

Cass County *4-H Clover Connection *January 2025



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Upcoming Dates - Mark your Calendar

January:

- 1 – Happy Holidays, Office is Closed
- 2 – Mammals R' Us Winter Day Camp for K-2nd graders. Cass County Community Building 9am-12pm OR 1pm-4pm.
- 8 – Griswold Library Afterschool Program - Light
- 9 – Fairboard meeting 7pm
- 15 – Anita Library Afterschool Program - Light
- 19 – Resume Workshop 4pm-5pm
- 19 – Youth Council Meeting 5pm-6:30pm
- 26 – SOFA planning Committee Meeting 1pm at Adair Extension
- 28 – YAC meeting 5pm
- 31 – Market Beef Identification Help 8:00am-4:30pm

February:

- 1 – **Market Beef Identification DEADLINE 11:59pm online to be eligible to exhibit Market animals at County or State Fair.**
- 6 – Fairboard meeting 7pm
- 12 – Griswold Library Afterschool Program - Colors
- 15 – Regional County 4-H Youth Council Leadership Retreat 3-7pm
- 19 – Anita Library Afterschool Program - Colors
- 23 – SOFA Planning Committee Meeting 1pm at Cass Extension

March:

- 6 – Fairboard meeting 7pm
- 7 – **Endowment Silent Auction Items to Extension Office**
- 7 – “Pop-in” County Wide 4-H meeting TBD
- 11 – Office Closed – Professional Development
- 12 – **Deadline to register for Nature Detectives in Griswold**
- 13 – Annual Cass County 4-H Endowment Pancake Supper & Silent Auction 4:30-7:30pm
- 16 – Youth Council Meeting 5pm-6:30pm
- 19 – Nature Detectives Winter Day Camp for 3-5th graders. Griswold Community Building 9am-4pm. Register online or in person
- 20 – **Deadline to register for Nature Detectives in Atlantic**
- 23 – SOFA Planning Committee Meeting 1pm at Adair Extension
- 25 – Interactive In-person YQCA Training 6pm-8pm
- 27 – Nature Detectives Winter Day Camp for 3-5th graders. Cass County Community Building 9am-4pm. Register online or in person

JANUARY 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31 Extension Office Closes at Noon	1 Office Closed - Holiday	2 Mammals R'Us Winter Day Camp 9am-12pm OR 1-4pm Cass County Community Building	3	4
5	6	7	8 Griswold Library Program afterschool	9 Fairboard 7pm	10	11
12	13	14	15 Anita Library Program afterschool Extension Council 7pm	16	17	18
19 Resume & Cover Letter Workshop 4-5pm Youth Council Meeting 5-6:30pm	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 SOFA Planning Committee Meeting at Adair County Extension 1pm	27	28 Youth Action Committee 5:30pm	29	30	31 Beef Identification help 8am-4:30pm at Cass County Extension Office	1 Market Beef Identificaion DUE before 11:59pm

DEADLINE

FEBRUARY 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 Deadline to Identify Market Beef online
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 Griswold Library Program afterschool	13 Fairboard 7pm	14 HyLine order due to Poultry Superintendent	15 Youth Council Region Retreat 3-7pm
16	17	18	19 Anita Library Program afterschool Extension Council 7pm	20	21	22
23 SOFA Planning Committee Meeting at Cass County Extension 1pm	24	25	26	27	28	1

DEADLINE



Graduate and Alumni Scholarships Dec 1-March 25

Iowa 4-H Foundation Scholarship applications opened on December 1. Applications are due at midnight on March 1, 2025. Check out the [Iowa 4-H Foundation scholarship page](#) for applications, lists of scholarships and helpful hints! The various scholarship awards range in amounts from \$250 to \$4,000. Scholarships are available to students' pursuing degrees in art, agriculture, food and nutrition, ag business, animal science, journalism, and STEM-related studies. Others are open to any field of study. Graduating high school seniors or 4-H alum currently attending college are eligible applicants.

Consider attending the Resume Workshop on Sunday, January 19th from 4-5pm at the Cass County Extension Office to help get you started!

Youth Action Committee looking for active volunteers

Are you interested in continuing to make the best better and improve Cass County 4-H programming? Do you enjoy developing and sharing your leadership skills and experiences? YAC organizes county-wide activities such as banner club, fall fest, record book awards, county convention, and other county-wide events/meetings and reviews club t-shirt designs for uniform approval.

Parents, leaders, or youth members may join throughout the program year. **Reach out to Katie if you are interesting at kbateman@iastate.edu or 712-243-1132.**

Resume Workshop

Have you started to put together a resume? Need help? We can help with that on Sunday, January 19th from 4-5pm at the Cass County Extension Office. We will look at templates and examples of resumes and cover letters to help you make the best decision to fit your style.

Members in 9-12th grade considering applying for State Recognition Opportunities are encouraged to attend. There will be examples of past member applications. Applications for all of these include a resume and cover letter stating your involvement in the area of interest. Record books are not sent or submitted in the application process. Find out more about these opportunities online: www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/recognition-opportunities

Seniors (12th graders) and alumni can apply for Iowa 4-H Foundation Scholarships. A resume is needed for that as well! Start your application process at this workshop so you can start navigating the system and find what you can apply for. <https://www.iowa4hfoundation.org/what-we-do/funding-for-4-h-ers/scholarships>

RSVP to Katie if you plan to attend. Please bring electronic device that you plan to use for resume and applications! 712-243-1132 or kbateman@iastate.edu

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Kate Olson - Director
Katie Bateman - Youth Coordinator
Lori Anderson - Office Manager
Hallie Robinette - Youth Program Specialist



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No 4-H Volleyball in 2025

Due to recent decline in participation and a booked winter schedule, the Youth Action Committee will not host a 2025 Cass County 4-H Volleyball Tournament. Clubs are encouraged to stay active this winter on their own. Contact the office if you add or changes plans from the club program.

YQCA Training Options

4-H and FFA Members, did you know you can complete YQCA training online anytime before July 1st?! An interactive in person training will take place Tuesday, March 25th from 6-8pm at the Cass County Community Building. Sign up for that training at yqcaprogram.org! Call the office if you have questions 712-243-1132. Go to yqcaprogram.org to log-in to your profile. Complete the pre-test, training, and post-test then share a PDF copy of youth certificates to Katie at the Extension Office.

Youth can complete YQCA training anytime throughout the year online at their own pace by registering for a web-based training on YQCA. Over the weekend, a snow day, an evening or whenever works best for your schedule. The online training can be paused throughout out so you can start and stop as it works for your schedule. There is a pre and post-test to complete along with the training material. For additional help regarding your YQCA profile, or registration, see the help videos, FAQ, or facts on yqcaprogram.org or reach out to help@yqcaprogram.org. County Extension staff do not have access to families YQCA accounts.

Pioneer Seed Grants available to 4-H Clubs

Is your club planning a big community service project this year? There are grants out there to help cover costs! The objective of these grants is to stimulate local 4-H clubs in Iowa to plan and carry out community improvement activities by providing “seed money” needed to make the projects successful. Pioneer will provide up to \$5,000 to selected 4-H clubs in Iowa. Awards will be made directly to the clubs through the Iowa 4-H Foundation from Pioneer as soon as selections are made. Grants will range from a minimum of \$50 to a maximum of \$500.

Clubs should submit their [applications](#) by January 15. A county staff member must review all applications submitted from the county’s clubs, write appropriate comments where indicated, and approve the application. Pioneer Seed Grant completed applications and support letters will all be submitted through the JotForm application found at

<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/pioneergrants>.

Winter Day Camps

Not sure what to do over upcoming school breaks? Cass County Extension partners with Cass County Conservation annually to provide day camps to youth. Register online (<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/cass/4h>) or on paper forms available at the Cass County Extension Office. Cost is FREE! Call our office at 712-243-1132 with questions! Registration closes one week before camp.

3-5th Graders: Nature Detectives Camp will be March 19th at the Griswold Community Center 9-4pm OR March 27th at the Cass County Community Center 9-4pm.



Extension's on Social Media

Stay connected with upcoming events and activities by liking Cass County Extension on Facebook (@CassColAExt) and Cass County 4-H on Instagram (CassCountyIowa4h)!

2024-2025 Program Year Enrollment

All youth K-12 must re-enroll in 4-HOnline **each year** to keep active 4-H or Clover Kid member status. Do this early in the year to stay in the loop for upcoming events! Select project areas you may be interested in to get broadcast emails from the state/county regarding opportunities to further your learning and add to your record book in that project area!

We would like to have all returning members re-enrolled early to participate in activities. Please be sure and check your **correspondence preference for 4-H Newsletters**. You will need to select mail or email.

Go to <https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in> and log in with your email and password. A quick link is also available on the Extension webpage. It is okay to select "reset password" option and the program will walk you through the steps of getting a new password. There are also good help sheets at <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/4honline-information-families-and-leaders>. If you have any questions or need assistance, call the Extension office, 712-243-1132.

Beef Identification

All Exhibitors need to identify their beef online before Saturday, February 1st at 11:59pm to be eligible to exhibit at County or State Fair. Katie will not be available after 4:30pm Friday, January 31st. Plan ahead of the deadline if you have questions or need help with the process. Refer to the handouts provided at weigh-in for step-by-step instructions. 4-H animals are identified in 4-HOnline and FFA animals are identified in FairEntry.

If there is a chance you will exhibit as a breeding animal, add in the birthdate to the animal. Identifying it as market animal with a birthdate it will be eligible for market or breeding classes at county fair.

Breeding Heifers: All breeding heifers are required to have two forms of identification. They ***must*** have a tattoo and a 4-H/FFA ear tag or registration number.

2025 Fairbook Rules

The 2025 Fairbook is being updated by superintendents and fairboard in the "off season". Departments are being posted on Cass County Extension's website under the 4-H and Youth drop down find the county fair section, www.extension.iastate.edu/cass/county-fair. Changes are listed in RED for each department on the left hand side of the webpage.

Updated sections of the fairbook will be posted as they become available. If you have questions, reach out to a superintendent, fairboard member, or Extension Staff.



Cass County Extension is hiring summer staff!

Before we know it summer will be here with a June full of library programs and day camps, July with deadlines, fair activities and the Cass County Fair! We can't do it alone, we need help! This year we are looking to hire summer interns to help us with fair preparations and county outreach efforts once again. If you know of someone that may be a good fit let us know! More information is available on our website, must complete full application requirements to be considered. If you have questions, contact Kate at 712- 243-1132 or keolson@iastate.edu. Apply by January 15th for guaranteed consideration.

Cass County 4-H Endowment Event Grants available to 4-Hers!

Thanks to our annual 4-H Pancake supper, the Cass County 4-H Endowment fund annually supports 4-H members attend out of county activities as well as college scholarships. Members planning to attend workshops, trips, or conferences outside of Cass County this upcoming year can apply for up to \$100 grants to attend! Complete the short application on our website, <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/cass/4h>, and turn it into the Extension Office at least one month before the event. Once its approved, we will send a check to the opportunity. Reach out to Katie for additional details, kbateman@iastate.edu or 712-243-1132.

Get ahead on your 2024-2025 Record Book!

Forms are on our website, www.extension.iastate.edu/cass/record-keeping

Now is the time to set goals for your 4-H projects to work toward them during the year.

Remember to set goals that are attainable, have a time frame on them and you will be able to track the results. You cannot control the ribbon a judge will give you on a certain day, but you can work toward an average daily gain, or the animal's ability to walk with you.

As you participate in activities at home, in the community, at school, and in your club be sure to write them down so you don't forget next September.

If you want to learn more about a project area and what you can do for community service, communication or leadership with it, check out guides on the extension store!

<https://store.extension.iastate.edu/Topic/Member-Resources/Project-Area-Guides?S=0&A=0&F=0>

Monthly Enrollment Drawings

This year we will draw an enrolled 4-H and Clover Kid member each month to receive a 4-H swag item. Seasonal prizes or YQCA codes may also be options.

January Clover Kid winner: **Molly Schuler**

January 4-H Member winner: **Gracelyn Larsen**

You must contact Katie in January to designate your prize choice. Winners who do not reach out the month they won will not be able to redeem their prize in future months.

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