MINNESOTA 4-H CLOVER UPDATE

BRAINERD REGIONAL OFFICE / KANABEC COUNTY FEBRUARY 2013

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA | EXTENSION

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Project Ideas

Looking for project ideas? Want to work on your projects over winter? Check out the following site: www.4-H.umn.edu/projects. It has sample judges' sheets so you can see what they are looking for was well as project ideas and additional resources. Also check out www.4-H.umn.edu for lots of other great 4-H information. Additionally, there are many project books available in the Extension Office. They generally cost $4.00 each. Come check out everything you can learn!

Fruit Sale Fundraiser

The annual Fruit Sale Fundraiser is here. Packets were handed out at the January Leader's Council Meeting or mailed to club leaders. Please do your best to sell, sell, sell!!! Clubs may be eligible to receive a portion of the profits based on the number of pounds sold. The remaining profit goes into the Leader's Council to help fund a variety of 4-H activities at the county level. Contact the Extension Office with any questions you may have.

Market Steer/Heifer and Dairy Steer Weigh-In

Put this date on your calendars!

Market Steers, Market Heifers, and Dairy Steers weigh-in will be on Saturday, February 2nd from 9:00-11:00 am.at Dan Schafer's farm (2097 Jade Street, Mora). In case of severe weather, a back-up snow date has been set for Saturday, February 9, 2013. If weather becomes questionable, call Dan at 320-679-1984 to make sure the weigh-in is still on. All market steers, market heifers, and dairy steers need to be weigh-in so make sure you have this date marked!! It is acceptable to bring more animals then you plan to show and ID them. You can then choose closer to the fair which ones will actually come. Remember, it is better to ID too many animals then not enough! ID paperwork is due in to the Extension office by February 15th *OR YOU MAY NOT EXHIBIT*. Plan on turning it in on the 2nd and you won't have to worry about it. ID paperwork has been mailed out. If you have not received yours, please contact the Extension Office. Please be sure to read through this information carefully as there have been some significant changes!

4-H Enrollment/Dues

The 4-H Re-enrollment deadline has passed us. If you know of anyone who has not completed their re-enrollment, please encourage them to do so as soon as possible by visiting mn.4honline.com. 4-H participants/volunteers who have not re-enrolled will not receive critical communications such information on upcoming events or deadlines.

Also, please remember to pay your 4-H dues. The cost is $5 per individual or $10 per family.

Shooting Sports/Wildlife

The 2013 Shooting Sports season is under way. If you were unable to attend the January kick-off, but would still like to register for any of the shooting sports disciplines, please contact the Extension Office.

- Beginner BB gun/Air Rifle/Air Pistol classes meet on Thursday evenings now through the end of April.
- Beginner Archery classes will be on Tuesday and Thursday evenings beginning April 30th and run through the end of May. There are age requirements for the different disciplines.

The Shooting Sports program is looking for adults willing to become Shooting Sports Instructors. They assist in teaching youth the various shooting disciplines as well as life skills and problem solving techniques. Some of the disciplines youth shoot are: archery, air rifle, air pistol, muzzleloader, and shotgun. In addition,

they spend time learning about wildlife. Mandatory new instructor trainings are being offered April 6-7 in Hackensack, MN or April 13-14 in Faribault, MN. Registrations are available February 1 and are due March 22nd. You must be a certified 4-H volunteer to attend the instructor training. If you are interested in being part of this strong and growing project area, please contact Laura at 320-679-6341.

Western Heritage

Join the fun of Western Heritage! Western Heritage is an activity offered through the horse project to learn more about our western heritage including safety, sportsmanship and having fun. Western Heritage includes goat tying, roping, sorting and much more! The first meeting of Western Heritage will be on February 5th at 6:30 pm at BMW stables (29465 Rendova Street, Isanti, 55040). The meeting in February will be without horses. If you have questions or need more information please feel free to contact Lois or Wayne Boettcher at (763) 444-0420 or wlboettcher@gmail.com. We also do welcome youth from around the region to join us!

Dairy PDC

Scholarships are available for Kanabec County 4-H'ers wishing to attend Junior All Breeds Convention (registration due Feb 18) or Gopher Dairy Camp (registration not yet available). If you are interested in either of these events, please contact the Extension Office for more information.

4-H Judges Training - Brainerd

Have you have ever considered becoming a 4-H judge? If you answered YES….come learn the 4-H Conference Judging System of non-livestock projects on Saturday, February 23, in Brainerd! For additional information on how to register contact your county Extension office, or z.umn.edu/judgestrainingform. Registration deadline is February 15th!

BBOP

Mark your calendar for the most fun 16½ hours in February! Take part in fun activities, hang out with fellow 4-H'ers from around the region and learn more about different animals all during BBOP! Isanti County 4-H Ambassadors are planning for BBOP which is an overnight adventure to learn about all of the various livestock projects. Mark your calendar for February 22nd from 6:00 pm until Saturday, February 23rd at 10:30 am. More information will be coming out shortly!

PICCKM Food and Bread Show

This year's contest will be held at the Mains Street Church in North Branch (formerly known as the North Branch Methodist Church) on Saturday, March 9, from 10 am to noon. Mark your calendar for this fun day. Last year we had some wonderful decorated cakes, delicious breads, and some great food revue entries. State trips will be awarded in food revue and decorated foods. Find the information and registration here z.umn.edu/foodbreadshow, z.umn.edu/foodbreadregistration

Adult Staff Volunteers for PICCKMW Camp

Volunteer as an adult staff member at the 2013 PICCKMW Regional Summer Camp! Camp will be held Monday, June 24 through Wednesday, June 26, 2013. There are so many benefits of volunteering at camp, but here are the top five:

- All your meals and snacks are provided
- You receive free lodging
- You get an awesome camp t-shirt
- Your kids can attend camp for FREE
- You are a superhero to all the campers and counselors

If becoming an adult staff member sounds interesting to you then contact Lorelei Finley, Pine County 4-H Program Coordinator, at swens451@umn.edu or 320-591-1650 for more details.

Dog Project

The dog project will hold an orientation session near the end of March. Keep an eye out for more information related to this and other upcoming dog project information!

Horse Project Updates

The Horse project is an ongoing project from year to year. As part of the project, we require you to turn in a record of the hours you've spent with your horse, feed and care records and any events you have attended. This is due with your fair registration. Please make sure you are keeping track of this information! It can be turned in using any format you wish as we do not have set forms. If you have any questions, please contact one of the horse project leaders or the Extension Office.

In order to compete in the Horse Training project at the fair, you must be working your way through the Horse Achievement book. If you do not have a copy, you can find it on the 4-H horse website at www.4-H.umn.edu/projects/animal-science/horse/ or pick up a copy from the Extension Office.

2013 NE 4-H Livestock Show Dates

The dates of the 2013 NE 4-H Livestock Show have been set for September 14 & 15, at the Crow Wing County Fairgrounds, Brainerd, MN.

Winter Weather Cancellation Policy

Winter is now upon us! Reminder that 4-H events will be cancelled if any of the following conditions are met:

- Schools are closed for the day or close early
- Temperatures are at least -30F and/or the wind chill is -50F
- If travel is not advised
- If in doubt listen to KBEK 95.5 for cancellations

Remember that safety is our top concern! Always lean to the side of more caution when in doubt.

Dear 4-H families and volunteers:

Last month, 4-H youth and volunteers throughout Minnesota conducted the annual 4-H Thank You campaign to thank supporters of Extension 4-H and share their stories of how the learning opportunities 4-H provides have positively impacted youth, adults and communities across the state.

Telling your stories about the positive impact Extension 4-H has had in youth and communities is one of the most important things you can do to ensure continued investment and support for 4-H programming and events, especially during these times of economic uncertainty.

We have several important tools to support you in telling those stories, including Extension's Source magazine, which can be found at www.extension.umn.edu/source/. The new winter edition is out and includes a story about how Extension 4-H prepares youth to lead and succeed. I encourage you to use this story to help our stakeholders understand the impact and results of 4-H's research-based youth development model on the lives of Minnesota youth and communities.

Thank you again for your support of the Extension 4-H program. I look forward to hearing about some of the stories you shared during the Thank You campaign and the positive impact 4-H has made in the lives of youth and your communities!

Sincerely,

Dorothy M Freeman, Extension 4-H State Director

State 4-H Rabbit Workshop

Just starting in the rabbit project or an experienced veteran? Want to learn about Quiz Bowl or Rabbit Agility? Want to learn about the contests at the Minnesota State Fair? Join us on ***February 9th*** at the Nicollet County Fairgrounds in St. Peter, MN to find out more information!

Come and learn from ARBA Judges, 4-H State Committee members and leaders in the Rabbit project at this State Rabbit project workshop. Everyone is welcome, so bring a friend.

Classes will be presented on: the judging contest, quiz bowl, reasons and questions, showmanship, general care, food and nutrition, rabbit agility, and more! You will have the chance to participate in four sessions.

Registration begins at 12:00 with classes from 12:30 – 4:30 pm. The cost is $2. There is an additional fee for the rabbit carrier building class.

For more information, please visit: www.4-H.umn.edu/events/rabbit-workshop.html.

Southwest 4-H Animal Science Challenge

February 16th, is a date to put on the calendar! The second annual Southwest 4-H Animal Science Challenge is a day-long event, held at the Redwood Falls High School. The day consists of a quiz bowl competition and a skill-a-thon contest and is open to participants of all ages, with two divisions: junior (grades 3-8) and senior (grades 9-13). Three separate competitions will focus on general livestock, horse, and dairy.

The "round robin" quiz bowl portion will provide a great practice contest for teams to prepare for the regional competitions in March. Meanwhile, the skill-a-thon section will introduce a wealth of hands-on animal science information that will make learning relevant, practical and fun! Skill-a-thon stations will be designed to cover general knowledge of each specie area and the MN 4-H LQA&E curriculum; providing participants with renewed LQA&E certification!

The event is open to teams of 4-6 participants from across Minnesota. Individual registrations will also be accepted and additional multi-county teams may be formed accordingly. Questions can be directed to Mike Boersma atboers010@umn.edu or Jen Schoenfeld at john2310@umn.edu.

Are you looking for work experience in the youth development field?

Once again, there will be county-based 4-H summer intern positions throughout the State of Minnesota. The positions will be posted two different ways. Many will be advertised and hired through University of Minnesota Extension; however, some will be advertised and hired by local counties. Each internship position will provide an excellent opportunity to learn more about University of Minnesota Extension and explore job opportunities in 4-H Youth Development. Most positions will be for ten or eleven weeks, with flexible starting dates.

Candidates must have a high school diploma, and at least two years of undergraduate study is preferred. University of Minnesota Extension hired candidates must apply on-line through the

University of Minnesota job site. The application materials will include a standard application, résumé, cover letter, list of three references and a college transcript. The summer intern position is posted at www.4-H.umn.edu/about/employment/. The application deadline is ***February 22***.

For more information, please contact Michele VanDyke at mvandyke@umn.edu.

Minnesota 4-H Dog Project Judges Seminars

The MN 4-H Dog project will hold Judges Seminars for current and prospective judges. These are seminars for current judges and prospective judges in Agility, Rally, Obedience and Showmanship.

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). Two Obedience, Rally and Showmanship Judges Seminars will be held on:

- ***February 22–24***, Bloomington
- ***April 26–28***, Wadena.

The Agility Judges Seminar will be held ***March 23-24*** in St. Cloud. For more information, please visit: www.4-H.umn.edu/projects/animal-science/dog/.

Animal Science 101 Webinar

All Animal Science Project Development Committee members (excluding horse) are invited to attend a one hour webinar on ***March 4***, 7:00-8:00 pm. The agenda will include:

- County PDC Roles
- Board of Animal Health – cattle ID expectations
- A discussion of the Cloverbud policy
- Leasing update
- Introduction of animal science project kits

Please contact your local Extension office for more information.

Shooting Sports & Wildlife Leader Certification

In order to run a county or multi-county shooting sports & wildlife program, instructors must be certified by Minnesota 4-H. The leader certification trainings are designed to cover the needed knowledge and rules to become a certified 4-H county instructor.

Mark your calendars now! Spring 2013 Training Dates:

- ***April 6-7***; Deep Portage ELC, Hackensack, MN
- ***April 13-14***; Faribault, MN

Information and registration forms are available at www.4-H.umn.edu/events/shooting-sports-certification. Registration is due ***March 22***.

2013 Project Bowls

Project Bowls are just around the corner! It is that time of year again when project bowl teams will begin practicing for the Regional Contests in March. There are opportunities for teams to form in dairy, dog, general livestock, horse, poultry, rabbit and wildlife. Two team contests are held - junior (grades 3-8) and senior (grades 4-12+). Check out the 4-H Project Bowl website at: www.4-H.umn.edu/events/project-bowl for rules, resources, and more information for the 2013 bowls. If you would like to coach, help coach or participate on any of these teams, please call your Extension Office. Regional Bowl dates and locations are:

- ***March 2*** – Foley
- ***March 9*** – Farmington
- ***March 16*** – Grand Rapids
- ***March 16*** – Redwood Falls
- ***March 23*** – Snow Date
- ***April 20*** – State Bowl (Foley)

2013 State 4-H Meat Goat Conference

The conference will be held on ***March 23rd*** at the Jim Simon Arena in Cannon Falls and on ***April 13th*** at a Northern location that has yet to be determined. These programs are intended for 4-H Goat families. No registration is required. For more information, please visit www.4-H.umn.edu/projects/animal-science/meat-goat/index.html.

Meat Goat Judges training will be held following the Meat Goat Conference on both dates/locations. This training is open to anyone over the age of 21. It will include judging meat breeding animals, market animals, showmanship and creating a state fair line-up. For more information, please visit: www.4-H.umn.edu/projects/animal-science/meat-goat/index.html.

Save the Date for YELLO! 2013

Mark your calendars now for Youth Exploring Leadership & Learning Out Loud! (YELLO!) 2013! This year's event will be held ***June 10-13***, at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds. Information from the 2012 event is available online at: www.4-H.umn.edu/ events/yello/. Additional information on the 2013 event will be available in the early spring.

Citizenship Washington Focus

Thousands of young people from across the United States come to the National 4-H Youth Conference Center every summer to participate in CWF, a citizenship and leadership program held in Washington, DC. Through a series of speakers, committee work, field trips and social events, participants learn the importance of citizenship and social responsibility and are given the opportunity to explore, develop, and refine skills needed to be an outstanding leader on both a local and national level.

- ***June 30-July 6*** (Does not include travel dates) – National 4-H Conference Center, Washington D.C.
- Be sure to check out any County specific requirements and deadlines.
- 2013 CWF application support form is now available online
- 2013 CWF Full application available online on ***February 13***
- Chaperone applications available online beginning ***February 13***

More information can be found at the following website: www.4-H.umn.edu/events/citizenship-washington-focus. Any questions can be directed to Judith Conway, conwa0076@umn.edu.

Wisconsin Dells Waterpark offers Reduced Rates for 4-H

Great Wolf Lodge Wisconsin Dells, WI is offering reduced rates on many rooms and suites for 4-H members during the months of May, September, October and December 2013. Visit their website at: http://www.greatwolf.com. Use promo code FOURH for hotel rooms and use promo code FOURH for condo rates. For more information, please call 888-458-1422.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Market Steer/Heifer and Dairy Steer Weigh-In – Feb. 2
- BLU, North Minneapolis – Feb. 2-3
- Laura Out of Office – Feb. 4-6
- Western Heritage Meeting – Feb. 5
- State 4-H Rabbit Workshop, St. Peter – Feb. 9
- BLU, Mankato – Feb. 9-10
- M4-HAVA Forum, St. Cloud – Feb. 14-16

- Market Beef ID Deadline – Feb. 15
- Southwest 4-H Animal Science Challenge, Redwood Falls – Feb. 16
- Dairy: Junior All Breeds Convention Registration Due – Feb. 18
- County Office Closed – President's Day – Feb. 18
- Summer Intern Application Deadline – Feb. 22
- BBOP – Feb. 22-23
- Camp Counselor Overnight – Feb. 22-23
- Dog Obedience, Rally and Showmanship Seminar, Bloomington – Feb. 22-24
- 4-H Judges Training – Feb. 23
- Project Bowl, Foley – March 2
- BLU, Bemidji – March 2-3
- Animal Science Webinar – March 4
- Food and Bread Show, Main Street Church 10 am – March 9
- Project Bowl, Farmington – March 9
- Project Bowl, Grand Rapids– March 16
- Project Bowl, Redwood Falls – March 16
- Shooting Sports Training Registration Due – March 22
- Project Bowl, Snow Date – March 23
- 4-H Meat Goat Conference & Judges Training, Cannon Falls – March 23
- Dog Agility Seminar, St. Cloud – March 23-24
- Shooting Sports Training, Hackensack – April 6-7
- National 4-H Conference – April 6-11
- Shooting Sports Training, Faribault – April 13-14
- 4-H Meat Goat Conference & Judges Training, location TBD – April 13
- Regional Horse Meeting – April 13
- State Project Bowl, Foley – April 20
- Dog Obedience, Rally and Showmanship Seminar, Wadena – April 26-28
- Drop/Add Deadline – May 15