



4-H NEWSLETTER

March & April 2022

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



Dear 4-H Families,

I am looking forward to Spring, and it's almost FINALLY here! I've been looking forward to planting flowers, and all sorts of fun Spring activities! I am also looking forward to meeting all of you! Most of you may know that I am the new 4-H Program Coordinator for Peoria County.

Over the past two months, I

have had the opportunity to meet a lot of you, and am looking forward to meeting more of you!

4-H is a program that I truly believe makes the Best Better, and I am looking forward to watching that happen for all of you!

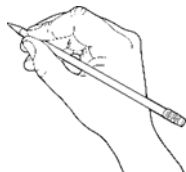
Sincerely,

Kristi Smith
4-H Program Coordinator

Design our Showbook Cover!

It's that time of year again! We are looking for someone super creative to design our showbook cover!

You can either hand draw or design on the computer. You are welcome to incorporate original photographs or clipart into your design. Copyrighted work is not allowed. If you would like to use the 4-H logo, please contact the Extension office to receive an official copy. Information that must be on the cover:



Peoria County 4-H Show Book
August 3, 4, & 5, 2022
Exposition Gardens, Peoria, IL

Designs are due to the Extension office by April 1, 2022

Public Presentation Contest

The Peoria County Public Presentation Contest will be held Tuesday, March 29, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Peoria Extension office. Participation in this contest does not affect a member's opportunity to also participate in another project area at the Illinois State Fair.

The Illinois State Public Presentation contest will take place on Saturday, April 30 at Parkland Community College.



Birthday Bags

We are once again doing Birthday Bags! (Usually done in February, but let's see this happen in March!) During the Month of March, 4-H members in Peoria County are invited to "Pledge your Hands to Larger Service". All Birthday Bags collected will be delivered to local food pantries in Peoria County.

Please drop off all assembled Birthday Bags by March 31 at the Extension office. If your club is assembling the bags as a group project, please take and share pictures with us! Items to include in the bags are:

- Box of Cake Mix
- Canned Frosting
- Birthday Candles
- Birthday Card
- Small (inexpensive) Gift (Please indicate on the outside of the bag the sex and age of child the gift is for – don't forget teenagers like birthday gifts too!)



Wildlife Prairie Park 4-H Learning Garden

The Wildlife Prairie Park 4-H Learning Garden is in full swing at Wildlife Prairie Park! If you are interested in learning about the many benefits of gardening and being in the garden, this club is for you! Group meeting planned for March 26, 1p.m.-3p.m., in person if good weather makes it possible, at Wildlife Prairie Park, or on Zoom. Contact May Bach for details by March 23rd: may.bach23455@yahoo.com

Peoria County YQCA Training

A date has not yet been set for this training. Be watching your emails for an email from Kristi! You MUST attend a YQCA training session if you plan on showing beef cattle, dairy cattle, swine, sheep, and goats. You will receive instructions when you receive the email!



March

3 – Federation Kickapoo Township Hall 6 p.m.
8 – Leader's meeting Extension Office 6 p.m.
16 – Livestock Committee Meeting 7 p.m.,
Followed by the Auction Committee meeting
22 – Non-Livestock Superintendents meeting 6 p.m.
29 – County Public Speaking at the Extension Office 6 p.m.

April

2 – Tree Planting @ Sommer Park, 9 a.m.
7 – Federation Kickapoo Township Hall 6 p.m.
8 – Archery Registration Deadline
16 – State Robotics Competition
24 – Archery Start Date
30 – State Public Speaking



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Unit 4-H Staff

In our four-county Extension unit, a team works together to provide 4-H programming. Each county has an individual 4-H program plus we all work together on unit-wide events and program planning.

Krista Gray

4-H Program Coordinator, Fulton County

Joli Pierson

4-H Program Coordinator, Mason County

Kristi Smith

4-H Program Coordinator, Peoria County

Katharine Girone

4-H Program Coordinator, Tazewell County

Emily Schoenfelder, 4-H Youth Educator

Judy Schmidt, Metro 4-H Youth Educator

Earl Allen, County Director

Deb Balagna, Fulton County Office Support

Paula Lane, Mason County Office Support

Angela Sassine, Peoria County Office Support

Julann Schierer, Tazewell County Office Support

4-H Green Communities

Saturday, April 2 @ 9a.m. | Sommer Park

Peoria County 4-H has been selected for the 2022 4-H Green Communities Program! We'll be working with the Soil and Water Conservation District to plant 25 trees in our community—and we need your help!

Please consider making this one of your club service projects! Grab your shovels, put on your work gloves, and help us create a greener community! If you can help, or you have questions, please contact Kristi at

kristis2@illinois.edu. Learn more at 4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/4-h-green-communities-tree-program



COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

University of Illinois | U.S. Department of Agriculture | Local Extension Councils Cooperating University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment. If you need reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, please call 309-685-3140. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the US Department of Agriculture by the Director, Cooperative Extension Service, and University of Illinois.

Federation Spotlight

Our Monthly Federation Member spotlight is Anna Maue!

Club: Jubilee Patriots

Favorite Project:

Visual Arts

Years in 4-H: 8 years

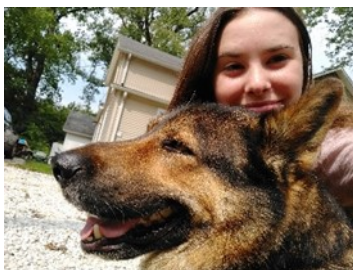
Favorite Color: Sage Green

Desired Superpower: Teleportation

Best Thing About 4-H: Meeting new people

Advice for Younger Members: Don't stress out about the fair if you're too busy. Just go and support your friends!

Advice for all readers: Do what makes you happy!



4-H Spirit Award

We are looking forward to the 4-H Fair! This year for the spirit award, we are partnering with SNAP-Ed in Peoria County! We are still doing the food drive, BUT you can earn extra points if you bring healthy options! Be on the look out for future issues for what your options will be!

Livestock Judging

If you are interested in expanding your knowledge of the Livestock industry, join us on Mondays at 6 p.m. to work together as a team to evaluate livestock! Contest dates are given at practices, Thursdays are also practices for the Senior team to give reasons. For information on this activity, you can contact Kristi at kritis2@illinois.edu. She will give you locations! Can't wait to see you there!

Laura Winners Club Report

The Laura Winners 4-H Club held a meeting on January 16th at the Laura Church. Starting business, we reviewed the outcome of our recent craft show fundraiser. We discussed and voted to help with our members' enrollment fees by paying half. In addition, we discussed planting trees to help support conservation efforts. Members were informed about all upcoming events and opportunities for Peoria County 4-H. Talks were presented by Reagan Walsh, Rylie Walsh, Brinnley McFarland, and Amber Brawley. After adjournment, we enjoyed refreshments together. Our next meeting will be held on February 20th at the Laura Church. -Brinae Rice

FMPT Unit News

Teen Teacher Information Night:

Monday, March 14th, 6:00 -7:00 p.m.

Peoria County Extension Office, 4810 N. Sheridan, Peoria

Make a difference. Make new friends. Teach others. Have fun.

Being part of the 4-H Teen Teacher program is a great way to make an impact on kids in your community! Come learn about the program, meet current teen teachers and eat pizza!

Contact Judy Schmidt, 4-H Youth Development Educator at (309)685-3140 or schmid7@illinois.edu to register

4-H Shooting Sports Archery Club

A Spring 4-H Archery Session open to all youth in Fulton, Mason, Peoria, and Tazewell Counties will begin April 24.

Meetings will take place at Pekin Archers, 2501 Edgewater Dr, Pekin, IL 61554.

Register for this event by April 8, 2022 here: go.illinois.edu/4HArcheryInPekin



News from Illinois 4-H

4-H Family Spirit Award

4-H is a family affair for many! We want to encourage you, as a multi-generational 4-H family, to nominate your family for the Illinois 4-H Family Spirit Award. You can find more information at 4hfoundation.illinois.edu/content/family-spirit-award. Please contact the Illinois 4-H Foundation (illinois4hfoundation@mx.uillinois.edu) with any questions. **The deadline to apply for the 2022 Family Spirit award is May 1, 2022.** We look forward to hearing from you and reading about your family's 4-H story!



4-H Day with the Cardinals!

Busch Stadium
May 14 @ 1:15p.m.
Tickets: \$25 each

Register by Mar 31: go.illinois.edu/4HCardinals2022

Please note: Groups of families or county groups that wish to sit together MUST submit one (1) order.

For ticket/t-shirt questions, contact Rhonda Shafer – 636-528-4613 or shaferr@missouri.edu
For parade/raffle questions, contact Dave Hileman at hilemand@missouri.edu



Salute to Excellence Volunteer Recognition Award

National 4-H Council is pleased to announce that the 2022 Salute to Excellence Volunteer Recognition

Award application is now open. The National 4-H Salute to Excellence Volunteer Recognition Award recognizes 4-H volunteers who demonstrate exemplary service to 4-H, while promoting service through volunteerism as both an opportunity and a privilege. The deadline to apply is March 18.



Every dollar makes a difference in helping a young person find their SPARK.

February 1 – April 30, visit a local JOANN store and you can invest in a young person by donating to 4-H.

[#JOANNhearts4H](https://www.joann.com/4-H/).

Get your 4-H Rewards

Card today! Stop by a local JOANN store now to sign up for free and receive 15% off your purchases. It's a great way to shop with purpose & give back to 4-H! joann.com/4-H/

Applications are now OPEN for the 2023 #4HYouthinAction Awards! Now is the chance for 4-H'ers ages 15-19 to tell their 4-H story of impact, leadership, and purpose.

Four selected recipients will:

- earn a \$5K scholarship
- serve as a national youth spokesperson
- ...and much more!

Learn more about the awards, application process, and apply! <https://bit.ly/3FgUIb0>

GET YOUR TACKLE READY!

2022 4-H Sport Fishing Virtual Monthly Challenges Coming Soon!

Open to all current year 4-H members, but new rod & reel prizes **only** for 4-H members registered in the 4-H Sport Fishing project for the 2021-2022 year. Tournament details coming soon!

April – Crappie State 4-H Tournament

May – Largemouth Bass 4-H State Tournament

June – Channel Catfish 4-H State Tournament

Hint: Sign up for 4-H Sport fishing project now, and begin preparing for crappie contest in April by beginning to learn about crappie at www.ifishillinois.org/species/CRP.php

Special Workshop - Intro to 4-H Air Rifle Competitions

DATE CHANGE: March 19, 2022

Take your existing 4-H air rifle club to a new level! Competition training for 4-H Rifle Club leaders and up to three 4-H Club members.

10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Central Illinois Precision Shooters in Bloomington, IL.

Contact Curt Sinclair at sinclair@illinois.edu for flyer or more information. Register at go.illinois.edu/4HAirRifleTraining.



2022 4-H Shooting Sports Adult Volunteer Certification Trainings

Contact your local 4-H office and they will process your registration. Certifications in Archery, Shotgun, Rifle, Pistol, Coordinator, and Hunting/Outdoor Skills (May 7 only) offered. One discipline per day/per person. All programs run 9am-6pm and are active range time instruction.

Sat., March 26, 2022 Tombstone Range, Marion, IL (southern Illinois)

Sat., May 7, 2022 4-H Memorial Camp, Monticello, IL (central Illinois)

Sat., July 16, 2022 Bi-State Sportsman's Club, Colona, IL (N.W. Illinois)

Questions? Contact Curt Sinclair at sinclair@illinois.edu.



Illinois RiverWatch is a tremendous opportunity for youth to become aquatic citizen scientists! Plus, it's a fabulous, ongoing service project for clubs! Consider attending one of the 15 upcoming training sessions set up for March and April - each in a different county in Illinois. To learn more, visit their official website at www.ngrec.org/Riverwatch.

4-H Memorial Camp-Summer Employment

Summer camp employees wanted! If leading activities for youth campers, being a role model, working outdoors and interacting with your peers sounds like your kind of job, then you may be one of the people we are looking for. Apply to work with us this summer as we get back to Summer Youth Camping. We start accepting applications for the following positions January 1, 2022.



Summer Program Staff (18 years old minimum)
Summer/Seasonal Assistant Camp Director
Lead Male/Female Counselors
Lifeguards
Outdoor Education Director
Arts & Crafts Director
Creation Station (S.T.E.M.) Director
Recreation Director
Climbing Tower Director

Cabin Counselors (16 years old minimum)

Additional details and application materials can be found on the 4-H Memorial Camp [website](#) towards the bottom of the page under *4-H Resources*.

Contact Andy Davis ardavis1@illinois.edu, (217) 762-2741 with any questions.

4-H Memorial Camp-Summer Youth Camp

Are you ready to get back to camping at 4-H Memorial Camp? We are! Join us any of the four (4) Summer Youth Camp sessions in the summer of 2022. Watch for additional information on the 4-H Memorial Camp website (4h.extension.illinois.edu/programs/camping) and on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/4-H-Memorial-Camp-95026468854).

Camp Dates:

June 5-9, 2022
June 12-16, 2022
July 5-9, 2022
July 17-21, 2022





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University of Illinois Extension
Fulton-Mason-Peoria-Tazewell Unit
Peoria County Branch Office
4810 N Sheridan RD
Peoria, IL 61614
Return Service Requested

4-H Adventures in Nature

Starting in April, 4-H will offer a series of five monthly challenges! For each month in which you complete a challenge, your family will receive a special prize to be given out at our Outdoor Adventure Fun Day on Saturday, August 27, 2022. Each month will be a different prize. Plus, you'll get a digital badge to reward your progress! Visit go.illinois.edu/AdventuresInNature to get started on a grand adventure!



4-H Adventures in Nature

ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE

go.illinois.edu/AdventuresInNature

