Communication is a vital tool used in order to make an organization work both efficiently and effectively. It is very important that every member and volunteer knows what is going on not only in their own 4-H club but also the organization as a whole.

As a part of Sumter County 4-H there are many ways one can stay updated with activities and events that are occurring.

1. Facebook
2. Web Page - Sumter County 4-H
3. Newsletter
4. Email Updates (most emails are through 4-H Online Broadcast. Please check your spam/junk folder for these emails.)
5. Remind App - text @sumter4-h to 81010
6. Easy way to access 4-H Online 2.0

Please take advantage of these communication opportunities! Also please email Mrs. Dakota or Mrs. Shayna with club updates. We love seeing and hearing about all of the great activities and projects you do.
Sumter County 4-H is Bringing County Council Back!

In the spring, I announced that we would be bringing County Council back (woo hoo!). As our awards banquet approaches and we begin to prepare for a new year, I think it’s important for me to share what this means for all of us going forward.

This Year’s County Council Election

We have a great slate of candidates ready to serve on our council for the coming year, and we are so excited to introduce them to you!

We will be holding our election at the Awards Banquet on August 12th. Please note that not everyone can vote. The way the Florida 4-H Council System is set up, TWO delegates from each club will vote as representatives for their club. Ideally, this will be your club’s President and Vice President. However, in the absence of either officer, the club leader may choose any youth member(s) to represent their club.

Your 2022 County Council Officer Candidates

Presidential Candidates:
"Possessing leadership roles gives me many great experiences that I can carry with me. I also believe that it is important to hold an office."
Wyatt Davis
10th grade, JCA Club

"I see a lot of great kids in Sumter County, but we don't have a ton of opportunities to grow the leadership skills we need to be successful in life and college. I want all of us kids to have confidence, organization and experiences that help us achieve what we want in life."
Lillian McLeer
8th grade, JCA Club

"I've always wanted to do more within my county than just showing livestock, and I see the County Council as a great opportunity to do not only that, but to also advocate for more activities that aren't directly related to agriculture within this county's 4-H [program]."
Allison Suggs
10th grade, Stock Life
Sumter County 4-H is Bringing County Council Back!

Vice Presidential Candidates:
"I would like to help provide a better education system for the newer kids on showmanship, selecting the right lamb and how to feed them to maintain the ideal weight."
Bailee Martin
9th grade, Sumter Saddle Ups

"[4-H] Members really only see each other during the fair. With bringing back County Council, our community will have the chance to once again come together and create new memories."
Kylar Purvis
9th grade, Kountry Kids

"[County Council] is a great opportunity to do more in 4-H and get involved in other leadership positions..."
David Serfass
11th grade, Sumter Saddle Ups

Other Candidates:
"I hope I can better the 4-H organization with my service on the County Council."
Jackson Davis
8th grade, JCA Club

What’s the Purpose of County Council?
The County Council serves as an important “link” in the Florida 4-H State Council System chain. Two delegates from every club, county, and district serve as messengers to pass information to and from the state level. This helps keep everyone informed and create comradery between youth at all levels of the Florida 4-H program.
Sumter County 4-H is Bringing County Council Back!

For more information on the Florida 4-H Council System, view this document: Understanding-4-H-Councils.pdf (ufl.edu) (This PDF will also be located on our Sumter County 4-H Website)

County Council Delegates from Each Club
For the coming year, each club will need to select two council delegates. Ideally, this will be your President and Vice President but, again, you are welcome to send substitutes as needed. You’re also welcome to implement a rotational system if you need/want to.

Responsibilities of County Council Delegates
County Council delegates are responsible for attending the quarterly County Council meetings to vote on important county matters such as social events, County Events Day, the Awards Banquet, etc. They are also responsible for reporting the information discussed and voted on back to their club, as well as sharing an update on their club activities with the council. District Delegates will be sharing information from the District and State Level at County Council meetings, which may be important for the delegates to share with their clubs.
Sumter County 4-H is Bringing County Council Back!

We hope you’ll consider joining us for our County Council meetings over the next year! For more information on County Council, contact Mrs. Shayna.

2022 County Council Meeting Dates

Thursday, September 22nd @ 6:30 PM
Thursday, November 17th @ 6:30 PM
Thursday, January 26th @ 6:30 PM
Thursday, March 23rd @ 6:30 PM

NEW CLUBS COMING 2022-2023 4-H YEAR!

Sumter STEM
A new club with Mrs. Jenna Childs as the Leader! This club will be meeting multiple times throughout the month and will focus on a variety of STEM topics including gardening, animal science, robotics, and more! This club will meet in the Wildwood area.

Who is this club for?
- Homeschoolers
- Kids with diverse interests
- Kids with interests beyond showing market animals

Sumter Leaders
Sumter Leaders is a new club led by Mrs. Megan McLeer and Mrs. Shayna Johnson. This club will be home to the Sumter 4-H County Council but is open to all Sumter 4-H’ers with an interest in leadership and professional development. We will be focusing on skills such as public speaking, teamwork, professional communication, and event planning and coordination.

Who is this club for?
- Youth interested in leadership and professional development
- Those who want to build marketable skills
- Geared toward Intermediate and Senior 4-H’ers, but all ages are welcome!
Wyatt D. & Lizzie S. got to participate at the State Level for Competitive & Public Speaking. They both placed 1st in their categories. Congratulations! Way to represent Sumter County!

Lizzie applied for a National Trip Scholarship and was awarded a scholarship to National 4-H Congress in November!

4-H University! July 25th-29th

Lizzie also submitted an application to run for a State Office! AND WON! Lizzie Shurley is now your 2022-2023 Florida 4-H State Reporter! Way to go Lizzie! We are so proud of you!
PAST EVENTS

2022 Florida 4-H State Horse Show
July 7th-July 9th
We had two 4-H members, Bailee & Brice participated at the State Horse Show in Tampa, FL

Bailee M.

Brice M.

Florida 4-H Teen W.O.L.F Camp
July 10th-July 15th
One of our 4-H members Lizzie S. attended a week long summer 4-H camp!

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Registration Deadline for Awards Banquet August 3rd

Club Leaders
If you haven't already, please let us know if you are donating a silent auction basket/item or a cake for the cake auction.

REMINDERS TO CLUB LEADERS

1. Please make sure you are reminding 4-H members and volunteers to enroll into 4-H Online.
2. Please turn in meeting attendance each month.
3. Make sure to enter your volunteer hours in the form Shayna provided you.

Always remember to tell the 4-H members to document the little things that they do by following the Standard of Excellence form, writing things down and taking pictures.

Make a World of Difference
Monthly Club Spotlight

This month we are spotlighting Basics & Beyond Sewing Club! Basics & Beyond Sewing is ran by Mrs. Barbara and Mrs. Pattie. Basics & Beyond Sewing is a specialty club, which means they focus on one project area. As it states in the club name sewing would be that project area.

If you know of anyone that is interested in joining 4-H but has an interest in sewing, this club is the one for them! If any current members have an interest in learning about sewing or have an interest in sewing, you may join this club as well! Mrs. Barbara & Mrs. Pattie spend one Saturday a month for 3 hours with the members, teaching them about basic sewing skills and techniques to more advanced skills and techniques. Youth that are interested in joining, please contact the 4-H Office and we will get you in touch with these lovely ladies!

Basics & Beyond Sewing
Meeting date: 3rd Saturday of each month
Meeting time: 10AM-3PM
Meeting location: United Methodist Church of Wildwood
**HIGHER LEVEL EVENTS**

**Statewide Volunteer Forum**
September 9-11, 2022
Orlando, FL
The Rosen Centre
Registration: July 11th - August 31st
If you are interested in attending, please reach out to Mrs. Shayna

**Southern Regional Teen Leadership Conference (SRTL C)**
September 22-25, 2022
Crossville, Tennessee
Registration Opens August 15th via 4-H Online

**Forest Ecology Clinic**
October 1, 2022
Gainesville, FL
Registration Opens August 15th via 4-H Online
If you are interested in the Forest Ecology judging, please contact Mrs. Dakota before September 1st.

**FUN FACTS**

**Agriculture:**
Of the 10% of disposable income Americans spend on food each year, 46% is for food eaten at home and 54% is for food eaten away from home.

**4-H:**

4-H’ers are...

- more likely to give back to their communities
- more likely to make healthier choices
- more likely to participate in STEM activities
**ADDITIONAL INFO**

**Sumter County 4-H is using Remind!**
This app allows us to text you with important updates. If you’d like to be added to our text list, follow the link https://www.remind.com/join/sumter4-h OR text @sumter4-h to 81010

**PAVE THE FUTURE FOR 4-H’ERS**

Request your speciality tag voucher at your LOCAL TAG OFFICE or online.
Help 4-H reach our goal of 3,000 tags and get the 4-H plate on the road!
Your $25 speciality tag fee supports Florida 4-H leadership programs, camping and more!

**FLORIDA4H.ORG/TAG**

---

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**4-H Open Enrollment**
August 1st
v2.4honline.com

**NEW Leader/Co-Leader Meeting**
August 6th
9:30AM
Sumter County Fairgrounds

**Awards Banquet**
August 12th
6PM
Sumter County Fairgrounds

**Beginning of the Year Meetings Option 1:**
August 15th - 6:30PM
Sumter County Fairgrounds

**Beginning of the Year Meetings Option 2:**
August 18th - 6:30PM
Sumter County Fairgrounds

**2022-2023 4-H Year Starts**
September 1st

**Labor Day - 4-H Office Closed**
September 5th

**Livestock Requirement Forms DUE**
September 10th
4-H Office

**"Starting off the new year right!" Workshops**
September 12th - 6:30PM
September 15th - 6:30PM
Sumter County Fairgrounds