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Calendar

**September**

8 - Leaders Council - 8 p.m.
14 - Records Due
15-16 - Record Judging - Courthouse meeting room
11-13 - State Shoot
18-21 - State Horse Show - St. Paul
26-27 - State Dog Show - St. Paul

**October**

5 - Leaders Council & Leader Training
4-10 - National 4-H Week
4 - 4-H Sunday
9 - 4-H Carnival
25 - Awards Banquet - Eagles Club Room
Dear 4-H Families:

The summer season has gone by very quickly, and it is back to school time. Along with this we are about to start a new 4-H year. Clubs should be getting ready to re-enroll present members and invite new 4-H members to join your club. This is the time when 4-H’ers should think about what projects they are going to enroll in for the coming year.

I hope you all have a large re-enrollment and another successful 4-H year.

County Record Judging

4-H Records are due in the Extension office by 9 a.m. on Monday, September 14. You must have them judged at the club level first. So please turn in your records to your 4-H leaders by the club due date. Don’t bring these records directly to the Extension office.

County record judging will be held on Tuesday, September 15 & Wednesday, September 16 from 12:45 – 4 p.m. and 6:45 – 10 p.m. on both days. We would like 6 parents or leaders to judge at each shift. This is an excellent opportunity for you to see how records are judged and to be a part of the judging process. Please call the extension office at 683-7030 if you are interested.

All award forms, including honor club, conservation, electric, demonstrations, etc. are due in the Extension office by 9 a.m. on Sept. 14. as well.

These have been mailed out to qualifying 4-Hers, and will not be judged if they are not turned in on time.

4-H Carnival

The 4-H Carnival will be held on Friday, Oct. 9, from 6-8 in the City Auditorium. Clubs will be able to set up at 4:30 p.m. Please call in with the names of your games by Oct. 2. Each family is asked to bring a cake for the cake walk. This is an excellent time to showcase our 4-H program. 4-H enrollment information will be available to the public. Please bring in banners for hanging and examples of small exhibits from the county or state fair.

National 4-H Week – October 4-10, 2015

Clubs are invited to promote 4-H during these dates. If you need promotional materials, there is some money in the Leaders council budget for promotional items. October 4 is 4-H Sunday. If you are interested in church bulletin inserts, please give the office a call by September 25.

I also need 4-Hers for radio spots the week of the 1st for KTRF and KKAQ. Each club is allowed a maximum of 2 4-Hers. If some clubs don’t participate more 4-H’ers will be allowed from each club. Call the office by Sept. 11 if you have 4-H’ers interested in participating. Taping will be done Sept. 30 immediately following school.

4-H Awards Banquet

The Awards Banquet is scheduled for Sunday, October 25, 2015 at the Eagles Club Room. The meal will be served at 5:00 p.m. with the awards presentation to start immediately following. I need 3 youth leaders to emcee and a club to decorate. All 4-H families and 4-H supporters are welcome to attend.

Thank you for T-shirts

For those of you that received a Fleet Farm t-shirt from attending the state fair, you should send a thank you to:

Mills Fleet Farm Corporate Headquarters
512 Laurel Street
PO Box 5055
Brainerd MN 56401

State Fair Exhibits

Please pick up your state fair exhibits after Sept. 10 in the Extension Office. A complete listing of all the results will be in the October newsletter.
Leader Training, October 5, 2015

A leader training has been scheduled for Monday, Oct. 5 from 6:15 – 8 p.m. just before leaders council. All Leaders/parents and older youth are welcome to attend. Supper will be provided. Please sign up at the Extension Office by Oct. 2 so we can plan for the supper. The topic will be “All Together-Not all the Same”.

Message from Dorothy

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 ½ 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

Minnesota 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 (www.4-H.umn.edu/leading-a-club/) 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 Nov. 30, 2015.

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
- New: Stalling announcements for beef exhibitors on Tuesday night!
- 4-H live cam 12 hours a day
- Photo sharing
- More!

Download it now:
For iphone: http://www.z.umn.edu/4hstatefairiapp
For android: http://www.z.umn.edu/4hstatefairaapp

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

Online enrollment for 4-H families

Enrollment for the new 4-H year opens up on Sept. 16 and Minnesota 4-H families are reminded and encouraged to visit mn.4HOnline.com 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 at www.4-H.umn.edu/4honline.

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 at www.4-H.umn.edu/policy or by contacting your local Extension office (www.extension.umn.edu/county/).

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 at www.4-H.umn.edu/volunteer/#application.

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 Sept. 19. Discounted tickets can be purchased at z.umn.edu/umafd2015. Join us before the game from 9 - 11a.m. 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.

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 to 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: The annual Minnesota 4-H Horse Show will be held Sept. 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 Sept. 26-27, 2015. Watch the Minnesota 4-H dog website for more details at www.4-H.umn.edu/events/state-dog-show.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 Oct. 3-4 training in Perham.

Program information, application, and reference forms can be found at: 4-H.umn.edu/projects/shooting-sports/shooting-sports/

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 Oct. 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/. The deadline to register is September 18, 2015. Disciplines fill quickly, so make sure registration forms are sent in early!

### 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 www.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-H/volunteer/online-training/