



### **Illinois 4-H Message from 4-H Director**

See new blog post from IL 4-H Director at <https://extension.illinois.edu/blogs/our-illinois-4-h-story/2020-03-30-message-illinois-4-h>

### **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](mailto: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>

### **State Robotics Challenge**

**Date:** TBD

**Virtual Competition**

The state's robotics clubs are encouraged to continue working on their robots until we determine the new date and logistics of a potential online virtual competition. Details including date, format, and

registration are expected to be finalized and announced the week of April 6.

- For up to date information, please visit our Facebook Group at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/il4hrobotics>
- Download the challenge at [go.illinois.edu/2020CHALLENGE](https://go.illinois.edu/2020CHALLENGE).
- Watch the video at [youtu.be/IEAv1USEGS8](https://youtu.be/IEAv1USEGS8).

### **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 1<sup>st</sup>. The applications will be due November 1<sup>st</sup>. We thank our generous donors and the Illinois 4-H Foundation for providing this opportunity for our members!



### **NEW: Illinois 4-H Virtual Fishing Fun-Fest**

4-H members currently enrolled in Fishing 1, 2, or 3 are eligible to win big this spring! Between April 17 – May 15 these 4-H members can enter a statewide fishing contest (Fun-Fest) via smartphone. New spinning rod and reel combos will be given away weekly to the longest largemouth bass and channel catfish entered. The simple contest details can be found on the Illinois 4-H Events Page and Illinois 4-H Facebook page. Contact Curt Sinclair at [sinclair@illinois.edu](mailto:sinclair@illinois.edu) with questions. Stay safe and enjoy the sunshine on the lake!

**Check it out:**

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

### **Two ways to give to 4-H**

**TSC Paper Clover Campaign returns in April:** It's never been easier to support 4-H. From April 29 to May 10, you can donate to 4-H at your local Tractor Supply stores as part of the Paper Clover campaign. Money donated at your store stays right in the county where it's given! Last fall, the campaign raised almost \$1 million!



## Get your Clover at JOANN stores

Between **March 1 and April 30**, you can donate to 4-H at your local JOANN store.

Purchase either a \$1 or \$4 Clover for Kids at the register. \$4 clovers have a coupon for \$4 off your next visit to the store.

Don't forget to purchase custom 4-H fabric at either the McHenry or Algonquin stores!

<https://4-h.org/ways-to-give/corporate-foundation-support/joann-fabric-craft-stores/>



## 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:

<http://4hfoundation.illinois.edu/content/family-spirit-award> . **Nominations are due May 1.**

## 4-H Shooting Sports Volunteer Certification Field-Day Training Dates:

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. The local office 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. Check your local office to see if assistance is available for the \$85 fee. *(YES! We do!)* Training dates for 2020 are:

- **Western Illinois: Saturday, June 13** at Gardner Camp, Hull. Register by June 3.
- **Northern Illinois: Saturday, Sept. 12** at Torstenson Youth Education Center, Pecatonica. Register by September 2.



## Be a true leader in service

**April 25 | Nationwide**

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. In the current COVID-19 situation, it is important that we all follow CDC and safety guidelines, but there are still ways to serve safely and practice social distancing – write and mail cards to those who are socially isolated, organize a group online to teach and share something from your 4-H project, sew PPE masks to donate locally. If you have ideas for a statewide, COVID-safe service project, this is a great opportunity to plan and promote something for others to participate in. Send your ideas to [Illinois4H@illinois.edu](mailto:Illinois4H@illinois.edu).

Make your plans now on how you'll help others. Find resources @ [go.illinois.edu/4Hdayofservice](http://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.



## Celebrate 4-H Volunteers April 19-25

Illinois 4-H will celebrate the more than 11,000 4-H adult volunteers supporting and guiding 4-H members during National Volunteer Week, April 19-25. 4-H volunteers are the caring adults who are empowering



and preparing youth for success as 4-H members provide service to others and in their communities. Today's 4-H youth are engaged in diverse learning experiences where they practice skills employers want; grow and distribute food to communities in need; steward our natural resources; identify local issues and initiate positive change in local, state, national, and global issues; and they make and influence positive choices for healthy living. All of these things happen because of engaged volunteers in local communities.

### **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.

### **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.



### **Illini Summer Academies**

**June 21 – 26 | University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**

**\*\*Registration for this event is postponed and will be rescheduled pending updated COVID-19 information\*\***

The 4-H Illini Summer Academies event scheduled for June 21-26 falls outside of the university sponsored event suspension dates so we are hopeful that there will be more information and an update in the coming weeks. Until then we will continue to plan for the summer.

The office is doing the best it can to respond to questions that come in via phone and email. Please help

them out by visiting the event website and the FAQ document **BEFORE** phoning or emailing the office. It is likely that your question has been answered already in one of those places.

Look for specific information about other cancellations and postponements on our website at [go.illinois.edu/illini4h](http://go.illinois.edu/illini4h). If you have any questions about this or other 4-H events, please contact our office at (217) 333-0910.

This conference runs June 21-26 on the University of Illinois campus. Explore one of 13 different programs during the week. Illini Summer Academies is supported through the Illinois 4-H Foundation and intended to serve youth living in Illinois.

- Learn more @ [go.illinois.edu/illini4H](http://go.illinois.edu/illini4H). Registration opens March 16 and closes April 17.
- Apply for a scholarship @ [go.illinois.edu/illini4Hscholarship](http://go.illinois.edu/illini4Hscholarship) before April 1. The scholarship covers the \$260 base cost of the conference. Any academy cost is responsibility of the attendee.
- Space for each academy is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Many academies reach capacity before the registration closes, so don't wait. Academies and costs include:
  - **AGRICULTURAL LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNICATION.** Department: Ag Leadership, Education, and Communication. College: Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences. Cost TBD.
  - **ANIMAL SCIENCES.** Department: Animal Sciences. College: Agricultural, Consumer & Environmental Sciences. Cost: \$370.
  - **BEEKEEPING.** Department: Entomology. College: Liberal Arts and Sciences. Cost: TBD
  - **CHEMISTRY AROUND US.** Department: Chemistry. College: Liberal Arts and Sciences. Cost: \$280.
  - **ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING.** Department: Electrical & Computer Engineering. College: Engineering. Cost: \$485.
  - **GAME DESIGN: STORYTELLING AND FABRICATION.** Champaign-Urbana Fab Lab. Cost: \$335.
  - **HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY STUDIES.** Department: Human

Development and Family Studies. College: Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences. Cost: \$295.

- **JOURNEY FROM FARM TO TABLE.** Department: Food Science and Human Nutrition. College: Agricultural, Consumer & Environmental Sciences. Cost \$360.
- **MEAT JUDGING & EVALUATION.** Department: Animal Sciences. College: Agricultural, Consumer & Environmental Sciences. Cost: \$310.
- **SUSTAINABLE SUMMER.** Department: Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences. College: Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences. Cost: \$310.
- **MOLECULAR AND CELLULAR BIOLOGY.** School: Molecular & Cellular Biology. College: Liberal Arts & Sciences. Cost: \$385. No repeat students from last year.
- **VETERINARY MEDICINE.** Graduate College: Veterinary Medicine. Cost: \$375. Open to youth who have completed 10<sup>th</sup> grade. No repeat students from last year.
- **WORK HARD, PLAY HARD.** College: Applied Health Sciences. Cost: \$280.

## 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](http://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 at 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.



## Look for these changes at Illinois State Fair

With the timing of the state fair and the anticipated start of school, the 4-H General Project Show at the state fair has been condensed to three days: Aug. 14, 15, and 16. (*McHenry County exhibit day is August 16*)

- 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.
- Steers advancing to state fair **must be weighed by Feb. 29.**
- 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 Saturday, Aug. 22.
- Check out all the livestock ownership deadlines online @ [go.illinois.edu/4Hlivestock](http://go.illinois.edu/4Hlivestock).



### **Taking an animal project? READ THIS...**

**For members enrolled in dairy cattle, beef cattle, swine, sheep, and goats:**

- The **YQCA** is a new livestock quality assurance program that is replacing PQA which no longer exists. All 4-H exhibitors of these animals will be required to certify in the YQCA program each year starting for the 2020 show season. Attend either a face to face class or certify on-line 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 needed each year with test out options of 1-3 years. Youth exhibiting swine at the Illinois State Fair and 4-H fairs are no longer required to be PQA plus certified. The estimated cost for the face-to-face training will be \$3 and \$12 for the online version.

**For members enrolled in horses, rabbits, poultry, dogs, and cats:**

- The **Quality Assurance and Ethics** training is required for youth in horses, rabbits, poultry, dogs and cats. You only need to take it once in your lifetime. Those who don't complete the training will be removed from the animal science project and will not be eligible 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.

### **Important Dates for 2020 Illinois State Fair Junior Show**

Active 4-H members who are 8 to 18 years of age (9/1/19) are eligible to exhibit in the Illinois State Fair Junior Show. Youth older than 18 may exhibit if active FFA alumni. Below is the tentative schedule for the junior livestock show. Check the Illinois State Fair website for any updates.

#### **ARRIVAL TIMES**

- **BEEF:** Performance Cow/Calf must be in place by noon on 8/11
- **BEEF:** Heifers must be in place by noon on 8/11
- **BEEF:** Steers must be in place by 8 PM on 8/11

- **DAIRY:** must be in place by 5 PM on 8/18
- **GOATS:** Meat Goats must be in place by noon on 8/12
- **GOATS:** Dairy Goats must be in place by 8 AM on 8/16
- **GOATS:** Pygmy Goats must be in place by 11 AM on 8/21
- **SHEEP:** Market Lambs must be in place by 8 PM on 8/13
- **SHEEP:** Breeding Sheep must be in place by 9 PM on 8/15
- **SWINE:** Gilts must be in place by 8 AM on 8/12
- **SWINE:** Barrows must be in place by 8 AM on 8/13
- **POULTRY:** must be in place by 9 AM on 8/17
- **RABBITS:** Meat pens must be in place by 9 AM on 8/17
- **RABBITS:** All others must be in place by 3 PM on 8/21

#### **SHOW TIMES**

- **SUPERIOR YOUNG PRODUCER CONTEST BEEF/SHEEP/SWINE:** 7 PM on 8/12
- **SUPERIOR YOUNG PRODUCER CONTEST DAIRY:** 8:30 AM on 8/22
- **MASTER SHOWMANSHIP:** 7:30 PM on 8/14
- **BEEF:** Showmanship: 1 PM on 8/12
- **BEEF:** Performance Cow/Calf: 8:30 AM on 8/13
- **BEEF:** Heifers: AOB, Charolais, Chianina, Hereford, Polled Hereford, Maine Anjou, Maintainer: Time TBA on 8/13
- **BEEF:** Heifers: Angus (at 8:30 AM), Limousin, Shorthorn, Shorthorn Plus, Simmental, %Simmental: on 8/14 (other breed times TBA)
- **BEEF:** Steers: 8:30 AM on 8/15
- **DAIRY:** Brown Swiss: 9 AM on 8/19
- **DAIRY:** Holstein: 1 PM on 8/19
- **DAIRY:** Guernsey: 9 AM on 8/20
- **DAIRY:** Ayrshire: 1 PM on 8/20
- **DAIRY:** Milking Shorthorns: 9 AM on 8/21
- **DAIRY:** Jersey: 1 PM on 8/21
- **GOATS:** Breeding Meat Goats: 8 AM on 8/14
- **GOATS:** Wether Meat Goats: after breeding show on 8/14
- **GOATS:** Market Meat Does: after wether show on 8/14
- **GOATS:** Dairy Goats: 9 AM on 8/16
- **GOATS:** Pygmy Goats: 8:30 AM on 8/22
- **SHEEP:** Market Lambs: 8 AM on 8/15
- **SHEEP:** Breeding Sheep: 8 AM on 8/17
- **SWINE:** Showmanship: 5 PM on 8/13
- **SWINE:** Gilts: 7:30 AM on 8/14
- **SWINE:** Barrows: 7:30 AM on 8/15
- **POULTRY:** 10 AM on 8/17
- **RABBITS:** Meat Pens 10 AM on 8/17
- **RABBITS:** All Others 9 AM on 8/22

#### **RELEASE TIMES**

- **BEEF CATTLE:** released after 5 PM (or after all steer classes have shown) on 8/15
- **DAIRY CATTLE:** released after 4 PM on 8/22
- **MEAT GOATS:** released after the meat goat show on 8/14
- **DAIRY GOATS:** released after the dairy goat show on 8/16
- **PYGMY GOATS:** released after the pygmy goat show on 8/22
- **MARKET SHEEP:** released after the market show on 8/15
- **BREEDING SHEEP:** released after the breeding show on 8/17
- **SWINE:** released after the barrow show on 8/15
- **POULTRY:** released after the poultry show on 8/17
- **MEAT PEN RABBITS:** release after the show on 8/17
- **ALL OTHER RABBITS:** release 8/23

## Upcoming 4-H events: *(ALL Pending)*

April 19-25	National Volunteer Week
April 25	National 4-H Day of Service
April 25	Shooting Sports Training, Williamson County
April 29 – May 10	Tractor Supply Paper Clover Campaign
May 1	DEADLINE: Family Spirit Award Nominations
May 6-7	4-H Legislative Connection, Springfield (by invitation only)
June 2 – 6	Week 1: Camping at 4-H Memorial Camp
June 3	DEADLINE: Shooting Sports Instructor Training registration
June 7 – 11	Week 2: Camping at 4-H Memorial Camp
June 13	Shooting Sports Training, Pike County
June 15	State Livestock Judging Contest
June 15-18	Week 3: Camping at 4-H Memorial Camp
June 18 – July 17	Outbound to Costa Rica
June 18 – August 6	Outbound to Japan
June 21 – June 26	Illini Summer Academies
June 24 – July 24	Outbound to Norway
June 24 – July 24	Outbound to Romania
June 28 – July 28	Outbound to Taiwan
July 4 – 11	Citizenship Washington Focus
July 5 – 9	Week 4: Camping at 4-H Memorial Camp
July 8 – August 6	Outbound to Japan
July 15 – August 13	Outbound to South Korea
July 22 – August 17	Inbound youth from Japan and South Korea in states
July 26 – 30	Week 5: Camping at 4-H Memorial Camp
July 26 – August 2	Illinois State Junior Horse Show, Springfield
August 12	Superior Young Producer Contest for Beef/Sheep/Swine
August 12	ISF Beef Showmanship Contest
August 13	ISF Beef Cow, Heifer Show for these breeds: AOB, Charolais, Chianina, Hereford, Polled Hereford, Maine Anjou, Maintainer
August 13	ISF Swine Showmanship Contest
August 14	ISF Beef Heifer Show for these breeds: Angus, Limousin, Shorthorn, Shorthorn Plus, Simmental, %Simmental
August 14	ISF Meat Goat Show
August 14	ISF Swine Gilt Show
August 14	ISF Master Showmanship Contest
<b>August 14 - 16</b>	State Fair 4-H Judging
August 15	ISF Steer Show
August 15	ISF Market Lamb Sheep Show
August 15	ISF Swine Barrow Show
<b>August 16</b>	<b>McHenry County Day - State Fair 4-H general project judging</b>
August 14-16	State 4-H Public Speaking Contest, Illinois State Fair, Springfield



August 16	Dairy Goat Show
August 17	ISF Meat Pen Rabbit Show
August 17	ISF Poultry Show, State Fair
August 17	State 4-H Poultry Judging Contest, State Fair
August 17	ISF Breeding Sheep Show
August 18	Illinois 4-H Foundation Celebration Event at the State Fair
August 19	ISF Brown Swiss and Holstein Show
August 20	ISF Guernsey and Ayrshire Show
August 21	ISF Milking Shorthorn and Jersey Show
August 22	Superior Young Producer Dairy Contest, State Fairgrounds
August 22	ISF Pygmy Goat Show
August 22	ISF All other rabbit classes Show
August 29	State 4-H Dog Show, Dixon
September 1	New 4-H Year Begins
September 2	DEADLINE: Shooting Sports Training registration
September 12	Shooting Sports Instructor Field Day Training, Winnebago County
September 19	State Archery Shoot, Pekin
September 26	State Shotgun Shoot, Brittany Shooting Park
October 10, 11	State Rifle & Pistol Shoot, Bloomington