

**WSU Extension Grays Harbor County 4-H Youth Development
News for December 20, 2019**

Archived versions of the News Blast are available at <http://extension.wsu.edu/graysharbor/4-h/info/>

IMPORTANT DATES More events and info on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/graysharbor4h/>

December 24 - 26 WSU Extension Office CLOSED in Observance of Christmas

December 28 & 29 GH 4-H Camp Counselor Training, Noon on Saturday through 3 pm on Sunday, Panhandle Lake 4-H Camp

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1349773225215490/>

January 1 WSU Extension Office CLOSED in Observance of New Year's Day

January 6 GH 4-H Horse Council Meeting, 6:30 pm, WSU Extension office, Elma

<https://www.facebook.com/events/824768007970259/>

January 9 4-H Fair Committee Meeting, 6 pm, WSU Extension office in Elma or Zoom videoconference

<https://www.facebook.com/events/433795340660207/>

January 16 GH 4-H Council Executive Board Meeting, 6 pm, WSU Extension office, Elma

January 20 WSU Extension Office CLOSED in Observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

February 3 GH 4-H Horse Council Meeting, 6:30 pm, WSU Extension office, Elma

<https://www.facebook.com/events/824768007970259/>

February 17 WSU Extension Office CLOSED in Observance of Presidents Day

February 19 GHC Fair Volunteer Meeting, hosted by GHC Fair Board, 6 pm, Mike Murphy Pavilion

<https://www.facebook.com/events/2436236489805541/>

February 20 GH 4-H Council Meeting, 6 pm, WSU Extension office, Elma

<https://www.facebook.com/events/414002992563834/>

April 25 & 26 GH 4-H Camp Counselor Training, Noon on Saturday through 3 pm on Sunday, Panhandle Lake 4-H Camp

<https://www.facebook.com/events/753499791729006/>

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

During this holiday season, we thank you for your enthusiasm and genuine dedication to the youth of our community through the Grays Harbor County 4-H Program. We wish you and your family a happy and safe holiday season!

RE-ENROLL

If you haven't already done so, please take a few minutes to complete your 4-H enrollment for the new 4-H year. Step-by-step instructions and a link to the 4HOnline enrollment site can be found on our website at <https://extension.wsu.edu/graysharbor/4-h/forms/>.

Please contact Tracie at (360)482-2934 if you need assistance or have any questions.

Visit <https://extension.wsu.edu/4h/member-resources/> for additional information.

FAIR PLANNING BEGINS NOW

The 4-H Fair committee recently met to begin planning for the 2020 fair.

The committee identified the following areas needing volunteers and are asking for help with:

1. Public Presentations. Serve as a public presentation superintendent for one or all five days of the fair. This position can be shared among several people.
2. Kitchen Activities. Serve as kitchen activities superintendent for one or all five day of the fair. This position can be shared among several people.
3. Creative Arts/Fine Arts. Serve as a co-superintendent, help with set-up of the department prior to fair, direct judging, assist with exhibit entry and display.
4. Still Life Activities. Looking for a group of teens to plan and facilitate still life building daily activities. Think Legos, arts & crafts, corn hole, pin the tail, etc.
5. Educational Posters. Serve as the educational poster superintendent and coordinate intake, judging, and display of these entries.
6. Judges. We are in need of judges for all still life areas. If you or someone you know has specific knowledge or experience in any of the still life areas let us know. We will provide training and guidance.
7. Planning. Provide input by attending fair committee meetings. Attend in person or remotely using your phone or computer. The next meeting is January 9.

Let us know where you can lend a hand, contact Tracie at (360)482-2934 or tracie.hanson@wsu.edu

GET CREATIVE – Enter the State 4-H Fair Patch Design Contest

Help the State 4-H Fair Board while expressing your own creativity by submitting a design for the official 2020 State 4-H Fair patch. The creator of the winning patch will receive a patch and cash award. Limit of two entries per 4-H member. Find the contest rules and official entry form at <https://extension.wsu.edu/graysharbor/4-h/links/> or pick up a copy at the Extension Office.

CREATIVE KIDS 2020 CONTEST

Need some inspiration planning activities for your club? Consider diving into the Creative Kids contest categories for 2020. Your projects will be eligible for entry in the Grays Harbor Fair and State 4-H Fair. The categories include “Happy Holidays” crafts, plant container recycling, baked cookies, “Winter Wonderland” poetry, “Winter Wonderland” photo, and 4-H promotional poster projects. See the Creative Kids brochure for official guidelines. This contest is open to all 4-H members regardless of project enrollment. Cash awards and rosette ribbons will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in each age group of each class at State 4-H Fair. Find brochure at <https://extension.wsu.edu/graysharbor/4-h/links/> or pick up a copy at the Extension Office.

STATE VETERINARIAN DISEASE ALERT: Equine Influenza Virus, Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease and Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease vaccine guidance

... submitted by Susan Kerr, DVM, PhD, WSDA Education and Outreach Specialist, skerr@agr.wa.gov

Hi everyone – please share these important disease updates concerning rabbits, horses, and cattle. Youth caring for these species should be aware of the presence of these diseases in our state and take proper biosecurity precautions. I added and highlighted messages specifically for 4-H youth. Please contact me if you'd like more info. WSDA personnel are available to conduct biosecurity outreach throughout WA—you just have to ask!

November 22, 2019 | Contact: [State](#) Veterinarian (360) 902-1878

Put Equine Influenza, Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease and Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease on your radar this week.

Equine Influenza confirmed in Spokane County

A seven-year-old Thoroughbred gelding and a five-year-old Warmblood mare tested positive for equine influenza (H3N8) at a premises in Spokane County, Washington, on November 15. Several other horses that attended a local show were also showing clinical signs including coughing, fever and nasal discharge. Neither of the horses were up to date on vaccines. The reporting veterinarian is overseeing a voluntary quarantine of the farm. **MESSAGE FOR 4-HERS: VACCINATE YOUR HORSES FOR EQUINE INFLUENZA EVERY 2 MONTHS IF YOU GO TO HORSE SHOWS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. PROTECTION FROM THE VACCINATION DOESN'T LAST VERY LONG FOR THIS DISEASE.**

Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease confirmed in Grant County

A two-year-old crossbred heifer tested positive for Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease on Nov 19. The heifer presented with weight loss and bloody nasal discharge. This is the fourth premises diagnosed in Washington this fall. Previous cases were confirmed in Walla Walla, Franklin and Whatcom Counties. See here for more information: <https://wastatedeptag.blogspot.com/2019/10/deadly-deer-virus-detected-now-detected.html>. **MESSAGE FOR 4-HERS: WATCH YOUR CATTLE CLOSELY FOR ANY SIGNS OF ILLNESS INCLUDING FEVER, DROOLING, MOUTH SORES, POOR APPETITE, BLOODY NOSE, ETC. CALL YOUR VETERINARIAN IMMEDIATELY IF YOU SEE THESE SIGNS. APPLY APPROVED FLY SPRAYS IF FLIES ARE STILL ACTIVE IN YOUR AREA—THIS VIRUS IS SPREAD BY BITING FLIES.**

Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease Vaccine Guidance Posted

Rabbit hemorrhage disease (RHD), a highly contagious and serious disease of rabbits, was identified in the San Juan Islands in July 2019 and on Whidbey Island in November. To reduce risk of RHD on their premises, concerned rabbit owners should step up their [biosecurity practices](#). Rabbit owners in the [quarantine zone and control area](#) should discuss with their veterinarian whether or not to include vaccination as part of their risk reduction plan. See full article here: <https://agr.wa.gov/departments/animals-livestock-and-pets/animal-health/animal-diseases/rabbit-disease>

Important points to remember:

- **Rabbit owners should be aware and practice the biosecurity necessary to protect their animals.**
- **The vaccine should NOT be widely used.** The vaccine should be used for rabbits with immediate risk only that are in or near a quarantine area or where wild rabbits are infected.
 - o WSDA established high risk area maps where the vaccine should be used (see link below).
 - o Highest risk rabbits are those with direct contact with feral domestic populations.
- **The vaccine supply is limited.**
 - o The company does not have a large capacity for production, so use should be discretionary and prioritized to animals at most risk.
 - o The vaccine is experimental and should be used at the owner's own risk.
- **Diseases in wildlife are difficult to stamp out.**
 - o RHDV is very contagious and quite likely will depopulate feral domestic rabbits in a given area.
 - o Other examples of wildlife diseases include Brucellosis infecting elk in the greater Yellowstone area, Chronic Wasting Disease in cervids, and Tuberculosis in deer.

Quarantine and Control Area

Map: <http://nras.maps.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=5064cc6a01b1436cb89530edf80bbcbf>

Other resources: <https://agr.wa.gov/departments/animals-livestock-and-pets/animal-health/animal-diseases/rabbit-disease>

MESSAGE FOR 4-HERS: FOLLOW THE BIOSECURITY PRACTICES MENTIONED IN THE ABOVE RESOURCES. ABIDE BY THE QUARANTINE/CONTROL AREA ORDERS AND DO NOT MOVE RABBITS OR THEIR EQUIPMENT INTO OR OUT OF THESE AREAS. DO NOT ADOPT FERAL DOMESTIC RABBITS FROM THE QUARANTINE AS PETS AND EXPOSE THEM TO CURRENT PET/PROJECT ANIMALS. CONTACT YOUR VETERINARIAN ABOUT GETTING YOUR RABBITS VACCINATED IF YOU LIVE WITHIN OR NEAR THE QUARANTINE ZONE. ALSO CONTACT YOUR VETERINARIAN RIGHT AWAY IF AN OTHERWISE HEALTHY RABBIT DIES UNEXPECTEDLY OR A RABBIT STOPS EATING, BECOMES LETHARGIC, OR YOU NOTICE BLOODY DISCHARGE FROM MOUTH OR NOSE. PLEASE ONLY SHARE FACTS ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

VOLUNTEER HOURS

If you participated in the Grays Harbor Fair, a 4-H meeting, camp, or helped a member with their project you must report these hours. Reporting of volunteer hours documents coverage for injuries they might sustain and it is also documentation for the liability coverage WSU provides to its volunteers. All WSU Extension Volunteers must log on to <https://volunteers.cahnrs.wsu.edu/logon.aspx> each month to report hours they worked for any WSU Extension program. Your user name will be your last name and first initial, such as "HansonT" and your initial password is password! (all lower case and include the exclamation point!) Once you log in you will have the option to change your password. For additional information visit the [Reporting Your Volunteer Hours](#) page on our website or contact Tracie 360-482-2934 or tracie.hanson@wsu.edu if you need assistance.

4-H teaches life skills that lead young people to become self-directing, positive, contributing members of our society. Extension programs are available to all without discrimination. Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through your local Extension office. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication or program information or reasonable accommodation need to contact Tracie Hanson at PO Box 3018, Elma, WA 98541, (360)482-2934, tracie.hanson@wsu.edu at least two weeks prior to the event. Our county is partnering with neighboring counties—the Constellation group of Mason, Pacific, Lewis, Thurston, etc., to send out e-newsletters. Some articles are from other counties, and include helpful information or invitations to participate in local, regional, or statewide events. Please read carefully.

"These notices are provided for informational purposes only, and do not imply any endorsement of a particular brand or product."

Disclaimer: By posting the above "free to a good home" information, WSU Grays Harbor County Extension 4-H does not endorse or give approval for any of these free animals to be used as 4-H project animals. Contact the animal owners at your own risk.

Cooperating agencies: Washington State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Grays Harbor County Extension.

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