

# WILLIAMSON COUNTY 4-H NEWS

## September 2020



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Williamson County: 101-B E De Young St. Marion, IL 62959 | Office Phone: 618-993-3304

## END OF YEAR REMINDERS

Calling all Club Leaders and Officers to remember to turn in your financial forms, Treasurer's and Secretary's books! We have a new date to accommodate difficulties of gathering required signatures. Please turn in all required documentation by Friday, September 18.

As a reminder, here is info from last month's newsletter:

Each year in August, clubs must conduct an audit of their club finances. Clubs must also complete a [Club Annual Financial Statement](#) and an [Indication of Financial Activity Statement](#) and turn them in with the [Club Treasurer's Book](#) and [Club Secretary's Book](#). For more information and resources to complete the required documentation, please follow the included link: <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/clubs/fiscal-resource-resources>

**All end-of-year documentation, including Club Annual Financial Statement, Indication of Financial Activity Statement, Club Treasurer's Book and Club Secretary's Book are due to the Extension Office no later than Friday, September 18.**

Please contact Ramona at [girtman@illinois.edu](mailto:girtman@illinois.edu) with any questions or help with completing club forms.

## ACHIEVEMENT NIGHT

**SAVE THE DATE**  
OCTOBER 16, 2020

Williamson County 4-H has tentatively scheduled its annual Achievement Night for Friday, October 16.

Please check the October newsletter for further details. A separate email invitation with more details will also be sent soon.

## JOIN COLLEGIATE 4-H AT U OF I

A great way to meet people at U of I is by joining C4-H, the registered student organization for 4-H alums attending University of Illinois. For more information, contact Brittney Muschetto at [uiuccollegiate4h@gmail.com](mailto:uiuccollegiate4h@gmail.com).

## CLUB RECOGNITION AWARD

Is your 4-H Club doing outstanding work in the areas of Community Service, Leadership or Project Mastery? If so, you should apply for the Illinois 4-H Club Award! Clubs receiving this award will receive a \$75 cash incentive and an award certificate. This is also a great tool to set goals and plan for the upcoming 4-H year. This application can be found @ <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/awards>.



## END OF YEAR AWARD TIME IS APPROACHING



Whether you are a first-year 4-H member or a longtime member, it's time to focus on pulling together information for your 4-H award applications. Even younger members can submit the 4-H Experience Application and be eligible for 4-H recognition. Older members can submit both the 4-H Experience Application and the Illinois 4-H Scholarship Application to be eligible for state recognition, scholarships, and/or trips.

The **Illinois 4-H Experience Award Application** focuses on all of those events and activities that you have experienced during the 4-H year in four areas: *Participation, Community Service, Leadership, and Project Learning*. Depending upon the type and number of experiences you can report on, members can receive recognition on the Bronze, Silver, Gold, Diamond or Emerald Clover Award level. Your family calendar, 4-H notes or county summary, checkmarks, and a few written details are all that's needed for even the youngest members to submit this application. This application can be found @ <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/awards>. Please note, the top scores from the Experience Award will be used at the County level as a county achievement award.

The **Illinois 4-H Scholarship** is a merit-based scholarship to award outstanding work in project areas. Five \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded in each of the following categories: Animal Science, Civic Engagement/ Global Living, Creative Performing Arts & Communication, Food Systems, Healthy Living/ Nutrition, Leadership, Natural Resources & Environmental Science, Personal Growth and STEM/Robotics. The deadline to apply is November 1. Apply online @ [go.illinois.edu/4Hscholarships](https://go.illinois.edu/4Hscholarships).

Each 4-H member has a story to tell and are eligible for our 4-H awards program – tell YOUR stories and see where they take you!

## 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 new 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

Find these helpful documents:

**Club Meeting Agenda** – this fillable form is a useful fill-in-the-blank form your club officers can use as they plan each section of the meeting. This useful form provides them with the meeting structure they can use to identify who from the club should be in charge of each potential item that may be included in a meeting.

**Club Committee Planning Worksheet** – the Committee Planning Worksheet is an excellent tool to give to committee members as they plan club events and activities.

**Club Yearly Program Plan** – this helpful tool guides the club officers and club members as they identify club goals to work toward during the year and brainstorm what programs, events and/or activities to plan for the club to engage members in fun, hands-on learning experiences throughout the program year.

**More** – Don't forget to download your new secretary book, treasurer book, tips for good club meetings, tips for using the 4-H name, and more other important resources.

## ILLINOIS 4-H VOLUNTEER CAFÉ CONVERSATIONS



# Let's CHAT

We LOVE to TALK to our Volunteer's!

## 4-H VOLUNTEER CAFÉ CONVERSATIONS!

Register to participate in the *4-H Volunteer Café Conversations*. We are so excited to be launching this new Illinois 4-H opportunity creating a platform for 4-H Volunteers from across Illinois to meet virtually and discuss topics of interest, share both ideas and challenges. Volunteers will gain access to tools & techniques to support their volunteer efforts, strengthening 4-H club and member learning experiences. We will address two topics during each Café Conversation so come with your ideas, questions, and since this is a Café Conversation, feel free to bring a snack as well!

~~Session #1 - Thursday, August 20, 2020~~

Session #2 - Thursday, November 19, 2020

Session #3 - Thursday, February 18, 2021

Session #4 - Thursday, May 20, 2021

SAVE THE DATE! Registration link will be provided soon.

## 4-H VOLUNTEER VIRTUAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Code of Conduct – Thursday, October 15, 2020

Effective & Engaging Meetings – Thursday, November 7, 2020

Parliamentary Procedure – Date Pending



**VIRTUAL SHOOT**

### 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS FALL UPDATE

After a survey of shooting sports discipline instructors; key volunteers; and state shooting sports venues - the decision has been made to move all in-person state shoots to a virtual tournament format for health and safety reasons. This will allow for smaller, local competitions to be conducted and supervised by certified Level I 4-H discipline instructors who will then report the youth scores centrally through an on-line system. Only Level I certified instructors may enter scores from 4-H members.

Also, we are happy to announce that our 2020 Illinois 4-H Shooting Sports team members who were scheduled to attend the National 4-H Shoot last June (cancelled due to COVID-19) will be invited to shoot at the same national event in 2021 if they are still age eligible. Our 2020 virtual shoot results and the data from 2019 State Shoots will then be used to fill any gaps in the 2021 Illinois team.

The virtual shoot will run for the months of September – December, 2020. Registration will be free and have both a Junior (11-13 years) and Senior (14-18 years) division! Disciplines offered will be compound archery; recurve archery; shotgun (trap); and air rifle. The rules, registration link, and score submittal link are attached to this email and also posted on the Illinois 4-H website at: <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/illinois-4-h-virtual-shoot-fall-2020>



## NEW CLUBS

Williamson County 4-H is pleased to announce new club opportunities. Any child between the ages of 8 and 18 as of September 1, 2020 can join one (or more) of our virtual clubs. Each month, the member will receive an activity kit from 4-H which will be used as part of their club experience. Clubs will meet online using Zoom once a month. This is a great way to explore a new project area. Please direct all questions to Ramona at [girtman@illinois.edu](mailto:girtman@illinois.edu) or 618-993-3304.

# Virtual 4-H Clubs



Enjoy hands on activities with a virtual meeting each month! Each project area is it's own club. Join one (or more!) of the following project areas:

- *STEM*
- *Creative Arts*
- *Animal Science*
- *Environmental Science*
- *Healthy Living & Nutrition*

*To become a member of one of the 4-H virtual clubs, contact your local Extension program coordinator.*

We will also have a cloverbud option for our youngest 4-H members. One project area-related activity will be explored per meeting, and members will receive an activity box each month filled with supplies to complete the project.

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reasonable accommodation to participate in programming  
should contact (618) 993-3304. Early requests are strongly  
encouraged to allow sufficient time for meeting access needs.

## WILLIAMSON COUNTY 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS UPDATE

The spread and mitigation of COVID-19 is an evolving concern for Illinois. The Williamson County Shooting Sports would like to offer a safe environment for youth participants and volunteers while also observing appropriate mitigation efforts.

With the rising number of COVID-19 cases within our county and the surrounding area, shooting sports has made the decision to postpone the in-person season until the spring.

Youth ages 11-18 (as of Sept. 1, 2020) who were active 4-H shooting sports club members in 2019-2020 and are also 4-H members during the current 4-H year are eligible to participate in the 4-H virtual shoot. Participants can register at: <http://go.illinois.edu/20204Hshootregistration>.

For more information about Williamson County 4-H, please contact Ramona Girtman at (618) 993-3304 or [girtman@illinois.edu](mailto:girtman@illinois.edu).



### National 4-H Week – October 4-10, 2020

#### Theme: Opportunity4ALL

National 4-H Week is our time to tell the world about 4-H. This year's theme, **Opportunity4ALL**. We are lifting up youth voices and helping kids get equal access to the resources they need to thrive. You are encouraged to find ways to celebrate October 4 – 10. 4-H Spirit Day will be held Wednesday, October 7. Encourage your clubs to show their 4-H pride and wear a clover! Use the hashtag #Opportunity4All or #National4HWeek as you share your 4-H activities on social media. We will be sharing more information in the coming weeks.

#### Other dates to consider for October 2020

October 1-31 – STEM Challenge Month

October 4-10 – National 4-H Week

October 7-18 – Tractor Supply Company Paper Clover Promotion

**Don't forget your county window display! Any club who participates in the window display contest will receive an award at achievement night. Your display could be the front door or window of your home, or in a public venue. Please email pictures of your display to Ramona at [girtman@illinois.edu](mailto:girtman@illinois.edu) .**

Check the following page for more ways to inspire your club to promote 4-H during National 4-H Week!

## Inspire your club to promote 4-H during National 4-H Week

*During times of COVID19, please plan accordingly to adhere to all social distancing guidelines in your area. Some face to face activities may not be feasible this year.*

Post 4-H window signs in your windows

(downloadable) “Proud 4-H Member Lives Here” or “Proud 4-H Volunteer Lives Here”

Change your Facebook cover for National 4-H Week

Have a day to wear a 4-H shirt to work or school.

– 4-H Spirt Day will be held on Wednesday!

Start a county 4-H alumni club or solicit 4-H

Alumni names through the paper and newsletter to join the Illinois 4-H Alumni Association.

Host a “To Me Opportunity Means \_\_\_\_\_”

event in your community. (downloadable file)

Have 4-H members, alumni, volunteers share their sign on social media to promote 4-H.

Join the National 4-H Week Spirit week on Illinois 4-H Facebook page.

Use the Facebook Photo Frame to show you are a proud member of 4-H

In a 4-H meeting or remote schooling, use the 4-H zoom backgrounds during National 4-H Week.

Have a flag-raising ceremony at a local bank, park, business, veterans club or school. Could the 4-H flag also be hosted by a business during National 4-H Week?

Print bookmarks (downloadable) and ask banks to include a bookmark or flyer about 4-H at their drive-thru facilities.

Share handouts or bookmarks with schools, home school organizations, and youth-serving agency boards.

Get Social! Start a social media engagement post —What did you gain in 4-H? and distribute it

to your social media channels and encourage other club members to post too.

Post 4-H alumni signs, National 4H week signs, or join 4-H signs in the yards of current or past 4-H members.

Have a poster contest with your members, then display them in local business windows.

County Window Display Contest to have clubs host a 4-H window display in a local business.

Write letters to your congressional leaders or local legislators about how important 4-H is to you.

Attend a city council meeting and have the mayor/councilmen sign the Proclamation. Or have them present via Zoom or Google Meet to your 4-H Club and share on social media.

Host a quiz night—Are You Smarter than a 4-Her?

Promote 4-H livestock projects at the feed store.

Promote 4-H technology projects at the electronic/phone/computer stores.

Promote 4-H foods projects at the grocery stores.

Promote 4-H entrepreneur projects at the banks.

Promote 4-H family projects at the doctor offices.

Promote 4-H on local advertising signs, billboards, church message boards.

Take a plate of 4-H cookies to local businesses with an appreciation poster for them to post.

Take thank you flowers to all your club leaders.

Have a county-wide or club community service day and have the members all report back what they did, then prepare an impact story about how important 4-H service is.

Carve pumpkins with a 4-H logo and take them to area homes, businesses or have a photo contest to see which ones get the most likes.

Create a 4-H promotion to run at the local movie theater during previews.

Have members bring projects and speak at local civic organizational meetings.

Plant a tree in honor of 4-H.

## ILLINOIS 4-H STATE FAIR

Congratulations to the Williamson County 4-H State Fair delegates!

# Williamson County 4-H State Fair Award of Excellence

### Entomology

Gabriella Burkett (*Entomology Ready4Life Challenge*)\*

Vivianna Burkett (*Entomology Display*)\*

### Natural Resources

Dominic Burkett (*Sportsfishing 2*)\*

### Photography

Elisha Burkett (*Photography 2*)

### Visual Arts

Nickolas Sloan (*Leather*)

### Woodworking

Selphie McCann (*Woodworking 1*)

**\*Champion**

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