



# Otsego County 4-H Newsletter



*A Publication of Cornell Cooperative Extension  
Schoharie and Otsego Counties*

Cornell Cooperative Extension | Schoharie and Otsego Counties

**November/December 2025**



**Fields & Flats 4-H Club  
during National 4-H Week**

4-H is a **community** of **young people**  
 **across America** who are learning  
**leadership, citizenship** and  
**life skills.**

**Cornell Cooperative Extension  
Schoharie & Otsego Counties  
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**4-H Youth Development Mission Statement**

The mission of Cornell Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development is to build youth-adult partnerships to enable youth to become fully engaged in their learning process. New York State 4-H is a leader in enabling youth to develop the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and abilities to become productive citizens and is a catalyst for positive change to meet the needs of a diverse and changing society.

**Through 4-H Youth Development, youth will:**

- Practice effective problem-solving and decision-making skills
- Possess positive work attitudes and skills
- Value diversity
- Accept community and social responsibility
- Contribute to positive relationships with families, peers, and community
- Demonstrate communication and leadership skills
- Value lifelong learning

**Cornell Cooperative Extension values:**

- 4-H Youth development as the focus of all youth development activities
- Partnerships for supporting, conducting, and extending the program
- Volunteerism as a cornerstone of the program



The *Otsego County 4-H Newsletter* is published eleven times a year by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Schoharie & Otsego Counties. Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for providing equal program and employment in accordance with applicable laws.

Cornell Cooperative Education Center

123 Lake Street, Cooperstown, NY 13326  
(Education Center/ mailing address)  
Phone: 607-547-2536 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Monday through Friday

31 Maple Street, Oneonta, NY 13820  
(Outreach office)  
Phone: 607-433-2521  
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. - Monday, Tuesday, and Friday

Website: <http://cceschoharie-otsego.org>



# 4-H Calendar Events



<b>NOVEMBER</b>	
4	4-H Teen Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom
5	4-H Secretary Report due to 4-H Office
<b>11</b>	<b>Veteran's Day, observed, CCE offices closed</b>
13	4-H Livestock Auction Meeting, Rowe House, Oneonta, 6:30 p.m.
18	4-H Leader's Meeting, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom
20	4-H Fair Superintendent's Meeting, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom
<b>27 &amp; 28</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Day, CCE offices closed</b>
28	Tractor Supply Paper Clover Sales start
<b>DECEMBER</b>	
1	4-H Earn An Animal applications available
2	4-H Teen Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom
4	4-H Information Night, Rowe House, Oneonta, 6:30 p.m.
5	4-H Secretary Report due to 4-H Office
7	4-H Holiday Decorating Martin Hall, Otsego County Fairgrounds, Morris 1:00 p.m.
9	4-H Livestock Auction Meeting, Rowe House, Oneonta, 6:30 p.m.
11	4-H Information Night, CCE Education Center, Cooperstown, 6:30 p.m.
13	4-H Officer Training, Rowe House, Oneonta, 10:00 a.m.
14	Tractor Supply Paper Clover Sales end
16	4-H Leader's Meeting, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom
18	4-H Fair Superintendent's Meeting, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom
<b>24 &amp; 25</b>	<b>Christmas Holiday, CCE Offices closed</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>DEADLINE, Re-enrollment to be eligible for County Fair and year-end completion</b>
<b>31</b>	<b>New Year's Holiday, CCE offices closed</b>
<b>JANUARY</b>	<b>2026</b>
1	<b>New Year's Day, CCE offices closed</b>
5	4-H Secretary Report due to 4-H Office
10	4-H Livestock Auction Information Workshop, Community Room, Southside Mall, Oneonta 10:00 a.m.
13	4-H Teen Council, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom
<b>19</b>	<b>Martin Luther King's Birthday observed, CCE offices closed</b>
24	4-H Public Presentation Workshop, Rowe House, Oneonta 10:00 a.m.
20	4-H Leaders Meeting, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom
22	4-H Superintendent Meeting, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom
24	4-H Public Presentation Workshop, Rowe House, Oneonta, 10:00 a.m.
	CCE Annual Kick Off Meeting,
	Otsego County Dairy Bowl Practices begin, watch for more details

# Otsego 4-H Welcomes Autumn!

## Springfield High Meadows

Veterans and family members received artfully created cards from the Springfield High Meadows 4-H youth!



## No Goats No Glory

4-H members of the No Goats No Glory club enjoyed the autumn weather with a horse drawn carriage ride in Brookfield State Park!

## Crafty Chipmunks

Craft Chipmunks members met in September to work on a fun woodworking project of creating bulletin boards!





## Ewes & Friends

After carving pumpkins grown from seed during last year's carving activity, Ewes & Friends 4-H youth donated 20 pumpkins to their local Headstart program!

## Gilbertsville Dairy

4-H members from the Gilbertsville Dairy Club met in October to learn about dreamcatchers and made some of their own!



## Gilbertsville Dairy (cont'd)

Then, in November, youth met at a farm to learn how to plant garlic and took some home to grow themselves!





# CELEBRATING NATIONAL 4-H WEEK OCTOBER 5 - 11

National 4-H Week is a yearly celebration of the remarkable youth, volunteers, and communities that make 4-H strong. It's a time to highlight the leadership, service, and hands-on learning that help 4-H-ers grow into confident, capable young people. This week, our clubs came together to show their 4-H pride!





***4-H Officer Training***  
***Saturday, December 13, 2025***  
***10 a.m.***



**4-H at The Rowe House**

**31 Maple Street, Oneonta**

**Games & Prizes in a hands-on  
training offered for**

**President/Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer,  
Reporter, Recreation and Song, Historian, and Health  
Officer**

**Tips and forms will be given to use during your club  
meetings**

**[Registration required](#)**

**Teresa Adell, [tla47@cornell.edu](mailto:tla47@cornell.edu)**

**607-547-2536 ext 225, 433-2521**



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## 4-H Earn-An-Animal Timeline

Applications Available- December, 2025  
 Application Deadline- February 2, 2026  
 Applicant Interviews- February 7, 2026  
 Recipient Orientation- February 7, 2026  
 Show Project Animal- July/August 2026  
 Project Records Due- August 9, 2026  
 Reimbursement- November 2026

## The program

The 4-H Earn-An-Animal program allows for Otsego County youth ages 8-18(as of January 1) to earn funding towards a project animal to raise and show as their own. This program requires dedication from the youth member and support from their guardians. Youth accepted to the program will not only learn how to care for their animal, they will experience the process of researching, selecting and purchasing an animal. Through the 4-H Earn-An-Animal Project, 4-H youth will further develop their planning, time management, organization, and record keeping skills.

## Otsego County 4-H Earn-An-Animal



### Animals available and award amounts

- Meat Poultry
- Laying Hen
- Rabbit
- Sheep
- Swine
- Goat
- Dairy Calf
- Beef Calf

4-H Earn-An-Animal participants are required to complete objectives before receiving reimbursement for their project animal. Objectives include: showing their animal at The Fenimore Farm Junior Livestock Show and the Otsego County Fair, displaying a presentation board of their project at the fair, and completing 4-H project records.

### APPLICATION DEADLINE

**February 2, 2026**

### For More 4-H Earn-An-Animal Information Contact:

#### **Teresa Adell**

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## 4-H Public Presentations

**Save the Date**  
**Saturday,**  
**February 28, 2026**  
**Morris Central School**



**MORE INFO TO COME**

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# Jump Start Your 4-H Experience



## 2024 4-H Information Nights

### Interested in Otsego County 4-H?

Find out information on how to join  
and/or start a 4-H club  
for youth ages 5-19.

4-H Information nights will be held

**Thursday, December 4, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.**

The Rowe House, 31 Maple Street, Oneonta

**Thursday, December 11, 2025 at 6:30pm**

CCE Education Center, 123 Lake Street, Cooperstown

**Pre-registration is required.** Contact Teresa Adell at  
607-547-2536 ext 225, 607-433-2521 or email [tla47@cornell.edu](mailto:tla47@cornell.edu)

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## 4-H Public Presentation Workshop for Youth



Saturday, January 24, 2026 10 a.m.

The Rowe House, 31 Maple St, Oneonta

This is an interactive workshop for youth to learn the basics of public presentations. Participants will be introduced to the five Public Presentation categories: demonstrations, illustrated talks, speech, recitation and dramatic interpretation. The focus will be for beginners, but information on the categories will be helpful for all.

A key for succeeding in this world is being able to have your voice heard.

4-H provides an opportunity for youth to learn this valuable skill through public presentations. A 4-H public presentation is showing and telling somebody else how to do something that you **ALREADY KNOW HOW TO DO!** This can be from a 4-H project or activity that you have taken or are taking this 4-H year, or it can be a special interest that you have. Giving a public presentation can help you to grow as an individual, think and talk before a group of people, and gain poise and self-confidence.

Sign up on or before Friday, January 21

Contact Teresa Adell, [tla47@cornell.edu](mailto:tla47@cornell.edu) 607-547-2536 x225



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# It's Paper Clover Time!

**Nov. 28 - Dec. 14, 2025**

Funds support scholarships to 4-H camp and leadership activities.



## 4-H INTERNATIONAL DAY



### Take a Trip around the World with out leaving Otsego County

4-H clubs will pick a country that they are interested in and learn about the food (bring samples to share), customs, clothing and share with the audience.

May include:

Games, flags, musical instruments, posters, art, pictures, sing a song, demonstrate a dance, wear country's national costume or share some learned language, also history and geography.

Participants are invited to "travel" to the different countries by visiting the local 4-H club tables, earning punches to a passport, for a prize!



Sunday, February 1, 2026 1:00pm

Southside Mall Community Room, Oneonta

Pre-registration is required

Contact Teresa Adell, [tla47@cornell.edu](mailto:tla47@cornell.edu)

Or 607-547-2536 x225



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# Livestock Auction Information Event

**THIS IS A MANDATORY MEETING TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROGRAM**



An information meeting for the 4-H Livestock Auction program will be held for 4-H members interested in selling an animal in the 2026 4-H Livestock Auction at the Otsego County Fair.

Livestock Auction species include: beef, goats, poultry, rabbits, sheep and swine. Requirements of the program will be explained. Youth **MUST** be accompanied by at least one parent/guardian during the meeting.

## About the Program

The 4-H Livestock Market Program teaches sustainable animal husbandry practices that produce healthy livestock for our local meat market. From start to finish, these youth learn all aspects of the market process including animal nutrition, evaluation and selection, welfare, marketing, and processing.

**Note:** INTERESTED youth are welcome to attend with no obligation to participate in the Auction.

**Saturday**

**January 10, 2026**

**10 a.m.**

**Southside Mall**

**Community Room**

**Oneonta**

**Pre-registration is required**

To sign up or for more information, contact

Teresa Adell, [tla47@cornell.edu](mailto:tla47@cornell.edu)

(607) 547-2536 ext. 225 or

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**4-H GROWS HERE**

**Cooperstown  
 Office Hours  
 Open Monday through Friday  
 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
 Oneonta  
 Office Hours  
 Monday, Tuesday & Friday**



Support local 4-H youth development by reducing our publication and mailing costs. Your ad is viewed by nearly 400 youth, parents, and volunteers.

Contact Cornell Cooperative Extension at (607)547-2536 ext 225 for more