



# EXTENSION UPDATE

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AND IDAHO COUNTIES COOPERATING

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE . . .

- Bird Flu: What you need to know . page 1 & 2
- Food and Farm Coalition Survey ... page 2
- Cultivating Well –Being; A whole life approach for agriculture..... page 3
- Chobani Scholarship and Agricultural Entrepreneurship Course ..... page 4
- Grains Podcast, Medicare Workshop, Stretching Class ..... page 5
- UI Extension Classes and Podcast page 6-7
- Teton County 4-H
- Teton County 4-H News ..... page 8
- STEAM Club Flier sessions 2 & 3 and Ag-Robotics Competition Dates ..... page 11
- Eastern Idaho Alpine 4-H Camp Fundraiser ..... page 12
- LifeSmarts State Competition..... page 13
- State 4-H News & Events ..... page 14-17
- Know Your Government ..... page 15
- Learn Everywhere With 4-H..... page 16
- 4-H Exchange Outward/Inward Bound page 17
- National 4-H News .....page 18&19
- Upcoming Events ..... page 20



## Farm-to-Fork News

### Bird Flu: What You Need to know

By Jennifer Werlin, Extension Educator in Community Food Systems

There has been growing news about “avian bird flu” (highly pathogenic avian influenza, or H5N1) over the past several years. Last fall, the virus struck 66 poultry flocks in the U.S., resulting in the deaths of more than 3.5 million birds (National Public Radio, 2025). Like many viruses, avian influenza is cyclical. It spreads among domestic poultry such as chickens and turkeys, as well as wild birds and livestock in many parts of the U.S., now including Idaho. A few county fairs in Idaho have even decided not to allow ducks or geese at county fairs and 4-H events to help prevent the spread of the virus. While the overall public health risk remains low, the risk to birds, poultry, and those who have direct contact with infected animals continues to be significant. The Midwest has been the hardest hit, but because many bird species are migratory, the virus travels with them. Understanding the situation and following guidance from health and agricultural authorities can help Idaho residents stay safe and protect their flocks.

occurred worldwide in people who had close, unprotected exposure to infected animals. In birds, however, the virus can cause severe illness or death. Idaho has become a hot spot for the virus, particularly affecting dairy and livestock operations mostly in south central Idaho. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reported large outbreaks among waterfowl during last year’s migration, and previous detections have occurred in both commercial and backyard poultry flocks.

So, what should you do? First, avoid contact with sick or dead birds. If disposal is necessary, wear gloves and a



(Continued on page 2)



(Continued from page 1)

mask, double bag the carcass, and place it in the trash. Wash your hands thoroughly afterward. Keep poultry and other domestic birds away from waterfowl and other wildlife that may carry the virus, and disinfect tools, footwear, and equipment regularly. Report sick or dead wild birds to the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (there is an online reporting system), and poultry owners should contact the Idaho State Department of Agriculture if bird flu is suspected in their flock.

While humans remain at low risk of infection, practicing good hygiene and reporting unusual bird deaths are es-



sential. Backyard poultry owners should maintain strong biosecurity to help reduce the spread of the virus. The federal response to avian influenza has been substantially scaled back due to U.S. Department of Agriculture budget cuts and layoffs. As a result, much of the infrastructure that once mapped the virus, monitored mutations, and supported outbreak response has slowed or been dismantled. The best course of action to protect both human and animal health is to practice good hygiene, utilize best biosecurity practices if you own poultry, birds, and livestock, and stay informed through the Idaho State Department of Agriculture and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

## Feedback requested about the Teton Food and Farm Coalition

The Teton Food and Farm Coalition (TFFC) is a Teton-based group (serving Jackson Hole and Teton Valley) facilitated by the University of Idaho Extension office in Teton County. Our mission is to build a strong local food system.

After nine years of meeting, networking, and working together, we would like to evaluate the effectiveness of TFFC meetings and activities so we can continue to support participant learning, engagement, and involvement in the local food system.

We would appreciate your feedback: The QR code below leads to an evaluation survey that explores knowledge gained, ideas generated, and behaviors influenced by participation in TFFC. It also gathers input on meeting facilitation, structure, and the Coalition's future direction. This survey provides an opportunity for you to share your experiences and help shape future TFFC priorities and meetings.

The survey will close on **Tuesday, February 24, 2026** (*one day before our in-person strategic planning meeting on February 25<sup>th</sup>*). Your responses will be anonymous and confidential and used only for educational purposes. Participation is voluntary, there is no compensation, and you may withdraw at any time without penalty. This project has been reviewed and approved by the University of Idaho Institutional Review Board. For questions, please contact Jennifer Werlin at (208) 787-8235 or [jwerlin@uidaho.edu](mailto:jwerlin@uidaho.edu). For concerns about your rights as a participant, you may contact the Office of Research Assurances at (208) 885-6340 or [irb@uidaho.edu](mailto:irb@uidaho.edu).

Thank you for your participation!

To take the survey visit or scan QR code: [https://uidaho.col.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_9XnXvy58fqO5YtE](https://uidaho.col.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9XnXvy58fqO5YtE).





## Cultivating Well-Being: A Whole-Life Approach for Agriculture - Session 2: Occupational Wellness

**Date & Time** Feb 18, 2026 11:00 AM in [Mountain Time \(US and Canada\)](#)

**Description** Cultivating Well-Being:  
A Whole-Life Approach for Agriculture  
Reduce stress, increase wellness and resiliency!

This virtual interactive series is designed specifically for people in agriculture—farmers, ranchers, farmworkers, agribusiness professionals, and their families—who face unique physical, financial, and emotional demands. Each session explores one of the 8 Dimensions of Wellness, connecting practical strategies to the realities of agricultural life, seasonal stress, and rural communities. Together, the series supports whole-person wellness to help participants build resilience, improve quality of life, and sustain both their livelihoods and their well-being over the long term.

Sessions will last one hour and will include discussions on each topic, guest speakers, resources, and interactive opportunities. Sessions will be recorded.

February 18, 2026 – Session 2: Occupational Wellness  
Occupational wellness is about satisfaction, balance, and purpose in your work. Agricultural careers often blur the lines between work and personal life, increasing the risk of burnout. This session explores aligning values with work, setting boundaries, and finding fulfillment in agricultural professions.



Scan QR Code to Register



The College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALs) Chobani Scholars program application is now open for new incoming and transfer students who plan to attend University of Idaho in Fall 2026.

**This is a \$20,000, multi-year scholarship.** Students must have demonstrated financial need, be pursuing a degree in CALS related to agriculture and be from the Magic Valley (Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka and Twin Falls counties).

We would like to ask for your help in spreading the word about this program. If you know of any students who may be interested, please notify them of this great opportunity.

More information about the scholarship program is available at [www.uidaho.edu/agricultural-life-sciences/student-success/scholarships](http://www.uidaho.edu/agricultural-life-sciences/student-success/scholarships). **Students must apply to the University of Idaho and submit a scholarship application.** First consideration will be given to those who apply by **February 28, 2026.**

## Entrepreneurship and Business Planning for Small Farms, Ranches, and Specialty Food Businesses

Tuesdays, January 27 - March 10, 2026  
9 - 11 am PT / 10 am - 12 pm MT online via Zoom  
4-hour in-person or online intensives, February 10 & 24

**\$50 per farm/ranch Early Bird Registration**  
After January 16 price increases to \$100 per farm/ranch

In this hands-on course, you'll learn and practice business management skills, write a business plan and create your own network of resources.

This course will have 4 statewide locations and an online option open to all in the Northwest!





## Medicare Workshop

Are you, or a loved one, nearing 65? This is the workshop for you. An Idaho Department of Insurance SHIBA representative will explain Medicare and all its pieces and parts, answer your questions, and de-mystify this healthcare program. In two hours, you will receive helpful resources, program updates, and peace-of-mind that you are on the right track.

Three Medicare Workshops to Fit Your Schedule (All workshops are the same!)

**When:** Wednesday, February 11, 2026 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. (PST)  
Wednesday, May 6, 2026 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. (PST) or  
Wednesday, October 21, 2026 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. (PST)

**Where:** **In Person** – Latah County Annex Building  
2nd Floor Conference Room  
200 S. Almon Street, Moscow, ID  
OR **Online** through Zoom



Register in advance for your preferred workshop:  
<https://tinyurl.com/2026Medicare>

**Questions?** Contact Karen (208) 883-2241 or [kriche1@uidaho.edu](mailto:kriche1@uidaho.edu)



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## Season 4 of the Inland Northwest Artisan Grains™ Podcast Launching Soon!

The goal of the Inland Northwest Artisan Grains™ Podcast is to support the development of artisan grains values-based supply chains and production of value-added artisan grains products in the Inland Northwest region of Idaho, Washington, Oregon, and Montana.

## STRETCHING FOR STRENGTH AND BALANCE



Enjoy a chair-based stretch class focusing on:  
**\*Flexibility \*Muscle strength \*Stability &Balance**


Seated and standing exercises are adaptable for varying abilities. Participants work at their own pace and comfort level.

**When:** Thursdays, 4-4:45PM  
**Where:** University of Idaho Extension  
1542 East 73<sup>rd</sup> South, Idaho Falls  
**Cost:** \$10 / 2 months; first class is free!

**To register or for more information, contact:**  
Leslee Blanch: (208)529-1390  
[lblanch@uidaho.edu](mailto:lblanch@uidaho.edu)

- SEASON 1: Unpacking the grain shed.
- SEASON 2: Field to Flour.
- SEASON 3: Grain to glass.





# AGELESS GRACE

## For Brain, Body and Balance

**JOIN OUR AGELESS GRACE CLASS!** 🧠💪

Ageless Grace is a group exercise class based on everyday movements that focus on healthy longevity of the body and mind.


**Day Pass/Punch cards available for non-members**

**COST: Free for Members**

**WHERE: Idaho Falls Family YMCA**

**WHEN: Every Fridays**

**TIME: 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM**



# "Memory Warriors"



## ONLINE SUPPORT GROUP FOR PERSONS LIVING WITH DEMENTIA

**MEETS EVERY OTHER WEDNESDAYS AT 10:30 A.M.**

For more information and to register contact:  
Idaho Community Care Program

(208) 898-9826    ccp@a3ssa.com    www.a3ssa.com

**PARTICIPANTS MUST BE REGISTERED TO RECEIVE THE ZOOM LINK**




## Online Fitness Classes

### University of Idaho Extension



### Fitness Made Simple!


**Thursdays, 10:00-11:00AM MST**

Chair-based seated and standing toning/strengthening exercises. Use of hand weights, resistance bands, and/or exercise balls optional. Modifiable for a variety of fitness levels.

**Join Zoom Meeting:** <https://uiidaho.zoom.us/j/85143098244>  
**Meeting ID:** 851 4309 8244  
**Passcode:** 693155

**Suggested Equipment**  
 Resistance bands  
 1-6-pound weights  
 7-9-inch exercise ball

The University of Idaho does not discriminate in education or employment on the basis of human differences, as required by state and federal laws. Reasonable accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities and special needs who contact Laurs first at least two weeks prior to the event at 561 W. Oneida, Pocatello, ID 83203; 208-852-3977; laurs@uiidaho.edu



## The Meaningful Marketplace Podcast

The Meaningful Marketplace podcast brings listeners inspiring and insightful conversations with food entrepreneurs from the Northwest and Rocky Mountain Region. Each week, host Sarah Masoni, joined by a rotating local food system leader co-host, dives deep into the stories behind the businesses, exploring the unique journeys, challenges, and triumphs of individuals shaping the local food industry.

Here is the list of Idaho businesses that have been featured on the podcast: [Northern Latitude Foods](#), [Ballard Cheese](#), [Free Spirits Beverage Company](#), [Roots Potato Chips](#), [Oma & Poppy's](#), [Snackdivist Foods](#), [Hummuna Hummus](#), [Dilly's Pickled Veggies](#), & [Hillside Grain](#).

**Scan QR code to listen:**





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## Spring 2026 FARM FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

February 25, March 4, 11, 18  
7-8 PM MT | VIRTUAL

Join UI Extension for a Farm Financial Analysis class. Weekly instructional videos allow you to pause, rewind and apply the steps to your own company independently. Then we meet virtually as a group to answer questions and dive deeper into using these tools in your own business. Participants need access to a computer, internet and Microsoft Excel. Course links and related documents will be provided upon registration.

Topics covered include:

- Production Records
- Balance Sheets
- Income Statements
- Cash Flow, Enterprise and Partial Budgeting
- Farm Financial Analysis

Approved for FSA beginning borrower training.

**COST: \$100/FARM UNIT**

**REGISTER: 208-529-1390 OR BONNEVILLE@UIDAHO.EDU**

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# Equine Education Class



Join us! For a night of equine education.

Subjects:

- Equine Nutrition
- First Aid
- Biosecurity



### Where?

Rexburg, Idaho

VFW Building

480 W 2<sup>nd</sup> N, Rexburg, ID

### When?

February 11<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-8:00 pm

Free! RSVP requested, not required.

RSVP through QR code or email

[sdavila@uidaho.edu](mailto:sdavila@uidaho.edu)



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## PRACTICAL FARM AND RANCH FINANCIAL RECORDS

February 23, March 2, 9, 16 | 7-8 p.m. MT | Virtual

A beginner's guide to financial record keeping for your farm or ranch.

Course will cover:

Basic Accounting | Setting up a Company File | Customizing Your Chart of Accounts  
Recording Transactions | Creating an Income Statement | Balance Sheets |  
Budgeting and More!

This class will follow a virtual hybrid format. Weekly instructional videos allow you to pause, rewind and apply the steps to your own company file independently. Then we meet virtually as a group to answer questions and dive deeper into using these tools in your own business.

Class does NOT include accounting software. Participants are expected to have their own accounting system. Course links will be provided upon registration completion.

Approved for FSA beginning borrower training.

**Register:** 208-529-1390 or [bonneville@uidaho.edu](mailto:bonneville@uidaho.edu)

**Cost:** \$100 per farm unit

**Questions?** Ron Patterson, [rpatterson@uidaho.edu](mailto:rpatterson@uidaho.edu) or 208-529-1390



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## Join University of Idaho Extension for FALL & WINTER AGRICULTURE WORKSHOPS

**Practical Farm and Ranch Financial Records**  
Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27 | Online | \$100 per farm unit  
Contact Ron Patterson [rpatterson@uidaho.edu](mailto:rpatterson@uidaho.edu) | 208-529-1390.

**Farm Financial Analysis**  
Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29 | Online | \$100 per farm unit  
Contact Ron Patterson [rpatterson@uidaho.edu](mailto:rpatterson@uidaho.edu) | 208-529-1390.

**Beef Quality Assurance Certification & Training**  
Oct. 21 | Challis | FREE  
Contact Sarah Baker [sfbaker@uidaho.edu](mailto:sfbaker@uidaho.edu) | 208-879-2344.

**Beef School**  
Oct. 27 | Mackay | FREE  
Contact Sarah Baker [sfbaker@uidaho.edu](mailto:sfbaker@uidaho.edu) | 208-879-2344.

**Virtual Pesticide Applicator Training**  
Dec. 3 | Online | FREE  
Contact Tom Jacobson [tjacobsen@uidaho.edu](mailto:tjacobsen@uidaho.edu) | 208-624-3102.

**Introduction to Backyard Beekeeping**  
Dec. 3, 10 | Online | \$75  
Contact Jennifer Werler [jwerler@uidaho.edu](mailto:jwerler@uidaho.edu) | 208-776-8235.

**Agriculture Entrepreneurship: Farm and Food Business Planning**  
Jan.-April | Online | Cost TBD  
Contact Jennifer Werler [jwerler@uidaho.edu](mailto:jwerler@uidaho.edu) | 208-776-8235.

**High-Altitude Idaho Master Gardener Program**  
Jan.-Sept. | Hybrid | \$175  
Contact Jennifer Werler [jwerler@uidaho.edu](mailto:jwerler@uidaho.edu) | 208-776-8235.

**Winter School**  
Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27 & Feb. 3 | Online | FREE  
Contact Shannon Williams [shannonw@uidaho.edu](mailto:shannonw@uidaho.edu) | 208-742-8800.

**Idaho Rangeland Livestock Symposium**  
Jan. 8 | Grace | FREE  
Contact Scott Johnson [sjohns@uidaho.edu](mailto:sjohns@uidaho.edu) or jfhatch@uidaho.edu.

**Idaho Master Gardener Online Program**  
Jan. 14, 21, 28; Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25; March 4, 11, 18, 25; April 1 | Online | \$200  
Contact Ron Patterson [rpatterson@uidaho.edu](mailto:rpatterson@uidaho.edu) or lalibon@uidaho.edu.

**Discoveries in Agriculture**  
Feb. 16 | Rexburg | FREE  
Contact Jared Gibbons [jaredg@uidaho.edu](mailto:jaredg@uidaho.edu) | 208-356-3181.

**East Idaho Cereals Conference**  
Feb. 4 | Fort Hall | Cost TBD  
Contact Justin Hatch [jfhatch@uidaho.edu](mailto:jfhatch@uidaho.edu) | 208-547-3205.

**Upper Valley Soil Health Forum**  
March 4 | Rexburg | \$40  
Contact Jared Gibbons [jaredg@uidaho.edu](mailto:jaredg@uidaho.edu) | 208-356-3181.

**Preston Forage School**  
March 5 | Preston | \$10  
Contact Shannon Williams [shannonw@uidaho.edu](mailto:shannonw@uidaho.edu) | 208-862-1087.

**Virtual Pesticide Applicator Training**  
March 11 | Online | FREE  
Contact Tom Jacobson [tjacobsen@uidaho.edu](mailto:tjacobsen@uidaho.edu) | 208-624-3102.

Workshop and Symposium fees include admission to the event. The University of Idaho is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and educational institution. We offer our programs to persons regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, sexual orientation, or disability. Persons with disabilities have the right to request reasonable accommodations. Please complete the accommodations form found at [uidaho.edu](http://uidaho.edu) at least two weeks prior to the event.



## First Quarter 4-H Year Update – February 2026

By Abby Grundler, Teton County 4-H Coordinator

Featured Photos: Top Row Paisley Hansen, Jaysten Grover, Tristan Montesano  
Bottom Row Dusty Cannon, Graclyn Beard, Jackson Loudenslager

The first quarter of the 2025–2026 4-H year has officially come and gone, and it has been a strong and productive start. Enrollment has remained steady, and Teton County 4-H is currently at **77% of our enrollment goal of 300 youth**. This includes **182 youth enrolled through ZSuite** and an additional **50 youth participating in 4-H programming through ABC**.

We are also pleased to report progress in volunteer leadership. We are currently at **53% of our volunteer leader goal**, with **new leaders signing up this year** and many **tenured leaders continuing to re-enroll**. Your commitment makes it possible for our clubs to thrive.

Clubs across the county are meeting weekly, and youth are actively purchasing livestock projects and preparing for the upcoming fair season. Please be sure to mark your calendars — **the 2026 Teton Valley Fair will take place July 25 through August 1**. With the fair dates moving earlier this year, the **Teton County 4-H Livestock Committee will meet on February 3** to discuss schedules and make recommendations related to livestock events. We are looking forward to another successful livestock year.

The Teton County **4-H Leader Council will meet on February 10, from 6-7:30 PM** to continue discussions around fair dates and finalize schedules as we prepare to bring recommendations to the **Teton County Fair Board meeting on February 11, from 7–9 PM at the County Courthouse**. Leader Council is made up of active 4-H members 14 and older, and all active 4-H volunteer leaders. Club members younger than 14, parents and friends of 4-H are invited to attend all Leader Council meetings.

I would like to extend a sincere thank you to all 4-H youth, leaders, and families who participated in the **January 14 Fair Board meeting** and the **special meeting on January 20**. While attendance at Fair Board meetings is not mandatory, it is an important opportunity for the 4-H voice to be heard. I commend those who spoke for the **respectful, dignified, and thoughtful manner** in which you represented your clubs, our program, and the greater community.

As a reminder, participation in Idaho 4-H is a **privilege and an honor**. The Idaho 4-H Code of Conduct outlines the expectations for youth, parents, and volunteers to ensure a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment. All participants are expected to:

- Act with courtesy, cooperation, and respect toward others
- Communicate openly and honestly
- Uphold the dignity, safety, and well-being of all individuals
- Follow county and state 4-H policies and guidelines
- Treat animals humanely and practice ethical animal care
- Promote inclusion and equal opportunity

Serve as positive role models at all times  
Violations of the Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action, up to and including removal from 4-H activities.

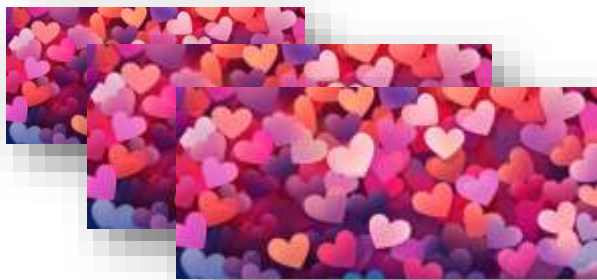
4-H has a long history of developing youth leadership, character, and responsibility. Together, we continue to **make the best better** and prepare youth to be **Beyond Ready**.



Reece Adams, Maddie Smaellie



Taggart LaTorre



## FEBRUARY

2nd Cloverbud STEAM Club 3:30-4:45 PM

3rd ABC Afterschool Victor

- Livestock Committee Meeting 6-7:30

4th ABC Afterschool Driggs

- Craft Club Meeting 4:15-5:30 PM

5th STEAM Club Afterschool 4-5:15 PM

6th STEAM Club Friday 10-12 PM

9th Swine Meeting 6-8 PM

- Cloverbud STEAM Club 3:30-4:45

10th ABC Afterschool Victor

- Leader Council Meeting 6-7:30 PM

11th ABC Afterschool Driggs

- Craft Club Meeting 4:15-5:30 PM

- Fair Board Meeting 7-9 PM

12th STEAM Club Afterschool 4-5:15

13th STEAM Club Friday 10-12 PM

14th Happy Valentine Day

14-16 Know Your Government Boise

16th Presidents Day Office Closed

- Photography Club Meeting 6:30-8:30

18th Craft Club 4:15-5:30

- Sadow Riders Horse Club 6-8:30 PM

23rd Cloverbud STEAM Club 3:30-4:45

24th ABC Afterschool Victor

25th ABC Afterschool Driggs

- Craft Club Meeting 4:15-5:30 PM

26th STEAM Club Afterschool 4-5:15 PM

27th STEAM Club Friday 10-12 PM

## MARCH



2nd Cloverbud STEAM Club 3:30-4:45 PM

3rd ABC Afterschool Victor

4th ABC Afterschool Driggs

- Craft Club Meeting 4:15-5:30 PM

5th STEAM Club Afterschool 4-5:15 PM

6th STEAM Club Friday 10-12 PM

7th Beef Weigh-in 9-10 AM Fairgrounds

8th Daylight Saving Time Begins

9th Swine Meeting 6-8 PM

- Cloverbud STEAM Club 3:30-4:45

10th ABC Afterschool Victor

11th ABC Afterschool Driggs

- Craft Club Meeting 4:15-5:30 PM

- Fair Board Meeting 7-9 PM

12th STEAM Club Afterschool 4-5:15

13th STEAM Club Friday 10-12 PM

16th Cloverbud STEAM Club 3:30-4:45

- Hiking Club 4:30-5:30

- Photography Club Meeting 6:30-8:30

17th ABC Afterschool Victor

Happy St. Patrick's Day

18th ABC Afterschool Driggs

- Craft Club 4:15-5:30

- Sadow Riders Horse Club 6-8:30 PM

19th STEAM Club Afterschool 4-5:15

20th STEAM Club Friday 10-12 PM

23rd Cloverbud STEAM Club 3:30-4:45

- Swine Meeting 6-8 PM

24th ABC Afterschool Victor

25th ABC Afterschool Driggs

26th STEAM Club Afterschool 4-5:15 PM

27th STEAM Club Friday 10-12 PM

March 27-April 5

SPRING BREAK



# 4-H STEM CORPS INSTRUCTOR

at

## TETON COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE

### POSITION DETAILS

- SERVICE COMMITMENT
- 450 HOURS 16 WEEKS 25-30 HOURS PER WEEK
- DRIGGS, IDAHO
- APPLY BY APRIL 20TH

### BENEFITS

- EARN A LIVING ALLOWANCE!
- \$6,200.00 PAID IN ALLOTMENTS OF \$775.00 EVERY TWO WEEKS
- GET MONEY FOR SCHOOL!
  - EARN EDUCATIONAL AWARD \$1,956.35
- PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
- NETWORKING

### WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

#### TEACHING STEAM DAY CAMPS OFFERED:

- AGRICULTURE
- ROBOTICS
- LEGO
- ART
- MUSIC



**University of Idaho**  
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**4-H STEM**  
CORPS



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Idaho

**serve**  
**IDAHO**

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# TETON COUNTY 4-H STEAM CLUB

SCIENCE. TECHNOLOGY. ENGINEERING. ART. MATHEMATICS

STEAM CLUB WILL MEET IN 3 BLOCKS THIS YEAR.

## MEETING TIMES

- THURSDAYS 4:00-5:15 PM (AFTERSCHOOL)
- FRIDAYS 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

ALL MEETINGS HELD AT THE UI EXTENSION OFFICE: 445 N. MAIN, DRIGGS

BLOCK 2 BEGINS **FRIDAY JANUARY 16<sup>TH</sup>** WITH A COMBINED  
AFTERSCHOOL AND FRIDAY SESSION 10-12 PM

JANUARY 22 & 23

JANUARY 29 & 30

FEBRUARY 5 & 6

FEBRUARY 12 & 13



BLOCK 3 DATES:

FEBRUARY 26 & 27

MARCH 5 & 6

MARCH 12 & 13

MARCH 19 & 20

MARCH 26 & 27

## 2026 AG-ROBOTICS COMPETITION VET-BOT CHALLENGE

PRACTICE DATES:

APRIL 10, 17, 24: 10-12 PM

MAY 1, 15, 22: 10-12 PM



University of Idaho  
Extension



Think creatively, collaborate, and solve problems





# ALPINE CAMP FUNDRAISER

FUNDS WILL BE USED TOWARDS  
NEW BATHROOM'S AND TO  
REPLACE/REPAIR THE CABIN ROOFS

FUNDS CAN BE SENT TO: ALPINE 4-H CAMP INC.  
561 W ONEIDA ST, PRESTON, ID 83263

YOU CAN PAY BY ZEFFY THROUGH THE QR CODE OR  
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO ALPINE 4-H CAMP

FOR ANY QUESTIONS CALL THE BINGHAM COUNTY 4-H OFFICE  
AT (208) 785-8060



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# LifeSmarts

*Learn it. Live it.*

## State Competition 2026



**Date: February 21st**  
**Team Check-In: 2:00 pm**  
**Contest Begins: 2:30 pm**  
**Location:**  
**Bonneville County Fairgrounds**  
**1542 East 73<sup>rd</sup> S. Idaho Falls**

**Register your team today on ZSuite!**

**Questions: [pwray@uidaho.edu](mailto:pwray@uidaho.edu)**

The University of Idaho has a policy of nondiscrimination on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), national origin (ancestry), sex, age, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, pregnancy, disability, marital status, genetic information, or status as any protected veteran or military status. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication, program information, or reasonable accommodations to participate in University of Idaho Extension 4-H Youth Development programs need to complete and submit this form (pdf) to the University of Idaho Center for Disability Access and Resources (CDAR) at least two weeks prior to the event. Submit this electronic request form by sending the application and documentation to Center for Disability Access and Resources, 875 Perimeter Drive Moscow, ID 83844-4257, [cdar@uidaho.edu](mailto:cdar@uidaho.edu), phone 208-885-6307, fax 208-885-9404



# Beyond Ready





**University of Idaho**  
Extension



**2026**

**National Teen Events**

[www.uidaho.edu/extension/4h/events](http://www.uidaho.edu/extension/4h/events)

Airfare not included



**MAR  
25-29**

**Ignite by 4-H**

Registration \$1200 open July 15-Aug. 15, 2025

Youth must be at least 14 by January 1, 2026

\$600 scholarships available

WASHINGTON, DC



**SEPT  
27-30**

**National 4-H Dairy Conference**

Registration \$1000 open April 15-June 1, 2026

Must be at least 15 by January 1 and have two years of Dairy 4-H Projects

MADISON, WI



**NOV 27  
-DEC 1**

**National 4-H Congress**

Registration \$1100 open May 15-July 1, 2026

Youth in grades 10-12

ATLANTA, GA

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**CONTACT:**

**Mike Knutz** [mknutz@uidaho.edu](mailto:mknutz@uidaho.edu)

**Teresa Tverdy** [ttverdy@uidaho.edu](mailto:ttverdy@uidaho.edu)

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# IDAHO 4-H



## KNOW YOUR GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE

February 14-16, 2026

Boise, Idaho

### Youth Experience

#### Open to youth in grades 8 to 10

*(2 years total unless selected to serve on the Steering Committee)*

Participants in the Legislative Workshop learn about the state government decision-making process by participating in mock committee meetings with guidance from legislators at the Capitol, then participating in a mock legislative session.

Participants in the Judicial Workshop learn about the Idaho court system, how laws affect teenagers, and participate in mock trials held at the Ada County courthouse. They take tours of the Supreme Court building and visit with judges and attorneys.

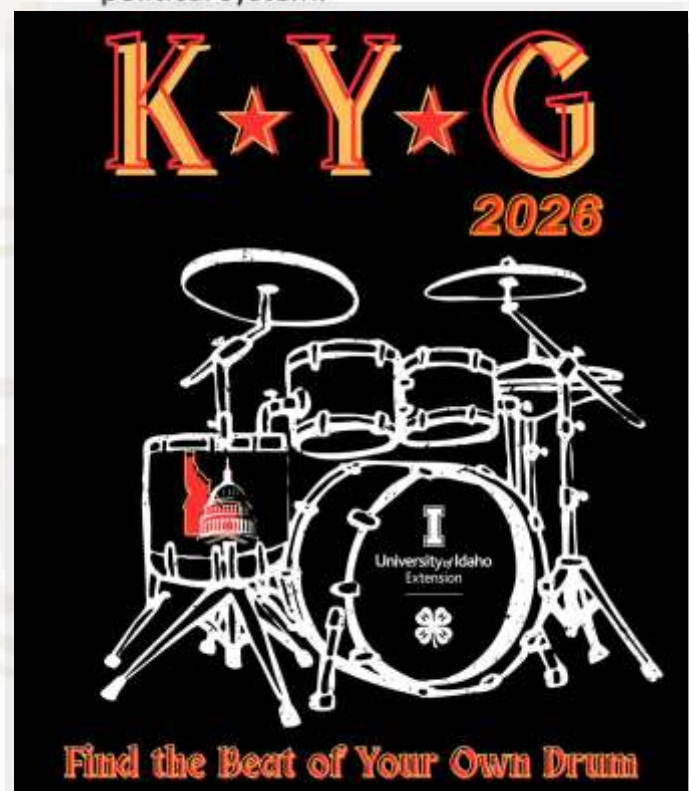
- Learn how the state government decision-making process works.
- Learn how teens can participate politically to influence state government.

Action to improve communities requires knowledge of government and how it works. Join 4-H'ers from across the state to see our government in action.



### Mission

- Provide 4-H members with an opportunity to become knowledgeable about the decision-making process in their communities and state. This strengthens the connection between youth and our political system.



Attending KYG for Teton County:

Macy Culbertson

Baier Culbertson

**Learn Everywhere with 4-H**

University of Idaho Extension

**Earn High School Credit**

**Build Life Skills**

- ✓ Leadership
- ✓ Professionalism
- ✓ Civic Responsibility
- ✓ Teamwork

**Do More With 4-H**

LEARN MORE

[learneverwhere@uidaho.edu](mailto:learneverwhere@uidaho.edu)

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## LEARN EVERYWHERE WITH 4-H

**Opportunity for high school credit. Enrollment opens: January 1, 2026**

[Learn Everywhere with 4-H](#)

Learn Everywhere in Idaho gives students in grades 7–12 enrolled in public, charter, and online public schools the opportunity to earn high school credit for their 4-H experiences.

Through this program, students enroll in an online course and combine a 4-H project, such as Animal Science or Know Your Government, with lessons written by University of Idaho Extension Educators.

Students complete a minimum of 60 hours of learning, including hands-on project work, a record book, a demonstration of skills, and an interview, along with learning activities that support college and career readiness.

Upon successful completion, participating Idaho schools award high school credit, which is recorded directly on the student's official transcript.

### Interested....

Contact the **Learn Everywhere with 4-H team** or your local University of Idaho Extension office (**Teton County 208-776-8235 ask for Abby**) to learn more about:

- earning school credit
- enrolling in an approved course
- helping your school to be a participating high school

Email: [learneverwhere@uidaho.edu](mailto:learneverwhere@uidaho.edu)

# IDAHO 4-H INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

Thank you to all counties with Outbound delegates, we are excited to be sending four delegates abroad this summer! Host family applications are open for families interested in hosting a delegate this summer!

## UPDATES



## WANT MORE EXCHANGE STUDENTS IN YOUR COUNTY?

Contact: Courtney Reimers  
Email: [creimers@uidaho.edu](mailto:creimers@uidaho.edu)

Application link:  
[states4hexchange.org/apply/host](https://states4hexchange.org/apply/host)



## PROGRAMS

### INBOUND

WE ARE LOOKING FOR 13 IDAHO FAMILIES TO HOST JAPANESE DELEGATES THIS SUMMER!

JAPAN EXCHANGE DATES:  
JULY 21- AUGUST 18

FAMILIES WHO APPLIED FIRST WILL HAVE THE FIRST PICK OF DELEGATES AFTER BIOS ARE RELEASED IN FEBRUARY.

### OUTBOUND

CONGRATULATIONS!  
PAYETTE COUNTY  
GEM COUNTY  
TETON COUNTY  
KOOTENAI COUNTY

EACH COUNTY HAS ONE DELEGATE APPLIED TO GO OUTBOUND THIS SUMMER!

### SHOUT OUT

THANK YOU, BEYOND READY AND 4-H STEM ON THE STREETS FOR ALLOWING US TO SPEAK ABOUT THE 4-H EXCHANGE PROGRAMS TO YOUR YOUTH!

VIDEO HERE:  
[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/KI0KOSSPBSC](https://youtu.be/KI0KOSSPBSC)

# NATIONAL 4-H HISTORY PRESERVATION

## SHARE YOUR 4-H HISTORY

Do you have a 4-H History Story to share?

Send your articles to:

[Editor@4-HHistory.com](mailto:Editor@4-HHistory.com)

Submissions should be approximately 500 words.



### **CALL TO ACTION: SEEKING 4-H HISTORY STORIES!**

Do you have a story to share?

Submit for the National 4-H History Preservation newsletter.

[Editor@4-HHistory.com](mailto:Editor@4-HHistory.com) - 500 words max.



## You're Invited: National 4-H History Preservation Orientation

### Help Preserve the 4-H Story

#### Dear State 4-H Program Leaders and Friends of the National 4-H History Preservation Program,

We are pleased to share three opportunities in 2026 to learn more about the work of the National 4-H History Preservation Team, explore ways to preserve 4-H history at the local and state levels, and learn about partnerships and models states are using to ensure 4-H's legacy is preserved.

**All orientation sessions will be conducted via Zoom from 2:00–3:00 p.m. ET.**

Please register for the session(s) you plan to attend. Zoom links will be emailed prior to each session to those who are registered. Sessions will be recorded and shared following each event.

### Orientation Session Schedule

**Wednesday, January 21, 2026**

*Register by January 16, 2026*

An overview of the history of the National 4-H History Preservation Team, current activities, and an opportunity for participants to share their interest in—and work related to—preserving 4-H history.

#### **Wednesday, February 18, 2026**

*Register by February 13, 2026*

**“When in Doubt, Don’t Throw It Out”** — A look at the many ways 4-H history can be preserved at the local and state levels, along with practical resources you can use.

#### **Wednesday, March 18, 2026**

*Register by March 13, 2026*

Learn from colleagues about partnerships for preserving 4-H history and explore models being used in Minnesota, Georgia, and other states.

### Stay Connected

Please review the following resources prior to the orientation sessions to familiarize yourself with the National 4-H History Preservation efforts:

### National 4-H History Preservation Team Website:

<https://4-h.org/about/history/>

### National 4-H History Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/4H.History/>

### “The Bridge” Newsletter:

<https://4-hhistorypreservation.com/Newsletter/>

Whether you are just beginning to think about preserving 4-H history or are already actively engaged in this work, these sessions offer valuable insights, resources, and connections. We look forward to learning together and strengthening our collective efforts to preserve the 4-H story.

Sincerely,

*The National 4-H History Preservation Team*



Scan QR Code to Register

# EXTENSION UPDATE

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### REGISTRATION 4-H 2025-2026 YEAR

Now Open [4h.zsuite.org](http://4h.zsuite.org)

### 4-H LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE MEETING

March 3, 2026 6:00 PM

### LEADER COUNCIL MEETING

February 10, 2026 UI Extension Office 6:00-7:30 PM

### AG ENTREPRENEURSHIP COURSE

January 13,-March 10th See flier page 4

### FAIR BOARD MEETING

February 11th Teton County Courthouse 7 PM

### 4-H STEAM CLUB

February 5, 6, 12, 13, 26, 27 See Flier Page 11

### ABC AFTERSCHOOL VES/DES

program February 3, 4, 10, 11, 24, 25 Victor Elementary and Driggs Elementary

### KNOW YOUR GOVERNMENT FEBRUARY 14-16

See flier page 15

UI EXTENSION TETON COUNTY CLOSED February 16th- Presidents Day

### MASTER GARDENER COURSE

January 29, 2026-September 30, 2026 see flier page 3

### FALL WINTER AG WORKSHOPS

See flier page 7

### TETON FARM AND COALITION MEETING

February 25, 2026 In person strategic planning meeting UI Extension office at 445 North Main Street Driggs, Idaho 11am-1:15 pm Register: <https://uidaho.zoom.us/meeting/register/>

## CONTACT US

### UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO EXTENSION, TETON COUNTY

#### Mailing Address:

150 Courthouse Dr. #208. Driggs, ID 83422

#### Physical Address:

445 N. Main St., Driggs, ID. 83422

Phone: 208-776-8235

Email: [teton@uidaho.edu](mailto:teton@uidaho.edu)

Web: <https://www.uidaho.edu/extension/county/teton/4-h>

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