

May 3rd - July 13th, 2026



RI 4-H News

University of Rhode Island, Cooperative Extension

National Beyond Ready Movement

Many of you may have noticed that we are putting the Beyond Ready logo on programs. The Beyond Ready national movement is designed to elevate the work 4-H has always done: give youth the skills, resilience, and confidence they need to thrive in an ever-changing world. Key components of 4-H Beyond Ready Programing:

- Research-based educational content and techniques to build skills that translate to real world experience.
- Empowering youth to ask questions and find the answers using scientific methods and processes.
- Encouraging youth to try, fail, and try again to build resiliency and creativity required for complex problems.
- Promoting a sense of belonging, demonstrating youths' importance in their communities, and allowing them to lead and grow as community change-makers.

Through these methods, which are embedded into 4-H programs, the Beyond Ready 4-H movement will continue to prepare young people for the challenges and opportunities of the future!

Upcoming Events

URI 4-H Water Week:
7/15 Gull Cove Aquaculture
7/17 URI Water Engineering

7/19 Canine Agility Demo
8/1 ERI 4-H Fair
8/7 Block Island Trip
8/12-16 Washington Co. Fair



Beyond Ready

Rabbit Workshop

On May 9th, we welcomed New Hampshire 4-H member Jonathan Morrison to teach about rabbits. Jonathan is a 4-H teen working towards his American Rabbit Breeders Association Registrar license. Twenty participants learned about grooming, showing, breeds to select, meat production, played breed identification games, made a breed poster and learned what to study to get them Beyond Ready in the rabbit industry! They left with a new RI 4-H rabbit apron for showing!



URI Cooperative Extension is committed to community, equity, and diversity and prohibits discrimination in all its programs, services, and activities.

Junior Adventure

This year was truly an adventure for 40 4-Hers ages 5-12. The 4-H kids were ziplining, dropping from a giant (60ft swing), teamworking through low ropes courses and flying down a giant waterslide into a lake. The youth got to adventure with their 4-H peers and learn how to work together while being immersed in nature!



4-H Teen Retreat

The 4-H Teen Retreat at Camp Westwood had 28 teens attend and sleep overnight from June 6-7. The teens went on high adventure courses, participated in leadership activities, built survival shelters, kayaked and built campfire meals. The weekend was a hit and the youth learned to be flexible and resilient when Mother Nature tells you to! Thank you to all the volunteers that made Teen Retreat and Junior Adventure a success and to the 4-H Foundation for sponsoring these events!



4-H Horse Show

On June 7th, we held a horse show in partnership with Journey's End Farm. 15 youth (including some new riders) participated in this ESE-qualifying show judged by Camille Pepin. It was a beautiful day for a show, and we thank Julie Hetrick for donating her facilities and equipment!



Graphic Design Workshop

Working with our 4-H Cricut machine, we held a graphic arts workshop. A dozen of our 4-Hers produced professional signs and t-shirts with their custom designs and learned skills in graphic design, production and specialty printing. These skills will help youth in careers in marketing, advertising and printing. Thank you to Valerie Spicher for sharing her expertise and the Foundation for paying for all the materials.



SRI 4-H Fair

This year over 150 youth participated in the Southern Rhode Island 4-H Fair. The return of the 4-H Horse show to the fair went smoothly and the riders and fair volunteers are excited to return again next year. Traditional livestock shows, exhibit hall entries, the grill cheese contest, the pinewood derby and the floral arranging contest were all well attended. Please join the 4-H Office in thanking the SRI 4-H Volunteers and Fair Committee for their tireless efforts to fundraise, plan and produce this opportunity for 4-H youth with many different interests.

