

Prince William 4-H

Our Clubs, Our Community

September 17, 2025

Upcoming Events

Sep 20 - VA 4-H Shotgun Championship

Sep 26-Oct 5 - State Fair of Virginia

Sep 30 - 4-H Food Challenge Kick Off Training

OCT I PORTFOLIOS,
PROJECT RECORDS,
& SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICATIONS DUE!

Oct 1-5 - SFVA Livestock Shows

Oct 5-11 - National 4-H Week

Oct II - PW 4-H Cloverbud Club

Oct 11-12 - VA 4-H Shooting ed New Instructor Training

Oct 14 - PW 4-H
Portfolio Training

Inside this issue:

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Virginia 4-H Updates

Contacts & 20 Recourses

Click to Visit



Special Visit from a South Dakota 4-H'er



By Pam Hardin, Prince William 4-H Youth Educator

When Ardeen Nickisch thought about who might need a collection of fabric and sewing notions, 4-H came immediately to mind. Miss Ardeen learned to make her own clothes as a young 4-H member in South Dakota. She shared her busy 4-H story with Mrs. Lerch, Mrs. Strand and Mrs. Hardin last week. She even brought her 4-H portfolio to show us what life was like in 4-H during the 1950s and 1960s.

Ardeen Holt joined the 4-H Clover Club as an eight-year-old and learned sewing, cooking, gardening and canning. She also

raised and sold a cow that helped to pay for her first semester at college. Her favorite part of 4-H was the social aspect of attending 4-H meetings, 4-H camp and visiting the campus of South Dakota State University for 4-H State Congress. Visiting South Dakota State and living in the dorms and eating in the cafeteria inspired her to become the first person in her family to attend college. She used her 4-H knowledge to earn a degree in Home Economics and was able to teach at schools all over the United States as she moved with her army husband.

Miss Ardeen had many positive things to say about her experiences in 4-H. Her recollections of making friends and learning the impact of youth achievement and leadership are powerful. "I helped younger members with sewing problems and writing up their projects." She says she did not enjoy writing her own project records but is grateful for the time spent with friends and working together. Her 4-H book is a document to treasure sixty years later and an inspiration for all 4-H members today.





















PEYTON BARBOUR WITH MR. REVOLUTIONARY

4th Walk/Trot Hunter Pleasure Pony (1st Go) Participation: Senior Hunter Showmanship

CHLOE CANYON WITH PAINTED BY LUCK

9th Walk/Trot Hunter Pleasure Horse (1st Go) Participation: Senior Hunter Showmanship

KAILEE CHARLES WITH CHIEF

Participated in Walk/Trot Hunter Pleasure (1st Go), Walk/Trot Hunter Pleasure (2nd Go), Walk/Trot Hunter Equestrian

CAROLINE COAKLEY WITH PEPTO SPLASH DR

1st Walk/Trot Hunter Pleasure Pony (1st Go)
7th Introductory Dressage Test A
Participation: Jr Photography, Junior Hunter Showmanship

SARAH FOX WITH LITTLE MISS MAG PIE

Participation: Walk/Trot Hunter Pleasure Horse (1st Go), Walk/ Trot Hunter Pleasure Horse (2nd Go), Hunter Equestrian-On the Flat, Junior Hunter Showmanship

LEXIE GEORGE WITH SESAME STREET

3rd Small Hunter Pleasure Horse SR Rider (1st Go)
Participation: Small Hunter Pleasure Horse SR Riders (2nd Go),
Senior Hunter Showmanship, Hunter Trail Sr Rider

ELENA GUALLAR THOMPSON WITH PILOTS ERROR

4th Regular Working Hunter (Course B)

7th Reg Working Hunter Horse-Under Saddle-On the Flat

8th Equitation Over Fences, Sr Horse

KENDRA HERNANDEZ WITH WIND SONG

2nd Regular Working Hunter (Course B)

3rd Reg Working Hunter Horse-Under Saddle-On the Flat

5th Equitation Over Fences, Sr Horse

Participation: Senior Dressage Tests Level 1, Large Hunter Pleasure Horse SR Rider (1st Go), Senior Hunter Showmanship, Hunter Trail Sr Rider, Regular Working Hunter (Course A)



















Hunter Showmanship

1st Introductory Dressage Test B 2nd Introductory Dressage Test A

AUDREY KATZENBERGER WITH DRIZZLE

Participation: Walk/Trot Hunter Pleasure Horse (1st Go), Junior

9th Pleasure (1st Go) 10th Pleasure (2nd Go)

Participation: Hunter Equestrian Trail

ANNA NICELY WITH DADDY'S MONEY











Limit-Under Saddle-On the Flat-Sr Riders

6th Large Hunter Pleasure Pony SR Riders (2nd Go) 10th Large Hunter Pleasure Pony Sr Rider (1st Go) Participation: Senior Dressage Tests Level 2, Hunter Trail Sr Rider, Limit Hunter (Course A), Limit Hunter (Course B),

Small Hunter Pleasure Horse SR Rider (1st Go)

Equitation Over Fences, Sr Horse

7th Intermediate Working Hunter (Course A)

7th Intermediate Working Hunter (Course B)

7th Int Hunter Horse-Under Saddle

8th Senior Dressage Tests Level 1

Participation: Small Hunter Pleasure Horse SR Riders (2nd Go)









HALEY SCHRANTZ WITH CARNIVAL

9th Hunter Trail Sr Rider Participation: Senior Hunter Showmanship

WILLIAM SCHRANTZ WITH SHIMMER 1st Adaptive Western Trail Sr Rider 2nd Western Adaptive Stockseat









ABIGAIL TUMELTY WITH TRIX ARE FOR KIDS

9th Small/Medium Hunter Pleasure Pony JR Rider (1st Go) Participation: Small/Medium Hunter Pleasure Pony Jr Rider (2nd Go)





Sierra is on the Virginia 4-H State Judging Team and volunteered to assist the team coach with judging the Alumni Showmanship Class.

SIERRA-NICOLE WIMER WITH DARE U

1st Hunter Pleasure Pony Classics

2nd Equitation Over Fences, Sr Large Pony

2nd Senior Hunter Showmanship

8th Dressage Test - Jr Rider

2nd Large Pony Working Hunter (Course A)

2nd Large Hunter Pony-Under Saddle

3rd Large Pony Working Hunter (Course B)

4th Large Hunter Pleasure Pony Sr Rider (1st Go)

5th Hunt Seat Equitation Classics

Reserve Champion Senior Showmanship

Reserve Champion Large Pony Hunter

Reserve Champion Hunter Pleasure Large Pony (Qualified for Classics!)







SIERRA-NICOLE WIMER WITH TINARIWEN

Dressage Equitation Classic

Senior Dressage Tests Level 2

Large Hunter Pleasure Pony SR Riders (2nd Go)

1st Dressage Seat Equitatio Classics

6th Senior Dressage Tests Level 3

10th Dressage Equitation (Qualified for Classics!)

Participation: Large Hunter Pleasure Horse SR Rider (1st Go)

Perpetual Trophy Hunter Pleasure Pony Classics

Perpetual Plague Dressage Seat Equitation Perpetual Trophy Dressage High Score

Click here for complete show results featuring 325 horse and rider combinations!



Page 4 Prince William 4-H

PW 4-H Young Entrepreneurs September Market Day



Prince William 4-H Young Entrepreneurs couldn't have asked for a better Market Day! The weather was perfect to bring out the crowds and we enjoyed talking to customers about our products, business, and sharing our 4-H Story. There is only one Market Day left for our SPIN Project, so be sure to come out and support our local youth and their growing businesses! (It's never too early to start holiday shopping!)

OCTOBER MARKET DAY - FINAL MARKET DAY!

Date: Saturday, October 4th

Time: 9 am - I pm

Location: Manassas Park Farmers Market

Featured 4-H'ers: Aaron, Adam, Zay, Alayjah, Charley, Michael, Aisling, Aspen, Koa, Xanthie, Jackelyn and Josphine, Cora, and Lexi







It's Portfolio Time! Get Ready to Showcase Your Year!

DUE TO PW 4-H OFFICE BY OCTOBER IST!

It's time to gather your memories, achievements, and leadership experiences! Every year, 4-H members across the country compile their experiences into a 4-H Portfolio, a creative and personalized way to document your journey. Whether you're just starting out or have years of projects under your belt, this is your chance to shine!

What's a 4-H Portfolio? Think of it as a cherished scrapbook meets career resume. It's a summary of your 4-H career, filled with your projects, leadership roles, and community service. You'll use age-appropriate Project Record Forms and follow the 4-H Portfolio rubric to make sure everything's in tip-top shape.



Who Needs to Submit?

- All Prince William 4-H'ers should submit individual project records or a full portfolio.
- Club Officers and Association Officers must turn in an Officer Project Record Form to get credit for their year of service.
- Dreaming of becoming a Virginia 4-H Ambassador or joining the Virginia 4-H All Stars? You'll need portfolios from several years - so start now!

Need Help? Don't worry - Prince William 4-H has your back! Whether you need help organizing, supplies like binders and scrapbook paper, or just have questions, stop by, call, or email.

Why It Matters: 4-H Portfolios aren't just for fun - they're powerful tools that help build your resume for college, careers, and future leadership roles. Plus, they're a great way to reflect on everything you've learned through 4-H's motto: "Learn by Doing."

So grab your photos, notes, and creativity - your 4-H story deserves to be told! Click here for the PW 4-H online document center for forms and scoring rubrics.



Green & Growing



Prince William 4-H 2025 Recognition Day

Let's celebrate a year of learning, leadership, and growth at our annual Prince William 4-H Recognition Day! This special evening honors YOU - our incredible youth members and dedicated adult volunteers.

This isn't just a party — it's a celebration of how far you've come and all the ways you've grown through 4-H. Whether you led a project, volunteered, or tried something new, this is your moment to shine!

- ✓ Ice Cream Social

 Chill out and reconnect with friends
- Annual Slide Show
 Relive your favorite 4-H memories
- Senior Speeches

 Be inspired by our graduating 4-H'ers
- Recognitions & Awards

 Celebrate achievements, scholarships, and the Outstanding Member Awards

All Prince William 4-H families are invited — and yes, that includes YOU!

Bring a friend to share the 4-H experience. The more, the merrier!

Event Details:

- Monday, October 27
- 6:30 8:30 PM
- **Windy Knolls Farm**

What to Bring:

- Cookies or brownies to pair with ice cream (optional)
- 4-H Club posters to showcase your club's awesome work.
- Wear your green gear to show off your 4-H pride!

Virginia Cooperative Extension

CLICK HERE TO RSVP BY OCTOBER 20TH Page 6 Prince William 4-H



Calling All Teen Foodies: 4-H Food Challenge Workshop

If you're between 9 and 18 and love cooking, teamwork, or just want to learn more about healthy living, mark your calendar for the 4-H Food Challenge Contest Workshop on Tuesday, September 30th from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. This hands-on event is a must for any Prince William 4-H'er interested in competing in food contests this school year.



Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned competitor, you'll learn kitchen safety, time-saving tips, and culinary techniques from a professional chef. The workshop also covers contest rules for county, district, and state levels. Plus, it's a great chance to build skills in nutrition, teamwork, public speaking, and even explore food-related careers. Don't miss out - come ready to learn, cook, and have fun with fellow 4-H'ers!

PRINCE WILLIAM 4-H FOOD CHALLENGE WORKSHOP

Date: Tuesday, September 30th

Time: 6:30 - 8:30 PM

Location: Conf. Room 107, Developmental Services Building, 5 County Complex Ct.,

Suite 120, Woodbridge

Who Should Attend: all Prince William 4-H'ers ages 9-18 with an interest in the 4-H Pillar of Healthy Living and learning about food, nutrition, and cooking skills. All youth interested in participating in 4-H Food Contests this school year are **REQUIRED** to attend the workshop.

LEARN BY DOING! Click here to register. Registration is required and FREE.



EARN VOLUNTEER HOURS! Prince William 4-H is looking for teens to help teach middle school students the basics of cooking in the libraries this fall. We will be making oatmeal pancakes and turkey bacon. If you are interested in helping lead this project, please click here to see dates & locations and SIGN UP!

Prince William 4-H Gears Up for National 4-H Week



Get ready to show your 4-H pride, Prince William 4-H'ers!

National 4-H Week is coming up from October 5-II, and there are tons of ways to get involved and kick off the new 4-H year with energy and excitement. On Tuesday, October 7, wear your best 4-H green to celebrate and join fellow members at the Prince William Board of County Supervisors Meeting at 2 PM at the McCoart Building in Woodbridge. There, you'll witness the official proclamation of National 4-H Week and can even share your 4-H story with the Board!

To start the 2025–2026 4-H year strong, make sure to:

- → Submit your portfolios, project records, and scholarship applications by October I
- → Enroll or re-enroll in 4HOnline starting October 1 (deadline: October 31)
- → Begin club meetings and elect your officers
- → Mark your calendar with key events
- → And don't miss **Green & Growing: Prince William 4-H Recognition Day on October 27** open to both new and returning members!

Ready to represent and celebrate all things 4-H? Email MaryBeth Lerch to confirm your attendance or to volunteer to speak at the meeting. Let's make this 4-H Week unforgettable!

Prince William 4-H Scholarships - Applications Due Oct 1st

Prince William 4-H has four scholarships available to members. All scholarship applications and nominations are due by October 1st, 2025. Scholarships will be presented at the Prince William 4-H Recognition Day on October 27th.





2025 Joanne Guhl Scholarship

Joanne Guhl was a member of the Boots and Saddles 4-H Club who passed away in 1984. Her parents honor her memory by awarding a college scholarship to a PW 4-Her. Applicants must be enrolled the Prince William 4-H program and must have been accepted at an institution of higher learning. Preference is given to 4-Hers pursuing a career in animal science.

Please click here to apply for the 2025 Joanne Guhl Scholarship.



2025 Bernard Malo Scholarship

Bernard Malo was a past leader of the Trigger Time 4-H Shooting Education Club. Bernie, a 4-H All Star, was active at the local, district, and state level and gave much to the youth of Virginia. His family, who are all 4-H'ers and friends, started a scholarship fund to honor his memory. Trigger Time 4-H Club members have continued to help this scholarship fund grow. This scholarship is for higher education for those entering as a freshman into any four-year college, community college or vocational school. Trigger Time member applicants are given first consideration. The amount of scholarship may vary from year to year.

Please click here to apply for the 2025 Bernard Malo Scholarship.



2025 Outstanding 4-H Member Award (Youth)

The Outstanding 4-H Member Award was created to recognize individuals who demonstrate exemplary service to Prince William 4-H through participation in program planning, development, and implementation at the club level and beyond. This yearly award will be given to individuals who strengthen local 4-H clubs and county 4-H by encouraging and promoting youth members and volunteers, helping to recruit new members and leaders, and through leadership responsibility while promoting service through volunteerism.

Please click here to apply for the 2025 Outstanding 4-H Member Award.

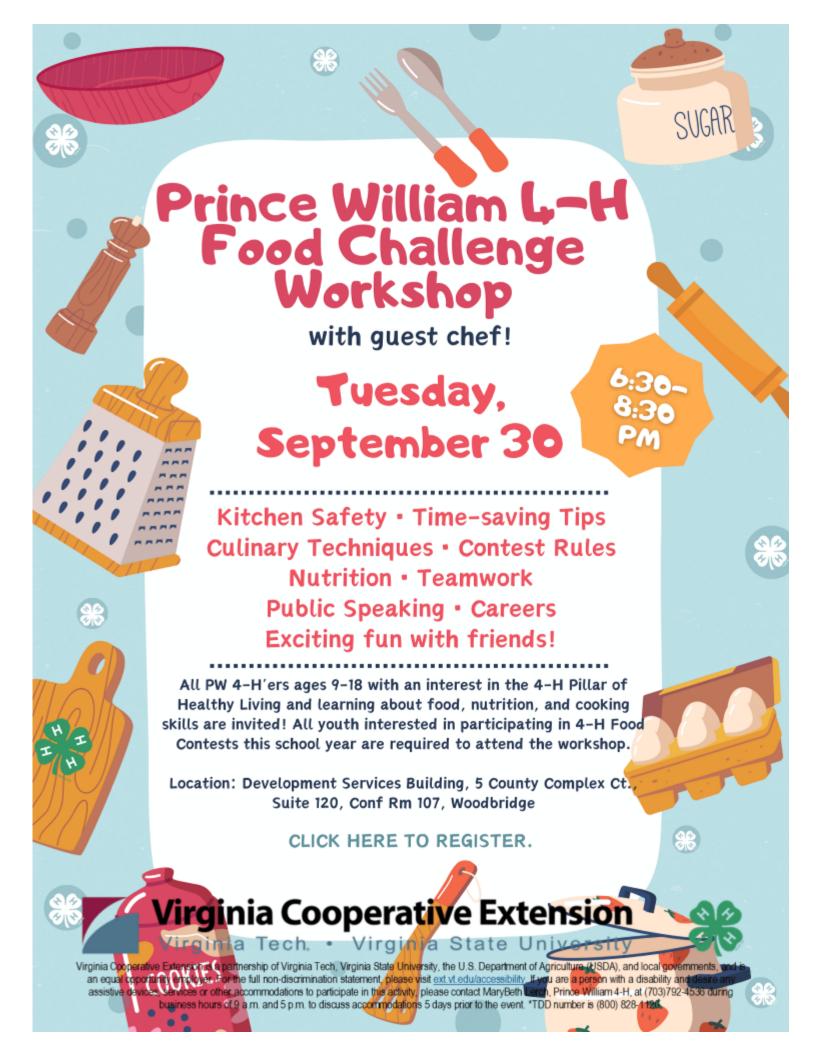


2025 Outstanding 4-H Volunteer Award (Adult)

The All Around 4-H Volunteer Award was created to recognize individuals who demonstrate exemplary service to Prince William 4-H through participation in program planning, development, and implementation at the club level and beyond. This yearly award will be given to individuals who strengthen local 4-H clubs and county 4-H by encouraging and promoting youth members and volunteers, helping to recruit new members and leaders, and through leadership responsibility while promoting service through volunteerism.

Please click here to apply/nominate for the 2025 Outstanding 4-H Volunteer Award.

Celebrating



Green & Growing: A 4-H Year-End Celebration and Kickoff

Date: Monday, October 27th Time: 6:30 - 8:30 PM Location: Windy Knoll Farm

<u>Click here to RSVP.</u> Be sure to fill out the <u>Outstanding Member Form-Youth</u> (participation survey)

and Outstanding Member Form-Adult, too!

Get ready to celebrate a year of learning, leadership, and growth at Prince William 4-H Recognition Day—our annual celebration of YOU, our amazing youth members and dedicated adult volunteers! We have an exciting evening planned:

- Ice Cream Social Cool off and catch up with friends!
- Annual Slide Show Relive the best moments of the year.
- Senior Speeches Hear inspiring stories from our graduating 4-H'ers.
- Recognitions & Awards Applaud achievements, scholarships, and the Prince William 4
 -H Outstanding Member Awards.
- Portfolio & Ribbon Pickup Grab your hard-earned rewards!

All Prince William 4-H families are invited - and yes, that includes YOU! And bring a friend to introduce them to the 4-H experience. The more, the merrier!

What to Bring:

- Cookies or brownies (that compliment ice cream) to share with the group.
- 4-H Club posters to showcase your club's awesome work.
- Wear your green gear to show off your 4-H pride!

This event is more than just a party - it's a celebration of how much you've grown through 4-H. Whether you led a project, volunteered, or tried something new, this is your moment to shine. So mark your calendar, gather your goodies, and get ready to celebrate everything that makes 4-H "Green & Growing"!







Save the Dates! Upcoming PW 4-H Events & Activities

PW 4-H TEENS TO BLOOM - BEYOND LEADERSHIP: OUTREACH, OPTIMISM & MINDSET

Date: October 16th

Who Should Attend: senior PW 4-H'ers 14 & up

PW 4-H's BLOOM group is a monthly social and educational opportunity for teens to explore leadership, social-emotional awareness, critical thinking and service learning. There will be 8 scheduled meetings (October - May), including Officer Training in November and a Boxes of Basics service project. We'll kickoff our year with Project Linus service project. Camp counselors must attend at least 4 BLOOM opportunities in order to be considered to attend camp. *More info coming soon!*

PW 4-H ADULT LEADER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT - VIRTUAL

Dates: October 21, December 4, February 5, and April 14

Who Should Attend: all PW 4-H adult leaders and volunteers

Led by PW 4-H Extension Agent MaryBeth Lerch, the I-hour virtual meetings will discuss positive youth development (PYD) with social-emotional learning (SEL), emotional intelligence, and problem-solving within 4-H project work. Additional topics may be added to address the needs and concerns of clubs. Attend these sessions to network, grow in understanding youth development, and help guide the next generation of leaders. *More info coming soon!*



Rabbit Project Dates: February 10, 11, 18, 19, 26, 27 **Dog Project Dates:** March 3, 4, 19, 20, 25, 26

Who Should Attend: all PW 4-H'ers with an interest in rabbits or dogs

Join one or both of these SPIN projects to gain life skills by learning about the care and raising of rabbits and dogs. During the project , 4-H'ers will learn about different rabbit/dog breeds, housing, feed, and general care. The project will also review showmanship for those interested in showing small animals. More info coming soon!



















CLOVERBUD CLUB

Meets the 2nd Saturday of the Month from October to May from 10am-Noon





OCTOBER 11TH

TIME: 10 AM - NOON



LOCATION: PRINCE WILLIAM 4-H HEADQUARTERS, 8033 ASHTON AVE., MANASSAS

All Greater Prince William Area youth ages 5-8 that are interested in 4-H and would like to explore the 4-H Pillar of STEM are invited! Cloverbuds will begin the 4-H Year reviewing the 4-H Pillars, pledge, and by making new friends. Speaking of friends, our STEM activity will focus on our friendly pollinators...BATS!

Wito Should Attend: Greater Prince William youth ages 5-8 that are interested in learning more about 4-H.*

Cloverbuds complete short-term, hands-on, adult-led, exploratory projects in the 4-H Pillars of civic engagement, STEM, healthy living and agriculture. All 4-H projects are research and curriculum based. We lay the foundation of knowledge to help develop our future community leaders.



Learn more about 4-H at www.pwcva.gov/4-H.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER. Registration is free, but required.

Come grow with us!

* A parent or guardian must be present.



Virginia Cooperative Extension

Virginia Tech. • Virginia State University





REMEMBER HONOR TEACH



WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA SPONSOR A WREATH - HONOR A HERO

As the anniversary of September 11th approaches, we pause to remember the lives lost and the heroes who stood in the face of unimaginable tragedy. That day changed our nation forever and reminded us of the true cost of freedom.

In the midst of sorrow, we witnessed courage, resilience, and unity. First responders, service members, and ordinary citizens stepped forward to protect and help. Their bravery continues to inspire us.

This solemn anniversary reminds us why the Wreaths Across America mission matters more than ever. To Remember, Honor, and Teach is not just a motto—it's a call to action.

JOIN PRINCE WILLIAM 4-H IN HONORING OUR VETERANS THROUGH WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

We are selling wreaths to be placed on the graves of our nation's heroes during National Wreaths Across America Day on December 13th. Your sponsorship helps us:



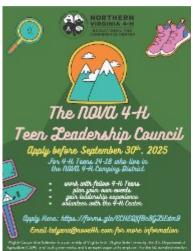
Remember those who served Honor their sacrifice with a wreath Teach youth about citizenship and service

Volunteers from Prince William 4-H will attend a local wreath-laying ceremony to participate in this meaningful tradition. Support this important mission by sponsoring a wreath today through your local 4-H club.



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NOVA Teen Leadership Council



Who Should Apply: 4-H teens ages 14-18 interested in working with the NOVA 4-H Center

Click here to apply. Applications due September 30th.

Applications for the NOVA Teen Leadership Council are now open! The Teen Leadership Council is a group of 4-Hers that are interested in working with the NOVA Center and fellow 4-Hers who camp at the Northern Virginia 4-H Educational Center in Front Royal. The council is teen led with opportunities for the group to make decisions about how they want to spend their time at camp. This past year TLC members helped plan and lead the first night of TALT, created promotional videos for camp, and planned and facilitated an Open House at the center to introduce new families to 4-H camping.

The TLC Kickoff will take place in October, and the 2025-2026 TLC in-person and zoom meetings will be scheduled at that time.

The new NOVA TLC is part of a statewide initiative to form teen councils at all six 4-H centers.

2025 State Fair of Virginia Shows & Contests Updates

VIRGINIA YOUTH LIVESTOCK PROGRAMS

YOUTH LIVESTOCK SHOWS



2025 SFVA Youth Livestock Dates: October 1st – 5th, 2025

Click here for contest rules and schedule.

Click here for State Fair of Virginia Youth Livestock Shows Website

ENTRIES ARE CLOSED.



JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SKILLATHON CONTESTS

All contestants, coaches, advisors, and volunteers MUST purchase a SFVA Competition Ticket at this link: https://tinyurl.com/SFVA-Comp-Tickets

Two Youth Animal Science Educational Competition contests are excellent opportunities to have non-exhibitor youth participate in and experience the State Fair. Both events are open to Exhibitors and Non-Exhibitors.

SFVA 4-H AND FFA JUNIOR DAIRYMEN'S CONTEST

Date: Friday, September 26th

Time: Check-in begins at 10 am; Contest Instructions at 10:45 am **Location:** State Fair of Virginia, The Meadow Event Park, Doswell, VA

Entries are CLOSED.

Click here for rules, age divisions, and full contest information in the SFVA Junior Dairymen's Contest Letter.

SFVA YOUTH LIVESTOCK (NON-EXHIBITOR) SPECIES-SPECIFIC SKILLATHONS

Date: Friday, October 3rd

Time: 9 am - 4 pm: Contest will be open and available during this time frame **Location:** State Fair of Virginia, The Meadow Event Park, Doswell, VA

Click here to enter. Entries due by Wednesday, September 24th at 5 pm.

Click here for rules, age divisions, and full contest information in the SFVA Youth Livestock Skillathon Contest Letter.

THE STATE FAIR OF VIRGINIA HIPPOLOGY CONTEST

Date: Friday, October 3rd

Time: 10 AM Check In; 10:30 AM Start; Awards will follow the event and include ribbons and premiums. Click here for 2025 Hippology Rules & Information.

Click here toe enter. Entries due September 18th at 5 PM.

Student Competition Tickets are available and must be pre-purchased. Leaders must purchase tickets for daily entry into the fair. You must pre-order tickets or you will be required to pay general admission at the gate, General admission gates do not open until 10 AM.

Hokie BugFest



Date: Saturday, October 18

Time: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. with a pre-opening at 9 a.m. for anyone that may benefit from a quieter, less crowded environment.

Location: Squires Student Center, 290 College Avenue, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg

Free admission!

Celebrate the exciting science of entomology with STEAM-inspired (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) activities for all ages! Festival favorites include:

- Virginia Tech's LIVE BugZoo
- Hundreds of pinned insects from around the world
- Jr. Entomologist Certificate Program
- Bug Carnival
- The Bug Library
- 4-H Insect Collection Contest Entry forms due by September 26th!

Visit <u>www.hokiebugfest.org</u> for the FULL LIST of exhibitors. You can also follow us on Facebook <u>www.facebook.com/hokiebugfest/</u>.

INSECT COLLECTION CONTEST

Hokie BugFest celebrates the fun and exciting science of entomology, and the Virginia Tech tradition of learning and discovery, through outreach and engagement. This event highlights an ongoing youth education program hosted by the Virginia Tech Department of Entomology, Virginia Tech College of Agriculture & Life Sciences, Virginia Cooperative Extension's 4-H program, and the department's student-run professional organization, the W. B. Alwood Entomological Society.

Prince William 4-H Clubs: consider entering the Insect Collection Contest! Each entry will receive a participation ribbon and a bug-themed goodie bag. The top collections will be awarded 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in each age category, and an overall Best in Show will also be awarded. 4-H Insect Collection Contest Guidelines | 4-H Insect Collection Contest Entry Form

4-H Insect Collection Contest - Hokie BugFest

READY, SET, COLLECT!

- Hokie BugFest is on Saturday, October 18, 2025 at Squires Student Center in Blacksburg, Virginia.
- Collections may be submitted individually or as teams (drop-off/pick-up information posted online). Pre-registration is required. Entry forms must be submitted by September 26th.
- Collections will be awarded based on scoring guidelines. Visit hokiebugfest.org for further information.













STATES' 4-H INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS 2026 OUTBOUND PROGRAMS COSTA RICA - JAPAN - TAIWAN - SOUTH KOREA - ARGENTINA











Program Details:

States' 4-H Summer Outbound programs provide American 4-H youth with the opportunity to travel to foreign countries for a cultural immersion experience. Delegates live with volunteer host families and engage in experiential learning about a new way of life. Delegates experience aspects of daily life that allow them to more deeply understand both their host culture and their own culture. Our network of like-minded international partners recruits host families and plans

2026 PROGRAM DATES*

Costa Rica: June 25-July 24 Japan 8-Week: June 10-August 7 Japan 4-Week: July 8-August 7 Talwan: July 8-August 7 South Korea: July 15-August 14 Argentina: July II-August 3

*Program dates subject to slight change or modification.

- ➡ 12-18 years old for Japan 4-Week & Taiwan
- ⇒ 12-18 years old for South Korea
- ⇒ 15-18 years old for Costa Rica, Argentina,

Applicant must not be in college

- · Contact your State Coordinator and/or reach out to States' 4-H to learn more
- Applications open in Fall 2025



2026 **EXCHANGE**

4 WEEK HOMESTAY PROGAM

Cost: \$2,500** + airfare (estimated \$800-\$1,200)***

Delegates arrive in San José for orientation, which

includes sightseeing and cultural activities.

Afterwards, they meet their Costa Rican hast

families and begin their homestay experience. They

also come tagether for a mid-program excursion to

In-State Fees may apply.

Dates*: June 25-July 24, 2026

Ages: 15-18

a national park.



LEARN MORE

STATES' 4-H INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM DETAILS:

Program Cost Includes: · Orientations in gateway city and Costa Rica

Join a HOMESTAY EXCHANGE and

immerse yourself in another culture!

- Sightseeing and cultural excursions
- In-Costa Rica expenses: lodging, meals. transportation
- · Orientation materials and States' 4-H t-shirts
- · Accident & Sickness Insurance

Spanish language knowledge recommended (but not required)

Applications open in Fall 2025 for our 2026 Outbound programs! Contact your 4-H coordinator to learn about your local deadlines.

"Program dates subject to slight change or modification.
"Program cast doss NOT include airfore, Airfore estimate is for international airfore. Participant is responsible for sing domestic airfare to/from US gateway city. are estimates are based on ticket prices from the post few years plus the potential for increased prices in 2026.



www.states4hexchange.org

2026 JAPAN



STATES' 4-H INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM DETAILS:

4 WEEK HOMESTAY PROGAM

Dates*: July 8-August 7, 2026 Cost: \$3,600** + airfare (estimated \$1,600-\$2,000)***

Ages: 12-18

In-State Fees may apply

Live with a Japanese host family for the month and experience daily life. You will be placed with a host sibling of similar age to share your experience and learn about Japanese culture. A group camp is offered. No prior Japanese language study is required, but it is certainly helpfull

Program Cost Includes:

- · Orientations in gateway city and Tokyo
- . In-Japan expenses: lodging, meals, transportation
- · Comp, sightseeing, and cultural excursions
- · Orientation materials and States' 4-H t-shirts
- · Accident & Sickness Insurance

Applications open in Fall 2025 for our 2026 Outbound programs! Contact your 4-H coordinator to learn about your local de

**Program dates subject to slight change or modification.
**Program and does NOT include airfore. Airfore estimate is for international airfore. Participant is responsible for purchasing datestic airfore to/from US gateway city. The expected gateway city for Japan is Seattle, WA.
***Airfore estimates are based on ticket prices from the post few years plus the potential for increased prices in 2026.



2026 **EXCHANGE**





STATES' 4-H INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM DETAILS:

8 WEEK HOMESTAY PROGAM

Dates*: June 10-August 7, 2026

Cost: \$5,500** + airfare (estimated \$2,000-\$2,400)*** Ages: 15-18

In-State Fees may apply

For the first 4 weeks, stay with a host family in the Tokyo area, while attending an intensive Japanese language program. This program is for youth that are interested in a Japanese classroom experience! In the second 4 weeks, you will be placed with a new host family outside of Tokyo with a host sibling of similar age. Japanese language knowledge recommended (but not remired).

Program Cost Includes:

- · Orientations in gateway city and Tokyo Sightseeing and cultural excursions in Tokyo
- 4-week Japanese language program
- · In-Japan expenses: lodging, meals,
- transportation
- Orientation materials and States' 4-H t-shirts
- · Accident & Sickness Insurance

Lunch not included on weakdays during language classes

Applications open in Fall 2025 for our 2026 Outbound programs! Contact your 4-H coordinator to learn about your local dec

agram dates subject to slight change or modification.

"Program cost does NOT include airfare, Airfare estimate is for international airfare. Participant is responsible for purchasing domestic airfare to from US gateway city. The expected gateway city for Japan is Seattle, WA.

"""Airfare estimates are based on ticket prices from the past few years plus the potential for increased prices in 2026.



2026





STATES' 4-H INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM DETAILS:

4 WEEK HOMESTAY PROGAM

Dates*: July 15-August 14, 2026 Cost: \$3,200** + airfare (estimated \$1,600-\$2,000)***

Ages: 12-38

In-State Fees may apply

Delegates arrive in Seoul for a one-night arrival orientation led by Korea 4-H, which includes an introduction to Korean culture and basic language phrases. Afterwards, delegates meet their Karea 4-H host family and begin their homestay. Delegates may have 2 different host families during the program. The program concludes with sightseeing in Seoul.

Program Cost Includes:

- · Orientations in gateway city and Secul
- · In-South Korea expenses: lodging, meals, transportation
- · Sightseeing and cultural excursions in Seoul
- · Orientation materials and States' 4-H t-shirts
- · Accident & Sickness Insurance

No prior language study is required, but it is certainly helpfull

Applications open in Fall 2025 for our 2026 Outbound programs! Contact your 4-H coordinator to learn about your local deadlines

*Program dates subject to slight change or modification.
**Program cast does NOT include dirfore, Airfore estimate is for international dirfore. Participant is responsible for sting domestic differe to/from US gateway city. The expected gateway city for South Korea is Seattle, WA, fore estimates are based on ticket prices from the past few years plus the potential for increased prices in 2026.



2026 TAIWAN







Join a HOMESTAY EXCHANGE

STATES' 4-H INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM DETAILS:

4 WEEK HOMESTAY PROGAM

Dates*: July 8-August 7, 2026

Cost: \$3,200** + airfare (estimated \$1,400-\$1,800)*** Ages: 12-18

In-State Fees may apply

Delegates arrive in Taipel for an orientation led by Talwan 4-H, which includes an introduction to Taiwanese culture and basic language phrases. Afterwards, delegates meet their host family and begin their homestay. Delegates may have 2 different host families during the program. The program concludes with sightseeing and cultural excursions in Taipei.

Program Cost Includes:

- · Orientations in gateway city and Taipei
- In-Taiwan expenses: lodging, meals, transportation.
- · Sightseeing and cultural excursions in Taipei
- · Orientation materials and States' 4-H t-shirts
- Accident & Sickness Insurance

No prior language study is required, but it is certainly helpfull

Applications open in Fall 2025 for our 2026 Outbound programs! Contact your 4-H coordinator to learn about your local deadlines.

*Program dates subject to slight change or modification. **Program cost dose NOT include dirfore. Airfore estimate is for international dirfore. Participant is responsible for sing domestic airfare to/from US gateway city. The expected gateway city for Taiwan is Seattle, WA. are estimates are based on ticket prices from the past few years plus the potential for increased prices in 2026.



ww.states4hexchange.org

2026 **ARGENTINA**

EXCHANGE



LEARN MORE



STATES' 4-H INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM DETAILS:

3 WEEK HOMESTAY PROGAM

Dates*: July II-August 3

Cost: \$2.500** + cirfore (estimated \$1.600-\$2.400)***

Ages: 15-18

In-State Fees may apply

Delegates will live with a host family in and around Córdoba, experiencing daily life firsthand. They will also take part in a variety of structured group activities, including cultural excursions, Spanish language sessions, and local 4-H events. Particular emphasis will be placed on soccer and archestra, two of Argentina 4-H's primary youth programs.

Program Cost Includes:

- Arrival orientation in Argen
- · In-Argentina expenses: lodging, meals, transportation
- Sightseeing and cultural excursions
- · Orientation materials and States' 4-H t-shirts Accident & Sickness Insurance

Spanish language knowledge recommended (but not required)

Applications open in Fall 2025 for our 2026 Outbound programs! Contact your 4-H coordinator to learn about your local de

*Program dates subject to slight change or modification.
**Program cost does NOT include differs. Airfore estimate is for domestic and international differs.
****Airfore estimates are based on ticket prices from the past few years plus the potential for increased prices in 2026.



STATES' 4-H INTERNATIONAL **EXCHANGE PROGRAMS**

CHAPERONES NEEDED!

lve in a homestay setting and support youth exchange delegates abroad

BE A PART OF OUR SUMMER 2026 PROGRAMS

OUR MISSION







2026 Program Locations & Dates*

Costa Rica: June 25-July 24 Argentina: July 11-August 3 Taiwan: July 8-August 7 South Korea: July 15-August 14 Japan 4-Week: July 8-August 7 Japan 8-Week:** June 10-August 7

*Program dates subject to slight change or

**Option to chaperone for the first 4 weeks only.

HOW TO JOIN US



- · Contact your State Coordinator and/or reach out to States' 4-H to learn more
- Now accepting applications!

REQUIREMENTS

- Age 21+ at exchange start
- Current or former 4-H involvement
- Experience working with youth
- International travel/living abroad experience

· Costa Rica \$1,200

 Argentina \$1,200

 Talwan \$1,500

South Korea \$1,500

 Japan 4-Week \$1,600

Japan 8-Week

Scholarships available

Page 16 Prince William 4-H



Calling All Young Witches, Wizards & Muggles!

Dates: November 7-9

Location: W.E. Skelton 4-H Center, Smith Mountain Lake

Who Should Attend: Youth ages 9-14

Fee: \$125/camper Click here to register.

Registration is OPEN for the W.E. Skelton Wizards Weekend Camp—Virginia's biggest Harry Potter-themed 4-H camp!

Expect magical adventures, spellbinding activities, and campers from all over the state! We're also looking for trained teen counselors & adult volunteers - if you worked at 4-H camp in 2025, you can attend for FREE in a leadership role!

Let's make Wizards Weekend 2025 the most enchanted one yet!

National 4-H Updates



IGNITE BY 4-H

Dates: March 25 - 29, 2026

Location: Washington Hylton, Washington, DC

SOLD OUT

Ignite by 4-H remains the premier experience where teens discover their spark, connect with peers from across the country (and even the world), explore

traditional and emerging career paths, and develop career and life readiness skills to become Beyond Ready for the future.

In 2026, Ignite will offer six exciting programmatic tracks, allowing teens to focus on their passions, deepen their skills, and explore meaningful career pathways. Returning for 2026 are four core tracks: AgriScience, Community Accelerators, Healthy Living, and STEM. Based on feedback from 4-H educators and teens, we're excited to introduce two NEW tracks that expand the possibilities for learning and leadership: Animal Science and Citizenship Washington Focus (Civic Engagement).



CLOVER BY 4-H: ENTREPRENEURSHIP Click here for FREE activities.

Discover what it takes to think like an entrepreneur! You'll start by exploring your talents and interests, then see how your personal traits line up with those of successful business leaders. To wrap up, you'll test your skills by weighing risks and rewards and pitching your own idea to a mock investor. Grades 7-12



NATIONAL 4-H 2026 YOUTH IN ACTION WINNERS

We're thrilled to introduce the 2026 Youth in Action Award Winners! These four remarkable 4-H'ers are leading with purpose, passion, and impact. Each of these young leaders has demonstrated outstanding commitment to their communities, tackling challenges, and inspiring peers across the country to make a difference.

- Antonio Becker Minnesota
- Esther Bonney Maryland
- Owen Brosanders Arizona
- Graycie Montfort Texas

From creating innovative projects to driving change on important issues, these winners represent the best of what it means to be a 4-H'er. Over the coming months, we'll be sharing more about their journeys, their achievements, and how they are shaping the future.

The Fungus Among Us with Robin Firth

PART I: THE FUNGUS AMONG US TALK

Click here to watch The Fungus Among Us.

Learn about the mushrooms that grow right here in Prince William County, including some fun edible species that you can toss into your next stir fry. Stay tuned for details for the upcoming mushroom walk!

PART 2: NATURE WALK — SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12TH

(Location & time TBD)

Click here to pre-register and receive notification of details.

Get hands-on experience as we take a guided walk in the "wild" to explore mushrooms in their natural habitat. Learn identification tips, ecological insights, and see firsthand the fascinating fungi growing around us.



Whether you're a beginner or a mushroom enthusiast, this series offers something for everyone eager to uncover the hidden wonders of our forests. Don't miss out!

VT Food Safety School for Virginia Producers

Date: October 16th Time: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Location: Virginia Department of

Agriculture Library, 261 Mt Clinton Pike,

Harrisonburg, VA

Cost: \$25

Click here for more information and to

register.

This course is currently being developed as part of a USDA NIFA funded Food Safety Outreach Program project. The course is designed to help beginning, small, and growing value-added food businesses learn the basics of food safety by addressing Virginia food safety regulations, factors the impact microbial growth, methods for producing safe

Virginia Cooperative Extension food, food safety system development, and next steps for growing your food business. This course will also include an online course component that must be completed prior to the in-person event.



Virginia Tech. Virginia State University





PRINCE WILLIAM 4-H MAKING THE BEST BETTER

Become a 4-H Club Leader

We invite you to become a 4-H Club Leader and help us provide safe, enriching programs where young people can explore a universe of interests, make new friends, develop leadership skills and gain life skills. 4-H clubs belong to the families within our community and focus on curriculum-based programs in the areas of citizenship, health living, STEM and agriculture. We "learn-by-doing." Our volunteers bring their unique knowledge, experiences, and skills to the 4-H program. You don't need to be an expert. You do need to be enthusiastic about learning and have a desire to work with youth.



We Provide the Content

- New Leader Training
- On-going Support and Training
- Annual Leader Kick-Off Meetings
- Volunteer Manuals
- Curriculum-Based Project Resources
- Networking with 4-H Club Leaders
- Special Activities and Camps at the county, district, state and national levels



You Provide YOU

- Tap into your unique talents and perspectives
- Share your knowledge and interests
- Engage youth as a mentor, advisor, teacher, role model, and
- Create a community club or specialized club for project work
- Participate in community service



We Grow Together

- Guide youth in hands-on learning experiences that build skills and confidence
- Accomplish more with 4-H resources
- Meet new people and network
- Work with youth on key, relevant issues
- Build strong families and communities in our area
- Discover something new about yourself and others
- Have fun while you share your talents, skills and knowledge
- Increase your interpersonal, parenting and professional skills
- Be a positive, committed adult role model that is truly making a difference

CHECK OUT OUR NEWSLETTER!

4-H GROWS HERE

What are you waiting for? Prince William youth need YOU to help THEM find their own special talents, build confidence and gain life skills. Volunteering in 4-H doesn't depend on the amount of knowledge you have about a project. It relies on your willingness to help youth learn.

For more information, contact



MaryBeth Lerch Prince William 4-H Extension Agent 4HPWC@pwcva.gov

www.pwcva.gov/4-H



Virginia Cooperative Extension

Virginia Tech. · Virginia State University



2025 2026



PRINCE WILLIAM 4-H

11 PW 4-H Cloverbud Club 14 PW 4-H Club & Project Leader Professional Dev 15 PW 4-H Club & Project Leader Roundup, ITactor Operators 16 PW 4-H Club & Project Leader Roundup, ITactor Operators 17 PW 4-H Club & Project Leader Roundup, ITactor Operators 18 PW 4-H Shooting Ed New Instructor Certification 18 PW 4-H Shooting Ed New Instructor Certification 19 PW 4-H Young Entrepreneurs Interest Roundup, Tractor Operators 19 PW 4-H Tree Planting Roundup, Tractor Operators 19 PW 4-H Northeast District Food Challenge Contest Challenge Contest	APRIL MAY	5-11 National 4-H Week 7 Proclamation at PWC BOCS 11 PW 4-H Cloverbud Club 11-12 VA 4-H Shooting Ed New Instructor Certification 14 PW 4-H Shooting Ed New Instructor Certification 15-25 National Character Counts 19-25 National Character Counts 19-25 National Character Counts 19-25 National Character Counts 19-26 National Character Counts 19-27 National Character Counts 19-28 Dec 2 National 4-H Congress 19-29 PW 4-H Officer Training & Teen Club 19-26 National Character Counts 19-20 PW 4-H Officer Training & Teen Club 19-27 National 4-H Congress 20 PW 4-H Presentation 21 PW 4-H Club & Project 22 PW 4-H Officer Training & Teen Club 23 PW 4-H Presentation 24 Green & Growing: PW 4-H Recognition Day & Open House 25 PW 4-H Paper Clover Campaign 26 Challerge	OCTOBER NOVEMBER
ub 16-29 Virginia 4-H Congress loard 21-26 National 4-H Shooting eeting Sports Championship 30 1st Time Junior 4-H Camper Parents' Meeting eurs ge TBD PW 4-H Young Entrepreneurs Market Day od TBD VA Dept of Forestry Camp Woods & Wildlife TBD VA 4-H Livestock Judging Contests	JUNE	tion PW 4-H Embryology Registration Opens Registration Opens PW 4-H Club & Project Leader Professional Dev Holiday Craft Night, Teen Club; Cloverbud Club leeting 13 Wreaths Across America ng & Day press Pr	DECEMBER
TBD PW 4-H Young Entrepreneurs Market Day TBD State of Virginia's NRA Youth Education Summit TBD Prince William/Stafford 4-H Junior Camp TBD Southem Regionals 4-H Horse Championships TBD VA 4-H Youth Dairy Field Day	JULY	10 PW 4-H Cloverbud Club 13 PW 4-H Association Meeting 20 Virginia 4-H Day at the Capitol 21 An Evening with Virginia 4-H at VT 23 PW 4-H Share the Fun Dress Rehearsal 30 PW 4-H Share the Fun TBD PW 4-H Tree Seedling Orders Due	JANUARY
TBD VA 4-H Northern District Shoot TBD VA 4-H Pork Challenge TBD PW 4-H Fair Camp TBD PW 4-H Young Entrepreneurs Market Day	AUGUST	5 PW 4-H Club & Project Leader Professional Dev 14 PW 4-H Contest Day: Presentations, Table Settling, Fashion Review TBD PW 4-H Embryology Project Leader Training & Egg Pickup TBD VA 4-H Hippology & Horse Judging TBD 4-H Shooting Sports National Quiz Bowl TBD VA 4-H Stockman's & Livestock Judging TBD VA 4-H Shooting Ed Instructor Recertification	FEBRUARY
4-6 VA 4-H State Horse and Pony Championship 5-6 VA 4-H State Shoot TBD PW 4-H Young Entrepreneurs Market Day TBD VA 4-H Shotgun Championship TBD State Fair of Virginia TBD SFVA Youth Livestock Shows, Livestock Skillathon, Dairymen's Contest, Dairy Goat	SEPTEMBER	1 PW 4-H Junior Camp Reg Opens 6-7 TALT Weekend - Junior Camp Counselor Training 10 PW 4-H Leaders' Mid-Year Mtg & 4-H Association Mtg 14-15 VA 4-H Spring Air Championships 21 PW 4-H Food Challenge Contest 25-29 National 4-H IGNITE TBD VA 4-H Teen Summit TBD PW 4-H Association BINGO TBD PW 4-H Chick Drop-Off TBD PW 4-H and FFA Meats Evaluation	MARCH

TBD VA 4-H Northeast District Contest TBD VA 4-H Healthy Living Summit



PRINCE WILLIAM

COUNTY

8033 Ashton Ave, #105, Manassas, VA 20109

Click to Visit Online:

Prince William 4-H
Virginia State 4-H
National 4-H



Your Dedicated PWC 4-H Staff

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PWC 4-H Resources

National 4-H

National 4-H Homepage

Virginia 4-H

VCE 4-H
4-H Online Information
The 4-H Foundation
4-H All Stars
STEM in Virginia 4-H

Prince William 4-H

PW 4-H Homepage

PW 4-H Programs

PW 4-H Camps

PW 4-H Events & Calendar

PW 4-H Document Center

Portfolio Records

Member Record
Cloverbud Sheet
Project Record Ages 9-10
Project Record Ages 11-12
Project Record Ages 13-15
Project Record Ages 16-19

Outstanding Member Form

Prince William 4-H Member Record - President
Prince William 4-H Member Record - Vice President





Youth Officers

Lexi Strand, President Tim Hirshey, Vice President Cara Grahn, Secretary Ryan Nguyen, Treasurer

Adult Officers

Susan Wolf, President Alan Lerch, Vice President Shelby Kohn, Secretary Sydney Nguyen, Treasurer

Committee Chairs

Fundraising Committee - Shawn Clinger & Sarah Fox Recognition Committee - Alan Lerch Membership Committee - 4-H Staff





Virginia Cooperative Extension Virginia Tech. • Virginia State University



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