



Prince William 4-H

Our Clubs, Our Community



September 10, 2025

Upcoming Events

- Sep 13 - PW 4-H Young Entrepreneurs Market Day #4
- Sep 16 - PW 4-H Association Mtg & Leader Kickoff
- Sep 20 - VA 4-H Shotgun Championship
- Sep 26-Oct 5 - State Fair of Virginia
- Sep 30 - 4-H Food Challenge Kick Off Training
- OCT 1 - PORTFOLIOS, PROJECT RECORDS, & SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE!**
- Oct 1-5 - SFVA Livestock Shows
- Oct 5-11 - National 4-H Week
- Oct 27 - PW 4-H Recognition Day

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Prince William 4-H Gears Up for National 4-H Week



Get ready to show your 4-H pride, Prince William 4-H'ers!

National 4-H Week is coming up from October 5-11, and there are tons of ways to get involved and kick off the new 4-H year with energy and excitement. On Tuesday, October 7, wear your best 4-H green to celebrate and join fellow members at the Prince William Board of County Supervisors Meeting at 2 PM at the McCoart Building in Woodbridge. There, you'll witness the official proclamation of National 4-H Week and can even share your 4-H story with the Board!

To start the 2025-2026 4-H year strong, make sure to:

- Submit your portfolios, project records, and scholarship applications by October 1
- Enroll or re-enroll in [4HOnline](#) starting October 1 (deadline: October 31)
- Begin club meetings and elect your officers
- Mark your calendar with key events
- And don't miss **Green & Growing: Prince William 4-H Recognition Day on October 27** - open to both new and returning members!

Ready to represent and celebrate all things 4-H? Email MaryBeth Lerch to confirm your attendance or to volunteer to speak at the meeting. Let's make this 4-H Week unforgettable!



Beyond Ready

pop on over
AND CHILL WITH US



Celebrate Fair Camp Counselors!

SEPTEMBER 11  6-7:30 PM

4-H Office

RSVP to Pam Hardin

TOP SCORES

ARCHERY

- 2nd Place Individual Senior Traditional - Noah Richter
- 1st Place Individual Junior Traditional - Valor Richter
- 1st Place Individual Senior Genesis - Samantha Holmes



Beyond Ready

SHOTGUN

- 2nd Place Individual Trap - Christopher Navarr
- 1st Place Trap Team - Christopher Navarr, Jonathon Farr, Ben Stewart
- 3rd Place Skeet Individual - Christopher Navarr
- 1st Place Skeet Team - Christopher Navarr, Jonathon Farr, Ben Stewart

SMALLBORE RIFLE

- 1st Place Individual - Lexi Strand
- 3rd Place Individual - Rebecca Ahrens
- 1st Place Team - Lexi Strand, Rebecca Ahrens, Noah Richter

AIR RIFLE

- 1st Place Individual - Rebecca Ahrens
- 2nd Place Individual - Lexi Strand
- 1st Place Team - Rebecca Ahrens, Lexi Strand, Ayden Strand

AIR RIFLE SILHOUETTES

- 3rd Place Individual - Rebecca Ahrens

AIR PISTOL

- 1st Place International Standing Individual - Noble Richter
- 2nd Place International Standing Team - Noble Richter, Noah Richter, Ayden Strand

AIR PISTOL SILHOUETTES

- 2nd Place Individual Supported - Valor Richter
- 1st Place Individual Standing - Noah Richter
- 2nd Place Individual Standing - Noble Richter

MUZZLELOADER

- 2nd Place Team Senior National - Lexi Strand, Ayden Strand, William McPherson



VIRGINIA 4-H STATE SHOOT

By Trigger Time 4-H'ers Rebecca Ahrens and Lexi Strand

September 9, 2025. This past weekend, Trigger Time members competed in the Virginia 4-H State Shoot at Holiday Lake, 4-H Education Center in Appomattox, Virginia. Over the course of the two-day competition, 4-Hers participated in a wide range of disciplines including rifle, shotgun, pistol, and archery. Twenty-five members of Trigger Time participated in the state match.

The State Shoot air rifle match was registered as a CMP certified competition. Competitors earned CMP achievement pins based on their individual scores. Rebecca Ahrens broke the CMP National Record for Sporter Air Rifle in Age Group 3 (U15) with a score of 278-8. The previous record for Age Group 3 was 273 -8. The CMP Air Rifle team of Rebecca, Lexi Strand, Ayden Strand, and Noah Richter also broke the national record (1013) with a score of 1058!

The top 10 athletes from the muzzleloader relays were invited to compete in the Muzzleloader Shoot Off, an event designed to simulate the intensity and challenge of a national competition. Among the elite group, Trigger Time proudly had four representatives: William McPherson, Koa Mintz, Ayden Strand and Lexi Strand.

During the competition, athletes were tasked with firing 10 shots at a mix of bottle-shaped and animal-shaped targets. Their performance in this shoot off will play a key role in determining selections for the 2026 National Muzzleloader Team.

Adding to Trigger Time's success, Lexi Strand was honored with the Paul Benneche Award, presented to the overall high-scoring competitor in 3-Position Smallbore. This marks the fourth consecutive year that a Trigger Time athlete has claimed this prestigious award - twice by Sam Seagle and now twice by Lexi Strand.

Great work to all the competitors and special thanks to our coaches!





Beyond Ready



PRINCE WILLIAM 4-H



YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS

Manassas Park Farmers Market

Featuring Prince William 4-H'ers John, Lee, Sophie, Stella, Thomas, Aaron and Adam, Alayjah, Charley, Michael, Aisling, Aspen, Koa and Xanthie, Ayden, Lexi and Cora!



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

9 AM - 1 PM

Bring Your Bags

Bring Your Appetite

Bring Your Friends!

Manassas Park Farmers Market
100 Park Central Terr.
Manassas Park, VA



Virginia Cooperative Extension

Virginia Tech • Virginia State University



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PRINCE WILLIAM 4-H

REMEMBER HONOR TEACH



WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

SPONSOR A WREATH - HONOR A HERO

As the anniversary of September 11th approaches, we pause to remember the lives lost and the heroes who stood in the face of unimaginable tragedy. That day changed our nation forever and reminded us of the true cost of freedom.

In the midst of sorrow, we witnessed courage, resilience, and unity. First responders, service members, and ordinary citizens stepped forward to protect and help. Their bravery continues to inspire us.

This solemn anniversary reminds us why the Wreaths Across America mission matters more than ever. To Remember, Honor, and Teach is not just a motto—it's a call to action.

JOIN PRINCE WILLIAM 4-H IN HONORING OUR VETERANS THROUGH WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

We are selling wreaths to be placed on the graves of our nation's heroes during National Wreaths Across America Day on December 13th. Your sponsorship helps us:



- Remember those who served**
- Honor their sacrifice with a wreath**
- Teach youth about citizenship and service**

Volunteers from Prince William 4-H will attend a local wreath-laying ceremony to participate in this meaningful tradition. Support this important mission by sponsoring a wreath today through your local 4-H club.



Together, we ensure that no hero is ever forgotten.

CLICK HERE TO SPONSOR A WREATH.

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Prince William 4-H Association Annual Kick-Off Meeting



Date: Tuesday, September 16th

Time: 6:30 - 8:30 PM

Location: PW 4-H Headquarters - McCoy Conference Room

Who Should Attend: ALL Prince William 4-H families - adults & youth!

All Prince William 4-H families are encouraged to attend the PW 4-H Association Annual Kick-Off Meeting! President Susan Wolf will begin with a quick year recap of association sponsored activities and events, launch this year's initiatives, answer questions, and more. The meeting is a terrific opportunity to reconnect with 4-H families, learn about our 4-H community, and support local youth!

Important Topics Include:

- **Voting for the 2025-2026 PW 4-H Association Officers for Board and Junior Board.** Please email Susan Wolf if you are interested in running for a leadership position. Youth 4-H'ers - this is an excellent opportunity to build your 4-H resume and develop leadership skills! In particular, the Association has a need for candidates for the Junior Fundraising Chair.
- **BINGO planning starts in September!** The Association is in need of senior 4-H'ers interested in assisting with BINGO planning.
- **Wreaths Across America wreath sponsorship is underway.** The Association is in need of senior 4-H'ers interested in leading this initiative.



PRINCE WILLIAM 4-H LEADER MEETING

Date: Tuesday, September 16th

Time: 5:30 - 6:30 PM (*prior to the Association meeting*)

Location: PW 4-H Headquarters - McCoy Conference Room

All adult 4-H Club leader volunteers should plan on attending the PW 4-H Leader Meeting prior to the PW 4-H Association Meeting. PW 4-H Extension Agent MaryBeth Lerch will review key activities and events for the new 4-H year, convey important program updates, and answer questions.

It's Portfolio Time! Get Ready to Showcase Your Year!



DUE TO PW 4-H OFFICE BY OCTOBER 1ST!

It's time to gather your memories, achievements, and leadership experiences! Every year, 4-H members across the country compile their experiences into a 4-H Portfolio, a creative and personalized way to document your journey. Whether you're just starting out or have years of projects under your belt, this is your chance to shine!

What's a 4-H Portfolio? Think of it as a cherished scrapbook meets career resume. It's a summary of your 4-H career, filled with your projects, leadership roles, and community service. You'll use age-appropriate Project Record Forms and follow the 4-H Portfolio rubric to make sure everything's in tip-top shape.

Who Needs to Submit?

- All Prince William 4-H'ers should submit individual project records or a full portfolio.
- Club Officers and Association Officers must turn in an Officer Project Record Form to get credit for their year of service.
- Dreaming of becoming a Virginia 4-H Ambassador or joining the Virginia 4-H All Stars? You'll need portfolios from several years - so start now!

Need Help? Don't worry - Prince William 4-H has your back! Join the **Portfolio Support Office Hours from Monday, September 8th to Friday, September 12th, 10 AM to 5 PM.** Whether you need help organizing, supplies like binders and scrapbook paper, or just have questions, stop by, call, or email.

Why It Matters: 4-H Portfolios aren't just for fun - they're powerful tools that help build your resume for college, careers, and future leadership roles. Plus, they're a great way to reflect on everything you've learned through 4-H's motto: "Learn by Doing."

So grab your photos, notes, and creativity - your 4-H story deserves to be told! [Click here for the PW 4-H online document center for forms and scoring rubrics.](#)



Beyond Ready

Green & Growing



Prince William 4-H 2025 Recognition Day

Let's celebrate a year of learning, leadership, and growth at our annual Prince William 4-H Recognition Day! This special evening honors YOU - our incredible youth members and dedicated adult volunteers.

This isn't just a party – it's a celebration of how far you've come and all the ways you've grown through 4-H. Whether you led a project, volunteered, or tried something new, this is your moment to shine!

- ✓ **Ice Cream Social**
Chill out and reconnect with friends
- ✓ **Annual Slide Show**
Relive your favorite 4-H memories
- ✓ **Senior Speeches**
Be inspired by our graduating 4-H'ers
- ✓ **Recognitions & Awards**
Celebrate achievements, scholarships, and the Outstanding Member Awards

All Prince William 4-H families are invited – and yes, that includes YOU! Bring a friend to share the 4-H experience. The more, the merrier!

Event Details:

-  Monday, October 27
-  6:30 - 8:30 PM
-  Windy Knolls Farm

What to Bring:

- Cookies or brownies to pair with ice cream (optional)
- 4-H Club posters to showcase your club's awesome work.
- Wear your green gear to show off your 4-H pride!

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**CLICK HERE TO RSVP
BY OCTOBER 20TH**



Calling All Teen Foodies: 4-H Food Challenge Workshop

If you're between 9 and 18 and love cooking, teamwork, or just want to learn more about healthy living, mark your calendar for the 4-H Food Challenge Contest Workshop on Tuesday, September 30th from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. This hands-on event is a must for any Prince William 4-H'er interested in competing in food contests this school year.



Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned competitor, you'll learn kitchen safety, time-saving tips, and culinary techniques from a professional chef. The workshop also covers contest rules for county, district, and state levels. Plus, it's a great chance to build skills in nutrition, teamwork, public speaking, and even explore food-related careers. Don't miss out - come ready to learn, cook, and have fun with fellow 4-H'ers!

PRINCE WILLIAM 4-H FOOD CHALLENGE WORKSHOP

Date: Tuesday, September 30th

Time: 6:30 - 8:30 PM

Location: Conf. Room 107, Developmental Services Building, 5 County Complex Ct., Suite 120, Woodbridge

Who Should Attend: all Prince William 4-H'ers ages 9-18 with an interest in the 4-H Pillar of Healthy Living and learning about food, nutrition, and cooking skills. All youth interested in participating in 4-H Food Contests this school year are **REQUIRED** to attend the workshop.

LEARN BY DOING! Click here to register. Registration is required and FREE.



EARN VOLUNTEER HOURS! Prince William 4-H is looking for teens to help teach middle school students the basics of cooking in the libraries this fall. We will be making oatmeal pancakes and turkey bacon. If you are interested in helping lead this project, please [click here to see dates & locations and SIGN UP!](#)

Green & Growing: A 4-H Year-End Celebration and Kickoff



Date: Monday, October 27th

Time: 6:30 - 8:30 PM

Location: Windy Knoll Farm

[Click here to RSVP.](#) Be sure to fill out the [Outstanding Member Form-Youth](#) (participation survey) and [Outstanding Member Form-Adult](#), too!

Get ready to celebrate a year of learning, leadership, and growth at Prince William 4-H Recognition Day—our annual celebration of YOU, our amazing youth members and dedicated adult volunteers! We have an exciting evening planned:

- Ice Cream Social – Cool off and catch up with friends!
- Annual Slide Show – Relive the best moments of the year.
- Senior Speeches – Hear inspiring stories from our graduating 4-H'ers.
- Recognitions & Awards – Applaud achievements, scholarships, and the Prince William 4-H Outstanding Member Awards.
- Portfolio & Ribbon Pickup – Grab your hard-earned rewards!

All Prince William 4-H families are invited - and yes, that includes YOU! And bring a friend to introduce them to the 4-H experience. The more, the merrier!



What to Bring:

- Cookies or brownies (that compliment ice cream) to share with the group.
- 4-H Club posters to showcase your club's awesome work.
- Wear your green gear to show off your 4-H pride!



This event is more than just a party - it's a celebration of how much you've grown through 4-H. Whether you led a project, volunteered, or tried something new, this is your moment to shine. So mark your calendar, gather your goodies, and get ready to celebrate everything that makes 4-H "Green & Growing"!

Prince William 4-H Scholarships - Applications Due Oct 1st

Prince William 4-H has four scholarships available to members. All scholarship applications and nominations are due by **October 1st, 2025**. Scholarships will be presented at the Prince William 4-H Recognition Day on October 27th.



2025 Joanne Guhl Scholarship

Joanne Guhl was a member of the Boots and Saddles 4-H Club who passed away in 1984. Her parents honor her memory by awarding a college scholarship to a PW 4-Her. Applicants must be enrolled in the Prince William 4-H program and must have been accepted at an institution of higher learning. Preference is given to 4-Hers pursuing a career in animal science.

[Please click here to apply for the 2025 Joanne Guhl Scholarship.](#)

2025 Bernard Malo Scholarship

Bernard Malo was a past leader of the Trigger Time 4-H Shooting Education Club. Bernie, a 4-H All Star, was active at the local, district, and state level and gave much to the youth of Virginia. His family, who are all 4-H'ers and friends, started a scholarship fund to honor his memory. Trigger Time 4-H Club members have continued to help this scholarship fund grow. This scholarship is for higher education for those entering as a freshman into any four-year college, community college or vocational school. Trigger Time member applicants are given first consideration. The amount of scholarship may vary from year to year.

[Please click here to apply for the 2025 Bernard Malo Scholarship.](#)

2025 Outstanding 4-H Member Award (Youth)

The Outstanding 4-H Member Award was created to recognize individuals who demonstrate exemplary service to Prince William 4-H through participation in program planning, development, and implementation at the club level and beyond. This yearly award will be given to individuals who strengthen local 4-H clubs and county 4-H by encouraging and promoting youth members and volunteers, helping to recruit new members and leaders, and through leadership responsibility while promoting service through volunteerism.

[Please click here to apply for the 2025 Outstanding 4-H Member Award.](#)

2025 Outstanding 4-H Volunteer Award (Adult)

The All Around 4-H Volunteer Award was created to recognize individuals who demonstrate exemplary service to Prince William 4-H through participation in program planning, development, and implementation at the club level and beyond. This yearly award will be given to individuals who strengthen local 4-H clubs and county 4-H by encouraging and promoting youth members and volunteers, helping to recruit new members and leaders, and through leadership responsibility while promoting service through volunteerism.

[Please click here to apply/nominate for the 2025 Outstanding 4-H Volunteer Award.](#)

Celebrating YOU!

Apply TODAY! Virginia 4-H Healthy Living Ambassador

Become a Healthy Living Ambassador!

Are you passionate about Healthy Living and would like to share about it with others? If so, being a Healthy living Ambassador may be just right for you!



What we do

- Meet monthly
- Plan the annual state Healthy Living Summit
- Write the Buzz, Body and Bites for Teens newsletter
- Be a teen voice for Healthy Living
- Educate others about Healthy Lifestyles

Application Process

Written questions about your Healthy Living experience and leadership skills

Interview



[Click here to apply.](#) [Click here for reference form.](#)
Complete applications due September 12th.

Teen 4-H members who have an interest in healthy living and are looking for an opportunity to develop and practice leadership skills in an environment where they can thrive and grow, are encouraged to apply to serve as a Virginia 4-H Healthy Living Ambassador!

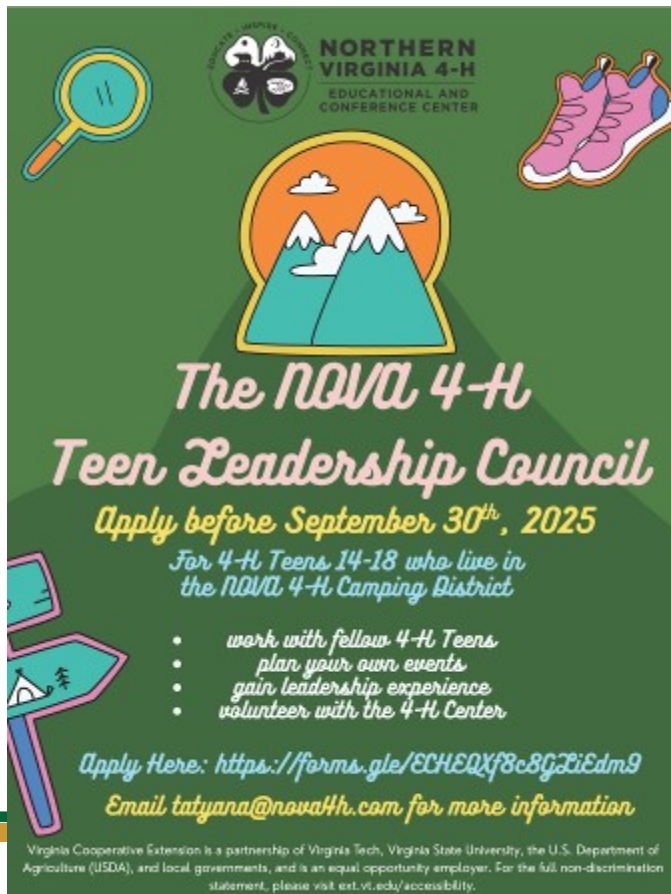
Applicants must:

- Be a teen Virginia 4-H member (ages 14-18) and active in 4HOnline.
- Have a passion for and active engagement in 4-H Healthy Living.
- Have an interest in sharing knowledge to enhance youth educational experiences.
- Be willing to be a team player working with local, district, and state level professionals to share resources and opportunities.
- Be able to communicate effectively both written and verbally.

Benefits Include:

- Enhancing your 4-H Healthy Living understanding and skills.
- Networking with peers and healthy living leaders around the state and nation.
- Assisting in moving forward the 4-H Healthy Living mission.
- Enhancing your professional development opportunities.
- Increasing your knowledge and skills for implementing and managing 4-H Healthy Living programs.

The first meeting will be held on October 9th at 7 PM.



NORTHERN VIRGINIA 4-H
EDUCATIONAL AND CONFERENCE CENTER

The NOVA 4-H Teen Leadership Council

Apply before September 30th, 2025

For 4-H Teens 14-18 who live in the NOVA 4-H Camping District

- work with fellow 4-H Teens
- plan your own events
- gain leadership experience
- volunteer with the 4-H Center

Apply Here: <https://forms.gle/ECH6QXf8c8Gz2iEdm9>
 Email tatyana@nova4h.com for more information

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NOVA Teen Leadership Council

Who Should Apply: 4-H teens ages 14-18 interested in working with the NOVA 4-H Center
[Click here to apply.](#)
Applications due September 30th.

Applications for the NOVA Teen Leadership Council are now open! The Teen Leadership Council is a group of 4-Hers that are interested in working with the NOVA Center and fellow 4-Hers who camp at the Northern Virginia 4-H Educational Center in Front Royal. The council is teen led with opportunities for the group to make decisions about how they want to spend their time at camp. This past year TLC members helped plan and lead the first night of TALT, created promotional videos for camp, and planned and facilitated an Open House at the center to introduce new families to 4-H camping.

The TLC Kickoff will take place in October, and the 2025-2026 TLC in-person and zoom meetings will be scheduled at that time.

The new NOVA TLC is part of a statewide initiative to form teen councils at all six 4-H centers.

VA 4-H Shooting Education New Instructor Certification



Dates: October 11th - 12th

Location: Holiday Lake 4-H Center, Appomattox, VA

- [Click here for Registration.](#) **Due Friday, September 12th**
- [Click here for Payment Information.](#) **Due Friday, September 12th**
- [Click here for New Instructor Certification Fact Sheet.](#)
- [Click here for Online Session Info.](#) **Complete training by October 1st.**
- [Click here for Online Course Guide.](#)

The VA 4-H Shooting Education Council will be conducting an Instructor Certification session at the Holiday Lake 4-H Center on October 11-12. Volunteers registered in 4-H Online, with background checks, can register for the courses. This includes a provision for highly experienced teens 16 and older to become Apprentice Instructors. Please see the attached documents for complete information. We currently plan to hold classes in Archery, Coordinator, Hunting, Muzzleloader, Pistol, Rifle, and Shotgun.

2025 State Fair of Virginia Shows & Contests Updates

VIRGINIA YOUTH
LIVESTOCK PROGRAMS



YOUTH LIVESTOCK SHOWS

2025 SFVA Youth Livestock Dates: October 1st – 5th, 2025

[Click here for contest rules and schedule.](#)

[Click here for State Fair of Virginia Youth Livestock Shows Website](#)

ENTRIES ARE CLOSED.

JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SKILLATHON CONTESTS

All contestants, coaches, advisors, and volunteers MUST purchase a SFVA Competition Ticket at this link: <https://tinyurl.com/SFVA-Comp-Tickets>

Two Youth Animal Science Educational Competition contests are excellent opportunities to have non-exhibitor youth participate in and experience the State Fair. Both events are open to Exhibitors and Non-Exhibitors.

SFVA 4-H AND FFA JUNIOR DAIRYMEN'S CONTEST

Date: Friday, September 26th

Time: Check-in begins at 10 am; Contest Instructions at 10:45 am

Location: State Fair of Virginia, The Meadow Event Park, Doswell, VA

[Click here to enter.](#) **Entries due by Monday, September 15th at 5 pm**

[Click here for rules, age divisions, and full contest information in the SFVA Junior Dairymen's Contest Letter.](#)

SFVA YOUTH LIVESTOCK (NON-EXHIBITOR) SPECIES-SPECIFIC SKILLATHONS

Date: Friday, October 3rd

Time: 9 am - 4 pm: Contest will be open and available during this time frame

Location: State Fair of Virginia, The Meadow Event Park, Doswell, VA

[Click here to enter.](#) **Entries due by Wednesday, September 24th at 5 pm.**

[Click here for rules, age divisions, and full contest information in the SFVA Youth Livestock Skillathon Contest Letter.](#)



THE STATE FAIR OF VIRGINIA HIPPOLOGY CONTEST

Date: Friday, October 3rd

Time: 10 AM Check In; 10:30 AM Start; Awards will follow the event and include ribbons and premiums.

[Click here for 2025 Hippology Rules & Information.](#)

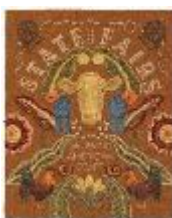
[Click here to enter.](#) **Entries due September 18th at 5 PM.**

Student Competition Tickets are available and must be pre-purchased.. Leaders must purchase tickets for daily entry into the fair. You must pre-ore tickets or you will be required to pay general admission at the gate, General admission gates do not open until 10 AM,

SMITHSONIAN MUSEUMS: RENWICK GALLERY

Aug 22, 2025 - Sep 7, 2026 | Open Daily, 10 am - 5:30 pm | Free Admission

State Fairs: Growing American Craft is a cool exhibition that shows how artists have helped shape the tradition of state fairs in the U.S. Over 240 artworks—from the 1800s to today—tell personal stories through crafts found in places like rodeos, dairy barns, and parades. You'll see amazing stuff like giant boots from Texas, a butter cow sculpted live, and a tower of 700 jars of canned food. The show highlights artists and 4-H clubs from across the country, breaking stereotypes about rural life and showing how fairgrounds bring people together.



National 4-H: Ignite by 4-H 2026 - Register TODAY!



Dates: March 25 - 29, 2026

Location: Washington Hilton, Washington, DC

Ignite by 4-H remains the premier experience where teens discover their spark, connect with peers from across the country (and even the world), explore traditional and emerging career paths, and develop career and life readiness skills to become Beyond Ready for the future.

In 2026, Ignite will offer six exciting programmatic tracks, allowing teens to focus on their passions, deepen their skills, and explore meaningful career pathways. Returning for 2026 are four core tracks: AgriScience, Community Accelerators, Healthy Living, and STEM. Based on feedback from 4-H educators and teens, we're excited to introduce two NEW tracks that expand the possibilities for learning and leadership: Animal Science and Citizenship Washington Focus (Civic Engagement).

[Click here for more information and to register.](#) **Early bird registration is Jul 17th - Sep 15th.**

Hokie BugFest

Date: Saturday, October 18th

Location: Squires Student Center, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg

[Click here for information on Hokie BugFest.](#)

Hokie BugFest celebrates the fun and exciting science of entomology, and the Virginia Tech tradition of learning and discovery, through outreach and engagement. This event highlights an ongoing youth education program hosted by the Virginia Tech Department of Entomology, Virginia Tech College of Agriculture & Life Sciences, Virginia Cooperative Extension's 4-H program, and the department's student-run professional organization, the W. B. Alwood Entomological Society.

Prince William 4-H Clubs: consider entering the Insect Collection Contest! Each entry will receive a participation ribbon and a bug-themed goodie bag. The top collections will be awarded 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in each age category, and an overall Best in Show will also be awarded. [4-H Insect Collection Contest Guidelines](#) | [4-H Insect Collection Contest Entry Form](#)

4-H Insect Collection Contest - Hokie BugFest

READY, SET, COLLECT!

- Hokie BugFest is on Saturday, October 18, 2025 at Squires Student Center in Blacksburg, Virginia.
- Collections may be submitted individually or as teams (drop-off/pick-up information posted online). Pre-registration is required. Entry forms must be submitted by September 26th.
- Collections will be awarded based on scoring guidelines. Visit hokiebugfest.org for further information.



Calling All Young Witches, Wizards & Muggles!

Dates: November 7-9

Location: W.E. Skelton 4-H Center, Smith Mountain Lake

Who Should Attend: Youth ages 9-14

Fee: \$125/camper

[Click here to register.](#)

Registration is OPEN for the W.E. Skelton Wizards Weekend Camp—Virginia's biggest Harry Potter-themed 4-H camp!

Expect magical adventures, spellbinding activities, and campers from all over the state! We're also looking for trained teen counselors & adult volunteers - if you worked at 4-H camp in 2025, you can attend for FREE in a leadership role!

Let's make Wizards Weekend 2025 the most enchanted one yet!



For Educators from VPOST



MAKING MATH MEANINGFUL

Sep 24 | 12:30 PM | [Click here for more information and to register.](#)

We know there are so many topics to cover in the fall as you onboard staff. Let the ACRES team help. Math resources will be showcased and shared so staff have tools in their back pockets to make math meaningful and move beyond just helping with homework. This is a free, LIVE, virtual workshop that will last 45 minutes. For more information, email acres@mmsa.org.



POSSIBLE FUTURES, CAREER EXPLORATION CURRICULUM

Possible Futures - [Career Exploration Curriculum](#) is open source curriculum that complements and enriches both school and afterschool settings 1) expanding career awareness through authentic experiential learning opportunities; 2) encouraging students to explore their diverse interests, talents, and options; 3) enlivening STEM subjects by bringing in real-world and career contexts; 4) empowering students to develop vital employability skills; and 5) engaging students in making informed choices.



Jobs for the Future

Below are some adaptations of the Possible Futures Career Exploration Curriculum specifically for afterschool and summer programs:

- **Career Foundations Adaptation:** A collection of 14 lessons, a streamlined combination of the Lenses on the Future and Skills for Success units of Possible Futures curriculum.
- **College and Career Readiness Toolkit:** Maryland Out of School Time (MOST) embedded the Career Foundations Unit of Possible Futures into this toolkit that serves as a guide for OST providers.
- **Growing Myself:** Twelve lessons that combine the Self unit from Lenses on the Future and the Growth Mindset unit from Skills for Success from the Possible Futures Career Exploration Curriculum.
- **Communicating & Collaborating:** Twelve lessons that combine lessons from the Communication and Collaboration units from the Skills for Success module from the Possible Futures Career Exploration Curriculum
- **Career Exploration Activities:** Designed specifically for Out-of-School Time (OST) providers looking for engaging hands-on and collaborative activities:
 - [Health Sciences](#) (6 activities + career posters)
 - [Information Technology](#) (4 activities)
 - [Lenses on the Future - Self](#) (7 activities)

PW 4-H'ers, Interested in Ag? Check Out the Tidewater AREC



[Click here to read the September 2025 TAREC Newsletter](#)

Tidewater AREC had a busy and productive summer! The September 2025 newsletter is packed with highlights from recent field days, research updates, and summer activities, along with a preview of upcoming events.

- Check out research-based Virginia Ag podcasts and blogs from VT
- Explore the peanut, soybean, cotton and corn industry in VA
- Follow current research by VT staff and students
- Read about new technologies improving farming
- And much more!

Prince William 4-H'ers with an interest in agriculture, this newsletter is packed full of ideas for you to explore, find your passion, and work towards an agriculture career!

VT Agribusiness Workshops

[Click here to register.](#)

All workshops are free, but require registration.

Join us this fall for the 2025 Agribusiness Workshop Series, hosted by the Kohl Centre at Virginia Tech. These free workshops are designed for farmers, producers, and anyone interested in topics from beef and dairy to orchards, viticulture, and crop operations.

VSU Workshops

INFO SESSION FOR THE BEGINNING SMALL FARMER
Wed, Sept 17 • 1 PM • Rapidan, VA

[Click here for more info and to register.](#)

This workshop will include information on the mission of the Small Farm Outreach Program, offered through the Virginia State University Cooperative Extension. The SFOP provides outreach and technical support to small-scale, beginning farmers, limited-resource and beginning farmers and ranchers. Come to this workshop and learn about the services and technical support offered by the Small Farm Outreach Program.

ON-FARM CHICKEN PROCESSING

Fri, Sep 19 • 9 AM • Elkton, VA

[Click here for more info and to register.](#)

A hands-on workshop where participants will learn on-farm chicken processing techniques, including dispatching, scalding, and eviscerating pasture-raised birds. Led by Jack Dixon (Riverbank Farms) and Dr. Jessica Walters (VDACS), the workshop will also cover food safety, poultry anatomy and physiology, and VDACS meat and poultry services.



Speakers:

- Mario Ortiz, Collegiate Assistant Professor of Agribusiness and Entrepreneurship
- Kohl Centre Agri-Food Finance Fellows: Max Brandon, Colby Crutchfield, Diego Cudra, McKenzie Marker, Michele Mickelwait, and Miru Yim

All workshops are free. RSVP at <https://forms.gle/9UvRzuaUaRNRN7>, scan the QR code, or contact the agent.



Adding Value in Beef and Dairy Operations

Farm Credit of the Virginias Harrisonburg Branch,
 4646 South Valley Pike, Harrisonburg VA
 October 17, 2025 | 9-11:30 am
 Jeremy Daubert, agent contact: 540-705-4627, jdaubert@vt.edu

We will focus on how beef and livestock producers can create new income streams through direct marketing, branded meat programs, and differentiated production practices (e.g., grass-fed, local sourcing). Participants will analyze the costs, risks, and potential returns of moving beyond the commodity model—and learn how to build a financial case for innovation on the farm.

Adding Value in Fruit and Orchard Enterprises

Alison H. Smith Jr. Agricultural Research and Extension Center,
 595 Laurel Grove Rd, Winchester, VA
 October 23, 2025 | 9-11:30 am
 Mark Sutphin, agent contact: 540-665-5699, mark.sutphin@vt.edu

A hands-on workshop on how fruit and orchard producers can grow profitability through product differentiation and value-added strategies. Explore direct marketing, farm-based products, agritourism, and processing to move beyond wholesale markets. Learn the economics of value creation and planning for success in a changing consumer landscape.

Differentiation & Direct-to-Consumer Sales in Viticulture

Alison H. Smith Jr. Agricultural Research and Extension Center,
 595 Laurel Grove Rd, Winchester, VA
 October 23, 2025 | 2-4:30 pm
 Mark Sutphin, agent contact: 540-665-5699, mark.sutphin@vt.edu

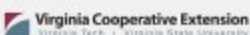
Virginia's wine and grape industries offer exciting opportunities for value creation. This workshop will focus on how small and mid-sized vineyards and wineries can use brand identity, agritourism, and direct-to-consumer channels to build resilient business models. We'll break down the economics behind these strategies and offer planning tools to support long-term growth in a competitive market.

Business Strategies for Row Crop Operations

Eastern Virginia Agricultural Research and Extension Center,
 2229 Menokin Rd, Warsaw, VA
 December 5, 2025 | 9-11:30 am
 Frank Long, agent contact: 804-758-4120, flong269@vt.edu

This interactive session will help row crop producers evaluate how alternative business models—like regenerative practices, or niche grain markets—can offer an edge in today's volatile commodity markets. Participants will explore financial tools and marketing approaches that support diversified revenue streams, while hearing success stories about those who've made the leap.

OUR SPONSORS:



Virginia Cooperative Extension is a partnership of Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and local governments, and is an equal opportunity employer. For the full non-discrimination statement, please visit ext.vt.edu/accessibility. If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact Mario Ortiz at 540-231-4908 during business hours of 9 am and 4 pm to discuss accommodations 5 days prior to the event.



EVERY CHILD DESERVES A FRESH START.



Dear Neighbor,

Heading back to school should be filled with excitement, not worry. But for too many families in our community, the start of a new school year brings the stress of not being able to afford even the most basic clothing essentials.

No child should feel embarrassed or excluded because they don't have what they need to walk into the classroom with confidence.

At **Boxes of Basics**, we believe every child deserves the dignity of choice, the joy of something new, and the confidence that comes from being prepared.

Thanks to donors like you, we provide **custom-packed seasonal wardrobes**—a full box of love—to children in need. Each box includes new and gently used clothing, new shoes, socks, underwear, a winter coat and more. For many of these children, it's the first time they've received something chosen just for them.

With your support, we can ensure that local children start the year not just with what they need—but with the confidence and sense of belonging every child deserves.

Thank you for believing in the power of basics.

Sarah Tyndall, Founder & Executive Director

WHAT'S IN A BOX?

12 mix-and-match school & play outfits



1 dress-up outfit



Pajamas



Sweatshirt or sweater



New sneakers



New socks



New underwear



Winter coat



Dental hygiene kit



2 books



Handwritten love note



HELP US PACK THE NEXT BOX



Donate by **September 15** to ensure every child starts the school year with confidence.

BOXESOFBASICS.ORG



FALL ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW

occoquan, virginia

**SEP
27 & 28**



plus JOIN US FOR
IMAGINATION ALLEY!

Packed with arts and crafts,
performances, demonstrations,
and tons of family fun!

**SCAN TO
LEARN
MORE:**



300+ ARTISTANS • BEER GARDEN • LIVE MUSIC • FREE ADMISSION

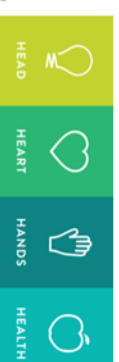
OCOQUANFESTIVALS.COM

2025 - 2026 PRINCE WILLIAM 4-H EVENT CALENDAR



OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
5-11 National 4-H Week	1 VA 4-H Shooting Ed Instructor Re-Certification	1 PW 4-H Embryology Registration Opens	10 PW 4-H Cloverbud Club	5 PW 4-H Club & Project Leader Professional Dev	1 PW 4-H Junior Camp Reg Opens
7 Proclamation at PWC/BOCS	3-4 PW 4-H No School November Sewing SPIN Club	3 PW 4-H Club & Project Leader Professional Dev	13 PW 4-H Association Meeting	14 PW 4-H Contest Day: Presentations, Table Setting, Fashion Review	6-7 TALT Weekend - Junior Camp Counselor Training
11 PW 4-H Cloverbud Club	6 PW 4-H Engage Locally	4 PW 4-H Homemade Holiday Craft Night Teen Club, Cloverbud Club	20 Virginia 4-H Day at the Capitol	10 PW 4-H Leaders' Mid-Year Mtg & 4-H Association Mtg	10 PW 4-H Leaders' Mid-Year Mtg & 4-H Association Mtg
11-12 VA 4-H Shooting Ed New Instructor Certification	8 PW 4-H Cloverbud Club	13 Wreaths Across America Day	21 An Evening with Virginia 4-H at VT	TBD PW 4-H Embryology Project Leader Training & Egg Pickup	14-15 VA 4-H Spring Air Championships
14 PW 4-H Portfolio Training	12 PW 4-H Association Meeting	23 PW 4-H Share the Fun Dress Rehearsal	23 PW 4-H Share the Fun	TBD VA 4-H Hippology & Horse Judging	21 PW 4-H Food Challenge Contest
19-25 National Character Counts Week	24 PW 4-H Officer Training & Teen Club	30 PW 4-H Share the Fun	30 PW 4-H Share the Fun	TBD 4-H Shooting Sports National Quiz Bowl	25-29 National 4-H IGINTE
21 PW 4-H Club & Project Leader Professional Dev	28-Dec 2 National 4-H Congress	TBD PW 4-H Tree Seedling Orders Due	TBD PW 4-H Tree Seedling Orders Due	TBD VA 4-H Stockman's & Livestock Judging	TBD VA 4-H Teen Summit
23 PW 4-H Presentation Training	28-Dec 14 TSC & 4-H Paper Clover Campaign	TBD PW 4-H Shooting Ed Instructor Recertification	TBD VA 4-H Shooting Ed Instructor Recertification	TBD PW 4-H Young Entrepreneurs Market Day	TBD VA 4-H Chick Drop-Off Evaluation
24 Green & Growing: PW 4-H Recognition Day & Open House	TBD PW 4-H Hike: 4-H Outdoor Challenge				TBD VA 4-H and FFA Meats Evaluation
APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
11 PW 4-H Cloverbud Club	10 PW 4-H Cloverbud Club	16-29 Virginia 4-H Congress	TBD PW 4-H Young Entrepreneurs Market Day	TBD VA 4-H Northern District Shoot	4-6 VA 4-H State Horse and Pony Championship
14 PW 4-H Club & Project Leader Professional Dev	12 PW 4-H Association Board & Leader Year-End Meeting	21-26 National 4-H Shooting Sports Championship	TBD State of Virginia's NRA Youth Education Summit	TBD VA 4-H Pork Challenge	5-6 VA 4-H State Shoot
TBD National 4-H Conference	TBD National 4-H Equismartz	30 1st Time Junior 4-H Camper Parents' Meeting	TBD Prince William/Stafford 4-H Junior Camp	TBD PW 4-H Fair Camp	
TBD VA 4-H Shooting Ed New Instructor Certification	TBD VA 4-H Young Entrepreneurs Workshops	TBD PW 4-H Young Entrepreneurs Market Day	TBD Southern Regionals 4-H Horse Championships	TBD PW 4-H Young Entrepreneurs Market Day	TBD PW 4-H Young Entrepreneurs Market Day
TBD PW 4-H Young Entrepreneurs Interest Mtg	TBD PW 4-H Outdoor Challenge SPIN Project	TBD PW 4-H Young Entrepreneurs Market Day	TBD VA 4-H Youth Dairy Field Day		TBD VA 4-H Shotgun Championship
TBD PW 4-H Tree Planting	TBD 4-H Northeast District Food Challenge Contest	TBD VA Dept of Forestry Camp Woods & Wildlife			TBD State Fair of Virginia
TBD VA 4-H/FFA Beef Challenge, Beef Roundup, Tractor Operators Contest		TBD VA 4-H Livestock Judging Contests			TBD SFVA Youth Livestock Shows, Livestock Skillathon, Dairymen's Contest, Dairy Goat Contest.
TBD VA 4-H State WHEP Contest					
TBD TSC & 4-H Paper Clover Campaign					
TBD VA 4-H/FFA State Poultry Evaluation Contest					
TBD VA 4-H Healthy Living Summit					
TBD VA 4-H Northeast District Contest Day					

For more detailed information as events approach, see the newsletter at www.pwcvra.gov/4H.



Updated 09/02/2025

**PRINCE WILLIAM
COUNTY**

8033 Ashton Ave, #105,
Manassas, VA 20109

Click to Visit Online:

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Portfolio Records

[Member Record](#)
[Cloverbud Sheet](#)
[Project Record Ages 9-10](#)
[Project Record Ages 11-12](#)
[Project Record Ages 13-15](#)
[Project Record Ages 16-19](#)

[Outstanding Member Form](#)

[Prince William 4-H Member Record - President](#)
[Prince William 4-H Member Record - Vice President](#)



2024-2025 PWC 4-H Association Officers

Youth Officers

Lexi Strand, President
Tim Hirshey, Vice President
Cara Grahn, Secretary
Ryan Nguyen, Treasurer

Adult Officers

Susan Wolf, President
Alan Lerch, Vice President
Shelby Kohn, Secretary
Sydney Nguyen, Treasurer

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Recognition Committee - Alan Lerch
Membership Committee - 4-H Staff



Beyond Ready



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