



CLOVER CHRONICLE



4-H MISSION

The purpose of 4-H is to foster the well-rounded development of youth, nurturing their physical, mental, moral, and social growth. It aims to help young individuals become competent, committed, and self-assured adults through; project involvement, 4-H events and various positive activities.

In 4-H, we believe in the power of young people. We see that every child has valuable strengths and real influence to improve the world around us.

CCE ONTARIO 4-H OFFICE

MONDAY - FRIDAY
8 AM - 4 PM

480 North Main St.
Canandaigua
NY 14424

cceontario.org/4-h-youth

4-HCampBristolHills.org



Follow us on Facebook!

@ontariocounty4H

Meet our Staff:

[4-H Club Staff]



Sarah Wilhelm, **4-H Resource Educator**
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Amy Pyra, **4-H Educator**
anr32@cornell.edu, ext. 429

Amelia DeVolder **4-H/Parenting
Administrative Assistant**
agd72@cornell.edu, ext. 408



CCE ONTARIO

[Association Staff]

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Cat Francese, **Facilities Coordinator**



[4-H Camp Staff]

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Cornell Cooperative Extension | Ontario County

MESSAGE FROM THE 4-H STAFF

Spring has finally Sprung!

Please look forward at registration deadlines for some new programs coming up like our **Jr. Iron Chef workshop and the Textile Evaluation/ Fashion Revue!** These programs are making a come back to our county and we are really looking forward to kicking them off with great success.

It also is never to early to be thinking about County Fair! It may only be March but July will be here sooner then you think. Pullorum Clinic date has been set to Monday June 22nd- SAVE the DATE. Anyone interested in being a Jr. Superintendent or a Teen Leader during County Fair must email Sarah at sab423@cornell.edu. The kick off meeting will be held on April 16th 5:30 at the CCE Office.

There is a big change taking place in the 4-H office... 4-H Educator Amy Pyra is moving on to an exciting new job. We will miss her talents greatly but are happy for her new opportunity and thankful that she will still be around wearing her "4-H Mom" hat! Please be patient as we navigate being down an essential team member as we gear up for fair season. We will be rehiring Amy's position AND a 4-H summer assistant so if you know anyone interested in either of these opportunities, please send them our way!

Interested in riding on the 4th of July Float for 4-H this year?

Hosted by the Junior Fair Board
-More Details to come-

SAVE the DATE!




Farewell but not
goodbye
Amy Pyra-
4-H Educator

"From Amy"

As I move onto a new opportunity, I will be stepping away from my role as a 4-H Educator.

I'm grateful for the experiences I've had and the people I've had the opportunity to work with along the way. It's been rewarding to be part of a program that supports youth, families, and our agricultural community.

I'm excited to share that I will be starting a new position with Cornell University as the Northwest Livestock and Small Farms Specialist. While I'm looking forward to this next chapter, 4-H will always remain important to me, and I'll continue to stay involved as a volunteer and 4-H mom.

Thank you to everyone who has been part of this journey—I appreciate your support and the time we've shared.

"Closing one gate, opening another—thankful for every step of the journey."



We will miss you!



Ontario County 4-H - Calendar of Events 2025-2026

(dates subject to change)



September

- 1st Labor Day- Holiday -Office CLOSED
- 13th Saturday- Annual Fall Fest/ 4-H Open House
- 16th Tuesday- Volunteer Kickoff Meeting 6-7 pm

October

- 1st - 4-H Enrollment Begins
- 5th-11th- National 4-H Week-Beyond Ready
- 10th Friday- Achievement Night Paperwork Due
- 24th Friday- Harvest Food Fest Paperwork Due
- 28th Tuesday- Achievement Night 5:30 pm at the Ontario County Fairgrounds-Carriage Barn

November

- 1st 4-H Enrollment Due
- 8th Saturday- Harvest Food Fest (PINY) 9 am
- 18-Tuesday-CCE Annual Meeting @ 5:15 PM
- 24- Monday - Livestock Auction Informational Meeting
- November 27-28 Thanksgiving Holiday - Office CLOSED*

December

- ?? Holiday Fun Day
- Dec 25- Jan 2 Winter Break - Office CLOSED*

January

- 9th Friday- Public Presentation Training 6:00 pm at CCE Office
- 14th Wednesday- Public Presentations Paperwork Due
- 15th Thursday - 1st and 2nd Year Auction Participant Meeting
- 14, 21, 28 Wednesdays Crochet Workshop Series 6:00-7:30 pm**

February

- 3rd Tuesday 6-8 pm Public Presentations
- 6th Friday 6-8 pm Public Presentations
- 7th Saturday 9 am-1:30 pm Public Presentations
- 10th SNOW DATE 6-8 pm (All at CCE Office)
- 18th Sewing Workshop**
- Tractor Safety TBD

March

- Horse Extravaganza, District Dairy Bowl, Livestock Skillathon
- Tractor Safety

April

- 11th- District Public Presentations
- 18th-24th Volunteer Appreciation Week
- 25th Jr. Iron Chef Workshop**

May

- 2nd -**Textile Evaluation & Fashion Revue**
- 21st - Horse Stall Set up**
- 24th-25th- Memorial Day Horse Clinic
- 26th-Memorial Day- Office CLOSED

June

- 1st- Horse Certificates (Blue Sheets) DUE!**
- 6th- Turkey BBQ Clinic
- ?? State Fair Information Session
- 14th - Horse Jumping Clinic
- 22nd -Pullorum Clinic
- ?? Fair Entry Worknight

July

- July 4 Independence Day-CCE Office CLOSED
- 9th- Fair Clean Up
- 21st -25th Ontario County Fair

August

- 3rd- Roseland 4-H Fun Day
- August 26-September 7- New York State Fair

TEXTILE EVALUATION & FASHION REVUE



MAY 2, 2026



Schedule: Evaluations - 9:00 AM until 10:30 AM
(must arrive by 9:30)
Time to practice walking the runway will be given after you have been evaluated

Fashion Revue - 11:00 AM
Residents and Family members are invited!

Location: Ferris Hills at West Lake;
One Ferris Hills Drive
Canandaigua, NY 14424
-Rayburn Hall-

Projects allowed to enter:

Clothing or a project that has been made from traditional fabrics, repurposed, knitted or crocheted, projects that have been made for their home such as a pillow or a quilt. **Whatever the project selected, it needs to be appropriate for the age and experience of the member**



REGISTER BY APRIL 24!

https://cornell.cal.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_88PvUc69jaQELZk

Questions, email Sarah sab423@cornell.edu or call the office 585-394-3977 ext 408



SCAN



Ontario
County



4-H JR. IRON CHEF WORKSHOP



We are excited to announce a workshop for the 4-H Jr Iron Chef contest to be held at our Ontario CCE office on **April 25th 10:00am - 1:00 pm.**

The Jr Iron Chef contest is modeled after the TV show "Chopped". In the contest, teams of 3-5 youth are provided festival food and asked to reinvent their food item into healthier and tastier recipes, using some pantry items, local foods, maybe a surprise or two, and their own culinary creativity!

This workshop will be led by volunteer leader Michele Vangalio who is experienced in coaching youth in this competition. Come join us to test your culinary skills and learn more about the contest at state fair. Joining a team for the state fair contest is not required. Anyone interested in cooking and teamwork are encouraged to attend.

Register NOW!



https://cornell.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1YP52EW1bb6iarQ

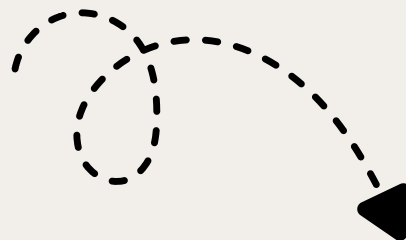
DATE
SAT. MAY 9TH
TIME
12:00-4:00 PM

"The Wild Side" 4H Club is hosting a **Plant Sale!**

Location:
Melt Ice Cream on Main
Phelps, NY

The Perfect Gift for Mom!

Garden Veggies & Annuals



POULTRY AND RABBIT SHOWMANSHIP CLINIC!

Please bring an animal to practice with.

April 10th
Poultry 6 PM

April 17th
Rabbit - 6 PM
Market Rabbit 7 PM

Questions?
Email Molly Hilderbrant at mollyhilderbrant@yahoo.com

Cloverbud County Fair

Rule Clarification

According to state 4-H policies, Cloverbuds are only permitted to bring **one animal per species** to county fair and can **only show for a cloverbud ribbon** (are not eligible for placing/championships).

If you have questions about this policy, please reach out to the 4-H office.

Save the Date



Pullorum Clinic

Monday - June 22nd
2:30-6:00 pm

Location: Ontario County Fairgrounds

All show poultry at the County Fair are required to have a proof of negative pullorum test.

Ontario County Fair 2026 - 4-H Theme

Go for the GOLD with 4-H!

CALLING ALL 4H TEENS!

WE ENCOURAGE ALL 4-H TEENS TO ATTEND THIS SESSION EVEN IF YOU ARE UNSURE

Teen Leader Program

Shorter-term fair leadership roles for 11-12 year olds as well as teens just wanting to try out a fair leadership role without committing to being a full junior superintendent.



Kick Off Meeting

APRIL 16TH AT 5:30 PM
4-H OFFICE

A GAME/PIZZA NIGHT WHERE WE WILL GIVE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROGRAM

JR SUPERINTENDENT PROGRAM

This is a program where teens serve as Junior Superintendent helpers to our fair superintendents in the various areas at fair (Exhibit Hall, Clover Creamery, Beef, Dairy, Sheep, Goat, Rabbit, Poultry, Horse).

Interested Email Sarah at sab423@cornell.edu!

Additional Meetings:

May 19th, 6PM:
How to Job Interview/Practice

June 18th
Teen Leader Training

July 9th:
Fair Clean Up

SAVE THE DATE!

HORSE STALL SET UP

MAY 21ST



SAVE THE DATE!

FAIR CLEAN-UP

JULY 9TH

5:00 PM

Please email Sarah at
sab423@cornell.edu
if you have questions or
conflicts



Ontario County Fair 2026 - 4-H Theme

Go for the **GOLD** with 4-H!



Swine Skillathon Meetings

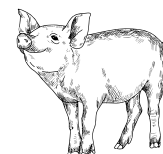
Prepare & Study for our new swine skillathon that will occur during
County Fair week- date and time TBD

Thank you Tiffany Reed- Wildside 4-H club leader for taking this task on!

2nd Thursday of the Month- 6:00-7:00 pm

- April 9th
- May 14
- June 11
- July 9

Contact Tiffany Reed if interested, tzadarlik@gmail.com





Dog Showmanship Class

Class will be focusing on all skills needed to be successful in 4-H Grooming & Handling and the Junior Showmanship ring

CLASS DATES

Wednesday Evenings





- April 22, 29
- May 6, 20

No Class May 13

All classes held at the Ontario County Fairgrounds -Carriage Barn


COST: \$20.00 per handler & dog

To join with a companion; **MUST Complete**


-  Any age 4-Her, cloverbuds must have parent handler
-  Proof of Rabies/Vaccinations
-  Signed Liability Waiver
-  Animal Registration Form

*Limited Space
Register Early!*

HOW TO REGISTER

 Email Amelia at agd72@cornell.edu

OR

 Call 585-394-3977 Ext 408



4-H NEWS

2026 District Event Results

Fingerlakes Dairy Bowl Results

Beginner Individual Awards:

- Emily Worden- Ontario County
- Maddy Reed- Ontario County
- Bennett Young- Ontario County



Beginner Team Awards:

- First Place - Ontario/Genesee County

Junior Individual Awards Top 10:

- Catherine Worden- Ontario County



Junior Team Awards:

- 2nd place Ontario/Wayne County

Senior Individual Awards Top 10:

- Ana McConnon-Ontario County
- Maryalice Busby-Ontario County



Senior Team Awards:

- Ontario/Wayne County

Horse Bowl Results:

- Novice Team: 2nd place
- Novice Individual Placings:
 - 4th place Sara Soberon
 - 5th place Kova Kuhner
 - 6th place Lucia Soberon



- Senior Team: 1st place
- Senior Individual Placings:
 - 2nd place Simon Czadzeck
 - 3rd place Elena Soberon
 - 5th place Ezekiel Czadzeck
 - 6th place Emily Cheney
- Participation: Leto Manning



Livestock Skillathon

Beginner

- 1 – Laramie Pyra
- 5- Wyatt Boyea
- Team
- Ontario

Junior

- 2-Catherine Worden
- 3-Addy Snyder
- 4-Maddy Reed
- Team
- 2-Ontario/Steuben
- 3-Ontario

Senior

- 2-Mackenzie Michaelsen
- 5-Elena Soberon
- Team
- 1-Ontario/Steuben

Hippology Results:

- Novice Team: 2nd place
- Novice Individual Placings:
 - 2nd place Kova Kuhner
 - 4th place Sara Soberon
 - 6th place Lucia Soberon

- Senior Team: 3rd place
- Senior Individual Placings:
 - 4th place Simon Czadzeck
 - 6th place Emily Cheney
 - 7th place Elena Soberon
 - 11th place Leto Manning
 - 12th place Ezekiel Czadzeck



4-H NEWS

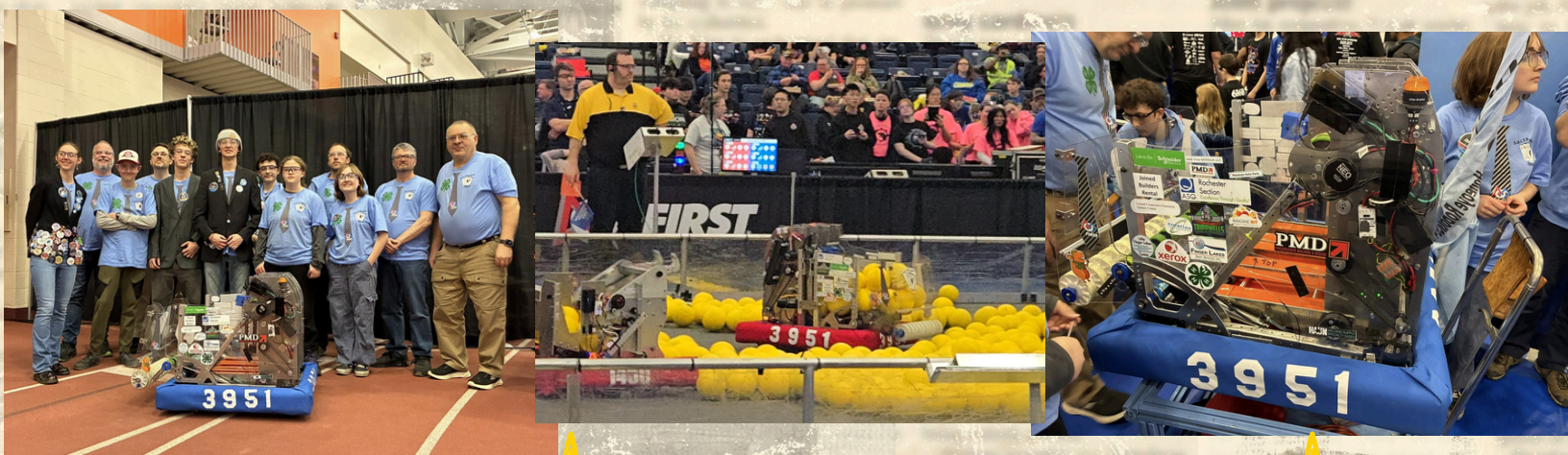
Finger Lakes Robotics *Formerly Honeoye Robotics 4-H Club

The SUITS Team 3951, Honeoye Robotics 4H Club had two exciting days, finishing with a 6 - 2 record in our qualification matches. This put us in 15th place overall. There were 54 teams at the event. A very impressive showing. We were picked by the 6th place alliance, Team 5528 from Quebec and Team 3173 from Rochester for the double elimination playoffs. After some very exciting game play our alliance finished 4th.

I am very proud of these kids. The drive team worked with the other teams to build a winning strategy for each match. The pit team worked very hard repairing damages and getting the robot ready for each match.

This robotics club is always looking or new students to join the team. Our shop is in Hemlock, but we will accept kids age 13 to 18 that don't have access to other robotics team options.

If interested, please email Mike at HoneoyeRobotics@yahoo.com



★ Leadership Experience Story ★

Emmett Smithling - Ontario County 4-Her

I have had the honor of being chosen to participate in the Animal and Agricultural Leadership Program (AAL) this year. The group focuses on visiting agricultural colleges throughout New York State. Our first trip was to Cornell where we toured the dairy facility and learned more about the other participants through Cornell's rope course. We also toured Fesko Dairy and their rotary parlor in Skaneateles. I unfortunately missed the second trip to Alfred State and Alfred University due to an FFA commitment. Our next trip we will tour SUNY Cobleskill for 2 days and get to learn about AI procedures, collection on stallions and dairy techniques.

We will also tour their dairy processing facility and hatchery!

In May we will tour our last college and be traveling to SUNY Morrisville.

If a future in agriculture is for you, check out this great program!



Email Amelia at agd72@cornell.edu before the 1st of the month to get your club news in the next Clover Chronicle!



4-H NEWS

Hens, Hares & Hooves

This month, we started our rabbit hopping practice! This fair, the goal is to showcase our furry friend's skills at the fair and do a hopping competition! We will have monthly meetings to get the bunnies comfortable with hopping and hopefully gain some skill! For one of our meetings, we got in the kitchen and made some egg based recipes with our chicken's eggs! Pack goat leader Olivia also hosted a meeting to talk about working goats that pull carts!

We are still collecting bottle tabs till the end of April!!

For any kids interested, there's some egg hunts coming up that some of our club bunnies will be at!



The Wildside 4-H Club

Our meeting was Thursday, March 26th. We:

- * Made announcements
- * Planned a fishing trip in April
- *Talked about our Plant Sale Fundraiser at Melt Ice Cream in Phelps
- *Planted flower and veggie seeds
- *Guest Speaker, Richard Lawson, talked about tips for starting seeds

-Maddox, Vice President





4-H NEWS

Spark Club

At our March meeting, which was led by 4-H mom Sarah our club members tried their woodworking skills. They made their own boot jacks.

Our members did some hand sanding, and wood burning. These boot jacks will come in handy!



Western Livestock Wranglers

The Western Livestock Wranglers had a fun March meeting led by Karen Clark. Our club tried their hand at placing their own judging classes.

To add some fun to the activity they judged M&M's, Pop Tarts, Gummies and Reese products. Everyone even tried their had at giving a set of reasons!



UPDATE



LIMITED SPACE

-RESERVE EARLY-

First 5 youth to sign up will WIN a FREE Charcoal Grill!

TURKEY BBQ

Multi County Clinic

SATURDAY JUNE 6TH FROM 10 AM - 2 PM

Held at the Ontario County Fairgrounds
2820 Co Rd 10, Canandaigua, NY 14424

Taught by state poultry leader MaryAnn Whipple and Ontario County poultry superintendent Richard Lawson

"Special Guest"

**National BBQ Champion
Gracie Dawson**

Register Here:

https://cornell.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9WvJpZ5U82nJUJ8



**Ages 12 & up
to grill**

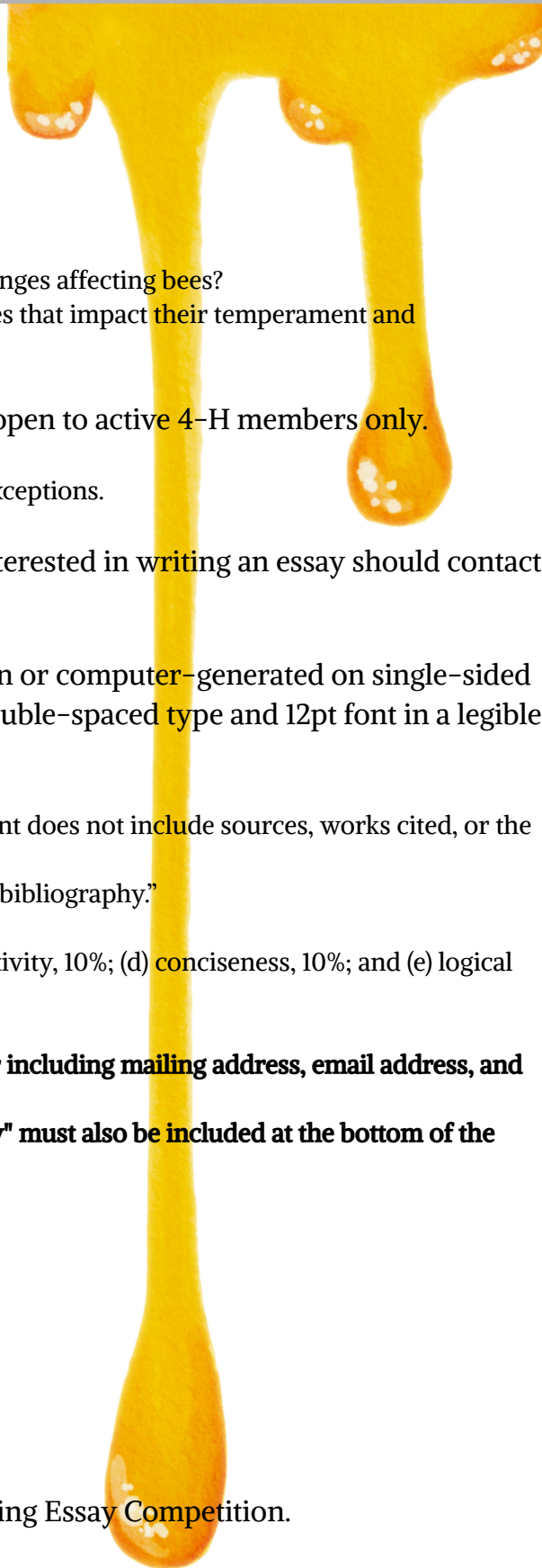
All BBQ materials and grills will be provided.

Families are asked to bring a dish to pass for lunch

Clinic will cover how to BBQ a turkey breast, how to get involved at the BBQ contest at county and state fair, and how to prepare for the presentation element of the contest

Cornell Cooperative Extension

2026 4-H Honey Bee Essay Contest - The Power of Pollen



For this essay, a 4-H student should answer these questions:

How is pollen important to bees?

Has pollen been changing in plants and in our landscapes? If so, are those changes affecting bees?

When do you observe the most and least pollen in your colonies and how does that impact their temperament and productivity?

Eligibility: The 2026 National 4-H Beekeeping Essay Competition is open to active 4-H members only.

Essays entered must encompass the designated topic only. There will be no exceptions.

Competition Rules & Essay Requirements: Any 4-H Club member interested in writing an essay should contact their local 4-H office for competition details.

Essay Requirements for National Judging: Essays must be typewritten or computer-generated on single-sided pages and formatted following standard manuscript format using double-spaced type and 12pt font in a legible font face.

Essays must encompass the designated topic in 750 to 1,000 words. Word count does not include sources, works cited, or the writer's biographical statement.

All factual statements and interview references must be cited in "sources" or "bibliography."

Essays will be judged on (a) scope of research, 40%; (b) accuracy, 30%; (c) creativity, 10%; (d) conciseness, 10%; and (e) logical development of the topic, 10%.

On a separate page, please include a brief biographical statement of the writer including mailing address, email address, and phone number.

New this year: The statement "I verify that AI was not used to create this essay" must also be included at the bottom of the essay and signed.

Entries are to be emailed or emailed by **April 20, 2026 to:**

Adam Davis afd7@cornell.edu
1201 MVR Hall
Ithaca NY 14853

Awards:

Three cash prizes will be awarded in the 2026 National 4-H Beekeeping Essay Competition.

First Prize: \$750 Second Prize: \$500 Third Prize: \$250

The three national prize-winning essays will be published in the ABF Quarterly, the magazine of the American Beekeeping Federation as well as the national trade magazines. Authors of the three prize-winning essays will be given a complimentary registration to the next

ABF annual conference. All authors of essays submitted to the national competition will receive a relevant book on honey bees, beekeeping, or honey



Double Rabbit & Cavy Youth Show

SATURDAY, APRIL 25TH, 2026

Genesee County Fairgrounds, Batavia



Entries: \$3.50 per animal per show if postmarked by April 17, 2026. \$4.50 Day of Show
 Questions: Joy Brewer (585) 356-5094 or Ashley Fahey (585) 322-3413

SAVE THE DATE - SEPTEMBER 26, 2026

Fun on the Farm



LOCATION:



Lawnhurst Farms in Stanely, NY

Congratulations for hosting this year!



2026 NYS 4-H ANIMAL CRACKERS

SATURDAY, MAY 2ND, 2026

FEATURING DOG, SWINE, EQUINE, SHEEP

AGES: 8-12

COST: \$30 PER YOUTH AND CHAPERONE

LUNCH AND TSHIRTS WILL BE PROVIDED WITH REGISTRATION!

REGISTRATION OPENS MARCH 18TH, 2026!

DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS

APRIL 22ND, 2026 (UNLESS IT FILLS BEFORE THE DEADLINE!)

CONTACT YOUR COUNTY EDUCATOR FOR REGISTRATION INFORMATION

WEBSITE: [HTTPS://CAL.S.CORNELL.EDU/NYS-4-H-ANIMAL-SCIENCE-PROGRAMS/STATE-EVENTS/PROGRAMS/ANIMAL-CRACKERS](https://cals.cornell.edu/nys-4-h-animal-science-programs/state-events/programs/animal-crackers)



 **SAVE THE DATE** 

4-H OUTDOOR ADVENTURE WEEKEND

@ 4-H Camp Bristol Hills!

Friday, September 18-Sunday, September 20

Cost: \$85

For all youth 8 and older!

Registration Opens April 1!

Backpacking
 Firebuilding
 Wild Edibles
 Aquatic Life and much much more!



Offered by: Youth Nature and Outdoor Environment Team

Cornell Cooperative Extension

Check Out this great Webinar Series!

Pastured Dairy and Beef IPM

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fii9ePz_Vu4&list=PLC307D9A62CA393C8&index=5&t=8s

Pastured cattle face ongoing challenges from external pests and internal parasites such as horn flies, face flies, ticks, and gastrointestinal worms. This webinar will explore how pasture ecosystems and the ecosystem services they provide influence pest and parasite populations, the vital role of dung beetles in breaking pest life cycles, and how integrated pest management (IPM) strategies can be used to reduce pest pressure and improve animal health and performance

Presenter: Bryony Sands, Ph.D., is an extension assistant professor and livestock IPM specialist at the University of Vermont

Dairy and Beef Cattle Internal Parasites IPM

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZlEcOLsBpZg&list=PLC307D9A62CA393C8&index=4&t=360s>

Internal parasites such as stomach worms, coccidia, liver flukes, and lungworms can affect cattle health and productivity, especially in grazing systems. This training will provide tools for monitoring parasite loads, interpreting fecal egg counts, and developing strategic deworming plans. Emphasis will be placed on integrated, data-driven approaches to control parasites while slowing the development of anthelmintic resistance.

Presenter: Bryony Sands, Ph.D., is an extension assistant professor and livestock IPM specialist at the University of Vermont

Filth Flies and Biting Insects on Horses

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4fJpYQuVI5k&list=PLC307D9A62CA393C8&index=3&t=18s>

Filth flies and biting insects are among the most common and persistent pests around horses and stables. This webinar will cover the identification, biology, and management of key species.

Presenter—Erika Machtinger, Ph.D., is an associate professor of entomology at Penn State University

Managing Ticks on Horses

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l2yf5e5XZQ8&list=PLC307D9A62CA393C8&index=2&t=50s>

Ticks are a major concern for horse owners and managers due to their role in transmitting diseases and causing irritation and blood loss. This webinar will discuss the most common tick species affecting horses, their seasonal activity and habitats. Participants will learn how to reduce tick exposure through habitat management, host protection and other integrated control tactics that minimize risk to horses and humans alike.

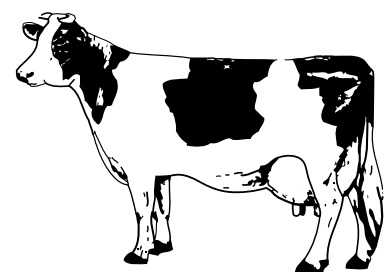
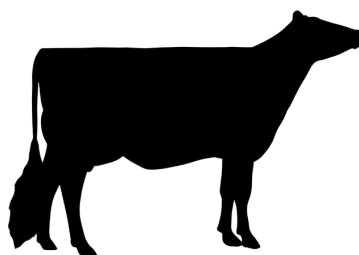
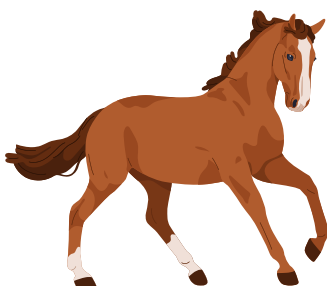
Presenter—Erika Machtinger, Ph.D., is an associate professor of entomology at Penn State University

Tick IPM and New Approaches to Fly Thresholds on Cattle.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ExHuqVBH08k&t=107s>

This webinar will explore two timely livestock IPM topics managing ticks on cattle and rethinking traditional fly thresholds. With changing tick pressures and new insights into cattle behavior and pest impacts, this session offers updated, practical guidance to help producers make more effective, evidence-based management decisions.

Presenter—Cassandra Olds, Ph.D., is a veterinary entomologist and assistant professor at Kansas State University





Splash at Cornell is a one-day event where middle and high school students are invited to Cornell's Ithaca campus to take a variety of workshop-style classes taught by Cornell students. Splash attendees can build their own schedules from a selection of 50+ classes on various subjects.



Class registration for our Spring 2026 event is open!

Our Spring 2026 event is from 10am – 5pm on Saturday, April 11th.

The \$15 registration fee includes a full day of classes, lunch, and a T-shirt!

If needed, we also offer financial aid, which you can apply for on our website. In order to register for classes for this event, students must have an existing account on our [website](#) or create a new one.

Class registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis through our [website](#). The class catalog is now available and includes a wide range of interesting and exciting classes! You can access the class catalog [here](#)!

A registration guide is available [here](#).

SAVE THE DATE!

4-H Capital Days
May 17-19, 2026

4-H Capital Days is an NYSACCE4-HE-sponsored event that gives youth an opportunity to meet and interact with legislators and tell their 4-H story

