



Save the Date for *Speaking for Illinois 4-H* Spring trainings

February 1 | Mt. Vernon

March 21 | Sterling

We're looking for 4-H members interested in spreading the great news about 4-H. 4-H members 14 years of age or older can join the *Speaking for Illinois 4-H* team. The first spring training will be **Saturday February 1** at the Jefferson County Extension Office in Mt. Vernon.

Another training is **Saturday, March 21** at the Whiteside County Extension Office in Sterling.

The day-long training, provided by the Illinois State 4-H Youth Leadership Team, gives you the chance to explore your own 4-H history and why you are involved, put that story into words, and learn the best ways to approach donors, civic groups, elected officials, and others to talk about 4-H. Learn why 4-H believes in Positive Youth Development and how we emphasize the essential elements: Belonging, Independence, Generosity and Mastery. All of this – and more! Once you're trained, you'll receive an invitation to be a part of our Legislative Connection events at the State Capitol. There is a \$12 fee to attend the training to cover the cost of lunch and supplies. Save the date and be ready to sign up when registration opens in mid-January @ go.illinois.edu/sfi4H.

Don't be chicken; hop on over

February 8 | 9 to 11 AM | Effingham County Fairgrounds, Altamont

Register by February 7 @ go.illinois.edu/LATclinic

Learn to show poultry and rabbits from one of the leading Illinois 4-H judges, Mike Claypool. The workshop is open to any 4-H members, and there is no cost. You can even bring your chicken or rabbit with you to get health and showing advice. The workshop is sponsored by the Illinois State 4-H Livestock Ambassador Team.

STATE 4-H DAIRY QUIZ BOWL

February 29 | East Peoria | 11 AM – 5 PM

Register at your county Extension office before February 14.

Be the first to buzz in with the answers to questions all about the dairy cattle industry. You'll have fun competing with friends as teams of four who share your interest in dairy cattle. Competing as an individual? No worries, we'll find a partner for you. Register the day of the event prior to the 11:30 kick off test. The contest will be held at the Embassy Suites, East Peoria Riverfront Hotel & Conference Center, 100 Conference Center Drive, East Peoria. The State 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl team will be selected from the eligible 4-H members (15-18) participating at this state contest. **Learn more online @ go.illinois.edu/4Hdairy.**

STATE 4-H HORSE JUDGING CONTEST

February 29 | 11 AM

Black Hawk College | Galva, IL

Registration cards must be signed by Extension staff

In 4-H, learning about horses means much more than learning to ride. The State 4-H Horse Judging Contest will be held Saturday, February 29 at Black Hawk College. Registration begins at 11 AM, with the contest following at noon. Youth will judge six classes of horses, at least two being halter classes. Youth 14 years of age and older may also choose to participate in oral reasons following the classes. For those not participating in the oral reasons class, one question class will be required. **Learn more online @ go.illinois.edu/4Hhorsejudging.**

STATE 4-H HORSE HIPPOLOGY CONTEST

April 18 | 8 AM

David Kinley Hall | University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

You must pre-qualify at the **regional contest** to be held **March 28** at Emily G. Johns Intermediate School (off Rt. 34)

Take your love of horses to a new level and compete in the State 4-H Hippology Contest. There are several phases in this horse-related contest: written test, horse judging, station identification, and problem solving. Cost is \$5 per person. **Learn more @ go.illinois.edu/4Hhippology.**

STATE 4-H HORSE BOWL CONTEST

April 19 | 8 AM

Education Building | University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

You must pre-qualify at the **regional contest** to be held **March 28** at Emily G. Johns Intermediate School (off Rt. 34)

There are several ways to learn about horses, and you don't even need a horse! This contest operates very similar to scholastic bowls at school, with all the questions related to the horse industry! Cost is \$5 per entry or \$25 per team. Learn more @ go.illinois.edu/4Hhorsebowl.

STATE 4-H HORSE SPEAKING CONTEST

April 18 | David Kinley Hall, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign | 10 AM

Any 4-H members may participate. No pre-qualifying is needed, but you must register at the Extension office by mid-March. Cost is \$3 per entry. You'll share ideas with others as you develop the ability to speak in public about the horse industry and the 4-H Horse project. Learn more @ go.illinois.edu/4Hhorsespeaking.

There are 5 divisions:

- **Original individual formal speech**
- **Original individual presentation:** either demonstration (step by step process) or illustrated talk on an idea or topic; both use visual aids.
- **Original team presentation:** either demonstration (step by step process) or illustrated talk on an idea or topic; both using visual aids.
- **Extempore speaking:** topic is selected at the event and participants have 25 minutes to prepare a 4- to 6-minute speech.
- **NEW IN 2020: Interpretive Reading** is the art of reading aloud from a printed page. The reading must be published works that are horse-related. They may be prose, poetry, short stories, play cuttings, narratives, book or review, or theatrical. You should NOT memorize; they are intended to be read from a page.

Apply today:

76 scholarships total \$118,000

The 2020 IAA Foundation Scholarship Application Period is **NOW OPEN!** The lineup includes 76 scholarships totaling \$118,000 in tuition support. **Apply Online @ www.iaafoundation.org**. Please read all instructions carefully and refer to the FAQ document on the website to help answer any questions. **Watch the Deadline.** You must apply **BEFORE February 1**. All required

information must be submitted by that date, no exceptions.

As the charitable arm of the Illinois Farm Bureau, their mission is to fund education, research, and charitable activities that benefit Illinois farm families and agriculture. They proudly offer scholarship opportunities for students pursuing degrees related to agriculture and those with family farming backgrounds.

Here's help to pay for college

FARM CREDIT ILLINOIS SCHOLARSHIPS

High school seniors planning careers in agriculture may apply for a \$2,000 scholarship. Farm Credit Illinois will provide 30 scholarships to youth who live or farm in one of the 60 counties in their service area. The first \$1,000 will be distributed for the Fall 2019 semester, and the second \$1,000 will be applied during the Fall 2021 semester. Apply online at farmcreditIL.com before March 1. Are going to University of Illinois College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences? The college is **MATCHING** this scholarship, dollar for dollar! Double your money while getting a great ag education!



Study food science and win cash

Science is cool, and now it pays! A **\$50 cash prize** will be awarded to the top food science project in each county by the Chicagoland Food Science Foundation. Be sure to enroll in one of the four food science projects and learn more about the foundation. Look for more information this summer.

Explore a future in agriculture

March 6 | Decatur

Teens can learn about careers in agriculture at the Women Changing the Face of Agriculture Conference March 6 at Richland Community College in Decatur. Applying online @

<https://womenchangingthefaceofagriculture.com/>.

Presenters include some of the most successful women in agriculture. Their stories demonstrate the potential careers available to any young woman considering an agricultural career.



YES! You Can!

College students can put their 4-H experience to work while they develop their professional skills in youth development, group facilitation, critical thinking, and program management as a Project Youth Extension Service (YES!) intern. Project YES! Interns provide educational activities for youth of military families. This is a 12-month internship for college juniors, seniors, and graduate students and runs June 2020 – May 2020. Interns must attend the mandatory orientation, currently scheduled for May 22-30, 2020 as well as additional training throughout the year (as required). Following orientation, interns may work 1-2 weekends a month, however interns must commit to a minimum of one weekend per month (Fri-Sun) for the duration of the internship. Additional opportunities may be presented during the summer months and throughout the year. Applications will be accepted through Feb. 29. Apply @ www.projectyouthextension.com.

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.**

Nominate someone for the Governor's Volunteer Service Awards

Think of that person that never stops helping. They are the one that always raises their hand to volunteer first! Serve Illinois is now accepting applications for the Governor's Volunteer Service Awards. There are separate divisions for youth, adult, senior, AmeriCorps, and Senior Corps volunteers. Winners will receive their awards in April in Springfield. Nominations are due February 21. Don't miss your chance to thank a person who makes a difference every day! Complete online application @ <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/serve/volunteerism/volunteers/Pages/Volunteer-Awards.aspx>.

Shooting Sports volunteers needed

Many young people don't have someone to show them how to safely handle a firearm or bow. Think back to the person who taught you to shoot. 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.
(McHenry/Lake County 4-H Shooting Sports program will pay the \$85 registration fee.)
- Training dates for 2020 are:
 - **Southern Illinois: Saturday, March 28** at Tombstone Gun Range, Marion. Register by March 18.
 - **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.

Let's go fishing

May 2 – 3 | 4-H Memorial Camp, Monticello

Learn more @ go.illinois.edu/4Hfishcamp

With the lake fully stocked, 4-H Fish Camp is back at 4-H Memorial Camp near Monticello. Fishing begins at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 2 and lasts until 2 p.m. Sunday, May 3. Learn how to catch largemouth bass, crappie, bluegill, and channel catfish. Learn about fishing tips, lures, bait, equipment, knots, fish behavior, fish management, and fish cleaning. Each group registered will be assigned their own log cabin for lodging with single bunks. Participants must bring their own bedding and toiletries.

A fee of \$50 per person covers the complete program, lodging, boat, bait, and three buffet meals, including Saturday lunch and supper and a Sunday brunch. You'll also have fresh fish fillets to take home! Pre-registration and payment is required. To register, contact 4-H Memorial Camp at (217) 762-2741 or send an email to Curt Sinclair at sinclair@illinois.edu.

Nothing beats summer at 4-H Memorial Camp
5 weeks to choose: Learn more and register online
 @ go.illinois.edu/4Hcamp

Camping at 4-H Memorial Camp will open February 3. Spaces fill up immediately, so save the date on your calendar! There are 5 weeks of youth camp this year. Cost is \$250 for 4-H members or \$290 for youth not yet in 4-H. The fee includes a camp t-shirt and \$15 in credit at the Trading Post. No extra cash is needed for camp!

- Week 1: June 2-6
- Week 2: June 7-11
- Week 3: June 14-18
- Week 4: July 5-9
- Week 5: July 26-30

Change lives, be a 4-H camp counselor

4-H Memorial Camp is now accepting applications for summer camp employment. We are looking for energetic, responsible individuals to serve as counselors and program staff for 6 weeks of summer camp. We will train you for a week before the campers arrive. You'll get valuable experience working with young people while you have a great summer. We are also looking for people with lifeguard certifications, outdoor education programming experience, and arts/crafts teaching experience. Application paperwork can be found at 4h.extension.illinois.edu/programs/camping/4-h-memorial-camp. Come be a mentor to 1500 campers while creating memories and friendships that last a lifetime.

For more information, contact Andy Davis @ ArDavis1@illinois.edu or call (217) 762-2741.



Host an international youth this summer

Host a Japanese or South Korean youth 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. Your children will build lifelong friendships and will gain new perspectives on their own country, too! Families are needed for July 22 through August 17.

Be aware:

- Families hosting a youth must have a child the same gender and approximate age (12-18) as the incoming youth.
- Youth must have a separate bed; a separate room is not required.
- Host family selection is dependent on completion of an application and screening process, as well as student availability and personality compatibility.
- Applications are accepted until all placements are made

For more information, visit:

<http://www.states4hexchange.org>. Find us on Facebook @ [facebook.com/Illinois4hexchange](https://www.facebook.com/Illinois4hexchange) or contact Illinois representatives Miriam Rosenbohm @ rosenbohm07@comcast.net or Elisha Hughes @ ehugh2@illinois.edu.



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. This could mean helping a person or family in need doing yard work or minor home repairs, cleaning up streets or parks, planting trees or gardens, supporting your local food pantry or any other project that supports a local need.

Make your plans now on how you'll help others. Find resources @ 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.



2020 Illini Summer Academies

The college exploration event of the year is set for 2020. Illinois 4-H Illini Summer Academies will be held June

21 – 27 on the University of Illinois campus. Registration opens March 16 and runs through April 17 for participants. Youth requesting financial assistance should apply January 31 thru March 1. Look for information @ go.illinois.edu/illini4Hscholarship.

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.



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.

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.

Upcoming 4-H events:

February 1	Speaking for Illinois 4-H Training, Jefferson County, Mt. Vernon
February 1	DEADLINE: IAA Scholarships Due
February 8	Poultry and Rabbit Workshop, Effingham
February 21	DEADLINE: Governor's Volunteer Service Award Applications
February 22 – 23	Junior Leadership Conference, Effingham
February 29	DEADLINE: Project Y.E.S.
February 29	State 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl, East Peoria
February 29	State 4-H Horse Judging Contest, Black Hawk College, East Campus
March 1	DEADLINE: Farm Credit Scholarship
March 1 – April 30	JOANN Clovers for Kids Campaign
March 4-5	4-H Legislative Connection, Springfield
March 6	Women Changing the Face of Agriculture, Decatur

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.

Get cash to help improve your community

Looking for funding support to conduct community service outreach in your community? Farm Credit Illinois is ready to help Illinois 4-H clubs and FFA chapters bring positive and visible change to Illinois communities! Fifty \$500 Community Improvement Grants are available. Clubs must be located in one of the 60 central and southern Illinois counties served by Farm Credit Illinois. Check if your club is eligible at farmcreditIL.com.

Create a winning video

The World of 7 Billion video contest challenges you to think critically about some of the planets most pressing issues and to come up with solutions. Share what you've learned in a 60-second video. The contest is currently open for the 2019-2020 school year! The contest is open to all middle and high school students worldwide, and the deadline for submissions is February 27, 2020. Up to \$1,000 in cash prizes will be awarded to 80 student winners.



March 14	2020 Awards Banquet by invitation only
March 21	Speaking for Illinois 4-H Training, Whiteside County, Sterling
March 21	Sewing Community Service project, 4-H Memorial Camp
March 28	Northeast Regional Horse Bowl and Hippology Contest
March 28	Southern Regional Horse Bowl and Hippology Contest
April 4	Central Regional Horse Bowl and Hippology Contest, Lincoln Land Community College
April 4	Northwest Regional Horse Bowl and Hippology Contest, Knoxville
April 18	State 4-H Horse Speaking Contest, Champaign
April 18	State 4-H Horse Hippology Contest, Champaign
April 19	State 4-H Horse Bowl Contest, Champaign
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 2-3	4-H Fish Camp, 4-H Memorial Camp
May 6-7	4-H Legislative Connection, Springfield
May 9	State 4-H Robotics Competition, Bloomington
June 2 – 6	Week 1: Camping at 4-H Memorial Camp
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 14-16	State 4-H Public Speaking Contest, Illinois State Fair, Springfield
August 14-16	4-H State general project judging at Illinois State Fair
August 16	McHenry County judging date at Illinois State Fair
August 17	State 4-H Poultry Show, State Fair
August 17	IL State Fair junior poultry show
August 18	Illinois 4-H Foundation Celebration Event at the State Fair
August 22	IL State Fair junior rabbit show
August 29	State 4-H Dog Show, Dixon
September 12	Shooting Sports 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