

RUTGERS

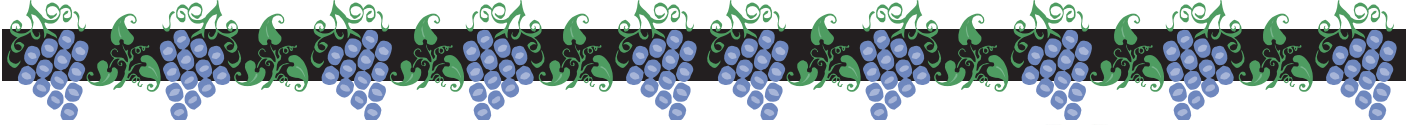
New Jersey Agricultural
Experiment Station

www.warren4-h.org

 **4-H**  **SET**
Science, Engineering & Technology



Family Grapevine
Information for 4-H families
January/February 2025



From the Desk of
the Agent

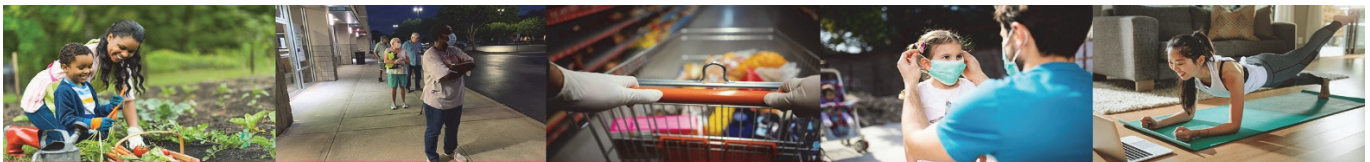


**HAPPY
NEW YEAR**



**Happy New Year
to our 4-H family!**

We look forward to
another great year
with you!



WE **R** HERE WHEN YOU NEED **US**



Reminders

The Next 4-H Leaders Association Meeting

4-H Leaders Appreciation Dinner

April 3, 2025 at 6:00pm, location tbd

All registered Warren County 4-H leaders are welcome.

If you prefer a hard copy mailed to your address, please call the office and confirm your updated contact information so we can send you a paper copy. We will only send paper copies to those families that contact us. We hope that 4-H families take advantage of the Grapevine online and help us save the environment.

The Jr. Breeder Loan Program

A great program for young adults already participating in 4-H to acquire livestock via a low-interest livestock loan. Contact the 4-H office for the forms and additional information.



Going to Rutgers?????

Going to miss 4-H????

No Need! You can join the Collegiate 4-H Club
They do much to support 4-H in NJ

Our Mission

The Rutgers Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development program uses a learn by doing approach to enable youth to develop the knowledge, attitudes, and skills they need to become competent, caring, and contributing citizens of the world.



This mission is accomplished by using the knowledge and resources of the land grant university system, along with the involvement of caring adults.

Family Grapevine
Bi-Monthly Newsletter
Rutgers Cooperative Extension
165 County Route 519 South
Belvidere, NJ 07823
(908) 475-6502
www.warren4-h.org

Alayne J. Torretta, County 4-H Agent
Michelle Teitsma, 4-H Program Associate
Alex Zolla, 4-H Secretary

Mark Your Calendars!

Data to the Rescue: Penguins Need Our Help!

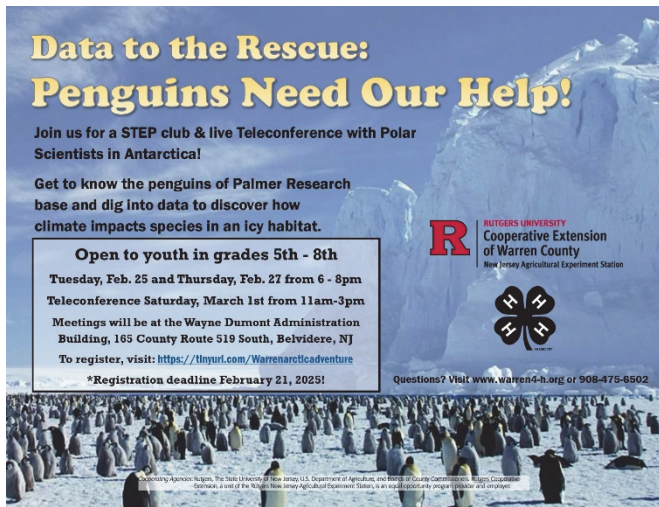
Although remote from much of human society, the Polar Regions face unprecedented change that will have significant consequences for us all. Scientists are studying and documenting the impacts of climate change and how they are unfolding at an accelerated rate in the Polar Regions compared to other areas of the earth.

You are invited to join the seabird research team of the Long-Term Ecological Research program to explore the penguins at Palmer State, located on the Western Antarctic Peninsula.

Join us for a totally chill new STEP club and live teleconference with Polar Scientists in Antarctica! The STEP club is open to **all** youth in 5-8th grade and will meet on Tuesday, February 25, and Thursday, February 28, from 6-8 pm. The live teleconference with the scientists in Antarctica will be on Saturday, March 1 from 11 am to 3 pm.

Registration deadline is February 21, 2025.

Participants will learn how penguin data is collected and analyzed and help explore the impacts of climate change – such as melting ice sheets, increasing ocean water temperatures, and changing animal populations – through data analysis and interpretation of scientific evidence.



**Data to the Rescue:
Penguins Need Our Help!**

Join us for a STEP club & live Teleconference with Polar Scientists in Antarctica!

Get to know the penguins of Palmer Research base and dig into data to discover how climate impacts species in an icy habitat.

Open to youth in grades 5th - 8th


Tuesday, Feb. 25 and Thursday, Feb. 27 from 6 - 8pm
Teleconference Saturday, March 1st from 11am-3pm
Meetings will be at the Wayne Dumont Administration Building, 165 County Route 519 South, Belvidere, NJ

To register, visit: <https://tinyurl.com/Warrenarcticadventure>

*Registration deadline February 21, 2025!

Questions? Visit www.warren4-h.org or 908-475-6502

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
Cooperative Extension
of Warren County
New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station




2025 County Public Presentations

Presentations are right around the corner! We will be holding 3 events this March. Dates include Thursday, March 6; Tuesday, March 18; and Wednesday, March 26.


Locations are still pending. One night will be in Hope, one in the Washington area and one in the Belvidere area. Once the locations are confirmed, the registration packet will be sent to all members.

Deadline to register for presentations is February 28, 2025





RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
Cooperative Extension
New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station



THIS YEAR - INCLUDES ALL 4-H ANIMAL PROJECTS - TAKE YOUR PICK!

The 10th Annual
Fun and Entertaining
4-H Animal Science Video Contest/Film Festival
Saturday, March 29, 2025

The Film Festival will be held in the Round House at the Rutgers Cook Campus Farm as an afternoon session of the Junior Animal Science Symposium. To participate in the film festival, you must register for the Junior Animal Science Symposium. Registration for the symposium will be available at <http://nj4h.rutgers.edu/animals> in early 2025 (approx. Feb. 1).


Youth created videos are due March 3

To enter your video in the contest, **REGISTER ONLINE** by **Feb. 24**. You will then receive a link to use to upload your video and media release form(s). For more information, see <http://nj4h.rutgers.edu/animals/film-festival> or contact Chad Ripberger, County 4-H Agent, ripberger@njaes.rutgers.edu or 609-989-6830.

Entries must:

1. be educational – must educate the audience on some aspect of alpacas, cats, cattle (beef/dairy), dogs, goats, herpetology, horses, llamas, poultry, rabbits, sheep, small animals, swine.
2. be **3:30 minutes or less** (1-point deduction per second over 3:30).
3. be uploaded by the end of the day, **March 3**.
4. be the original work of youth in grades 4-13.
5. be created from October 2024 - March 2025.
6. include the names of all youth responsible for the creation of the video (credits – names and roles).

- ✓ The youth of the top scoring videos will receive awards at the film festival on March 29 at the Junior Animal Science Symposium.
- ✓ Videos will be scored on educational value, creativity, clarity, pacing, and technical quality – 20 points each, 100 total. See the video contest website for a description of the [judging criteria](#). A [tip sheet](#) and [winning videos](#) from prior years are also on the website.



Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Boards of County Commissioners. Rutgers Cooperative Extension, a unit of the Rutgers-New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is an equal opportunity program provider and employer.



NJ State 4-H Avian Bowl

May 17, 2025



Save the Date!
2025 New Jersey State 4-H
Avian Bowl
Saturday, May 17, 2025
Hunterdon County Division of Senior, Disabilities and Veterans Services
4 Gauntt Place
Flemington, NJ 08822

OPEN TO 4-H CLOVERBUDS, JUNIORS, AND SENIORS
Questions? Contact Amelia.Minervini@rutgers.edu




NJ Junior Animal Science Symposium

March 29, 2025

Rutgers Junior Animal Science Symposium will be held on Saturday, March 29, 2025 at the Cook Campus Farm, Rutgers University, New Brunswick. Event includes hands-on workshops in equine, swine, sheep and goat, cattle, poultry, beekeeping, rabbit, cavy, small animals and an animal science video contest. Registration information to follow.





Save the Date!
2025 NJ Junior Animal Science Symposium

Saturday
March 29, 2025
8:30 am - 3:00 pm

Location: Round Barn
@ George H. Cook Campus
Rutgers University

For youth and adults
Rain or shine!

Hands-on workshops in the following tracks

- Equine
- Swine
- Small Ruminant (Sheep & Goat)
- Large Ruminant (Dairy and Beef Cattle)
- *New* Canine
- *New* Anthropology
- Poultry
- Beekeeping
- Rabbit
- Cavy (Guinea Pig)
- Small Animals
- Animal Science
- Video Contest

Registration will open on February 3

Questions? Contact:
Amelia.Minervini@rutgers.edu

Sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Agriculture Junior Breeder Program, in cooperation with Rutgers Cooperative Extension faculty and staff.

Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Boards of County Commissioners. Rutgers programs are offered on a non-profit basis. Rutgers Cooperative Extension is an equal opportunity program provider and employer. Contact your local Extension Office for information regarding Rutgers Cooperative Extension. Rutgers Cooperative Extension Office 1701 East Lincoln Street, Trenton, NJ 08611

Contact Amelia.Minervini@njaes.rutgers.edu if you have questions.



Horse News



Horse Leaders Meetings

The Horse Leaders Meeting schedule:

April 9, 2025 in conjunction with Equestrian of the Year Interviews

July 9, 2025 via zoom (if needed)

September 10, 2025 via Zoom



Horse Bowl

February 22, 2025

The NJ State 4-H Horse Bowl Competition will be held on Saturday, February 22 at Rutgers University, New Brunswick. Registration information will be available shortly.



Tack Sale

March 29, 2025

Tack Swap & Sale
Benefiting Warren County 4-H Horse Clubs
Saturday, March 29, 2025
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Independence Fire House
24 Cemetery Rd
Great Meadows, NJ

Sell your new & used horse equipment, riding attire & other equine supplies or buy what you need for the upcoming season! No Commission!

Table prices:
1 table: \$25 • 2 tables: \$45 • 3 tables: \$60
Outside space (10x10): \$25 • Trailers: \$50

For more info, call Wanda 908-797-1239
Buyers may want to bring cash - Some vendors will not take checks.

FOOD STAND ON SITE

The annual Tack Sale sponsored by the Horse Leaders will be held on Saturday, March 29 at the Independence Fire House from 9am to 1pm.



Equine Presentations & Art Show

March 15, 2025

Cedar Creek High School in Atlantic County

Horse Judging & Hippology

April 5-6, 2025

Sussex County

Equestrian of the Year Interviews

April 9, 2025

Information and the application will be mailed to all eligible horse members early in February. Senior, Junior, and Novice divisions will be offered.

4-H Qualifying Show

June 8, 2025

NJ State 4-H Horse Show

August 15-17, 2025

Dream Park





News!

Project Record Books

Don't forget to keep up with your record book for the 2024-2025 project year!

If you need a new record for the current project year, please visit

<https://warren.njaes.rutgers.edu/4h/record-books/> and download the specific book for your project area.

Keeping a record book allows you to track what you have learned and accomplished throughout the project year. It is also a very handy way to keep track of community service activities! Filling out your record book is a great asset when you go to fill out National Honor Society applications, Tri-M Honor Society applications as well as college applications. All your activities, community service, and goals are in one place!

A Record Book Cheat Sheet (a guide to help you fill your book out) will be emailed to everyone.



New website

<https://warren.njaes.rutgers.edu/4h/>

If you need information from our website, please use the one listed above.



Don't Forget We've MOVED!!!!



We are finally in our new home at
3 Shotwell Drive,
Belvidere!

Office hours and phone numbers have stayed the same!



RE-ENROLLMENT

With this new project year comes a new 4-H enrollment system, Zsuite.



The enrollment process for Club Members (youth) and Volunteers (adult club leaders) is similar. We're excited with the options Zsuite will offer us in the office as well as to club leaders.

Please go to <https://4h.zsuite.org/> and create a family profile to re-enroll.

An email was sent to all registered 4-H members with instructions on the new process. If you or your members have any issues creating a profile or re-enrolling, please contact the 4-H Office at 908-475-6502.



Club Updates:

Teen Council

Teen council members adopted 2 local families for the 2024 holiday season and provided meals as well as gifts. They also baked over 750 cookies for the Warren County Homebound Meal program in December.



Out of Our Shells



Teen Council Links members enjoyed some team-building time at SkyZone in Mount Olive.



Out of Our Shells was recognized for their "Free Little Pantry" at the First Presbyterian Church with publicity in the The Press.



Got club news? Send it to
4-H@co.warren.nj.us