



# Prince William 4-H

*Our Clubs, Our Community*



April 9, 2025

## Upcoming Events

- Apr 11-16 - National 4-H Conference
- APR 12 - PW 4-H TREE PLANTING - RAIN OR SHINE!
- Apr 21-May 5 - TSC Paper Clover
- Apr 25 - VA 4-H State Poultry Evaluation Contest
- Apr 26 - VA 4-H NE District Contest Day
- May 10 - PW 4-H Cloverbud Club
- Jun 22-28 - National 4-H Shooting Sports Championship
- Jun 23 - VA 4-H Livestock Judging Contests
- Jun 24-27 - VA 4-H Congress

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## Nokesville 4-H Club Collects over 1,000 lbs of Food Donations



Submitted by Kate Porokh, Special Project Leader, Nokesville 4-H

The idea began when Prince William's Nokesville 4-H Community Club Leader Shealyn Clinger encouraged a March project focused on food and nutrition. Youth 4-H'er Michael DeRoche suggested a food drive and reached out to Meg Carroll, a Georgetown South community leader and volunteer who organizes local food distributions.



Wanting to expand the impact, Michael helped grow the project into a county-wide 4-H effort. With the support of Extension Officer MaryBeth Lerch, Trigger Time Club members, Prince William 4-H families, and generous community members, the food drive was a great success. Michael also coordinated an outreach effort at Giant Food, which significantly increased the amount of donations. It was a great learning experience from creating flyers, to promoting the drive at various occasions - business meetings, Bingo, to learning how to make it more successful by creating "most needed items" flyers to hand out to shoppers at the entrances.

In total, the drive collected over 1,000 pounds of food, providing more than 1,000 meals for local families.



This project was especially meaningful to Michael, who attends school with many children living in Georgetown South and understands how much families rely on school meals - especially during school breaks.

It was a humbling and heartwarming experience to see so many people come together - from club members and volunteers to strangers at the grocery store - to support families in need. The teamwork and generosity from the community made it possible to accomplish something far beyond what Michael ever imagined when the idea first began.

Nokesville 4-H Club is beyond grateful to everyone at Prince William 4-H for support and this opportunity to make a meaningful impact.



### EXPAND YOUR COMMUNITY SERVICE TO A 4-H SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT

A 4-H Service Learning Project is documented community service that begins by identifying a need, setting a goal, creating steps for the project, and assessing the process and how well you met your goal. It transforms your good deeds into learning moments and elevates leadership skills. Understanding donation collections, organizing volunteers, distributing goods, and more, further develops your understanding of the needs of the world around you and how you can impact the community. Any community

service can be a 4-H Service Learning Project. The only difference is planning, documenting, and assessing. [Click here for the Youth Leader's Guide to Conducting 4-H Service Learning Projects.](#)

### BINGO RECAP ZOOM MEETING

PW 4-H Association BINGO Family Night was such a success because of our wonderful volunteers. Not only do we appreciate your time and talents, but we value your feedback. Help us continue to improve this exciting event and raise funds to provide opportunities for local youth by joining the call!

April 22nd @ 7 pm via Zoom: <https://virginiatech.zoom.us/j/84391184295>



# Let's Plant 100 TREES!

## Growing Trees and Kids for Virginia's Forest

Join Prince William 4-H and Prince William County Environmental Management for a fun filled service project to celebrate Earth Day and Arbor Day by planting 100 new trees!

WC Arborist Will Shoups and his team will lead us to a nearby stormwater management pond where we'll plant native buttonbushes to help control erosion and create an attractive habitat for birds and insects.

JOIN US AT:

**12 APRIL 2025**

**9 AM**

5 County Complex Court, Suite 170  
Woodbridge, VA 22192

### Who Should Attend:

All Prince William 4-H'ers  
and their family and friends!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090C4DAAAF29A4FF2-54412965-4htree>



## PW 4-H Tree Planting - Cloverbuds thru Teens Encouraged!

### THIS SATURDAY - RAIN OR SHINE!

**Date:** Saturday, April 12th

**Time:** 9 AM - Noon

**Location:** 5 County Complex Court, Woodbridge

**Who Should Attend:** ALL PW 4-H'ERS AND THEIR FAMILIES! Cloverbuds, Juniors, and Seniors are encouraged to attend this annual community service project!

**What to Bring:** a water bottle, sunscreen, gardening gloves and shovel if you have them

[Click here to register.](#) Share the flyer on [Page 2](#) with friends!

All Prince William 4-H Cloverbuds, Juniors, Seniors, family, and friends are encouraged to join us in planting 100 trees! Poet Joyce Kilmer wrote "I think that I shall never see / A poem lovely as a tree." Prince William will be planting the lovely button bush tree, a small, native tree perfect for our area. How can planting 100 trees make a difference in Prince William? Trees clean the air and slow climate change. Trees provide food and shelter for native species. Trees cool our streets and cities. Trees clean the water. Trees benefit our physical and mental well-being bringing happiness to people like Joyce Kilmer. **Please join us on the 12th and learn more about trees!**



## Celebrating our Prince William 4-H Volunteers



Yesterday, the Prince William Board of County Supervisors proclaimed this week as National Volunteer Week. VCE Staff, including 4-H Staff, celebrated two Prince William 4-H Volunteers recognized this year: Shawn Clinger and Shealyn Clinger. The Clinger kids were able to join in the excitement at the meeting, making the recognition extra special for the entire family.

VCE Prince William's diverse and highly trained volunteers assist program staff in delivering educational programs. Each year we recognize 12 individuals who have provided significant contributions to the Unit.

Congratulations Shawn Clinger and Shealyn Clinger for your dedication to the 4-H program and for shaping the next generation of our community leaders!



## Congratulations New PW 4-H Shooting Education Instructors!



Virginia 4-H hosted Shooting Education Instructor Certification training for new volunteers to specific program disciplines at the Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center over last weekend. The thorough program includes online training prior to attending in-person training, and training is specific to each discipline.

Trigger Time 4-H Club is one of Prince William 4-H's largest clubs and is thankful for the support of over 15 trained adult and youth volunteers. The program is thriving because of the dedication of our families to providing safe, educational, and leadership opportunities for local youth.

Congratulations to now certified Jaime Parker-Level I Archery Instructor, and Ely Macaraeg-Junior Instructor, Shotgun!



# CMP NORTHEAST REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP



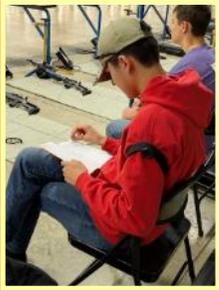
*By Rebecca Ahrens, Trigger Time 4-H Club Youth Reporter*

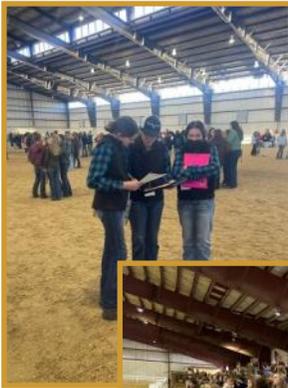
Last week, five members of Trigger Time 4-H Shooting Education Club competed in the CMP 3PAR Northeast Regional Championship at Camp Perry in Port Clinton, Ohio. The match lasted over three days with practice on the first day and 3x20 matches on the second and third days. When the two competition scores were added together, the top eight individuals participated in the finals. Trigger Time finished in 8th place with a score of 4250. The team members were Lexi Strand (1091-29), Rebecca Ahrens (1089-29), Tanner Ridings (1060-27), and Ayden Strand (1010-17). Alternate Samantha Holmes scored 1017-19. All of the returning team members improved their scores from last year: Lexi improved by 23 points, Rebecca by 27 points, and Ayden by 81 points. Both Samantha and Tanner scored personal records during the matches as well.

Finishing in 7th place overall, Lexi Strand qualified for the finals. She held 1st place through the kneeling stage of the finals competition, landing in 4th overall, just one tenth of a point behind 3rd place. Rebecca Ahrens received a medal for 1st place in the U15 division and placed 9th overall. Lexi received a medal for 4th.

Between matches, Trigger Time members enjoyed playing cards and walking on the beach along Lake Erie. To take their minds off the competition, the team went to the theater to watch the Minecraft movie. In June Trigger Time will return to Camp Perry for the CMP 3PAR National Sporter Championship.







## Nokesville 4-H Equestrian Club Competes at Equismartz

Over the weekend, Prince William's Nokesville 4-H Equestrian Club competed at Virginia 4-H Equismartz at the Virginia Horse Center in Lexington, Virginia. Equismartz consists of hippology, horse judging, horse bowl and horse communications contests.

Official results are expected to be posted soon, but for now, we're sharing a few photos from this exciting state-level contest. And here's a hint for next week...our 4-H'ers got **SMARTZ!**



## PW 4-H Young Entrepreneurs - Registration is OPEN



[Click here to sign up for Workshop #1 and join the PW 4-H Young Entrepreneurs!](#)

We had an impressive turnout at last night's Prince William 4-H Young Entrepreneurs SPIN Project Interest Meeting with about a dozen 4-H'ers ready to launch their projects. This annual, popular project is gearing up for an exciting summer!

Due to limited market space, project registration is limited. Participants are required to actively participate in all 4 business workshops. These are mandatory for experienced 4-H'ers as well as new. Participants must participate in at least 3 market days. At 4-H, we learn by doing, and you will be doing **A LOT** of doing to ensure the success of your business!

Workshops are held from 6:30-8 PM at 4-H Headquarters in the McCoy Conference Room, 7987 Ashton Ave., Manassas.

**WORKSHOP DATES: April 23, May 8, May 21, and May 28**

Market Days are held from 8 AM - 1 PM at the Manassas Park Farmers Market, 100 Park Central Plaza, Manassas Park.

**MARKET DATES: June 7, July 5, August 23, Sept. 13, and October 4**

## Tractor Supply Paper Clover - TABLE SIGNUP IS OPEN



[Click here for signup - Tractor Supply, 10870 Balls Ford Rd., Manassas](#)

Tractor Supply will once again be holding their Paper Clover Campaign along with National 4-H during April 18 - May 5, 2025. Patrons tend to donate more often when 4-Hers are there in person, so let's get as many clubs as we can to participate. 4-H Clubs earn a percentage of the proceeds from this event to use towards camps, State Congress, and other leadership opportunities. In addition, this is a great opportunity to share your club's 4-H Story and for a bake sale (or the like) to raise money directly for your club activities.

Please sign your 4-H Club up for a time slot and plan to bring your biggest 4-H smile!

**AVAILABLE DATES** (12-3 PM or 3-6 PM slots each date):

**April 19, 26, 27**

**May 3, 4**

Nokesville 4-H Equestrian  
Club Presents

# Egg My Yard

# 2025



Order your prefilled eggs to be hidden in your yard the night before Easter along with a note from the Easter bunny himself!

## IMPORTANT INFO

- This is a fundraiser and all proceeds benefit the Nokesville 4-H Equestrian Club and their yearly activities.
- If it rains your filled eggs, hunting bag and note from Easter bunny will be left on your porch...
- Eggs will be hidden Saturday evening after dark
- If you do not want eggs but wish to contribute toward the club your egg donations can be added to other hunts

## EGG DETAILS

- \$15 for 1 dozen
- \$10 for each additional dozen
- Eggs to be filled with allergy free candy and/or trinkets
- Available for Prince William and Fauquier County
- NEW THIS YEAR: Easter themed tshirts can be added to any egg order for \$10 for the first and \$7 for each additional

## PLEASE COMPLETE THIS LINK FOR ALL ORDERS

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeTIRJQzC3ZAwD3g\\_PzaSAhAHjoGvAKV38kGAP1Z3d7VmrQA/viewform?usp=dialog](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeTIRJQzC3ZAwD3g_PzaSAhAHjoGvAKV38kGAP1Z3d7VmrQA/viewform?usp=dialog)



## PW 4-H'ers - Send Us Photos of Your Spring Table Settings!

The changes of seasons, holidays, events, vacations, and more are great sources of inspiration for a 4-H Table Setting. Use these moments to learn something new and practice your skills for family and friends!

Through participation in 4-H Table Setting Contests, youth learn valuable life skills in the areas of meal preparation – either formal or informal – meal etiquette, menu preparation, use of Virginia Agricultural products within a menu and how to coordinate attire with menu and meal themes. Youth can use their imagination and creativity to create a welcoming and fun meal environment. 4-H'ers are scored against a rubric and may enter at local, district and state levels.

Click here to learn more about the [4-H Table Setting Contest from Virginia 4-H](#).

We've found a couple of napkin folding Instagram Reels to add to your inspiration:

- [Click here for the carrot folding on Instagram](#)
- [Click here for the bunny folding on Instagram](#)

**Be sure to email us a photo of your finished table (with you and your family!) to be featured in a future newsletter! Email: [chelmlinger@pwcva.gov](mailto:chelmlinger@pwcva.gov).**



## VA 4-H Northeast District Contest Day - Register by FRIDAY

**Date:** April 26th

**Time:** 9:15 AM Registration; 10 AM Contest

**Location:** Goochland Extension Office, 2748 Dogtown Rd, Goochland

**Who Should Participate:** Prince William 4-H'ers who participated in PW 4-H Share the Fun on January 24, 2025, and PW 4-H Contest Day on February 21st, 2025. If you were unable to attend either, please contact [MaryBeth Lerch](#) to schedule an audition time.

**Click here to register. Register by April 11th.**

**Click here for links to scoresheets and contest guidelines.**

The Northeast District 4-H Contests are designed to be a valuable learning experience for 4-H members. These competitions aim to enhance participants' communication, organization, research skills, poise, self-confidence, and subject knowledge in their chosen contest area. The skills gained through these contests will benefit them both now and in the future.

### ELIGIBILITY

- Be registered in 4-H Online 2.0
- Be a Junior, Intermediate, or Senior 4-H member (*Cloverbuds are not eligible*)
- Compete in no more than 2 contests

### AGE DIVISIONS (AS OF 9/30/25)

Juniors: ages 9–11 | Intermediates: 12–13 | Seniors: 14–18

Participants in Northeast District Contest Day have the opportunity to apply to participate in the Virginia 4-H State Contests during Virginia 4-H Congress 2025 being held at Virginia Tech from June 24th-27th.

**NORTHEAST DISTRICT**

**Contest Day**

**APRIL 26, 2025**

CENTRAL HIGH COMPLEX  
2748 DOGTOWN ROAD  
GOOCHLAND, VA 23063

**REGISTRATION OPEN MARCH 17 - APRIL 11**

**YOUTH AGES 9 - 18\***

**\*AS OF SEPT 30TH, 2025**

**AVAILABLE CATEGORIES**

- Public Speaking
- Presentations
- Share the Fun
- Extemporaneous Speaking
- Visual Arts
- Table Setting
- Fashion Revue

Virginia Cooperative Extension  
www.vce.vt.edu

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REGISTRATION IS OPEN!



# PRINCE WILLIAM-STAFFORD 4-H JUNIOR CAMP

Get ready for a summer of 4-H fun, laughter, and endless possibilities!

*\* For youth ages 9-14*

**13 - 17 July 2025**

Northern Virginia 4-H Educational Center  
Front Royal, Virginia

**For more information :**

<https://sites.google.com/vt.edu/2025pwst4hcamp/>

Prince William 4-H is a community of young people across the greater Prince William area who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills. Our goal is to help youth grow into capable, responsible, confident members of our community by providing information, opportunities, activities, and events that are educational and fun! In 4-H, we learn by doing! Our programs focus on the 4-H Pillars of Citizenship, STEM, Healthy Living, and Agriculture. In clubs throughout Prince William, our youth conduct youth-led meetings to complete projects, community service, and participate in local and state government events.



**Virginia Cooperative Extension**  
Virginia Tech. • Virginia State University



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## Virginia 4-H Cabinet Elections - **APPLY TODAY!**



### PW 4-H Teens - Consider Running for Election!

[Click here for the 2024 Virginia 4-H State Cabinet Bylaws.](#)

[Click here for the 2025-2026 Virginia 4-H State Cabinet Elections Packet.](#)

**Completed applications are due by Friday, May 2nd at 5 PM**

Prince William 4-H teens that are interested in running for a Virginia 4-H Cabinet position are encouraged to start working on your packet TODAY! The packet includes highlights, general guidelines, and requirements for becoming an elected member of the State Cabinet team. In addition to the main officers, youth will also elect up to four Ambassadors from each of the five VCE Districts. Be sure to read the current bylaws to better understand the role of the Virginia 4-H State Cabinet.



### NEW THIS YEAR:

- ★ The application is submitted through a Google Form linked on Page 14 in the elections packet.
- ★ Campaigning will be virtual! Virtual Town Halls will be held for each of the five districts and one for officer candidates. They are scheduled as follows:
  - June 8th @ 7 PM – Officer Candidates
  - June 10th @ 7 PM – Northwest District
  - June 12th @ 7 PM – Individual Town Halls for Central, Northeast, Southeast, and Southwest Districts
- ★ Voting is electronic! 4-H members from across Virginia who were enrolled with an individual email address in 4-H Online will be allowed to vote.



### Interested in learning more about the roles and responsibilities of a Virginia 4-H State Cabinet member? Talk to Prince William 4-H'er Aiden McDonald!

Aiden was first elected June 2023 and then re-elected last June as a Northeast District Ambassador. He had extensive leadership experience in 4-H and you'll often see him at local school and community events promoting 4-H and sharing his 4-H Story.

**Challenge your leadership skills and today!**

## Virginia 4-H Congress - **REGISTRATION IS OPEN**



**Dates:** June 24-27, 2025

**Location:** Virginia Tech

**Who Should Attend:** Virginia 4-H'ers ages 14-18

**Cost:** \$295 for full-time registration; \$65 for one-day competitors.

[Click here to apply for needs-based scholarships.](#)

[Register through 4-H Online.](#) **REGISTER BY MAY 10TH.**

[Click here for more information,](#) including links to the information packets and registration information, draft schedule, competitions, and educational session descriptions.

Registration for the 2025 Virginia 4-H Congress is now open! This year's theme, **"Turning Gears, Shaping Futures,"** will guide an inspiring week of learning, leadership, and connection.

**4-H STATE COMPETITIONS ★ EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS ★ DANCES ★ OPPORTUNITY FAIR ★ COLOR RUN/WALK ★ SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES ★ CONGRESSIONAL GAMES ★ ALL STAR TAPPING ★ STATE AWARDS ★ AND MORE!**

## Apply to Participate in the 2025 National 4-H Congress

**National 4-H Congress Dates:** November 28 - December 2, 2025

**Location:** Atlanta, Georgia

**Who Should Apply to Attend:** senior 4-H'ers

[Click here for informational flyer.](#) **Applications are due by May 9th.**

All applications and resumes must be submitted through Google Forms - [click here to submit.](#)

[Click here to learn more about the 2025 National 4-H Congress.](#)



Applications are now open for senior Virginia 4-H'ers to participate in 2025 National 4-H Congress. For more than 100 years, National 4-H Congress has served as the premiere educational and recognition event for senior 4-H members. National Congress provides participants an exciting opportunity to explore careers, engage in a variety of quality learning experiences, and have great fun by getting to know other 4-H members from across the country. Outstanding 4-H members will be selected to represent Virginia at National 4-H Congress. Candidates for selection must be senior 4-H members in the current 4-H year who are able to demonstrate outstanding achievement as a 4-H member in the areas of leadership, citizenship, and personal development.

During this submission process, applicants will be asked to submit their cover letter, resume, three letters of recommendation, and a photo.

### APPLICATION PROCESS:

Virginia 4-H values the life skills that members develop through personal record keeping. An electronic 4-H portfolio, which replaced the 4-H Achievement Record, will serve as the foundation for a 4-H member's application to participate in National 4-H Congress, if selected for an interview. The formal process includes two steps, which are intended to provide the 4-H member learning exercises that reflect an employment application and interview procedure:

1. The submission of a written personal resume; and
2. For those selected to interview, a presentation of an electronic personal portfolio (detailed information on the electronic portfolio will be provided to all youth selected to be interviewed)

Those selected for an interview will need a working Gmail account, as electronic portfolios will be submitted through Google Classroom.

## VA 4-H State's Inbound Exchange - We're Half Way There!

Virginia 4-H committed to hosting 20 youth delegates (13 girls and 7 boys) and 2 adult chaperones from Japan this summer, for a total need of need 22 host families.

We are half way there! At this moment, we have:

- 2 repeat families ready to be matched
- 1 family just waiting on CBC results
- 7 families at home visit step
- 1 family waiting on 2nd reference

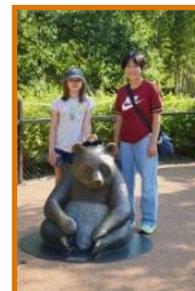
### PRINCE WILLIAM 4-H FAMILIES - ARE YOU READY TO JOIN IN THIS UNIQUE EXPERIENCE CELEBRATING THE 4-H PILLAR OF CITIZENSHIP?

There are 4 screening steps and they are run consecutively (*not concurrently*):

- Complete application with appropriate and acceptable answers to questions
- 2 good completed references
- Home visit/home inspection by local 4-H person with good report
- Background checks for all people 18+ who will be home during the homestay

[Click here to apply](#) and select Virginia as your state. | [Click here for Summer Program FAQs.](#)

[Click here for an inspirational video](#) of our inbound exchange from 2023.



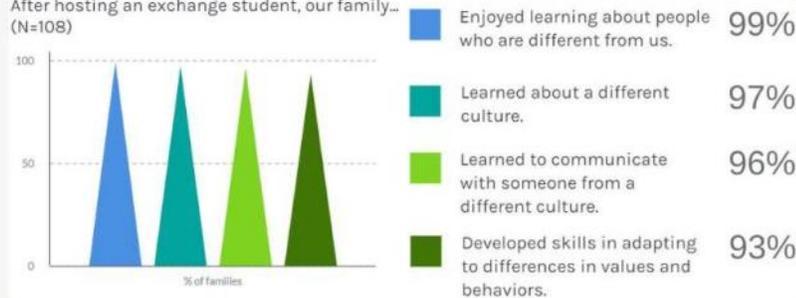
# 2023 INBOUND PROGRAM IMPACT



COMMITTED TO MAKING THE BEST EVEN BETTER

## CHANGING FOR THE BETTER - AS A FAMILY!

After hosting an exchange student, our family... (N=108)



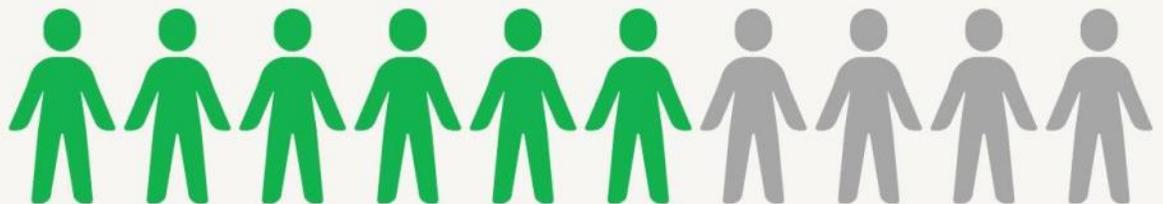
# 94%

of responding families said they also shared their experience with others

Host families reported overwhelmingly that they felt living with an exchange student helped them to appreciate learning about people different from them and their culture – an important aspect of a global mindset! With another 94% of families sharing that experience with others, the positive impact only gets bigger!

## GROWING THE HOST FAMILY NETWORK

6 out of 10 host families in 2023 were first time hosts! We love to see the international exchange experience being shared by more and more families – is 2024 your family's year?



“Don't be afraid to host someone from another country. It will be the best thing you've ever done, you will make a lifetime friend, and also have the opportunity to go to their country. I have nothing negative to say about hosting exchange students.”

Are you feeling like 2024 is the year to host for your family? Open your **heart** and your **home** to someone from a different culture and **apply to host today!**

[exchange@states4h.org](mailto:exchange@states4h.org)

[www.states4hexchange.org](http://www.states4hexchange.org)

STATES' 4-H  
INTERNATIONAL  
EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

# Judge like a Champion

## 2025 Livestock Judging Camp

Don't miss this opportunity to work with outstanding coaches from across the country as you learn evaluation skills, develop efficient note-taking abilities, obtain new terminology, and become proficient and accurate in your reasons delivery.

2025 Coaches: Cal Schultz, University of Nebraska, Garrett Vaughn, West VA University, and Blaine French

2025 Assistant Coaches: Sarah Craun and Emma Jo Donnelly  
Sponsored by: Buffalo Gap High School and the VT School of Animal Sciences

Rockingham County Fairgrounds-Harrisonburg, VA

May 30 – June 1, 2025

Open to youth with all judging experience levels-Ages 9-19

**\$175**

\*does not include lodging\*

(includes dinner on Friday night– lunch on Sunday)

Attendance is limited to the first 75 youth to register

### Schedule

Friday– Camp Instruction

Saturday -Camp

Instruction

Sunday– Contest (6 classes & 4 sets of reasons) Contest open to Non-Camp Participants at \$20/person

Pee Wee Contest Division: Ages 9-8, no entry fee for Pee Wees



To Register visit: <https://www.rockinghamva.gov/2025-Judge-Like-a-Champion>

Judge Like A Champion  
May 30 – June 1, 2025  
Rockingham County Fairgrounds  
All meals provided - Lodging on your own

Friday, May 30th 12:00 pm Registration- Rockingham County Fairgrounds- Main Barn  
1:00 pm Welcome  
2:30 pm Beginners-Notebook set up and Reasons' How to' Int/Advanced- Reasons- 'The next level' and EPDS  
6:00 pm Supper provided  
After Supper: Return home or to your place of lodging

Saturday, May 31st 8:00 am Time to get Started-Don't be late  
Judge and Review Classes All Day

Monday	Junior	Intermediate	Senior
8-9:30	Swine	Cattle	Goats
9:30-11	Cattle	Goats	Sheep
11-12:30	Goats	Sheep	Swine
12:30-1:30	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1:30-3	Sheep	Swine	Cattle
3:30-6	Reasons	Reasons	Reasons

12:30 pm Lunch- Provided Hamburgers and Hotdogs  
6:30 pm Supper-Provided-  
After Supper Corn hole and Reasons

Sunday, June 1st

8:00 am Contest Begins  
\*\*\* Pee Wees will work as one Group\*\*\*

12:00 (Tentative) Lunch provided -

3:00 pm Awards

Head Home

## JUDGE LIKE A CHAMPION JUDGING CLINIC



### YOUTH CLINIC

**Dates:** May 30-June 1

**Location:** Rockingham County Fairgrounds, Harrisonburg, VA

[Click here to register.](#) Registration limited to 20 participants. Sponsored by the Buffalo Gap HS FFA, this event provides a hands-on learning opportunity for youth from beginner to experienced levels to further develop their evaluation and reasons skills while working with coaches from across the country.

The camp includes 1 ½ days of instruction and live animal evaluation followed by a contest on Sunday, June 1st to demonstrate what they've learned during camp. There is the option for youth to only participate in the Contest on Sunday.



### ADULT/COACHES CLINIC

**Date:** Saturday, May 31

**Location:** Rockingham County Fairgrounds, Harrisonburg, VA

[Click here to register.](#)

The Third Annual "Judge Like a Champion" Coaches Clinic is led this year by Matt Claeyes of Indiana. Matt is the former judging coach at Purdue University and boasts an impressive career of working with youth and adults across the country to develop and perfect their evaluation skills. This one-day training provides a unique opportunity for coaches to evaluate stock while also gaining insight and skills on working with youth to help them do the same.

# Judge like a Champion

## 2025 LIVESTOCK JUDGING COACHES CLINIC

Our Third Annual Judge Like a Champion Coach's Clinic –

led by: Matt Claeyes, Indiana - Judging Coach and Cattle Breeder

Providing the opportunity to work with successful coaches and further develop evaluation skills, tips and techniques for coaching youth of all ages and experience levels, update your knowledge of current selection preferences and reasons terminology.

Organized by: Shirley Kaufman and Katherine Carter  
Sponsored by: Buffalo Gap High School and the VT School of Animal Sciences

Rockingham County Fairgrounds-Harrisonburg, VA

Saturday, May 31, 2025

Designed for Coaches of All Experience Levels

**\$75**

(includes lunch, dinner, and judging manual)

Attendance is limited to the first 50 coaches to register

### Schedule

8:00 am - Check-in and Registration

8:30 am - 5:00 pm: Livestock Evaluation and Coaching Instruction

To Register scan QR code or visit: <https://www.rockinghamva.gov/2025-Judge-Like-a-Champion-Clinic>



## Virginia 4-H Shooting Education Updates



### STATE OF VIRGINIA'S NRA YOUTH EDUCATION SUMMIT

**Dates:** July 10th - 13th

**Location:** Richmond, VA

**Who Should Apply:** current Freshmen, Sophomores, and Juniors in high school

[Click here for more information.](#) **Register by April 15th.**

Founded alongside the National Y.E.S. program, the State Y.E.S. program is designed to educate high school students about their state governments and the critical role their generation will play as voters. The program also highlights the benefits of firearms ownership and responsible citizenship.

## 2025 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest



FOUNDATION FOR  
THE PRESERVATION  
OF HONEY BEES, INC.

[Click here for more information.](#) **Entries due April 18th.**

The 2025 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest sponsored by the Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, Inc. and Virginia 4-H is open to active Virginia 4-H members. The top 3 winners in the state receive cash prizes and the state winner will go on to compete nationally for additional cash prizes.

**2025 4-H ESSAY CONTEST - THE IMPORTANCE OF YOUTH IN BEEKEEPING: HOW 4-H MEMBERS CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!** For this essay, a 4-H student should answer these questions: Why youth is important in beekeeping? How can 4-H members make a difference? How can more young people involved in beekeeping? What are your future plans as a beekeeper? What is a major contribution a young beekeeper has brought to the industry?

## Virginia 4-H Horse Updates



### 2025 VIRGINIA 4-H STATE HORSE SHOW

**Dates:** September 4th - 7th

**Location:** Lexington, Virginia

[Click here for the Virginia 4-H Horse Show website.](#)

Parents, youth, agents, and volunteers should familiarize themselves with information regarding the Requirements, Rules, and Qualifying Options for the State Horse Show. Also included on the website are the rules and entry information for the Art Contest, Photography Contest, and the Record Book/Portfolio Contest.

#### Important Dates

**May 1st: Declarations open in 4-H Online**

**July 1st: Deadline for Online Eligibility/Declaration in 4H Online.**

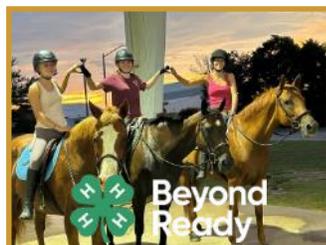
**July 31st: Entry Deadline.** Orientation Meeting/Checklist Completed by Club Leader or VCE Agent.

#### State Horse Show Requirements, Rulebook, and Schedule

[2025 Rulebook](#) | [2025 Show Schedule](#) | [2025 Rule Updates](#) | [Overview of Requirements to Show](#)

#### 2025 Qualifying Shows and Horsemanship Skills

[List of District Approved Qualifying Shows](#) | [Horsemanship Skills Opportunities](#)



### 2025 SOUTHERN REGIONAL 4-H CHAMPIONSHIP HORSE SHOW

**Dates:** July 30th - August 3rd

**Location:** Georgia National Fairgrounds, Perry, GA

[Click here for the official show website.](#)

[Click here to apply to represent Virginia 4-H.](#)

**Applications due May 15th by 5 PM.**

The Southern Regional Championship horse show is the only multi-state 4-H Horse Show in the country, inviting youth from 13 states to show their horses in various disciplines. Historically, Virginia has been well-represented

by our riders at the Southern Regional Show and we hope to continue this tradition in 2025! The 2025 Official schedule will not be released until early May. Virginia 4-H will select 70 youth to compete.



## Virginia 4-H Animal Sciences Updates

### VA FFA/4-H TRACTOR OPERATORS CONTEST - REGISTER BY THURSDAY

**Date:** April 16th

**Time:** 9 AM

**Location:** Rockingham County Fair Grounds in conjunction with the Virginia Beef Expo

[Click here to register.](#) **Registration due by Thursday, April 10th.**

[Click here for more information and official rules.](#)

See official rules for eligibility. The Virginia FFA/4-H Agricultural Tractor Operator's Event aims to evaluate and demonstrate skills essential for an individual to be successful in safely operating a farm tractor and implement. The contest has a written exam, operating a tractor with 2-wheel implement, and operating a tractor with a 4-wheel implement.

Virginia FFA /4-H  
2025 Tractor Operators



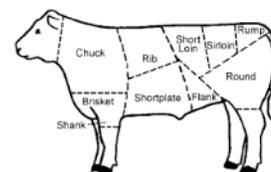
### 2025 VA 4-H/FFA BEEF CHALLENGE - REGISTER BY TODAY

**Date:** Wednesday, April 16th

**Location:** Virginia Beef Expo, Rockingham

[Click here for information packet.](#) [Click here to register.](#) **Register by April 9th.**

Similar to the 4-H Food Challenge, Beef Challenge allows youth to showcase beef as part of a healthy diet. This combination cooking and communications contest is sponsored by the Virginia Beef Council and, therefore, is no cost to teams.



### 2025 VA JUNIOR BEEF ROUNDUP - REGISTER BY FRIDAY

**Dates:** Youth cattle shows will take place on Friday, April 18th and Saturday, April 19th.

**Location:** Rockingham County Fairgrounds, Harrisonburg, VA

**Who Should Attend:** VJBR Shows and events are open to enrolled and eligible VA 4-H and FFA members. VA youth ages 19-21 who are members of their respective National Breed Association are eligible to enter and exhibit registered breeding cattle only.

**Entry Fees:** \$35/head

**Deadlines:**

April 10th Ownership Deadline cattle

**April 11th Entry Deadline (5 PM)**

April 14th All fees must be received

**Showmanship:** All exhibitors will automatically be entered in the appropriate showmanship class based on their birth date. There are no entry fees associated with showmanship. It will be the responsibility of the exhibitor to scratch from showmanship by 10:30 am on Friday, April 18th.

**Team Fitting Event:** There will be a Team Fitting Event on Friday, April 18th at 11 am.

[Click here for contest website.](#) | [Click here for a schedule.](#) | [Click here for contest rules.](#) | [Click here for Fair Entry System.](#)



### VIRGINIA 2025 STATE 4-H/FFA POULTRY EVALUATION CONTEST

**Date:** Friday, April 25th

**Location:** Rockingham County Fairgrounds, Harrisonburg

**Time:** 8 AM registration/check-in; 8:45 AM contest instructions; 9 AM contest begins

**Entry Fee:** \$15/contestant entered

[Click here to enter.](#) **Entries due by 5 PM on Friday, April 18th.**

[Click here for more information,](#) including rules and resources.

Please note that contest duration can take longer than expected due to unforeseen circumstances. Contestants must complete all phases of the contest to be eligible for awards. Contestants should plan to be on-site and participating through the awards portion of the event. Please read the contest rules completely and carefully. We do plan to use live birds for the 2025 contest, but that is subject to change if necessary due to changes in HPAI or restrictions from VDACS.





### For Educators & 4-H Club Leaders: Project Wild and Aquatic Wild Training

**Date:** Tuesday, April 22nd

**Time:** 9 AM - 5 PM

**Location:** Northern Virginia 4-H Educational Center, 600 4H Center Dr., Front Royal, VA

**Who Should Attend:** open to all educators (*community educators, formal educators, 4-H volunteers, homeschool educators, parks and recreation, etc.*)

**Cost:** \$5/person payable on event date

[Click here to register.](#) [Click here to learn more about K-12 Project WILD.](#)

K-12 Project WILD Curriculum Workshop and Terrestrial Activity Guide features activities emphasizing terrestrial species and their habitats. A wide range of ecological concepts are covered including: food webs or energy flow, adaptations, interdependence, carrying capacity and habitats. K-12 Aquatic WILD Curriculum Workshop and Aquatic Activity Guide provides a look at aquatic wildlife and their ecosystems. This guide supports the watershed and Chesapeake Bay related SOLs as well as the wildlife concepts mentioned above.

### VA Dept. of Forestry Camp Woods & Wildlife



**Dates:** June 16-20 at Holiday Lake 4-H Center, Appomattox, VA

**Who Should Attend:** Virginia students ages 13-16 (typically Grades 7-10)

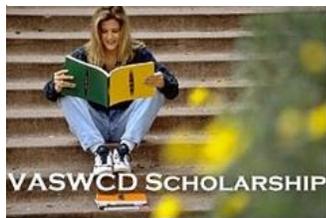
**Cost:** \$95\*

\*A memorial scholarship is available for PW 4-H'ers who attend Camp Woods & Wildlife. Please submit your nomination form above directly to MaryBeth Lerch. Campers will attend camp at no charge!

[Click here for more information and to apply.](#) **Applications due April 11th.**

Camp Woods and Wildlife is an academic, structured, residential camp that focuses on field experiences in forestry and other natural resources. This unique camping experience introduces 13-16-year-olds to the challenges, special skills, and knowledge needed for managing the forest resources we use and enjoy every day. Camp Woods and Wildlife is ideal for students who: wish to explore forestry and wildlife related careers; participate in forestry and wildlife judging teams, Envirothon competitions, or ecology clubs want to experience hands-on learning and gain real-world skills in natural resources conservation.

### VASWCD Scholarships for High School Seniors



[Click here for more information and the application.](#)

**Application due April 11th.**

The Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts annually offers four scholarships to graduating high school seniors or college freshmen for college study. This year, four \$2,000 scholarships are available! Applications must arrive at the PWSWCD office by April 11, 2025. Applications for students who reside in Prince William County must be submitted to the Prince William Soil and Water Conservation District, which will select one student for consideration by the state committee.

**NORTHERN VIRGINIA 4-H**  
EDUCATIONAL AND CONFERENCE CENTER

Virginia Cooperative Extension  
Virginia Tech • Virginia State University

# MILITARY TEEN ADVENTURE CAMP

JULY 20-24TH, 2025  
600 4-H Center Drive,  
Front Royal, VA 22630

Are you 13-18? Do you enjoy the outdoors and trying new things? Is your guardian Active Duty, Guard, Deployed or Retired? THEN... NOVA 4-H Military Teen Adventure Camp is the place to be this summer! Join us for a week-long adventure in the gorgeous Shenandoah Valley while learning new skills and exploring how awesome it feels to step outside of your comfort zone!

For more info on all MTACs in VA go to  
<https://www.holidaylake4h.com/va4hmtac>



Leadership



Healthy Living



STEM



# TAKEOFF!

Take-Off! is a dynamic and immersive 3-day event that we'll host on the campus of Virginia State University from May 30 to June 1, 2025. Together, we'll provide youth with the opportunity to connect, grow, and engage in meaningful hands-on learning through one of four exciting tracks:

-  Agriscience
-  STEM
-  Leadership
-  Healthy Living

Register Here



**Dates: May 30th-June 1st, 2025**

**Location: Virginia State University**

**Included: Housing, meals and other amenities**

Virginia Cooperative Extension is a partnership of Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and local governments. Its programs and employment are open to all, regardless of age, color, disability, sex (including pregnancy), gender, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, ethnicity or national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, or military status, or any other basis protected by law



## Small Farm Workshops to Grow Your Ag Interest

April 24, 10 AM–12 PM: **INTRODUCTION TO STRAWBERRY PRODUCTION** (Petersburg)  
[Click here for more info and to register.](#)

Learn how to grow strawberries as a profitable commercial crop in this in-person workshop at VSU Randolph Farm. Strawberries offer an excellent opportunity to diversify farm income and attract customers. The session will cover key topics including variety selection, field preparation, and crop production techniques to help you get started or enhance your strawberry enterprise.

April 24, 1 PM–3 PM: **PERENNIAL GARDEN PLANNING WORKSHOP** (Natural Bridge)  
[Click here for more info and to register.](#)

Join Virginia Gold at their farm in Natural Bridge to explore the transition from annual to perennial fruit and flower production. This hands-on session will cover the benefits, challenges, and planning strategies needed to successfully integrate perennials into your farm operation. Learn how Virginia Gold is transforming two acres of annual cut flowers into a diverse, agritourism-friendly mix of perennials and small fruits as part of a Pick-Your-Own experience. This workshop is ideal for growers interested in long-term sustainability and market diversification.

April 28, 8:30 AM–3 PM: **BEGINNING BEEKEEPING WORKSHOP** (Petersburg)  
[Click here for more information and to register.](#)

Interested in starting your beekeeping journey? Join Virginia State University at Randolph Farm for a full day Beginning Beekeeping Workshop with Virginia State Apiarist Keith Tignor. This hands-on class will cover bee biology, hive management, equipment essentials, and best practices for keeping a healthy and productive colony. The afternoon session will include live demonstrations in the apiary, hive construction, and beekeeping tool usage.

## Nominate Your 4-H Club Leader



[Click here for nomination form.](#)

Share your Shoutout for Afterschool Appreciation Week! VPOST is celebrating Afterschool Professionals Appreciation Week, April 21-25 to recognize, appreciate, and advocate for those who work with young people during out-of-school hours.

VPOST wants to showcase the afterschool professionals that you want to appreciate! Fill out the nomination form to highlight a friend, coworker, or any other superstar in the OST field!

Here are some other ideas on how you can show your appreciation:

- ★ Use the hashtag #HeartOfAfterschool to declare the difference Afterschool Professionals make in the lives of young people.
- ★ Give a hand-written card from you and/or your child to the afterschool professionals you know.
- ★ Send an email to an afterschool professional's supervisor describing why that person is appreciated.

## Full Moon Hike at Neabsco Regional Park



**Date:** Saturday, April 12th

**Time:** 7 - 9 PM

**Location:** Neabsco Regional Park, 15500 Blackburn Rd, Woodbridge

**Cost:** \$12

[Click here for tickets.](#)

Grab your flashlights and join our park naturalists for a slow-paced, VIP hike along the beautiful Neabsco Creek Boardwalk. You'll enjoy learning about the flora and fauna of the area, as well as some fascinating facts about the fully illuminated Moon. We'll finish our hike with a yummy smore by the firepit! *May be canceled for inclement weather.*

## Prince William County Historic Preservation Events

[Click here for more information, updates, and link to register for events.](#)



### APRIL 12 - RIPPON LODGE EASTER EGG TRAIL

Rippon Lodge Historic Site, 15520 Blackburn Rd., Woodbridge; \$10 per person, kids under 4 only \$5. [Get tickets here.](#)

The Easter Bunny made his fun activity trail for your enjoyment at Rippon Lodge Historic Site. Look for hidden objects, do physical tasks, tell a joke, and more to receive your eggs as you walk through the historic home. Family members may join in the fun! Keep an eye out for those special prize eggs. Bring your own basket. Timed walks for age groups, family units no larger than 4 allowed at one time. Walking along uneven surfaces and stairs. Parental supervision required. Hunt times are: 10-11 AM for children 3 & under; 11:30 AM-12:30 PM for ages 4-6; and 1:30-2:30 PM for ages 7-11. Space is limited. Advanced registration required.

### APRIL 19 - SCRAMBLED EGG HUNTS AT BRENTSVILLE COURTHOUSE

Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre, 12229 Bristow Rd., Bristow; 10 AM-1 PM, 2 PM; \$35 per egg hunt. [Get tickets here.](#) Enjoy a unique spin on the usual egg hunt at Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre! Peter Rabbit has been making trouble again at Brentsville. He's taken all the candy and toys in our eggs, replacing them with tasks and riddles! He won't give back the goods unless we solve the puzzles! Due to his mischievous nature, Peter made challenges tailored for each family who dares to try and solve them. He would like to include everyone and make it a fair and fun challenge for all! Can you find the all the eggs he hid, piece together the clues, and solve his puzzle? Egg hunt areas are divided by family groups of six or less (purchase one ticket per group), with a time limit of 30 minutes for each egg hunt. Once your puzzle is completed, turn it in to receive a gift basket for each family to take home filled with treats, prizes, and more. Advanced registration is required.

### APRIL 23 - TAKE A SIP OF HISTORY: CEMETERIES OF PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY

Water's End Brewery, 12425 Dillingham Square, Lake Ridge; 6:30-8 PM; FREE

There are hundreds of cemeteries in Prince William County, ranging from small family graveyards nestled in the woods to the prominent National Memorial Cemetery at Quantico. Join local historians and archaeologists at Water's End Brewery for stories about some of the most unique burials and final resting places that hold the secrets of Prince William County's past.

### APRIL 26 - BEN LOMOND DAY

Ben Lomond Historic Site, 10321 Sudley Manor Dr., Manassas; 11 AM - 4 PM; FREE.

Ben Lomond's history spans centuries, from a Civil War hospital to a presidential retreat to a working farm. Experience the site's varied history all in one day through talks, demonstrations, activities, games, farm animals, tractors and more.

### APRIL 29 - HISTORY HOMESCHOOL DAY AT BRENTSVILLE COURTHOUSE HISTORIC CENTRE

Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre, 12229 Bristow Rd., Bristow; 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. & 1 p.m.- 3 p.m.; \$10 per student; Advanced Registration is required. [Get tickets here.](#)

Homeschool families are invited to visit Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre for a special day of learning about American History! Visit the 19th century town that played an important role in Prince William County's history and rotate through the historic buildings and grounds participating in different stations and activities. Program will start promptly at 10am & 1pm. Please arrive on-site 15 minutes early to get your wrist-band and get to your first station. \*\*Tickets for May-August 2025 programs will be available beginning April 8, 2025. Camp registration begins March 4, 2025.\*\*

### MAY-OCT: 2ND & 4TH WEEKENDS - BRISTOE STATION BATTLEFIELD HERITAGE PARK

The parking lot is located off Iron Brigade Unit Ave., Bristow.; Guided Tours at 11 AM, 1 PM, and 3 PM; FREE

Bristoe Station Battlefield staff and volunteers will provide guided tours of this hallowed ground that contains camps, cemeteries, and battlefields. Learn about Camp Jones and the battles fought in 1862 and 1863. Tours depart from the parking lot on Iron Brigade Unit Avenue. Please dress for the weather and wear comfortable walking shoes. Insect repellent is encouraged.

### MAY 3 - BEHIND-THE-SCENES TOUR OF RIPPON LODGE

Rippon Lodge Historic Site, 15520 Blackburn Rd., Woodbridge; 11 AM; FREE

This historical hardhat tour takes visitors into spaces not available during the standard tour of Rippon Lodge Historic Site. Learn a little more history from behind-the-scenes. Space is limited and no one under 18.

### MAY 16 - WALKING TOURS OF HISTORIC PRINCE WILLIAM TOWNS: DUMFRIES

Williams Ordinary, 17674 Main Street, Dumfries; 6 PM; FREE

Visit Dumfries, a bustling and diverse community founded on tobacco and witness to the American Revolution. This tour will focus on Dumfries' Main Street and will depart from Williams Ordinary.

**MAY 17 - WILLIAMS-DAWE HOUSE HARD HAT TOURS**

Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre, 12229 Bristow Rd., Bristow; Tours at 11 AM, 1 PM, & 3 PM; \$25 per person, advanced tickets suggested. [Get tickets here.](#)

Kick off Historic Preservation Month with a hard hat tour of Brentsville's newest acquisition: the Williams-Dawe House. The Williams-Dawe House is the oldest residential structure preserved in the town of Brentsville and was home to many Prince William County Clerks. Explore the history of the building and the people that lived there. Also, learn the modern story of the building's ongoing restoration work. This is a rare opportunity to see preservation in action!

**MAY 22 - PRINCE WILLIAM LECTURE SERIES: "NORTHERN VIRGINIAN LUMINARIES" BY JOE MOTHERAL**

Occoquan Town Hall, 313 Mill St., Occoquan; 7 - 8:30 PM; FREE

People from all over the United States and the world move to northern Virginia to be close to the nation's capital, and many people of national importance make their home in the area. There are many more, born and raised here, who are well known to locals. Become acquainted with a selection of iconic Virginians, with varying personalities and a variety of fulfilling lives. Hear about Geraldine Brooks, Roger Mudd and General George C. Marshall, as well as local heroes. Journalist Joe Motheral tells the stories of prominent locals he met and interviewed over the course of his long career. This lecture is a FREE program jointly sponsored by the Prince William County Office of Historic Preservation and Historic Prince William.

**JUNE 9 - MUSEUM FAMILY DAY AT BRENTSVILLE COURTHOUSE: LIFE IN A 19TH CENTURY TOWN**

Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre, 12229 Bristow Rd., Bristow; 10 AM-12 PM; \$5 per person, ages 4 and up. [Get tickets here.](#)

Explore Brentsville's courthouse and jail with interactive, hands-on activities and learn about what it meant to be a good citizen in the 1800s. Activities will include a fire brigade (you may get wet!), a mock trial, and more. Mock Trial will begin at 10:15am. Adults must be able to participate with children. .

**JUNE 14 - TAVERN NIGHT AT WILLIAMS ORDINARY**

Williams Ordinary, 17674 Main Street, Dumfries; 6 PM - 9 PM; free, ages 21+

Take a sip of history while learning about Williams Ordinary, a historic tavern in Dumfries. Enjoy a unique experience in this local landmark by listening to colonial music, interacting with reenactors, and playing 18th-century games. This Tavern Night serves as the opening for Resolves to Revolution, a new exhibition exploring the impact of the American Revolutionary War on Prince William County. Visitors will also have the opportunity to taste a historically-inspired brew from Water's End paired with a themed menu from Dixie Bones BBQ. This is a free 21+ event; food and drink will be available to purchase on site. A portion of all proceeds will be donated to the Prince William Historic Preservation Foundation.

**JUNE 19 - JUNETEENTH AT LUCASVILLE**

Lucasville School, 10516 Godwin Dr., Manassas; 11 AM - 3 PM; FREE

Join us at Lucasville in honor of Juneteenth to learn about the celebration marking the emancipation of enslaved African Americans throughout the South. Visit the one-room schoolhouse to learn about the development of freedmen communities throughout Prince William County and the progression of education throughout PWC throughout Reconstruction and the Jim Crow Era.

**JUNE 20 - WALKING TOURS OF HISTORIC PRINCE WILLIAM TOWNS: SUDLEY SPRINGS**

Sudley Springs United Methodist Church, 5308 Sudley Road, Manassas; 6 PM; FREE

Explore the remnants of Sudley Springs, which at one time was a bustling hamlet, home to a church, a mill, and a mineral spring. This tour is co-hosted by the Sudley Springs United Methodist Church and Manassas National Battlefield Park.

**JUNE 30 - JULY 3: COLONIAL TIMES AT RIPPON LODGE SUMMER CAMP**

Rippon Lodge Historic Site, 15520 Blackburn Rd., Woodbridge; 9 AM-4 PM; \$200 per child, ages 9-12. [Register here.](#)

This four-day camp will explore Virginia's early colonial history and the Blackburn Family, the original owners of Rippon Lodge. Indoor and outdoor activities, crafts, foodways, field trips, and special guests included in this history camp. Children should bring their own snacks, lunch, and beverages.

**JULY 7-11 - CIVIL WAR SUMMER CAMP**

Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre, 12229 Bristow Rd., Bristow; 9 AM - 4 PM; \$240 per child, ages 8-13. [Register here.](#)

Our Civil War Summer Camp takes a hands-on approach to studying the American Civil War. Campers will learn about the many parts of the life of a Civil War soldier, including drill, camping, cooking, uniforms and equipment, flags, artillery, cavalry, a field trip to local Civil War sites, and more.

**JULY 18 - WALKING TOURS OF HISTORIC PRINCE WILLIAM TOWNS: HAYMARKET**

Haymarket Museum, 15025 Washington St, Haymarket; 6 PM; FREE

Tour Haymarket, the second town in the county to be incorporated in 1882 with a rich history spanning as far back as the 18th

century.

#### **JULY 19 - BEN LOMOND HOSPITAL LANTERN TOURS**

Ben Lomond Historic Site, 10321 Sudley Manor Dr, Manassas; 8-9:30 PM, Tours begin every 30 minutes; \$10 per person, advanced registration suggested, [get tickets here](#).

Following the Battle of First Manassas, Ben Lomond was used as a hospital where surgeons treated the wounded throughout the night. Every inch of space in the house was used to care for hurt and dying soldiers. Tour the hospital in the dark and discover the aftermath of the Civil War's first major battle through the words of those who experienced war's horrors.

#### **JULY 21-25: PWC HISTORY CAMP: TOWN & COUNTRY CAMP**

Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre, 12229 Bristow Rd., Bristow; 9 AM - 4 PM; \$240 per child, ages 8 -13. [Register here](#).

Have you ever wondered what it was like to live out in the countryside during the days of oil lamps and wood stoves? Answer these questions and more at Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre's Town and Country Camp! Explore a wide array of hands-on activities connected to Brentsville's historic buildings including a farmhouse, school, courthouse, and jail, and have a series of adventures throughout the week that will introduce them to the ways people have lived in Prince William County from Native Americans to the present day.

#### **JULY 21 - MUSEUM FAMILY DAY: RIPPON LODGE GAME DAY**

Rippon Lodge Historic Site, 15520 Blackburn Road, Woodbridge; 10-11 AM; \$5 per person. [Advanced tickets available here](#).

Bring the family to explore history through fun, historic games, and activities at Rippon Lodge. Programs include outdoor and indoor experiences.

#### **JULY 24 - PRINCE WILLIAM LECTURE SERIES: "ATROCITIES AT BULL RUN" BY HARRY SMELTZER**

Pat White Center at Ben Lomond, 10501 Copeland Dr., Manassas ; 7- 8:30 PM; FREE

On April 1, 1862, the Joint Congressional Committee on the Conduct of the War issued its report based on little known testimony regarding what it officially referred to as "rebel Barbarities at Manassas." In summary, the Committee noted that "these disclosures establishing, as they incontestably do, the consistent inhumanity of the rebel leaders, will be read with sorrow and indignation by the people of the loyal States." Using firsthand accounts from both sides, historian Harry Smeltzer will discuss these and other incidents associated with the first battle which, at the time, were considered evidence of aberrant behavior. He will also look at why they were thought of as such, and how opinions in that regard changed over the course of the war. This lecture is a FREE program jointly sponsored by the Prince William County Office of Historic Preservation and Historic Prince William.

#### **AUGUST 4-8 - GREATEST GENERATION SUMMER CAMP**

Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre, 12229 Bristow Rd., Bristow; 9 AM- 4 PM; \$240 per child, ages 8-13. [Register here](#).

The Greatest Generation Summer Camp introduces campers to the American experience during World War II through immersive activities and field trips. Campers will get to experience soldier life, including drill and mock battles, learn about the Homefront through activities and crafts, and take field trips to nearby museums to see real artifacts from World War II.

#### **AUGUST 11 - MUSEUM FAMILY DAY AT BEN LOMOND: MAKE YOUR OWN CORNHUSK DOLL**

Ben Lomond Historic Site, 10321 Sudley Manor Dr, Manassas; 10-11 AM; \$5 per person, ages 4 and up. Children must be accompanied by an adult. [Get tickets here](#).

Bring your whole family to Ben Lomond Historic Site to learn about cornhusk dolls, a popular children's toy in the 19th century. Then, make your own cornhusk doll to take home with you.

#### **AUGUST 23 - RIPPON LODGE BUG AND BIRD DAY**

Rippon Lodge Historic Site, 15520 Blackburn Road, Woodbridge; 10 AM- 1 PM; \$5 per person, kids under 6 free. [Get tickets here](#).

This event is a photographer, bird watcher, and bug enthusiast delight! Join us as we explore the wonders of nature found at Rippon Lodge. Bring your binoculars and cameras to record the variety of insects and birds found every day at the historic site.

#### **AUGUST 23-24 - BATTLE OF KETTLE RUN ANNIVERSARY TOURS**

Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park. The parking lot is located off Iron Brigade Unit Ave., Bristow, VA; Tours at 11 AM, 1 PM,, & 3 PM; FREE

Join Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park staff and volunteers to commemorate the 163rd anniversary of the Battle of Kettle Run. The August 27, 1862, battle, while small, was bloody and took a heavy toll on the soldiers who fought there. Visit the park for walking tours that will share the story of the first battle of the Civil War fought at Bristoe Station.

#### **AUGUST 26- A REAL-TIME WALKING TOUR OF "STONEWALL" JACKSON'S RAID AT BRISTOE STATION**

Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park. The parking lot is located off Iron Brigade Unit Ave., Bristow; 6 PM; FREE

Stand on the ground of Bristoe Station battlefield 163 years to the moment that "Stonewall" Jackson's forces raided Bristoe Station and changed the course of the Second Manassas Campaign. Walking is involved, please wear proper footwear.

## PWC Parks & Recs Summer Camps - **REGISTRATION IS OPEN**



[Click here for more information and to register.](#)

Make this summer unforgettable with action-packed camps for every interest. Whether your child loves swimming, golf, history, game design, dance, or adventure, there's a perfect camp waiting. PWC Parks & Recs offers specialty camps from arts to sports plus everything in between and full day traditional style summer camps with popular themes each week all for ages 3-17 at 16 locations throughout Prince William County. Spots will go fast. Sign up soon and let the fun begin!

**SAVE THE DATE!**

PRINCE WILLIAM  
Human Resources

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
**CAREER EXPO**

Saturday, April 12, 2025 • 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.  
Hylton Performing Arts Center

[pwcva.gov/careers](http://pwcva.gov/careers)

This is a unique networking and hiring event intended to showcase the County's services and career opportunities!

Open to anyone interested in working for Prince William County Government, this is a great opportunity for you and your family and friends to speak with County staff about apprenticeships, internships, seasonal, full-time and part-time positions and volunteer opportunities. Throughout the day, there will be opportunities to complete an online application and attend information sessions.

Departments may also have staff available to conduct interviews and extend contingent job offers!

This is NOT your typical job fair!

Over 50 job offers have been extended to previous Expo attendees, so bring your "A" Game!

**PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY GOVERNMENT...SEE YOURSELF HERE!**

## Prince William Master Gardeners: 2025 Saturday in the Garden Classes



**Dates:** the first Saturday of the month, April through October, except July

**Time:** 9-11 AM

**Location:** St. Benedict Monastery, 9535 Linton Hall Rd., Bristow

[Click here to register.](#)

**MAY 3-ART IN THE GARDEN/PLANT SALE.** Explore the creativity of spring with the Prince William County Art Society.

Try different art styles with guidance from local artists. Some supplies provided; feel free to bring your own.

**JUNE 7- ENSLAVED GARDEN IN VIRGINIA.** Join David M. Born, Historic Programs Specialist for an engaging exploration in the daily lives of slaves in Virginia and the vital role their gardens played. Discover untold stories and history that shaped the land.

**JULY 12-REPTILE RELATIONS.** Curious about handling turtles and snakes in your garden? Join Bill Crisp from K2C Wildlife Encounters for expert tips on sharing your garden with critters.

**AUGUST 2-KIDS DAY AT THE GARDEN.** End summer with a fun day at the garden with the Virginia Cooperative Extension and 4H! Learn about gardening, nature, and get ready for back-to-school!

**SEPTEMBER 6-TURF AND COVER CROPS/PLANT SALE.** Join VCE for a two-part session! Ag Agent Thomas Bolles will share tips on using cover crops, followed by Environmental Educator Elesha Young on turf care dos and don'ts.

**OCTOBER 4-INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT THROUGHOUT FALL AND WINTER.** Looking to tackle invasive plants in Virginia? Join Natali Walker from Blue Ridge PRISM for a fun and informative session on which pesky species you can manage.



**APRIL IS NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH!  
EVERY CHILD MATTERS!**

"Powered By Hope, Strengthened By Prevention" is this year's prevention theme for Child Abuse Prevention Month in Virginia. It highlights that we all have a role in disrupting the cycles of child abuse, neglect and poverty by strengthening Virginia's families and communities.

### PINWHEELS & PINWHEEL GARDENS

The blue pinwheel has come to serve as the symbol of the great childhoods we want for all children. VCE distributed over 4000 pinwheels last month to employees to display around the to help raise awareness.

# 2024 - 2025 PRINCE WILLIAM 4-H EVENT CALENDAR

OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
6-12 National 4-H Week	2 VSU 4-H Aspiring Leadership Training - Intermediate Congress	3 PW 4-H Club & Project Leader Training (Option 1)	7 PW 4-H Club & Project Leader Training (Option 2)	7-8 VA 4-H Hippology & Horse Judging	1 PW 4-H Junior Camp Reg Opens
8 Proclamation at PWC BOCS	4-5 PW 4-H Palama Party SPIN Club	5 PW 4-H Homemade Holiday Craft Night; Teen Club; Cloverbud Club	9 PW 4-H Food Challenge Training	17-21 4-H Shooting Sports National Quiz Bowl	1 VA 4-H and FFA Meats Evaluation
12 PW 4-H Cloverbud Club	7 PW 4-H Engage Locally	14 Wreaths Across America Day	14 PW 4-H Association Meeting	19-20 PW 4-H Embryology Project Leader Training	4 PW 4-H Leaders' Mid-Year Meeting & 4-H Association Meeting
12-13 VA 4-H Shooting Ed New Instructor Certification	9 PW 4-H Cloverbud Club	19 PW 4-H Whisper Booth Training	17 PW 4-H Share the Fun Dress Rehearsal	21 PW 4-H Contest Day; Presentations, Table Setting, Fashion Review	7-8 TALT Weekend - Junior Camp Counselor Training
20-26 National Character Counts Week	12 PW 4-H Association Meeting	30 PW 4-H Embryology Registration Opens (doses Jan. 31)	22 Virginia 4-H Day at the Capitol	21-22 VA 4-H Stockman's & Livestock Judging	12-16 National 4-H IGNITE
19 PW 4-H Teen Club - Community Service	14 PW 4-H Teen Club - Community Service/Project Linus	23 PW 4-H Embryology Registration Opens (doses Jan. 31)	23 An Evening with Virginia 4-H at VT	22 PW 4-H Food Challenge	15 PW 4-H Cloverbud Club
24 Prince William 4-H Recognition Day	16 PW 4-H Hike: 4-H Outdoor Challenge	24 PW 4-H Share the Fun	24 PW 4-H Share the Fun	22 VA 4-H Shooting Ed Instructor Recertification	15-16 VA 4-H Spring Air Championships
29 PW 4-H Contest Orientation - Presentations, Public Speaking, Table Setting, Extemporaneous	18 PW 4-H Officer Training	25 PW 4-H Cloverbud Club	25 PW 4-H Cloverbud Club	29 PW 4-H Tree Seedling Orders Due	28-30 VA 4-H Teen Summit
	29-Dec:3 National 4-H Congress	30 PW 4-H Portfolio Training	30 PW 4-H Portfolio Training		29 PW 4-H Association BINGO
	29-Dec:15 TSC & 4-H Paper Clover Campaign				
APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
4-6 VA 4-H Equismartz	10 PW 4-H Cloverbud Club	16-20 VA Dept of Forestry Camp Woods & Wildlife	13-17 Prince William/Stafford 4-H Junior Camp	9 VA 4-H Northern District Shoot	5-7 VA 4-H State Horse and Pony Championship
5-6 VA 4-H Shooting Ed New Instructor Certification	TBD Prince William 4-H Young Entrepreneurs SPIN Project	22-28 National 4-H Shooting Sports Championship	Jul 30 - Aug 3 Southern Regionals 4-H Horse Championships	11-15 PW 4-H Fair Camp	6-7 VA 4-H State Shoot
11-16 National 4-H Conference	TBD 4-H Northeast District Food Challenge Contest	23 VA 4-H Livestock Judging Contests	TBD 4-H True Leaders in Equity Institute (TLEI) 2025		Sep 26-Oct 5 State Fair of VA
12 PW 4-H Tree Planting & PW 4-H Cloverbud Club		24-27 Virginia 4-H Congress			TBD Prince William 4-H Day
16 2025 VA 4-H/FFA Beef Challenge		24 1st Time Junior 4-H Camper Parents' Meeting			TBD Virginia 4-H Shotgun Championship
19 VA 4-H State WHEP Contest					
21 - May 5 Spring TSC & 4-H Paper Clover Campaign					
25-27 VA 4-H Healthy Living Summit					
26 VA 4-H Northeast District Contest Day					

For more detailed information as events approach, see the newsletter at [www.pwcv4a.gov/4H](http://www.pwcv4a.gov/4H).



Updated 3/25/2025

**PRINCE WILLIAM  
COUNTY**

8033 Ashton Ave, #105,  
Manassas, VA 20109

**Click to Visit Online:**

[Prince William 4-H](#)  
[Virginia State 4-H](#)  
[National 4-H](#)



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**PWC 4-H Resources**

**National 4-H**

[National 4-H Homepage](#)

**Virginia 4-H**

[VCE 4-H](#)  
[4-H Online Information](#)  
[The 4-H Foundation](#)  
[4-H All Stars](#)  
[STEM in Virginia 4-H](#)

**Prince William 4-H**

[PW 4-H Homepage](#)  
[PW 4-H Programs](#)  
[PW 4-H Camps](#)  
[PW 4-H Events & Calendar](#)  
[PW 4-H Document Center](#)

**Portfolio Records**

[Member Record](#)  
[Cloverbud Sheet](#)  
[Project Record Ages 9-10](#)  
[Project Record Ages 11-12](#)  
[Project Record Ages 13-15](#)  
[Project Record Ages 16-19](#)

[Outstanding Member Form](#)

[Prince William 4-H Member Record - President](#)  
[Prince William 4-H Member Record - Vice President](#)  
[Prince William 4-H Member Record - Officer](#)



**2024-2025 PWC 4-H  
Association Officers**

**Youth Officers**

Lexi Strand, President  
Tim Hirshey, Vice President  
Cara Grahn, Secretary  
Ryan Nguyen, Treasurer

**Adult Officers**

Susan Wolf, President  
Alan Lerch, Vice President  
Shelby Kohn, Secretary  
Sydney Nguyen, Treasurer

**Committee Chairs**

Fundraising Committee - Shawn Clinger & Sarah Fox  
Recognition Committee - Alan Lerch  
Membership Committee - 4-H Staff



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Ready**



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