In This Issue:
Local 4-H Programs (EOT, WOT, Wilkin) ........................................... 2-3
State Events and News ........................................................................ 4-7
Volunteer Corner ................................................................................ 5
State Horse Show ................................................................................ 6
Calendar of Events .............................................................................. 7

Dear 4-H families and volunteers,

Due to the Minnesota Board of Animal Health's ban on live birds at public events to help limit the spread of avian flu, 4-H had to adjust its 4-H Poultry Project events and activities at county and state fairs this summer. Our state poultry committee leapt into action, got creative and came up with plans that made it possible for our 4-H Poultry Project youth to participate in fairs this summer and share their learning.

One adjustment was to use photos of poultry or plush stuffed birds for showmanship judging, so youth would have something in place of their live birds to help facilitate their conversations with judges. We also gave youth an option to create and bring a poultry exhibit in the areas of biosecurity, animal health, nutrition, production, and careers, which gave them an opportunity to dig deeper and learn more about a specific topic related to the poultry industry. Some county fairs also offered a chicken BBQ contest, carcass judging and other poultry-related learning events. And at the Minnesota State Fair, we held a Science of Poultry half-day learning event, where 4-H poultry youth could hear from a panel of experts from Jennie-O, Cargill, Rembrandt Enterprises, Minnesota Turkey, Midwest Poultry Federation, Minnesota Chicken and Egg, and Extension; work in roundtables with the experts learning about an issue; and apply their new knowledge by creating a poster on the topic and presenting it to the group.

Though some of our 4-H’ers were disappointed they could not bring the birds they spent months raising and caring for to fairs, they rose to the occasion and had wonderful learning experiences as a result.

I’d like to congratulate all of our 4-H poultry youth, and poultry families and volunteers for all of your extra effort this summer, and making 4-H poultry experiences at the fair rich and rewarding!

Sincerely,
Dorothy M. Freeman
Associate Dean and State 4-H Director
East Otter Tail

Committee Meeting & Awards and Recognition

Food Stand Committee meeting will be held on September 12, 10am at the Extension office. The Awards and Recognition committee meeting will follow at 11am.

Junior Leader Meeting

Junior Leader meeting will be on September 12, 1pm at the Extension office; all youth grades 7 and above are encourage to attend. The youth voice is vital to the planning process. Please bring your school and personal calendars as we will be planning meeting dates and brainstorming ideas. We will be selecting county officers for the ballots for the November annual meeting as well. Please contact Janet if you are interested in a county federation officer position.

Livestock Committee Meeting

The Livestock committee meeting will be held on September 14, 7pm at the Extension office.

Afterschool Volunteers

4-H afterschool volunteers are need for the upcoming school year. There will be a meeting September 19, 12:30pm at Landmark Center, Henning. Please come if you are interested in assisting with 4-H afterschool in any of the school districts. If you have project ideas or lesson plans please bring them as well. Some possible topics will be Acres of Adventures (a science of agriculture program) Gizmo's and Gadgets (engineering and design). Kids in the Kitchen with the new 4-H curriculum and Discovery Science.

Federation Meeting

The next Federation meeting will be September 21, 7pm at the Extension office. All clubs are to send at least one youth and one adult to represent their club. If you have items for the agenda please send them to Janet at malon034@umn.edu.

Upcoming Trainings

On-line training modules are available. Any EOT 4-H volunteer who has not met the requirements for watching the online training modules is encouraged to do so before October 1. Please take a few minutes to view one of the training modules. Remember to do the survey at the end of the module to receive credit.

A Shooting Sports & Wildlife Leaders training will be held in Perham October 2-4. Please see the SS&W website for registration forms and detailed info. We need a certain number of participants to hold the training so please register early and pass the word to other county volunteers.

Fall Leaders Training will be held on October 10, 10am-3pm. More details coming; hold the date for your club leadership team.

Annual Meeting & Awards program

The Annual Meeting and Awards program will be held on November 22. Records are due to your club leader and can be retrieved from the MN 4-H website page under the membership tab.

Thank You

To all the adults who assist in getting youth to the MN State Fair: drivers, animal & project haulers, chaperons and project supporters. The adult-youth partnership is the heart of 4-H and provides opportunity for youth development to be formed.

West Otter Tail

4-H Afterschool

4-H Afterschool's theme will be “4-H Endless Possibilities”. Do you like gardening, cooking, aerospace, photography, the arts, or animals? There are many interesting projects to do as part of 4-H Afterschool. Youth will have fun learning
about a topic they like, making great snacks and will always go home with a project they made.

The afterschool programs will be held in October, November, December, (January: 4-H Project Day in Underwood), February, March and April.

The cost is $20 per student with a $30 family limit. If cost creates a hardship fee waivers are available.

- For youth in grades K-4 in Battle Lake, held on the first Tuesday of the month with Kathy Kengsinger.
- For youth grades K-3 in Underwood, held on the first Wednesday of the month with Anne Stenoien.
- For youth grades K-4 in Pelican Rapids, held on the first Thursday of the month with Tammy Nordick.
- For youth grades K-5 in Fergus Falls, held on the second Tuesday of the month with Tammy Nordick.
- For youth grades K-6 Homeschool will be held on the second Wednesday of the month with Tammy Nordick.

Watch for information in your school Community Ed flyer or school newsletter.

**National 4-H Week**

National 4-H week is October 4-10. Make plans to promote 4-H in your town and schools. Wear a different 4-H shirt to school each day of that week.

**Trainings**

Parents, club leaders and AMBI’s mark your calendar for the Fall Volunteer Training on **October 26**. More information will be coming in September.

**Junior Leadership Workshop**

Youth in grades 6-9 that want to attend the (JLW) Junior Leader Workshop at Faith Haven Camp on **October 15-16**. Two-days of fun, food and friends with a focus on leadership skills. Look for more information below in the State News.

**4-H Records**

Record keeping is an important life skill and all 4-H members are encouraged to keep written records of their 4-H club year. The primary purpose of completing records are for a young person to develop the skills necessary to set goals, work toward achieving those goals, reflect on his/her experiences, and set new and higher goals for themselves. A secondary benefit is to prepare young people for the process of completing quality academic scholarship applications. These records are turned in to your local 4-H club leader to be evaluated. The club leaders should turn the results into the local office by **October 23**.

**WOT 4-H Awards Program**

The Awards program will be held on **November 15**. Your club leader will have the record forms or you can get them at the Extension office. Leaders should not that award information will be sent out in mid-September.

**County Fair Herdsmanship Results**

1st Place Small Club: Amor - $50 Papa Murphy Gift card
2nd Place Small Club: Grove Lake - $25 Papa Murphy Gift Card
1st Place Large Club: Dalton - $50 Papa Murphy Gift Card
2nd Place Large Club: Nidaros - $25 Papa Murphy Gift Card

**State Fair**

Congratulations to all the youth who participated at the Minnesota State Fair. West Otter Tail 4-H is proud of you.

Thanks to these wonderful State Fair chaperones: Melissa Wiezorek, Greg Frigaard, Janelle Hawkinson, April Klimp, Nathan Kenyon, Ann Gibbs and Christine Shores.
State News and Events

Junior Leader Workshop
“Find Yourself Through 4-H”

JLW (Junior Leader Workshop) is open to any youth grades 6-9. Plan to make new friends, participate in fun workshops, laugh at skits and enjoy free time around the campfire. It will be a time to discover all of your path and direction of leadership. This workshop is designed by youth leaders for youth leaders.

When: October 15-16
Where: Faith Haven Camp (near Battle Lake)
Cost: $95 (includes meals, lodging and t-shirt)

Please contact your county office for scholarship opportunities. To sign up please send name, grade, address, phone number to your Extension Office by October 9 with your t-shirt size and a non-refundable payment.

4-H Club Chartering process

It is hard to believe it is time for clubs to renew their annual charter! The chartering documents are now up on the Minnesota 4-H website and have a whole new face lift. The forms have been streamlined to make the process easier for clubs to complete.

New in 2015 is a club chartering training video that can also be found on the Minnesota 4-H website. This video is approximately 19 minutes in length and gives step by step directions on how to fill in each form, and the purpose of annual club chartering. Clubs/leaders can watch this video on their own, or the program coordinator can bring leaders together to watch the video as a group and answer questions.

Remember all club charters must be in the county Extension office on or before November 30.

Online Enrollment

Enrollment for the new 4-H year opens up on September 16 and Minnesota 4-H families are reminded and encouraged to visit 4HOnline to enroll/re-enroll both youth members and adult volunteers. The process is quick and easy; even families with multiple youth should be done in 10 minutes or less. Re-enrolling early ensures that critical communications will be received, especially as it relates to deadlines and project specific information. Detailed information about online enrollment and re-enrollment is available online.

As part of enrolling or re-enrolling, youth, their parents and adult volunteers will all be agreeing to the Minnesota 4-H Code of Conduct, which is available for review in its entirety, along with other policy and authorization statements or by contacting your local Extension office.

If you are not yet an adult volunteer but are willing to share your time and talents to make a difference, 4-H needs you! The first step to becoming an adult 4-H volunteer is to complete the volunteer application process. Learn more here.

Celebrate Ag & Food Day

4-H families and alumni are invited to join a celebration of Minnesota agriculture and food at a special University of Minnesota Gopher football game on September 19. Discounted tickets can be purchased at this link. Join us before the game from 9-11am for activities outside the stadium including a tailgate party featuring Minnesota brats and cheese. To RSVP or with questions, contact Erin Kelly-Collins at erinkc@umn.edu.
Safety of Minors Training: A Big Thank You!

On behalf of the University of Minnesota Extension Center for Youth Development, please accept our sincere gratitude for your timely completion of the University-sponsored “Safety of Minors” training and compliance with the policy. Getting 7,000 adult volunteers through training in two months is no small task, but we are proud to share that we accomplished this task due to the timeliness and commitment of our volunteers and the diligence of our staff. We greatly appreciate your service to Minnesota 4-H and dedication to ensuring that all Minnesota youth are engaged in safe, fun, and positive experiential learning.

2015 Fall Volunteer Training: All Together, Yet Not All the Same

We are excited to announce this year’s topic for our annual fall volunteer training: cultural competency and inclusion. The training, titled “All Together, Yet Not All the Same,” is designed to help prepare 4-H volunteers to build youths’ global citizenship skills and give them the tools needed to ensure that 4-H is a program where youth from all backgrounds, cultures, beliefs and abilities feel welcome and safe. It is our responsibility to young people to prepare them for global citizenship and to work constructively across areas of difference. As we strive in Minnesota 4-H Youth Development to make our programs relevant and accessible to all youth, we must consider areas where we might encounter different values, backgrounds, beliefs, abilities, and goals. By preparing adult volunteers who are essential to 4-H program delivery to be aware of and respectful of these differences, we will not only create an environment where all individuals feel safe and welcome, but also ensure that we model valuable 21st century global citizenship skills to youth that will prove critical now and in their future. Activities are designed to be hands-on and encourage active discussion. Participants will be given at least one activity to take back to their clubs as well as have access to the WeConnect curriculum from their county library of available curricula. All 4-H volunteers are encouraged to attend the annual training in their county. Activities are also appropriate for youth who are interested in this topic.

4-H Volunteer Corner

Managing 4-H clubs: A guide for club leaders

October marks the beginning of a new 4-H year and a new volunteer opportunity for individuals who are moving into a club leadership position. 4-H volunteers who are taking on club leadership responsibilities have several important roles. A leader is a mentor, a motivator for young people, an organizer and coordinator with other adults in the club, and a liaison with the larger 4-H organization in your area. An excellent training resource and online learning module for new and existing 4-H club leaders is Managing 4-H Clubs: A guide for club leaders. Extension staff designed this module to help with some of the typical management issues in 4-H clubs and bring all these pieces together to build an environment where young people thrive and grow. Take advantage of the resource to get your 4-H club off to a great start this fall. To view this training module and other 4-H online training opportunities visit our website.

Get the free 4-H at the Minnesota State Fair app

If you have a smart phone and you're going to the state fair - or you know a 4-H'er who will be
showing a project -- download our free app before you leave home. It combines all this:

- Judging results
- Public schedule linked to an interactive map
- For exhibitors – switch on the alerts so you'll know where to be and when
- 4-H live cam 12 hours a day
- Photo sharing and more

Download it now for iPhone and for Android.

If you already have this app from last year, be sure to update it for new features.

**New online version of the Consumer Decision-Making Project**

How do you decide which entrée to order? What shoes to buy? What vacation to plan? It's a tough job, but someone needs to make the decision. And pay the bills. The media, peer pressure, the need to fit in – all these factors play major roles in the decisions that youth make.

Minnesota 4-H is recruiting members interested in learning to make wise consumer decisions in a new online version of our Consumer Decision-Making Project. The online nature of this project means you can work review challenges, post your decisions and share with other youth from anywhere and at any time, through the convenience of your mobile device or home internet connection.

How does it work? Each week for up to 1-2 hours for a 12 week period, youth will learn about finances and consumerism, review a scenario, and compare products to make informed decisions. Youth post their decision process and decisions while also reflecting on their values and giving feedback to their peers. Volunteer mentors respond to questions and provide feedback.

If you are interested in learning more about this online opportunity in becoming savvy consumers and building financial intelligence, contact Carrie Olson (320-589-1711,olson166@umn.edu) today.

**Minnesota 4-H State Horse Show**

Mark your calendar for the annual Minnesota 4-H Horse Show will be held September 18-21. Watch the Minnesota 4-H horse website for more information.

**Minnesota 4-H Dog Show**

Mark your calendar: The Minnesota 4-H Dog Show will be held September 26-27. Watch the Minnesota 4-H dog website for more details.

**SS&W Ambassador Program seeking applications for new Ambassadors**

The Minnesota 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Ambassador Program is a leadership opportunity for youth leaders grades 9-13, to promote and enhance Minnesota 4-H shooting sports. Ambassadors positively represent the Minnesota 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Program at state, regional, and local levels. Youth must be starting grades 9-13 in the fall and be able to attend the October 3-4 training in Perham.

Program information, application, and reference forms can be found on this website.
Fall 2015 Shooting Sports & Wildlife Leader Certification Training

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 grades 9 and up, who 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.

The training will take place **October 3-4** at the Perham Middle School and Fort Thunder Gun Club in Perham.

Registration materials are available at on the [website](#). The deadline to register is **September 18**. Disciplines fill quickly, so make sure registration forms are sent in early.

**Calendar of Events**

**August**

26-9/7  Live-streaming of 4-H State Arts-In Performance

27-9/7  MN State Fair

**September**

2  Live-streaming of the 4-H Lama Costume Competition

11-13  MN 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Invitational

18-21  MN4-H Horse Show

19  Celebrate Ag & Food Day, MN Gopher football game

26-27  MN 4-H Dog Show

**October**

3-4  MN 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Ambassador training, Perham

**November**

30  Club Charters due to Extension Offices