



Getting a jump on the 4-H dog project!

January 18 | Dixon

Get a jump on all that's possible in the 4-H dog project at a NEW workshop 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 18 at the Granny Rose K-9 Enrichment Center in Dixon. Register at go.illinois.edu/state4-Hdogclinic. There is no cost to attend. The workshop will include a live agility demonstration, hands-on grooming lessons specific to your breed, health and nutrition tips, and a live rally demonstration. The event is sponsored by the Illinois State 4-H Livestock Ambassador Team.



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 – is a part of *Speaking for Illinois 4-H!* 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.



Explore the nation's capital

July 4 - 11 | Washington DC

For over 50 years, thousands of 4-H members have traveled to Washington, DC to participate in Citizenship Washington Focus, a life-changing week

that empowers 4-H'ers to take their leadership skills to the next level for themselves and their communities. The trip is July 4 – 11, 2020. You must be at least 14 by May 1, 2020. During the week, you will explore the federal legislative process through workshops and hands-on sessions, tour historical sights and museums, give your voice on issues, visit federal legislative offices, and meet teens from other states. The 2020 cost is estimated to be \$1,305, with financial assistance being provided from the Illinois 4-H Foundation.

Registration deadline is Friday, January 3, 2020. Register at go.illinois.edu/4HCWF.

It's 'udderly' amazing

February 29 | East Peoria

You don't need a cow. You don't need to like milk (though you should REALLY like milk). You don't need to be taking a dairy project. All you need to compete in the State 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl Contest is a desire to do it. (You would probably do better if you study, too.)

The state contest is Saturday, Feb. 29 at the Embassy Suites, East Peoria Riverfront Hotel & Conference Center, 100 Conference Center Drive, East Peoria. Registration is prior to the quiz bowl test which begins at 11:30 a.m. The contest rounds begin at 1 p.m., and the contest will be completed by 5:00 p.m. Participants will need to pay for their group lunch at hotel OR they can go (with adult supervision) across parking lot to Steak 'n Shake. County Extension staff must register participants before Feb. 14.

Questions will cover all aspects of dairy production and marketing. Study reference sources include the Illinois 4-H dairy manuals plus *Hoard's Dairyman Reference Books*, *IL Extension Livestock E-Quiz website*, *Holstein Foundation website*, and *Virginia 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl study materials online*.

Teams of four may compete, or individuals can be added to other groups to form a team. The State 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl team will be selected from the eligible 4-H members participating at this state contest. Youth 15 to 18 are eligible for the national team.

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.

Compete in regional horse contests and earn your trip to state!

April 18 & 19 | Champaign

There are several ways to learn about horses, and you don't even need a horse!

- **4-H HORSE BOWL:** Demonstrate your knowledge of equine related subject matter in a competitive setting where attitudes of friendliness and fairness prevail. The contest operates very similar to scholastic bowls at school! The State 4-H Horse Bowl Contest will be held **Sunday, April 19** at the Education Building on the U of I campus, beginning about 8 a.m. Cost is \$5 per entry or \$25 per team. Learn more @ <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/illinois-4-h-horse-bowl-contest>. You must pre-qualify at a regional contest.
- **4-H HIPPOLOGY CONTEST:** There are several phases in this horse-related contest: written test, horse judging, station identification, and problem solving. The State 4-H Hippology contest is **Saturday, April 18**, beginning about 8 a.m. at the David Kinley Hall on the U of I campus. Cost is \$5 per person. Learn more @ <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/illinois-4-h-horse-hippology-contest>. You must pre-qualify at a regional contest.
- **4-H HORSE SPEAKING CONTEST:** 4-H Horse Speaking contests help you gain self-confidence, courage and persuasiveness; share ideas with others; and develop the ability to speak in public to inform others about horse-related subjects and the 4-H Horse project. Compete in the formal, team, or presentation division. Learn more @ <http://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/illinois-4-h-horse-speaking-contest>.

[horse-speaking-contest](#). The state 4-H Horse Speaking Contest is **Saturday, April 18** at the David Kinley Hall on the U of I campus, beginning about 10 a.m. 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.

Our **Northeast Regional** contest is: **March 28** at Emily G. Johns Intermediate School (off Rt. 34)

Nominations open for 2020 Salute to Excellence Volunteer awards

The Illinois 4-H program is built on the work of amazing volunteers, and we look forward to recognizing our volunteers for what they do! The National 4-H Council sponsors the Salute to Excellence Award Program that targets 4-H volunteer who demonstrate exemplary service to 4-H, while promoting service through volunteerism. Nominate outstanding local volunteers for consideration by contacting the Extension office.

The two categories for nominations are:

- Volunteer of the Year – recognizing individuals who have served as 4-H volunteers for less than 10 years at the local, county, region and state level
- Outstanding Lifetime Volunteer – recognizing individuals who have served 10 or more years at the local, county, region or state level.

Nominations are due to the County Office by **January 6, 2020** which will allow us to meet the *Thursday, January 9, 2020* submission deadline set by the State 4-H Office. Submission criteria is available at the Extension Office.



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.



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.



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.



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.



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>.

Repeated information from December shorts



August 13-23, 2020

Aim high for the Illinois State Fair

Make plans now to attend the Illinois State Fair. The 4-H General Project Show will be three days, Aug. 14-16 in Springfield. **Our exhibit day is August 16.**



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 new information soon.

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.



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!

Change lives, be a 4-H camp counselor

It may be cooling off now, but summer will return, and we need you to help mentor the campers at 4-H Memorial Camp near Monticello. Applications will be available in January on the state 4-H website. We're looking for certified lifeguards and young adults interested in fishing, shelter building, tree and wildlife identification, and other outdoor adventures. We also need counselors interested in STEM programming. For information, contact Andy Davis @ ardavis1@illinois.edu or call 217-762-2741.

Upcoming 4-H events:

2020 Dates

January 1	DEADLINE: Teach Outdoor Scholarship
January 1	DEADLINE: Joyce Betz Scholarship
January 3	DEADLINE: Citizenship Washington Focus registration
January 9	DEADLINE: Salute to Excellence
January 18	Dog Clinic, Dixon, IL
February 1	Speaking for Illinois 4-H Training, Jefferson County, Mt. Vernon
February 1	DEADLINE: IAA Scholarships Due
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 Contest, East Peoria
March 1	DEADLINE: Farm Credit Scholarship
March 1 – April 30	JOANN Clovers for Kids Campaign
March 6	Women Changing the Face of Agriculture, Decatur

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 28	Northeast 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 25	National 4-H Day of Service
May 1	DEADLINE: Family Spirit Award Nominations
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 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 26 – 30	Week 5: Camping at 4-H Memorial Camp
July 26 – August 2	Illinois State Junior Horse Show, Springfield
August 14-16	4-H State general project judging at Illinois State Fair
August 16	McHenry County judging date at Illinois State Fair