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Calendar

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.
25-26 SS&W Leader Certification Trainings: Crookston and Jordan

MAY
2-3 Dog agility judges seminar, Rice County Fairgrounds, Faribault
3 4-H Dog Alumni Fun Match, Rice County Fairgrounds, Faribault
17 4-H Western Heritage Safety Clinic, Al & Kelly Jones Arena, rural Pipestone
15 4-H animal ID deadline

JUNE
13-14 Dog Supersession, Redwood County Fairgrounds, Redwood Falls
18-19 Science of Agriculture Response Challenge
20-27 Citizenship Washington Focus
28 Southwest Regional Western Heritage Competition, Al & Kelly Jones Arena, rural Pipestone
Enrollment Prizes!

**Who:** All 4-H members and volunteers who enroll or re-enroll by April 13th

**When:** by April 13th

**What:** Enroll by April 13th and you’ll be eligible for a wonderful prize! Adults= gas card and youth=McDonalds gift certificate

Spring Garden Workshop

**Saturday April 18th - noon**

Brink Center Baudette, MN

*Advance registration by April 8th* Call 634-1511 (4-H office) to preregister. Open to all youth leader age 4-Hers and adults. Topics on bees, and mushrooms.

4-H ATV Safety Coordinator needed in Roseau County

University of Minnesota Extension, Roseau County is recruiting for a part time 4-H ATV Safety Coordinator located in Roseau, MN. Position begins in May, pays $14.86/hour for total of 440 hours over 4-6 months, negotiable.

**APPLY ONLINE:**
Requisition number: 197289
To apply online and to access the complete job description, go to:
https://employment.umn.edu/applicants/Central?quickFind=197289

Completed applications must be received by April 19, 2015 to be considered.

*The U of M is an equal opportunity educator and employer.*

Shooting Sports and Wildlife Camp

**WHEN/WHERE:** July 30-31, 2015 at Galilee Bible Camp near Lake Bronson State Park. Camp will begin on Thursday, July 30 with registration from 10-10:30 a.m. Campers will be released at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, July 31.

**WHO:** Youth currently or completed grades 3-8. All participants will be expected to enroll as a 4-H member and to abide by the Minnesota 4-H policy and guidelines.

**WHAT:** Youth will explore disciplines of the Minnesota 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Program with Certified Instructors in: Archery, Air Rifle, Air Pistol or BB Gun, and Wildlife. Other activities the youth will enjoy include 4-H ATV safety training, fishing, canoe, paddleboats, and kayaks, swimming and building friendships.

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE & COST:** June 1, 2015- $60 (LOW 4-H has a 50% scholarship available to qualified individuals). Includes free T-shirt, lodging, meals, equipment and activities materials.

Registrations received after June 1, 2015 is $70 and you are not guaranteed a T-shirt nor are you eligible for a scholarship. *Registration is non-refundable, substitutions allowed.*

**CHAPERONES NEEDED:** Each County with youth participants must also provide a chaperone-1:10 ratios.

**QUALIFY FOR STATE SHOOT:** A certificate will be awarded to each participant for all hours spent in certified training.

**TRANSPORTATION:** is the responsibility of each camper. Carpooling is encouraged. Ask your county program coordinator if there are plans for carpooling available. Registration materials provided in the link below.


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.
4-H ATV SAFETY CURRICULUM

TRAINING Thanks to a donation from POLARIS INDUSTRIES, Roseau County 4-H is offering a FREE of CHARGE training on the 4-H ATV Curriculum and ATV Rider Course. This training is for youth 16+ and adults interested in teaching and promoting ATV safety.

WHAT: 4-H ATV CURRICULUM TRAINING and RIDER COURSE TRAINING

- THURSDAY, MAY 7 - 9:00 am -4:30 pm
- FRIDAY, MAY 8 - 9:00 am -4:30 pm

WHERE: ROSEAU COUNTY COURTHOUSE BOARD ROOM (Lunch, snacks and beverages provided)

HOW: PARTICIPANTS WILL BE CERTIFIED AS 4-H ATV SAFETY AND RIDER COURSE INSTRUCTORS

REQUIREMENTS: MUST COMPLETE 4-H VOLUNTEER SCREENING PROCESS ONLINE AT:

If you are an adult go to:
http://www.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-h/volunteer/ CLICK “BECOME A VOLUNTEER” TAB FOR INSTRUCTIONS.

Youth 16+ must enroll in 4-H at:
http://www.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-H/4honline/

- By meeting the above requirements and completing the training, you will have access to use the 4-H TRAILER WITH (5) ATV’S, SAFETY EQUIPMENT AND CURRICULUM for programming with GROUPS OF YOUTH ANDADULTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ATV SAFETY TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION.

Climate Minnesota Stories | Climate
Minnesota Convenings
Share Your Story

http://willstegerfoundation.org/climateminnesota

BEMIDJI – APRIL 14
CROOKSTON – APRIL 15
5:00pm – Resource Fair (visit the 4-H table!)
5:30 – 8:00pm Convening

The Will Steger Foundation is launching Climate Minnesota: Local Stories, Community Solutions to communicate about climate change through local science, stories, and solutions that encompass the broad range of impacts that Minnesotans are seeing now. Bring your 4-H club and your community friends and partners to a local convening to hear from experts, community members, and storytellers to learn about local impacts and commit to real solutions.

At the public convening participants will:

- Develop an understanding of how climate change has and will impact their community through a unique combination of scientific expertise and local storytelling;

- Learn about local resources and organizations focused on energy efficiency, sustainability, and other efforts to address climate change;

- Make a commitment to a local and specific climate change solution that will be supported by community resources. Solutions will contribute to the mitigation and adaptation of impacts, as well as building community resilience.

All members of the community are welcome at the convenings, including farmers, city officials, business owners, community groups, artists, ethnic groups, scientists, teachers, faith groups and youth.

Register at
http://willstegerfoundation.org/climateminnesota/climate-minnesota-convenings
4-H X-Camp (Exploration Camp) at University of Minnesota Crookston

June 2 - 4, for youth in grades 6 - 8

Registration deadline: May 22 (due at Regional Office, County deadline may be earlier)

This is a 3 day, 2 night event where participants will get to be college student, living in the dorms, eating on campus, and learning from University staff using University resources. Youth participating in this camp will get hands-on experience working with University of Minnesota Crookston staff in a variety of different topic areas!

Recreation and leadership development will also be a part of this camp! Of course, you'll meet students and faculty at the University of Minnesota Crookston and you’ll also make new 4-H friends from northwest Minnesota and eastern North Dakota.

The cost of this camp is $125. Registration materials are available through your county 4-H office.

Celebrate Service: National Volunteer Week

University of Minnesota Extension salutes its nearly 7,000 adult volunteers who serve the 4-H Youth Development Program in every county in Minnesota.

National Volunteer Week, April 12-18, 2015, is an appropriate time to thank all of the hard-working dedicated volunteers who symbolize the week’s theme of “Celebrate Service.”

Volunteers contribute to the 4-H program in multiple ways: direct service to youth; advising program direction; and sharing resources, including telephone calls and emails, miles traveled in personal vehicles and personal dollars spent for program supplies and donations.

Special thanks to 4-H volunteers across northwest Minnesota who tirelessly share their time, talents, and resources to help youth develop into caring, competent, and contributing adults. We thank you for taking action and bettering your communities on behalf of youth.

Message from Dorothy

Dear 4-H families and volunteers,

April is National Volunteer Month, and I would like to take a moment to thank all of our volunteers for their invaluable contributions to the 4-H program.

Volunteers are 4-H’s most valuable asset. We rely on our adult volunteers to deliver the 4-H program, whether leading 4-H clubs or after-school programs, working with groups of youth on community service efforts, or providing their skills and expertise mentoring youth on a 4-H project.

Research shows that relationships with caring adults are an essential component in positive youth development. Our success in providing Minnesota youth with meaningful learning experiences is dependent on our adult 4-H volunteers.

Thank you for your tireless contributions of time and talent to support the positive development of Minnesota youth.

Sincerely,

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

2015 M4-HAVA Conference: 4-H Ties it All Together

The annual Minnesota 4-H Adult Volunteer Association conference was held in Willmar on Feb. 20-21. This year’s theme was 4-H Ties it All Together. Participants enjoyed a variety of workshops and comradery with new and familiar friends. At the annual awards luncheon, the Blue Ribbon Award recipients were honored. The
following clubs, counties, and individual volunteers were recognized for their excellence:

**Club Awards:**
- Clever Clovers, Big Stone County  
- Eager Beavers, Big Stone County  
- North Star, Chisago County  
- Soaring Eagles, Chisago County  
- Mayville Blue Ribbon Strivers, Houston County  
- St. John’s Roadrunners, Kandiyohi County  
- Busy Bees, Mille Lacs County  
- Hegne Hustlers, Norman County

**County Awards:**
- Big Stone County  
- Fillmore County  
- Lac Qui Parle County  
- Norman County

**Adult Volunteer Awards:**
- Cora Greger, Big Stone County  
- Laurie Stromsodt, Marshall County  
- Judy Hible, Mille Lacs County

**Outstanding Adult Volunteer Awards:**
- Gwen Frazier, Goodhue County  
- Cathy Steinmetz, Nobles County  
- Steve Vrchota, Sherburne County

Please join us in extending our appreciation and congratulations to these groups and individuals for their outstanding service!

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### 4-H Western Heritage Safety Clinic

The 4-H Western Heritage Safety Clinic will be held Sunday **May 10, 2015** at the Al & Kelly Jones Arena, rural Pipestone area. Start time is 10 a.m.

The Southwest Regional Western Heritage Competition will be held on Sunday **June 28, 2015** at the Al & Kelly Jones Arena, rural Pipestone area. Start time is 10 a.m.

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### 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 lama 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 lama 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).

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### 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 lama or those interested in showing a lama and just want to check it out. Yes, your llamas 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.
- Halters and leads for sale.
- Shearing services available along with CD&Ts and nail trimming.
- Lunch and snack.
- Team games with your lama.
- 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 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.

Updated Cloverbuds information sheet

The Information sheet for parents, guardians and mentors for Cloverbuds has been updated to reflect changes and opportunities for Cloverbuds exhibiting in horse, sheep and lama projects. Changes are bolded below.

Cloverbuds may safely interact with their animal through participation in a limited number of non-competitive classes at 4-H sponsored practice sessions/clinics, fun shows and county fairs. The purpose is to provide youth an opportunity to experience being in the ring with a judge present and to feel the pride that comes with this experience. Appropriate examples of participation are described as follows:

- Cloverbuds may participate with beef, dairy, dog, goats, pets, poultry, rabbits, and swine in a Cloverbud showmanship class.
- Cloverbuds may participate with a sheep in two classes: Cloverbud showmanship or Cloverbud lamb lead.
- Cloverbuds may participate with a lama in two classes: Cloverbud costume or Cloverbud showmanship.
- Cloverbuds may participate with a horse in three classes: Cloverbud halter/showmanship, Cloverbud western pleasure or Cloverbud barrels. If the horse is used in a riding setting, the Cloverbud may sit on the back of the horse with a responsible person(1) in control(3) of the horse at all times(2). Helmets are required for the Cloverbud in any riding setting.

Scholarships for college-bound 4-H youth

Applications for scholarships from the Minnesota 4-H Foundation are due in just two short weeks. Over $20,000 is available to college-bound 4-H’ers and we encourage you to apply. Visit our website at http://z.umn.edu/sga or contact Erin Kelly-Collins (erinkc@umn.edu/612.624.7667) to learn more.

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.

Supersession: A 4-H Dog Project Training Workshop

Minnesota 4-H dog owners bring their dogs to this training and networking workshop for youth age third grade and older, their families, trainers, potential trainers, youth and adult leaders.

June 13-14, 2015
Redwood County Fairgrounds, Redwood Falls, Minnesota
Pre-register by May 23, 2015
$30 per person for weekend, $20 per person for one day only
More information available at www.4-H.umn.edu/events/dog-supersession.html

Dog agility judges seminar for current and prospective 4-H judges

This is a seminar for current judges and prospective judges in agility. 4-H dog project leaders or Extension personnel are welcome as auditors. It is NOT a seminar designed for younger 4-H members (though a youth leader in a county leadership position with interest in future judging would be welcome).

May 2-3, 2015
Rice County Fairgrounds, 1814 2nd Ave. NW, Faribault
Registration deadline: April 24, 2015
More information available at www.4-H.umn.edu/events/dog-judges-training-agility.html

4-H Dog Alumni Fun Match

All 4-H Alumni and their dogs are invited! Please let any interested dog alumni in on this fun event!

May 3, 2015
Rice County Fairgrounds, 1814 2nd Ave. NW, Faribault
$4 for first class/dog, $3 for second class/dog
Pre-registration required
More Information available at www.4-H.umn.edu/events/dog-alumni-fun.html

Scholarships

Check out the scholarship opportunities for Minnesota 4-H youth attending post-secondary education at www.extension.umn.edu/youth/scholarships/.

Livestock and Horse bonus trips

Beginning April 1, the links for livestock and horse bonus trip applications will be available.

- Awarded in the state fair livestock species (except lama) for quality programming and quality animals (60 extra trips awarded annually)
- Awarded in horse for quality programming (20 trips awarded annually)
- Very Simple Process - 200 words (one page) along with one page of photos and one page of publicity, etc.
- Designed for volunteers and PDC’s to put together – NOT staff.
- Updated Applications will be posted April 1.
  www.4-H.umn.edu/state-fair/livestock-bonus-trips.html

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

Keeping youth in 4-H: A recipe for success

Have you ever wondered why some 4-H clubs are overflowing with members and engaged volunteers, while at the same time other 4-H clubs in the same county are struggling or have folded because they lost their membership? The answer can be found in the old saying “people vote with their feet” which tells us people belong to organizations that are meaningful to their life and likewise discontinue involvement when there is no longer a perceived value.

Is there a recipe for keeping youth in 4-H and does it really work? The answer is yes, there is a recipe and it does work! Minnesota 4-H conducted a study of former 4-Hers to find out why they either stayed or left the 4-H program. Overwhelmingly the youth who stayed in the program sited the following three factors as the reason for their continued 4-H involvement: (1) positive relationships with adults and peers, (2) skill building through project involvement, and (3) fun, increased level of enjoyment. The recipe can be summed up in three key words: relationships, projects and fun.

To learn more about keeping youth involved in the 4-H program, view the 4HOnline training Keeping Youth in 4-H: www.4-H.umn.edu/volunteer/online-training.