



Prince William 4-H

Our Clubs, Our Community



Upcoming Events

- Oct 1-5** - SFVA Livestock Shows
- Oct 4** - PW 4-H Young Entrepreneurs Market Day
- Oct 5-11** - National 4-H Week
- Oct 8** - PW 4-H Association FUNdraising Mtg
- Oct 11** - PW 4-H Cloverbud Club
- Oct 11-12** - VA 4-H Shooting Ed New Instructor Training
- Oct 14** - PW 4-H Portfolio Training
- Oct 16** - PW 4-H BLOOM Teen Group
- Oct 19-25** - National Character Counts Week
- Oct 21** - PW 4-H Adult Professional Dev. (Virtual)

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Click to Visit



October 1, 2025

Celebrate National 4-H Week in Prince William



Date: Tuesday, October 7th

Time: 2 PM

Location: McCoart Building, 1 County Complex, Woodbridge

Email [MaryBeth Lerch](#) to attend or to volunteer to tell your 4-H Story at the meeting.

National 4-H Week is October 5-11, and you are invited to get involved and kick off the new 4-H Year with energy and excitement. On Tuesday, wear your best 4-H green to celebrate and join fellow members at the Prince William Board of County Supervisors Meeting, share your 4-H Story with the officials and guests, and witness the official proclamation of National 4-H Week. Let's make 4-H Week unforgettable!

PW 4-H Character Counts Contests



National Character Counts Week is October 19th - 15th and we will be celebrating with a couple of Prince William 4-H contests!

1. **POSTER CONTEST:** all PW 4-H'ers are encouraged to submit a poster (email or in person) to celebrate the 6 Pillars of Character. See [Page 2](#) for details. **Posters due Monday, October 13th.**

2. **DAILY PHOTO CONTEST:** during Character Counts week, all

PW 4-H'ers are encouraged to wear the daily pillar color and send a photo of you with a one sentence statement of what the daily trait means to you or how you can set the example for the character trait. Photos due by 8 PM each day, Monday - Friday. Daily winners will be recognized at PW 4-H's Green & Growing recognition day. See [Page 2](#) for details.

PW 4-H Association FUNdraising Kickoff Meeting



Date: Wednesday, October 8th

Time: 7:30 PM

Location: Zoom <https://virginiatech.zoom.us/j/85636304291>

Who Should Attend: All PW 4-H parents, guardians, senior 4-H'ers, and club officers

Come prepared with your ideas, your talents, and availability to volunteer! In particular, if you are interested in helping with BINGO planning, we always need donations, decorations, marketers, and event volunteers.





Contests

Poster & Daily Photo



Poster Contest

Submit a poster for Prince William 4-H Character Counts Week about the 6 Pillars of Character. Poster due by Monday, October 13th. Winning poster will be in the October 15th weekly newsletter and the 4-H'er will be recognized at Green & Growing on October 27th. [Click here to email photo of poster](#) or drop off at PW 4-H Headquarters.



Daily Photo Contest

Submit a photo of you wearing the Character Counts color of the day and 1 sentence stating what that trait means to you. Photos due by 8 pm each day. Winners will be announced and recognized at Green & Growing on October 27th. [Click here to email.](#)

October
20

Monday: Trustworthiness (Blue)

Be honest. Don't deceive, cheat, or steal. Have integrity. Do what you say you'll do. Keep your promises. Be loyal. Stand by your values.

October
21

Tuesday: Respect (Yellow)

Follow the Golden Rule. Be accepting of differences. Be courteous to others. Deal peacefully with anger, insults, and disagreements. Be considerate of others' feelings.

October
22

Wednesday: Responsibility (Green)

Do what you are supposed to do. Try your best. Keep on trying. Be self-disciplined. Think before you act. Consider the consequences. Be accountable for your words, actions, and attitudes.

October
23

Thursday: Fairness & Caring (Orange & Red)

Play by the rules. Take turns and share. Be open-minded. Listen to others. Don't take advantage of others. Be kind & compassionate. Express gratitude. Forgive others. Be considerate of others' feelings.

October
24

Friday: Citizenship (Purple)

Do your share to make your home, school, and community better. Cooperate. Stay informed. Vote. Be a good neighbor. Make choices that protect the safety and rights of others. Protect the environment.

**CLICK HERE
TO EMAIL
POSTER & PHOTOS**



The Six Pillars of Character®

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Virginia Tech, Virginia State University

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PRINCE WILLIAM 4-H



YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS



Final Market Day!

**Saturday, October 4th
9 AM - 1 PM**

Manassas Park Farmers Market

Featuring Prince William 4-H's Aaron, Adam, Zay, Alayjah, Charley, Michael, Aisling, Aspen, Koa, Xanthie, Jackelyn, Josphine, Cora, and Lexi

SEE YOU THERE!



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PW 4-H Club Reporters - It's Time to Send in Your Monthly Reports



Hey Prince William 4-H Clubs — it's that time again! Your monthly club reports are due each month. We've set up a schedule to help with newsletter space and to provide due dates - so don't forget to send yours in to PW 4-H Headquarters!

WAIT... WHAT REPORTS?

Yep, you heard right! Every club has officers - and one of them (*usually the Club Reporter*) needs to send a quick email with:

- A short summary of what your club did this month (think: cool projects, community service, awards, shoutouts, etc.)
- 1 to 6 photos with captions showing off your club in action!

BUT WHY THOUGH?

Because your club is awesome - and people should know about it! These reports:

- Help track your club's journey all year long
- Keep parents and the community in the loop
- Show off your skills and teamwork
- Might even help bring in new members or support!

Plus, if you're the 4-H Club Reporter, you're building real-world skills like writing, time management, and leadership!

HOW TO DO IT:

On the 1st of each month, write up a short recap (even just a few sentences is fine!). Include:

- What your club did
- Any shoutouts or thank-yous to community supporters
- Up to 6 photos with captions
- Then sign your name, officer role (like "Club Reporter"), and your club name.
- Email it to: chelminger@pwcva.gov and don't forget to CC your adult club leader!

REPORT DUE DATES

1st Monday of Month (Oct 6)
Nokesville Equestrian 4-H Club

2nd Monday (Oct 13)
Kettle Run 4-H Club and
Benton Middle School Club

3rd Monday (Oct 20)
Trigger Time 4-H Club

4th Monday (Oct 27)
Nokesville 4-H Club and
Linton Hall School Club

PW 4-H Portfolio Training



Date: October 14th

Time: 6:30 - 8 PM

Location: PW 4-H Headquarters, 8033 Ashton Ave., McCoy Conference Room (upstairs)

Who Should Attend: All Prince William 4-H'ers (Cloverbuds, Junior 4-H'ers & Senior 4-H'ers)

[Click here to register.](#)

Learn how to create and complete a 4-H Project Record or 4-H Portfolio to record your 4-H journey! By documenting your experiences, you're learning important life skills, building your resume, and creating a memory keepsake. In order for your project to be certified for 4-H leadership applications, 4-H'ers must submit a project record by Oct 1, 2026. Attend this training to understand how to complete a project record, build a portfolio, available tools, and gather materials available at Headquarters!

PW 4-H Presentation Training



Date: October 23rd

Time: 6:30 - 8 PM

Location: PW 4-H Headquarters, 8033 Ashton Ave., McCoy Conference Room (upstairs)

Who Should Attend: All Prince William 4-H'ers (Junior & Senior 4-H'ers)

[Click here to register.](#)

Featuring special guests from Toastmaster's International who will talk to us about building our presentations skills and becoming confident public speakers! 4-H presentations are important because they build essential life skills in youth, including public speaking, communication, research, and organization, fostering confidence, poise, and self-esteem. Learn tips and tricks and find out about the opportunities to practice your skills at county contests and beyond!

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

Date: Monday, October 27th

Time: 6:30 - 8:30 PM

Location: Windy Knoll Farm

[Click here to RSVP](#). Be sure to fill out the [Outstanding Member Form-Youth](#) (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! PW 4-H Dog & Rabbit Projects



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!



CLICK HERE FOR THE OCTOBER 2025 VIRGINIA YOUTH ANIMAL SCIENCE NEWSLETTER FEATURING PW 4-H'ER WILLIAM (DANNY) SCHRANTZ AND ALSO RECOGNIZING SIERRA WIMER AT SOUTHERN REGIONALS!



PRINCE WILLIAM 4-H 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!



Who 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.



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PRINCE WILLIAM 4-H



TEENS TO BLOOM

BEYOND LEADERSHIP: OUTREACH, OPTIMISM & MINDSET



PW 4-H's BLOOM group is a monthly social and educational opportunity for teens (ages 14-19) 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.

OCTOBER MEETING

- Thursday, October 16th
- 6:30-8 PM
- PW 4-H Headquarters - McCoy Rm
- All PW 4-H Teens Ages 14-19 are invited

OCTOBER FOCUS

- Introduce 4-H Service Learning Projects
- Project Linus Community Service



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**Click here to
register.**



PRINCE
WILLIAM 4-H

4-H ADULT LEADER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Join PW 4-H Extension Agent MaryBeth Lerch for dynamic, one-hour virtual sessions designed for all 4-H adult leaders and volunteers. These interactive meetings dive into key topics like positive youth development (PYD), social-emotional learning (SEL), emotional intelligence, and problem-solving—all within the context of 4-H project work. Plus, we'll explore additional subjects based on your club's unique needs and interests. Whether you're looking to connect with fellow volunteers, deepen your understanding of youth development, or inspire tomorrow's leaders, these sessions are a valuable opportunity to grow and make a lasting impact.



4-H Positive Youth Development (PYD)

Learn how to empower young people by fostering critical life skills like leadership, problem-solving, and community engagement through hands-on projects in a safe, nurturing, and inclusive environment.

OCT
21



Youth Social Emotional Learning

Understand how to use the 4-H Thriving Model to emphasize high-quality, safe, and caring environments to help youth thrive, reach essential life goals, and achieve academic and social success.

DEC
4



Youth Emotional Intelligence

Understand a holistic approach that addresses mental health, education, employability, and character development, promoting healthy lifestyles and self-esteem in 4-H projects and activities.

FEB
5



Youth Problem Solving

By focusing on youth strengths and providing opportunities, relationships, and support, the 4-H PYD model helps young people thrive and reach their fullest potential, ultimately benefiting themselves, their families, and their communities.

APR
14



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**CLICK HERE TO JOIN
ZOOM MEETING FROM
7-8 PM**



Beyond Ready

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!



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**CLICK HERE TO RSVP
BY OCTOBER 20TH**

Virginia 4-H Curriculum Spotlight for Children Ages 1-7



Growing Up WILD

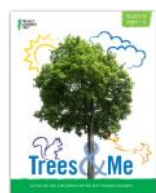
[Click here for more information.](#)

ASSOCIATION of
FISH & WILDLIFE
AGENCIES

Growing Up WILD is an early childhood education curriculum that builds on children's sense of wonder about nature and invites them to explore wildlife and the world around them. Through a wide range of activities and experiences, Growing Up WILD provides an early foundation for developing positive impressions about the natural world and lifelong social and academic skills.

Growing Up WILD is a multi-award winning curriculum having received the 2009 Family Choice Award and the 2011 Renewable Natural Resource Foundation Excellence in Journalism Award. The activity guide, Growing Up WILD: Exploring Nature with Young Children:

- Is written especially for early childhood educators of children ages 3-7.
- Features 27 field-tested, hands-on, nature-based, ready-made thematic units and over 400 experiences in a full-color activity guide.
- Includes outdoor explorations, scientific inquiry, art projects, music and movement, conservation activities, reading and math connections and "Healthy Me" extensions.
- Involves social, emotional, physical, language, and cognitive domains to help foster learning and development in all areas.
- Supports developmentally appropriate practice allowing children to learn at levels that are individually, socially, and culturally appropriate.
- Is correlated to the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Standards and the Head Start Domains



NEW! Trees & Me: Activities for Exploring Nature with Young Children

[Click here for more information.](#)

Trees & Me: Activities for Exploring Nature with Young Children includes 12 activities and more than 250 learning experiences for families and teachers to connect children ages 1-6 to nature, with a focus on trees. Through fun, indoor and outdoor activities, toddlers and preschoolers explore nature through their senses, experience trees throughout the seasons, and connect with their community. The hands-on activities are designed for families and caregivers, childcare providers, and early childhood or PreK-Grade 1 educators to use in a range of settings,

including preschools, childcare and nature centers, and at home. Special instructions tailor many experiences for children under 3 years of age.

Virginia 4-H 2026 All Stars Applications are OPEN



Who Should Apply: Virginia 4-H'ers ages 15 and up (as of January 1, 2025)

Virginia 4-H Northeast Chapter Advisor: Carly Wright carlymg@vt.edu

[Click here for the Virginia 4-H All Stars Youth Nomination Form.](#)

Virginia 4-H All Stars is the highest honor a Virginia 4-H'er can achieve. It is a service-based, volunteer-run group that gives back to 4-H and the community for life. [Click here to learn more about Virginia 4-H All Stars.](#)

Dates to Remember

Nov. 1, 2025 – Nominations Due

Various Dates by Chapter – Chapter Review in locations near Camping Centers

Early Jan. 2026 – State Review (in Goochland + virtual option)

Feb. 8, 2026 – Voting at Midwinters Conference

June 18, 2026 – Tapping Ceremony at 4-H Congress

Record Keeping - A Critical Life Skill

4-H'ers working towards becoming a Virginia 4-H All Star, record keeping is critical to success! Completing 4-H Project Records and annual 4-H Portfolios will help keep you on track. Documenting your 4-H Story takes time and attention to detail to ensure you receive full credit for your 4-H participation. If you aren't ready to apply this year, be sure to review the application, start gathering documentation, and increase your participation in 4-H. The only thing keeping you from earning this recognition is YOU. How strong is your 4-H resume?



Virginia 4-H All Stars from Prince William 4-H

1929 Janet R. Murphy
1933 Doris Bubb
1938 Margaret B. Linsey
1949 John P. Neal
1952 Martha R. Sullivan
1954 Betty R. Bruce
1955 Helen M. Hill
1956 Rebecca M. Whitlock
1957 David Cox
1960 Bernard P. O'Meara
1960 Leland W. Flora
1960 Robert L. Kidd
1961 Amelia S. Secord
1961 John W. Bartholomew
1962 Joseph H. Bowles
1963 Brenda Q. Caricofe
1963 Claudia D. Workman
1963 James Biggers
1964 Mealena J. Kidd
1965 Richard H. Sanders
1966 Clyde F. Jackson
1966 Leah F. Kidd
1967 Jerry R. Murphy
1969 Nathan K. Slate
1969 William L. Bullock
1970 Alfred D. Kidd, Jr.
1970 Nancy J. Crawford
1972 Ray C. Kidd
1974 Sally J. Mockler
1975 Debbie B. Jones
1975 Nancy J. Publicover
1975 Nancy P. Holmes
1976 A. Foster Avringer
1976 Mary R. Dawson
1977 Eddie Z. Russell
1979 Teresa R. Yancoskie
1980 Lydia J. Barrett
1980 Timothy K. Houston
1980 Wallace S. Covington, III
1982 Anne L. Wilson
1982 Elizabeth J. Thompson
1982 Eva B. Garner
1983 Betty Barrett
1983 Christa L. Richer
1983 Timothy R. Ware
1984 Christina V. Harrigan
1984 Denise N. Jacobs
1984 Helen M. Walla
1986 Karyn R. Angsten
1987 Ann M. Rostock
1989 Kari J. Seaman
1992 Dana A. Seaman
1995 Amy M. Ragan
1995 Barbara Reese
1995 Fran Seaman
1996 Therbia U. Parker, Jr.
1996 Adrianna D. Smith
1998 Christopher S. Baronavski
1998 John S. Ragan
1998 Lorissa M. Crews
1998 Patricia Redmond
1999 Carissa E. Carpenter
1999 Danielle L. LeCompte
1999 Fred Fees
1999 Kathleen M. Callahan
1999 Mary LeCompte
1999 Megan K. Scanlon
1999 Rebecca E. Gorman
1999 Renee A. LeCompte
2000 Bernard A. Malo
2000 Margaret Carpenter

2000 Stacy A. Daugherty
2000 Nikki LeCompte
2000 Kenneth Alan Sager
2001 Anita Sager
2001 Jessica M. Bass
2001 Kimberly A. Sager
2001 Kimberly D. Lueking
2001 Michele Baronavski
2002 Linda Licht
2002 Sheryl Bass
2003 Christopher S. LeCompte
2003 Derek J. Lueking
2003 Jane Wilson
2003 Megan M. Baronavski
2003 Nancy Margeson
2003 Sharon Race
2003 Sheila Lueking
2004 Karen Thompson
2005 Aaron Bailey
2005 Kimberly Bass
2005 Maria Fini
2007 Claire Berlin
2007 Elizabeth Turner
2007 Kathryn Thompson
2007 Kelly Fini
2007 Leslie-Ann Stevens
2008 Katherine Forbes
2008 Marcia Thies
2008 Patricia Turner
2009 Brandon Thies
2009 Micah Poole
2010 Abigail Poole
2010 Rose Dunn
2010 Ruthann Jones
2010 Sandra Lindner-Turner
2011 Abby E. Peach
2011 Donna Weisheit
2011 Heather A. Duncan
2011 Laura M. Lykens
2012 Alisa M. Lykens
2012 Camryn K. Kasinski
2012 Kipp C. Dunn
2012 Lee O. Turner
2012 Marissa A. Lykens
2012 Nicolas Poole
2012 Ryan M. Thies
2012 Walter Peterman
2013 Cindy Puryear
2013 Marie Lerch
2013 Michelle Leporatti
2013 Mikaela Mattes
2013 Ron Smith
2013 Sandy Arnold
2013 Troy Vigil
2014 Jason Thies
2014 Jenna Fees
2014 Libby Arnold
2015 Catherine Root
2015 David Lerch
2015 Shelby Kohn
2016 Alan Lerch
2016 Evan Thies
2016 Isabelle Warner
2016 MaryBeth Lerch
2016 Megan Kolwicz
2016 Ruby Dunn
2017 Elijah Barge
2017 Heidi Poole
2017 Maria Dunn
2017 Nikolas Morales
2017 Samuel Barge
2018 Claudia Merrill

2018 Emily Lerch
2018 Jackie Nguyen
2018 James Fees
2018 Madison Miller
2018 Matthew Arnold
2018 Nick Sarmanian
2018 Nick Walla
2018 Olivia Morales
2019 Kamryn Fyock
2019 Lydia Eskelund
2019 Nikki Seagle
2019 Trae Kohn
2019 Adam Dove
2020 Alexis Cox
2020 Erika Cox
2020 Geneva Losee
2020 Kayla Dixon
2020 Natalya Morales
2020 Samantha Whyson
2021 Samantha Seagle
2021 Anderson Nguyen
2022 Ryan Nguyen
2023 Sydney Nguyen
2024 Julia Lee
2024 Noah Richter
2024 Katie Saul
2025 Lexi Strand
2025 Cara Grahn
2025 Aiden McDonald
2025 Timothy Hirshey

VIRGINIA 4-H ALL STARS

Celebrating Over 100 Years

BECOME A VIRGINIA 4-H ALL STAR!



Ready to take your 4-H journey to the next level? Virginia 4-H All Stars is the ultimate honor for 4-H'ers who are all about leadership, service, and making a real impact in their communities.

WHAT IS A 4-H ALL STAR?

It's more than just a title - it's a recognition of your hard work, growth, and leadership in 4-H. All Stars are teens (and adults!) who've gone above and beyond to support and grow 4-H across Virginia. It's the highest honor a Virginia 4-H'er can earn!

WHY IT'S AWESOME:

As a 4-H All Star, you'll:

- ★ Lead service projects that make a difference
- ★ Help younger 4-H'ers grow their skills
- ★ Represent 4-H at the local and state level
- ★ Get access to exclusive events and scholarships
- ★ Join a network of passionate, driven leaders like you!

WHO CAN APPLY?

If you're:

- ★ Between 15 and 19 years old
- ★ Have at least 3 years of 4-H experience
- ★ Already stepping up as a leader in your club or community...

Then you're on the right track! All Stars are 4-H'ers who live the motto "Make the Best Better" by turning their knowledge into action.

TOGETHER WE SERVE

All Stars work as a team to support youth development across Virginia. Whether it's mentoring, planning events, or leading service projects, you'll be part of something bigger - and help shape the future of 4-H.

READY TO APPLY?

Check out the Virginia 4-H All Star information on [Page 10](#) and reach out to [MaryBeth Lerch](#), Prince William 4-H Extension Agent, for help with the process. This is your chance to grow your leadership, give back, and shine as a 4-H All Star!

VA 4-H Shooting Education - 7-Year Instructor Recertification



Date: November 1st

Location: Holiday Lake 4-H Center

Register through your 4-H Club. **Registration due October 18th.**

Virginia 4-H Shooting Education Instructors must be recertified every seven years. The recertification program is set up to accommodate each instructor being able to recertify in two or three disciplines on the same day. Instructors that fail to recertify will be decertified and removed from the program.

2026 Friends of the NRA (FONRA) Grant - Applications are OPEN



[Click here for Virginia 4-H Shooting Education NRA Grant Application Tip Sheet.](#)

Applications due to Crystal Graham by October 27th at noon.

Virginia 4-H Shooting Education Clubs are invited to apply for the 2026 FONA Grant to support clubs with necessary equipment to participate in shooting education. All clubs should follow the guidelines in the tip sheet linked above.



2025 State Fair of Virginia

Dates: Friday, September 26 - Sunday, October 5

Location: Meadow Event Park, Doswell, VA

[Click here for the State Fair website.](#)

The Virginia State Fair starts this weekend! This annual event features concerts, amusement rides, animal exhibits, and various food vendors...and 4-H contests!



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

Virginia 4-H Block and Bridle Equine Clinic

Date: October 11th

Time: Registration begins at 9:30 AM

Location: Alphin Stuart Arena, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg

Cost: \$10 and includes lunch

Contact: Hunter Liles at huntl97@vt.edu

Click here to register. Register by Wednesday, October 8th

The Virginia Youth Animal Science Team in partnership with the Virginia Tech Block and Bridle Club is excited to offer the Horse Judging and Hippology Clinic. This clinic will offer sessions covering various Hippology Topics, Judging Halter and some performance classes, and tackling reasons for youth of various ages and experiences levels. There is no limit to the number of youth that a Unit or Chapter may register.



Virginia 4-H Horse Ambassadors - Apply Today!

Click here for more information and application link. Applications due October 31st.

The Virginia 4-H Horse Ambassador Program application for the 2025-2026 cohort is now open. The Horse Ambassador Program utilizes senior youth who are enrolled members of 4-H to grow in their leadership skills, assist with state level events, and publicly represent the Virginia 4-H Horse Program at industry level events. This year, ambassadors attended 4-H Day at the Capitol, where they saw legislation in action and were able to visit with the VA 4-H Youth Livestock Ambassadors. They also had a visit to the Meadow Event Park for a tour of Secretariat's birthplace. Ambassadors assisted at the Block and Bridle Horse Weekend, Equismartz, State 4-H Congress, and the Rockingham Coop Equine Expo. Furthermore, youth in this program must secure volunteer hours within their unit or district in providing assistance at local events, helping to create or produce programs with their 4-H agent, or more. Applicants must submit an application and have ONE reference ([click here for reference form](#)) submitted by email to [Hunter Liles](#) prior to the deadline to be considered.



VT Block and Bridle Meat Science Career Day

Date: Saturday, October 11th

Time: Registration/Check-In begins at 9:30 AM

Location: Virginia Tech, Blacksburg

Who Should Participate: High School Juniors & Seniors (*Unit/Chapter limited to 5 participants each*)

Cost: \$25/participant, includes lunch

Click here to register.

Register by Saturday, October 4th at 5 PM

We are excited to share a new opportunity offered by our Virginia Tech Block and Bridle Club. The Block and Bridle Meat Science Career Day will be a hands-on educational workshop for High School Juniors and Seniors to interact with industry leaders and learn about career options available in the field of Meat Science. Industry Leaders from the nation's leading processors and meat marketing teams will be on hand to lead rotations. For additional information or questions, please contact [Katie Powell](#) or [Katherine Carter](#).

*****This is NOT a meat judging or evaluation clinic – the speakers and rotations will focus on careers in the Meat Science Industry and how youth can prepare for those opportunities*****

**HOSTED BY
BLOCK & BRIDLE
AT VIRGINIA TECH**

MEAT SCIENCE CAREER DAY

Join us for a hands-on, behind-the-scenes look at the meat industry! Learn from professionals from:

**SMITHFIELD FOODS
TYSON FOODS
& MORE**

- ★ Country Ham Processing
- ★ Product Development
- ★ Carcass Grading

**GET INSPIRED. GET INVOLVED.
GET A TASTE OF THE FUTURE.**

Register Now & Secure Your Spot!

High school juniors & seniors interested in meat science

**\$25
Registration
(includes lunch!)**

Virginia 4-H Youth Livestock Ambassador Program

Developing Young Leaders in Agriculture



About the Program

The Virginia 4-H Youth Livestock Ambassador program empowers youth to grow as leaders and advocates for the agriculture industry through hands-on, experiential learning. The program offers leadership development, collegiate-level animal science education, and opportunities to give back to communities.

2026 Term: December 1st, 2025 - November 30th, 2026

Applications Due: October 29th, 2025

Application Link: <https://forms.gle/1chD8taYBCkN63Ua6>

Who Can Apply?

- Active Virginia 4-H members who are 15+ as of January 1st of the current year and who are in good standing with their 4-H club and unit

Ambassador Requirements

- Submit an application by the deadline
- Attend trainings, meetings, and check-in's
- Complete 40 hours of agriculture/livestock-related service hours
- Develop and complete a project addressing a need in their community/district/state
- Be a positive role model and follow the Virginia 4-H Code of Conduct at all times

Program Leadership

Katherine Carter, Virginia Youth Animal Science Extension Specialist
carterke@vt.edu

Emmalee Edwards, Augusta County 4-H Extension Agent
eaedwards@vt.edu





STATES' 4-H INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

2026 OUTBOUND PROGRAMS

COSTA RICA · JAPAN · TAIWAN · SOUTH KOREA · ARGENTINA



OUR MISSION:

Enhancing world understanding and global citizenship through high-quality 4-H international cultural immersion and exchange programs for 4-H aged youth.

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 enrichment activities.

2026 PROGRAM DATES *

Costa Rica: June 25-July 24

Japan 8-Week: June 10-August 7

Japan 4-Week: July 8-August 7

Taiwan: July 8-August 7

South Korea: July 15-August 14

Argentina: July 11-August 3

*Program dates subject to slight change or modification.

4-H YOUTH ELIGIBILITY

- ➔ 12-18 years old for Japan 4-Week & Taiwan
- ➔ 12-18 years old for South Korea
- ➔ 15-18 years old for Costa Rica, Argentina, and Japan 8-Week

Applicant must not be in college

APPLICATION DEADLINE

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

www.states4hexchange.com
exchange@states4h.org · (206) 462-2200

Virginia Farm-to-Table Harvest Celebration



Date: Saturday, October 25

Time: 4-8 PM

Location: Sunny Slope Farm, 1825 Sunny Slope Lane, Rockingham, VA 22801

Registration Fee: General \$50 | Farmers \$30 | Children (ages 4-12): \$15 | Children (ages 0-3): Free
[Click here for more information and to register.](#)

The First Virginia Farm-to-Table Harvest Celebration is right around the corner! Come share in the season's abundance with an evening of farm-fresh food, live music, and storytelling - uplifting the people and partnerships building a healthier food system from the soil up.

This event is hosted by Virginia Cooperative Extension, the Virginia Soil Health Coalition, the VT Center for Food Systems & Community Transformation, and partners.

Your support is essential for allowing us to keep the event affordable and accessible to all and it is a great way to showcase your work as well. If your organization, agency, or business would like to financially support this educational community as a sponsor/exhibitor you can find out more in the [Exhibitor/Sponsor Form](#).

Keep Up with What's New in Food Science



Virginia
Cooperative
Extension
Virginia Tech
Virginia State University

[Click here to read the Fall 2025 FST Newsletter.](#)

In this edition, you'll find information about upcoming trainings, an introduction of the newest members of our team, and helpful links to resources and materials.

PW 4-H Young Entrepreneurs & Food Challenge participants:

grow your knowledge of the food science industry by reading this issue! Topics include kombucha, food labels, preparing food for the public and more!

VPOST - FREE STEM Toolkit



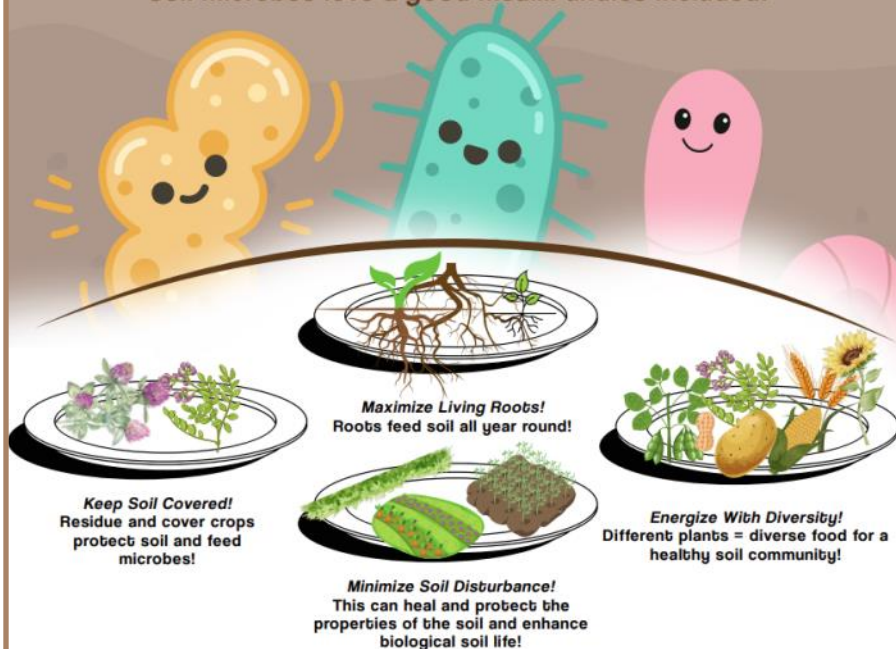
World Space Week is the perfect opportunity to spark kids' curiosity with the wonders of the cosmos while showing them how innovations in science, biotechnology, and engineering are making space exploration possible. STEM Next's

World Space Week Toolkit provides afterschool educators with engaging, hands-on activities and resources that connect youth to a wide range of STEM careers, from astronaut health and moon colony design to rockets and real-world space trades. [Click here for more info and FREE toolkit.](#)

Feed the Soil

WATCH YOUR UNDIES DISAPPEAR!

Soil microbes love a good meal... undies included!



Did you know a teaspoon of soil contains billions of microbes? Just like us, they need food—mainly carbon—to survive.

That's why 100% cotton underwear is a perfect microbial snack!

Try the Soil Your Undies Challenge: bury a pair and see how much the microbes "eat."

Results vary—soil type, moisture, temperature, and microbial diversity all matter. Even partial decomposition tells you about your soil's health.

Help your microbial friends thrive by following the four soil health principles: keep soil covered, maximize living roots, energize with diversity, and minimize soil disturbance.



2025 - 2026



PRINCE WILLIAM 4-H EVENT CALENDAR

OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
4 PW 4-H Young Entrepreneurs Market Day 5-11 National 4-H Week Proclamation at PWVC BOCs 8 PW 4-H Association Fundraising Committee Mtg 11 PW 4-H Cloverbud Club 11-12 VA 4-H Shooting Ed New Instructor Certification 14 PW 4-H Portfolio Training 16 PW 4-H Teens to BLOOM 19-25 National Character Counts Week 21 PW 4-H Club & Project Leader Professional Dev 23 PW 4-H Presentation Training 27 PW 4-H Green & Growing	1 VA 4-H Shooting Ed Instructor Re-Certification 3-4 PW 4-H No School November Sewing SPIN Club 6 PW 4-H Engage Locally 8 PW 4-H Cloverbud Club 12 PW 4-H Association Meeting 24 PW 4-H Officer Training & Teen Club 28-Dec 2 National 4-H Congress 28-Dec 14 TSC & 4-H Paper Clover Campaign	1 PW 4-H Embryology Registration Opens 3 PW 4-H Club & Project Leader Professional Dev 3 PW 4-H Homemade Holiday Craft Night: Teen Club, Cloverbud Club 13 Wreaths Across America Day	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	5 PW 4-H Club & Project Leader Professional Dev 10 PW 4-H Rabbit Project Kickoff 14 PW 4-H Contest Day: Presentations, Table Setting, 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	1 PW 4-H Junior Camp Reg Opens 3 PW 4-H Dog Project Kickoff 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 Champs 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 VA 4-H and FFA Meats Evaluation

APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
11 PW 4-H Cloverbud Club 14 PW 4-H Club & Project Leader Professional Dev TBD National 4-H Conference TBD VA 4-H Equinartz TBD VA 4-H Shooting Ed New Instructor Certification TBD PW 4-H Young Entrepreneurs Interest Mtg TBD PW 4-H Tree Planting TBD VA 4-H/FFA Beef Challenge, Beef Roundup, Tractor Operators Contest TBD VA 4-H State WHEP Contest TBD TSC & 4-H Paper Clover Campaign TBD VA 4-H/FFA State Poultry Evaluation Contest TBD VA 4-H Healthy Living Summit TBD VA 4-H Northeast District Contest	10 PW 4-H Cloverbud Club 12 PW 4-H Association Board & Leader Year-End Meeting TBD PW 4-H Young Entrepreneurs Workshops TBD PW 4-H Outdoor Challenge SPIN Project TBD 4-H Northeast District Food Challenge Contest	16-29 Virginia 4-H Congress 21-26 National 4-H Shooting Sports Championship 30 1st Time Junior 4-H Camper Parents' Meeting TBD PW 4-H Young Entrepreneurs Market Day TBD VA Dept of Forestry Camp Woods & Wildlife TBD VA 4-H Livestock Judging Contests	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 Southern Regionals 4-H Horse Championships TBD VA 4-H Youth Daily Field Day	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	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 SEVA Youth Livestock Shows, Livestock Skillathon, Dairymen's Contest, Dairy Goat Contest,

For more detailed information as events approach, see the newsletter at www.pwcv4.gov/4-H.



Updated 09/24/2025

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](#)



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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](#)



2025-2026 PWC 4-H Association Officers

Youth Officers

Lexi Strand, President
Tim Hirshey, Vice President
Sarah Fox, Secretary
Samantha Holmes, Treasurer
Ayden Strand, Jr Fundraising Committee Chair

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



Beyond Ready



Virginia Cooperative Extension

Virginia Tech. • Virginia State University



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