

CLOVER CONNECTIONS



NEWSLETTER

Madison County 4-H News



IMPORTANT DATES

January 1 -- Madison County Extension closed for New Year's Day

January 15 -- Madison County Extension closed for MLK Day

January 21 -- YQCA Offering at Penn Prize Winners Meeting - 5:00 PM

January 28 -- 4-H & Youth Committee Meeting - 6:30 PM

February 1 -- Market Beef ID Deadline in 4-H Online

February 17 -- YQCA Offering at Jefferson Lee Jades Meeting - 10:30 AM

February 25 -- 4-H & Youth Committee Meeting - 6:30 PM

March 30 -- Swine Weigh Ins at the Madison County Fairgrounds - 8:00-10:00 AM

April 15 -- Deadline to enroll in 4-H to exhibit at the county fair

May 4 -- Sheep & Goat Weigh Ins at the Madison County Fairgrounds - 8:00-10:00 AM

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

This is the time of year that we reflect on the previous year and look forward by setting goals for the new year. Setting goals is an important step in 4-H. It's never too early to set your personal, club, or project goals!

I hope you as 4-H members, 4-H leaders, parents, supporters, and adult volunteers will find opportunities in 4-H, whether it be in your project areas, 4-H club, Madison County events, County Fair, or beyond!

If you have not enrolled on 4-H Online, please visit v2.4honline.com to do so. Enrolling in 4-H Online ensures we continue communication with your family and for risk management purposes. Fees are now \$50 for 4-Hers and \$20 for Clover Kids. Financial aid is available. Contact the office with questions!

CONTACT INFORMATION



NICOLE NAVIN
Executive Director
nnavin@iastate.edu
(515) 462-1001

LINDSEY YOUNG
County Youth Coordinator
lindsey@iastate.edu
(515) 520-3783



SCHOLARSHIPS

We have entered into scholarship season. For high school 4-Hers, don't forget to apply for scholarships.

There are quite a few open with deadlines quickly approaching. Scholarships are almost like "free money." The Extension Office is more than happy to help with applications, reference letters, etc. Check out the following opportunities and keep your eyes open for more.

<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/madison/club-resources>

Farm Bureau Scholarship - due January 31st

Iowa 4-H Foundation Scholarship - due March 1st

Landus "Excellence in Agriculture" Scholarship - due March 8th

JANUARY GRAB & GO

January's grab & go kit will be a healthy snack that kids can make themselves. The kit will include the materials needed to make a homemade granola bar.

Kids will be available starting January 8th for grades Pk-12. First come, first serve.

4-H ENROLLMENT CLOSES APRIL 15TH

Don't forget to re-enroll on 4-H Online to be an active 4-H member. Members and volunteers must be enrolled in order to receive up-to-date communication and to be covered by insurance. A \$10 late fee has been added, making enrollments \$50 for 4-Hers and \$20 for Clover Kids.

4-Hers must be enrolled in 4-H before April 15th and be in good standing to be eligible to exhibit at the 2024 Madison County Fair. Good standing requires that members attend at least 3 club meetings and 3 other educational opportunities (club meetings, dog/horse classes, community service, day camps, etc).

Steps to enroll:

Go to: v2.4honline.com

Login: Enter family email and password

Click: "Enroll Now" next to the 4-H member's name

Enter: Enter all the information and continue through until submitted

Pending: Enrollments will show pending status until approved by Extension Staff

Incomplete: Enrollments will show incomplete status until the enrollment has been completed by the family, continue adding info and click next until submit.

4-H & YOUTH COMMITTEE

The 4-H & Youth Committee is sponsoring a grant for clubs to do some community service or educational activity. Check out the grant application for more info:

<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/madison/files/documents/4-H%20%26%20Youth%20Committee%20Grant%20Application.docx>

Feel free to join us at the next 4-H & Youth Committee meeting on January 28th at 6:30 PM!

BEEF WEIGH IN FOLLOW UP

Thank you to all of the 4-H & FFA members who joined us for beef weigh-ins on December 3rd! We had over 65 animals weighed for exhibits this year, and we're so excited to see all of you back at the fair this year!

REMINDER: ALL MARKET BEEF MUST BE IDENTIFIED IN 4-H ONLINE BY FEBRUARY 1ST!

In 4-H Online, the RFID will be the complete 15-digit tag number. The tag number field can be the numbers written on your ID sheet/scale ticket. Most of the Madison County tags will begin with 840 004 269 -- followed by the 6 digits written on your paper.

YQCA TRAININGS

Lindsey is still offering YQCA trainings at various club meetings throughout the year. Youth need to pre-register at yqcaprogram.com and search for the correct training. Youth must also complete the pretest before attending the workshop. The following trainings are scheduled:

"Penn Prize Winners YQCA" - January 21 at 5:00 PM

"Jefferson Lee Jades YQCA training" - February 17 at 10:30 AM

"Last Chance YQCA Training" - May 13 at 5:00 PM

YQCA is required for all exhibitors showing pigs, beef cattle, dairy cattle, sheep, goats, market rabbits, and poultry by June 15 to be eligible to show at the Madison County Fair.

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) is a national multi-species quality assurance program for youth ages 8 to 21 with a focus on three core pillars:



Food Safety



Animal Well-Being



Character Development

MADISON COUNTY 4-H ENDOWMENT

Do you know someone who is looking for some ways to spend their end-of-year budget?

Make a difference for 4-H'ers in Madison County with a gift today! Your donation helps to support your local 4-H member enrollment fees, county fair projects, day camp opportunities, scholarships, and more!

Donate online at: <https://www.iowa4hfoundation.org/county.../givemadison>

MADISON COUNTY FAIR: JULY 17 - 21, 2024

CITIZENSHIP WASHINGTON FOCUS (CWF)

Citizenship Washington Focus is a high impact program featuring national experts and leaders along with opportunities for career exploration, using your voice, and building connections with teens from across the country. CWF will be held on June 13-23, 2024.

The deadline to register is January 22, 2024. Register on 4-H Online. For more information, visit:
<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/cwf>

CAMERA CORPS

Iowa 4-H Camera Corps is a program for all 4-H youth, specifically designed to support photographers who plan on participating in the photography project area at county fairs. Each month, a photography theme is chosen with a different focus. Technical tips and suggestions are provided to help youth practice and create the most successful photographs for that theme. Jurors/mentors provide individual feedback to each photographer about what is working well and ways they can keep practicing! Each submitted photograph will be exhibited digitally on the Iowa 4-H Facebook page where voting will be open to the public.

You can register for this event on 4-H Online. Reach out to Clark Colby (cacolby3@iastate.edu) with any questions.

<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/iowa-4-h-camera-corps>

PIONEER SEED GRANT APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

Do you have a club project idea needing financial assistance? \$50-500 is available to 4-H clubs for their community improvement projects through the Pioneer Seed Money grants. Applications are due to the county offices by January 16th. For application materials, tips, and more info, check out the website:

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

STATE RECOGNITION OPPORTUNITIES

State 4-H Recognition is the process in which senior 4-H members in grades 9-12 can apply to be selected for special statewide opportunities such as awards and trips. The purpose of this event is to provide an avenue for youth recognition and to provide young people with an opportunity to practice and grow leadership, communications, and college and career readiness skills through application and interview activities.

Applications open in 4-H Online on January 1 and are due February 1 at 11:59 PM. Interview selection and schedule are announced the first week of March.

Award opportunities include: state 4-H council, national 4-H Conference, National 4-H Congress, Iowa 4-H Reporters, Healthy Living Ambassador, STEM Leadership Accelerator Program, Project Area Awards

For more information, visit: <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/recognition-opportunities>

IOWA 4-H YOUTH CONFERENCE

Every June, almost 900 teenagers converge on the campus of Iowa State University for 3 days full of speakers, workshops, mixers, dances, a banquet, and community service activities.

If you have a specific interest in animal science, you might want to look into becoming part of the round-up track!

Please join us in June for the most incredible three days of your life at the Iowa 4-H Youth Conference!

For more information, visit: <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/iowa4hyouthconference>

Other Reminders

STAY UP TO DATE

Madison County 4-H has 2 apps that we use as additional forms of communication. To sign up:

Remind:

- a) In the app, enter class code "4hmadco" after the "@"
- b) Text "@4hmadco" to 81010 to sign up via text message

Team Reach:

- a) In the app, enter code "@4hmadco" to join

FINANCIAL POLICIES DOCUMENT

The Madison County Extension Office has a handy financial policies document that outlines proper procedures. Be sure to check it out and reach out to Lindsey with any questions.

<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/madison/club-resources>

Important Websites

V2.4HONLINE.COM

Enroll for the 4-H year. This provides us with contact information and project interest.

Market beef ID - due Feb 1st, Animal ID (except poultry & rabbit) - due May 15, Rabbit & Poultry - due June 1

MADISON.FAIRENTRY.COM

Madison County Fair entries are entered (specific classes)

Livestock/Communications/Clothing due June 15 & Static due July 12

WWW.EXTENSION.IASTATE.EDU/MADISON/4H

All county specific 4-H information: Clover Connections, upcoming county events, Madison County Fair Info, Awards, etc.

Club Spotlight

CRAWFORD HILLSIDERS TREE FUNDRAISER

The Crawford Hillsiders 4-H Club is raising funds to offset costs related to their educational and community services activities. The club chose this fundraiser because it is also an educational opportunity for the members to learn about plants as well as sales and marketing. This fundraiser has been led by a fundraising subcommittee consisting of several member leaders.

Trees will be arriving bare root, 11-20" tall, and suited to grow in Iowa. Due to variables in soil and weather conditions we are unable to guarantee the viability of your plant. We have limited quantities of each plant so sales will be honored on a first come-first served basis. At this time we will be unable to ship any plants however they will be available for you to pickup at the Madison County Fairgrounds from 8:30-10:30 am on Saturday, April 27, 2024. We appreciate everyone's support of the 4-H members of Crawford Hillsiders.

There are 6 varieties of plants to choose from.

Prices:

\$5 each plant

\$25 for 6 plants

\$50 for 15 plants

You may mail or drop off check payments to "Madison County Extension" (Please put Crawford Hillsiders in the Memo line) to:

117 N. John Wayne Dr.
Winterset, IA 50273



We'll send an email reminder several days before April 27, 2024 for the tree pickup day and give any further instructions that may be necessary.

Connect with us!

MADISON COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE

515-462-1001

xmadison@iastate.edu

117 N John Wayne Dr. Winterset

www.extension.iastate.edu/madison/4h

CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



@madisoncounty4Hlowa

@madison_co_extension_ia

