

APRIL 12, 2024



## UMass 4-H Events Calendar

| Date & Event   | Time           | Location  | Info or Registration   |
|--|----------------|---|--|
| 4/13/24<br>MA 4-H Dairy Goat Day                                       | 10 AM -3 PM    | Erin DeCoste Farm<br>Lancaster, MA                  |  |
| 4/14/24<br>4-H Night at Thunderbirds Hockey                            |                | MassMutual Center<br>Springfield, MA                | <a href="#">Thunderbirds Registration</a>                            |
| 4/17/24<br><a href="#">Northeast Spring Dairy Show Youth Clinics</a>   |                | Big E<br>West Springfield                           |  |
| 4/18/24<br>National 4-H Trip Info Session                              | 7 PM           | Zoom  | <a href="#">National 4-H Trip Application Info Session Zoom Link</a> |
| 4/19/24<br>Wear Purple Day   |                | All day in honor of the month of the military child |  |
| 4/20/24<br>STEM Training   | 1 – 3 PM       | Auburn 4-H Office                                   | Registration in 4honline   |
| 4/22/24<br>MA 4-H Beef visit to <a href="#">Plymouth Meats</a>         | 3 PM           | Plymouth, CT  |  |
| 4/26/24<br>National 4-H Trip Info Session                              | 4 PM           | Zoom  | <a href="#">National 4-H Trip Application Info Session Zoom Link</a> |
| 4/28 OR 4/30/24<br>Dog Academy Participant Meeting                     | 7 PM           | Zoom  | <a href="#">Dog Academy Participant Zoom Registration</a>            |
| 4/30/24<br>National 4-H Trip Info Session                              | 6 PM           | Zoom  | <a href="#">National 4-H Trip Application Info Session Zoom Link</a> |
| 5/2/24<br>Dog Project Spring Fling                                     | 5:30 PM        | Norfolk Agricultural High School<br>AKC Arena       | <a href="mailto:cquinnkmt@aol.com">cquinnkmt@aol.com</a>             |
| 5/3/24<br>National Horse Teams Orientation                             | 7 PM           | Auburn 4-H Office                                   |  |
| 5/3-5/5/24<br><a href="#">The Big East Jackpot and Youth Beef Show</a> |                | Big E<br>West Springfield                           |  |
| 5/4/24<br>STEM Training  | 10 AM – 3 PM   | Hadley 4-H Office                                   | Registration in 4honline   |
| 5/5/24<br>Southeast Regional Horse Show                                | 8:45 AM        | Pappas Rehabilitation Hospital for Children         | <a href="#">Horse Show Registration</a>                              |
| 5/6/24<br>Mandatory Dog Academy Chaperone Zoom                         | 6:30 – 7:30 PM | Zoom  | Link will be sent to approved chaperones                             |
| 5/10-5/12/24<br>Dog Academy  |                | Camp Farley<br>Mashpee, MA                          | <a href="#">Dog Academy Information Packet</a>                       |
| 5/13/24<br>National 4-H Trip Info Session                              | 7 PM           | Zoom  | <a href="#">National 4-H Trip Application Info Session Zoom Link</a> |

| Date & Event  | Time | Location   | Info or Registration                                     |
|---|------|--|--|
| 5/17-5/18<br>MA 4-H Dairy Academy                     |      | Three County Fairgrounds<br>Northampton, Massachusetts | Coming soon!   |
| 5/25 - 5/26/24<br><a href="#">Stock U Show Clinic</a> |      | Fryeburg, ME   | Opened February 1 <sup>st</sup>                          |
| 6/2/24<br>Goat Tour                                   |      | Thomas Farm<br>Sunderland, MA                          |  |
| 6/8-6/9/24<br>Vet Science Academy                     |      |  | Stay tuned for details!                                  |
| 6/22-6/23<br>Annual MA State 4-H Horse Show           |      | Three County Fairgrounds<br>Northampton, Massachusetts | <a href="#">Show Book</a><br>Registration in 4honline    |
| 6/23-6/25<br>Explore UMass                            |      | UMass Amherst  | <a href="mailto:ldubois@umass.edu">ldubois@umass.edu</a> |
| 8/4-8/5/24<br>State 4-H Dairy Show                    |      | Franklin County Fairgrounds<br>Greenfield, MA          |  |
| 9/27-9/28<br>Western MA Regional Horse Show           |      | Three County Fairgrounds<br>Northampton, Massachusetts | <a href="#">Western Regional Horse Show Info</a>         |

## Approaching Registration & Application Deadlines

| Deadline | Event or Opportunity  | Application or Info Link                                |
|----------|---|---|
| 4/12/24  | Dog Academy Registration  | Registration in 4honline                                |
| 4/15/24  | Deadline for 4-H Foundation Grants  | <a href="#">Request for Proposal</a>                    |
| 4/22/24  | Pre-entry deadline SE Regional Horse Show                                     | <a href="#">SE Regional Horse Show Pre-Registration</a> |
| 5/1/24   | Animal Verification Forms Due (Dairy Cattle, Beef Cattle, and Working Steers) | Form Links Below  |
| 6/1/24   | Animal Verification Forms Due (Goat, Sheep, Llama, Alpaca, Swine, and Dog)    | Form Links Below  |
| 6/1/24   | State Horse Show Registration Deadline  |   |

## Massachusetts Statewide Programming & Announcements

### Explore UMass 2024

**SAVE THE DATE!** Explore UMass 2024 is back from June 23<sup>rd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>



This program is for both 4-H members and non-members, ages 12-16. Youth get to experience Campus Life during this 3-day, 2-overnight STEM program at UMass Amherst.

Think about what track most interests you from this year's STEM tracks: Plant and Soil Science, Veterinary Science, Food Science, and Engineering (Cardboard Arcade project).

Registration opened March 20<sup>th</sup> in 4honline for members. Please reach out to 4-H Educator Lauren DuBois via email [ldubois@umass.edu](mailto:ldubois@umass.edu) with any questions.

## National Teen Leadership Trips

**Are you a 4-H teen who would like to represent Massachusetts 4-H as a youth delegate at a national leadership event?**

UMass 4-H is launching its new application process for 4-H teens who are interested in attending one of the three annual national 4-H leadership trips during the 2024-2025 4-H year: National 4-H Congress (in November 2024), 4-H Ignite Summit (in early 2025), and National 4-H Conference (in March or April 2025). *The delegate selection process for all three trips will happen during this timeframe even though the trips are spread throughout the fall and spring of the following 4-H year.*

### TIMELINE:

**APRIL 2024:** Applications Open

**APRIL/MAY 2024:** Zoom Information Sessions on 4/18, 4/26, 4/30, & 5/13 including Cover Letter, Resume, and Interviewing Breakout Sessions

**JUNE 2024:** Applications Due followed by Interviews for all Three Trips

**JULY 2024:** Delegates Invited to Participate

**AUGUST 2024:** Signed Contracts & Family Contribution Payment Due

The link to the application will be released in the next NewsBlast. Please direct questions to [Cynthia Bushey](#) or [Kim Pond](#).

## 4-H Animal Science Updates

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### Animal Verification Forms

**MAKE SURE YOUR FORMS ARE SUBMITTED TO YOUR REGIONAL 4-H OFFICE!**

Now is the time to print off your Animal Verification Forms to plan for the upcoming show season. Lease Forms are also due at the same time. Animal Verification Forms are to be completed for all livestock, dogs, and horses that you plan to show at a 4-H fair, dog academies, and/or Big E 4-H Shows. Note: Lambs and kids born after June 1st are still eligible to show based on your fair's requirements, but you will still need to file a Verification Form on them once they are born. Verification Forms are due to your county/regional 4-H office by the following dates:

- ✿ New Date: May 1<sup>st</sup> – Horse (only if planning to show at the Sept. New England 4-H Horse Show at the Big E)
- ✿ May 1<sup>st</sup> – Dairy Cattle, Beef Cattle, and Working Steers
- ✿ June 1<sup>st</sup> – Goat, Sheep, Llama, Alpaca and Swine, Dog

### LINKS TO VERIFICATION AND LEASE FORMS

[Livestock Verification Form](#)

[Livestock Lease Form](#)

[Beef Lease Form](#) (Youth cannot show a leased steer at the Big E)

[Horse Verification Form](#)

[Dog Verification Form](#)

## Livestock Judging Resources For 4-H Clubs

The MA 4-H Animal Science Program has a subscription to [Livestockjudging.com](#). This platform has TONS of virtual judging resources for all species.

Interested? Please contact Andrew at [asamuelson@umass.edu](mailto:asamuelson@umass.edu).

## 4-H Dairy Program

**SAVE THE DATE!** This year's MA 4-H Dairy Academy will take place on **Saturday, May 18th at the Three County Fair Grounds in Northampton, MA.**

Youth are encouraged to come in on Friday, May 17<sup>th</sup> after 5 PM to get settled and be ready for our "mock show" and workshops! Registration will be available soon!

## 4-H Goat Program

### Registration open in 4honline

Cost of attendance: \$25.00 Payable to UMass 4-H.

The 2024 MA 4-H Dairy Goat Workshop will be held **on April 13<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM to 3 PM**. Rain or shine!

This workshop will cover breeding, genetics, showmanship, and more! We will organize ourselves into learning groups by levels of experience: beginner, growing, experienced. Please **DO NOT** bring your goats to this workshop. Goats will be provided. Disposable plastic boots will be provided for the day.

Pizza and drinks will be provided for lunch. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

**Location:** Erin DeCoste Farm, 2680 N. Main St., Lancaster, MA 01523

## 4-H Poultry Program

We are excited to announce that the MA Avian Bowl is officially in the planning stages! Thank you to our youth and volunteers who have helped launch this event. If you are interested in participating, you can contribute to our [Doodle poll](#) to let us know when you are available.

## 4-H Dog Program

### DOG ACADEMY

Dog project members who are interested in attending dog academy must **register in 4honline no later than April 12<sup>th</sup>**.

Cloverbuds are required to have a parent attend with them, and youth are not allowed to attend without their dog, unless it is approved by their dog leader.

You will need to have your dog evaluated by a dog leader before attending Dog Academy with it. The dogs need to be able to sleep in a crate all night without getting stressed or whining and barking all night. Once approved, checks made payable to Mass 4-H Dog Committee (\$100 for overnight youth, \$50 for pre-approved chaperones, \$50 for youth attending just on Saturday, \$25 for parent attending just on Saturday) Should be sent along with all paperwork, including an up-to-date rabies certificate, to Cathy Acampora in the Plymouth County 4-H Office.

**Mandatory Dog Academy Participant Zoom** April 28<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM or April 30<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. [Sign up here](#)

**Mandatory Chaperone Zoom** on May 6<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-7:30 PM. Zoom link will be sent out.

See the information packet [here](#). Contact Cathy Acampora with any questions.

### DOG PROJECT SPRING FLING SHOW

sponsored by Thunder Hill Canine Encounters 4-H Club: May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5:30 PM in the AKC arena at the Norfolk County Agricultural High School.

R.S.V.P. to [cquinnkmt@aol.com](mailto:cquinnkmt@aol.com) to register.

## Horse Chat

Are you a horse lover? Our monthly horse chats are designed to connect horse lovers with experts in the equine world. Meetings are held monthly via Zoom and feature a different guest speaker each month. Mark your calendar!

- 🌸 Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at 7PM - Lexi Kane, Cargill/Nutrena Field Rep - Nutrition
- 🌸 Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 7PM - Dr. Laura Parisio-Wood, Nashaway Equine Veterinary Wellness - equine chiropractic therapy

Horse Chat meetings are offered via Zoom using the following link: **Meeting ID:** 631 794 3559 **Passcode:** HorseChat  
Reach out to Liza at [dutchessl@aol.com](mailto:dutchessl@aol.com) with questions.

# 4-H STEM Updates

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## Upcoming STEM Trainings

Registration in 4honline

**SATURDAY APRIL 20TH 1:00 – 3:00 PM AUBURN OFFICE:**

*Mapping, Geocaching and more*

*Open to tweens, teens, and volunteers to learn about exciting opportunities and resources.*

- ✿ New classes coming to the STEAM Festival 2025
- ✿ Join a new mapping club
- ✿ Teen opportunity for National GGLEAD team
- ✿ Gear up for Earth Day and Arbor Day too!

**SATURDAY MAY THE 4TH BE WITH YOU 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM HADLEY OFFICE:**

*Aerospace and Rocketry*

- ✿ 10:00 AM – 12:00 noon: session for teens and adults  
Rocketry resources (gliders, stomp rockets and bottle rockets)  
How to run a program at your club, school, or fair
- ✿ 1:00 – 3:00 PM: 4-H youth event for members and clover buds with a teen/adult helper

## Community Service

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### How did you celebrate the eclipse?

Did you travel into the path of totality?  
Did you wear your 4-H green or fiery red to see how your eyes perceived the colors?  
How many of you made a pinhole camera?  
How about snacks like moon pies, sun chips and the cool art projects?

Share your pictures and stories with Kim at [kima@umass.edu](mailto:kima@umass.edu) .

### Now what to do with all those glasses?

Donate your glasses so that school children in Latin America can use them October 2<sup>nd</sup>, to watch the South American Eclipse.  
See if there is a collection site near you or set one up for a great **community service project**. You can also drop them off at the Auburn office.

Eclipse Glasses USA, LLC  
PO Box 50571  
Provo, UT 84605

[Click here](#) for more information.

## 4-H Across the State

**MASSACHUSETTS 4-H DAY AT THE THUNDERBIRDS**



**T-Birds**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 14TH**  
@ MASSMUTUAL CENTER  
vs. PROVIDENCE BRUINS  
@3:05PM



Exclusive \$16 ticket rate for 4-H members, volunteers, family, and friends! Seats will be in the 4-H section!

\$3 hot dog, popcorn, and soda voucher available to add on!

Join us for 4-H Day at the Thunderbirds! Catch the Tbirds take on the Providence Bruins for a 3:05pm start! Each 4-H member will receive a souvenir Tbirds bag! Stop by the 4-H Table in the concourse located by to pick up your souvenir T-Birds Bag! Sign up via the order link for fun experiences at the game for 4-H members!

Post game Paint the Tbirds Ice Event!

<https://springfieldthunderbirds.formstack.com/forms/4htbirds>



LAUREN BLANCHARD  
ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE  
(413) 417-2289  
GROUP AFFILIATE ST. LOUIS BLUES



## National 4-H News & Opportunities



**MILKIDS: You're Everything!**

**PURPLE UP FOR MILKIDS**

MILITARY ONE SOURCE

Did you know the UMass 4-H program has about 100 military connected youth in clubs across the state and reaches more through short-term 4-H programs? We encourage you to **wear purple on Friday April 19<sup>th</sup>** and post and share your pictures.

Why purple? Purple references the joint environment of the military, encompassing all service branches: Active Duty, Reserve, National Guard, and Veterans. Purple combines each branch's colors into one: the Air Force, Navy, and Coast Guard all use shades of blue, the Army uses green, and the Marines use red.

[Month of the Military Child Coloring Page](#)

# BOGS<sup>®</sup>



  
**WE'LL DONATE \$5 FOR  
EVERY BOGS 4-H BOOT  
PURCHASED.**

Click [here](#) to learn more.

JOANN



**SHARE YOUR 4-H CRAFT CREATIONS  
#JOANNLOVES4H**

**Donate at the register March 3-May 4, 2024, to support 4-H!**

JOANN stores are connecting more young people to experiences where they can learn by doing, creating & making. By providing local 4-H Clubs with resources and tools to run impactful programs, JOANN brings the 4-H experience to more kids in need. JOANN supports National 4-H Council through a combination of customer donations and year-round sales with the JOANN 4-H Rewards Card and custom 4-H fabric.

## Massachusetts 4-H Foundation

### Extended Grant Deadline & Info Sessions!

The [Massachusetts 4-H Foundation](#) has extended its Grant application deadline to APRIL 15th for 4-H Clubs, Advisories, and Fairs! (See the [Request for Proposal](#) for eligibility guidelines.)

**MONDAY, APRIL 15TH will be the final application deadline!**

### Give to the Foundation this Spring.

Give to the Foundation this spring ahead of 4-H horse shows, Explore UMass, and Fairs!

[Donate today online](#) or set up a recurring donation. Thank you for your support of Massachusetts 4-H!



Massachusetts **4-H** Foundation

FOSTERING YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

## UMass 4-H Policy

**UMass Extension 4-H Policies**

<https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/volunteers/for-current-ma-4-h-volunteers/volunteer-resources>

# UMass Extension 4-H Offices and Contact Information

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## *State 4-H & Western MA Office: Berkshire, Franklin, Hampshire, & Hampden Counties*

**100 Venture Way, Suite 334; Hadley MA 01035**

Meg McDermott, State 4-H Director – [memcdermott@umass.edu](mailto:memcdermott@umass.edu)

Andrew Samuelson, 4-H Animal Science Departmental Assistant – [asamuelson@umass.edu](mailto:asamuelson@umass.edu)

Angelica Diaz-Heyman, 4-H Educator – [adiaz@umass.edu](mailto:adiaz@umass.edu)

Erica MacLean 4-H Educator – [ericamaclean@umass.edu](mailto:ericamaclean@umass.edu)

Lauren DuBois, Urban 4-H Educator – [ldubois@umext.umass.edu](mailto:ldubois@umext.umass.edu)

Lizmarie Ulloa, Urban 4-H Program Assistant – [lulloa@umext.umass.edu](mailto:lulloa@umext.umass.edu)

## *Central Southeast MA Office: Worcester, Norfolk, & Bristol Counties*

**7 Midstate Drive, Suite 102; Auburn MA 01501**

Cynthia A. Bushey, Southeast Region 4-H Educator – [cabushey@umass.edu](mailto:cabushey@umass.edu)

Kim Henderson, Southeast Region Administrative Assistant – [khenders@umext.umass.edu](mailto:khenders@umext.umass.edu)

Martina Jasiewicz, Worcester County Administrative Assistant – [mjasiewicz@umext.umass.edu](mailto:mjasiewicz@umext.umass.edu)

Kim Pond, 4-H SET Program Manager – [kima@umext.umass.edu](mailto:kima@umext.umass.edu)

Shelby Robin, Worcester County 4-H Educator – [shelbyrobin@umass.edu](mailto:shelbyrobin@umass.edu)

Kathleen Scalera, Central Southeast Regional Program Assistant – [kscalera@umass.edu](mailto:kscalera@umass.edu)

## *Northeastern MA Office: Essex, Middlesex & Suffolk Counties*

**UMass Mt. Ida Campus, Miller Hall; 100 Carlson Avenue, Newton, MA 02459**

Heather Thibodeau, 4-H Educator – [hthibodeau@umass.edu](mailto:hthibodeau@umass.edu)

Va Shon Wallace-Hiltpold, 4-H Educator – [vwallace@umext.umass.edu](mailto:vwallace@umext.umass.edu)

Debbie Beaubien, Administrative Assistant – [debbieb@umext.umass.edu](mailto:debbieb@umext.umass.edu)

Nancy McCarthy, Program Assistant – [nmccarthy@umext.umass.edu](mailto:nmccarthy@umext.umass.edu)

## *Plymouth County Office: Plymouth County*

**44 Obery Street, Plymouth MA 02360**

Molly Vollmer, 4-H Educator: [mvollmer@umext.umass.edu](mailto:mvollmer@umext.umass.edu)

Cathy Acampora, 4-H Educator: [acampora@umext.umass.edu](mailto:acampora@umext.umass.edu)

Meghan Riley, Ag Extension Educator: [mriley@plymouthcountyma.gov](mailto:mriley@plymouthcountyma.gov)

Cheryl Mechan, Administrative Assistant: [cmechan@umass.edu](mailto:cmechan@umass.edu)

## *Barnstable County Office: Barnstable County*

**Box 367, Barnstable MA 02630**

Sandi Shepherd-Gay, Barnstable County Youth Extension Educator: [sandi.shepherdgay@capecod.gov](mailto:sandi.shepherdgay@capecod.gov)

Laura Notarangelo, Administrative Assistant: [laura.notarangelo@capecod.gov](mailto:laura.notarangelo@capecod.gov)

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The UMass Extension 4-H E-NewsBlast is sent to all UMass 4-H families and volunteers. Unless otherwise noted, all virtual programming is available to 4-H members everywhere, no matter where you live or what club or group you belong to! Check these sites and your local county Facebook page for more details and for updates to programs: <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h> and <https://www.facebook.com/Mass4H/>. Archived editions can be found at <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h>. The NewsBlast is sent to family emails unless specific requests are made.



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