



May 2020

**To Make the Best
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8:00-Noon
1:00 -4:30extension.illinois.edu/hkmw

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Dear 4-H Families and Friends,

What a unique time to be in 4-H. The impact of COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) continues to create uncertainty and concern both globally and here in our community. University of Illinois Extension has released updated guidelines for Extension sponsored events and activities, including summer 4-H general shows and livestock exhibitions. The new guidelines continue to focus on managing the safety of event participants and the communities where these events take place. Our updated event policy follows guidance from the Illinois Department of Public Health and University of Illinois.

All in-person events sponsored by Illinois Extension through July 5 have been canceled or transitioned to an online delivery format. **4-H shows scheduled from now through July 5 have been transitioned to online virtual showing.** For programs scheduled for July 6 and after, an updated announcement will be provided if or when conditions change and as state officials and Illinois Department of Public Health provide new guidance. Decisions about events beyond July 6 will be publicly communicated by the first day of the month before.

Follow your county 4-H Facebook page and continue to check your email listed in 4-H Online for the latest updates about 4-H.

Your fair book can be found on our website <https://extension.illinois.edu/hkmw/4-h-mcdonough-county> Scroll to the bottom of the page and look under the "Fairs and Shows" tab. Consider this book your guide to a successful 4-H fair. If we need to make any changes or updates, you will find them in your newsletter.

Yours in 4-H,

Shelby R. Carlson

4-H Event Update

- May 30 ~ Warren County Livestock Judging Contest - Canceled
- June 1 ~ State Fair Junior Horse Entry Forms - Postponed to June 20th
- June 1 ~ Dog and Horse Papers due to Office
- June 22 ~ Deadline for Fair Entry in 4-H Fair
- June ~ State Livestock Judging Contest Will Be Virtual (Details & Date TBA)

Foundation Hall of Fame ceremony set

The Illinois 4-H Foundation will honor one volunteer leader from each county at a ceremony during the Illinois State Fair. The celebration begins at 3 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 18 as part of Ag Day at the fair right before the Sale of Champions activities begin. Supporters and families of the recipients are welcome to attend.

Entry deadlines approaching

The deadline to enter the Illinois State Fair Junior Horse Show has been extended to June 20. The deadline to enter the Illinois State Fair Junior Livestock Show is July 1. The show is open to current Illinois 4-H and FFA members. 4-H membership is 8 to 18, thus youth who were 19 and older on Sept. 1, 2019 and too old for 4-H can only enter as FFA alumni. Your entry forms **MUST** be signed by either the county 4-H office where you are a member or by your local FFA instructor who must verify your membership.

Update: June 1 is horse ownership/lease papers due date

At this time, we are moving the horse ownership/lease paper due date. June 1 is the deadline to file horse ownership/lease papers with the local Extension office. In addition to the ownership/lease papers, a photo of each side of the animals is required. We strongly encourage members who own or lease more than one horse to file paperwork on ALL potential exhibit horses by the deadline. If a horse is injured or dies, it may be replaced **ONLY** by a horse whose paperwork is already on file by the deadline. A horse may only be owned or leased to and exhibited by ONE 4-H or FFA member at the State Fair Junior Horse Show. Download the form @ <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/projects/horse> .

Sheep and Goat Nomination Forms

4-H members who hope to show sheep or goats at the State Fair need to complete the self-nomination process by June 10. Due to the current closure of local Extension Offices, the need for a local signature has been waived. Please contact Beth by email chattert@illinois.edu for a copy of the paperwork needed. The process to show premiere animals at State Fair has changed, a weight is no longer needed for this year. Premiere paperwork is due by June 10.

State Fair Livestock Entry Deadlines

Horses: Old June 1, New June 20

Livestock Old July 1, New July 15

You can get State Fair Entries at

<https://www2.illinois.gov/statefair/competitions/premium-books/Pages/default.aspx>

Keeping in Touch While Keeping Your Distance

Social distancing can cause feelings of isolation when you halt your normal daily routine and seclude yourself from others. To help with this, why not make use of your time at home and start on your “someday” projects?

- **Organize** family pictures. Get the family involved and go through them together. Photos are wonderful triggers for reminiscing about life events and sharing family stories.
- **Declutter** your closets and junk drawers. Sort and Pitch. Have a decluttering party or cleaning competition!
- **Read** for pleasure. Set aside a time each day to read as a family.
- **Get moving** and get outdoors. Take a walk in your yard and notice nature.
- **Reach out to your friends and family** through phone calls, texts, emails, and social media. Bring back the art of letter writing.

Social distancing is a precautionary measure to prevent the spread of disease, but it can also be a gift of time. For more ideas on how to stay busy at home, what you can do in your garden, healthy eating and general wellbeing during this time check out the University of Illinois Extensions Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/UIExtension/>

New Statewide Leadership Opportunity: Illinois 4-H Food Advocacy Team

The Illinois 4-H State Office is pleased to announce the launch of a new statewide leadership opportunity for Illinois youth seeking to improve food security and food access in their community. The Illinois 4-H Food Advocacy team is a group of teens and young adults from across the state of Illinois who are recognized for their dynamic leadership and who want to increase their impact on the future of food in Illinois. Team members will influence the annual Illinois 4-H Food Action Summit event and provide support for Food Systems programming in Illinois. You will also be eligible for state and nationwide opportunities.

If you're looking for a way to serve your community while strengthening your leadership, communication and advocacy skills, this is the next step for you. Applications, along with one professional reference, are due to the Illinois State 4-H Office by Saturday, May 2nd, 2020. For more information please contact Mark Becker (mbbecker@illinois.edu), Illinois 4-H Food Systems Specialist.

Application Link: <https://go.illinois.edu/Illinois4-HFoodAdvocacyTeamApplication>

Professional Reference Link: <https://go.illinois.edu/Illinois4-HFoodAdvocacyTeamReference>

NEW: 4-H Shooting Sports Volunteer Certification Field-Day Training Date:

- **Northern Illinois: Saturday, Sept. 12** at Torstenson Youth Education Center, Pecatonica, IL. Register between July 1 - September 2.

The Illinois 4-H program needs adults willing to serve as mentors and share their passion of shooting sports. Here's what you need to do:

- Contact your local Extension office and complete the required forms and background checks. Most Extension offices cover training fees with 2 year commitment from volunteers. Your local Extension staff will complete your registration.
- Complete a 3-hour online training module at home.
- Attend a 9-hour hands-on field day which runs from 9 AM to 7 PM.

Note on State Fair Tickets

The Extension Office will not have discounted State Fair tickets available for purchase this year. We want you to be flexible to invite anyone to State Fair without the worry of having to buy a ticket. The Sunday price is already reduced and advance tickets would not provide an additional value to families. Hope to see you at our day at State Fair on **Sunday, August 16!**

NEW: 4-H State Scholarship Opportunities

The Illinois 4-H Awards program will be expanding for the 2019-2020 program year! We will be offering five \$1,000 scholarships in each of our program areas. More information, applications and training video will be released prior to May 1st. The applications will be due November 1st. We thank our generous donors and the Illinois 4-H Foundation for providing this opportunity for our members!

See You at the Fair-Policy Update

We can't wait to see you and your projects at the fair! Remember the policies that effect showing at the fair. You had to re-enroll in 4-H by December 1. You needed to enroll in all livestock projects by January 1 and general show projects by March 1. **For this year only, you must attend at least 1 meeting** and give a talk or demonstration (club rules may vary). Talks and demonstrations will have to look a bit different as we practice social distancing. Talk to your club leader for ideas. You will need to sign up your projects in Fair Entry to tell us what you are planning to bring by June 22. Fair Entry will open on June 2nd.

Superior Young Producer Scholarship Program,

This is offered by the Illinois State Fair to 4-H members in Beef, Sheep, Swine, Dairy, and Horses as an educational activity at the Illinois State Fair to promote youth development and personal growth. Three \$1,000 scholarships will be provided in horses and three \$1,000 scholarships will be provided in dairy. A total of nine \$1,000 scholarships will be provided in a combined contest for beef, sheep, and swine contestants.

Look for These Changes at the Illinois State Fair

- Exhibits must be in place by 9:30 AM and remain on display **until 4 PM**. (new release time)
- The awards will include **Champion Medals** for the highest score in each project class and **Reserve Medals** for the second highest score in each class. Cash premiums from the state will be paid to the medal winners. **Innovation Awards** will be given to exhibits judges find inspiring, innovative, or creative and are not based on scores. Medal winners cannot receive the innovation award in 2020.
- **New projects** at the state fair include: Child Development, Leather, Sports Nutrition, Family Heritage, and Shooting Sports
- The **State 4-H Public Speaking Contest** will be held at the same time as the state fair. Youth can compete in a speech and also bring a project to the General Project Show. Youth must be selected in their county contest to advance and will speak the same day as their county exhibit day.
- **Ewe lambs** are now eligible for the premier show.
- The **junior poultry show** begins Monday, Aug. 17.
- The **State 4-H Poultry Judging Contest** will be held at the state fair on Monday, Aug. 17.
- The **junior rabbit show** begins August 17.
- Check out all the livestock ownership deadlines online @ go.illinois.edu/4Hlivestock.
- The office will not have extra admission tickets for the state fair this year. Please plan accordingly.



The 4-H Everyday Sportsman's Skills Challenge is currently underway and runs continuously until July 15, 2020. Interested 4-H Members are presented with three sportsman's skills at a time which they learn by viewing suggested videos. Once they've mastered the skills, they contact their 4-H leader or 4-H staff person to communicate what they've learned. Each skill level mastered gets the 4-H member entered into a drawing for a high quality multi-tool sponsored by Illinois Pheasants Forever.

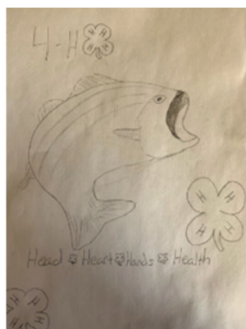
Click here for details:

<https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/4-h-everyday-sportsmans-skills-challenge>

Barred Owl Nest Box Citizen Science Project reminders: May marks the month owlets are ready to leave the nest. Many nest boxes were hung in parks that have not been accessible this spring but please remind your 4-H families to check again to see when access may be possible. The owlets may be gone, but investigate the box for signs such as pellets, feathers, etc. Please send any information to Curt Sinclair at sinclair@illinois.edu.

Nest Box reporting sheets are here:

https://nestwatch.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/DataSheet_20171103.pdf



4-H Fishing Fun Fest continues until May 15, 2020. Current year 4-H members enrolled in Sportfishing 1, 2, or 3 enter the contest by taking a picture of their bass or catfish with a ruler and a secret item announced each week. May 1-8 they include a sketch of a 4-H Clover (see sample provided by Hannah S., Jackson Co.) and upload to a Jot form. Rod and Reel prizes each week!

Details found at: <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/illinois-4-h-virtual-fishing-fun-fest>

4-H Maker Monday Series

Maker Mondays is a YouTube Segment featuring the Illinois 4-H STEM Team, that guides youth through the process of designing, fabricating, and finishing anything we can think of, from cosplay inspired outfits, to custom themed drones and gadgets. These videos are designed to inspire and encourage youth to expand their imaginations, and build/make whatever they can think of. Our videos are not meant to transform youth into content experts, but rather into process experts with the tools and skills needed to find the answers to questions they have. Every video lists the materials and tools needed, and many videos will have accompanying downloads. In our first video, we make Mandalorian Armor from scratch using basic tools and a 3D printer!

Click the link below to view: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P7hhXcL-6fQ&feature=youtu.be>

4-H COVID Idea Challenge

5 finalists will be selected and pitch their idea to a panel of content experts as well as Maker and rapid prototyping experts, live streamed on Saturday, May 30 (link available the week of event). We will provide one person or collaborative team \$1000 in resources, and guidance to aid in the rapid prototyping of your idea. Additionally, if the idea qualifies, we will aid the winning person/team in sharing their idea to virtual platforms like the National Institute of Health's 3D Print Exchange (if 3D Printable), as well as other open source COVID 19 solutions platforms both locally and nationally. This is a timely opportunity to showcase the inner Maker in our youth, with the potential to impact their communities.

Go to: go.illinois.edu/covididea for details

Please feel free to share this email with those you think would be potentially interested. Thanks, and [Subscribe to our channel](#) if you enjoyed our content!

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

New Opportunities

Do you have an idea for a low cost solution that could help your community battle the current COVID crisis? If so, let us know for your chance to see your idea come to life!

We will provide one person or collaborative team from around the country \$1000 in resources, and guidance to aid in the rapid prototyping of your idea. 5 finalists will be selected and pitch their idea to a panel of content experts as well as Maker and rapid prototyping experts, **live online on Saturday, May 30 on the Illinois 4-H STEM Team YouTube Channel**.

Fair Interns

4-H members have a great story to tell and we are looking for someone to tell it at a 4-H Fair Intern. 4-H Fair Social Media Interns will assist Extension staff in keeping social media updated, take pictures, design graphics, and write stories during the 4-H fair. For more details and to **Apply by June 1**, visit <https://go.illinois.edu/FairIntern>.

Congratulations to Our Graduates

8th Grade Graduates

Connor Bishop	Ryleigh Hall	Tyler Shannon	Ryan Steward
Owen Torrance	Varek Venugopalan	William Walters	Kenlee Welsh

High School Graduates

Macy Coker	Erin Curley	Lucy Gruidl	Ryan Haney
Sidney Hood	Ryan McGrew	Bailey Rauch	Tessa Sargeant
Hailey Walters			

We're Looking for New Members!

You see them at state 4-H events in their bright green shirts. Now YOU can become an Illinois State 4-H Youth Leadership Team member.

Eligibility: Age 16 to 19 by September 1, 2020.

Length of service: Two years

Apply online: go.illinois.edu/4HYLT. Look for the "application" at the bottom of the page.

Deadline: June 1, 2020



The State Youth Leadership Team plans and implements the state Jr. Leadership Conference, plans and teaches the Speaking for Illinois 4-H program, and assists (behind the scenes and in front of the audience) for many other statewide events. Team members have the opportunity to serve on statewide planning committees and advisory groups, including the Illinois 4-H Foundation Board of Directors, Illinois Farm Bureau Youth Education Committee, Illini Summer Academies planning committee, and Teen Leadership Conference planning committee. Members also have the first opportunity to attend National 4-H Conference in Washington, D.C. each spring.

Collecting Food Access Stories

The Illinois 4-H State Office is putting a call out for stories that highlight the creative, innovative, and inspiring work that 4-H youth are doing to respond to the COVID-19 crisis. If you have a young person or a club in your area that is going out of their way to create greater food security and food access through service learning projects, advocacy, social media campaigns, or community service, we want to hear about them and help their work get highlighted by the U of I College of ACES Extension communication team. Please send a brief description of their project, a contact, and a photograph (where possible) of their work to mbbecker@illinois.edu. Thank you for all the important work you're doing to support our young people.

We will provide one person or collaborative team from around the country \$1000 in resources, and guidance to aid in the rapid prototyping of your idea. 5 finalists will be selected .



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

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



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