 13-15

JUNIOR: 10-12

BEGINNER: 8-9

***AGES BY SEPT. 1, 2024**

The fun show will begin shortly after 8 a.m., starting with the senior age group and moving to the intermediate, then junior, and beginner groups.

As each group finishes their show, they will move on to weighing, etc.

Please dress for the weather conditions!

*Beef project participants -- see email for additional information.

NEW: ALL STEERS MUST HAVE HEALTH PAPERS AT THE FAIR THIS YEAR!

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Office Hours:

Monday- Friday: 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Closed Noon to 1:00 p.m. for lunch

Monroe County Office

901 Illinois Ave., PO Box 117
Waterloo, IL 62298
618-939-3434, 618-939-7708 Fax

Extension County Director

William Catalano

4-H Youth Educator

Emily Reece

4-H Program Coordinator

Kelly Brandt

Office Support Associate

Sue Scheibe

Office Support Assistant

D'Angelo Young

Visit our website:

web.extension.illinois.edu/mms

Like us on Facebook:

University of Illinois Extension:
Monroe County 4-H

University of Illinois Extension-
Madison, Monroe and St. Clair Unit

Follow us on Instagram:

[monroe_county_il_4h](https://www.instagram.com/monroe_county_il_4h)



NEW LIVESTOCK ELECTRONIC ID REQUIREMENT AT COUNTY FAIRS

What must have an EID tag?

- o All beef cattle, dairy cattle, and swine exhibiting at a county or state fair must have an “840” EID tag. Cattle under the age of 6 months are exempt.
- o Tags should be put into ears by owners with an EID button tagger. Taggers may be purchased from a farm supply dealer (i.e. Valley Vet, Nasco, Premier 1).
- o All steers will be inserted with EID tags supplied by U of I Extension during the initial winter weigh-in this year as normal.

Why must these animals have an EID tag?

- o The purpose of the tag is to aid in animal disease traceability and reduce the impact of an animal disease outbreak.

Where can you get an EID tag?

- o Tags should be inserted by the breeder that you purchase your animal from. If a purchased animal is already identified with an 840 tag, it should not be double-tagged, nor should the current tag be removed/replaced. Use the tag that is already in place.
- o You can request tags for free from the Illinois Department of Agriculture (limited supply).

Swine:

<https://agr.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/agr/animals/animalhealth/documents/SWINE%20RFID%20840%20Tag%20Producer%20Order%20Form.pdf>

Cattle:

<https://agr.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/agr/animals/animalhealth/documents/RFID%20840%20Tag%20Producer%20Order%20Form.pdf>

- o You can purchase tags from a farm supply dealer (i.e. Valley Vet, Nasco, Premier 1)

*A Premise ID is needed to order an EID tag.

How do I obtain a Premise ID if I do not have one already?

- o Complete a registration form:
<https://agr.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/agr/animals/animalhealth/documents/fillable-premiseform-2019.pdf> and remit to the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

For more information, please visit:

https://www.ilaged.org/connect/admin/attachments/IDOA_840%20Tag%20One%20Sheet_2025_8.5x11_7643.pdf

<https://agr.illinois.gov/animals/animalhealth/premises-registration.html>



We chocolate!

February is Heart Health Month!

Did you know that dark chocolate can be healthy for your heart?

Join us as we learn more about this tasty and versatile product!

Monday, February 17, 2025

8:30a.m. - 12:30p.m.

Monroe County Annex

Participants will:

- Learn how chocolate is grown.
- Make healthy chocolate treats.
- Participate in fun chocolate science & craft activities.
- Decorate a chocolate dessert.

Limited to 16 youth, ages 10-13.

Cost: \$10-payable at the door.

Register: <https://4h.zsuite.org/external-event-registration/36269>



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4-H PROJECT BOOKS

If you need project books, please put the names of the books (specifically the level!) in this form: [Qualtrics Survey | Qualtrics Experience Management](#)

Project book options can be reviewed here:

[Illinois Virtual Pop-Up Shop – Shop 4-H.](#)

For any projects that have books with levels, we recommend staying in a project level for 2-3 years before moving up to the next level.

Please contact your leader or Kelly Brandt, 4-H Program Coordinator, at kmbrandt@illinois.edu or 939-3434 with questions.



LIVESTOCK & HORSE RECORD BOOKS

It is highly encouraged for all members to fill out a 4-H Record Book for livestock and/or horse projects that they are exhibiting at a 4-H Show.

It is REQUIRED to fill out 4-H Record Books for any livestock that members are selling at the Youth Livestock Auction.

Members must complete a livestock record book in the current year to be eligible to sell in the preceding year, except for new members or members not previously enrolled in that project.

In-progress Record Books should be shown and signed by your leader at your May, June, or July club meeting before 4-H Shows.

The PDF versions of the books are found here:

<https://go.illinois.edu/LivestockRecord>

They may be filled in on your computer, or you may print them off and fill it in by hand (neatly).

The Instruction Guide is found here:

https://go.illinois.edu/LivestockRecord_Guide to help you through the process of filling the book out.

Books are due to the Extension office by **September 15** for evaluation.



MONROE COUNTY 4-H SHIRTS FOR SALE!



The Monroe County 4-H Federation is selling 4-H attire as a fundraiser in partnership with the Monroe County Extension & 4-H Education Foundation.

Sizes available include:

Youth Small, Medium,
Large & XL
Adult Small, Medium, Large,
XL, XXL & XXXL



FEBRUARY SALE!

25% OFF ALL SWEATSHIRTS!

T-shirts: \$15
Crewneck
Sweatshirts: \$25
Hoodies: \$30

Checks or cash accepted. Checks can be made out to Monroe County 4-H Federation.



Shirts are available at the Extension office M-F, 8-4:30 p.m. (closed 12-1) or on certain evenings (call Kelly at 618-939-3434) for details.



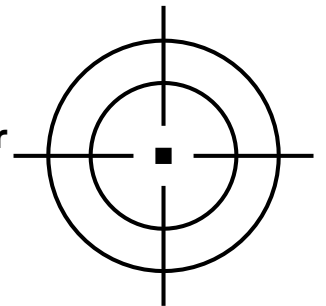
SHOTGUN CLUB

There is still room for members in the 4-H Shotgun Club. The 2025 intro meeting will be held on **February 12 at 7:00 p.m.** at the Monroe County Annex.

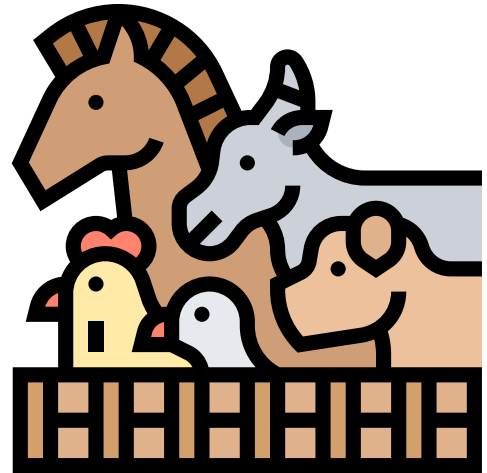
Enroll in the club by logging onto 4h.zsuite.org and add "Shooting Sports-Shotgun" to your profile.

Youth must be 10 years old by September 1, 2024, to join.

Club meetings are held at the shooting range in old Valmeyer.



JUNIOR LIVESTOCK CONFERENCE



Nine 4-H Monroe County 4-H members attended the Junior Livestock Conference on January 25-26 in Springfield:
Caroline Cox, Hayden Finke, Kaleigh Halleran, Elizabeth Koch, Rebecca Kuehner, Lillian Kolweier, Luke Lutman, Tessa Schultheis & Gracie Stechmesser. Youth participated in activities about vet science, meat science, halter making, embryology, and much more!



MONROE COUNTY 4-H LIVESTOCK JUDGING TEAM

The Monroe County 4-H Livestock Judging Team will begin meetings on February 24, at 6:30p.m. at the Monroe County Annex.

Additional meeting dates to be determined.

Team members will learn about proper judging techniques of cattle, sheep, goats and swine to prepare for contests such as the Waterloo FFA Winter Warm-up Livestock Judging Contest, the Sheep Festival Sheep & Goat Judging Contest and more.

The Team is open to current 4-H members ages 8 and up (by Sept. 1, 2024).

Please add “Livestock Judging Team” as an additional club in your ZSuite profile. Contact Kelly Brandt at kmbrandt@illinois.edu for more info.



Join us for the

Show Pig CONFERENCE

A Free Virtual Event
To help you improve your show skills

February 8 2025

Register Here



showpigconference.com

Sponsored By:



Monroe County 4-H Teens as Teachers Meeting



Wednesday, February 19, 2025

5:30 p.m.

at the Waterloo Extension Office

901 Illinois Avenue, Waterloo, IL 62298

What is 4-H Teens as Teachers?

- University of Illinois Extension 4-H Program and Monroe County Ag in the Classroom are partnering to teach youth about agriculture.
- This program is open to **teens 14-18 years old**.
- Teen Teachers will be required to complete **8 hours of training** and **8 hours of volunteer teaching** to complete the program.

As a member of the 4-H Teens as Teachers team...

- **You** will be a role model for young kids who share your passion!
- **You** will expand your knowledge by working with experts in the things you like to do.
- **You** will get practical training that you can use in college, in your career, and throughout life.

JOIN US TO LEARN MORE!



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4-H SHOW REQUIREMENTS

Remember that to show projects at the County and State levels at the end of the year, you must meet the following requirements:

- Attend at least four meetings during the 4-H year in your primary club.
- Give a talk or demonstration at your 4-H club meeting.
- Enroll in 4-H by **January 1, 2024**.
- All livestock project members must show an in-progress Livestock Record Book to their Leader at their May, June, or July Club meeting before the county fair AND complete their book by September 15.

Additional show and livestock auction requirements are found in the 4-H Showooks.

RECORD KEEPING & AWARD APPLICATIONS

The 2024-2025 Award Applications are available on our website:

https://go.illinois.edu/Monroe_AwardApp

Before filling them out, you can keep track of your 4-H activities throughout the year with the 4-H Experience log:

<https://go.illinois.edu/MyExperienceLog>



4-H FAMILY HANDBOOK

Need to know more about...

- Project selection
- 4-H Shows
- Member expectations
- Livestock requirements
- Where to go for questions



Check out the Monroe County 4-H Handbook:

<https://go.illinois.edu/FamilyHandbook>



HOLIDAY COMMUNITY SERVICE



The **Golden Eagles Club** adopted a family through the House of Neighborly Services. They then had HNS Executive Director Natalie Kawalec speak at their January meeting about the programs and activities that they do to help those in need in our community. The group learned how this project ties to the "hands for larger service" in the 4-H pledge.



The **Monroe County Hoofbeats Club** made Blessing Bags for the Catholic Urban Programs and will provide them to the Holy Angels Emergency Shelter for women, children, and families and to another hub in the city that assists homeless individuals.





The **Maestown Clovers Club** purchased and wrapped gifts for an adopted family through House of Neighborly Services for the holidays. They also collected food and toiletries for the family as well.



What's going on with Illinois 4-H?

Find out here:

<https://emails.illinois.edu/newsletter/03/263049603.html>





WATERLOO BACKYARD
BANDITS 4-H CLUB
PRESENTS
**PICKLEBALL
TOURNAMENT**



COME AND SUPPORT BACKYARD
BANDITS 4-H CLUB AND HAVE FUN
PLAYING PICKLEBALL!

MARCH 1ST starts at 9:00am Camp Wartburg Gym
5075 LRC Rd Waterloo, IL
\$50 per team (two players)
DOUBLE ELIMINATION - GUARANTEED AT LEAST
TWO GAMES
Limited to first 30 teams
\$5 to rent a paddle (pickleballs provided)



Scan QR
Code to
fill out
form



SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE!

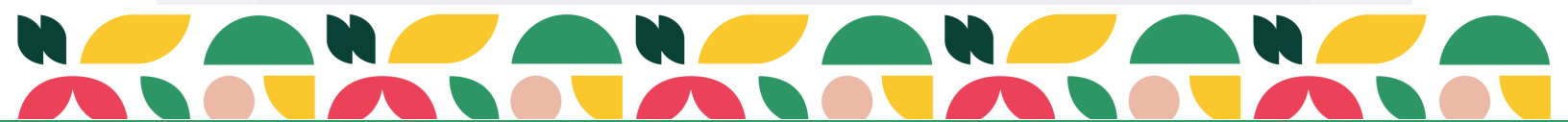
-  Gold Sponsorship - \$75
-  Silver Sponsorship - \$50
-  Bronze Sponsorship - \$25

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

Call or email:
1(618) 977-6470
backyardbandits24@gmail.com

*Thank
you!*

Scan QR Code to fill
out Sponsorship
Form



Save the Date

★ 22nd Annual ★

4-H DAY

with the

Cardinals

SATURDAY

MAY 24



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- February 12 4-H Shotgun Intro Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Monroe Co. Annex
- February 15 Market Steer Weigh-in, 8:00 a.m., Monroe Co. Fairgrounds
- February 17 We Love Chocolate Workshop, 8:30-12:30, Mo. Co. Annex
- February 24 Livestock Judging Team Meeting, 6:30p.m, Mo. Co. Annex
- March 25 YQCA Training (tentative)
- March 26 YQCA Training (tentative)
- March 27 Public Speaking Show, 6:30 p.m., Monroe Co. Annex
- April 5 Southern Regional Horse Bowl/Hippology Contest, SUIC
- April 12 Sheep Festival & Youth Sheep/Goat Judging Contest
- April 24 4-H Leader Meeting, Monroe Co. Annex
- April 29 Monroe County 5th Grade Conservation Day
- May 3 Market Lamb & Goat Weigh-in, 8:00 a.m., Mo. Co. Fairgrounds
- May 10 4-H Horse Show, 9:00 a.m., Monroe County Fairgrounds
- May 24 4-H Day with the Cardinals, Busch Stadium, STL, MO
- June 2 Food Demonstration Show, Monroe County Annex
- June 28 Show-A-Rama
- July 20-27 Monroe County Fair
- August 8 Monroe County Day @ IL State Fair, Springfield, IL

4-H PROGRAM WEATHER POLICY:

When Monroe County schools are closed due to inclement weather, county 4-H activities will also be closed unless otherwise notified.

If the weather gets bad in the evening before the event, please watch your email and Facebook for cancellations.



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