



Prince William 4-H

Our Clubs, Our Community



Upcoming Events

- 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 15** - PW 4-H Food Challenge 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)
- Oct 23** - PW 4-H Presentation Training

October 8, 2025

Happy National 4-H Week!



Yesterday afternoon, Prince William 4-H and the Prince William Virginia Cooperative Extension attended the Prince William County Board of Supervisors Meeting to celebrate 4-H with an official proclamation of 4-H Week, October 5th - 11th, 2025.



Nokesville 4-H Club President Michael and Vice President Jacklyn represented 4-H by sharing their 4-H stories highlighting the leadership, community service, and lifelong skills that 4-H builds in youth across our county, and receiving the official proclamation from the BOCS. [Click here to watch the Proclamation of 4-H Week in Prince William County](#) (beginning at the 29 min mark). We're so proud of their courage and public speaking skills, too, and demonstrating how 4-H prepares youth to be **BEYOND READY** to be the next generation of community leaders.

We hope you have a wonderful National 4-H Week! Share your 'Go Green' moment on social and tag @4-H, @Virginia4-H, @PrinceWilliam4-H, and use #4HBeyondReady #National4HWeek.

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Click to Visit



Prince William 4-H Young Entrepreneurs



Congratulations to all of our 4-H'ers who participated in the 2025 SPIN project PW 4-H Young Entrepreneurs!

We're so proud of how much you - and your businesses - have grown over this year. From product development, financial management, and marketing, to selling your products at the Manassas Park Farmers Market, you've demonstrated business skills and professionalism beyond youth your ages. You are the next generation of business leaders and we are BEYOND impressed!

Interested in joining the 2026 PW 4-H Young Entrepreneurs SPIN project? Look for information in the newsletter in early spring. All participants attend 4 planning workshops and monthly market days.

TONIGHT! 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.



THURSDAY! 4-H for Good National 4-H Challenge

LET'S SHINE A LIGHT ON THE GOOD!

Thursday, October 9th is all about celebrating the impact Prince William 4-H'ers are making in their community - and the volunteers, leaders, and mentors helping us grow. From leading service projects to lending a helping hand, we're showing what it means to be **#4HBeyondReady**.

Know someone making a difference? Or are you making change happen? Post a shoutout, share your story, and tag **@national4H** using **#National4HWeek**. Let's fill every feed with positivity and the power of 4-H!

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 PW 4-H Headquarters!

NEW DATE! PW 4-H Food Challenge Workshop

New Date: Wednesday, October 15th

Time: 6:30-8:30 PM

New Location: PW 4-H Headquarters, McCoy Room

[Click here to register.](#)

Learn knife skills and more from our special guest professional chef!

Prince William 4-H Food Challenge Workshop
with guest chef!
NEW DATE **Wednesday, October 15th**
6:30-8:30 PM

Kitchen Safety • Time-saving Tips
Culinary Techniques • Contest Rules
Nutrition • Teamwork
Public Speaking • Careers
Exciting fun with friends!

All PW 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 are invited! All youth interested in participating in 4-H Food Contests this school year are required to attend the workshop.

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

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER.](#)

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MEET NOKESVILLE 4-H CLUB

ON OCTOBER 19TH 4 - 6 P.M.

NOKESVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT
12826 MARSTELLAR DRIVE
NOKESVILLE, VA



Curious about 4-H?

Join us for a fun, hands-on meeting where you'll meet new friends, explore exciting projects, and discover how 4-H helps kids grow as leaders.

Ages 5-18 welcome with a parent/guardian.

CONTACT US:
LEADERS
SHEALYN CLINGER &
KATE POROKH

SIGN UP TO
ATTEND:
[BIT.LY/4NAB72Y](https://bit.ly/4NAB72Y)



Nokesville 4-H Club



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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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!



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: chelmiinger@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 Engage Locally - Sign Up Today!

Date: Thursday, November 6th

Time: 6-8 PM

Location: McCoart Atrium, 1 County Complex Ct., Woodbridge

Who Should Attend: ALL PW 4-H'ers from Cloverbud to I9!

[Click here to register.](#)

Engage Locally is an amazing opportunity for our youth to share their 4-H story with local leaders in Prince William. Please review the available slots and sign up!





CHARACTER COUNTS

Contests



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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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

Blankets will be donated to Inova Hospital Pediatrics Unit in Leesburg.



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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!



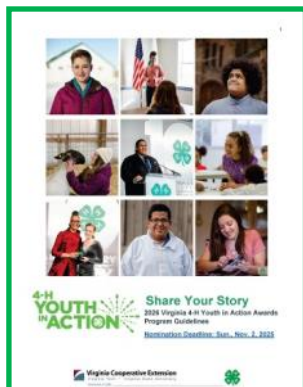
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**CLICK HERE TO RSVP
BY OCTOBER 20TH**

Virginia 4-H 2026 Youth in Action



[Click here for the VA 4-H 2026 Youth in Action Guidelines.](#)

[Click here for online application.](#) **Applications due by Sunday, November 2nd.**

Who Should Apply: ALL Prince William 4-H'ers ages 15-18 with exceptional participation in 4-H

The State 4-H Office is once again pleased to announce this exciting award opportunity for 4-H'ers across Virginia. To provide a similar system to the National 4-H Youth in Action Awards, and to encourage high quality applications for the national awards, the State 4-H Office established the Virginia 4-H Youth in Action Awards Program in 2019. The nomination process is now open for our Class of 2026 Youth in Action winners.

This year's process is similar to last year in that the youth themselves may apply directly for the award. However, they are still required to obtain a letter of reference from their Extension Agent (or the VCE professional responsible for 4-H in their Unit). We hope that this will increase participation in the program, while still ensuring that youth interact with their Extension Office.

Youth may recommend themselves for consideration in one or more of the pillar areas of Agriculture, Civic Engagement, Healthy Living, and STEM. One pillar winner will be chosen from each area. In keeping with the national award system, there will no longer be an overall winner chosen from the pillar winners. Any 4-H member in Virginia ages 15-18 is eligible to be nominated. Previous winners are not eligible, but a nominee that was not selected in a previous year may apply again (and they are encouraged to do so).

Each of the four winners will receive:

- A \$500 mini-grant to their Unit to develop a significant community project.
- Recognition at An Evening with Virginia 4-H on January 21, 2026
- A full scholarship to attend Virginia 4-H State Congress June 16-19, 2026, in Blacksburg, VA.
- An opportunity to be featured as the Virginia 4-H Youth Spokesperson for their pillar area.
- An opportunity to represent Virginia 4-H at one or more national events for their pillar area.
- Support and mentorship to apply for the 2027 National 4-H Youth in Action Awards.

Please note that all of the questions that are asked on the online submission form are contained in the guidelines.



Prince William 4-H
2021 VA 4-H YIA Winner
2021 National YIA Finalist

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 Bubbs
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.



Virginia 4-H Block and Bridle Equine Clinic

REGISTRATION DUE TODAY!

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.

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
eaeedwards@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
[\(208\) 462-2200](mailto:exchange@states4h.org)

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/.

Save the Date



October 18, 2025

10am - 3pm

Squires Student Center

hokiebugfest.org

Free Admission • Open to Public • Live Bugs • Hands-On Activities
 Exhibits from VT Labs, Local Museums, and Community Organizations
 Early opening at 9am for those with special needs (SAFE Hours)



If you are an individual with a disability and desire an accommodation, please contact Whitney Wheeler Wright at 800-221-6180 or email wright@hokiebugfest.org at least 10 business days prior to the event.

Chrysalis Development Group

10th Annual

SPOOKY MAD SCIENCE Expo

Saturday, October 18

3-7 p.m.








Patrick Henry Recreation Center (4653 Taney Ave.)
Rain Date: October 25

STEM Activities, Games, Costume contest, live DJ, Food trucks, Prizes & More!

Put on Your Costume & Join the Fun
Science on Parade Costume Contest!

For more info, visit chrysalisdg.org

The City of Alexandria's Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities (RPCA) is partnering with Chrysalis Development Group through the P&R Partnerships program to host this event.

Fall Gardening Workshop

Friday, Oct. 24 | 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Randolph Farm, 4415 River Rd, Petersburg, VA
• Space is limited to 75 participants.

The event will take place on Friday, October 24, 2025 and will involve in-class lecture in the morning at Randolph Farm pavilion, and a hands-on exercise in the afternoon at the Urban Ag. Demo site. The event is open to public.

Scan me 

Register at ext.vsu.edu/calendar

For more info, contact: **Leonard Githinji**
804.524.5962 | lgithinji@vsu.edu

VSU COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE |    @VSU_AG

Visit ext.vsu.edu for information on this and other upcoming events.

If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please call 804-524-3292 / TDD 800-628-1120 during business hours of 8 am and 5 pm to discuss accommodations five days prior to the event.
Virginia Cooperative Extension is a partnership of Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and local governments.

Virginia Cooperative Extension
Virginia Tech • Virginia State University

VSU College of Agriculture

TICKETS AVAILABLE!

Virginia Farm-to-Table Feast and Harvest Celebration

Saturday, October 25, 2025
4:00 PM – 8:00 PM
1825 Sunny Slope Lane, Rockingham, Virginia

Join us for a celebration of soil, farming, food and community!

- Tour of Sunny Slope Farm – Take a stroll & see the farm in action
- Expert Panel on Soil Health – Dig into dirt talk with our soil pros
- 4 The Soil Conversation – Join the chat about caring for our soil
- Farm to Table Harvest Dinner – Enjoy fresh farm to plate flavors
- Live Classic 60s with Bob Chew Music – Grooving all evening long

Register through the QR Code or
<https://tinyurl.com/2025VAF2THarvestCelebrationreg>
Learn more at virginiafarmtotable.org

ON SUNNY SLOPE FARM

Virginia Cooperative Extension
Farm-to-Table
LUCIEN'S CATERING
LD & B
Piedmont Environmental Council
FARM CREDIT OF THE VIRGINIA
Houff Corporation
Chesapeake Bay Foundation
GREENCOVER
On the Farm RADIO
Korth Comm
Shenandoah Valley Electric Cooperative
First Bank
JAMES RIVER EQUIPMENT
Small Farm
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
SCHOOL OF PLANT AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
VIRGINIA TECH
NORFOLK COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

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save the date!

8th Annual Prince William Native Plant Symposium

2026

Saturday, February 14

9 AM - 4 PM

FALL IN LOVE WITH NATIVE PLANTS

A Native Plant Symposium to Help you Create a Beautiful Yard, Save Time & Money, Improve Water Quality, & Build Habitat for Pollinators and Birds



Two-spotted Bumble Bee on Redbud © Judy Gallagher

Keynote Speaker:
William Cullina
F. Otto Haas Executive Director of the University of Pennsylvania's Morris Arboretum & Gardens

Program: Sugar, Sex, and Poison: Shocking Plant Secrets Caught on Camera

Registration opens mid-November
Hybrid event in person or online

Verizon Auditorium
George Mason University
10900 University Blvd.
Manassas, VA 20110

NOVA
PRINCE WILLIAM
VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
Virginia Cooperative Extension
GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

Virginia Cooperative Extension is a partnership of Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and local governments. Its programs and employment are open to all, regardless of age, color, disability, sex including pregnancy, gender, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, ethnicity or national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, or military status, or any other basis protected by law. If you are a person with a disability and desire assistance or accommodation, please notify Ashley Studholme, Prince William Conservation Alliance at (703) 490-5200 during business hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. *TDD number is (800) 828-1120.

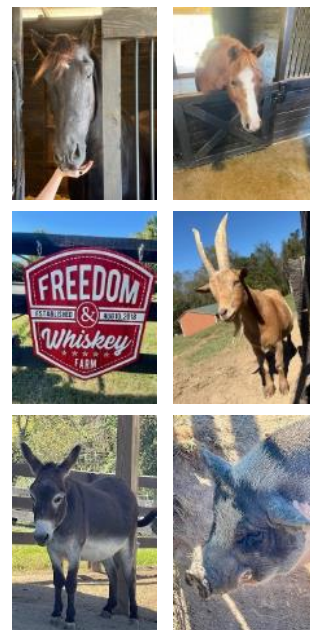
PW 4-H'ers: Ag Opportunity at Freedom & Whiskey Equine Rescue

[Website](#) | [Facebook Page with blog Whiskey Wednesdays](#) | [Donate](#) | [Volunteer](#) | [Adopt](#)

Freedom & Whiskey Equine Rescue is a local nonprofit that rescues, rehabilitates, rehomes, and when necessary, provides sanctuary for horses and donkeys. We prioritize rescuing horses from neglect, abandonment, and owner surrender situations to provide relief and needed services in and around our community.

Every year, hundreds of thousands of horses are surrendered in America. Join us on our mission to rescue, rehabilitate, and provide sanctuary for horses in need. Your support helps us create a world where every horse is valued, protected, and given the opportunity to thrive. **Get involved by adopting a horse, sponsoring a horse, or volunteering (ages 16 & up).** FYI - the farm currently has a beautiful, young dressage horse and loveable, young trail horse ready for adoption!

PRINCE WILLIAM 4-H'ERS: Wendy, the organization's president, was a 4-H'er in Texas. She often provides scheduled educational opportunities with local groups and schools and would love to get more involved with local 4-H'ers. She's very familiar with the 4-H Pillar of Agriculture and STEM, project records, and equine competitions. Animals currently on the farm include horses, donkeys, goats, and pigs. See their website for information on how to get in touch and visit the rescue farm!



Select VSU Ag Workshops & VBFRC Events

GINGER WORKSHOP AND FIELD DAY (Petersburg, VA)

October 22 | 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM | [Click here for more info and to register.](#)

This event provides an overview of basic information and research updates on ginger. Topics include sustainable field and high-tunnel ginger production, ginger seed production, integrated pest management, marketing, post-harvest handling, and the health benefits of ginger. A field tour to the field, high tunnel, and greenhouse, ginger research and demonstration on Randolph Farm will be provided. The target participants of this event are interested growers and extension educators.



AGRITOURISM 101 (Mount Jackson, VA)

October 22 | 10 AM - 12 PM | [Click here for more info and to register.](#)

Are you considering adding an agritourism venture to your farm? Learn key tips from the experts! Hosted at the lovely Cave Ridge Vineyard in Mt. Jackson, this event will feature information on marketing & promotion, managing liability, and everything in between! Featured organizations include the Virginia Tourism Corporation and Shenandoah County's Tourism and Economic Development Office.



BELLAIR FARM 2025 FALL FESTIVAL (Charlottesville, VA)

Oct 24 - 25 | 4 - 7 PM | [FREE - click here for more info](#)

Join us for our annual festival celebrating local food & agriculture! This event is FREE to attend. Enjoy Farm-to-Table Plates by Chef Bud Porter, SFG Food Wine Tastings & Sales from Dogwood & Thistle Wine Co. Live Music TBD. Family Friendly Outdoor activities, Farm Animal on View, Tractor Sitting, Barrel Train Rides ASD Talks/Workshops; Live Music by Elderberry Jam.



VSU AGRITOURISM FALL FEST (Petersburg, VA)

October 30 | 10 AM - 3 PM | [Click here for more information and to register.](#)

Join an exciting day of learning, fun, and fall festivities at the VSU College of Agriculture's Agritourism Fall Fest! Hosted at VSU Randolph Farm, this event is designed for both producers and the general public, offering a unique opportunity to explore the growing world of agritourism.



VSU Trojan Farmers Market hosted by Cooperative Extension: October 30 | 11 AM - 2 PM
Come for Farms, Friends, and Fun!!! Free Surprise Gift to the first 100 customers. Raffle Drawings every half hour. Educational Agriculture-Related Demonstrations. Open to the Public. Please note: the October VSU Trojan Farmers Market will be featured at the 2025 Agritourism Fall Fest



Virginia 4-H is Hiring!

The State 4-H Office is currently recruiting for two new positions that will help us continue to strengthen and expand 4-H programming across the Commonwealth. Both positions are open until filled.

Associate Specialist, Leadership and Teen Program Development

[Click here for more information and to apply.](#)

Virginia 4-H is seeking a visionary and collaborative professional to serve as the Associate Specialist for Leadership and Teen Program Development. This role will focus on developing and coordinating statewide leadership initiatives, including the Virginia 4-H Ambassador programs, to empower youth as confident, capable leaders. The successful candidate will design innovative experiences that foster civic engagement, personal growth, and leadership development among youth.

Associate Specialist, 4-H Program Development – Work and Life Readiness

[Click here for more information and to apply.](#)

Virginia 4-H is seeking an Associate Specialist to lead the strategic development, implementation, and integration of innovative youth programs that equip young people with the skills needed for success in life, work, and leadership. This position will play a central role in expanding the Beyond Ready initiative by designing comprehensive, research-informed program components that address career readiness, life skills, and personal development. The specialist will collaborate with Extension professionals and community partners to embed work and life readiness principles across the 4-H system, ensuring alignment with existing programs while fostering new, scalable models that meet the evolving needs of Virginia's youth.

Exciting Events Around Prince William County



PWC GOVERNMENT FALL CAREER EXPO

October 30 | 10 AM - 2 PM | [Click here for more info.](#)

Looking for your next career move? Join us at the Fall Career Expo on Oct. 30, 10 a.m.–2 p.m. at the Hylton Performing Arts Center. Meet hiring managers, explore jobs across 20+ county agencies and connect with community resources. Walk-ins welcome — no registration required!



HALLOWEEN FUN AT PRINCE WILLIAM LIBRARIES

[Click here for dates, locations, and more information.](#)

Get ready for a frightfully fun October at Prince William Public Libraries! From story time parades and pumpkin painting to pet costume contests and spooky mocktails, we've got treats (no tricks!) for the whole family — costumes, creativity and community magic included.



GHOSTS, PUMPKINS & GLOW: OCTOBER ADVENTURES WITH PWC PARKS

[Click here for adventures, dates, and locations.](#)

From ghost stories and glow fitness to pumpkin carving and haunted mini golf, Prince William County Parks has a full lineup of fall fun and spooky surprises all October long!



PRINCE WILLIAM'S HAUNTED HISTORY

[Click here for events, tickets, and information.](#)

Is Ben Lomond really haunted? Do spirits still wander Brentsville? This October, the Office of Historic Preservation invites you to explore Prince William County's haunted history—from eerie ghost stories to a breathtaking Bristoe Station Battlefield luminary tour honoring fallen soldiers. Dare to join us for a month of history, mystery and hauntingly unforgettable nights!



PWC POLICE DEPARTMENT & MANASSAS MALL TRUNK OR TREAT

[Click here for more information.](#)

October 29 | 5:30 - 8 PM | Manassas Mall-Macy's Parking Lot

Trunk or Treat is BACK at Manassas Mall! We are partnering with the Prince William County Police Department to bring you a sweet night of fun. We hope to see you there, maybe in a spooky costume !

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](#)



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](#)



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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