

IL 4-H State Newsletter for March 2023

4-H Memorial Camp

FAMILY CAMP AT 4-H MEMORIAL CAMP

Are you ready to get outside for a fun family weekend? We are kicking the summer off with **Family Camp** at **4-H Memorial Camp**. Your family will get to stay in their own cabin, have all meals provided from Friday Dinner through Sunday Lunch, and get to participate in all the fun activities we have planned including swimming, boating, fishing, arts & crafts, zip lining, rock climbing, fun S.T.E.M. activities, hikes, tie-dying t-shirts, building model rockets and so much more!

Dates: May 19-21, 2023

Fees:

Cabin Rental- \$215

Participant Fee- 8 years old and older: \$84/person

4-7 years old: \$56/person

Under 3- No Charge

***At least one child must be 4-H Age (5-18)**

Each cabin has 10 beds

More information and registration forms can be found on the 4-H Memorial Camp Website

<https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/4-h-memorial-camp/4-h-family-camp>

If you have any questions, please contact:

Monika Hammerschmidt hammersc@illinois.edu (217) 762-2741

or

Andy Davis ardavis1@illinois.edu (217) 762-2741

You can find pictures of last year's Family Camp on our [Facebook Page](#).

Come see for yourself what everyone is talking about!

True Leaders in Service

4-H members and clubs continue to demonstrate they are ***True Leaders in Service***, as they work to support both their personal and club goals of making a difference in their community while focusing on the 4th “H” and pledging their HANDS to larger service!

Please share your story of how you and/or your club are supporting your community by going to the Illinois 4-H website’s Community Service page, <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/participate/4-h-community-service>. To be identified as having participated in the National 4-H Day of Service, you first must click on the “Register You 2023 Event” box and share your plan for positively impacting your community. Once you have completed your service outreach efforts, then be sure to go back to the webpage use click the “Report 2023 Community Service” box and report what you accomplished and how you and your club made a difference. The accomplishments of both individual members and clubs will be highlighted on the Illinois 4-H Website so make sure you go use the reporting link to document your positive efforts. Please note – this site is open year-round so if you do multiple projects throughout the year, please continue to share that information both on the registration side and on the reporting side. The impact made by individual 4-H members and by clubs in their communities is valuable. It makes Illinois communities stronger; it helps support unity among community members; and it provides valuable support to those in need.

Public Speaking

The State Public Speaking Show will be held April 29th. The last day for county shows will be April 7th.

IL Summer Academies

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.

Alumni

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 4-H SENIORS!

As you embark on a new chapter upon graduating high school, the Illinois 4-H program is PROUD of your accomplishments. You have excelled in your 4-H work and beyond. You have managed and overcome challenges. You have given back to your families and communities.

We ask that you complete a [4-H Senior Survey](#). This survey is designed for graduating seniors to share your experiences in 4-H, tell us about your career path, and if 4-H influenced your school or career decisions. **Deadline March 15, 2023**

Seniors participating in the 4-H Senior Survey **will receive a 4-H graduation tassel as a memorabilia item** to remember your time in the Illinois 4-H program **AND be entered into a drawing for 1 of 4 \$50 VISA Gift Cards.**

4-H BY THE DECADES 1990s

Tuesday, March 21, 2023

We are seeking Illinois 4-H History from our 4-H alumni by the decades! Join us to visit about how 4-H impacted your life during the 1990's growing up in the Illinois 4-H program. We will also be seeking photos of special memories, mementos, and awards of each decade to share on a new Illinois 4-H History website to be developed. Share with us your 4-H story!

Register by Friday, March 17 - <https://form.jotform.com/230454284435152>

The link will be sent to registered attendees on Monday, March 20.

Sponsored by the Illinois 4-H Alumni Association

Environment

4-H SHOOTING SPORTS VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

2023 4-H Shooting Sports Leader Trainings:

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 Curt Sinclair, Illinois 4-H State Office at sinclair@illinois.edu

4-H Outdoor Skills Challenge returns for 2023!

Ready to challenge yourself and then prove it to your 4-H Leader or another trusted adult? You could teach them a thing or two! Learn these skill levels and compete for some great prizes that will help you enjoy the outdoors!

<https://go.illinois.edu/4-HOutdoorSkillsChallenge>

Get your tackle ready! The 2023 **4-H Hooks-Us-Together Statewide Fishing Tournament** will run from April 1 – June, 30 2023. Details on how to register coming in March!

April – Crappie State 4-H Tournament

May – Largemouth Bass 4-H State Tournament

June – Channel Catfish 4-H State Tournament

Food Systems

REGISTER YOUTH FOR THE LITTLE ROOTS GARDENING PROGRAM

The Little Roots program is now accepting registrations for Cloverbuds ages 5-7 who want to be inspired to learn more about how to grow their own food. Registrants will receive a weekly activity calendar along with seed packets and educational materials for a self-paced gardening experience. To learn more, and register for the program, please contact your local 4-H staff. Educational materials are available in English and Spanish upon request. Contact: Brittney Haag, Extension Horticulture Educator -

bhaag@illinois.edu

April is Month of the Military Child

Celebrating Military Families in our Community!

4-H Clubs looking for a service project during the Month of April might want to explore doing something for the military families living in their communities. 4-H clubs looking for a service project this spring should explore ways to support military local families during April which is the Month of the Military Child! Military families make up a very special part of our nation's population. Behind every service member is a family that supports them whether they are at home or deployed. For Illinois military families, this includes more than 27,100 active-duty service members; 33,200 National Guard and Reserve members; which translates into nearly 17,000 military spouses; and more than 30,000 children.

In addition to inviting youth of military families to join your 4-H club, here is a list of other potential projects 4-H clubs might do to show their support:

- Contact your local Library and schedule a Celebrating Military Kids Day by hosting a Cloverbud Story Time and providing them with snacks (plan for food allergies).
- Coordinate a special day with hands-on activities for military families.
- Invite youth of military families to provide a picture of their service member to create a Wall of Heroes that can remain on display during the month of April at a local venue, possibly the local library or school.
- Create Family Packs for military families in your community. The Family Packs can include items that support family activities such as board games; craft kits; gift cards for local family-oriented experiences and/or restaurant!

We have a limited number of 4-H Military Wall of Heroes Banners available to 4-H Clubs interested in creating a Wall of Heroes. We also have some sets of children's story books focused on military families for clubs interested in planning and hosting a Cloverbud Story Time event. If interested in securing either of these resources, please reach out to Pat McGlaughlin, patm@illinois.edu.

Citizenship Washington Focus

Through Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF), Illinois 4-H teens have the opportunity to experience Washington D.C. like never before. Using the nation's capital as their classroom, CWF connects youth leaders from across the nation in an opportunity to gain the skills and experiences to:

- Better understand the legislative process
- Recognize their views and opinions matter
- Develop a mindset of who important it is to be involved in decisions that will impact them both now and in the future

- Exploration into career opportunities available to them
- Travel around Washington, D.C. and the surrounding area to visit and experience firsthand a living history which represents the combined efforts of the people to establish the governmental process under which the United States operates

Illinois & Indiana are teaming up for the 2023 Citizenship Washington Focus Trip and teens will be able to experience their nation’s capital during one of the most amazing weeks to experience Washington D.C. as they travel **July 2 – 7, 2023!** The delegation will be traveling by bus, with a stop in Gettysburg, for a visit at the battlefields there. **Register by March 6, 2023 to reserve your spot!**

Important Details:

Target Audience 4-H members ages 14 – 18 (by May 1 the year they travel)

Estimated Cost \$2,000 (three installments; last payment could be slightly less depending on final numbers)

Space is Limited Illinois currently has 10 spots available; *with a possibility of increasing that number*

Contact for Registration Details: Registration opens 2/22: <https://4h.zsuite.org/event-registrations/19340> Patricia McGlaughlin, patm@illinois.edu

4-H Day with the Cardinals- Saturday, May 20

We are pleased to announce that the registration for the **20th annual 4-H Day With the Cardinals** is now open and will run through 11:59 p.m. March 31.

Game day is May 20 at 6:15 p.m. against the LA Dodgers. Tickets are \$30.00 each and includes a specially designed t-shirt. Raffle chances are \$1.00 each for the chance to throw out the first pitch (must be a 4-H member), all others can win autographed baseballs and tickets to future games. ****New – option to purchase a ball cap for \$10.00 to commemorate the 20th anniversary of this event (limit one per order).** A shipping and handling fee will be added to each order.

Everyone will have the chance to participate in a parade around the field. Tickets and t-shirts will be mailed May 4 with more instructions for the day. Please note – groups that wish to sit together, must submit one order. Get tickets here: <https://extension.missouri.edu/events/4-h-day-with-the-cardinals-2023>

Animal Science

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE YOUTH MEAT JUDGING SERIES!

The Illinois Association of Meat Processors and the University of Illinois Meats Judging are collaborating to continue a youth meat judging series in spring 2023 that is open to all 4-H and FFA youth.

Each invitational is a clinic with more information to come. Mark your calendars for:

- March 3 is the State 4-H Contest at the University of Illinois

For questions, please contact Jesse Faber at jfaber@pontiac90.org.

State Events

March 2023

- March 4-5 4-H Changemakers
- March 9-12 Ignite by 4-H

April 2023

- April 1 State Awards Banquet
- April 14-19 National 4-H Conference
- April 22-23 State Horse Bowl, Hippology, Horse Speaking Contest
- April 29 State Public Speaking Competition

May 2023

- May 13 State Robotics Competition

June 2023

- June 4 on – 4-H Camp
- June 25-29 4-H Illini Summer Academies

July 2023

- July 2-7 Citizenship Washington Focus
- July 6-8 4-H Teen Leadership Camp
- July 10-13 True Leaders in Equity Institute
- July 24-August 4 Digital Agriculture Training Course

August 2023

- August 11-13 General Projects days at State Fair