

MINNESOTA 4-H CLOVER UPDATE

MOWER COUNTY 4-H

October 2019



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA | EXTENSION

Haunted House - Event

Join us for Halloween Fun!

Mower County 4-H Ambassadors will be hosting the Haunted House

Friday, October 25

6:30-9:30 pm

4-H Building

Cost is \$5 per person or \$20 family max.

This event is open to the public. Members in grade 6 and up and adults are invited to help with this event. Please call the Extension Office with any questions.

CONTACT US

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Mower County 4-H Mission Statement

Mower County 4-H will provide a fun learning and growing environment for youth and adults, by promoting traditions both old and new.

Fall is an excellent time to recruit new members!

Going back to school. Harvest time. Colorful falling leaves. Corn mazes, mums, pumpkins, scarecrows are all signals of the fall season. Not only is fall a beautiful time of year, it is an excellent time to join the 4-H program because fall marks the beginning of a new 4-H year. So as the leaves begin to change and the temperatures cool, please encourage others to join Mower County 4-H this fall!

Online enrollment for the 2019-2020 4-H Year

Enrollment for the new 4-H year is open and Minnesota 4-H families are reminded to enroll/re-enroll both youth members and adult volunteers. The process is quick and easy. Re-enrolling early ensures that critical communications will be received, especially as it relates to deadlines and project specific information. Detailed information about online enrollment and re-enrollment is available at www.4-H.umn.edu/4honline.

As part of enrolling or re-enrolling, youth, their parents and adult volunteers will all be agreeing to the Minnesota 4-H Code of Conduct, which is available for review in its entirety, along with other policy and authorization statements at www.4-H.umn.edu/policy or by contacting your local Extension office.

As a reminder, you must be re-enrolled by in 4-H to participate in a 4-H events, hold club offices and participate at the County Fair.

New title for local 4-H staff

Minnesota 4-H announces a title change for 4-H staff.

Beginning **Sept. 30**, local 4-H staff will have a new title: Extension educators, 4-H youth development. Under this new title they will continue to lead local 4-H programs, investing in the lives of young people and the adult volunteers who learn alongside them. I'm pleased to announce this change, which recognizes the high-quality leadership 4-H staff contribute to positive youth development throughout our state.

Regional FALL Outing

Register to come on the 4-H Regional Fall Outing on **October 17!** Regional Outings include learning, activities, and meeting new and old friends. For this outing, we will be going to Montgomery Orchards and Corn Maze, Bongards Creameries, Unhinged Pizza, and Scream Town. This event is for 4-Hers in 7th grade and above unless accompanied by a parent.

The registration fee is \$50—Mower County 4-H scholarships 70% of that. Transportation is provided from Albert Lea. For more information or to register, please visit the Mower County Extension [website](#) or call the Extension Office.

2019-2020 Shooting Sports Season

As the new year for Shooting Sports and Wildlife kicks off soon, we want to make you aware of a few updates to the program.

First, the Parental Consent Form (found here: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1S_rEHLzGdRF9do2H3YsYHGwSxCNxcAE9PKZXF1W6ygI/edit) **AND** the registration fee are both **due to the Extension Office by October 11**. 4-Hers **will not** be able to shoot until both have been turned in.

The registration fees for the 2019-2020 year are as follows:

- \$30 base fee for all participants
- An additional \$10 for each powder burning discipline (shotgun, .22 rifle, and muzzle loader) in which you wish to participate

- Shotgun shooters must provide their own shells.

Second, if there is not at least 2 adults present at practice for any discipline youth will be sent home and unable to practice. Minnesota 4-H requires at least 2 adults present during all 4-H events to keep youth safe. To read more on the safety policy, please see here: <https://sites.google.com/umn.edu/4-h-volunteer/keep-youth-safe>.

Due to growing numbers in the Shooting Sports and Wildlife program and for the safety of all involved, we are looking for more adults to be certified in disciplines, particularly in shotgun. If we are unable to find additional help, shotgun will no longer be offered starting Fall 2020. If you or someone you know is interested in working with young people in this discipline, please reach out to Paul or the Extension Office.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask. Thank you!

Project Bowl

Project Bowl season is right around the corner! The second most attended event during the 4-H year is the Project Bowl competition. Patterned after the golden-oldie television show "College Bowl", it challenges teams of 3-6 youth on their knowledge of 4-H project areas: Dairy, Dog, General Livestock, Horse, Poultry, Rabbit and Wildlife.

There are four Regional Project Bowls (each team only has to attend one regional event), followed by the State Project Bowl. Each has two divisions: Junior (grades 3 - 8) and Senior (grades 4 - 4-H graduation). Regional winners advance to the State Project Bowl and state winners in dairy, general livestock, horse, and poultry go on to national contests.

Please contact the Extension Office if you are interested in any of the Project Bowl areas!

Get your friends together, recruit a coach, study hard, and most of all HAVE FUN during the Project season!

National 4-H Week

National 4-H Week is October 6-12. You are encouraged to show off your 4-H spirit throughout the week and promote your club. Each club and 4-H member should do something to promote 4-H and recruit new members, making the public aware of the benefits of 4-H. Here are some ideas of what you can do:

- Wear 4-H t-shirt to school or work during that week.
- Invite local newspapers to do a feature story on your club or 4-H family. Write a feature story and submit it to the newspaper. Write a letter to the editor.
- Make a window display or bulletin board for local businesses.
- Invite friends to come to your club meeting.
- Visit classrooms at school and pass out fliers to students.
- Talk to your Commissioners and leaders of the importance of 4-H in our local area.
- Include 4-H information in a church or community bulletin.

Annual Volunteer Training

Our 4-H'ers may know each other, but are they really connected? Powerful things happen for youth when they're in a positive relationship with caring adults. Those relationships lead to a greater sense of confidence, competence, character and caring for young people.

LET'S BUILD 4-H SEL SKILLS!

Save the date to join us at "Building 4-H Social Emotional Learning Skills", the 2019 4-H Annual Volunteer Training on **Tuesday, November 5, 6:30pm, in the 4-H Building at the Mower County fairgrounds.**

You'll leave with new knowledge and an action plan to build and strengthen SEL skill-building in 4-H. SEL is a process for learning skills that help youth navigate life.

The statewide volunteer training is for all 4-H youth and adult volunteers in clubs, county and tribal programs, including project development committees, federations, leader's councils and others groups. At least one volunteer from each club, program or group must plan on attending, but volunteers are encouraged to come as a team of youth and adults.

Join us for Cloverbud Kickoff!

Our first Cloverbud meeting will be held on **November 16 at the 4-H Building from 10-11 am.** We will discuss our plan for the year, play a game, make a craft, and have snacks.

Cloverbuds (grades K-2) are welcome to come and participate in a variety of exploratory activities throughout the year. Cloverbud events are usually held once a month. Be on the lookout for more details each month.

Mark your Calendar for the 2019 4-H Banquet

We would like to invite you to mark your calendar for the annual Mower County 4-H Banquet! It will be held on **November 12th at 6:30 pm** at the Sacred Heart Church in Adams.

There are many awards and scholarships available check out the [webpage](#) for more details and applications..

Tickets are on sale now and available at the Mower County Extension Office until Oct. 24th. After that they will go up. Prices are as follows, **Adults \$10, Students \$8, after Oct. 24th or at door \$12.** Payment is at time of purchase.

All records, applications, nominations and ticket purchases are Due October 24th

It's 4-H Record Time!

Everyone likes to sit back and relax after fair, but projects aren't REALLY done until the record is complete, too. Today, 4-H records are meant to be a way of reflecting on what you have learned and done in 4-H, and a way to save great memories for the years to come. Records can be found online and typed up, or filled in

by hand with copies received from the Extension Office. Visit <http://www3.extension.umn.edu/county/mower/4-h/article/mower-county-4-h-records> to download copies of the Mower County Record forms.

Record Judging

We will be judging records on October 28th at the Extension Office at 6:30 pm. Each club that has records to be judged will need to provide two judges. Records must be received in the office on October 24th. You can find records under the downloads at <http://www3.extension.umn.edu/county/mower/4-h>

Club Charter Deadline

Club Charters are due to the Extension office by October 24th. The club charter is an important process in keeping the active status of your club. Club leaders should contact April with any questions.

Regional Officer Training

If you are elected to a club or county officer position, or are stepping in to a new club leader role, Regional Officer Training is for YOU!

- **DATE** - Saturday, November 23, 2019
- **TIME** - 9 am to 12 Noon
- **LOCATION** - St. John's Lutheran Church 1301 Lincoln AVE SE, Owatonna MN 55060

You will grow in your knowledge of your new position. You will have the opportunity to meet other leaders from other counties. This event is for experienced officers and leaders as well as beginners. Officer break out workshops will include President/Vice President, Secretary, Reporter/Historian, Treasurer, Recreation/Youth Leader, and Adult Leader.

Register ONLINE at <https://z.umn.edu/officertaining2019> or print & return the form to Extension Office **by November 15**

Severe Weather Reminder

As the weather changes, we would like to remind you that all 4-H county meetings will be postponed or

cancelled if there is threatening weather. We will do our best to cancel/postpone meetings as soon as we can before their scheduled start time. Announcements will be made on KAUS Radio, by email and our Facebook page. Remember that weather conditions do vary from one side of the county to the other, so please use your own judgment in deciding if traveling is safe for your kids and family. We always welcome your calls if you are concerned about the weather and we will do our best to inform you well in advance of any cancellations.

STATEWIDE ARTICLES

It's time to enroll!

Sept. 14 marks the beginning of a new enrollment year for both new and returning 4-H families – enroll today!

Coming Nov. 1: 4-H agronomy opportunities

Attention 4-H members! Discover new 4-H agronomy opportunities beginning Nov. 1 -- and keep checking Clover Update for exciting new opportunities coming to this program!

Check out our revamped Minnesota 4-H website

Improvements to the Extension 4-H website are being rolled out this month.

Use the Cloverbud information sheet to determine age appropriate activities

The 4-H Cloverbud program supports the positive development of 4-H members in kindergarten – 2nd grade. Use the resource in this article to ensure the activities for this group are age appropriate and follow the safety measures and policies described.

Keep youth safe when participating in 4-H programs

The beginning of the 4-H year is an important time to plan for risk and keeping youth safe as they participate in a variety of programs, activities, and events. Use these tools to help volunteers plan their programs.

Nominate a 4-H volunteer for a 2020 Salute to Excellence Award

Volunteers give much to the 4-H program! Consider nominating an outstanding volunteer for a 2020 4-H Salute to Excellence Award. All nomination materials are due by Sept. 30.