

**NOVEMBER 2024**



# **THE ROOTS**

Fauquier County Cooperative Extension

## **COME WORK WITH US!**

Virginia Cooperative Extension Office in Fauquier County is accepting applications for a full-time 4-H Youth Program Educator! Want more information? Scan the QR code below!



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, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, military status, or any other basis protected by law.

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**Calling all photographers!**

Do you have a photo of a Fauquier County landscape that you want featured in our newsletter? Email your photo submissions to Meredith Day at [meredithday@vt.edu](mailto:meredithday@vt.edu)

(540) 422-8250  
24 Pelham Street,  
Warrenton, VA 20186  
Fauquier County  
Cooperative Extension



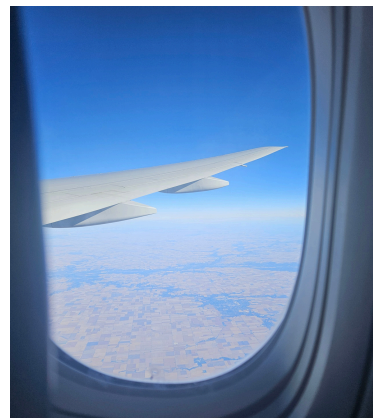
FAUQUIER  
COUNTY  
4-H

# THE CLOVER CORNER

## NAE4-HYDP CONFERENCE

### BOISE, ID

In October, our 4-H Agent Mary Ott Prados headed to Boise, Idaho with fellow 4-H professional for the National Association of Extension 4-H Youth Development Professionals conference! Sessions were available to attend to learn about new and different programs, as well as association meetings to discuss and vote on 4-H topics. Outside of sessions and meeting, professionals spent some time touring the city of Boise, checking out local shops and restaurants, and visiting the Capitol building!



“My favorite part was collaborating with and learning from 4-H professionals from all over and being surrounded by people who love 4-H as much as I do! I’m excited to bring some things I learned back here to Fauquier County 4-H.”



## ATTENTION 4-H CLUB REPORTERS!

We have launched our segment of the Clover Corner for Club Highlights! Club reporters are invited to send a write-up and photos to [meredithday@vt.edu](mailto:meredithday@vt.edu) to be featured in the monthly newsletter. Submit by the 20th of each month to be featured in the following month’s newsletter. Please include activities your club is doing, when/where your club meets, and any big events or projects coming up! Remember to sign your name and your club.

**\*\*first priority will go to clubs who have not yet been featured and/or clubs who submit content first**



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# THE CLOVER CORNER

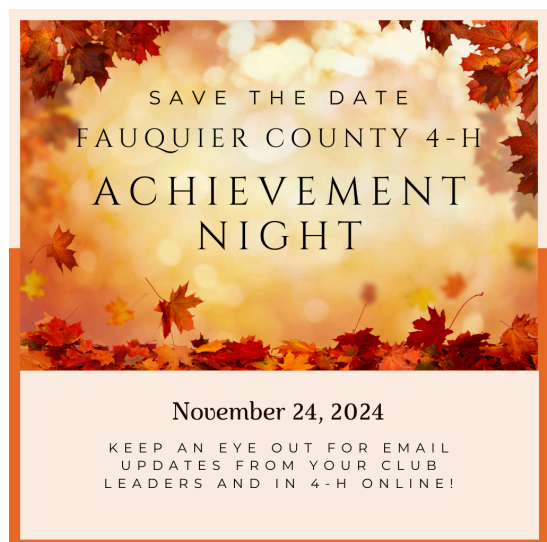
## A NEW CLUB YEAR BEGINS!

Enroll NOW to secure your spot in our 4-H program for the 2024-2025 4-H year! Enrollments DUE December 1 - sooner is better, in case you have any issues in the enrollment process! New members need to enroll, and returning members need to RE-ENROLL each year!

Reach out to your club leader or Mary maryvo@vt.edu with any questions!

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Fauquier 4-H is in the process of updating our 4-H Club brochure and we are in need of an English to Spanish translator to help us better reach the Spanish-speaking members of our community. If you are interested in helping to translate our written materials, please reach out to nhollins@vt.edu or you can call the office at 540-422-8250



## SAVE THE DATE!

Our Achievement Night to celebrate our 2023-2024 4-H year will be held on Sunday November 24th! Keep an eye out for email updates from your club leader and through 4-H Online for more details.



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# THE CLOVER CORNER

## SUPPORT OPPORTUNITY!

If you already have the holidays on your mind, check out the limited edition collectible 4-H holiday ornaments available in Tractor Supply stores nationwide. Featuring three unique designs for 2024, these ornaments are sure to become a cherished family tradition for 4-H'ers for years to come. 100% of the funds raised from ornament sales will benefit 4-H.

Visit our local Warrenton or Marshall stores to support Fauquier County 4-H!



## THE CLOVER TREE IS BACK



Starting November 5th, the Clover Tree will be set up in the foyer of the Extension Office. Each clover on the tree lists the needs of a local organization. All 4-H families and community members are welcome to grab a clover, fill a box of things to donate, and bring back to the office! \*\*4-H families can also drop off at Achievement Night 11/24 – last day for collecting items is Friday December 13th – deliveries begin Monday December 16th!

## THE ELEANOR HAZEL 4-H AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM SERIES 2!

The Eleanor Hazel 4-H After School Program - Series 2: Robots & Gadgets begins November 11th! For more information please visit our website:

<https://sites.google.com/vt.edu/afterschool4h>

Using equipment designed for budding engineers, participants will complete fun challenges such as coding robots, building circuits, and more! Beyond having fun, students will learn about basic circuitry, robotics coding and design while also developing life skills like collaboration, communication, and critical thinking. This series is open to kindergarten - 2nd graders and will run from 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM.





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# THE CLOVER CORNER

## STATE FAIR OF VIRGINIA RECAP

Fauquier 4-H had several members participating in shows and contests at the State Fair of Virginia! We are so proud of all of our members who have challenged themselves on a state level – some for the first time! – in stockman's contests, skillathons, cattle shows, sheep shows, goat shows, and poultry shows!

### 2024 STATE FAIR OF VIRGINIA **SKILLATHON** **RESULTS**

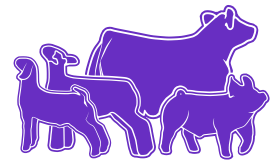
Swine Intermediate	<b>4th place</b>	Ali Yankey
Sheep Intermediate	<b>2nd place</b>	Sedona Sifford
Beef Intermediate	<b>4th place</b>	Ali Yankey
Beef Intermediate	<b>3rd place</b>	Sedona Sifford
Dairy Goat Intermediate	<b>2nd place</b>	Ainsley Wolford
Dairy Goat Intermediate	<b>1st place</b>	Brianna Wall
Dairy Goat Junior	<b>2nd place</b>	Mia Markus

### 2024 STATE FAIR OF VIRGINIA **PROMO DISPLAY** **RESULTS**

Beef Cattle	<b>3rd place</b>	Sedona Sifford
Dairy Goat	<b>2nd place</b>	Brianna Wall

### 2024 STATE FAIR OF VIRGINIA **PREMIER EXHIBITOR** **RESULTS**

Beef Junior	<b>10th place</b>	Beth Yankey
Beef Intermediate	<b>3rd place</b>	Ali Yankey
Beef Intermediate	<b>1st place</b>	Sedona Sifford
Sheep Intermediate	<b>2nd place</b>	Sedona Sifford
Dairy Goat Recorded Grade	<b>3rd place</b>	Ainsley Wolford
Dairy Goat AOP	<b>2nd place</b>	Ainsley Wolford
Dairy Goat Nubian	<b>1st place</b>	Ainsley Wolford



### SHOW & SALE FIRST MANDATORY MEETING RECAP

Our first Show & Sale meeting for the 2025 Show & Sale was a blast! We had over 65 exhibitors attend and discussed overall Show & Sale guidelines. First year members and parents attended a workshop on tips to succeed when planning your first market project, and other members split into three groups and rotated between stations going over animal nutrition and housing, how to get buyers and what happens on sale night, and frequently asked questions about Show & Sale.

Kick-Off Meeting  
October 9, 2024



Fauquier Livestock Show & Sale  
May 4-5, 2025

### 2025 SHOW & SALE REMINDERS

**Sunday November 3, 2024** Beef weigh-in 7AM-8AM Fauquier Fairgrounds Barn

**Wednesday November 13, 2024** Marketing Meeting (2nd mandatory meeting) 6PM Fauquier Fairgrounds Building. This is the **LAST DAY TO JOIN** – must attend this meeting if the 1st meeting was missed

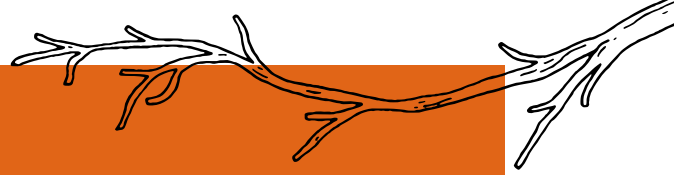
**Saturday January 11, 2025** Cattle clinic – optional – registration will open early December

**Wednesday January 15, 2025** cattle mid-point weights DUE

**Sunday February 2, 2025** lamb and goat weigh-in 7AM-9AM Fauquier Fairgrounds Barn

**Wednesday February 12, 2025** Buyers Mixer (3rd mandatory meeting) 6PM Fauquier Fairgrounds Building

**Wednesday February 12, 2025** Market hog and breeding animal entries DUE



## WHY SHOULD I TEST MY HAY?

Testing hay quality in drought years is critical for several reasons. Drought-stressed hay often lacks essential nutrients due to limited plant, accumulation of normal nutrient precursors at toxic levels, and harvesting at increased maturity. Testing allows you to evaluate nutrient levels such as protein, energy, and vitamin and mineral content. Nutrient-deficient hay can lead to poor livestock health, and reduced productivity. Testing provides the information needed to supplement with other feeds to meet dietary requirements. During droughts, certain plants, especially grasses like sorghum, can accumulate harmful levels of nitrates. High nitrate levels are toxic to livestock, potentially causing serious health issues or even death. By testing for nitrates, you can determine safe feeding levels and reduce risk by blending high-nitrate hay with other forages or ensiling to lower nitrate concentration.

From an economic standpoint, knowing the quality of your hay helps with planning and efficient rationing. In a drought year, hay is often scarce and expensive, so maximizing its use is vital. Knowing the nutrient levels allows you to stretch your hay supplies by providing insights on supplementing with grains, alternative feeds, or crop residues, which can reduce total hay requirements.

In summary, testing hay quality in drought years is an investment in your livestock's health, effective feed budgeting, and ultimately the profitability of your operation. By understanding the specific nutritional needs and risks in your hay, you can make informed decisions, supplement wisely, and prevent costly health issues. If you are interested in test your forage, please email Tim Mize, [tmize@vt.edu](mailto:tmize@vt.edu).





**Virginia Cooperative Extension**

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## **Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification**

**December 6, 2024**

9:00 am to Noon

**American Legion Hall**

11420 James Madison Hwy

Remington, VA 22734

Covers full recertification in  
categories 90 and 91

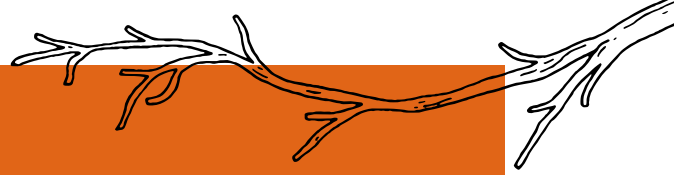


For more information or to register for  
the class contact the VCE - Culpeper  
Office at (540) 727-3435,  
[ashappling@vt.edu](mailto:ashappling@vt.edu), or scan the QR  
code on this flyer.



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, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, military status, or any other basis protected by law. If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact Ashley Appling, Culpeper County Office at 540-727-3435/TDD\* during business hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. to discuss accommodations 5 days prior to the event. \*TDD number is (800) 828-1120.

# UPCOMING EVENTS



## UPCOMING FAUQUIER VCE OFFICE CLOSURE DATES:

**November 27th** | office will close at 12 PM

**November 28th** | Closed

**November 29th** | Closed

### CLOVER CALENDAR

**November 5** | Clover Tree is up!

**November 15** | Camp Counselor/CIT  
applications open

**November 24** | Achievement Night

**December 13** | Clover Tree donations  
DUE

**January 10** | Camp Counselor/CIT  
applications due



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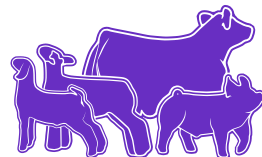
### SHOW & SALE CALENDAR

**November 3** | Beef Weigh-In 7-8AM  
Fauquier Fairgrounds

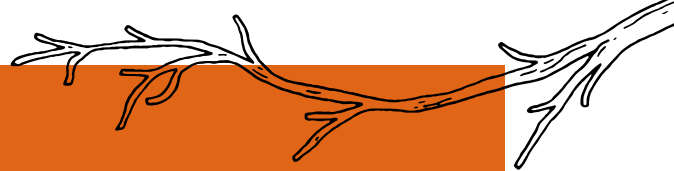
**November 13** | Marketing Meeting 6PM  
Fauquier Fairgrounds

**January 11** | Cattle Clinic

**January 15** | Cattle mid-point weights due



# OFFICE CONTACT



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