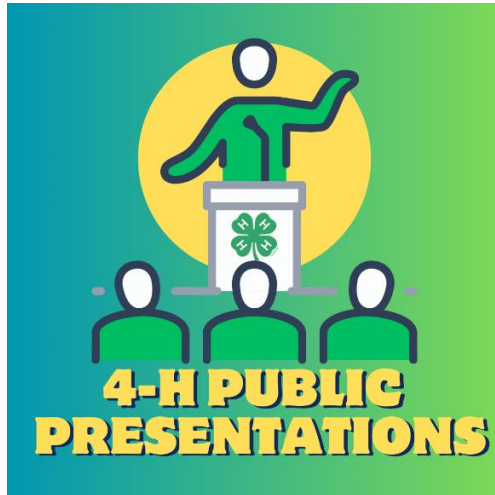




Cornell Cooperative Extension of Erie County Publication

January 2025

It's Public Presentation Season!



The purpose of the 4-H Public Presentation Program is to help youth speak confidently in front of others. Through the process of preparing and delivering a presentation, youth develop skills needed to choose a topic, research their presentation topic, organize ideas in logical order, develop visual aids, and deliver information in interesting and creative ways to impact their audience. With each public presentation, there is an increase in communication skills, self-confidence, poise, and knowledge. 4-H Public Presentations teach life skills that will be useful in young peoples' future educational, social, and career pursuits.

As youth progress and grow each year, they are challenged to try one of the more difficult types of presentations, to use more advanced technology in their presentations where appropriate, and/or to venture into unfamiliar topics or presentation styles.

Participants can choose from the following types of presentations:

- *Demonstration*: This type of presentation requires you to talk while working on something. It can be cooking, sewing, building, etc.
- *Illustrated Talk*: This is slightly more formal, using a poster or technology to help you relay your message.
- *Speech*: For the more experienced speaker, you do not use posters or technology to get your point across.
- *Dramatization/Recitation*: A fun, confidence building experience -- it is like acting only with no props.
- *Job interview*: For ages 15 and up, cover letter and resume required. Learn useful job interview skills.

Public Presentation Dates for 2025

Registration for presentations is required. Register here:

https://pub.cce.cornell.edu/event_registration/main/events_landing.cfm?event=publicpresentations2025-2-2-2_214

Thursday, February 6 from 6-8pm – Northwest Amherst Community Center

Saturday, February 8 from 9am-2pm – Beyond Learning Center (Depew)

*Thursday, February 13 from 6-8pm – Revive Wesleyan Church (McKinley Campus)

*Saturday, February 22 from 9am-2pm – Revive Wesleyan Church (McKinley Campus)

District Presentations**: Saturday, March 29 from 9am-2pm – Revive Wesleyan Church (McKinley Campus)

**Horse Communications dates*

***The top scoring Erie County 4-H presenters will be invited to move forward and present at District*

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS – RESOURCES



Resources available for youth and evaluators
on the 4-H page of our website:
erie.cce.cornell.edu

Public Presentation Workshop – Tuesday, January 21 from 5:30-8pm

This workshop provides an opportunity for youth to give a practice run of their presentation before their actual presentation in February. Volunteers will listen to your presentation and give you feedback on what you're doing well and what you can improve upon. This will be at the Roycroft Power House in East Aurora.

New this year! We invite 4-Hers who have not finished their presentation yet to come to this workshop. There will be space for you to work on your presentation and receive help and feedback from volunteers. You also may find it helpful to listen to your 4-H peers give their presentations.

Pre-registration is required. Register here:

https://pub.cce.cornell.edu/event_registration/main/events_landing.cfm?event=publicpresentationworkshop_214



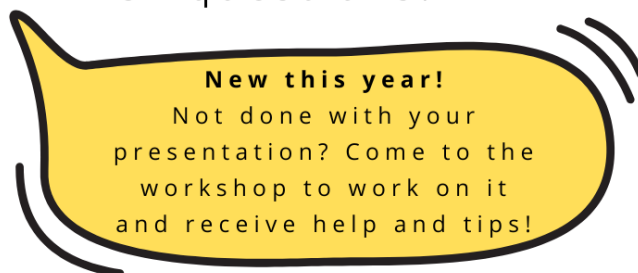
ERIE COUNTY 4-H

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS WORKSHOP



ROYCROFT POWER HOUSE IN EAST AURORA
TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2025 5:30-8PM

- Practice giving your presentation
- Receive feedback from evaluators
- Listen to other presentations
- Ask questions!



SCAN TO
REGISTER

4-Hers - We Need YOU!



Public Presentations 2025

We are looking for 4-H members who would like to learn more about public presentations while gaining *community service hours* that can be used for school or other requirements. There are a couple of roles you can fill during any of our Public Presentation Days:

- **Runner-** Carry public presentations evaluation forms from presentation rooms to the tally room (you don't actually need to "run" 😊)
- **Junior Evaluator-** Sit with evaluators and learn what they are looking for to give out "5"'s to a presenter. This may help you learn what to work on for your own presentation! This is also a great way to meet and interact with fellow 4-Hers while learning about some cool topics.
- **Junior Room Host-** Introduce a presenter to their audience and their evaluators

Youth are welcome to volunteer for a couple of hours (when they aren't giving their presentation) on the same day that they sign up to present. Youth are also welcome to sign up to help on a day that they are not presenting.

To sign-up, please indicate you'd like to help on your presentation registration online form, or email erie4H@cornell.edu



WANTED: Public Presentation Evaluators

Would you like to be involved in one of Erie County 4-H's most influential programs for youth?? Join our Public Presentations evaluator team!!

We are looking for volunteers who enjoy working with youth and are interested in helping them improve their public speaking skills. Evaluators would need to attend at least 1 presentation day (weeknight and weekend options). No experience needed- we'd love to see new faces! Training will be provided, and you can request to be paired up with an experienced evaluator.

We are also looking for a few volunteers who have experience conducting interviews!

If you would like to help our youth thrive in public presentations, please contact Tammi (tlk6@cornell.edu or 716-652-5400 x 132) to be put on an interest list.

THE ERIE COUNTY 4-H PUBLIC PRESENTATION PROGRAM

Presents



PEER EVALUATION



4-Hers 14 and up, would you like to try something NEW
this year during Public Presentations?



Photos by [Brooke Cagle](#), [Elliott Reyna](#) and [Anna Vander Stel](#) on [Unsplash](#)

What is peer evaluation?

- Peer evaluation is the opportunity for youth to observe and evaluate each other by giving presentations and providing feedback within their group.

How does it work?

- You will be in a room with three other 4-H members. All four 4-Hers (yourself included) will give their presentation to each other.
- You will complete a brief evaluation form for each presentation that you will share with your peers giving each other feedback.
- Two adult evaluators will also be in the room who will share verbal feedback and complete the regular rubric, then give you a point score to decide your ribbon color.
- This whole experience will take approximately two hours.
- There will be a required, brief pre-event virtual orientation to help you feel prepared.

Why participate?

- Get feedback directly from fellow 4-H peers, in addition to adult evaluators.
- Gain experience in evaluating and giving feedback.
- Get community service hours – since you'll be benefiting other 4-H members through your feedback, participating in this format can count toward school service hours.

How do I sign up?

On the Public Presentation registration page to select **Peer Evaluation** for either Saturdays of 4-H Public Presentation Days (Feb 8th or 22nd). The 4-H Office will follow up with you to confirm the time block of your group.

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Erie County provides equal program and employment opportunities. Accommodation for persons with special needs may be requested by contacting Sara Jablonski at 716-652-5400 ext. 142 or sej57@cornell.edu by January 22nd.

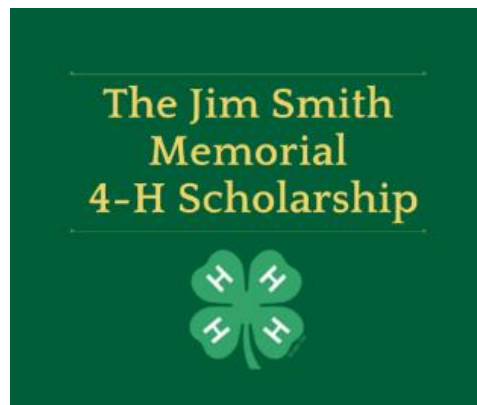
General 4-H Calendar Snapshot for 2025

- ✓ January 18 - Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Workshop – Citizen Science surveying
- ✓ January 21 – Public Presentation Practice Night
- ✓ February 6 – Public Presentation Day at Northwest Community Center, Amherst
- ✓ February 8 – Public Presentation Day at Beyond Learning Center, Depew
- ✓ February 13 – Public Presentation/Horse Communication Day at Revive Wesleyan, Hamburg
- ✓ February 22 – Public Presentation/Horse Communication Day at Revive Wesleyan, Hamburg
- ✓ March 4 – Paper Bead Workshop
- ✓ March 11 – 4-H Leader and Volunteer meeting
- ✓ March 29 – Western District Public Presentations
- ✓ May 1 – Enrollment forms for new members due
- ✓ May 18-20 – 4-H Capital Days (trip to Albany- email tlk6@cornell.edu)
- ✓ July 7 – Fair entries due online (both YDB and animal projects)
- ✓ August 2 – Youth Development Building Evaluation Day
- ✓ August 3 – YDB Set-Up Day
- ✓ August 6-17 – Erie County Fair
- ✓ August 18 – YDB Pick-Up Day
- ✓ August 20-September 1 – New York State Fair
- ✓ September 30 – Last day of 2024-25 4-H year



This list is a work in progress and will be updated in each 4-H Monthly Newsletter. Please contact Sara with any questions (sej57@cornell.edu or 716-652-5400 x 142)

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2025



Applications are now being accepted by the Erie County Extension Foundation for the Jim Smith Memorial Scholarships for those students furthering their education at college, University, technical or vocational schools. Jim was an avid supporter of 4-H youth programs and the Erie County Fair livestock auctions. Scholarships are available to 4-H or FFA graduating seniors and continuing college students registering for the Fall semester.

Several scholarships are expected to be awarded.

Deadline – April 2, 2025. For more information and applications: [4-H Scholarships and Financial Assistance Page](#)

As Scholarship opportunities become available they will be posted on our website [Erie County 4-H Scholarship Page](#)



4-H March Workshop

**Tuesday, March 4th,
6:00 to 8:00pm**

**Roycroft Power House
39 South Grove Street
East Aurora**

Do you want to learn how to make beautiful paper beads? Join us for this fun workshop to learn how!

This workshop is for 4-Hers ages 8 and up. If you're between 8 and 11, an adult is required to be present with the youth.

Please register here: https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/paperbeads_214

Please note: You must be a currently enrolled Erie County 4-H member to participate in this workshop.



4-H Leader and Volunteer Meeting

Tuesday, March 11th from 6:00-7:30pm

East Aurora Senior Center

You, our volunteers, are the heart and soul of our 4-H Program. Join us to connect with your 4-H Educators, learn tips for strengthening relationships with your 4-H members, and network with other 4-H leaders.

We would also like to feature a PROJECT SHOWCASE, showing projects that you have done in your clubs or that your youth members have completed.

We'll be sharing 4-H Program updates and tips for continuing to support your 4-H members, and you'll have the chance to network with other 4-H leaders.

This is open to all 4-H volunteers. We ask that each club send at least one leader to attend.

Register at this link: https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/2025springleadermeeting_214





January 2025 – Livestock Notes

Happy New Year! As you begin to think about your 2025 projects remember to put your skills to work, create a budget and plan out your expenses. Keep good records so that you will know what your breakeven price per pound will be, especially when speaking with potential bidders.

It's Public Presentation time – anyone showing and or selling an animal at the fair is required to participate. Be sure to check out the Public Presentation information at the beginning of this edition of the 4-H News. Details regarding dates, times, location and registration links will be found there. Registration closes soon, make sure you don't miss the opportunity.

Livestock Marketing Workshops are beginning! Mark your calendars for the following workshops as we continue to support YOU in your market strategies to secure bidders for the fair.



All 4-H members participating in the market auction are required to attend 2 out of the 3 workshops and the bidder dinner.

01 Workshop #1 - Wednesday, January 15, 2025 6:30 p.m. ←

Marketing 101 - What you need to know to prepare for a successful auction. This session is for all 1st and 2nd year auction participants.
Marketing 201 - Designed for our seasoned members who participated in the 2024 program. We will start with a reflection of what you learned and experienced and begin building to prepare you for the 2025 auction.

02 Workshop #2 - Monday, February 10, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. ←

Marketing 101 - We will focus on how to secure bidders, materials, elevator speech.
Marketing 201 - Members will experience the bidder side of the auction.

03 Workshop #3 - Thursday, March 6, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. ←

Marketing 101 - We will prepare you for the fair, what to expect, how to interact with the public and check in on your marketing strategy. You will have an opportunity to practice talking with a bidder.
Marketing 201 - You will participate in bidder interaction and conversation, further developing communication skills.

04 Bidder Dinner - Wednesday, April 9, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. ←

Wrap it up! - Put your skills to work. Youth will invite potential bidders to join them at our Bidder Dinner. The dinner is designed to allow youth and bidders to interact in an informal setting to have further conversations about their projects. A formal presentation will be given along with a question and answer session, we will wrap the evening up with a fun activity.

All workshops will take place at the Ag Discovery Center at the Erie County Fairgrounds. The Bidder Dinner will take place at the Grange Building.

Questions?? Contact Tammi Kron at tk6@cornell.edu

Livestock Dates at a Glance

January:

15 – Livestock Marketing Workshop #1 – ADC @ ECF, 6:30 p.m.
 16 – Flopper Hoppers – 6:00 p.m. – St. Paul's Lutheran Church
 21 – Public Presentation Workshop

February:

6 – Public Presentations – Northwest Community Center, Amherst
 8 – Public Presentations – Beyond Learning Center, Depew
 10 – Livestock Marketing Workshop #2- ADC @ ECF, 6:30 p.m.
 13 – Public Presentations – Revive
 18 – Poultry Meeting – 6:30 p.m. Order market birds, Power House
 20 – Flopper Hoppers – 6:00 p.m. – St. Paul's Lutheran Church
 22 - Public Presentations – Revive

March:

1 – District Dairy Bowl, Pioneer School
 6 – Livestock Marketing Workshop #3 – ADC @ ECF, 6:30 p.m.
 10 – Goat Orientation – Power House, 6:30 p.m.
 13 – Flopper Hoppers – 6:00 p.m. – St. Paul's Lutheran Church
 18 – Poultry Meeting – 6:30 p.m. Power House
 24 – Generic Meeting #1 – Zoom – 6:30 p.m. NYS Veterinarian, 2025 Health Regulations for Animals being exhibited
 29 – District Public Presentations – Revive

April:

9 – Bidder Dinner, 5 p.m. – Grange Building @ ECF
 12 – Goat Bowl, location and time TBD
 17 – Flopper Hoppers – 6:00 p.m. – St. Paul's Lutheran Church
 22 – Poultry Meeting 6:30 p.m.
 26 – NYS Dairy Bowl @ Cornell

May:

2 – Lamb, Hog and Goat Market Animal Registration paperwork due to 4-H office.
 2 – Dog License and Rabies Certificate due to the 4-H office.
 8 – Flopper Hoppers – 6:00 p.m. – St. Paul's Lutheran Church

June:

Generic Livestock Meeting #1 will be held on Monday, March 24, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. via zoom.

We will have a presentation from our new NYS Veterinarian Katelyn Card-Allen. She will be discussing all the health requirements for animals being exhibited at the fair.

This Generic meeting will earn participants a meeting credit for each species you are showing.

This meeting will bring you up to speed regarding everything you need to know about health papers, vaccinations and ear tags. Don't miss it!

A zoom link will be shared in the February 4-H News.

Livestock Interviews: Mark your calendar to attend one of the livestock interview dates to fulfil your animal show requirement. Dates they will be offered are - Tuesday, July 1, Thursday, July 17, Wednesday, July 23 and Monday, July 28. More details are coming later in the year.

Erie County Fair – August 6 - 17, 2025. Fair Entries will close on Monday, July 7, 2025.

Beef: Steer projects are officially underway. We are down about 8 from 2024, but we must remember we did say goodbye to quite a few beef members. Be sure to keep up to date with parasite control and weighing each month to be sure you are feeding the correct amount of feed to your project. Your steer should be consuming about 2-3% of his body weight in feed. Need help, reach out to a beef advisory committee member. It is much easier to get them to eat during these colder months, don't wait.

Dairy Cattle: Dairy bowl practice sessions have begun and are being held each Thursday evening, January 9, 16, 23, 30, February 6, 13, 20, 27 from 7-8:30 at the Langford Firehall under the guidance of Carl Niefergold. If you would like to be a part of dairy bowl practice sessions and participate in the contest, contact Carl Niefergold at carlniefergold1368@gmail.com for all the details. The Western District Dairy Bowl will be held on Saturday, March 1, 2025, at Pioneer school.

Goat Orientation – Dairy, Working and Meat - will be held on (Monday, March 10 at 6:30 p.m. at the Power House, 39 S. Grove Street, East Aurora 14052. Our orientation will kick off the new year and we will share changes to the program and have a fun activity. Don't forget about the marketing meetings for market goat members and be sure to register for your public presentation.

Goat Bowl: Mark your calendar for Saturday, April 12 for our goat bowl contest that will be hosted by the UGA Club. We are currently working out the details of the location, but the date is confirmed. Watch the next news for complete details.

Sheep and Swine – Livestock Marketing and Public Presentations meetings are the focus of the sheep and swine programs for right now, be sure to participate and complete your presentation registration.

Swine Orientation – Monday, March 31 at 6:30 p.m. at the Power House.

Sheep Orientation – Wednesday, April 2 at 6:30 p.m. at the Power House.

Poultry – Our first poultry meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 18 at 6:30 p.m. We will take orders for market chicken and turkey projects. Watch your email for the order form, pricing and details.

Dog - Do you have a family dog? Make it a 4-H project. The Erie County 4-H program has 2 dog clubs that are accepting new members between the ages of 5-18. The Ridge Rovers meet in Orchard Park and the Buffalo Barkers meet in Tonawanda. Our leaders do an exceptional job in offering education around grooming and handling, agility, obedience and community service projects. Contact Tammi for more information.

March Dog Madness- Saturday, March 8th, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The cost of the workshop is \$25, which includes lunch and materials. March Dog Madness is aimed at 4-H Teens, Volunteers, and Educators interested in the 4-H Dog Program. Please note that participants are not allowed to bring their own dogs; only presenters will have dogs onsite. Need more information or want to register, contact Tammi at tlk6@cornell.edu



Horse

The horse leaders have put together a great program year for you. There will be many opportunities to experience educational events, shows, community service and fundraising.

The **training show** is back for 2025. The date will be Saturday, May 31 and we are currently securing the location. Watch for more details next month.

Rider Evaluations – we are working on the dates and locations.

Horse Communications and Public Presentations: Remember if you are going to be showing at the fair, you need to participate in a public speaking opportunity. Check your email for the registration links that were sent out. Have questions, contact Tammi at tlk6@cornell.edu

Educational Opportunities: Horse Bowl and Hippology are a great way to test your knowledge of the horse industry. Members must participate in at least one event to be eligible to show at the fair.

Horse Certificates, Rabies and Coggins: All paperwork is by May 2, 2025, the NYS Veterinarian will be at our 4-H office to review everything the first week of May, please be sure I have the most updated and correct paperwork for her to review.

NYS Contests at NYS Fair have been changed from Sunday to Saturday – please make note of this for 2025.

There is also a new show schedule, perhaps you want to show at the NY State Fair?

Tuesday, Aug. 19 - Move in Day for English
Wed. Aug. 20 - All Over Fence Classes
Thurs. Aug. 21 - Remaining English Flat classes
Friday Aug. 22 - English Dressage
Sat. Aug. 23 - Educational Day: Hippology & Horse Judging
Sunday, Aug. 24 - Western classes
Monday, Aug. 25 - Western classes
Tuesday, Aug. 26 - Western dressage, fun/mixer activities in the afternoon
Wed. Aug. 27 - Ranch classes
Thurs., Aug. 28 - Ranch classes
Friday, Aug. 29 - Driving & Miniature In-hand classes
Sat., Aug. 30 - Drill/Parade/Mounted Games
Sunday, Aug. 31 - Gymkhana
Monday, Sept. 1 - Gymkhana

Rabbit – Flopper Hopper Rabbit club meetings will be held on a Thursday of each month beginning on January 16, 2025. (2/20, 3/13, 4/17, 5/18 and June, TBD) Meetings will be held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 53 W Falls Rd, West Falls, NY 14170 from 6-7:30 p.m. Youth are asked to bring paper and pen and your bunny to all meetings except for April. The Flopper Hopper meetings are open to all rabbit exhibitors. Market rabbit participants, please be sure to attend at least 2 Flopper Hopper meetings to be eligible to show and sell at the fair.

Horse Opportunities at a Glance

January:

18 – Horse Bowl, Registration at 9:30 am with the contest to begin at 10 am at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 53 W Falls Rd, West Falls, NY 14170

February:

1 – Horse Judging at Alfred

13 – Horse Communications and Public Presentations at Revive

22 – Horse Communications and Public Presentations at Revive

March:

8 – County Hippology, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, West Falls, 10 a.m.

22 – Regional Horse Bowl – Niagara County CCE

29 – Regional Horse Communications, at Revive along with District Public Presentations

April:

5 – State Horse Bowl – Cornell

6 - Model Horse Showing project

26 - Regional Hippology, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, West Falls, 10 a.m.

April – Evaluations, date to be determined

May:

Evaluations – to be determined

31 – Training Show – location TBA

17 - State Horse Communications – Cornell

June:

23 – Mandatory Fair Meeting - zoom

14 – Sardinia Saddlers Show

28 – TriColor Equestrian Show

July:

July 7 – Erie County Fair Entries due

July 19 – Hillside Riders Show

July 26 – Wild Wind Riders Show

August:

10-13 - Erie County Fair

23 – NYS Hippology and Horse Judging contests at NYS Fair (note this is a Saturday)





NYS 4-H LIVESTOCK

2025 NYS 4-H LIVESTOCK SUMMIT

JANUARY 29TH TO FEBRUARY 26TH @ 7 P.M. VIA
ZOOM

- January 29th - Selection of your 4-H Project Animal.
Seth Ebert- Ohio State ATI Judging Coach and Animal Science Professor
- February 5th - Getting there Safely, Trailering 101!
Jonathon Lippert, Lippert Trucking
- February 12th - Sheep and Goat Management Strategies!
Jessica Waltemyer, NYS Small Ruminant Extension Specialist
- February 19th - Tic(S) Tock: Increasing Risk of Ticks on Livestock
Joellen Lampman-IPM Extension Support Specialist
- February 26th - Beef 101- Keys to Raising your Beef Project
Adam Murray- NYS Extension Beef Specialist



To Register scan or visit link below:

<https://cornell.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUufumqrToiGNKOI5vnuKd3vnHnin8dNPmW>

For more information contact Brian Aukema at
bj14@cornell.edu

Erie County Livestock members, if you participate in any of these workshops, submit a short report about what you learned and you will receive an extra 50 points towards your project score for the species you select. I am not counting these as species specific meetings as we want you to participate in the meetings our program offers. Participation in this zoom option is worth 50 extra points; in your report you will say which **one** species you want the points to go to. Reports are due within 5 business days of the workshop – that would be by the following Wednesday.

Here is the registration link: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](https://cornell.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUufumqrToiGNKOI5vnuKd3vnHnin8dNPmW)



Youth Citizen Scientists Needed Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Surveying!

Saturday, January 18, 9:30 am-12 pm

Emery Park- 2084 Emery Road

South Wales, NY 14139

Location to be shared after registration

The Eastern Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*) is an important tree species considered valuable to our local ecosystems. These trees provide stream habitat for trout species, create habitat for countless native plant and animal species, and their presence enhances outdoor recreation experiences. Unfortunately, these majestic trees are under attack from the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA), an invasive, aphid-like insect who attacks the tree by attaching itself at the base of a needle. HWA multiply quickly and when too many HWA attack a hemlock tree, the tree will die, usually in 4-7 years.

Engaged citizen scientists are important to detect HWA and help to slow the spread of this insect and preserve hemlock forests. The early detection of emerging infestations allows appropriate management actions to be taken. We need help from volunteers like you and your family!

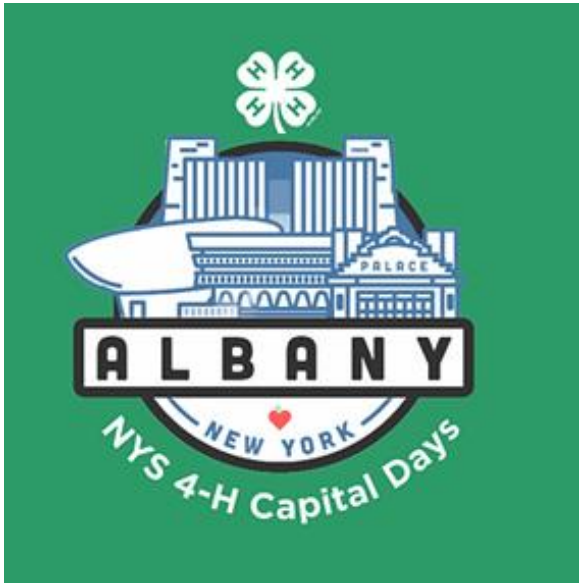


We will start indoors to learn about hemlock trees, HWA, and invasive species reporting tools before heading outside to look for them in the park.

Please register in advance at

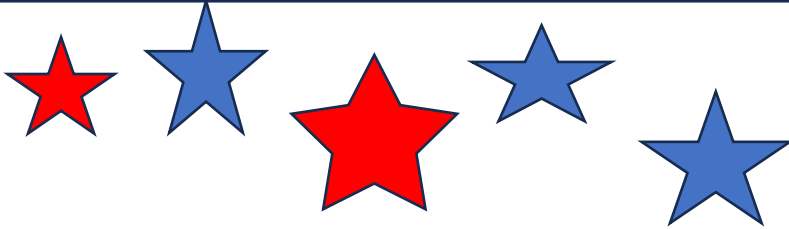
https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/CCEERIEHWASurvey_214

Attendees are encouraged to dress appropriately for the weather. Wear warm layers and sturdy footwear.



NYS 4-H Capital Days May 18-20, 2025 Who wants to learn about and experience our New York State government firsthand?

NYS 4-H Capital Days is open to all youth grades 9-12. We will spend 2 full days at your NYS Capital experiencing the Assembly, Senate, Court of Appeals, and many state agencies (Dept of Ag, Education, Health, DMV, Parks and Recreation, Corrections), learning about career opportunities and how a bill becomes a law along with time to meet with your legislature and senator and work with other 4-H members from across the state. Applications are due by January 31, 2025, and can be found on our website. Interested? Apply today! Contact Tammi at tlk6@cornell.edu with any questions.



Calling all 6th, 7th, and 8th Graders:

How can you make a difference in your community?



Start with an essay to the 2025 National Civics Bee®!

The National Civics Bee is a nationwide competition to encourage youth to contribute. Now NYS 4-H officially has a partnership with them!

Essays are due on **February 4, 2025**, and winners will be announced shortly after on **February 14, 2025**.

To submit an essay, you will have to create an account by following this link:

https://my.reviewr.com/NationalCivicsBee/site/NationalCivicsBee2025;jsessionid=14BA7F336136046F0AA8D3A44ACACCA6.2a?utm_campaign=partners&utm_source=ny4h&utm_medium=promos

Student Essay Guide: <https://civics.uschamberfoundation.org/student-essay-guide/>

4-H members whose essays are selected will then compete in four designated counties (Delaware, Monroe, Orange, and Staten Island). Awards, trophies, and cash prizes will be awarded.

If a 4-H member's essay places at the regional level, they will advance to a state-level competition in Albany, NY. Winners at the state level will advance to Washington D.C. to compete in the national competition.

NEW FOR 2025 FROM THE NE REGIONAL VOLUNTEERISM TEAM



These programs are structured to offer connection, engagement, and networking for 4-H volunteers from all 11 states the Northeast Region. Zoom sessions start with "connection before content" with fun icebreaker games and conversation. The main session topic is led by experts, 4-H staff, or volunteer panelists. Volunteers work in breakout sessions to share ideas and learn from one another.

PREPARING FOR YOUTH ENGAGEMENT: January 22nd -6:30-8 pm

4-H is hands on learning! Have you ever spent hours preparing a hands-on learning experience for youth to then have it fall flat? You might be missing one key ingredient - youth engagement! Join us as we explore the key elements of youth engagement and practical strategies to move from working for youth to working with them!

BUILDING CONNECTIONS FOR SUCCESS: February 19th -6:30-8 pm

While it may seem challenging to navigate the organization and feel connected to the broader 4-H community, you have the power to make a difference. Join us to learn how dedicated 4-H volunteers have faced these challenges head-on through uplifting social gatherings, informal mentoring, and strong community connections. Enhance your leadership skills by building meaningful connections that inspire and empower.

GROWING BEYOND THE RIBBON: March 19th -6:30-8 pm

Join us to explore how the Danish System can be used as a strategy to cultivate youth who continue to grow and thrive. Take a closer look at what those colored ribbons mean and learn strategies to cultivate youth thriving by meeting youth where they are and guiding them to their next level of growth.

REGISTER NOW

www.tinyurl.com/4HNERV2025



CLUB CORNER

Marilla Lads & Lassies - CHRISTMAS IN MARILLA

By: Annalise Jorgensen, Marilla Lads and Lassies Senior Reporter

On December 14, 2024, the Marilla Lads and Lassies volunteered at “Christmas in Marilla”. The evening is an annual fun, family-friendly event full of lots of fun activities. A flavorful chili cookoff was held in the Marilla Fire Hall. Also served were cider, donuts, and pizza. The Buffalo Dance Center performed an upbeat routine for families to enjoy. Additionally, there were cards to write to veterans and cookie decorating. Outside, a scenic tractor ride transported passengers to the Marilla Community Center. At the center, event participants could get a photo with Santa and Mrs. Claus, enter into a basket raffle, make a Christmas Craft with Marilla Lads and Lassies, visit the hot cocoa bar, and get personalized balloon art. Food trucks sold refreshments and the Boy Scouts served hot dogs. There were toasty s’mores to be warmed over the open fire. A live nativity scene was presented. Everyone should make a visit to the Marilla Historical Society for one-of-a-kind presents. Overall, Christmas in Marilla was a very enjoyable time for everyone who attended!



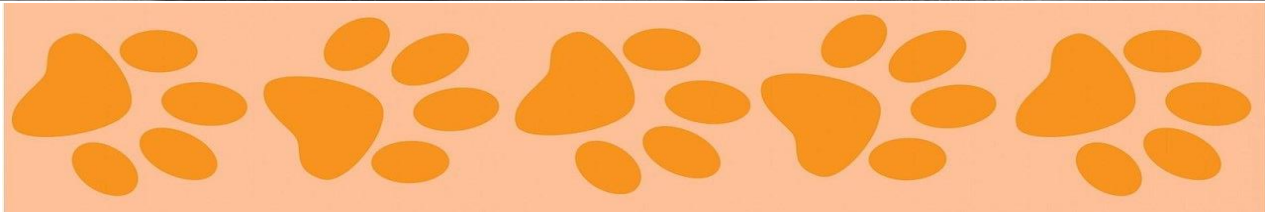
Buffalo Barkers



Buffalo Barkers continued



Just a few more pictures of some of the activities/training/meetings from the Buffalo Barkers 4-H Dog Club!





LAST CHANCE!

Glads For 4-Hers Project

Every year the Western New York Gladiolus Society sponsors the Glads for 4-Hers program. They provide 4-Hers with gladiolus bulbs to plant and grow. Members learn how to plant and care for the Glads under the direction of Meredith and Sally Hudson.

The 2025 workshop will held East Aurora, *(tentatively scheduled for late April, 2025)*. BULBS will be handed out at that meeting. In return for the Society’s sponsorship, 4-Hers are encouraged to exhibit their project at the Erie County Fair.

First year participants will be required to pay \$5.00 for their first package (25 bulbs).

Returning members of the program may purchase packages(25 bulbs) for \$10.00 each.

If you are interested in participating, please complete the form, enclose your payment & mail it to:

CCE Erie County4-H Program – Glads for 4-Hers Program,
21 South Grove Street, Suite 300, East Aurora, NY 14052

Space is limited so please return your enrollment form AND payment – **no later than January 21, 2025.**
Bulbs will not be ordered unless your form and payment are received by this due date.

Please return the form below with your payment- **One for each 4-H participant**



Name _____ Email _____

Address _____

Town/City _____ Zip _____,

I have enrolled/ re-enrolled in 4-H for 2024: _____ Yes _____ No *(If no, you need to enroll in order to participate.)*

I AM A CLOVERBUD (age 5-7) Check one:: _____ Yes _____ No

_____ This is my first year participating in Glads for 4-H- enclosed is \$5 for my first year package of bulbs. Checks “CCE of Erie County” (Please note: If you sign up as a first- year participant and fail to pick up your bulbs, you still will be considered a returning participant for the following year.)

_____ I request _____ Package(s) of bulbs at \$10/each (25 bulbs per package). Checks “CCE of Erie County”

OR

_____ I DO NOT need any more bulbs. I will use bulbs from my prior Glads for 4-H program years for this year’s project.

_____ I have participated in *Glads for 4-H* previously- list all years: _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

RETURN THIS PORTION WITH YOUR PAYMENT *(if applicable)* to:

Erie County 4-H Office
21 South Grove Street, Suite 300
East Aurora, NY 14052
erie4h@cornell.edu

Return this form by January 21, 2025 if you wish to participate