4-H PROJECT ADDITIONS, DELETION AND MEMBER ENROLLMENT

Members must designate the projects in which they intend to exhibit at the 2015 Howard County Fair by June 1st of 2015. Members may not drop a project after June 1st.

All club leaders will have a list of all projects you are enrolled in at both the April and May meetings. Please review the your projects for the 2015 4-H year, make any additions or deletions, and initial to verify the changes. When reviewing your list, please be aware that the list being turned in as of June 1st will be the one the Extension Office will use to determine what projects records are required to be in your record book. If you don't intend to carry a project on your list, now is the time to delete it. You can only make changes through your club at a meeting or through your organizational leader. **Do not directly call the 4-H office to make changes!**

All enrollment forms and dues need to be in to Rick Hodiak by **June 1st**. Forms received after that date will not be eligible for 4-H Fair participation. If you know someone who is planning to join 4-H, they need to attend the April or May meeting of the club they are interested in. The 4-H office will not enroll someone without them attending a club meeting. Also, these new enrollments must come through the organizational leader.
RETURNED CHECK POLICY

When there are insufficient funds to cover a check written to the Howard County 4-H EAC, please be advised that the writer of the check will be responsible for covering the insufficient fee cost charged by the bank.

CALLING ALL NEW UME VOLUNTEERS!

UME Volunteer Training is available. This class will provide participants basic information on the University of Maryland Extension 4-H Youth Development program. It will cover UME policies and procedures and detail the process to becoming an appointed UME 4-H Volunteer. The course will be taught via Webinar. Participants will need access to a computer with internet connection as well as telephone. The sessions will not be recorded.

However, before taking the class you must contact Chris Rein at the Howard County office at 410-313-1915 or email Crein@umd.edu for UME Volunteer paperwork, that must be completed before attending the training.

Once all your paperwork is returned to the office, Chris will be able to register you for a class.

COUNT DOWN TO THE 2015 HOWARD COUNTY FAIR

As of March 1st... There are... 154 Days Left until the 2015 Howard County Fair!

See you there!

4-H VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION DINNER

Howard County 4-H Clubs will recognize their 4-H Volunteers for their years of dedicated on Saturday, May 2nd. We are looking for clubs to consider making monetary donations to cover the expenses for this program. Our budget has decreased, therefore, we are relying on donations to help recognize these hard working and dedicated volunteers. Please discuss this with your club! Club leaders will be receiving a letter regarding specifics regarding this request.

Thank You!

OFFICER TRAINING FOLLOW-UP

Holding an office in your 4-H club is a privilege and a great leadership opportunity. If you are a 2015 club officer you should be proud of yourself for being elected into an office and for furthering your leadership development.

In December, the annual Officer Training Workshop was held with great attendance. We would like to take this opportunity to thank UME Volunteer, Karen Murdock for teaching at this valuable workshop.

If you are a club officer and were not able to attend, a follow-up packet was mailed to you in late February. Included in the packet is an assignment to assist you with having a better understanding of your officer role.
2015 4-H CAMP

Howard County 4-H Camp is a one-week residential camp, located in beautiful Garrett County Maryland, at the 1,100 acre Western Maryland 4-H Education Center. This ACA accredited camp will now be held from Sunday, June 21st - Saturday, June 27th. All youth, ages 8 (as of January 1, 2015) through 14, are welcome to apply. Applications will be available online the first week in March at www.howard4-h.org.

The fee includes transportation to and from camp and room and board for 6 nights. Camper activities include: crafts, canoeing, swimming, hiking, archery, sports, nature class, candle-making, rifley, campfires, talent show, a one-night rustic camping opportunity, all in a natural outdoor setting. Parents and campers are required to attend the upcoming orientation being held in May 21st at the Howard County Fairgrounds. Registration forms are accepted on a first come, first serve basis. Please keep in mind 4-H members will received preferred status prior to Monday, April 6th. After that date, it will be open to all youth (ages 8-14) and placement will continue until spaces are filled. TRY NOT TO WAIT UNTIL THE DEADLINE, SPACE GOES FAST!!

After the camp registration deadline passes, additional information will be mailed to all applicants regarding their acceptance to camp. Need-based scholarships are available for those who qualify. For more information, please contact Chris Rein at 410-313-1915 or by email at crein@umd.edu.

T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST

Have you seen the last few designs our t-shirt winner created? Would you like to be one of them? Then you may want to read on. The 4-H team is looking for someone to design the front of the t-shirt. We are looking for a black and white computer generated design that includes the official 4-H clover. The person who designs the selected shirt design will be awarded $50. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Sheryl at 410-313-1912 or sherylb@umd.edu. All t-shirt designs are due no later than Friday, April 24th.

HOWARD COUNTY 4-H T-SHIRTS

Back another year by popular demand!! We are in the process of planning for the 2015 4-H t-shirts all Howard County 4-H'ers receive to wear at the Howard County Fair. In this Cloverleaf, please find the sponsorship form. If you know of a business or organization that may be interested, please pass along the letter and form enclosed. If additional forms are needed, they can be found on our website www.howard4-h.org. We are anticipating great success so all our 4-H'ers have a t-shirt at no cost!

HOWARD COUNTY 4-H ALL STAR 2014 BASKET AND BAG BINGO

The Howard County 4-H All Stars are currently planning the 2015 Basket and Bag Bingo Fundraiser. It is scheduled for Friday, March 27th at the Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Department Activities Building. 4-H All Stars sponsor many 4-H awards and activities throughout our county. If interested in making a donation for the fundraiser or would like tickets, please contact Marjie Eyer 301-829-1449 or Martin Hamilton at 410-489-6258.
HEALTHY LIFESTYLES
COMPETITION

The Healthy Lifestyles Competition for the Central Cluster (Montgomery, Howard, and Frederick Counties) will be held on Saturday, April 11th at the Montgomery County Extension Office (18410 Muncaster Road, Derwood, MD 20855). Juniors, intermediates, and seniors may enter the following categories—poster, tablesetting, food science exhibit, and menu. Entries should be brought to the 4-H office by 8:30 am. The tablesetting and food science exhibits require a short interview with the judge, but the posters and menus can be dropped off for judging if you are unable to stay for the whole morning. Use of the computer and Choose My Plate (http://www.choosemyplate.gov/myplate/index.aspx) is strongly recommended for researching the menu entry. The poster theme this year is “Eat Right, Be Bright.”

For more information, guidelines and to register visit- https://extension.umd.edu/montgomery-county/healthy-lifestyles-visual-presentation-competitions. Registration is due April 1st.

CLUSTER SPRING BREAK FUN WITH SEWING WORKSHOP

Two-day sewing workshop for the Central Cluster (Montgomery, Howard, and Frederick Counties) will be held at the Montgomery County 4-H Office (18410 Muncaster Road, Derwood, MD 20855) on April 7th and 8th from 9 am to 1 pm. This workshop is designed for sewers of all skill levels and there will be experienced volunteers to help you with your project. You don’t have to be carrying the sewing or clothing projects to participate, and completed projects can be entered in the County Fair. Adults and teens experienced in sewing who want to help at the workshop should contact Alganesh Piechosinski, 301 590 2804 or algapie@umd.edu or Chris Rein at 410-313-1915 or via e-mail crein@umd.edu.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND REGISTER NOW!

Spring Break Sewing Workshop:
April 7th and 8th—Central Cluster two-day sewing workshop. Register by March 31: fill out the online registration form http://goo.gl/forms/1lFRR2JC48 or call 301 590 2824.

Fashion Revue Show:
June 14th—Central Cluster Fashion Revue Show Bushy Park Elementary School- Glenwood , MD

CENTRAL CLUSTER 4-H VISUAL PRESENTATION CONTEST

The Central Cluster Visual Presentations Contest will be held on Saturday, April 11, 2015 at the Montgomery County 4-H Office (18410 Muncaster Road, Derwood, MD 20855). We expect to be finished before noon. Registration and setup begins at 8:30 am. This contest is for ALL 4-H’ers.

A visual presentation can be an illustrated talk or a demonstration—they are viewed equally in the eyes of the judges. For an illustrated talk, posters and props are brought to help explain the topic. For a demonstration, steps in a procedure must be given and a finished product must be shown, in addition to having posters and needed materials or ingredients. Visuals for illustrated talks or demos may be created using computer software like PowerPoint. The judges will be looking for presentations that are interesting, well organized, and show what you know about your project area.

For more information, guidelines and to register visit- https://extension.umd.edu/montgomery-county/healthy-lifestyles-visual-presentation-contests. Registration is due April 1st.

CENTRAL CLUSTER 4-H COMMUNICATION CONTEST

The Central Maryland 4-H Communication Contest will be held on Saturday, March 14, 2015, 9:00 a.m. at Bushy Park Elementary School.
**HOWARD COUNTY 4-H INDOOR BUILDING FAIR CHANGES FOR 2015**

**Baked Good Department**
Cake category the Heart lover’s class was replaced with a White layer cake class.

**Home Environment**
Removed the Needlework, Cloth or plastic canvas class, Stenciled Article and Scrapbooking digital album 10 pages classes. Then added the following classes: Items for the bedroom, Home Decorations, Blankets-Original.

**Crafts**
Removed the Sand Terrarium and Fabric Paints classes and added Tie Dye-other, Mason Jars, and a “spotlight” class that will change every year with a new theme. This year’s theme is "Duct Tape Clothing".

**Clover Department**
Reworked the categories into the following: Crafts, Fine Arts, Photography, Foods, Horticulture, Clothing, Woodworking, Family Life, and Science. There is a total of 40 classes in the Clover department.

**Booths**
Class was added for Club Promotional Advertisement- Video/Media.

**Honey Department**
Chunk honey should be in 1 pound cylindrical jars has changed to: Chunk honey should be in wide-mouth jars.

---

It’s for YOU...
TAGGING REQUIREMENTS FOR LIVESTOCK SHOWS

With the start of the 2015 show season, members need to remember several regulations established for all livestock exhibits of cattle, sheep, goats, and swine.

The Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) has identification requirements for national animal disease traceability (ADT). All livestock being brought to shows in 2015 must have an "official identification". This identification will be tied to a registered premise. For most livestock this means a tag bearing the official US shield.

- Sheep and goats scrapie identification is an acceptable identification, including breed registration tattoos (tattoos must be legible and follow scrapie program requirements)
- Cattle must have an official tag, brands and tattoos will not be accepted
- Swine must have an official tag, ear notches and tattoos are not accepted

What does all of this mean for 4-H projects?

- Official identification will need to be done by the producer or veterinarian to tie the identification to a registered premise.
- 4-H animals will still be tagged with a Maryland state 4-H tag
- Registered purebred animals will still be exempt from the Maryland state 4-H tag but must have an official identification with the US shield for shows
- For 4-H shows both the official identification and the Maryland 4-H identification must be listed on your CVI (health papers)

For more information about the tagging requirements please visit: www.mda.maryland.gov/animalHealth/Pages/Fairs-Show.aspx

HORSE JUDGING WORKSHOPS

Great opportunity for members who are interested or have a love for horses!

Horse Judging and Hippology practices will begin on Monday, March 30th. Practices will held 6:30 p.m. at The Cullum's House. Participants of all age levels will acquire skills and knowledge about horses to make them better horsemen and prepare for the State Contests. Competing in the contest is not a requirement. For more information please contact Diana Cullum via e-mail at diana.cullum@verizon.net

Horse Judging focuses on confirmation and movement.

Hippology covers several areas such as feed, equipment, bones, terminology, body parts, confirmation, and tack.

Please register through Eventbrite- https://www.eventbrite.com/e/4-h-hippology-and-horse-judging-workshops-tickets-15601514550

MARYLAND-DELWARE SHEEP SHEARING SCHOOL

A beginning sheep shearing class will be held on April 17th and 18th at Ridgely Thompson Farm in Westminster, Maryland. Participants will learn the New Zealand method of shearing, how to adjust and take care of hand held shearing machines and how to properly handle wool after shearing. You must be at least 16 years old to participate. Spaced is limited to the first 25 who register. Registration is due no later than April 5th.

4-H MODEL HORSE SHOW

The 2015 4-H Model Horse Show is scheduled for Sunday, March 22nd. All 4-Hers are invited to attend and participate.

More information may be found on the Howard County 4-H website:

https://extension.umd.edu/howard-county/4-h-youth-development/model-horse-show
MARKET LIVESTOCK TAG REPLACEMENT

Each year we have market animals that lose their ear tags. This creates a challenge re-tagging the right animals. Animals need to be housed and handled so they do not lose their tags. Replacement tags will cost $10.00 each. Animals will be re-tagged at weight checks. Please notify Sheryl at 410-313-1912 or by email at sherylb@umd.edu if you have an animal that loses a tag. Sheryl needs to be notified within 48 hours.

BEEF FIELD DAY

Mark your calendar now! The Howard County 4-H Beef Field Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 25th. It will be held at the Howard County Fairgrounds. It is mandatory that all Junior, Intermediate and First Year 4-Hers carrying a beef project attend and exhibit one animal at this event. If you have a conflict, please contact Sheryl ASAP at 410-313-1912 or sherylb@umd.edu.

2015 MARKET LIVESTOCK RATE-OF-GAIN PROGRAM

Beef Steers, Market Goats, Market Lambs, and Market Pigs will have minimum "rate-of-gain" required to show in 2015. This means that market animals will have to gain a certain amount per day from Tag-In Day to the County Fair:

- Beef - 2.0 pounds of gain per day
- Sheep - .40 pounds of gain per day
- Swine - 1.5 pounds of gain per day
- Goat - .20 pounds of gain per day

WILLS FAIR

Wills Fair will be held Saturday, May 16, 2015 at the Howard County Fairgrounds. The Catalog with rules and regulations for each department as well as entries forms are available online at our website - www.howard4-h.org.

Entries are to be mailed to the 4-H Department, Carroll County - UME, 700 Agriculture Center, Westminster, MD 21157. Entries need to be received on or before April 24, 2015.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

All animal science quality assurance trainings will be completed online for 2015. The online Quality Assurance program will be available online after April 1st.

Please read the following information very carefully:

Anyone enrolled in the following projects must complete online Quality Assurance training: alpaca, beef, dairy, goat, horse, poultry, rabbit, sheep, and swine.

- If you completed online Quality Assurance training last year please read the following bullet points:
- If you have not added any new animal projects and have not changed an age level (Junior to Intermediate or Intermediate to Senior), then you do not need to do anything this year.
- If you have a new animal project this year, then you must complete the introductory section as well as the specie specific section of the online Quality Assurance training.
- If you changed age levels this year, then you are required to complete the introductory section and all animal sections related to your projects.
- If this is your first year in 4-H, then you are required to complete the introductory section and all sections related to your projects.
2015 HOWARD COUNTY FAIR ANIMAL SCIENCE CHANGES

There will be several changes and additions for the 2015 Howard County Fair in relation to 4-H Animal Sciences, therefore, the major changes have been outlined below! Extensive details will be included in the fair book that will be available at the beginning of June.

ALL 4-H ANIMAL ENTRIES WILL BE ENTERED ONLINE IN 2015.
THE ONLINE SYSTEM WILL BE AVAILABLE THROUGH OUR WEBSITE- www.howard4-h.org.

4-H General Rules
The dress code regarding neck pieces for girls has been reworded to match the Maryland State Fair dress code.
The new wording is "...and green or black neck piece. Approved neckpiece includes: neck tie, bow tie, bolo tie or tied bandana. Jewelry does not qualify as a neckpiece-no exceptions."

4-H Dairy Department
For 2015, 4-H Dairy exhibits must arrive on the fairgrounds no later than Monday, August 10th by 1:00 p.m.
The selection of the 4-H Champion will start ½ hour after the Holstein/Ayrshire show ends.

4-H Dog Department
Exhibitors may enter more than one dog in the Rally Show, however, the Superintendent reserves the right to limit the number of entries per exhibitor based on total number of entries for the show.

4-H Horse Department
There will no longer be an Easy Rider Division.

4-H Poultry Department
Broilers will automatically be entered in the fair as they are purchased through the Howard County 4-H program.
4-Hers can purchase as many birds as they would like, however, a maximum of 15 birds will be banded. Birds must be banded in order to be exhibited as part of the Broiler Pen of 3.
All exhibitors wanting to enter the Showmanship Contest must do so no later than 8:30 a.m. on Monday, August 10th. 4-Hers need to be present in the building at 9:00 a.m. so they are ready when called. Those not present when called will be scratched from the contest.

4-H Sheep Department
Commercial breeding sheep must be checked in with the superintendent by 12:00 noon on Monday, August 10th. The animals can be checked in at the “overhang” area between the show ring and swine barn.
Basket & Bags Bingo
To benefit the Howard County 4-H All Stars

Friday, March 27, 2015
20 Regular Games plus Special Games & Raffles
ALL BASKETS & BAGS WILL BE FILLED

Doors Open at 5:30 p.m.
Bingo Starts at 7:00 p.m.
Food will be available!

Location:
Mt. Airy Fireman’s Activity Building
Twin Arch Road, Mt. Airy, MD 21771

Ticket prices: $18 in advance
$20 at the door

For Tickets Call:
Marjie at 301-829-1449
Martin at 443-472-8276

Please notify us if you have special needs, when ordering tickets.
We will do our best to accommodate you.

This bingo party is in no way connected with, nor is it approved or sponsored by, the Longaberger® or Vera Bradley Companies. The name is used to describe the prizes that were purchased.

University of Maryland Extension programs are open to all citizens and will not discriminate against anyone because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, religion, ancestry, or national origin, marital status, genetic information, or political affiliation, or gender identity and expression.
The Howard County 4-H program continues to be a strong youth development program that actively involves many youth throughout the county. The 2015 Howard County Fair, scheduled for Saturday, August 8th-15th, is an event where Howard County 4-Hers participate in events ranging from showing and selling livestock to entering baked goods to participating in a rocketry contest. The projects 4-Hers enter at the fair are a culmination of many hours of hard work.

In 2014, the 4-H team would like to continue a tradition started in 2006, by providing every Howard County 4-H member with a 4-H shirt especially made for them to wear at the fair. The goal is for every member to wear their shirt at the Fair on Sunday, August 3rd and then periodically throughout the week. Fair attendees will easily recognize and identify 4-H members when they see the shirt. It is our hope that through this marketing tool, we can make the general public aware of the 4-H presence and high number of 4-H members in our county.

We are writing to ask your support of this project. It is our goal to have the total cost of the shirts donated so our 4-Hers will not incur a cost for their shirts. As a small token of our appreciation and to recognize our sponsors, all businesses that donate money towards this project will have their business name printed on the back of the shirt. This will be great publicity for your business as well as the 4-H program.

If you are interested in contributing, please detach the form below and return to the Howard County 4-H office.

Howard County 4-H T-Shirt Sponsorship Form

Name: ________________________________________________
Address: ______________________________________________

Levels of Sponsorship

Head: $250 and up  Heart: $250  Hands: $100  Health: $50

Amount Enclosed: _______________  Thank You T-Shirt- Size: __________

Print below the Person, Business or Organization Name to be printed on the t-shirt:
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________

Please respond no later than May 1, 2015

Please make checks payable to:
Howard County 4-H Foundation, Inc.
Attention: 4-H T-Shirt Sponsorship
3300 North Ridge Road, Suite 240
Ellicott City, MD 21043