



Tribune

A Carroll County 4-H Newsletter

November 2025

UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND
EXTENSION

Carroll County Extension

700 Agriculture Center

Westminster, MD 21157

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M—F 8:00 A.M.—4:30 P.M.

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Project Records Due

Projects records will be due to the Extension Office on **Monday, December 1st**. Check with your club leader to see when your records are due to them. **RECORDS WILL NEED TO BE SIGNED BY YOUR CLUB LEADER!** If you participated in/exhibited in the following at the 2025 Carroll County 4-H & FFA Fair, you **MUST** turn in a completed project record to be eligible for the 2026 Carroll County 4-H & FFA Fair: **ALL MARKET LIVESTOCK, RABBIT, POULTRY, HORSE, PHOTOGRAPHY AND GARDEN**. See the attached *Tips for Project Records for 2025* for additional information. **Note—Records that are submitted and are identical from the same households will be returned to 4-Hers to re-do. Remember, that each project area (art, crafts, foods, woodworking, etc.) are considered separate projects and will not be accepted if turned in on the same project record form.**

Please follow this link to the Carroll County Extension website for the correct project records:

<https://extension.umd.edu/locations/carroll-county/local-4-h-youth-education/project-records-and-record-books>

Project Record—Communication Requirement Reminder

All project records that are completed will be held to meeting all standards, including the communication section. Remember that 4-Hers must present a speech or demonstration to 3 or more people not related to them to meet this requirement. *This is a speech or demonstration the youth has given, not something they attended.* The speech and/or demonstration **MUST** be related to the project. You cannot use a speech about Crafts for your Market Beef project record. You also cannot use a Market Beef demonstration for your Market Swine project record. Your communication **MUST BE RELATED TO YOUR PROJECT AREA!** You **MUST** also include all information on when you gave the speech/demonstration, including a **TITLE** (don't write FAIR), location, and type of communication. Don't forget that participating in programs such as skillathon, bowls, and judging programs count toward this requirement. If you have questions, please contact the Extension Office at 410-386-2760.

2026 *NEW* ENROLLMENT DEADLINE

There will be a **NEW DEADLINE** in 2026 to complete your 4-H enrollment for fair eligibility. **ALL** returning 4-H and Clover Members **MUST** be enrolled by **March 1, 2026** to be eligible to participate at the **2026 Carroll County 4-H & FFA Fair**. **First Year 4-H and Clover Members must be enrolled by May 1, 2026 for fair eligibility**. This means that if you are currently a 4-H or Clover member in 2025, **YOU MUST** be enrolled by **March 1, 2026** to participate in the 2026 Carroll County 4-H & FFA Fair. This change is being made to ensure **ALL** of our members are enrolled in a timely manner when participating in **ALL** 4-H activities.

November 4-H Project Night

It won't be long before we are thinking of how to decorate for the holiday/winter months! We will be making a holiday or winter wreath that will add a sparkle to your home or a perfect gift! This 4-H Project Night will be held at the **Extension Office on Friday, November 14th, 6pm**. There will be a \$30 cost for the class which will need to be paid to the Extension Office prior to the program. Note - This night is designed for youth 8 years old and older. The \$30 fee must be paid prior to the program. Once you register, an invoice will be sent to you for payment. Checks can be made payable to CCEAB. If registering more than 1 youth, please fill out a separate registration form for each youth.

Register at: <https://forms.gle/qNH1F11nWq8MkQEF6>

December 4-H Project Night—Gingerbread Houses

Join us for the last 4-H Project Night of 2025 and decorate a Gingerbread House! We will be holding the Gingerbread House night on **Friday, December 12 at 6pm at the Extension Office**. All supplies will be provided. Clovers, 4-Hers and their families are welcome to join in on the fun! You can partner up with a friend to create a house, a family can make one together or just make one for yourself. Each house will cost \$30 to build and decorate. A fun contest will take place with our Facebook followers voting on their favorite ones! Register early to reserve your spot. Register at: <https://forms.gle/y1g1NxoHJfitQ8pL8>

Record Books

It's a great time to start thinking about your 2025 record books! Record books are a great way to keep track of your 4-H career and highlight your accomplishments. The record book includes a junior summary, project records (which you already do), a 4-H story and a few more items. Record Book covers are available at the Extension Office for free. Record Books are due **Monday, February 2, 2026**. More information can be found at: <https://extension.umd.edu/locations/carroll-county/local-4-h-youth-education/project-records-and-record-books>

Clover Memory Books

Clover members are able to put together a Clover Memory Book (scrapbook) of their year in 4-H. Clover Memory Books highlight everything Clover members did throughout the year including pictures, ribbons, judging score sheets, etc. Guidelines for memory books can be found at: <https://extension.umd.edu/locations/carroll-county/local-4-h-youth-education/project-records-and-record-books> at the bottom of the page. Memory Books are due to the Extension Office by **Monday, February 2, 2026**.



National 4-H Leadership Trips

Calling all Senior 4-H members! Here are some great opportunities for you to apply for National 4-H Leadership Trips for 2026! This opportunity to apply is for the following trips in 2026: National 4-H Conference (held in Washington D.C in April), National 4-H Congress (held in Atlanta, GA in November), Camp Miniwanca (held in Michigan in June), Virginia 4-H Congress and West Virginia 4-H Camp (both in June). These trips all focus on building leadership and lend more to the service side of the 4-H program.

There are specific guidelines for completing the following items such as how many pages each can be, type of font to use, spacing, etc. Please email Becky (bridgewa@umd.edu) for specific guidelines. Also, Becky is more than willing to work with you on these items and we have volunteers willing to help too! Just reach out as we have lots of amazing senior 4-H members who are great and should apply for these national trip opportunities. **A portfolio workshop will be held on Saturday, November 22nd at the Extension Office.**

If interested in applying, here's what you need to do:

1. Complete your 4-H Resume which is comprised of showcasing your leadership, citizenship and life skills.
2. Complete the 2026 Essay Question which is, "When faced with the potential of limited funding, how would you advocate to your community the value of funding the 4-H youth development program?"
3. Submit all requirements through 4-H Online by **November 15, 2025 (for National 4-H Conference consideration) and January 15, 2026 (consideration for remaining trips).**



Senior Portfolio Workshop

Thinking of applying for National 4-H Leadership Trips or the Senior Ambassador Team in 2026? Join us on **Saturday, November 22nd, 9am at the Extension Office.** You will learn all about creating your own 4-H resume and will have expert help in building your own resume during this workshop. This is also a great workshop to attend if you are planning to apply for scholarships for college as many 4-H scholarships require a resume as part of the application process.

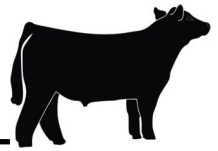
Register at: <https://forms.gle/YWwEtiCgdBkX6mdH6>

Virtual Portfolio Workshop

Are you unable to attend the in-person portfolio workshops this fall? This may be your chance to learn more about the Maryland 4-H Portfolio process for national 4-H leadership trips. Join members of the State 4-H Awards and Recognition Committee on **Monday, November 3rd at 6:30pm.** to learn more about the requirements to complete your 4-H resume, essay and interviews. You will also have an opportunity to ask questions from the members of the committee who help oversee the national 4-H leadership trip selection process. Register at: <https://umd.zoom.us/j/99688917257?pwd=JaOUVTHJU5oAnCBdJ0hHWAWGygECTt.1>



2026 Market Beef, Dairy Steer and Commercial Heifer Weigh-In and Tagging



We have scheduled steer weigh-in for **Saturday, January 17, 2026 at the Ag Center TRP Building beginning at 8 AM until 11 AM.** Because of the location, all steers/heifers must be on a halter and reasonably broken! Market Animal Registration forms and AnSc Code of Ethics can be picked up at the Extension Office, from your club leader or email Becky (bridgewa@umd.edu) to have forms mailed to you. **Remember, the registration form is a 2-part form. You must turn in the form intact. Remember to sign the front, backs and inside of the form (3 total signatures for the 4-Her and 3 signatures for the parent/guardian).** Your copy will be given to you on the day of weigh-in. If you have questions, please call 410-386-2760. **Registration forms are due to the CC Extension Office by Monday, January 5th. Tag cost is \$2 per steer/heifer.** Please make checks payable to CCEAB.

Castration Policy of the Maryland 4-H AnSc Program: All male steers, lambs, pigs and goats must be neutered and healed prior to 4-H weigh-in and tagging. The only exception would be animals that have obvious signs they have been banded, however, their scrotal sac is still intact.

2026 Livestock Sale Requirement Update

An update to the requirements 4-Her's must meet in 2026 to be eligible for the 2026 Carroll County 4-H & FFA Fair Livestock Sale.:

"Junior exhibitors and Novice 4-H/FFA exhibitors of any age in any species are **REQUIRED** to participate in one of the following. All other 4-H/FFA exhibitors are encouraged to participate in one of the following:

A. Attend 4—Carroll County Dairy Bowl, 4-H Livestock Judging, 4-H Dairy Judging or Livestock Skillathon practices.

B. Must attend a Carroll County 4-H sponsored livestock workshop for a species exhibitor is showing from this list: Beef Field Day, Swine Workshop, Swine Field Day, Sheep Workshop, Meat Goat Workshops, Sheep and Goat Field Day, Junior Stock Show or these additional opportunities hosted through Carroll County Extension (livestock/dairy roundup, veterinary science experience). Additionally, Dairy Steer exhibitors may attend a Dairy Workshop.

C. Other livestock related events must be approved by the Department Committee of the type of Species and the livestock sale committee prior to participation."

The wording that is bolded is the change in which 4-H members need to attend a workshop for a species they are showing and cannot attend a species workshop of something they are not weighing in.

2026 Livestock Sale Check Pick-Up

If you have not already picked up your Livestock Sale Check, please contact Deanna Geiman, 443-821-4660. Before you can receive your check, please email your detailed THANK YOU ad to thankyou@carrollcountyfair.com ASAP. Prepare your thank you notes for the mail including a stamp and self addressed. These will be required when you pick up your check.

Livestock Skillathon Practices

Everything you've ever wanted to know about livestock and didn't know to ask! Come learn about breeds of livestock, equipment, cuts of meat, animal parts identification, livestock feeds, hay, wool and play some fun games, too! Come to learn for the state contest in March or just come to the sessions you want to learn about. Remember that you do not have to exhibit or own livestock to participate in livestock skillathon, just have an interest or curiosity. Practices run every Monday night starting **Jan. 5, 2026, 7pm** at the Extension Office. Practices will run through the state contest in March (some additional days may be added). For more information, call Kathy Gordon at 301-667-0559.

Horse Bowl

Dust off those study materials as a new year of horse bowl practice is about to begin! All 4-Hers (8 years old as of January 1st) are welcome to attend the weekly horse bowl practices starting on **Jan. 7, 2026, 7pm** at the Extension Office. Practices will be held every Wednesday night until the state contest in March. You will learn lots of new and interesting facts about horses while having fun! You do not have to own a horse to participate, just have an interest in learning more about them. Not sure what horse bowl is, then come to a practice to find out more!

4-H International Exchange Program

Maryland 4-H is excited to announce the 2026 Outbound Programs, which offer month-long cultural immersion experiences in incredible destinations. Delegates travel in chaperoned groups to foreign countries, live with volunteer host families, and engage in experiential learning that deepens their understanding of both their host culture and their own. This is not a vacation—it's a life-changing experience!

2026 Program Destinations Include: Japan (4 or 8 week experience), South Korea, Taiwan, Costa Rica and Argentina

Who is eligible? Youth generally between the ages of 12 and 18 at the time of travel are eligible, though age requirements vary slightly by country (e.g., some programs are for 15 to 18). Costs vary by program ranging from approximately \$2500 to \$5500 (plus airfare). Financial assistance may be available (reach out to state coordinator for more information). To be considered for the 2026 delegation representing Maryland, you must complete the national application by our state's internal deadline, which is November 30th. To apply go to: <https://app.smarterselect.com/programs/104148-States-4-H-International-Exchange>

If you have specific questions about the process, please contact Joseph Cho, Maryland 4-H State Coordinator at jcho8@umd.edu

2026 4-H Calendar

We know that calendars quickly start filling up for 2026 for many of our 4-H families. We wanted to try to get as many dates out to you for next year that we have planned as of now. Please note that we know there are programs that we/volunteers run throughout the year that are not listed. Please don't worry as those activities will still be happening, we just don't have those dates scheduled. The list of dates can be found attached to the online Tribune. We hope to see many of our 4-Hers at these events in 2026!





Ambassador Service Project

The 4-H Ambassador Team is starting off the year strong and already kicking off their year with a countywide service project. They will be collecting soda can tabs (any type of aluminum tab will work from soup cans to pet food cans!) for the Ronald McDonald House Charities. Tabs can be dropped off anytime from now until the end of the year at the Extension Office. The hope is that we will be able to deliver the tabs to the Ronald McDonald House and provide families a 4-H experience while there. Be on the lookout for collection boxes at 4-H events! Anyone is able to collect and donate, so think of places you might be able to put a collection box.

Canned Food Drive Competition

Want to help your local community, while earning the coveted 1st spot in the 2026 fair parade for your club's float? As the holiday season approaches, the Ambassador Team is hosting their 3rd Annual Canned Food Competition between ALL Carroll County 4-H clubs! All non-perishable food must be dropped off at the Extension Office with a note of which club the food belongs to. A log will be kept by the office and each item counts as 1 point. The club that donates the largest number of canned goods will win the 1st spot for floats in the 2026 fair parade! The competition begins October 1st and will conclude on December 19th. Good Luck to all clubs and thank you for participating as we pledge our hands to larger service!

CC 4-H & FFA Junior Fair Board

The Carroll County 4-H & FFA Junior Fair Board is a group of Carroll County 4-H & FFA members ages 13-18 who are committed to serving and contributing to the organization and activities related to the fair. Members must be in good standing within their designated clubs/chapters. They must meet attendance requirements as well as follow the code of conduct. This form is due by November 15, 2025. A letter of recommendation by applicants club/chapter leader must also be submitted to the Carroll County Extension, Attn: Jennie Chamelin, 700 Agriculture Center Westminster, MD 21157 or emailed to jchameli@umd.edu. Applications can be found at: <https://forms.gle/Ka8EFUwhesi1hbtU6>

2026 Camp Leaders/Dates

It won't be long before we are back at 4-H Residential Camp! We are currently finalizing our training dates and will have the camp leader application out soon! Keep an eye out in your email for the application! While we wait for the application, let's mark our calendars for our 2 weeks of camp!

Leader Dates—June 21-25, 2026 (Younger Week) and July 12-17, 2026 (Older Week)

National 4-H Week/Promotional Contest

The results are in for The National 4-H Week Promotional Contest. Thank you to the clubs that have made wonderful displays and participated in spreading the word and love of 4-H all over Carroll County!

Grand Champion: Fine Feathered Friends 4-H Club (There's No Place Like the Fair)

Reserve Grand Champion: Progressive Clovers 4-H Club (There's No Place Like the Fair)

Class Champion: Terra Rubra 4-H Club (Hit a Home Run with 4-H)

Blue Award: Deer Park 4-H Club (There's No Place Like the Fair), Lucky Clovers 4-H Club (See Yourself in 4-H), Hampstead 4-H Club (Fall in Love with 4-H), Lineboro 4-H Club (Paint Your Future with 4-H), Black Rock 4-H Club (4-H Puts You on the Right Track)

UME Volunteer Training

If you are interested in becoming a UME Volunteer, please email Becky (bridgeway@umd.edu) to start the process. She will send an email with the requirements that must be completed as part of the on-boarding process. You may register as a volunteer in 4-H Online, but until you complete all of the required trainings and background check, you are not certified to serve as an official volunteer for the 4-H program. The training can all be completely done from the comfort of your home. With 4-H Online closing for 2025, we will re-start UME Volunteer Onboarding in January 2026.

Payment Policy Reminder

NEW POLICY in regards to payments for county 4-H programs. We will be sending invoices to those who register for our programs that cost over \$5. As we plan programs, we work on making sure we can cover the cost of the supplies of the program and keep program costs as low as possible. We previously asked that families “pay at the door” for these programs. What we have been experiencing recently though is that some families are signing up for programs and then not attending without letting the office staff know of that change. We typically have 4-H members on a waiting list that would like to attend the program, but can’t when we are unaware of someone not attending. Moving forward, if you register for a program that has a cost associated with it and do not show for the program, you are still responsible for paying for the program as supplies have already been purchased.

This is not a decision that we have made lightly. We do need to take into consideration the costs we are taking out of our program funds when individuals are a no call, no show for programs. We also need to consider the other 4-H members who would like to participate in the program, but are on a waiting list. Thank you for your understanding.

Fair Reminders

Everyone is welcome to participate in Fair Board meetings held at the Extension Office/Ag Center. The next meeting will be on **December 3rd at 7pm, which is the fair holiday dinner.**

2026 Fair Dates— July 31—August 8, 2026

Too many ribbons? Don’t throw them away. If they are in **good** shape, drop them off at the Extension Office and we will recycle them for next year. Ribbons should not be wrinkled, written on or missing strings. We cannot accept State Fair ribbons.

Indoor Department Reminders— If you received a special award, such as a grand champion award in a department, please send a thank you note to the donor of your award. If you do not know who the donor of your award was, you will want to reach out to Erica McAndrew at erica.mcandrew@gmail.com. It’s important to send a thank you note as it shows your appreciation to those who are donating to support our fair exhibitors.

Indoor Superintendent Meeting— There will be an Indoor Superintendent meeting at the Extension Office on Monday, November 10th. The meeting will start with the food superintendent at 6pm. Then we will have a meeting for all other indoor superintendents at 7:30pm.



Dates to Remember

November 11	CC Extension Office Closed
November 14	4-H Project Night, CC Extension Office, 6pm
November 15	National 4-H Conference Portfolio DUE, 4-H Online
November 22	Portfolio Workshop, CC Extension Office, 9am
November 27-28	CC Extension Office Closed
December 1	4-H Project Records Due to Extension Office
December 3	CC 4-H & FFA Fair Board Meeting, CC Extension Office, 7:30pm
December 6	4-H Project Record Judging, CC Extension Office, 9am
December 12	4-H Project Night, CC Extension Office, 6pm
December 13	CC 4-H Youth Camp Leader Applications DUE
December 25	CC Extension Office, Closed
January 1	CC Extension Office, Closed
January 5	Livestock Skillathon Practice, CC Extension Office, 7pm
January 7	Horse Bowl Practice, CC Extension Office, 7pm
January 9	4-H Project Night, CC Extension Office, 6pm Market Beef, Dairy Steer and Commercial Heifer Livestock Reg. Forms DUE
January 12	Livestock Skillathon Practice, CC Extension Office, 7pm
January 14	Horse Bowl Practice, CC Extension Office, 7pm
January 17	Mkt Beef, Dairy Steer and Commercial Heifer Weigh-In/Tagging, Ag. Center, 8-11am
January 19	4-H Sewing Workshop, CC Extension Office, 9am Livestock Skillathon Practice, CC Extension Office, 7pm CC Extension Office Closed
January 21	Horse Bowl Practice, CC Extension Office, 7pm
January 23	Clover Project Night, CC Extension Office, 6pm
January 26	Livestock Skillathon Practice, CC Extension Office, 7pm
January 28	Horse Bowl Practice, CC Extension Office, 7pm
January 31	4-H Mock Interviews, CC Extension Office, 9am



Carroll County 4-H Team

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The Carroll County 4-H Website. Find the *Tribune* online, plus other forms and information for youth and leaders.

<http://extension.umd.edu/locations/carroll-county>

The MD 4-H Youth Development Website, news & information from all over the state, plus forms and information for youth & volunteers. <http://extension.umd.edu/programs/4-h-youth-development>

University programs, activities, and facilities are available to all without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, age, national origin, political affiliation, physical or mental disability, religion, protected veteran status, genetic information, personal appearance, or any other legally protected class.



Tips for Completing Project Records

Here are some tips and helpful hints as you work on your project records.

Don't forget that the following project records are required to show at the 2026 Carroll County 4-H/FFA Fair – ALL MARKET ANIMALS, Horse, Poultry, Rabbit, Garden and Photography (if exhibited at the 2025 county fair.)

(Items in green are REQUIRED FOR COMPLETION)

Remember to EXPAND on all of your answers. The more detailed responses you give help the reviewers understand your projects and what you learned and achieved through them.

- 1. What goals did you set for your project this year and did you achieve them?**
 - a. Explain three different goals you had for your project and expand on how you did or didn't achieve them.
- 2. What were four things you learned from completed this project this year?**
 - a. Juniors and Intermediates – You only need to list 2 things you learned from your project.
 - b. Seniors – Need to list 4 things you learned from your projects
- 3. What is one thing you would like to improve or do differently with your project next year?**
 - a. What is something that you want to improve on your project next year? Give an example on what you want to do differently on with your project.
- 4. What I learned as a result of using this life skill...**
 - a. Under each section (Head, Heart, Hand, Health) write the life skill you are using from the life skill wheel.
 - b. Juniors and Intermediates need to write 1 life skill for each section. You will have one life skill for Head, one for Heart, one for Hand and one for Health.
 - c. Seniors need to write 2 life skills for each section. You will have two life skills listed for Head, two for Heart, two for Hand and one for Health.
- 5. Project Activities**
 - a. Everyone needs to list project activities in how they relate to your project. This can be attending the Mid-Winter Blahs, Livestock Workshops, Quality Assurance, County or State Fair.
- 6. Project Communications**
 - a. Everyone **MUST** have some type of communication related to their project that you have given to at least 3 people who are not related to you.
 - b. Example – If you are filling out a project record for Photography your communication needs to be something relating to Photography and not a speech related to building a birdhouse.
- 7. Project Exhibits**
 - a. Everyone must have exhibited their project at some event. This can include County or State Fair, a community or school event.
 - b. List all exhibits separately. This includes all classes to be listed separately (example – Market Hog – you would list, Market Hog, Showmanship and Rate of Gain on 3 separate lines, not all together).
- 8. Project Financial Section (General Project Records)**
 - a. List all expenses related to your project and put a value on them, even if your parents paid for them, they still have a value associated to them.



- i. Even if you bred your own market livestock project, there is still an associated value to that animal. What would you have sold it for or what was market value at the time you would have bought a market project?
 - ii. Example – If you baked a cake, you would list your ingredients (Sugar, Flour, Chocolate, etc. and the cost \$13.50)
 - b. Income includes any premium checks you have received for your items. Remember to keep your copy of your premiums from the fair, this will tell you what your premiums were for each item you entered at the fair.
- 9. Supplemental Piece**
- a. If you are completing a General Project Record a supplemental piece can be included. This is one additional piece of paper (8x11) attached to the end of your record. This can be a picture with a couple sentences written about your project or a story, crossword puzzle, etc. It needs to be something that related to your project.

10. ANIMAL PROJECT RECORDS

- a. **Market Livestock Project Record Forms**
 - i. Table 1 – Information of Project Animal – This is **REQUIRED** to be completed. Make sure to fill in all information related to your animals. All animals you tagged should be included on this table, even if you didn't show them. Remember to bring your totals down to the total line.
 - ii. Table 2 and 3 – Include information on what you fed your animals and the cost of feeding those animals, along with other expenses you have had with your project including bedding, equipment, etc.
 - iii. Table 4 – Health and Veterinary Expenses – Everyone should have something listed here. To show at the fair you had to have health papers, which would be listed on this table.
 - iv. Table 5 – Sale Animal Income – List the information related to any animals you sold. This can be from selling at the fair or private sales.
 - v. Table 6 – All Other Income – Include any other income from your animals. This could be premium monies, selling wool or hides, etc.
 - vi. Financial Summary – Add up all of your income and expenses to see you have a profit or loss from your project.
- b. **Poultry/Rabbit/Horse/Dogs Project Records**
 - i. Make sure to fill out tables related to your animal information, along with each table that related to your project. If you didn't do something in the project (Example – Didn't sell eggs), just put N/A in that table, so the project record reviewers know you didn't just skip the table.
 - ii. Include a supplemental piece that showcase your project!

Make sure to have **ALL SIGNATURES** (4-H Member, Parent and Club Leader) a 4-H Educator will sign off on the forms when they are considered complete.

Also, if you have siblings that participate in the same projects, make sure your records are DIFFERENT. If they are the same, they will be returned to be redone.

Carroll County and Maryland 4-H Calendar 2026

Date	Event	Time	Location
January 2026			
January 1	CC Extension Office Closed – Happy New Year!	CLOSED	CC Extension Office
January 5	Senior Portfolios Due for Review for National Trip Applications	All Day	Due to CC Extension Office
January 5	Livestock Skillathon Practice	7pm	CC Extension Office
January 7	Horse Bowl Practice	7pm	CC Extension Office
January 9	Market Beef, Dairy Steers and Commercial Heifers Weigh-In Paperwork Due	All Day	Due to CC Extension Office
January 9	4-H Project Night	6pm	CC Extension Office
January 12	Livestock Skillathon Practice	7pm	CC Extension Office
January 14	Horse Bowl Practice	7pm	CC Extension Office
January 15	Senior Portfolios due in 4-H Online for 2026 National Leadership Trips	Submitted by 11:59pm	4-H Online
January 17	Market Beef, Dairy Steers and Commercial Heifers Weigh-In and Tagging	8 – 11am	CC Ag Center
January 19	Sewing Workshop	TBD	CC Extension Office
January 19	Livestock Skillathon Practice	7pm	CC Extension Office
January 19	CC Extension Office Closed – Martin Luther King Day	CLOSED	CC Extension Office
January 21	Horse Bowl Practice	7pm	CC Extension Office
January 23	Clover Project Night	6pm	CC Extension Office
January 26	Livestock Skillathon Practice	7pm	Burns Hall
January 28	Horse Bowl Practice	7pm	CC Extension Office
January 28	CC 4-H & FFA Fair Board Mtg	7:30pm	CC Extension Office
January 31	Mock 4-H Interview Practice	9am	CC Extension Office
February 2026			
February 2	Livestock Skillathon Practice	7pm	CC Extension Office
February 2	Record Books, Clover Memory Books and Diamond Clovers DUE	All Day	CC Extension Office
February 4	Horse Bowl Practice	7pm	CC Extension Office
February 7	Veterinary Science Experience	9am	CC Extension Office
February 9	Livestock Skillathon Practice	7pm	CC Extension Office
February 11	Horse Bowl Practice	7pm	CC Extension Office

February 13	4-H Project Night	6pm	CC Extension Office
February 14	National 4-H Trip Interviews	9am	CC Extension Office
February 16	CC Extension Office Closed – President’s Day	All Day	CC Extension Office
February 16	4-H Project Day	TBD	CC Extension Office
February 16	Livestock Skillathon Practice	7pm	CC Extension Office
February 18	Horse Bowl Practice	7pm	CC Extension Office
February 21	Carroll County 4-H Demonstration Contest	9am	CC Extension Office
February 23	Livestock Skillathon Practice	7pm	CC Extension Office
February 25	Horse Bowl Practice	7pm	CC Extension Office
February 25	CC 4-H & FFA Fair Board Mtg	7:30pm	CC Extension Office
February 27	Clover Project Night	6pm	CC Extension Office
February 28	Nominations for CC 4-H Youth/Volunteer Due	11:59pm	Nomination Link in Tribune
March 2026			
March 2	Livestock Skillathon Practice	7pm	CC Extension Office
March 4	Horse Bowl Practice	7pm	CC Extension Office
March 6	Senior Ambassador Applications Due	All Day	CC Extension Office
March 7	State Livestock Skillathon Contest (Tentatively)	8am	Montgomery County Fairgrounds (Tentatively)
March 11	Horse Bowl Practice	7pm	CC Extension Office
March 13	4-H Project Night	6pm	CC Extension Office
March 14	Carroll County 4-H Public Speaking Contest	9am	CC Extension Office
March 14	Horse Bowl Contest (Tentatively)	9am	UMD – College Park (Tentatively)
March 21	Senior Ambassador Interviews	TBD	CC Extension Office
March 21	State Dairy Skillathon	TBD	CC Extension Office
March 27	Clover Project Night	6pm	CC Extension Office
March 25	CC 4-H & FFA Fair Board Mtg	7:30pm	CC Extension Office
March 28	Fashion Revue	TBD	St. Mary’s UCC
April 2026			
April 3	CC Extension Office Closed – Good Friday	All Day	CC Extension Office
April 10	4-H Project Night	6pm	CC Extension Office
April 11	Carroll 4-H Beef Classic (Field Day)	TBD	CC Ag Center
April 14	CC 4-H Achievement Program	7pm	CC Ag Center
April 22	CC 4-H & FFA Fair Board Meeting	7:30pm	CC Extension Office
April 24	Clover Project Night	6pm	CC Extension Office
April 24	Swine Livestock Registrations Due	All day	CC Extension Office
May 2026			
May 1	CARROLL COUNTY 4-H ENROLLMENT DEADLINE		CARROLL COUNTY
May 1	Swine Weigh-In	5-9pm	Ag Center (TRP Barn)

May 1	Junior Ambassador Applications Due		CC Extension Office
TBD	CC 4-H/FFA Fair Online Entries Open		CC 4-H/FFA Fair Website (www.carrollcountyfair.com)
May 8	Sheep and Goat Livestock Registrations Due	All Day	CC Extension office
May 9	Junior Ambassador Interviews	9am	CC Extension Office
May 15	Sheep and Goat Weigh-in	5 - 8pm	Ag Center (TRP)
May 18	New Member Fair Orientation	6:30pm	CC Extension Office
May 25	CC Extension Office Closed – Memorial Day	CLOSED	CC Extension Office
May 27	CC 4-H/FFA Fair Board Mtg	7:30pm	CC Extension Office
May 31	Carroll 4-H Sheep, Goat and Swine Classic (Field Days)	TBD	CC Ag Center
June 2026			
June 10	CC 4-H/FFA Fair Online Entries CLOSE	11:59pm	CC 4-H/FFA Fair Website
June 19	CC Extension Office Closed - Juneteenth	CLOSED	CC Extension Office
June 22-25	Residential Camp (Younger Week)	All Day	Hashawha Environmental Center
June 24	CC 4-H & FFA Fair Board Meeting	7:30pm	CC Extension Office
July 2026			
July 3	CC Extension Office Closed – Happy 4 th of July	CLOSED	CC Extension Office
July 13-16	Residential Camp (Older Week)	All Day	Hashawha Environmental Center
July 15	CC 4-H/FFA Fair Board Mtg.	7:30pm	CC Extension Office
July 15	Maryland State Fair Online Entries Close	Close by 11:59pm	Maryland State Fair Website
July 17	ANIMAL QUALITY ASSURANCE DEADLINE	11:59pm	Online Test
TBD	CC 4-H/FFA Fair Set-Up	TBD	Ag Center
TBD	Carroll County 4-H & FFA Fair		Ag Center
August 2026			
TBD	Carroll County 4-H & FFA Fair	All Day	Ag Center
TBD	CC 4-H/FFA Fair Clean Up	All Day	Ag Center
TBD	CC 4-H/FFA Evaluation Mtg.	7:30pm	Ag Center (Burns Hall)
TBD	Maryland State Fair	3 weekends	State Fairgrounds Timonium, MD
TBD	Livestock/Dairy/Poultry/Rabbit Judging Contest	TBD	MD State Fair
September 2026			
September 2	CC 4-H & FFA Fair Meeting	7:30pm	CC Extension Office
September 7	CC Extension Office Closed – Labor Day	CLOSED	CC Extension Office
September 23	CC 4-H/FFA Fair Board Mtg.	7:30pm	Ag Center (Burns Hall)
September 26	MD 4-H State Archery Match	8am	CC Ext. Office/Ag Center

October 2026			
TBD	National 4-H Week	All Week	Nationwide
TBD	CC 4-H Promotional Contest	TBD	County-Wide
October 12	CC Extension Office Closed – Columbus Day	CLOSED	CC Extension Office
October 28	CC 4-H/FFA Fair Board Mtg.	7:30pm	Ag Center (Burns Hall)
November 2026			
November 11	CC Extension Office Closed – Veteran’s Day	CLOSED	CC Extension Office
November 26-27	CC Extension Office Closed - Thanksgiving	CLOSED	CC Extension Office
November 30	Project Records DUE	4:30pm	CC Extension Office
December 2026			
December 2	CC 4-H & FFA Fair Board Mtg	7:30pm	CC Extension Office
December 5	Project Record Judging	9am	CC Extension Office
December 25	CC Extension Office Closed - Christmas	CLOSED	CC Extension Office

*Dates are subject to change.



Maryland 4-H State Animal Science Project and Record Awards Program

About the Award Program

The Maryland 4-H Animal Science Project and Record Awards Program will be offered in 2025 to recognize 4-H members in the Animal Science Program for outstanding achievements in their project work. The awards program will provide recognition to 4-H members who demonstrate 1) distinguished levels of engagement in the Maryland 4-H Animal Science Program projects and related activities and 2) excellence in project record keeping activities.

Award Program Eligibility

This awards program is open to all senior age 4-H members (14-18 years) as of January 1st of the current year. Thirteen award categories will be offered (see below). Members are eligible to apply for multiple award categories; however, a member will be eligible to receive the Top Award in only one category per year. A member is eligible to receive the Top Award in the same category only one time in their 4-H career and is not eligible to apply in a category in which they have previously received the Top Award. The Top Overall Award recipient will be selected from the current year's Top Award winners from the thirteen award categories. A member can receive the Top Overall Award only one time in their 4-H career.

Required Documentation

Youth interested in participating in this awards program must submit the required documents (listed below) via the 4HOnline portal at <https://v2.4honline.com> by the advertised deadline. The submissions will be evaluated and judged by a committee of UME faculty/staff and volunteers. Required documentation must represent the current 4-H year and includes the following (worth 100 points total):

- Summary Report Form OR 4-H Resume (20 points): Completed Maryland 4-H Summary Report Form OR 4-H Resume.
- Project Essay (20 points): Essay must be specific to the award category. Essay must be 2-3 pages in length, typed in 12-point Times New Roman, double spaced, with 1-inch margins.
- Project Record (60 points): Completed Maryland 4-H Animal Science Project Record. In species (or category) where there are both Market and Breeding Projects offered, a 4-H'er is encouraged to submit both Project Records if enrolled in both.

A 4-H'er may submit applications in multiple categories. To submit in multiple categories only one Summary Report Form OR 4-H Resume is required, but a separate Project Essay and Project Record is required for each category.



Awards

Awards will be presented in 13 categories including: 1) beef cattle, 2) camelids, 3) dairy cattle, 4) dairy goats, 5) dogs, 6) horse and pony, 7) meat goats, 8) poultry, 9) rabbits, 10) sheep, 11) small pets, 12) swine, and 13) veterinary science. Awards will be presented at the annual Maryland 4-H Achievement Event.

In each award category, the Top 5 members will be selected and recognized with Certificates. The Top Award winner for each category will be recognized at the annual Maryland 4-H Achievement Event.

One recipient will be selected from the current year's Top Award winners from the thirteen award categories to receive the Maryland 4-H Animal Science State Overall Project and Record Award. The recipient of the Overall Award will receive a plaque and will be offered a trip to National 4-H Congress in November 2026 (NOTE: Recipient must meet all other eligibility requirements established for attending National 4-H Congress. A 4-H'er is only eligible to attend National 4-H Congress one time in their 4-H career).

Awards Program Annual Timeline

- October 1st - 4HOnline portal opens for submission of applications. The online portal is made available through 4HOnline at <https://v2.4honline.com>.
- November 16th – Deadline for submission of applications – 4HOnline portal closes.
- January/February - Awards presented at Maryland 4-H Achievement Event.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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