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Dear 4-H families and volunteers,

It is fair season again, and I know many of you are preparing to participate in 4-H at your county fairs this summer. I know you, like I, enjoy seeing the wonderful accomplishments of our youth.

For the third year, we will be live-streaming some of our 4-H events at the Minnesota State Fair!

Our goal is to provide a way for 4-H families and friends who are unable to come to the fair to see some of the 4-H fun from home. The livestream is provided on the internet, so you can watch from computers, laptops, smart phones or any mobile device with internet service.

We’re live-streaming three 4-H events at the fair this year: the 4-H Lama Costume Competition, 4-H Dairy and Market Goat Show, and a 4-H State Arts-In performance.

The 2015 4-H at the Minnesota State Fair live-streaming schedule is:

- Friday, Aug. 28, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.: 4-H Dairy and Market Goat Show
- Monday, Aug. 31, 5:50 p.m.: 4-H State Arts-In performance
- Wednesday, Sept. 2, 6-7 p.m.: 4-H Lama Costume Competition

Watch the shows live here: 4-H.umn.edu/state-fair/4-h-live-cam/
ATTENTION 4-Hers staying on the grounds at State Fair

Youth staying on the State Fairgrounds must have a chaperone. Now is the time to start talking with other families about who stay on the grounds. Screened volunteers need to be lined up by the State Fair meeting, Saturday August 8th. Chaperones need to be at least 21 years of age and be a screened volunteer.

General Projects at State Fair

Mark your calendars for general encampment September 5-7. More information regarding busing will be sent out following the county fair.

General Projects:

- Need to be in the office by Wednesday, August 19th
- Must have a picture of complete project (all pieces!)
- Must have the project packaged securely and safely

Interstate Exchange in Tompkins County, NY

What a fun time it was for the eight youth and four adult chaperones that traveled to Ithaca, New York. The participants were away on their travels June 29-July 7. From family visits to traveling to New York City and Niagara Falls, the participants had a great time. Lots of fun to hear stories and see pictures of their adventures. If you’re interested in participating in the interstate exchange program for 2016-2017 with Kansas be sure to talk to any of these participants to learn all about the fun and great experiences had.

CSI: Pipestone 4-H Day Camp

Wow! What a great time was had at 4-H Day Camp. And what a great group of kids. There was a total of 23 youth that attended 4-H Day Camp at Split Rock Creek State Park. Youth spent the morning learning about finger prints, invisible ink, paper chromatography and how to use your mind and body to be an investigator. Youth also got to participate in water balloon games and swimming. What a fun day was had by all.

Congratulations! Newly Elected Leader’s Council Officers

The Pipestone County 4-H election of Leaders Council officers took place Sunday, July 12th. It began at 6:30 pm with a potluck supper, meeting, then free swim for all 4-H families and friends from 8:00 – 10:00. What a great turnout we had and what a fun time!

Your Leader’s Council Officers:

- President: Eric Pietz
- Vice President: Gavin Viland
- Secretary: Emily Blom
- Treasurer: Jasmine Jensen

A recording will be available on the 4-H State Arts-In, llama, and goat project pages of the Minnesota 4-H web site after the fair.

I hope those of you who can’t join us in person enjoy seeing some of our wonderful 4-H’ers who are sharing their learning and accomplishments at the Minnesota State Fair this year!

Sincerely,
Dorothy M. Freeman
Associate dean and state 4-H director

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Tickets for the MN State Fair

Discount Tickets will be available at the Pipestone Area Chamber of Commerce. Tickets went on sale on July 5th and will be available for purchase until August 26th. Admission tickets are for sale for $10, ride tickets are on sale for $15 per sheet, and the Blue Ribbon Bargain book is on sale for $5. Be sure to stop in and get your tickets for the Great MN Get Together.

4-H Sweet Corn Fundraiser

The Pipestone County 4-H Interstate Exchange group will be selling and taking orders for sweet corn soon! The corn is grown on the Randy and Sue Carlson farm. Corn will be picked and sold by the Pipestone County 4-H Interstate Exchange group. Bushel orders need to be placed at least two days in advance to make sure the order can be filled. Call the Pipestone County Extension Office at 825-6715 to place your order.

2015 Pipestone County Fair Schedule

July 29 - Quonset & Food Stand: SS
July 29 - Barn Setup: TT & TPP
July 29 - Livestock Demonstrations
August 1 - General Project Judging (Christ the King Lutheran Church)
August 5-8 - Pipestone County Fair
August 9 - After Fair Quonset & Food Stand: PG
August 9 - After Fair Cleanup: All 4-Hers

4-H alumni at the Minnesota State Fair

Do you plan on visiting the state fair this summer? The Minnesota 4-H alumni & friends community is looking for alumni who can volunteer a few hours during the fair. Volunteers who fill a 3-hour shift in either the 4-H building or the 4-H livestock areas will receive a complimentary gate ticket and alumni t-shirt (must be 19 years or older). To learn more, visit z.umn.edu/4Halumni. We’d love to see you there!

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

If you have a smart phone and you’re going to the state fair, you should download our free app! It combines all of our state fair communications into one place:

- Judging results
- Public schedule
- Interactive map
- Livestock shows and general projects announcements in real time – switch on the alerts function, and you won’t even need to open the app!
  - MN4HBeef
  - MN4HDairy
  - NEW: MN4HSheep
  - MN4HAnnounce for all other projects

State fair winners and families, volunteers, staff and all fairgoers interested in 4-H will find it useful. Download it from the iTunes or Google Play store.

If you don’t have a smart phone, you can receive these messages on your cell phone by texting “Follow MN4HAnnounce” to 40404. Text “STOP” when you want them to stop. These accounts are active during the state fair.

To join a conversation about 4-H, use the Twitter app and follow MN4H.

General & livestock demonstrations

$30 awards will be given to all 4-Hers who complete a 4-H demonstration during general encampment and livestock encampment. This
includes livestock & general encampment, illustrated talks, and Youth in Action presentations.

New in 2015! 4-Hers doing Avian Flu demonstrations at the county fair will receive a $30 cash incentive. This includes 4-Hers who are not yet state fair eligible. There will be an additional $50 award for Avian Flu demonstrations at the state fair!

For the livestock demonstration:

- Each county is allowed one additional state fair livestock trip for a livestock demonstration exhibitor.
- All livestock demonstrations must incorporate a live animal into the demonstration.
- The 4-Her must demonstrate on livestock weekend and can also participate in all other species activities (show, interviews, showmanship).
- Counties may add one additional state fair trip in the species area of the demonstration.

**EquiMania**

Do you love being around people at the state fair? Want a free ticket and a cool t-shirt? Volunteer for two hours at the award-winning EquiMania! exhibit in the horse barn. Horse knowledge is not required - the exhibit activities are easy and fun for guests. EquiMania is a great opportunity for families, friends, 4-H clubs, small group and individuals to participate at the fair and have a great time doing it! The Minnesota State Fair is just around the corner...and is very much in need of volunteers for this year’s fair! Please consider volunteering for a short two hour shift! We welcome all volunteers, so please be sure to share this fantastic opportunity with your friends, families, and colleagues!

Email us at Equimania@mnstatefair.org or call 651-288-4480 today! More info at mnstatefair.org

**4-H scholarship opportunities**

High school seniors and college students -- check out the Minnesota Livestock Breeders Association Scholarship (MLBA) and Minnesota State Fair Scholarship Program (formally known as Hallberg Scholarship) opportunities at www.extension.umn.edu/youth/scholarships/.

**Minnesota 4-H Livestock Quality Assurance and Ethics (LQA&E) Policy**

All youth participating as a state fair 4-H livestock exhibitor in beef, dairy, sheep, swine, poultry, rabbits, meat and dairy goat and lama must have completed the Livestock Quality Assurance and Ethics Workshop. Certification is required prior to the county fair qualifying show and 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.

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

**Minnesota 4-H Dairy Showcase: Honoring Blue Ribbon Kids**

This event recognizes overall achievement of Minnesota 4-H Dairy Project exhibitors that have demonstrated year-round participation within 4-H and the dairy industry including:

- success with the animal
- knowledge of the dairy project and industry
- involvement within 4-H and dairy communities
- activities in school, church and community
The Minnesota 4-H Dairy Showcase will recognize the top 25 4-H Dairy Project members that exhibit at the Minnesota State Fair. Complete details and online portfolio are available at www.4-H.umn.edu/events/dairy-showcase.html.

**Minnesota 4-H Poultry Prince & Princess Contest**

The Minnesota 4-H Poultry Prince & Princess Contest is a scholarship program offered by Minnesota 4-H and Gold’n Plump. The Poultry Prince & Princess Contest details are available at www.4-H.umn.edu/events/poultry-prince-princess.html.

**Minnesota 4-H is again hosting “Chef for a Day Cook-Off!”**

The Chef for a Day Cook-Off will be held during all state fair encampments, and open to all 4-H state fair exhibitors. Each county will provide a team of 3-5 exhibitors for a two hour program during livestock encampment and every general encampment. The first hour will include an educational activity, and the second hour will be the Chef for a Day Cook-Off! All equipment will be supplied as well as all of the meat, and some possible ingredients. Teams may bring additional ingredients but note that no refrigeration is supplied. There will be no morning assignments -- but there will be prizes!

**4-H summer employment opportunities**

A variety of employment opportunities are available at 4-H state-level summer events. Applications are accepted up to five working days prior to the event. Additional details are available at www.4-H.umn.edu/state-fair/employment/.

**Share the Fun reminder**

State fair Share the Fun nominations/applications are available as of June 1. Rehearsal times are assigned on a first come, first served basis upon receipt of the nomination/application forms. More information can be found at www.4-H.umn.edu/events/share-the-fun.html.

**Minnesota 4-H State Horse Show**

Mark your calendar: The annual Minnesota 4-H Horse Show will be held September 18-21, 2015. Watch the Minnesota 4-H horse website for more information at www.4-H.umn.edu/projects/animal-science/horse.

**Minnesota 4-H Dog Show**

Mark your calendar: The Minnesota 4-H Dog Show will be held September 26-27, 2015. Watch the Minnesota 4-H dog website for more details at www.4-H.umn.edu/events/state-dog-show.html.

**Premium book only available online**

The 4-H at the Minnesota State Fair premium book will only be available online! You can access it at www.4-H.umn.edu/state-fair/resources.html.
**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 grade 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 at: [4-H.umn.edu/projects/shooting-sports/shooting-sports/](http://4-H.umn.edu/projects/shooting-sports/shooting-sports/)

Applications for new Shooting Sports & Wildlife Ambassadors are due **August 24, 2015**.

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**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 (grade nine 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.

The training will take place October 3-4, 2015 at the Perham Middle School and Fort Thunder Gun Club in Perham.

Registration materials are available at [4-H.umn.edu/events/shooting-sports-certification/](http://4-H.umn.edu/events/shooting-sports-certification/). The deadline to register is September 18, 2015. Disciplines fill quickly, so make sure registration forms are sent in early!

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**4-H volunteer corner**

**4-H chaperones and the Minnesota State Fair**

In the Minnesota 4-H program the state fair is recognized as the grand finale of the summer. Each year “The Great Minnesota Get-Together” provides over 6,500 4-H members with the opportunity to showcase their projects at the state level. This would not be possible without 4-H chaperones. Serving as a 4-H chaperone is an important responsibility. Prior to chaperoning any 4-H program, including the state fair, training is required. The training modules cover roles, expectations and best practices to help ensure youth have a quality educational experience. Serving as chaperones provides a valuable service and enables caring adults the opportunity to positively shape the life experiences of many young people.

The online training, **4-H chaperone policies: A guide for 4-H adult chaperones**, found at [4-H.umn.edu/volunteer/online-training/](http://4-H.umn.edu/volunteer/online-training/), offers valuable information to help ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for the youth and the adult chaperones.

**4-H Volunteer Training 24/7**

4-H has a comprehensive and multi-format system of training and support for the thousands of volunteers who deliver 4-H youth development programs to young people across the state. Much of that training is provided face-to-face. But we know that providing some training opportunities online will help our volunteers more easily access the training and resources they need, when they need it.
Minnesota 4-H offers a series of dynamic, interactive 30-minute online training modules to help volunteers build their skills and knowledge from home at any time of the day or night. Check out current online volunteer training topics:

- Creating a welcoming, engaging and encouraging environment for youth
- The 4-H learning environment
- 4-H project leaders: Where the action starts!
- Managing 4-H clubs: A guide for 4-H club leaders
- 4-H financial management
- Ensuring a safe 4-H environment
- Chaperone training
- Keeping youth in 4-H

Training modules for individual viewing can be accessed through any adult volunteer account on [www.4honline.com/](http://www.4honline.com/). A detailed user guide is available at [www.4-h.umn.edu/volunteer/online-training](http://www.4-h.umn.edu/volunteer/online-training). We’re striving for 25% of Minnesota 4-H volunteers to complete at least one online volunteer training module by September 30, 2015. Which one will you try?

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**July**

- **27** Jackson County Livestock Judging Contest
- **29** Quonset & Food Stand Setup
- **29** Barn Setup
- **29** Livestock Demonstrations
- **29** Horse Practice
- **30-31, 2015** — Shooting Sports & Wildlife Camp

**August**

**Radio Spot – Trosky Peppy Pebbles**

- 1 General Project Judging
- 5 County Fair
- 6 County Fair
- 7 County Fair
- 8 County Fair
- 9 After Fair Cleanup
- 9 After Fair Quonset & Food Stand Clean up
- 10 Last Day to Complete Volunteer Screening for State Fair Chaperones
- 27 MN State Fair Begins
- 27 – 30 Livestock Encampment

**September**

**Radio Spot – Troy Toilers**

- 5 – 7 General Encampment
- 7 MN State Fair Ends
- 11-13 Minnesota 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Invitational
- 18-21 Minnesota 4-H Horse Show
- 24 – 27 AK-SAR-BEN
- 26-27 Minnesota 4-H Dog Show
- 28 Leaders Council Meeting

**OCTOBER**

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