

Franklin County Clover News

April 2020



University of Illinois
Extension
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Hours:

Monday-Friday
8am – 12pm &
1pm – 4:30pm

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Franklin County
Illinois 4-H page

PLEASE READ

Illinois Extension office suspends regular office hours and programming in Franklin, Jackson, Perry, Randolph and Williamson Counties

The impact of the COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) continues to create uncertainty and concern both globally and here in our community. Illinois Extension is in the process of activating strategies with campus to protect everyone's health and safety.

This week, the University of Illinois announced a suspension on all in-person events and meetings in campus facilities to protect you and our entire community. Illinois Extension, as the outreach program of the university, aligns with all policies related to public health and safety.

Effective Friday, March 13, all university-sponsored events are suspended indefinitely. As a result of this action, all 4-H club and volunteer activities are also suspended and will be held in a virtual/on-line capacity. **University of Illinois Extension offices in the above mentioned counties will be closed until April 7, 2020 and all in-person university supported clubs and events are cancelled until May 31, 2020.**

Look for specific information about other cancellations and postponements on our website at <https://extension.illinois.edu/fjprw/events>. In some cases, in-person trainings are being replaced with webinars or online meetings, or with digital resources you can review at your convenience. If you have any questions about events, please contact our office at (618) 687-1727.

A [collection of resources](http://www.go.illinois.edu/ExtensionCOVID19resources) to assist families and community leaders preparing for and coping with COVID-19 is available online at www.go.illinois.edu/ExtensionCOVID19resources.

We are working to support all Illinois families at this time. We appreciate your support and understanding as we navigate this situation.

Sincerely
Jance Curry Witzman
Unit 26 Educator

So, what does this mean?

There will not be any face to face 4-H meetings. Your clubs can hold virtual meetings by skype, zoom or facetime, but no face to face meetings until after May 31.

Requirements to be an achievement member and eligible to sell in the Franklin County Youth Auction. We have reduced those requirements to 4 meetings or events. So for those that still need 2 or more meetings you will need to call or email me for additional activities that you can do to fulfill those requirements. You should be able to get 1 meeting in June.

Talks and Demonstrations—those still have to be done. Your leader will be contacting you with the way they prefer you to complete these. My preferred option: send a video to your clubs Facebook page of your talk or demonstration. This way your whole club gets to see. This is only fair since the members that did their talks and demonstrations at the beginning of the year had to stand in front of the club to do theirs. Questions just give me a call, text or email.

Fair Dates —July 9-16

Please check your new 2019/2020 Handbook for specific dates and times. There are changes from last year. There will also be changes to Shooting Sport Exhibition and Horse Show. I will let you know as soon as details are worked out.

Fair Entries

All entries for the 4-H fair will be due on or before June 15. Forms will be mailed in May or you can go online to fairentry.com to make your entries.

Rate of Gain—Date Change

Barrows, wethers (goat & sheep)—will be weighed Saturday, June 6, 8-9:00am. If you plan on participating you must RSVP to 439-3178.

Weighing and tagging will be done at the Fairgrounds by Rend Lake College.

Vet. Check Day

The date has been set for June 29 please put this on your calendar. We are working on ways to speed the day up. If there are any older 4-H youth willing to help the day before this would be greatly appreciated and will also count as a county activity/meeting to help you meet the requirements.

Livestock Deadlines

All livestock must be owned and on the stated address, being cared for by the 4-H member by the dates listed below for each species. Forms must be turned in to the Extension Office by the required date.

April 15, 2020—Swine, Sheep & Goats

June 1, 2020—Rabbits & Poultry & Horses

For animals born after those dates, they are automatically included. Random farm visits will be conducted without notice.

You be the judge at Illinois 4-H State Livestock Judging Contest

June 15 | 9 AM – 4 PM Stock Pavilion | University of Illinois, Urbana

The Illinois 4-H Livestock Judging Contest will be held Monday, June 15 at the Stock Pavilion in Urbana (1402 West Pennsylvania Ave.) beginning with registration at 8:30 a.m. All participants must be checked in by 9:30. The contest will begin at 10. Each county may enter a total of three teams, with no more than two junior teams or two senior teams. Get all the rules and details online @ go.illinois.edu/4Hlivestock. There will be three classes of beef, three classes of swine and two classes of sheep. There may also be a class of meat goats substituted for one class of the other species. There will also be a class of 15 questions (5 from a beef class, 5 from a swine class and 5 from a sheep class). Cost for each senior competitor is \$10 to cover the cost of lunch. Juniors will be dismissed by lunch to get their own meals.

4-H Poultry judging returns to state fair

August 17 | 4-6 PM Jr. Livestock Barns | Illinois State Fair

The Illinois 4-H State Poultry Judging Contest will be held from 4 to 6 PM Aug. 17 in the junior livestock barns on the State Fairgrounds in Springfield. There is no limit to the number of exhibitors each county may send. Teams of three or four contestants may be submitted. The four top seniors (age 14-18 on Jan. 1, 2020) will compete as the Illinois team at the National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference in November. Registration begins at 3:30. Check out the state 4-H website on the Events page for all the details

Clubs please plan something for later in the year, but you must go online and register the event and date for it to count for National points



Be a true leader in service

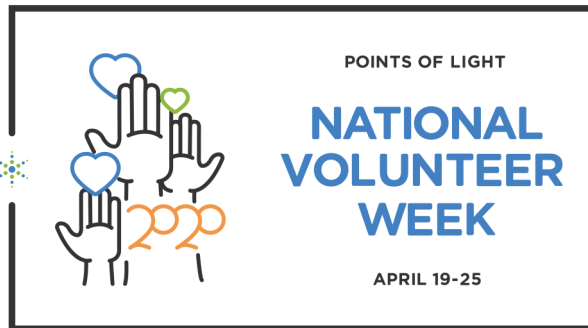
Join 4-H members and clubs across Illinois and the nation on **Saturday, April 25** as part of **True Leaders in Service!** 4-H clubs serve their communities all year long however the month of April has been selected as a time for ALL 4-H clubs to join together to roll up their sleeves in service to local communities.

This could mean helping a person or family in need doing yard work or minor home repairs, cleaning up streets or parks, planting trees or gardens, supporting your local food pantry or any other project that supports a local need.

Make your plans now on how you'll help others. Find resources @ go.illinois.edu/4Hdayofservice. Later in 2020, you can register your projects there! The goal of the 4-H True Leaders in Service day is to encourage 4-H members in every county to make a positive difference. Service projects can be done by individuals, by 4-H clubs, or as a countywide service project. No matter what the project is, this will be a day to make a difference.

How strong is your 4-H family spirit?

The Illinois 4-H Foundation welcomes nominations for the 2020 4-H Family Spirit Award. The Illinois 4-H Family Spirit Award recognizes a family with at least three generations and at least 15 different family members (including in-laws) that have either been 4-H members, leaders, or volunteers with at least 100 cumulative years of 4-H membership or volunteerism represented within the family. Selection is based on the total number of family members with 4-H connections, the total number of years of 4-H involvement, the diversity of experiences and recognitions earned by the 4-H members, and the collective impact that family members have made as advocates of their county and state 4-H programs. On-line applications are available at: 4h-foundation.illinois.edu/content/family-spirit-award. **Nominations are due May 1.**



Coming Events

April 19-25	National Volunteer Week
April 25	National 4-H Day of Service
April 29 – May 10	Tractor Supply Paper Clover Campaign
May 1	DEADLINE: Family Spirit Award Nominations
June 2 – 6	Week 1: Camping at 4-H Memorial Camp
June 7 – 11	Week 2: Camping at 4-H Memorial Camp
June 15	Fair Entry Deadline
June 15	State Livestock Judging Contest
June 15-18	Week 3: Camping at 4-H Memorial Camp
June 21 – June 26	Illini Summer Academies
July 9-16	Franklin County 4-H Fair



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University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment. If you need a reasonable accommodation to attend, please contact 439-3178. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time for meeting your access needs.