



Welcome to the March 6th Edition of the newly re-designed 4-H E-Blast!

Included with this email are many attachments—Please make sure to check them out!

Like us on Facebook @UnitOne4H

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

If you are attending a meeting/activity/event, please check your email beforehand for cancellations in the event of severe winter weather.

- Mar 7** – YQCA Instructor Led Training (ages 8-18)
- Mar 13-14** – BOYS Science Siesta (Discovery Center)
- Apr 1** – YLT Meeting (6:30 pm-Extension Office)
- Apr 1-17** – Register for Public Speaking Contest through FAIR ENTRY
- Apr 3-4** – GIRLS Science Siesta (Discovery Center)
- Apr 14** - Cartooning Workshop (4:30 pm-Ext. Office)
- Apr 23** – Public Speaking Contest (6:00 pm)
- Apr 26**—4-H Dog Workshop (Noon-2 pm FCDC)
- Apr 29** – 4-H Leader’s Meeting
- May 1** – FAIR ENTRY opens for ALL members to register entries for the 4-H FAIR
- May 6** – YLT Meeting (6:30 pm-Extension Office)
- May 17**—4-H Dog Workshop (Noon-2 pm FCDC)
- May 25** – Extension Offices Closed for Memorial Day

Please be sure to check the website for program and event registrations: <https://extension.illinois.edu/jsw>.

More events are listed on the Calendar of Events included with this email.

Now that it is **MARCH**, here are some important Do’s and Don’ts to help parents support their 4-H member in the BEST POSSIBLE WAY.

DO:

- Take time to learn about 4-H, what it stands for, and how it operates
- Keep in mind that the most important goal of 4-H is personal growth of the youth
- Volunteer your hobbies and talents to 4-H leaders and 4-H youth
- Keep informed of 4-H deadlines, activities and events by taking the time to read the newsletters, emails and Facebook posts
- ASK Questions! 4-H has its own culture and language, so don’t be afraid to ask questions!

DON’T:

- Complete you child’s projects for them...Remember 4-H is **LEARNING BY DOING**
- Schedule family outings that constantly conflict with your child’s 4-H schedule
- Don’t be disrespectful to the judges or others when your child didn’t get the award or color of ribbon you thought they should have received. This is a great time to teach a life skill that sometimes things don’t always go your way.

Remember the most important lesson of all: There is no failure in learning from mistakes – this is how we GROW!

YQCA Instructor Led Training Scheduled

For members enrolled in **dairy cattle, beef, swine, sheep and goats: ALL** 4-H exhibitors of these animals will be required to certify in the YQCA program each year starting for the 2020 show season.

If you want to attend the face-to-face trainings, you **MUST PRE-REGISTER** through the YQCA website.

WINNEBAGO County will offer a Face-to-Face training on **Saturday, March 7** beginning at 9:30 am at the Prince of Peace Church – 2336 Freeport Road, Rockton.

If you miss Saturday’s training, you can always attend in another county but you must pre-register through YQCA.

Another option is to do the training on your own online through the YQCA website. <http://yqca.org>.





DEADLINE TO ADD NEW PROJECTS & ORDER PROJECT BOOKS IS APRIL 1ST

If you would like the opportunity to exhibit your 4-H project at the fair, you will need to be enrolled in 4-H ONLINE and enrolled in your project by **APRIL 1, 2020**. While you can enroll in 4-H at any time, April 1st is the deadline for being eligible to participate in the Winnebago County 4-H Fair.

PLEASE make sure to log into your 4-H ONLINE account today to confirm that you are enrolled in the projects you want to exhibit. If you need help, please contact Stacy at the Extension office ASAP.



ATTENTION HORSE PROJECT MEMBERS:

HORSE LEASE/OWNERSHIP PAPERWORK – Planning to show at the August 1st 4-H HORSE SHOW? All horse paperwork (forms and 2 photos) is due by **May 1, 2020** in the Extension office. Please make sure to take updated photos (one of each side of your horse without tack) and either mail, drop off or email these to Stacy at cwiklo@illinois.edu before the May 1st deadline. All members must have taken the QAEC Ethics training by June 1st.

ANIMAL OWNERSHIP DEADLINES

All 4-H'er who intend to exhibit at the 2020 Winnebago County 4-H Fair must abide by the following ownership deadlines:

January 1 – Beef, Dairy Cattle

May 1 – Horse, Swine, Dogs

June 1 – Dairy Calves & Heifers, Sheep, Goats, Cats, Poultry, Rabbits, Cavies & Small Pets

4-H FISH CAMP – MAY 2 & 3

Kids ages 8-18 are invited to attend 4-H Fish Camp in Monticello, IL on May 2-3, 2020 and spend the weekend learning to fish, making lures and having fun. Cost is \$50 per person and registration deadline is April 20, 2020. Please see the attached FISH CAMP flyer attached to this email.



Help sew new curtains for 4-H Camp!

March 21 | 9 AM – 4 PM | 4-H Memorial Camp @ Monticello

Register online @ go.illinois.edu/4Hsewing

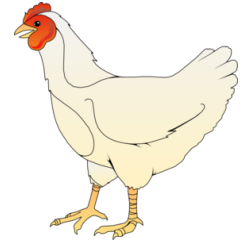
4-H Memorial Camp needs new cabin curtains ... LOTS OF THEM! If you know how to sew and have taken at least one year of 4-H sewing, we have a great community service project that is fun and will make a big difference! We need 50 youth volunteers to help cut, pin, sew, and hang 126 curtains in the log cabins used by 1,500 campers each summer. The camp will provide all the materials, patterns, and lunch! We have a few sewing machines available, but more are needed. Members may bring one parent or guardian to help. Come help and enjoy the perfect camp lunch of hot dogs, baked beans, veggies, chips, and cookies!



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.



STATE FAIR JUDGING DAY FOR WINNEBAGO COUNTY 4-H GENERAL PROJECTS MEMBERS IS FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 2020

CARTOONING WORKSHOP

For ANY youth ages 8-13 (4-H enrollment not necessary)

TUESDAY—April 14, 2020

4:30 pm at the Winnebago County Extension Office

FREE to attend—Seats are limited

MUST Register online via our website:

<https://extension.illinois.edu/jsw>



4-H Goat, Poultry & Rabbit Clinics

Stephenson County 4-H invites you to attend their Goat, Poultry & Rabbit Clinics on Saturday, April 25, 2020 to be held in the poultry barn at the Stephenson County Fairgrounds.

The Goat, Poultry & Rabbit Clinics are open to ANY 4-H youth. Participants are invited to attend one or all clinics and will learn everything needed to successfully show their animal. The clinics are free and you are welcome to bring your (caged) animal(s). Deadline to register for these FREE clinics is April 17th.

Please register online: <https://extension.illinois.edu/jsw>



6 Ways to Teach Your Child the Importance of Giving Back

It's vital to teach kids the importance of giving back to their community. Giving back not only helps those in need but also teaches kids to show compassion towards others. Here are a few different ways you can teach your child to help out your neighbors, peers, and others in the community.

Organize a Clothing Drive

Kids outgrow clothes quickly, so they certainly have items they no longer wear. Gather family members and your kids' friends and collect clothes that no longer fit. You can then donate them to a local charity to help families in need. Aim to include at least a few seasonal items.

Knit Scarves for the Homeless

Sometimes kids need a reminder of how fortunate they are. A great way to teach this lesson is by encouraging them to do something kind for those in a more difficult position. By knitting simple scarves for people experiencing homelessness, your kids can learn empathy and provide comfort and warmth for others. There are great online tutorials that teach knitting, 4-H's [guide to giving back](#) includes this project and more for your kids to try. It doesn't matter if the finished scarf isn't perfect. In this case, it really is the thought that counts.

Plan a Group Service Project

In the spirit of the [4-H Pledge](#), encourage your kids to pledge their hands to larger service. This April, as part of National Volunteer Appreciation Month, 4-H will hold its annual [True Leaders in Service](#) initiative, inspiring kids to make positive contributions to their communities. Don't limit your service to humans. If you're raising animal lovers, they could volunteer as dog walkers at a local animal shelter. Be sure to [report your service event](#) and see how other kids are participating across the country.

Start a Giving Jar

Build a lifelong habit of generosity by teaching children to invest their money back into the community. Each time they get an allowance, encourage them to deposit a portion into the jar for others. As the total grows, decide as a family how or where you'd like to use it. You could purchase pet food for the local animal shelter, donate to cancer research, or purchase flowers for a local nursing home. Older kids can research charitable organizations and present ideas for the family to vote on.

Grow a Community Garden

A key part of maintaining a healthy life is nutrition. However, not everyone has access to healthy foods—especially fruits and vegetables—to add to their daily diets. Many 4-H members have started community gardens to help provide those experiencing homelessness and food deserts access to fresh produce. Other 4-H-grown food is donated to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education (SNAP-Ed) participants and families. Find a community garden nearby where your kids can learn how to grow their food and donate it to those in need. For more ideas on healthy living, download the free [4-H Healthy Living Activity Guide](#).

Care for the Elderly

Show kids all the ways they can lighten the load and brighten the day of older community members. Kids can rake leaves, plant flowers, or deliver handmade cards to elderly neighbors. Extroverted kiddos might enjoy playing board games or reading to seniors at a retirement community.



4-H INSPIRES KIDS TO GIVE BACK





WINNEBAGO COUNTY 4-H PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST – APRIL 23, 2020

FAIR ENTRY opens on April 1st for members enrolled in Public Presentation. Members must register their entry for the contest between April 1 and April 17 online using <https://faireentry.com/>.

2020 4-H CAMP

Registration for 4-H Camp is open! <https://go.illinois.edu/4HSummerCamp>
4-H Camp is set for June 8-12 at Rock River Christian Camp in Polo, IL and is open to ALL boys and girls ages 8-14 by June 10. 4-H membership is not required.

Cost is \$270 for 4-H members and \$290 for non-4-H members. All camp fees must be paid in full by May 20th.



STUDY FOOD SCIENCE & WIN CASH!



Science is cool, and now it pays! A \$50 CASH prize will be awarded to the **TOP FOOD SCIENCE exhibit** in each county by the Chicagoland Food Science Foundation. Make sure to enroll in a FOOD SCIENCE project by April 1st so you can exhibit at the fair this summer and possibly win \$50!

Winter Trails & Naturalist Tales

Embrace *late* winter's beauty through outdoor exploration and indoor inspiration at University of Illinois Extension's *Late Winter Trails & Naturalist Tales* from 9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. on Saturday, March 21, 2020. Winter Trails & Naturalist Tales will be held at Torstenson's Education Center, 13735 Cook Road, Pecatonica, and includes three "naturalist tales" keynote speakers and a self-guided hike / bird watching.

Register today: <https://extension.illinois.edu/jsw>

Industrial Hemp Production Workshop slated for March 24 in Freeport

The signing of the Illinois hemp bill has provided opportunities for the cultivation, distribution, and processing of hemp for fiber, grain, and CBD. This versatile cash crop has the potential to empower small farmer, but is not without its own set of challenges regarding planting methods, fertility, harvesting, storage and extraction. To help give some perspective on the lessons learned from the 2019 growing season, University of Illinois Extension will be hosting its 2nd annual "Industrial Hemp Production Workshop" at Highland Community College's Student Conference Center on **March 24th, 2020**. The workshop will begin at 8:30 and run until 3 p.m.

Register online: <https://extension.illinois.edu/jsw>