

MARYLAND 4-H MARYLAND COOPERATIVE EXTENSION UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND

UPDATES

March 20, 2009

In this Issue...

- Maryland 4-H Foundation, Inc. Announces New Website
- Human Sciences Updates
- Human Science and GPS/GIS In-service
- Alternative Spring Break Camp
- Maryland 4-H Wildlife Habitat Contest
- Science, Engineering, and Technology "No Boundaries" Competition
- Teen Focus
- Maryland 4-Hers Excel
- 4-H Groups Filing 990 ePostcard
- 4-H Million Trees
- National Soil Project at Northeastern University
- Upcoming Events

Upcoming Events

Mar 25, 2009
Md 4-H Foundation, Inc. Board of Dir Meeting

Time: 10:00 am-12:30 pm
Location: The Rocks Camp, Harford County

Contact: Amanda Clougherty
301-314-7832

Mar 27, 2009 - Mar 29, 2009
National Youth Horse Leaders Symposium

Location: Lincoln, NE
Contact: Kristen Wilson
301-596-9478

Mar 28, 2009
State 4-H Dog Bowl Contest

Location: Cecil County
Contact: Cynthia Warner
410-638-3255

Mar 29, 2009
Maryland 4-H Teen Council

Maryland 4-H Foundation, Inc. Announces New Website

The Maryland 4-H Foundation has a new website... and you can access it by going to <http://www.mymaryland4hfoundation.com>

Human Sciences Updates ~ "Every Day, the Healthy Way"

State Communications Contest

All rules, score sheets and transmittal forms can be found on line-click [HERE](#). Please send your forms electronically to Corridon@umd.edu by April 3rd or as soon as your county/city event is over. Help us make the 2009 State Communications Contest the best yet! All participants will again be a part of the University's Maryland Day. Encourage youth to participate and families to attend. ALSO - we need Judges - carefully selected to evaluate and encourage our young speakers. Send names and contact information to Corridon@umd.edu.

FABRIC FABRIC FABRIC

Sandy needs help cleaning out her office!!!! There are 10 HUGE bags of donated fabrics -

- Use it for sewing projects
- Offer it to clubs for crafts
- Encourage participation in FASHION RUNWAY
- Pick up a piece or a bag full
- **OR contact Sandy for delivery!!**

2009 Fashion Revue

Check out the 2009 State Fair Schedule - this year our 4-H Fashion Review will be held on Monday, Labor Day - September 7th. Registration will be from 11 a.m.- 12 noon with the SHOW at 5:30 p.m. in the 4-H Building!!! We'll have a Stage. We'll have a Runway. We'll have seating for our audience. We'll have a Wonderful 4-H Show!!! If you are interested in helping with this

Meeting

Meeting of the Maryland State 4-H Teen Council
Time: 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.
Location: Maryland 4-H Center
Contact: Kendra Wells
301-314-7317

Apr 11, 2009

MD 4-H Horsemanship Standards Test Prep Clinic

The MD 4-H Horsemanship Standards are designed to help 4-H members progressively develop knowledge of horse care, horse management, and horsemanship skills.
Time: 9 am - 4 pm
Location: Carroll County Agricultural Center, 700 Agriculture Center, Westminster, MD 21157
Contact: Karen Ellis
410-531-0534

Apr 18, 2009

4-H Wildlife Contest

Location: Patuxent River 4-H Center
Contact: Denise Frebertshouser
301-314-7819

Apr 18, 2009

4-H Horse Judging Clinic

Location: Carroll County Agriculture Center
Contact: Karen Ellis
410-531-0534

Apr 25, 2009

Maryland 4-H Communications Contest

Location: University of Maryland, College Park
Contact: Sandy Corridon
301-694-1598

Apr 27, 2009 - Apr 30, 2009

National Extension Volunteerism Conference

The National Extension Volunteerism Conference (NEVC) is an opportunity for sharing and learning the latest research and trends in volunteerism, innovative ideas for reaching new volunteers, best practices for developing and keeping current volunteers, and
Location: General Butler State Resort Park in Northern Kentucky
Contact: Lisa Dennis
410-651-8330

... If you are interested in helping with this event OR if you have 4-Hers or 4-H Volunteers who would like to help, please contact SandyCorridon@umd.edu. We have a core group who have already started to work on the 2009 event - join us.

Human Science and GPS/GIS In-service

HEALTH ROCKS Grant Money Available

Health Rocks! is a curriculum-based life skills development program for youth ages 8 to 12, sponsored by the National 4-H Council. It helps youth learn skills such as decision-making, critical thinking, and stress management but places a special emphasis on tobacco-use prevention. The program also includes components that bring youth and adults together as partners in developing community strategies that prepare young people to make health lifestyle choices. Save Monday, April 20th for an opportunity to submit a proposal for a \$500 - \$1,000 grant as seed money to utilize the Health Rocks curriculum in your county/city.

GPS/GIS

Are you interested in incorporating GPS/GIS into your 4-H program but don't know where to begin? Spend the afternoon of April 20th with us to learn and experience the wonders of GPS/GIS technology, as well as discover the resources available to integrate this 4-H SET program into your existing programs. Participants in this in-service will be eligible to: 1) submit a proposal to receive some start up funds to incorporate GPS/GIS into your local 4-H program and 2) borrow GPS units from the state 4-H Program.

Download: [Registration Information](#)

Operation: Military Kids ~ Alternative Spring Break Camp

The camp will provide youth with different community service opportunities where they will help others, which is shown to benefit those who are coping with events such as deployment. There will be class sessions on the importance of community service and being a good citizen as well as time to reflect on the projects.

Youth community service projects will include packing hero packs, writing letters to other military youth, packing or making food for shelters or food banks, and/or working on the camp site in which they will be residing.

Operation: Military Kids target audience is Guard, Reserve, and Active Duty military families who are currently living off-post and are currently in the deployment process (will be deployed, are deployed, or have recently returned). As space is limited; preference will be given to these youth; remaining space will be given to Guard, Reserve, and off-post Active Duty military families who are not currently in the deployment process.

For more information, and a registration form, please download the following documents:

[Alternative Spring Break OMK Brochure.pdf](#)
[Alternative Spring Break OMK Description.pdf](#)
[Alternative Spring Break Registration Form.pdf](#)

Maryland 4-H Wildlife Habitat Contest

The Maryland 4-H Wildlife Habitat Contest will be held on April 18, 2009 at the Patuxent River 4-H Center. The contest includes:

- Wildlife Management Knowledge
- Species Identification
- Wildlife Management Concepts
- General Knowledge Quiz
- Wildlife Management Practices
- On-site Wildlife Management Practices (WMP)
- Written Plan for on-site WMP (Int. & Seniors only)
- Oral Reasons - On-Site WMP Plan (Seniors only)

Please see the Maryland 4-H WHEP Contest Areas document for more specific information regarding specific study materials per age division. Download: [4-H Contest Areas Document](#)

Registration is due April 10th! Download the [Registration Form](#)

Science, Engineering, and Technology "No Boundaries" Competition

The "No Boundaries" project was developed by NASA in collaboration with USA TODAY Education to help youth explore careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) and to learn about NASA. Individual or group projects can be entered in the No Boundaries National Competition. While the instructions are in a school context, youth groups like 4-H and individuals are eligible to participate.

For more information, visit: <http://www.noboundaries-stemcareers.com>
<http://www.noboundaries-stemcareers.com/>
 Competition deadline is May 15, 2009.

2009 State 4-H Teen Focus Conference - Saving the World, One 4-H'er at a Time!

The 2009 State Teen Focus, a 4-H Learning and Leadership Conference, will be held on the UMCP campus, Tuesday, June 23 through Thursday, June 25. This year's "super hero" theme reflects the ability that each person has to make a difference in the world and the many ways that 4-H can bring people together to create change. The conference will include a morning of service, motivational speakers, a wide range of seminars and workshops, and time for teens to relax and get to know each other and the many opportunities offered by the University of Maryland campus.

The cost for the three-day program is \$175.00 for 4-H teens and \$125 for the chaperones of your county/city delegations and includes housing, all meals, program materials, and recreational activities. The Teen Focus program has been planned with teens, for teens. An active and enthusiastic Maryland 4-H Teen Council has been meeting with adult advisors to plan this year's conference. YOU can support this year's conference by:

- Promoting the event to teens, ages 14-18, volunteers, and parents and to community partners who work with youth. Teens and adults do not have to be enrolled in 4-H to

attend the conference. Take advantage of spring 4-H events, teen and adult volunteer association and council meetings, and meetings of other youth organizations as opportunities to hand out the conference materials.

- Identifying 4-H staff and/or one or more MCE volunteers to chaperone your delegation.
- Offering county/city scholarships to help defray the registration cost for participation.
- Saying YES when one of your colleagues calls to ask if you will work on an aspect of this program.

Registration materials will be available on the Maryland 4-H website and can also be requested by contacting Anne Tompkins at the Maryland 4-H Center (Tompkins@umd.edu or 301-314-7831). The registration deadline is Friday, May 22nd. Teen Council members from your county/city or neighboring counties will be happy to work with you to promote the conference!

Maryland 4-Hers Excel at Robotics Competitions

by Kendra Wells

Maryland 4-H Robotics teams from Carroll and Garrett counties recently competed in The Maryland State Championship FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) in LaPlata, MD. FIRST is a non profit organization founded in 1989 by Dean Kamen, inventor of the Segway. FIRST is an acronym for, For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology. The mission of FIRST is to inspire young people to be science and technology leaders, by engaging them in exciting mentor-based programs that build science, engineering and technology skills, that inspire innovation, and that foster well-rounded life capabilities including self-confidence, communication, and leadership.

The 2009 Maryland State Championship featured 39 teams from 4 different states. The 4-H teams met as their respective alliances competed in the final championship round. The Carroll County team won the championship and was awarded the Champions Trophy. Garrett County's team received the Finalist Award and the Inspire Award which is the overall award at the competition and includes a bid to attend the FTC World Championship in Atlanta in April. BAE Systems the major sponsor for the Maryland FTC Championship awarded G-Force a \$500 check which will cover half the cost of registration for the World Championship.

Another 4-H related robotics team, The Lean Green Cleaning Machines, won first prize at the 2008-2009 First Lego League State Competition at the University of Maryland Baltimore. The team members first met through the Montgomery County 4-H Adventure In Science Program at Gaithersburg's National Institute of Standards and Technology. The team, formed in middle school, also won an award for most innovative design.

The FIRST Tech Challenge and First Lego Challenge are excellent ways for 4-H members to learn about science, engineering and technology. The hands on learning is the perfect fit for 4-H. Participants also use the skills they have learned from record keeping to complete the engineering notebook and use public

speaking skills during the interview with the judges. The teams are mentored by engineers and scientists which puts them in direct contact with professionals in the field of science, engineering and technology.

4-H Groups Filing 990 ePostcard

To maintain inclusion under the National 4-H General Exemption Number and federal income tax exemption status, all groups must file annually with the IRS.

Groups earning \$25,000 or more, should continue to file Form 990 or 990-EZ. Those earning less than \$25,000 must file Form 990-N, Electronic Notice (ePostcard) for Tax Exempt Organizations not Required to File Form 990 or 990-EZ. The ePostcard is only available electronically. Either document should be filed by May 15, 2009.

How do groups file the new 990 ePostcard? Go to www.irs.gov and use the keyword/search file to find links to 990-N information. Follow instructions to:

1. Register as a New User
2. Create your Form 990-N (e-Postcard)
3. Submit your Form 990-N (e-postcard).

The 990 N is a short, simple list of information, including the legal name of the club/group, mailing address, website address (if you have one), EIN, annual tax period (January - December 2008), name and address of the principal officer of the organization (club leader), and confirmation that your organization's annual receipts are still normally \$25,000 or less.

FAQ's

- Will the IRS or National 4-H Headquarters remind me to file? NO
- How do I know if the e-Postcard worked? Within 30 minutes of submitting, you will receive an email stating accepted or rejected. Save this email.
- My information is wrong, can I change it? No, this is not the form to indicate changes or to state a club is terminating. Club leaders will need to do that through your county/city unit which will then send that information to the State 4-H office.

Reminder - Annual Financial Reports are Due to the Maryland 4-H Center by March 27, 2009.

4-H Million Trees

Led by the Belmont (California) 4-H Club, the 4-H Million Trees (4HMT) Project is a large-scale service-learning project with the goal to plant 1,000,000 trees across the United States by 2011 to beautify America, absorb atmospheric carbon dioxide, and combat global climate change. In 2008, National 4-H Headquarters signed a partnership agreement with Arbor Day Foundation in support of this

project. The letter to 4-H clubs to tell them how they can get involved can be downloaded [HERE!](#)

National Soil Project at Northeastern University

Dr. Geoffrey Davies and a research team are working on a project to do soil analyses of agricultural topsoils from different parts of the U.S.

4-H clubs can help to collect samples that can be analyzed to give a much clearer assessment of the health of the Nation's soils. 4-H members and families can help to contribute to this national soil research project. The program announcement with details about how to contact Dr. Davies for more information on how to participate in this program can be downloaded [HERE!](#)

Compiled and published by Anne Tompkins
For the latest news & events, please visit <http://www.agnr.umd.edu/news>

©2009 University of Maryland College of Agriculture & Natural Resources

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources' three units—Academic Programs, the Agricultural Experiment Station, and Maryland Cooperative Extension—work in concert to educate students and citizens about critical issues and to solve problems in agriculture, food systems, and the environment. The college is an equal opportunity employer and provides equal access programs.

