



Summer 2021



# Mason Clover Notes

University of Illinois Extension, Fulton-Mason-Peoria-Tazewell Unit

## A NOTE FROM JOLI

Dear 4-H Families,

The days are getting longer, the sun is shining, and summer is upon us!

One year ago, it seemed unimaginable to be stepping into a "hybrid" work procedure here at the Mason County Extension office, and planning a virtual 4-H Show.

The extraordinary perseverance of our 4-H members and volunteers through these out of the ordinary times, helped us through while we worked from our homes and operated under virtual terms. You have all done a fabulous job of keeping your 4-H clubs active and engaged throughout this past year.

We remain cautiously optimistic and are working to plan more in-person 4-H events, including a 2021 County 4-H Show! Be sure to read page seven of this newsletter for more information and changes to the 2021 4-H Shows.

Mark your calendars for upcoming events!

Happy Summer!

*Joli*

Joli Pierson  
Extension Program Coordinator  
4-H Youth Development



## 4-H ENROLLMENT

4-H Club Leaders, Cloverbud Club Leaders, Shooting Sports Coordinators, and Instructors:

If you haven't completed your online 4-H enrollment you need to do so as soon as possible! Please go to the online enrollment link [v2.4honline.com](https://v2.4honline.com) to complete your enrollment as a 4-H volunteer.



## 4-H PROGRAM FEES ARE DUE

There is an annual 4-H membership fee and payment is required of all members to participate in club activities. This year, with many thanks to the Havana National Bank for their donation to the Mason County 4-H program, membership fees have been discounted by half.

Cost is \$10 per member with a \$60 per family cap for membership fees. Invoices have been mailed out to anyone still needing to pay. Payments must be received by July 1, 2021 in order to be eligible to exhibit at the Mason County 4-H Show.

Anyone needing reasonable accommodation to participate, should contact the Extension office at (309) 543-3308 for a fee waiver.

## CLUB REPORTERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS

What's happening in your club? We'd love to hear about it so we can highlight your club activities and events! Please remember to submit your monthly club meeting report and photos to the Extension office at: [jkpero@illinois.edu](mailto:jkpiero@illinois.edu)



# Illinois Extension

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

University of Illinois Extension  
Fulton-Mason-Peoria-Tazewell Unit  
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Earl Allen, County Director  
[erallen@illinois.edu](mailto:erallen@illinois.edu)

## **Online**

[web.extension.illinois.edu/fmpt](http://web.extension.illinois.edu/fmpt)

Facebook- [Fulton County 4-H](#) (closed Group)  
[Mason County IL 4-H](#) (closed Group)  
[Peoria County 4-H](#)  
[Tazewell County IL 4-H](#)



## Local 4-H EVENTS

### **May 2021**

28 **DEADLINE** Farm Safety Day registration

### **June 2021**

01 Online 4-H Show Entries open at:  
<https://mason4-hfair.fairentry.com/>

04 Fulton-Mason Farm Safety Day Camp  
8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Mason Co. Fairgrounds

05 Happy Handful Club 4-H Club  
meeting, 9 a.m. Extension office

06 Mason County 4-H Federation  
meeting, 7:30 a.m. Extension office

06 Mason County 4-H Shooting Sports Club  
meeting, 1:30 p.m. 4-H Shooting Range

13 Pleasant Workers 4-H Club Tour, 1 p.m.

20-25 National 4-H Shooting Sports  
Competition—Grand Island, Nebraska

27 Kountry Kritters 4-H Club meeting, 4 p.m. at  
Clear Lake Outing Club

### **July**

01 **DEADLINE** for online 4-H Show Entries

20 4-H Show Superintendent Meeting

22 Fairgrounds Clean-up Day

25-August 1 ISF Junior Horse Show

26-29 Mason County 4-H & Jr. Shows Fair Week



## FARM SAFETY DAY FOR YOUTH

The annual Farm Safety Day will be held on Friday, June 4, 2021 at the Mason County Fair Grounds in Havana, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Farm Safety education is not just for farm kids! Safety topics to be covered will include Livestock, Fire, Weather, Grain Bin, Hiking/ Survival, Equipment, Firearms, and Poisonous Plants.

The event is sponsored by University of Illinois Extension, Fulton and Mason Counties, and Fulton County and Mason County Farm Bureaus, with the help of local businesses and donors.

The event is free to attend, however **online pre-registration is required by May 28, 2021. Online registration can be found at [go.illinois.edu/farmsafetyday](http://go.illinois.edu/farmsafetyday)**

Youth who are pre-registered by May 28, 2021 will receive a free gift at the conclusion of the event.

Farm Safety Day is for kids ages 6 years of age and up. Parents/adults are encouraged to attend with youth. A bag lunch and water will be provided to attendees.

State and local health department guidelines at the time of the event will be followed. Please use your best judgement if you and or your child is not feeling well.

For more information about Farm Safety Day, contact University of Illinois Extension, Mason County branch office at (309)-543-3308 or the Fulton County branch office at (309)-547-3711. Email Joli Pierson at [jkpierso@illinois.edu](mailto:jkpierso@illinois.edu) or Janis Blout at [jblout@illinois.edu](mailto:jblout@illinois.edu)



## QUALITY ASSURANCE & ETHICS (QA&E)



The Quality Assurance and Ethics training is required for all youth that enroll in **horses, rabbits, poultry, dogs, and cats**. Members must take the training whether they own a live animal or not. It is advised that they complete this one time as soon as they are enrolled in the project area. Failure to complete QA&E will result in the member's animal science project enrollment being cancelled and they will be ineligible to exhibit at county fairs. The website is open year round @ <http://web.extension.illinois.edu/qaec/>

NOTE: Youth must be logged on to a computer for this program, either a desktop or laptop; not an iPad or iPhone. The program cannot capture the information for county staff to see when it is completed using iPads or iPhones.

## YOUTH FOR THE QUALITY CARE OF ANIMALS (YQCA)

The YQCA is a livestock quality assurance program. It also replaces the Quality Assurance & Ethics (QAEC) program for youth in the following species; **dairy cattle, beef cattle, swine, sheep, and goats**. All 4-H exhibitors of these animals will be required to certify in the YQCA program yearly. Failure to complete YQCA will result in the member's animal science project enrollment being cancelled and they will be ineligible to exhibit at county fairs. Youth must certify online via the website <http://yqca.org> The YQCA program is for youth ages 8-21. The online version is broken into age divisions as follows: juniors 8-11, intermediate 12-14, senior 15-18, and young adults 19-21. This certification is annual with test out options of 1-3 years. The cost is \$12 and paid online.



## 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS LEADER CERTIFICATION TRAINING

A summer 4-H Shooting Sports leader certification training is scheduled for Saturday, July 24, 2021 in Pike County, IL. Shotgun, Rifle, Archery, Pistol, Hunting/Outdoor Skills, and Coordinator disciplines offered.

Contact your local U of I Extension Office for registration information.

## 2021 ILLINOIS 4-H STATE SHOOTING SPORTS COMPETITIONS

Youth must have been enrolled and participated in a local club during the current 4-H year, and be 14 years old by Jan. 1, 2022 to be eligible to compete.

Archery: Saturday, Sept. 18, 2021 at  
Pekin Archers, Pekin, IL

Shotgun: Saturday, Sept. 25, 2021 at  
Brittany Shooting Park, Bunker Hill, IL

Rifle/Pistol: October 2 (Rifle), October 3 (Pistol)  
at Central Illinois Precision  
Shooters, Bloomington, IL

## 4-H NATIONAL SHOOTING SPORTS COMPETITION



Fourteen Illinois 4-H teens will be competing at this year's National 4-H Shooting Sports competition in Grand Island, NE June 20-25, 2021. Hundreds of 4-H shooters from all over the country will compete to make the best better.

Mason County will be represented by Ben Snider, who was the first place IL state competitor in 2019 & 2020. Ben's father and Mason County 4-H Shooting Sports instructor, Ted Snider, has also been serving as the IL Recurve Archery Coach. He will accompany the team to the national competition.

Please send Ben, Ted, and the rest of the Illinois Shooting Sports Team your Good Luck Wishes!

Air Rifle: Gloria Bremer, Madison Co. and Braden May, Massac Co.

Small Bore Rifle: Grace Shepard, Effingham Co.; Morgan Drozs, DeWitt Co.; Winnie Quiram, McLean Co.; and Marissa Hughes, McLean Co.

Shotgun: Cole Haynes, LaSalle Co.; JB Bremer, Madison Co.; Derek Sample, Franklin Co.; and Zachary Skurat, Jefferson Co.

Recurve Archery: **Ben Snider, Mason Co.** and Michael Perkins, McHenry Co.

Air Pistol: Justin Pierard, McLean Co. and Collin Haney, Woodford Co.

## 4-H FAMILY CAMP— FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

4-H Memorial Camp in Monticello, IL is having Family Camp Retreats this summer in place of our normal Summer Youth Camps. Your family will get their own cabin for 3 days/2 nights. All meals are included. Program staff will be leading/assisting with activities at all our program areas. You can fish, swim, boat, make arts and crafts (including tie-dye), rock climb, zip line, do science-based activities, visit Allerton Park, take hayrack rides, make s'mores over the camp fire, and so much more! Covid-19 testing is **no longer required** to attend. Masks are required when around others.

We still have space available June 6-8 and July 9-11. Additional details and a link to the registration page can be found on our [website](#). Please contact Andy Davis [ardavis1@illinois.edu](mailto:ardavis1@illinois.edu) with any questions.



## NEW 4-H BASS FISHING SPIN CLUB CURRICULUM!

The new Bass Fishing SPIN Club curriculum, or Special Interest club, takes place over the course of 6 weeks and will focus on aquatic ecosystems, fish biology, and include STEM activities relating to fishing gear. Kids learn and take part in the sport, but they also gain a variety of skills and knowledge as they master fishing.

Find it on the Illinois 4-H Project page website at: <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/projects/nature-fishing-and-wildlife>



## I-POLLINATE COMMUNITY SCIENTIST

Are you ready to catch the buzz? Youth can take the role of citizen scientists through the I-Pollinate program run through the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Youth volunteers can join up to three research projects and help collect critical data on monarch butterfly eggs and caterpillars, pollinator visits to ornamental flowers, and statewide bee distribution. Your efforts will help inform conservation plans and how to plant gardens for pollinator habitat! Ready to learn more? Head here: <https://ipollinate.illinois.edu/how-to-participate/>



## 4-H INTERNATIONAL

**Host an international student for the Academic year August-June.** Host a student from Japan or South Korea this summer through States' 4-H International! Expand your family's cultural understanding, learn about new foods and customs, and possibly learn a new language all while sharing your own.

### PROGRAM DETAILS:

Students are enrolled in public high school and arrive in the USA in August.

Your family and exchange student will be supported by local and state coordinators.

**STUDENT DETAILS:** Visit the Illinois states 4-H International Exchange for details about the student coming this summer. <https://www.facebook.com/Illinois4hexchange>

**SCHEDULE:** Hosting takes place mid-July through mid-August.

**WHO CAN APPLY:** Anyone who wants to welcome a high school student into their family and is able to provide the student meals and a bed.

Contact the State Coordinator for more information: Miriam Rosenbohm, [rosenbohmo7@comcast.net](mailto:rosenbohmo7@comcast.net) or 309-339-8282



## NATIONAL OPPORTUNITY Schleich Toys Story Contest



What do you think would happen if the toy company Schleich got together with 4-H to create the most fantastic animal tale of all time?

Find out with the “Create Your Story” contest, launching NOW! Join in the fun by creating a story only YOU can imagine.

The top 10 stories will go to a vote and the top two will be part of an interactive “create your own adventure” video premiering this fall!

Find out more here: <https://bit.ly/3taqrEV>

## REGISTER & REPORT HOW 4-H IS MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

4-H members are making a difference in communities every day so remember you can still register service outreach efforts that have or will be happening in **March, April, May and June**. State supported service efforts are **included on the registration site**. Register [here](#).

Also, make sure you REPORT about what you did on the Clubs page of the Illinois 4-H website: <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/clubs> (look for the **CLICK HERE** imbedded link on the webpage)



## TRUE LEADERS IN EQUITY INSTITUTE

From September 10-12 and on October 9, 2021 the True Leaders in Equity Institute will prepare up to 20 teams to be change agents to create more welcoming and inclusive environments in 4-H. At the Institute, your team will gain a deeper understanding of equity and inclusion, choose an issue to focus on, develop new skills, create an action plan for when you return home! Apply at: <https://4-h.org/true-leaders-in-equity-institute/> by June 30<sup>th</sup>.



## MIDWEST YOUTH PHOTOGRAPHY CHALLENGE

Calling all youth photographers! The Capture What's Great in Midwest States 4-H Photography Challenge is all about exploring what makes your town, county, state or the Midwest great! Submissions due June 30. Learn more: [z.umn.edu/Midwest-states-photo-challenge](https://z.umn.edu/Midwest-states-photo-challenge)



## ILLINOIS CROP SCOUTING COMPETITION FOR HIGH SCHOOL AGE YOUTH



The Illinois Crop Scouting Competition is a one-day contest and will be held at the Crop Sciences Research & Ed. Center in Savoy, IL on August 4, 2021

Student teams of 2-5 high-school-aged youth (grades 9-12) with an adult coach will rotate through 10 outdoor stations at the University of Illinois South Farm fields to test their skills hands-on with topics such as identifying weeds, insects, and diseases, identifying the growth stages of corn and soybean plants, assessing abiotic injury, pesticide application, and integrated pest management.

Event details can be found at: <https://extension.illinois.edu/global/illinois-crop-scouting-competition>

## JUST THE HELP YOU NEED FOR YOUR 4-H CLUB

The Illinois 4-H Website has all of the resources and forms needed to guide 4-H club officers, committees, and members as they plan for the 4-H program year.

Go to [go.illinois.edu/IL4H](https://go.illinois.edu/IL4H)

Click on the **Clubs** tab.

Scroll to Meeting Resources near the bottom of the page.

## 2021 MASON COUNTY 4-H EXHIBITION— IMPORTANT 4-H SHOW CHANGES & INFORMATION!

We are excited to hold an in-person 4-H Show this year! However, the 2021 4-H Show will see some changes. These changes have been made due to the Covid-19 pandemic, in order to more safely execute the 4-H portions of the fair, and follow University of Illinois, State, and local health department guidelines.

Families can begin by carefully reading their 4-H Show Book. There have been some minor changes in a few project areas and the show schedule from previous years. If you need a 4-H Show Book, please contact your 4-H leader or call the Extension office.

Fair entries will be made from June 1 through July 1 at: <https://mason4-hfair.fairentry.com/>

Only one entry per livestock species will be made for 4-H. Livestock entries will be based on 4-H age, and one entry will be made for either the Jr. or Sr. Showmanship class. Youth will enter only this class for 4-H exhibition in livestock projects. Youth will be expected to exhibit animals and convey knowledge of their projects to the judge. Please read page 58 of the 4-H Show Book for more information on Showmanship. Livestock project exhibitors will receive more information after July 1, 2021 4-H Show entry deadline.

General Projects will be exhibited on Monday, July 26. You will see minor changes in exhibition check-in and conference judging set up. Buildings will be closed to spectators during judging times. We will strictly adhere to any building capacity guidelines, if required, at the time of the show.

Families should plan to bring lawn chairs and blankets to sit on while waiting outside of buildings during conference judging.

The 4-H Federation Food Stand will not be open this year. Please plan accordingly for food and drinks. It's a great time to have a family picnic!

If you need reasonable accommodations or have questions regarding the 4-H Shows, please contact the Extension office at (309) 543-3308.



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