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Calendar

MARCH
21 Regional Project Bowl, Bemidji
28 Regional Project Bowl (snow date)

APRIL
1 Application Deadline for 4-H Summer Assistant
11 State Project Bowl, Sauk Rapids
11-16 National 4-H Conference, Washington, D.C.
15 Minnesota 4-H Foundation college scholarship applications due.
24-26 Minnesota 4-H Horse Expo Tack Sale, Minnesota State Fairgrounds, St. Paul
25-26 SS&W Leader Certification Trainings: Crookston and Ahlman’s in Morristown

MAY
9 4-H lama clinic, Lyon County Fairgrounds, Marshall
10 4-H lama judge training clinic, Lyon County Fairgrounds, Marshall
15 4-H animal ID deadline

JUNE
18-19 Science of Agriculture Response Challenge
20-27 Citizenship Washington Focus
Engineer It! Challenge Workshop

Saturday March 14th 8:30am to noon
Northome Public School, Northome

Every part of our lives is affected by science
and many everyday mysteries can be solved by
using the Eight Science and Engineering
Practices. Join youth in grades 3-8 across our
region at this workshop to:

- Explore bridge building, roller coasters, and
  Rube-Goldberg Machines concepts
- Gain leadership and communication skills
- Learn about local 4-H opportunities

Registration due by Friday March 6th. Cost is
$7.50 to cover snacks and a t shirt. For more
information and registration details go to:
http://www3.extension.umn.edu/county/lake-
woods/4-h/article/northome-engineer-it-
challenge-workshop

New LOW Summer Assistant Needed

4-H is looking for interested parties in
becoming the 2015 summer 4-H assistant.

Intern position description and main
responsibilities:

- Work with Program Coordinator to
  implement and expand summer day camp
  programming.
- Assistance with County Fair week
  programming and exhibitions including but
  not limited to office duties, entry day,
  general 4-H promotions.
- Work with 4-H Program Coordinator,
  Support Staff and volunteers to get the
  fairgrounds ready for county fair.
- Work with volunteers and 4-H Program
  Coordinator to implement Special Events day.
- Other tasks as needed.

Position Requirements:

- This position requires the individual to be a
  self starter, motivated and creative.
- Prior participation in a 4-H youth
  development program is preferred.
- Ability to work in a team setting is a must.
- Must be at least 18 years of age.
- High School Diploma.
- Current driver's license.

Work hours:

- Approximately 12-16 hours per week -
  nights and weekends as needed
- Approximately 200 hours throughout
  summer beginning May 18th.

Application deadline: Wednesday April 1st,
2015.

Resumes can be mailed or dropped off at the:
LOW 4-H Office, 206 8th Ave SE STE 232,
Baudette, MN 56623

We Need your vote to
approve the new Lake of the
Woods County 4-H Leader’s
Council Constitution/By-Law
changes!

When: 3/25/15
Where: LOW School Art Room
Time: 4:30pm

All Minnesota 4-H Organizations are covered
under a federal Group Exemption Number (GEN)
that was granted to the Regents of the University
of Minnesota by the IRS in August 2013. This
group exemption status allows Minnesota 4-H
federations/councils who have been successfully
chartered the authority to use the 4-H name and
emblem and to operate as a tax exempt
organization which can accept donations and
carry out fundraising activities as a non-
profit. As a part of the commitment Minnesota 4-H made to secure the GEN, all 4-H Federations/Councils must, by law, adopt and operate under this model constitution/by-laws.

A sub-committee consisting of youth and adult volunteers from Lake of the Woods County have been working diligently to make the new changes. All of the changes have met the guidelines laid out by Minnesota 4-H and it is time for the new documents to be presented and voted on for approval by the Leader’s Council.

We are asking all members of the Council to attend the meeting on 3/25, as they will be presented at this time.

A copy of the “New” constitution/by-laws is posted on the county website at http://www3.extension.umn.edu/county/lakeofthewoods/4-h for your review before the meeting. If you would like to request a printed copy or have any questions, please contact Aprille Levasseur, County 4-H Program Coordinator at 634-1511 or levas015@umn.edu.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting!

4-H Camp Counselor Training

Friday, March 27 – Saturday, March 28 at the Northern Pines Camp, Park Rapids MN

Exact schedule is yet to be determined. We will start in the early evening on Friday and conclude in the late afternoon on Saturday.

We are coordinating transportation to this training if you are interested. Transportation will start in Crookston and then route will be determined by location of people that sign up. More information will be sent to participants after the registration deadline – March 2.

Cost: $75.00

Who: Any 4-H member who is currently in 9th grade or above and has the desire to work with and be a role model for younger 4-H members in a camp setting.

Training will include: roles & responsibilities of camp counselors, ages & stages of youth, managing camper behavior and discipline, risk management, and planning programs.

Seeking Camp Counselors for Sand Hill Lake 4-H Camp

Counselor needs to have completed grades 9-12. Fifteen counselors will be needed, 6 male and 9 female for the camp. Counselors will meet in May (date TBD) and the afternoon of June 18 at camp. Experience at camp is preferred. Camp is June 18-20, 2015 at the Sand Hill Lake Bible Camp near Fosston, MN. Campers have completed grades 3-6.

Check your county 4-H website for an application, or contact your county Extension Office.

Deadline for applications is March 2.

Sand Hill Lake 4-H Camp!

Save the Dates – June 18-20 at Sand Hill Lake Bible Camp near Fosston, MN. Campers must have completed grades 3-6. Registration materials will be available by April 1.

Message from Dorothy

Dear 4-H families and volunteers,

This time of year, 4-H’ers across the state begin working in earnest on the projects they hope to bring to the county and state fairs later in the year. 4-H projects provide educational experiences and are the foundation used by 4-H for helping youth develop life skills. In their work on 4-H projects, youth are able to explore their passions and dive deep into a subject of interest. Have you ever talked to a youth about a topic that they care deeply about? Their excitement is clear as they passionately share their knowledge and interests! This is what 4-H wants for all youth - to get so
excited about a topic that they keep exploring and learning.

This is where the 4-H program really shines, facilitating self-directed learning in youth that allows them to make choices about what they learn and how they learn about it. The learning is in the journey. Making these choices also helps youth to experience and discover how they learn best.

I look forward to seeing the wide array of projects that our 4-H’ers are working on when they share their learning and accomplishments at the fairs.

Sincerely,

Dorothy M. Freeman
Associate Dean and State 4-H Director

 Minnesota 4-H Horse Program needs you to Volunteer!

Your help is needed! The Minnesota 4-H Horse Expo Tack Sale is the main fundraiser for the Minnesota 4-H horse program and we need your help to make this event a success! The Minnesota 4-H Horse Expo Tack Sale will be held during the Minnesota Horse Expo, April 24-26, 2015 on the Minnesota State Fairgrounds in St. Paul. Hours of the sale are Friday and Saturday 8:30 a.m. – 7 p.m. and Sunday 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

There are many volunteer roles that we need you to fill. Roles include: set up, consignor check in, floor workers, check out persons, adult cashiers, tag cutters, baggers, saddle sales and check out workers. There are many 3-4 hour shifts! This event is the primary support that the Minnesota state horse program receives! To continue to keep costs low and offer all of the opportunities we currently offer we need your help, please volunteer now! Go to: www.4-H.umn.edu/projects/animal-science/horse/expo-tack/ to get all the information you may need and to get a volunteer form today!

Become a Wasp Watcher!

Love trees? Want to help save them from invasive pests? Emerald ash borer (EAB) is an invasive wood-boring beetle that has killed tens of millions of ash trees in over 20 states, including Minnesota.

One way you can help is by becoming a Wasp Watcher. Wasp Watchers is a new University of Minnesota Extension program that engages citizen scientist volunteers to help with EAB detection. There is a harmless, native wasp called the smoky winged beetle bandit, Cerceris fumipennis, that specializes in hunting metallic wood boring beetles including EAB. These wasps are not known to sting humans, even when handled. Females forage for beetles in trees and bring them back to ground nests. A volunteer can easily watch wasp nests and capture beetles from the returning wasps. If EAB is in the area, the wasp will bring it to you.

What would you do?

These wasps like to nest in sandy, compact soil like baseball fields. We’d like help to find more nesting sites and we are looking for volunteers to monitor existing sites. This is a fun activity with a real impact on Minnesota’s trees. The data we collect informs decisions on a statewide level.

Come, be a part of this great project! Contact Wasp Watchers Coordinator Jennifer Schultz for more information at schultzj@umn.edu or 612-301-8310. Visit our website at z.umn.edu/waspwatchers.

4-H Lama Judge Training Clinic

Sunday, May 10 from 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Lyon County Fairgrounds, Marshall

This exciting training is designed for those interested in getting started in judging county fair 4-H lama shows as well as those who would like to get a 4-H lama project started in their county. The day will include:
• A focus on individual placing and ribbon distribution in classes common to county fair settings.

• State fair line-ups and specific llama classes.

• A session emphasizing the youth development aspect of livestock judging. This session will include practical tips on working with kids in animal settings, fees, dress codes and other helpful ideas to prepare you for a county fair livestock judging experience.

Cost is $25 which includes llama curriculum, training and lunch. For more information and registration information, go to [www.4-H.umn.edu/events/lama-judges-clinic.html](http://www.4-H.umn.edu/events/lama-judges-clinic.html).

### 4-H Lama Clinic

**Saturday, May 9 from 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m., Lyon County Fairgrounds, Marshall**

This one day event is open to all 4-Hers who want to improve their ability to show and train llama or those interested in showing a llama and just want to check it out. Yes, your lamas are welcome to attend! Don’t have one? Let us introduce you to these amazing animals! The day will include:

- Beginner and advanced showmanship and performance classes.
- Session on Lama 101, grooming and costume class.
- Fiber and craft project classes.
- Halter and leads for sale.
- Shearing services available along with CD&Ts and nail trimming.
- Lunch and snack.
- Team games with your llama.
- Prizes, prizes, prizes.

Registration fee is $5 per youth. Non-4-H youth are welcome to attend, but must complete short-term enrollment paperwork during registration. Must register by May 4. For more information or to register, call Mary Beth at 507-530-3568 or Amanda at 507-532-8219.

### 4-H Animal ID Deadline, May 15

All breeding beef, dairy, dog, dairy goats, meat goats, horse, lama, poultry, rabbit, sheep and swine animal projects need to be identified by May 15.

In most cases, Minnesota 4-H families have the option of identifying their animals online, with all data entry to be completed by midnight on May 15. If using the paper ID process, all forms must be postmarked or submitted to the county Extension office by May 15.

Detailed information is being sent to 4-H members who are currently enrolled in any of the above listed project areas. If you have not yet re-enrolled and/or need to update your project area enrollment, visit [www.4-H.umn.edu/4honline](http://www.4-H.umn.edu/4honline) or contact your Extension office immediately so that the proper ID information can be sent to you.

Additional animal ID information and forms can be found online at [www.4-H.umn.edu/animal-ID](http://www.4-H.umn.edu/animal-ID).

### 4-H Adults: Help us win a $10k Science Sponsorship from HughesNet!

The next time you’re online, please vote for Minnesota 4-H to win $10k for our statewide science programs. Just visit [www.4-h.org/4HGROWN](http://www.4-h.org/4HGROWN) and vote with your name and email address. This contest ends on March 16 so vote today! And if you’d like to get other people involved, share this info on Facebook or Twitter using the hashtag #4HGrown. Thank you!
Scholarships for College-bound 4-H youth

Did you know that each year the Minnesota 4-H Foundation awards over $20,000 in scholarships to college-bound 4-H'ers? Applications are due April 15, 2015. Visit http://z.umn.edu/sga to learn more. Contact Erin Kelly-Collins with questions (erinkc@umn.edu / 612-624-7667).

2015 SS&W Leader Certification Trainings

The Minnesota 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Program Development Committee invites you to attend a 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Leader Certification! The committee recommends that leaders attend the entire certification weekend every five years. Now is your chance to attend!

The training is designed for adults and youth (9th grade and older) that lead or would like to lead training in shooting sports or wildlife. Classes will be offered in the disciplines of coordinator, archery, rifle/pistol, shotgun, muzzleloading, and wildlife. This training meets the 4-H project leaders' requirements for certification and recertification. Although there is range time allocated in the schedule, the majority of the training is classroom work to become an effective instructor, not to practice your own shooting skills.

April 25 – 26, 2015

1. UMN and Crookston Gun Club, Crookston, Minnesota
2. SCALE Training Facility, Jordan, Minnesota (new location)

Registration materials will be available Feb. 1 and posted to: www.4-h.umn.edu/events/shooting-sports-certification/. Deadline to register is April 10, 2015. Disciplines fill quickly, so make sure registration forms are sent in early! All volunteers MUST have successfully completed the background screening process through their county extension office before participating in the training.

LQA&E Policy

All youth participating as a Minnesota State Fair livestock exhibitor in beef, dairy, sheep, swine, poultry, rabbits, meat goat, dairy goat and lama must have completed a livestock quality assurance and ethics workshop. Certification is good for three fair seasons. The level of training required is determined by the grade of the youth at the time the training takes place.

Note: Since 2006, pre-state fair age 4-Hers are recommended to be certified. Some counties do, however, require certification of pre-state fair age 4-Hers for participation at the county fair. It should be recognized that county policies might be stricter than this state policy.

Please contact your local Extension office or visit www.4-H.umn.edu/projects/animal-science/lqae/index.html for training near you.

4-H Volunteer Corner

Be the “connector” in your 4-H club to creating a welcoming environment

Take a moment to reflect on your time as a youth joining a new organization or attending a new school for the first time. Do you remember that nervous feeling; the pit in your stomach of not knowing anyone, not sure if you belonged? Also reflect on the individual(s) who greeted you and introduced you to other people, creating an inviting, welcoming environment. These individuals are “connectors”- people who build bridges between others and expand social networks. Being a connector isn’t just the responsibility of the 4-H club leader or the person greeting individuals as they come into the meeting. Everyone in the 4-H club (adults and youth leaders) has an opportunity to be a connector: It takes a team effort! 4-H clubs that create a welcoming environment retain members and have greater parental involvement.
To learn more, view the 30-minute 4-H online training module: “Creating a welcoming 4-H environment: Engaging, encouraging, and respectful”, available at [www.4-H.umn.edu/volunteer/online-training](http://www.4-H.umn.edu/volunteer/online-training).

**Reward yourself!** For each module you complete, your name will be put in a regional drawing for a 4-H Mall gift certificate. Four names will be drawn on April 1, July 1, and October 1, 2015.  
**Congratulations to our latest winners:** Sunshine Dorow (Lake of the Woods County), Melody Okke (Clay County), Amanda Lobb (West Otter Tail County), and Jennifer Sukke (Douglas County).