



GROWS HERE

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The 2024 Tama County Fair
dates have been set!

July 15-21

Make sure you are reading all your newsletters and emails to follow all the rules for the fair!

Start setting goals and working on your exhibits now! We can't wait to see them at the 2024 Tama County Fair!

ISU EXTENSION & OUTREACH TAMA COUNTY

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OFFICE HOURS:

M-F 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/tama>

4-H FAMILY NEWSLETTER

September 2023

Each year, beginning September 1, all returning and new 4-H and Clover Kid members and volunteers enroll in 4honline!



Enroll online at <https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>

**Make sure you are using an email address that you want 4-H information to be sent to! If you have other family members that you would like to receive the monthly newsletter, please let the office know the address.

- Iowa 4-H program fees are increasing for the 2023-24 program year to \$40 (previously \$30). This is the first time in 13 years that the fee has increased.
- Clover Kids has no fee at the state level but your group may request a fee to help cover costs of supplies.
- We are working to get help with this financial cost. In September, clubs, please vote if you will help with members fee and let Jenny know. More information to come the end of September!

Enroll September 1!

We will begin collecting payment in October.

Make sure to indicate projects you are interested in. This is the way you receive animal weigh-in letters!

And promote 4-H to your friends and family members!

We would love to have them join us!!



Jenny Hulme
TAMA COUNTY EXTENSION
County Youth Coordinator
jhulme@iastate.edu
641-484-2703

Find us on Facebook!

[ISU Extension and Outreach/4-H Tama County](#)

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IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach

Iowa State Fair

Congratulations to all who exhibited at the Iowa State Fair

Communication Events: Lauren Keller (2), Carlee Smith, Madison McKee, Kaylynn Murty

Photography: Lilly Bru, Colbie Fevold, Natalie Keller, Carlee Smith

Fish & Wildlife: Levi Murty

Veterinary Science: Emily Hulme

Visual Arts: Amaya Peterson, Ty Guthrie

Food & Nutrition: Ryan Hosek

Clothing: Abigail Kemp, Codi Jackson (2), Madison McKee

Health: Abigail Kemp, Emily Hulme

Poster Communication: Scout Ridout, Claire Bacon

Safety in Shooting Sports: Ryan Hosek

Home Grounds Improvement: Rachael Murty

Crop Production & Plant Science: Lilly Bru

Citizenship & Civic Engagement: Lilly Bru, Ty Guthrie

Welding: Ty Guthrie, Belle Werner, Bryce Lacina

Animal Science: Lilly Bru

Swine: Rhianna Murty, Skyler Murty, Parker Schmidt, Bennett Schmidt

Meat Goats: Alaney Sienkencht, Adelyn Sienknecht, Colbie Fevold

Rabbit: Mason Hosek, Ryan Hosek

Sheep: Madelyn Kucera, Dayna Murty

Horse: Kari Murty

Beef: Adelyn Sienknecht, Kaylynn Murty, Colton Gropper, Kimberly Rieks, Colbie Fevold

Dog: Rachael Murty, Phillip Myli, Amber Myli, Levi Murty

Poultry: Lauren Keller

Have you written a thank you for the Tama County Fair???



Have you written anyone a thank you for their help and support at the Tama County Fair??

There are so many people/businesses that deserve our heartfelt thanks for all that they do for the Tama County Fair.

This could be your leaders, superintendents, fair board, parents/family members, businesses that are listed in the fair book, Gladbrook EMT, helpers at weigh-in and in the show ring and more.

Take time to write a thank you or give them a call! We need their continued support! Need an address? Contact the Extension Office. Need help in how to write a thank you. Here you go!!

Take the time to say Thank you!!

4 STEPS TO A 4-H THANK YOU

Show your appreciation to the people who help make the 4-H program possible!

1

Greet the person and thank them for their support.

*Dear Mrs. Smith,
Thank you for the generous gift you made to support Iowa 4-H members!*

2

Tell the person why you appreciate their gift or the result of their gift.

Your gift will help allow 4-H members like me to participate in the program and gain valuable skills.

3

Tell the person about yourself and how 4-H has benefited you.

Through 4-H I have made friends from across the state and improved my communication skills. I love 4-H!

4

Repeat your thanks and sign your name.

*Thank you again!
Sincerely,
Jane Jones, Linn County 4-H member*

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 IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
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Upcoming Events

9-12th Grade Members— Apply For County Council

County Council members are a group of Tama County 4-H members that plan and implement Tama County 4-H activities. This includes awards program, fishing camp, lock-in, fair and more. They are to bring information to the clubs and bring back needs to the group to help our program.

**Our first meeting is September 17, 2023 2:00-3:00 pm
at the Tama County Extension Office**

**To apply: complete this survey (can be found on our
website)**

[https://iastate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/
SV_2gF9DXN4KwixqsJ](https://iastate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2gF9DXN4KwixqsJ)

Woodworking Workshop

Want to start an exhibit for the 2024 Tama County Fair? Here you go! Woodworking Workshop!

Throughout the year we will plan workshops that will help you complete exhibits along with the write ups! Check out our first in Oct!

When: October 7

Time: 8 am to noon

Where: Tama County Extension Office

Who: Any 4th-12th grader

Cost: \$20.00/Youth (cover cost of materials)

Join us for a woodworking workshop to build a tray and have it complete for fair! Most of your write-up will be done too!

Registration is required by 4:30 pm Sept 29th



National 4-H Week—Oct 1-7

We will celebrate National 4-H week October 1-7. As a club, be thinking of how you can promote 4-H in your area! In the October newsletter, you will find ideas of what to do each day to help promote 4-H including wearing a 4-H shirt to school, sending a thank you, sharing info on social media, etc. Make a plan to share your 4-H story.

Officer Training



If you are elected to be a club officer, congratulations! Mark your calendars for Sunday, November 19th from 4-5:30 pm for a training at the Extension Office. Officers and County Council members will be competing in Minute to Win it Challenges while learning about their roles.

Tama County 4-H will be there!!



Record Book

**As we complete the 2022-2023 4-H year,
it is that time to talk Record Books.**



The purpose of 4-H record keeping is to teach how to keep records, which is an important life skill.

Record keeping is an ongoing process that does not end when the 4-H year ends. The objective of record books are to learn how to set goals, how to make plans for action, and how to decide how well you did (evaluation).

A record book is not a scrapbook for what you completed at the fair. In fact, you don't even have to take an exhibit to the fair to complete a record book. Record books focus on projects you worked on all year long. This might include the exhibits that you completed for fair or projects that you just worked on for the learning opportunity. For an example: a 4-H member set a goal to learn the steps of planting field corn. That was the goal. The process included working with his dad to set up the planter, picking the seed up at the company, learning to set up the planter in the field and the steps it took to drive the tractor in the field. This member would share what he learned and what the plans are for the future. He could include photos of the steps. He could have completed an exhibit for the fair such as a poster or display, but that was not his intentions.

Project vs Exhibit A project is the area such as photography or food and nutrition.

An exhibit is the actual photograph, the plate of cookies.

Only do 1 project sheet per project, not per exhibit.

Forms: Are located on our website <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/tama/record-keeping>

Awards will also be given for secretary, treasure, and historian books, submit those as well!

Remember—if you are participating in the Tama County Pork Producer Program, a completed record book is one of the requirements.

If you have any questions about record books, please reach out to your leader or the Extension Office.

Record books are due to the Tama County Extension Office by 4:30 p.m. September 29 as September 30 falls on a Saturday. We request that club leaders bring all their club books to the office as they will check and sign your books if eligible for awards. Club leaders - you set the deadline for when you want to receive them.

State Events



Breathe. Explore. Connect.

Iowa 4-H THRIVE Retreat

September 22-24, 2023

YMCA Camp - Boone, IA

7th-12th graders + accompanying adult

<https://go.iastate.edu/FULBSW>



4-H youth & adults are invited to join us for THRIVE Retreat!

Iowa 4-H cares about and supports the social, emotional, and mental well-being of youth, their families, and communities. Youth (7-12th grade) & their parent or other caring adult are invited to join us for the next THRIVE Retreat! Step away from the stressors of life to explore healthy, fun ways to recharge their mind, heart, and body!

Cost is \$60 and financial assistance is available.

Space is limited.



THRIVE participants get to take time for themselves, connect with each other and new friends, and discover the benefits of mindfulness and other positive, healthy skills through workshops, nature, the arts, and movement to support their mental health and overall well-being. They also get to enjoy camp activities like zip-lining, climbing wall, canoeing, horseback riding, and night photography.

Leader News

Leader Meeting— Sept. 28

7-8 pm At the Tama County Extension Office

At this meeting we will discuss club calendar/program plan, club finances, enrollment, attendance, service, insurance and more.

This is not the yearly required state training however we really need at least one if not all your leaders to attend this training as we will cover many areas that we have noticed struggles with the past year.

Shooting Sports instructors—you are welcome to attend but is not meant for your areas.

What do leaders need to do each year?

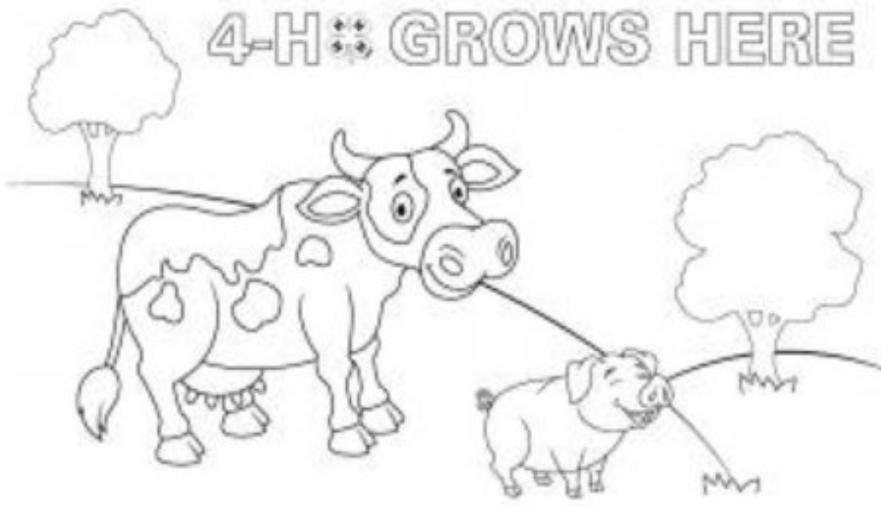
- **Enroll in 4honline**

Yes, leaders and instructors must enroll in 4honline each year. This also includes a short video on civil rights that must be viewed. Your enrollment is not complete until that is done.

- Complete a yearly calendar and turn into the Extension Office by November 1.
- Send jhulme@iastate.edu a list of your elected club officers by November 1
- Attend the required State training. Our training is scheduled for **Thursday, January 25th**. Mark your calendars!

A huge thank you to all our club leaders who give so much to our clubs! Thank you for helping Tama County 4-H Grow!

For Fun and to learn about 4-H!



We had a busy summer!

Look at some of the events! Thank you to all who participated!

What are 4-H Clubs and Clover Kids doing in September?

Each month, 4-H Clubs and Clover Kids will have an educational activity that can be led by members (if there is time).



In September—4-H Clubs will complete a Human Scavenger Hunt.

Clover Kids will be creating a scrap book and learning about keeping memories (records).

See you soon!



Lego Day Camp



Abby, Carter & Jayden attended the State 4-H Conference



Tree planting and seed ball making at Otter Creek



Books for Cooks at Traer & Garwin Library



Trip to Omaha Zoo



Congratulations to Wyatt Silhanek, Luke Vinson and Lauren Keller for being selected for the National Shooting Sports competition in Nebraska. Lauren placed 8th in smallbore rifle silhouette competition.

Calendar of Events

Mark Your Calendars

September 11—Youth Advisory Committee Meeting (6 pm at Toledo Library)

September 17—1st County Council gathering

September 29 Completed Record Books due to the Extension Office

October 1-7 National 4-H Week

October 7 Woodworking Workshop

October 8 Fall Festival at Otter Creek

November 12 Award Program, Toledo

November 17 Officer Training with County Council

March 30 Swine Weigh-In

May 4 Goat & Sheep Weigh-In

June 30 Clothing and Communications Event

July 10 Garden Judging

July 13 Fair Clean Up

July 15-21 Tama County Fair

Aug 8-18 Iowa State Fair



Adults to be part of the Tama Co. Youth Advisory Committee. Meets approximately four times a year at the Extension Office.

This committee:

- reviews and discusses the needs of all youth in Tama Co.
- Plan and evaluate programs.
- This committee helps address rule changes for the fair as needed.

Currently members are: Loni Droigk, Susan and Brent Beichley, Rebecca Dostal, Eric Keller, Mike Zmolek, Sara Forrester. Clint Murty and Eric Werner are representatives from the Extension Council. The next meeting is September 11, at 6 pm at the Toledo Library.

Fair Reminders

Fair 2024 is July 15-21

Theme to be announced later in year.

All 4-H members and Clover Kids must have attended at least three business meetings of their primary 4-H club by June 1, 2024 in order to exhibit at the 2024 Tama County Fair.

ALL animals must be identified in 4honline by May 15, 2024.

Tama County Entries in Fairentry (both livestock and non-livestock) are due June 15, 2024.

YQCA must be completed by June 15, 2024.

Communications—In order to be selected to the Iowa State Fair—you must have given your presentation at your club prior to the fair.

Horse Exhibitors - Are required to attend a pre-fair workshop. Workshop date will be announced.

[Tama County Livestock and Fair Association meeting is September 25 at 7 pm at the Tama County Extension Office. This is their annual meeting including elections.](#)

YQCA

Those 4-12th grade members exhibiting beef, swine, sheep, goats, dairy cattle, rabbit and poultry must be YQCA certified by June 15, 2024 in order to exhibit at the Tama County Fair. Can be completed online or in person training

Dates for Tama County in person training are:

Thurs. December 27th—5:00-6:00 pm Peace Church Gladbrook

Tues. February 20—6:30-7:30 pm Traer Library

Sat. March 2—9:00-10:00 am Extension Office

A Bus Trip to Ames to be scheduled will include YQCA training.

More information on the bus trip and how to sign up for training will be in future newsletters.

Put the dates on your calendar so you don't miss the deadline and aren't able to exhibit!



TAMA COUNTY EXTENSION &

OUTREACH OFFICE

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COVID-19 Statement: We are prioritizing the health and safety of Iowans and are following the most current federal, state, local, and university COVID-19 guidelines. Visit <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/vp/open-iowa> to learn our protocols to keep Iowans healthy and safe.

Event cost refund policy: Full refunds will be issued if an event is cancelled. NO refund will be given for participants who cancel less than 48 hours in advance or don't show up. Please see event registration pages for more event-specific restrictions.

Fees Statement: The fees for services will be used to offset direct expenses and to support the 4-H Youth Development County Extension Program.

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