



Dutchess County 4-H March Essentials



- SPECIAL COVID-19 EDITION -

In light of the rapidly changing circumstances around the COVID-19 (coronavirus) Pandemic we are sharing this monthly newsletter with the latest 4-H updates. **At this time, ALL 4-H programming and activities will be suspended until April 13th. This policy applies to all activities where people meet in person, regardless of the venue.** Please be assured, for all activities connected to participation at the 2020 Dutchess County Fair, we will make sure they are rescheduled when we can. See the official statement [HERE](#).

We remain in close contact with Cornell University, Cornell Cooperative Extension and Dutchess County regarding policy on what events need to be postponed or changed and for now we can share the following updates regarding state/national events:

Events **THAT ARE** affected:

- March Dog Madness - March 22 - cancelled
- Dairy Discovery Day - March 27-28 - cancelled
- National 4-H Conference - March 28-April 2 - postponed until Sept 26-Oct 1, 2020
- STARR - April 24-26 - postponed until possibly fall
- State 4-H Dairy Bowl - postponed, tentative new date June 6, 2020
- SUNY Cobleskill Block and Bridle Club Spring Clinic - Cancelled

Events that could *possibly* be affected: (no official action made yet, monitoring situation):

- Animal Crackers - May 2
- Capital Days - May 17-19
- Career Explorations - June 30 - July 2
- International Exchange - (outbound) mid-June / (inbound) July 21 - August 18

DEC Pheasant Rearing Program

The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is once again distributing day-old

pheasant chicks for rearing and release projects to qualified 4-H youths. In order to participate in the program, requests for chicks need to be made before **March 25th**. For more information or to fill out an application, [CLICK HERE!](#)

To become familiar with pheasant rearing, check out the [DEC's guide!](#)

Additional questions on rearing pheasants can also be answered by contacting Evan Wills, manager at the NYSDEC Reynolds Game Farm at:
607-273-2768
evan.wills@dec.ny.gov

2020 Fairbook Cover Contest!

Once again we are accepting entries for the 2020 4-H Dutchess County Fairbook! The theme this year is '*Skills to Last a Lifetime!*' Members of all ages are welcome to participate. Prizes will be awarded 1st - 6th place. Deadline for submission is **April 10th**. [CLICK HERE](#) for contest rules.

Last year's first place winner:
by Top Dogs & DCLR member Rachel Earnhart



NYS Association of Agricultural Fairs, Inc. Scholarship

Applicant must be in his/her senior year of high school in New York State or be a New York State resident already attending college and planning to pursue a degree at an accredited institution of higher learning. Applicant must [download](#) the application from [NYSAAF's website](#). Handwritten applications will not be accepted. Application deadline to participating fair: **Friday April 10, 2020**.

Dutchess County Agricultural Society Inc. Scholarship

Applicant must be a Dutchess County resident and/or participate in the programs operated by [DCAS Inc.](#); demonstrate commitment to an involvement in volunteer service in the community; enroll in a full-time undergraduate course of study at an accredited two or four year college or university to commence no later than the fall of 2020. Full-time study is defined as full-time enrollment and attendance for the entire 2020-2021 academic year. **APPLICATION DEADLINE: May 11, 2020.**

Save the Dates!

At this point in time no action has been made to move these dates below. We will monitor the situation and send out updates as soon as possible.

Spring Food Festival

Saturday April 18th, 9:00 am • Farm and Home Center
Registration and details to follow!

Sewing Evaluation

Thursday April 23rd, 6:00 pm • Farm and Home Center

District Public Presentations & Horse Communications

Saturday April 25th, 9:00 am • Dutchess Community College

Fashion Revue

Thursday April 30th, 6:00 pm • Haviland Middle School

Spring Leader Forum

Saturday May 2nd, 9:00 am • Farm and Home Center
OR
Thursday May 7th, 7:00 pm • Farm and Home Center

[Check out our full 4-H Calendar!](#)

Hour of Service for 2020 Dutchess County Fair - Upcoming Events

These events fulfill Hour of Service requirements if your club wishes to participate!



JoAnn Clovers for Kids

March 1 - April 30, 2020

Our annual partnership with JoAnn Fabric Stores. Stay tuned for details!

TSC Spring Paper Clover

April 29 - May 10, 2020

Our annual spring fund raiser with Tractor



4-H REMINDERS

Advisory Reports

Advisory meeting schedule and meeting minutes must be sent to the [4-H OFFICE](#).

4-H Clubs

All meeting minutes, monthly reports and independent member reports are due by the *10th* of the following month. All documents must be sent to the [4-H OFFICE](#).

Don't forget to fill out and submit a [PERMISSION TO FUNDRAISE](#) form to the [4-H OFFICE](#) before a planned fundraiser. Clubs *cannot* fundraise without the form filed!

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