

Tuesday News



**Thank You
4-H Volunteers for
Your Continued
Support**



4-H 

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

Tuesday News – February 21, 2023

CONTENTS

FEATURES

- Explore 4-H with WSU Extension – Basic 4-H Cat Project Zoom On March 5th **>NEW!<**
- Recording of the Second Photography Club Meeting is Now Available! **>NEW!<**
- Save the Date! Teen Conference is Back!
- Pierce County Leaders Council Presents April Fun'Raiser
- Check Out Virtual Horse Management Webinar Series From Rutgers University!
- Springtime Youth Calf Sale Grant Applications Due TODAY! **>NEW!<**
- SAVE THESE DATES From the 4-H Dairy Program!!
- RECORDING! Backyard Flock-Poultry Housing, Part 1, Chicks 0-8 Weeks
- Ask Dr. Universe: Is it True That Seven Human Years Equals One Dog Year? **>NEW!<**
- Ask Dr. Universe: What Causes the Oceans to Rise?
- Washington State University Extension and University of Idaho Extension Present Youth Livestock Field Days
- 2023 Cougar Invitational Youth Meat Judging Contest Update
- Opportunities In Virtual Horse Judging
- Second Statewide 4-H Virtual Photography Club Meeting Scheduled For February 12th!
- Shooting Sports Certification For 4-H Volunteers Scheduled In Ellensburg March 3rd Through 5th

- Royal Rabbits 4-H Host Rabbit Roundup In Vancouver Washington On March 12th!
- Skagit County 4-H Clubs Fill Sandbags to Battle King Tides
- Introducing Q and A Sessions for the Washington 4-H Horse Program!
- 4-H Scholarship Applications on 4-H Online!
- News Items for Washington State 4-H Equine!
- WDFW Issues Statement On Avian Influenza Outbreak Among Waterfowl Around Skagit Bay
- Remember to Sign Up for 4-H Equine Science and Horsemanship Series Thursdays!!
- Save the Date! 2023 Prairie Hatchers Annual Poultry Show!

Features

Explore 4-H with WSU Extension – Basic 4-H Cat Project Zoom On March 5th



Basic 4-H Cat Project



**Sun., March 5th
2 -3:30 PM PT.**

**This presentation is for anyone who
has an interest in the 4-H Cat Project
and how to get ready for a show.**

Brought to you by the WSU Extension 4-H Youth
Development Small & Companion Animal Committee

This presentation is for anyone who has an interest in the 4-H Cat Project and how to get you and your cat ready for a 4-H Show. Please join us and 4-H Volunteer Caroline Vadino on Explore 4-H with WSU Extension for the “Basic 4-H Cat Project” on Sunday, March 5th at 2:00 PM.

Please pre-register at the link below. After registering you will receive a link through e-mail to participate in the Zoom presentation.

Please pre-register by following the link <http://bit.ly/41iJ77G>

Pam Watson, M.Ed.
WSU Lewis County Extension
4-H Youth Development Agent, WSU Faculty

Recording of the Second Photography Club Meeting is Now Available!

RECORDED FEB. MEETING FOR STATEWIDE 4-H PHOTO CLUB



*2nd meeting,
Feb. 2023,
Photographing
Animals*



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION




Recording – Statewide 4-H Photography Club, second meeting (Photographing Animals)

We had our Second Statewide 4-H Virtual Photography Club meeting on February 12th. Thank you to those who joined us and participated in the educational portion and our first critique. We recorded that meeting because the educational portion from the second meeting is the photo challenge assignment for the third meeting critique. *Please find the recording at:* <http://bit.ly/3YRIFNb>

Information for the third meeting will be released soon, there is a sneak peek on the recording.

Pam Watson, M.Ed.
WSU Lewis County Extension
4-H Youth Development Agent, WSU Faculty

Save the Date! Teen Conference is Back!




Who: Washington 8th–12th grade youth
(completed 8th grade by conference)
& adult chaperones

What: A three-day conference with workshops
and tours focused on career exploration,
college readiness, leadership and life
skill development

Where: Washington State University
Pullman Campus

When: June 20-23, 2023



<https://extension.wsu.edu/4h/stc>

Registration Opens in April!

Pierce County Leaders Council Presents April Fun'Raiser



Get a jump on qualifying shows and county fairs! The Pierce County Leaders Council Fun'Raiser is an open show for cats, dogs, and horses happening on April 29, 2023 at Frontier Park in Graham, WA. Get extra experience in the ring or arena!

Fun'Raiser is open to all ages and is open to the general public. The Cat Show offers Fitting & Showmanship, Type and Agility. The Dog Show offers Showmanship, Obedience, Rally, and AKC-Canine Good Citizen Test and Novice Trick Test. The Horse Show offers Showmanship, Performance, Driving, In-hand, and Western Games.

Times and fees vary based on individual animal type. More information can be found at <https://extension.wsu.edu/pierce/4-h/current-member-leader-info/>.

For the Dog Fun'Raiser Flyer, [CLICK HERE](#)

For the Horse Fun'Raiser Flyer, [CLICK HERE](#)

Check Out Virtual Horse Management Webinar Series From Rutgers University!

Check out this webinar series being offered by our colleagues at Rutgers. [Rutgers Equine Science Center](#)

If you haven't yet registered for the free Virtual Horse Management Seminar webinar series make sure you do so now! The first webinar was on Wednesday, February 8th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm, on "Research Based Supplements."

For more details on all of the webinars, to learn about the presenters and topics, and to register, please go to: <https://go.rutgers.edu/2023HMS>

Just Added: For those who join us live on the webinar, Triple Crown has graciously offered to donate a door prize each evening. At the end of the webinar, we will randomly select a participant from the list of attendees. You must still be on the webinar when your name is called in order to qualify for the prize. From there, you will be contacted by Triple Crown via email to select a 'swag bag' door prize! The door prizes will include choices between product coupons; New Forage Tether Treats; and for those non-horse-owning participants, a backpack/hat/blanket combo!

Be sure not to miss out, and we look forward to seeing you there!

[#RUESC](#) [#Rutgers](#) [#EquineScience](#) [#EquineNutrition](#) [#HorseManagementSeminar](#)



Springtime Youth Calf Sale Grant Applications Due TODAY!

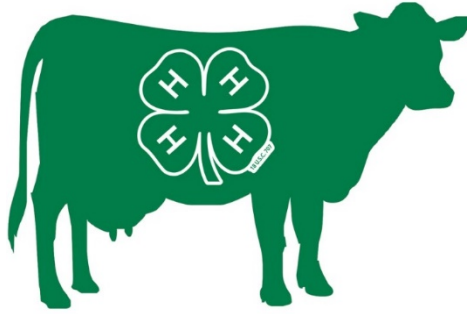


Calf grant application for \$500 deadline is Feb 21 and MUST be in the mail postmarked today **or emailed to** syys4h@gmail.com

Sale day is March 18 at the Evergreen State Fairgrounds, Monroe at 1:00 pm

SAVE THESE DATES From the 4-H Dairy Program!!

UPDATED FEBRUARY 14, 2023



Springtime Youth Calf Sale

March 18, 2023, Evergreen State Fairgrounds, Monroe

WA State 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl Contest

March 18, 2023, 9:00 am, at the Evergreen State Fairgrounds, Monroe

Evergreen Junior Dairy Show,

April 28 & 29, Evergreen State Fairgrounds, Monroe

2023 WA 4-H Dairy Judging Contest

The 4-H Dairy Judging Contest will be July 18 at the Evergreen State Fairgrounds during the State Holstein Show. The contest time has not been set.

2023 National 4-H Dairy Conference

The 2023 4-H Dairy Conference will be held in Madison, Wisconsin October 1-4. For application to be considered on the Washington team, due April 1st, go to:

<https://extension.wsu.edu/4h/dairy-endowment-fund/program-activities/dairy-conference-team/>

**RECORDING! Backyard Flock-Poultry Housing, Part 1, Chicks
0-8 Weeks**



**Backyard Flock
Poultry Housing-Recording**

**Part 1, Chicks
0-8 Weeks**



This presentation is for anyone who has an interest in poultry and how to set up age-appropriate housing.

Brought to you by the WSU Extension 4-H Youth Development Small & Companion Animal Committee

Are you thinking about getting chicks? What sort of brooder should you have before you bring them home? Where will they live as they get older? Let's discuss some safe, inexpensive, and healthy designs for your poultry housing. This presentation is for 4-H members, volunteers, families, and anyone from the public who has an interest in poultry and how to set up age-appropriate housing.

You can find the first half of the recording "Chicks 0-8 Weeks" at <http://bit.ly/3Eat7uy> This recorded session of Explore 4-H with WSU Extension is brought to you by the WSU 4-H Small & Companion Animal Committee.

Thanks for watching,

Pam Watson, M.Ed., pwatson@wsu.edu
WSU Lewis County Extension
4-H Youth Development Agent, WSU Faculty

Ask Dr. Universe: Is it True That Seven Human Years Equals One Dog Year?



How do you become a scientist? Is being a scientist fun? Check out the latest episode of the [Ask Dr. Universe podcast](#) to hear one rad brain scientist talk about his career path and the curiosity that drives him.

Dr. Universe: Is it true that seven human years equals one dog year?

Cameren, 12, Kentucky

Dear Cameren,

Humans have kept dogs as pets for [more than 14,000 years](#). That close friendship inspires scientists to explore questions like yours.

I talked about how dogs age with my friend [Ryan Baumwart](#). He's a heart doctor for dogs. He teaches in the veterinary hospital at Washington State University. I asked Baumwart if a dog year is equal to seven human years.

"I think it's a good general rule," he said. "But some larger breed dogs like bullmastiffs and Great Danes have a shorter lifespan of 6 to 8 years. So if you do

the math, they get shorted. Then some small breed dogs like Chihuahuas seem to live forever.”

Baumwart told me most puppies reach their full height at about 6 months old. That’s also when their adult teeth come in. Then they start filling out and growing wider. Most dogs are fully grown at about 1 year old. They’re considered geriatric, or old, at about 7 years old.

That fits with the guidelines used by the [American Kennel Club](#) and [American Veterinary Medical Association](#). They say the first year of a dog’s life equals 15 human years. The second year equals 9 human years. After that, each year equals 5 human years.



Some researchers say they figured out a more precise calculation. Mammal DNA changes a little bit as we get older. Scientists can use these tiny changes to map how dogs age. You can [use a special calculator](#) to figure out your dog’s age using their method. If you love math, you can use their formula: multiply the [natural logarithm](#) of your dog’s age by 16 then add 31. The method relies on Labrador Retriever data. It may not work well for very small or very large dogs. If you wonder why smaller dogs tend to live longer, you’re not alone. Scientists wonder that, too. Baumwart says we simply don’t know the answer yet.

We do know genes play a role in life span. Mixed breed dogs usually live longer than purebred dogs. Purebred dogs are more likely to inherit genetic diseases. Lifestyle and environment also make a difference. Dogs need exercise and a healthy diet. Baumwart said to choose dog food that meets the guidelines set by the [World Small Animal Veterinary Association](#) (WSAVA). He recommends talking with your [veterinarian](#) about dog food and other questions about your dog’s health. They can tailor their advice to your specific dog.

Right now, Baumwart is part of the [Dog Aging Project](#). The goal is to figure out how to help dogs live longer, healthier lives. The project will collect data from tens of thousands of dogs over 10 years. They’re also testing a medicine

called rapamycin that makes mice live longer. They want to know if this medicine could help dogs—and maybe even humans—live longer.

That's paws-itively awesome news for dogs and the people who have loved them for thousands of years.

Sincerely,
Dr. Universe

Dr. Universe: What causes the oceans to rise? Ash, 11, Kentucky

Dear Ash,

There are two ways to answer your question. One looks at why the ocean rises and falls every day. The other explores what's causing sea level to rise over time. I talked about both with my friend Jonathan Robinson. He's the Beach Watchers coordinator at Washington State University Snohomish County Extension. If you're at the beach during high tide, the beach looks smaller because the water comes up higher onto the beach. The tides are what make that happen, Robinson told me.

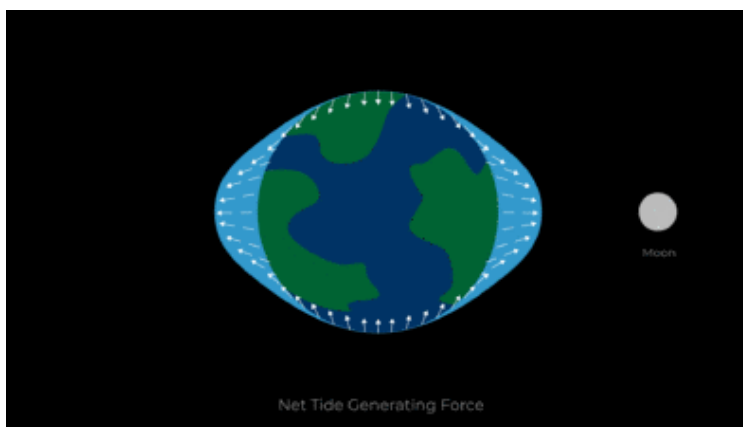


Image: NASA/Vi Nguyen

"The tides are created by the gravitational pull of the sun and the moon," he said. Gravity is the force that pulls your body toward the center of Earth—which keeps you on the ground instead of floating off into space. The moon has gravity, too. Its gravity pulls on Earth. That pulling squeezes Earth and causes Earth's water to bulge out on the sides. Those bulges are high tides. The low points are low tides. Earth rotates, so a person standing on one beach will pass through those bulges and low points as Earth spins.

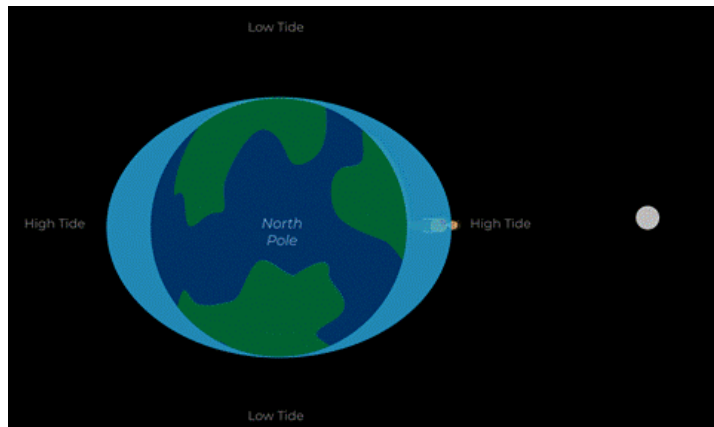


Image: NASA/Vi Nguyen

Lots of things affect the size of tides—like the shape of the coastline and how the sun and moon line up with Earth. Robinson told me the tides in Washington state are usually eight to ten feet. Imagine measuring at low tide to find a spot eight feet from the water line. If you stood there until high tide, the water would eventually creep all the way to where you're standing—and then slowly go back out again. There's a high tide or low tide about every six hours. Sometimes the **sun and moon line up** and pull together. That makes high tide a bit higher and low tide a bit lower. It's called spring tide. It happens on the full moon and new moon every month.

Halfway between the full moon and new moon, the sun and moon make a right angle to each other. They aren't pulling together, so the tides are smaller. It's called neap tide. Robinson and I also talked about **rising sea level**. Scientists use satellites and math to calculate the average height of the water on Earth. That's sea level—and it's been rising. Scientists expect it to rise faster over the next 30 years. On the U.S. coastline, they expect sea level to rise about 12 inches.

One big reason is melting glaciers. Burning fossil fuels like gas and oil releases carbon dioxide into Earth's atmosphere. Carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases trap heat. That makes Earth warmer. About 68% of Earth's freshwater is frozen into glaciers. As Earth warms, the **ice melts**. That water flows into the ocean.



That's not great news for places at, or near, sea level. As sea level rises, some places will have problems with flooding.

Robinson told me the good news is that we have scientists working together on this problem. The tides might even help. Researchers have found it's possible to harness the [energy of the tides](#) to make clean electricity. It's just one more way we can move away from burning fossil fuels to help our planet.

Sincerely,
Dr. Universe

[Get more questions and answers here!](#)



Know a kid with a science question?
Help them submit it for a chance to be featured in a future Q&A.

[Submit a question!](#)

Washington State University Extension and University of Idaho Extension Present Youth Livestock Field Days

YOUTH LIVESTOCK FIELD DAYS

Washington State University Extension and University of Idaho Extension are pleased to present Youth Sheep and Goat Field Day on **March 11, 2023**, at Asotin County Fairgrounds and Beef Field Day, **March 25, 2023**, at University of Idaho Livestock Pavilion. Topics for the field days include: mandatory paperwork, quality assurance, meat science, health care, feeding and nutrition, selection of the project animal and fitting and showing.

Registration for both events is now open! Registration cost is \$10 per persons and is due March 3, and March 17, respectively. The registration fee includes lunch and handout materials. To register, click on the links below.

For more information, see the brochures linked below.

[Sheep and Meat Goat Field Day Brochure](#)

[Sheep and Meat Goat Field Day Registration](#)

[Beef Field Day Brochure](#)

[Beef Field Day Registration](#)



2023 Cougar Invitational Youth Meat Judging Contest Update

Paul Kuber



The 2023 Cougar Invitational Youth Meat Judging Contest is coming up soon! Contest information pages and the registration link are now available!

Register at this link:

<https://www.judgingcard.com/Registration/Info.aspx?ID=16212>

The Cougar Invitational Tentative Schedule, Contest Rules, Registration Information and other contest details (Scoring, What to Bring, Awards, and Contact Information can be found by clicking [HERE](#).



2023

COUGAR INVITATIONAL YOUTH MEAT JUDGING CONTEST



**Ensminger Pavilion, 455 Lincoln Dr., Pullman, WA
WSU Meat Laboratory, 2155 Wilson Rd., Pullman, WA**

Registration Deadline: March 10

Register at <https://www.judgingcard.com/Registration/Info.aspx?ID=16212>

March 17th

Clinic for Coaches and Students

March 18th

Cougar Invitational Judging Contest and Awards

Opportunities In Virtual Horse Judging

Pat Pehling

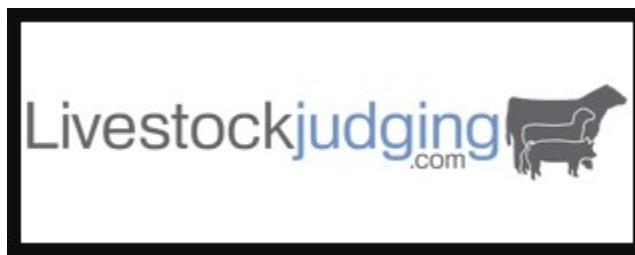
While clinics and contests with live horses (and riders) are definitely more effective, sometimes it is difficult to find an acceptable location and/or arrange for enough suitable horses to create a contest.

Subscription service livestockjudging.com has over 100 classes on horses or performance. It is suitable for teaching judging, but also allows a subscriber to set up contests. Available classes include halter, reining, ranch riding, trail, western equitation, western pleasure, hunt/seat equitation and hunter under saddle.

Snohomish County has four Horse Judging events each 4-H year with live “live” and one Virtual. Each Contest includes 4 classes and written reasons on one class. While there is no option for reasons on the Virtual platform, the members are instructed to email their written reasons to a volunteer who is trained to evaluate the reasons.

livestockjudging.com scores each participants’ placings and results are soon available. The subscriber chooses the classes, determines the contest placing of each class or has a judge place the class (there are class placings available to view when deciding the official placing of each class), sets the times and dates of the Contest and gives directions to the participants. Participants can be “invited” or a PIN can be shared to allow access to the program. Contests can run for a couple hours or several days.

Since it is desirable for the Judging Contest to also be educational, the judge should always give reasons for placing classes at a Contest. On the Virtual Contest, it is recommended that written reasons be shared on whatever method of communicating with the youth is available at the county level. Some of the available classes do have reasons available.



Shooting Sports Certification For 4-H Volunteers Scheduled In Ellensburg March 3rd Through 5th



Attention 4-H volunteers interested in becoming certified as shooting sports instructors! We have a Level 1 training coming up in March!

Thank you for your interest in our WSU 4-H Volunteer Shooting Sports Certification March 3-5 in Ellensburg, WA!

This training is for certified 4-H volunteers who are 21 and older only who are interested in becoming certified in one of the following disciplines: Pistol, Rifle, Archery, Hunting Skills, Shotgun, or Muzzleloading.

Training cost for all volunteers is:

Registration: \$85

National Online Shooting Sports Module (if you have not completed in the past 3 years): \$20

2nd discipline: \$30

We encourage volunteers to check with their clubs and county council's for financial assistance. As of now, we do not have a state funding source to assist.

The deadline for enrollment is February 24th. Sign up by clicking [HERE](#)

Training schedule:

Friday, March 3rd, 5:30pm – 8:00pm

Classroom Instruction – ALL DISCIPLINES

Topics: Shooting sports risk management, club basics, and QPR suicide prevention training

Note – the content in this section was updated in 2021. New volunteers and returning volunteers who received certification in any discipline prior to 2021 are required to attend this classroom section. If you attended the classroom section in 2021-2022 for another discipline, you do not need to repeat this.

Saturday, March 4th, 8am – 5pm

Range Instruction – lunch provided

Disciplines: Pistol, Rifle, Archery, and Hunting Skills

Sunday, March 4th, 8am – 5pm

Range Instruction – lunch provided

Disciplines: Rifle, Shotgun, Archery, and Muzzleloading

Royal Rabbits 4-H Host Rabbit Roundup In Vancouver Washington On March 12th!

The Royal Rabbits 4-H Club in Clark County, Washington is hosting their annual rabbit show on March 12th and invite all bunny clubs in the state to participate!

The focus of our show is FUN, growth, and community. **The direct link to register is [HERE!](#)**



Skagit County 4-H Clubs Fill Sandbags to Battle King Tides

In late December, Skagit County was especially hard hit by flooding along coastal areas. “King Tides” were responsible for many residents finding their homes and property underwater, and more of these high tides are expected this month. Skagit County Department of Public Works delivered a dump-truck load of sand and burlap bags for Samish Island Residents, at the request of a long-time resident.

On December 31st, coming to the aid of Samish Island residents, young people from the Burlington chapter of “Her-Ang-Dus” 4-H Club volunteered to fill sandbags.



Pictured here are the “Her-Ang-Dus” 4-H participants:

- Stephanie Knutzen, “Her-Ang-Dus” 4-H Chapter Leader, and 4-H parent with her children Trygve and Hayden.
- Bill and Kali Howard, 4-H parents, with their children Jacob and James.
- Claire Collins, 4-H parent, with her children Jack and Luke.
- Andrea Ratfield, 4-H parent, with her children Esther, Jillian, Mae, and Henry.
- Jeremiah Hastings, 4-H volunteer.

Also filling sandbags on Samish Island during the King Tides were members of the Burlington Edison Roadrunners 4-H Club.



Club members pictured in this photo are Cassidy Pruiett, Kiersten Dotzauer, Danica McKee, Sydney Quatsoe, Casey Quatsoe, and Vivian Armas. Adults pictured are club leader Sharrie Nelson, Stacie Quatsoe and Julie McKee. Many thanks go to these 4-H volunteers, along with Sue Ratfield and other neighbors who donated their time and efforts.

This project exemplifies the spirit of neighbors-helping-neighbors, and what the 4-H program stands for: Head, Heart, Hands, and Health.



Introducing Q and A Sessions for the Washington 4-H Horse Program!

Have questions about the Washington 4-H horse program? We are planning to have a monthly Q and A for leaders, parents, members, and staff on the third Tuesday of each month via Zoom from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Zooms will start in February and run at least through June.

The first one will be Thursday, February 16th. No need to register...just come and join the zoom by 6:30 pm.

There will be no specific topics for this first zoom but will be around the theme/parameters of horses and youth development. It will be more than “what are the rules.” However, there will be time set aside for input on future topics for the subsequent Zooms. **The Zoom meeting ID is 452-082-9765 with no passcode.** You must have a zoom account to participate.

The meeting will be facilitated by Jennifer Leach, WSU 4-H Equine Specialist. If you need further clarification of the meeting, feel free to contact Jennifer at jleach@wsu.edu



4-H Scholarship Applications Now Live on 4-H Online!



The application for 4-H Scholarships are now available in 4-H Online. The application is open to all active 4-H youth in the 12th grade who have been in 4-H for at least two years. Youth must be attending an accredited two or four-year college or university in the fall of 2023.

Applications must be submitted by March 15th, no later than 9:59 PM, via 4-H Online.

Emailed applications will not be accepted. No exceptions are made to this policy. Applications **MUST BE COMPLETE**, with submission of all five pieces included, in order to be considered. Each applicant will be considered for all Washington State 4-H Scholarships. These scholarships may be used at any accredited two or four-year college or university.

For more information on the application process, including requirements, tips and individual scholarship information, go to:

<https://extension.wsu.edu/4h/youth/scholarship-opportunities/>.

News Items for Washington State 4-H Equine!

The New Year brings big news for the 4-H Equine Program!



Save the Date! State Horse Bowl and State Hippology May 6-7, 2023

The 2023 WA State 4-H Horse Bowl Contest and WA State 4-H Hippology Contest will be held over the first weekend in May at the Grant County Fairgrounds in Moses Lake. Horse Bowl will be on Saturday, May 6 and Hippology will be on Sunday, May 7. **All the details are in the registration packets, available below.**

[2023 Horse Bowl Registration Packet](#)

[2023 Hippology Contest Registration Packet](#)

We hope 4-H members will try both!!

Lodging Information for teams needing overnight accommodations:

- Camping is available at the Grant County Fairground, including RV spaces. Those interested in this option may make arrangements directly with the fairgrounds here: <https://www.gcfairgrounds.com/p/fair/fair-camping>
- For hotel accommodations, we recommend national name hotels with rooms that open to hallways rather than the outdoors.

As with all State 4-H Equine Contests, each county may select their teams in any manner they choose (e.g. County Contests, Tests, Tryouts, Attendance) and those teams are approved by the County 4-H Educator. Other members are welcome to attend to observe the Contest but only designated County Teams may participate.



The list of sources that state contest questions and materials will be drawn from has been condensed to those that are free and/or easily accessible in hopes that addressing accessibility challenges will increase participation in state equine knowledge contests. **These sources are free downloads from our WA State 4-H website:**

- The 4-H Horse Member Manual <https://pubs.extension.wsu.edu/the-4h-horse-project>
- The 4-H Horse Judging Manual <https://pubs.extension.wsu.edu/4h-horse-judging-manual>

- Beginning Horsemanship <https://pubs.extension.wsu.edu/beginning-horsemanship-mm>
- Contest Guide <https://s3.wp.wsu.edu/uploads/sites/2050/2022/06/PNW574-REV-2015.pdf>
- 4-H Driving Manual <https://pubs.extension.wsu.edu/4h-driving-manual>
- 4-H Dressage Manual <https://pubs.extension.wsu.edu/4h-dressage-manual>
- Hunt Seat & Jumper <https://pubs.extension.wsu.edu/hunt-seat-and-jumper-manual>
- Groom Squad <https://pubs.extension.wsu.edu/washington-state-4h-fair-groom-squad-contest>

And one additional source, available for purchase or digital rental:
<https://www.ayhc.com/shop>

- Equine Science by Jean T. Griffiths



Having a county hippology program is not a requirement of registration for the state hippology contest. Recognizing that a county may have only one or two interested, eligible members, the following provision is provided:

- A county may combine with another county (or multiple counties) to form a team. If unable to coordinate with another county, you may register your county's interested members as individuals. The contest coordinator will form catch teams, if possible, and notify you. If impossible to form a catch team, individuals may compete independently in all phases except team problem solving. All contestants are eligible for overall individual awards.
- To provide additional support, a **Prepare for State Hippology Zoom** is scheduled for Sunday, March 26, 2 to 3:30 pm. All 4-H members are welcome to join, from those who are definitely planning to compete to those who aren't quite sure yet. Come learn about the competition so you can feel prepared to do your best! Supporting adults are very welcome! **Register in advance for this meeting:** <http://bit.ly/3ClfFga>

WDFW Issues Statement On Avian Influenza Outbreak Among Waterfowl Around Skagit Bay

Media contact: communications@dfw.wa.gov

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) biologists recently responded to reports of sick or dead waterfowl in western Skagit County on and around

Skagit Bay, as well as in northwestern Snohomish County and on Camano Island and Port Susan in Island County.

WDFW has retrieved more than 700 deceased birds of several species—primarily juvenile snow geese—from this area. Samples have been taken from these birds for testing for [avian influenza](#) (also known as bird flu), with H5N1 strain Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) suspected.

WDFW continues to ask members of the public who find sick or dead birds to [report them immediately using this online form](#) and not touch them. As resources are available, biologists may respond to remove bird carcasses and, if in an area or species where avian influenza has not been confirmed, test for the virus. Due to the magnitude of this outbreak, WDFW staff will not be able to respond to all reported cases.

Infected birds may appear lethargic, unable to fly, and exhibit wheezing, vomiting, or have diarrhea or secretions from their mouth or nostrils. More detailed information about avian influenza is available [on this WDFW webpage](#) and in [this blog post](#).

Avoid all contact with sick and dead birds. DO NOT attempt to move sick birds to a veterinarian or rehabilitation center, or to your home, as this can spread the disease. If a dead bird must be moved, it is best to wear disposable gloves while handling it and to double bag and dispose of the carcass in the garbage where pets and scavengers can't reach it.

Reports of suspected avian influenza in domestic flocks should be sent to the Washington State Department of Agriculture. Call 1-800-606-3056 or [visit their webpage](#) for more information about how to protect poultry and other domestic birds.

From fall through spring, western Skagit County, Island County, and northwestern Snohomish County are major feeding and roosting areas for snow geese and other migratory waterfowl. The recent avian influenza hotspot around Skagit Bay follows a similar [outbreak in November around Wiser Lake in Whatcom County](#). More than 450 dead birds have been removed from that area.

HPAI is very contagious among birds but the risk to people is low. This current strain of bird flu does not appear to easily infect humans. As a precautionary measure, people with known extended contact with infected birds should contact their local health department if they develop flu-like symptoms.

For hunters, waterfowl and other birds that appear healthy or are actively flying likely present minimal risk but should be cooked thoroughly before consumption. Dead geese and ducks found in western Skagit and Whatcom counties and northwestern Snohomish County are likely the result of avian influenza. Goose hunting has been closed in this area (Goose Management Area 1) since Nov. 27 and will reopen Dec. 10 through Jan. 29.

Dogs and other animals can become sick with avian influenza, and care should be taken to avoid contact between pets and either sick birds or carcasses of diseased birds. Wherever possible, maintain control of and discourage your dog from touching birds that were not shot immediately beforehand.

To reduce the risk of disease transmission, hunters are asked to **not** clean and dispose of bird carcasses in the field, but to do so at home and to double bag and dispose of bird carcasses in the garbage.

Additional safety tips include:

- Wear disposable gloves when cleaning harvested birds or cleaning bird feeders.
- Do not dispose of processed carcasses in the field where they could be eaten by raptors. Bag them and place in the garbage, bury, or incinerate them.
- Take special precautions to ensure that all equipment (boots, clothes, vehicles, firearms) are cleaned and disinfected to prevent the spread of diseases.
- Do not harvest or handle wild birds that are obviously sick or found dead.
- Do not eat, drink, or smoke while cleaning game.
- Wash hands with soap and water or alcohol wipes immediately after handling game or cleaning bird feeders.
- Wash tools and work surfaces used to clean game birds with soap and water, then disinfect with a 10 percent solution of chlorine bleach.
- Separate raw meat, and anything it touches, from cooked or ready-to-eat foods to avoid contamination.
- Cook game birds thoroughly. Meat should reach an internal temperature of 155 to 165 degrees Fahrenheit to kill disease organisms and parasites.

For additional information on avian influenza please visit: wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/diseases/bird-flu

Individuals who need to receive this information in an alternative format, language, or who need reasonable accommodations to participate in WDFW-sponsored public meetings or other activities may contact the Title VI/ADA Compliance Coordinator by phone at 360-902-2349, TTY (711), or email (Title6@dfw.wa.gov).

For more information, see <https://wdfw.wa.gov/accessibility/requests-accommodation>.

Submitted by:

Pam Watson, M.Ed., WSU Lewis County Extension
4-H Youth Development Agent, WSU Faculty

Remember to Sign Up for 4-H Equine Science and Horsemanship Series Thursdays!!



We are excited to launch the 2022-2023 WA State 4-H Equine Science and Horsemanship Series!! Hosted virtually on the 4th Thursday of the month, December 2022 – December 2023 (*5th Thursday in November 2023, due to Thanksgiving) from 6:30 – 7:30 pm.

All are invited to attend to learn more about horses! Sessions will incorporate hands-on opportunities and fun learning games! **Use this link to sign up and receive the zoom link:** <https://bit.ly/WA4-HEquineScience>

Registered participants will be emailed a suggested supply list prior to each session for the hands-on component.

NOTE: Instructors are needed for some of our upcoming sessions. If you have interest in teaching, please contact kim.baker@wsu.edu | 425-520-3908.

We are interested in hearing from staff, equine professionals, and alumni of the horse program that would like to share their area of expertise with an audience of youth.

Interested parties should be prepared to share an overview of their topic and how they envision incorporating a hands-on component in a virtual format. More details about the review process are available upon request.

Thank you!

Save the Date! 2023 Prairie Hatchers Annual Poultry Show!



Save the Date, March 25, 2023, for the Prairie Hatchers 4-H Club's 23rd Annual YOUTH SHOW, taking place at the Clark County Fairgrounds in Ridgefield, Washington. Things to look forward to include Showmanship, confirmation/type, BIG Raffle, and Show quality poultry/chick auction!

Donations are always appreciated. If you would like to donate **show quality birds** or any raffle items please e-mail us! Your donations help us run next year's show. Help us keep it going!

If you would like more information or get on the list to receive our premium book in January please e-mail: prairiehatchers4hclub@gmail.com
