

VA 4-H HORSE PROGRAM



Happy New Year!?!

Set your calendars now!



October 1st is the start of the **NEW 2015-2016 4-H year** and so this is the time to set calendars and make the most of your 4-H year! Here are some things you will want to consider to keep updated on the 4-H horse program activities locally and at the state level:

- Get involved with your District 4-H Horse Council - the governing host for area 4-H educational events, contests and shows
- Sign up for the [4-H State Horse Listserve](#). Send an e-mail to listserv@listserv.vt.edu with "**subscribe vce-4hhorse**" in the body of the e-mail.
- Know your deadlines and requirements to exhibit at the State 4-H Horse Show and VA State Fair.
- Start on your record books now and set your goals! Download the forms [here](#).
- Start a study plan for the [EquiSmartz](#) contests and incorporate it in your homework and meetings.



Tri-State Horse Leaders' Conference

North Carolina, South Carolina & Virginia
January 16-17, 2016 • Greensboro, NC

**[SIGN UP ONLINE TODAY](#) and
[BOOK YOUR HOTEL NOW!](#)**

Tentative Break Out Session Topics

- 4-H Meeting Topics
- Introduction to Educational Contests
- Horse Knowledge Modules
- 4-H Leadership Opportunities
- Horseless Activities
- Preparing Horse Judging Teams & Oral Reasons
- Preparing teams for Horse Bowl & Hippology
- Recruiting new and retaining members
- Digital Resources
- Strategies for working with Cloverbuds
- Preparing Youth for Communication Contests

Tentative General Session Topics

- Panel Discussions with Horse Show Judges
- 4-H Curriculum: What's New? What's In? What's Out?
- Individual State Program Updates
- Life After 4-H: Staying Involved in the Horse Industry and 4-H Program - College and Beyond

SAVE THE DATE!

- Oct. - Join or renew with your local 4-H Horse Club! Celebrate & promote National 4-H Week!
- Nov. 6-8 - Eastern National Roundup in Louisville, KY (VA has 11 representatives from last year's top EquiSmartz™ winners!)
- Nov. 14-15 - Make-up date for [State Fair Ranch Riding and Drill Team Shows](#), Doswell, VA
- Nov. 14 - B&B Virginia Tech Horse Judging Clinic in Blacksburg, VA
- Jan. 16-17 - [Tri-State Horse Leaders' Conference](#) (Leaders: register now!), Greensboro, NC
- Feb. 12-13 - B&B Virginia Tech Hippology & Horse Judging Contest, Blacksburg, VA
- April 1-3 - [EquiSmartz™](#), the State 4-H knowledge contests (Hippology, Horse Bowl, Horse Judging and Communication Contests), Doswell, VA
- May 1 - Project Horse Declarations due, in county office and online.
- Sept. 14-18 - [State 4-H Horse and Pony Championship Show](#), Lexington, VA

State 4-H Horse Show & State Fair Show Requirements:

- 1) Jan. 1 - must be registered as a bona-fide 4-H member with your County Extension office.
- 2) May 1 - Horse project declaration forms are due.
- 3) Start your 4-H Horse Record Book now with goals!
- 4) Plan to qualify at a District Show or Clinic in the spring / summer
- 5) Participate in a county, area, or state 4-H event other than the 4-H district horse show.
- 6) Plan to complete Horsemanship Skills requirements as appropriate.
- 7) Other requirements may be established at the Unit level. Please check with your Extension Agent.

Your 4-H District Horse Council websites & info:

- [Northern District](#)
- [Central District](#)
- [Southeast District](#)
- [Map of Counties](#)

We wish the STATE 4-H HORSE JUDGING TEAM all the best at Quarter Horse Congress, coming up October 10-15 in Columbus, Ohio! Support your fellow 4-Hers and send them a shout out. Those going are Libby Arnold,

Morgan Strickler, Ruth Martin and Caitlyn Russ!



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