



## Montgomery County 4-H

November 1, 2024



If you need a special accommodation for a 4-H program, event, or activity at the 4-H Extension Office in Derwood, MD, please call 301-590-3210 or e-mail [jshriver@umd.edu](mailto:jshriver@umd.edu).

If you need to reserve a room or need a special accommodation at the MoCo Fairgrounds in Gaithersburg, MD for a 4-H program, please contact the Event and Sponsorship Coordinator, Ms. Monica Monroe at [Monica@mcagfair.com](mailto:Monica@mcagfair.com).

The next issue of The Montgomery County 4-H News & Notes will be published the first week of December 2024. Please submit your articles to Anna Hamann, [ahamann@umd.edu](mailto:ahamann@umd.edu) by November 25, 2024.

**Message from Chandini Balram Montgomery, new MoCo 4-H Educator**



Hello, everyone!

For those of you that I have already met, thank you for your warm welcome to Montgomery County 4-H! And for those I haven't met yet, my hope is to meet you all soon. My goal is to expand the definition of 4-H to fit the needs of this amazingly diverse community where everyone feels welcome.

I have a special place in my heart for teaching and connection. This is how I have found a way to break out of my own shell and feel like a part of a community. My hope is that everyone who is involved with 4-H will find their own way to break out of their shell and connect within the 4-H community to build a better tomorrow.

Thank you all for being a part of this amazing program! Your hard work and dedication really shine through in everything you do, and I am excited to join such a beloved program.

-Chandini Montgomery  
4-H Educator

## Montgomery County 4-H T-shirt Design Contest

### **Entries due by November 8, 2024**

We are looking for creative 4-H Youths to submit designs for a Montgomery County-wide T-Shirt. The guidelines are as follows:

1. Must have the 4-H Clover within the design
2. Encompass as many aspects of 4-H as you can
3. Upload the design to 4-H Online (the same as you do when registering for an event)
4. Please submit the file as a JPEG, PDF, or Word document

The 4-H Staff will choose the winner of our 2025 T-shirt Contest. All Montgomery County registered 4-H Members will receive a free T-shirt. All entrants will receive a special prize for participating.

If you need an accommodation to participate in this contest, please reach out to the County 4-H Office.

Here are some examples and inspiration.



## 2025 National 4-H Conference

Applications are now being accepted for senior 4-H'ers to serve as Maryland 4-H Delegates to the 2025 National 4-H Conference, which will be held April 11 to 16, 2025, in Arlington, VA. Eligible 4-H members may submit their application through the 2025 National 4-H Conference Application Event Registration in 4-H Online.

Registration due date is November 15, 2024. 4-H'ers are strongly encouraged to submit their applications before the deadline.

To be considered to represent Maryland 4-H as a Delegate to the 2025 National 4-H Conference, a 4-H member must:

- Be between the ages of 14 and 18 as of January 1, 2025 (senior 4-H age).
- Be enrolled in the Maryland 4-H program.
- Submit a 4-H Portfolio for evaluation.
- Be nominated by their 4-H Educator (based on 4-H Portfolio).
- Participate in a Delegate interview.

Senior 4-H members may serve as Delegates for three leadership trips in their 4-H career. Senior 4-H'ers may attend each leadership trip only once and may attend no more than one leadership trip each 4-H (calendar) year.

Applicants must submit a 4-H Portfolio as part of their application in 4-H Online. The 4-H Portfolio consists of two items:

- 4-H Resume
- 4-H Essay

The 4-H Essay topic for this Delegate application is "Describe how one of your project areas has influenced your life outside of 4-H."

Applications must be submitted through 4-H Online by 11:59 pm on November 15, 2024.

You can find more information about Maryland 4-H Leadership Trips on the [Maryland 4-H website](#).

For more information regarding MoCo's due date, please contact Sheila Ford at (301) 590-2824 or [sheilaf@umd.edu](mailto:sheilaf@umd.edu).

## **Maryland 4-H State Council**

The Maryland 4-H State Council is now accepting 2025 General Membership applications.

The Maryland 4-H State Council is the premier teen leadership opportunity in the Maryland 4-H program. It comprises active 4-H members from around the state interested in developing high-level leadership skills and representing their local 4-H program. State Council members can learn from each other, volunteers, and faculty/staff outside of their club and local 4-H Program.

A youth officer team and faculty/staff advisors lead the State Council. State Council members serve for the full 4-H (calendar) year. You can learn more about the 4-H State Council on the [Maryland 4-H website](#).

### **Eligibility**

4-H members who will be ages 13-18 as of January 1, 2025, may apply to serve on the Maryland 4-H State Council.

### **How to Apply**

4-H members interested in serving on the 4-H State Council are strongly encouraged to contact their local 4-H office before applying.

Applications for the Maryland 4-H State Council are accepted through 4-H Online. Please encourage your teen leaders to log in to 4-H Online and apply.

4-H members who apply to serve on the 4-H State Council must submit a cover letter, 4-H resume, and photo. Youth will upload these items to your application in 4-H Online, in addition to answering a few questions.

All applications must be submitted in 4-H Online by 11:59 pm on November 15, 2024. 4-H Educators must review and approve the county application before forwarding it to the State 4-H Office for consideration.

## **2024 Maryland 4-H State Animal Science Project & Record Awards Program**

The 2024 Maryland 4-H State Animal Science Project & Record Awards Program Portal is Open!

Applications for the 2024 Maryland 4-H State Animal Science Project and Record Awards Program will be accepted in 4-H Online until November 17, 2024. Senior age 4-H members may apply. The guidelines for the 2024 Maryland 4-H State Animal Science Project and Record Awards Program, a submission help sheet, and the essay score sheet can be found

on the Maryland 4-H website at <https://extension.umd.edu/programs/4-h-youth-development/program-areas/animal-sciences> under the Animal Science Resources / Animal Science Project Records heading.

Maryland 4-H Animal Sciences Program Guidebook:  
chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://extension.umd.edu/sites/extension.umd.edu/files/2024-10/MD%204-H%20State%20Animal%20Science%20Award\_2024.pdf

## 2024 Maryland 4-H Dog Bowl Contest

The 2024 Maryland 4-H Dog Bowl will be held on Sunday, December 8, 2024, at the Animal Science Bldg. on the UMD campus in College Park. The contest will feature Junior, Intermediate, and Senior age divisions. Registration is on 4-H Online and will be due by November 17, 2024.

The rules and regulations for the 2024 contest are posted on the Maryland 4-H webpage at: <https://extension.umd.edu/programs/4-h-youth-development/program-areas/animal-sciences/>

Click on the Animal Science Resources Link and scroll to Competitive Events: Judging / Bowls / Skillathons / Hippology Contests.

Contact Ashley Travis at [ashley90@umd.edu](mailto:ashley90@umd.edu) or Chris Anderson at [canders2@umd.edu](mailto:canders2@umd.edu) if you have questions.

## 2025 Outbound Opportunities

In 2025 Maryland 4-H'ers have the opportunity to explore the world and become culturally aware in 5 different outbound locations: Argentina (4-week), Costa Rica (4-week), Japan (4 & 8-week programs), South Korea (4-week), and Taiwan (4-week).

Each outbound opportunity provides a unique cultural immersion experience. Delegates will experience aspects of daily life that allow them to deeply understand both their host's culture and their own!

Applications are due by Nov. 30. Program fees include lodging, meals, transportation, camps, and cultural excursions throughout the program. The scholarship opportunity is available through States' 4-H upon application approval. If you are interested, please apply at

<https://app.smarterselect.com/programs/98780-States-4-H-International-Exchange>

## 2025 Inbound Opportunities

Are you interested in other countries? Would you like to welcome an international student into your home? Host families come in all shapes and sizes and reflect the diversity of the United States. What they have in common is their eagerness to open their homes and hearts to a young person from another culture. Our families are warm, welcoming volunteers who are proud to share their American culture and lifestyle.

States' 4-H accepts applications from host families year-round for the month-long and yearlong programs.

For more information visit <https://www.states4hexchange.org/apply/host/>

## National 4-H Leadership Opportunities

To be considered for a Leadership Trip, you must complete a portfolio package that includes an application, 4-H resume, and an essay. Portfolios are due to the State Office by January 15, 2025. However, for the following trips a Portfolio and Out-of-State Trip application review with the MoCo 4-H Educator is required no later than December 16, 2024.

- Camp Miniwanca (June)
- Virginia 4-H Congress (June)
- West Virginia Older Member's Conference (June)
- National 4-H Congress (November)

Here are some things to know about the program:

- Senior Record Book

This record book includes elements from the Senior Portfolio, and replaces the Summary Record and 4-H Story.

- Essay question

The 2025 Senior Essay Question is "Describe how one of your project areas has influenced your life outside of 4-H".

- Record Book and Portfolio submission

4-H'ers can submit a regular Record Book or a Senior Record Book.

- Interview with representatives of the 4-H State Office

Portfolio 4-H'ers who qualify for leadership trips will be interviewed.

- Record Book tips

4-H'ers should keep a binder with all their past Record Book materials, which can be helpful for creating resumes later.

- Local 4-H Educator

4-H'ers can contact their local 4-H Educator for help with the process of applying for opportunities.

For more information visit the State website under National 4-H Leadership Opportunities at

<https://extension.umd.edu/programs/4-h-youth-development/program-areas/youth-and-adult-leadership/>

## Steer Weigh-In and Tagging

January 4, 2025 at 7:00 a.m. at the Montgomery County fairgrounds. Those who wish to show a steer MUST attend and complete the livestock registration form beforehand. Registration form due to Cathereine Savage, 301-590-2813, csavage9@umd.edu, by December 27, 2024.

chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://extension.umd.edu/sites/extension.umd.edu/files/2021-04/MD\_4-H\_Livestock\_Registration\_Form\_2021.pdf

## MC Agricultural Center 2025 Scholarship Applications

The Montgomery County Agricultural Center, Inc. (MCAC) offers post-secondary scholarships to individuals who are planning to further their education in agriculture, family and consumer sciences or related fields of study. Applicants must provide documentation of volunteer service on the Fairgrounds to be eligible for these scholarships.

The scholarship winners will be notified in March and presented at the annual meeting in May.

Applications must be submitted online by January 10, 2025 by 11:59 p.m.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GkaYJzs\\_RbNC1WEwpxEWgqogqGpQLq5m/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GkaYJzs_RbNC1WEwpxEWgqogqGpQLq5m/view)

If you have any questions please contact the Fair Office at 301-926-3100 x205

## **Due at the 4-H County Office in January 2025**

Due to the MoCo 4-H Office by January 31, 2025:

- 2024 President's Volunteer Service Award Forms
- Record Books
- Completed Diamond Clover Reports for levels 1 – 4

Please mail your materials or deliver documents to the Montgomery County 4-H Office, Attn: Sheila Ford, 18410 Muncaster Road, Derwood, MD 20855 or email to [sheilaf@umd.edu](mailto:sheilaf@umd.edu).

Resume Format

<https://extension.umd.edu/locations/anne-arundel-county/4-h-youth-developMent/4-h-forms>

Sample of the Diamond Clover Reports

<https://extension.umd.edu/progrAMs/4-h-youth-developMent/progrAM-areas/youth-and-adult-leadership/diAMond-clover-awards-and-scholarships>

## **Record Books**

If you plan to do a Record Book for this year, please refer to the guidelines on 4-H Online.

What is a 4-H Record Book? A 4-H Record Book is a standard record of your activities in 4-H - your projects, activities, events, skills development and learning experiences. The 4-H Record Book helps improve your skills in record keeping, goal management, and reflection on your achievements and growth in 4-H.

If you are doing a Record Book, please:

1. Place a rubber band around the Record Book so the book stays together.
2. If you are submitting your Record Book personally, or if a Club Leader is submitting Record Books, please contact a 4-H Staff to be available to receive the Record Book(s.)

If you have any questions, please contact Jeannine Shriver at [jshriver@umd.edu](mailto:jshriver@umd.edu).

Record Books are due at the County 4-H Office on or before Friday January 31, 2025.

**Ignite by 4-H**



March 12-16, 2025, Marriott Marquis, Washington D.C.

Join 4-H'ers from across the U.S. in Washington, D.C. for Ignite by 4-H! The four-day interactive summit helps teens find their spark through inspiring speakers, hands-on workshops, off-site experiences, career exploration, and connecting with peers.

Ignite is a step forward in the journey of becoming beyond ready. At Ignite, teens collaborate, create, and cultivate a passion for expanding their minds and their world—becoming resilient and READY for everything life has to offer. The possibilities are endless at Ignite by 4-H.

Registration is open at <https://ignite2025.powerappsportals.com/>

## 4-H Calendar Due dates and Events

### NOVEMBER

- 8 -10 Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup, Louisville, KY
- 2 Southeastern Regional Livestock Judging Contest, Olde Dominion Agricultural Complex
- 2 Southeastern Regional 4-H Skillathon Contest, Olde Dominion Agricultural Complex
- 14-16 The 51st North American International Livestock Exposition, Louisville, KY
- 15 National 4-H Conference due date
- 15 Maryland 4-H State Council due date
- 17 2024 Maryland 4-H State Animal Science Project & Record Awards Program due date
- 20-21 The National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference, Louisville, KY
- 22-24 The Maryland 4-H Volunteer and Teen Forum, Ocean City, MD
- 30 Outbound Opportunities due date

### DECEMBER

- 8 Maryland State Dog Bowl, Animal Science Building, UMD College Park, MD
- 16 Portfolio and Out-of-State Trip application review with the MoCo 4-H Educator due date
- 27 Livestock Registration Form due at the MoCo 4-H Office

## **JANUARY**

- 4 Steer Weigh-In, 7:00 a.m. Montgomery County Fairgrounds
- 10 MC Agricultural Center 2025 Scholarship Applications due date
- 15 2025 National Leadership Trips Portfolio due to State Office (National 4-H Congress, Camp Miniwanca, West Virginia Older Member's Conference and Virginia Congress)
- 31 President 's Volunteer Service Award nomination, Record Books, Diamond Clover Levels 1-4 Reports, Club Youth Nominations due at the MoCo 4-H Office

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Chandini Montgomery, 4-H Educator, 301-590-2804, [cbmontgo@umd.edu](mailto:cbmontgo@umd.edu)  
Catherine Savage, Agent Associate, 301-590-2813, [csavage9@umd.edu](mailto:csavage9@umd.edu)  
Sheila Ford, Extension Program Assistance, [sheilaf@umd.edu](mailto:sheilaf@umd.edu)  
Jeannine Shriver, Admin Asst., 301-590-3210, [jshriver@umd.edu](mailto:jshriver@umd.edu)  
Anna Hamann, Admin Asst. (part-time), Newsletter Editor, [ahamann@umd.edu](mailto:ahamann@umd.edu)

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Our mailing address is:  
Montgomery County 4-H  
18410 Muncaster Rd  
Derwood, MD 20855

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