REMINDERS

4-H Mini Gardens should be up and growing! Garden visits will be set up during June & July. We look forward to seeing your wonderful gardens!

Happy Birthday NC 4-H! 100 years & growing!!

West District Activity Day (DAD): Will be hosted by Buncombe County on June 23rd at AC Reynolds High School, 1 Rocket Drive, Asheville, NC 28803.

Fairbooks are available for the second annual Madison County Fair set for October 7-10.

4-H Congress 2009

If you are 4-Her at least 12 years old or older (as of January 1st) and have never been to the North Carolina 4-H Congress, this is your year to go! In addition to traditional Congress events, there will also be many events to celebrate the 100th year of 4-H in North Carolina.

Centennial Celebration: This year we will have many exciting events taking place around the Centennial including a birthday party on Tuesday night. If youth are registered to attend all week or Monday and Tuesday night, the birthday party is included in their registration. More information about the Centennial celebration will be shared later.

4-H Congress is July 20-24, 2009 in Raleigh, NC. 4-Her’s will be staying on NC State’s campus. The cost is as follows: Full time (Monday-Friday) registration is $250. There are also two part time options. Option 1 is $125 and you have the option of spending Monday *or* Tuesday night. Option 2 is $140 and youth will be able to stay *both* Monday and Tuesday nights.

Please call Eve Kindley or Vickie Burick at 649-2411 to register by June 26th. Please remember that Madison County 4-Her’s interested in attending are required to give a presentation at County level prior to the event.
**County Activity Night**

Madison County Activity Night was held on Thursday, May 28, 2009. 4-H members from several clubs met at the Extension Office for a night of fantastic presentations. The evening began with a team presentation on The United States Department of Peace by Mira Watkins-Brown and Devin Wickel, members of the Honeycomb 4-H Club. Next up were members of the All-Stars 4-H Club Grant Willsie, Riana Willsie, Kaitlyn Young, and Kathryn Young, who gave individual and team presentations on Earth and the Environment. Lauren Hooks, Mustangs 4-H club member, delivered a power point presentation on Natural Horsemanship. It was a fun and informative evening! Thanks so much to the youth who participated—we are truly impressed with the great public speaking skills demonstrated at this event!

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**Super Sitter Babysitting Program**

If you are 11-16 and interested in babysitting this summer, make plans to attend Extension’s Super Sitter Babysitting Program! This three day class will cover all aspects of babysitting from basic first aid, ages and stages, basic child development, preparing healthy snacks and lunches, doing business and much more. Snacks and lunch will be provided each day. Class is limited to 12 students so sign up early to guarantee your spot!

**Instructors:** Eve Kindley, Extension Agent, 4-H and Youth Development and Sue Estridge, Extension Agent, Family and Consumer Sciences

**When:** June 29, 30 and July 1

**Where:** Madison County Extension Center

**Time:** 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**Cost:** $ 25

To request a registration form, please call Madison County Cooperative Extension at 649-2411.
Are you registered for 4-H Camp at the Swannanoa 4-H Center this summer? Please contact Eve Kindley at 649-2411 to reserve your spot today. Madison County youth will be attending 4-H Junior Camp from July 5-10. It’s going to be a blast!

Here’s a campfire recipe to get you in the mood for summer fun:

**Campfire Banana Splits**

“Kids love these sweet banana splits, made in foil packets and heated over the coals of a backyard campfire or baked in the oven at your next slumber party. Get creative and add peanut butter chips, coconut, butterscotch or caramel.

**Ingredients:**
- 6 large bananas, unpeeled, stems removed
- 2 cups semisweet chocolate chips
- 1 (10.5 ounce) package miniature marshmallows

**Cooking Instructions**
1. Preheat the grill for high heat.
2. Spray 4 sheets of aluminum foil, large enough to wrap bananas, with cooking spray.
3. Slice the peel of the banana from stem to bottom, while slicing the banana inside lengthwise. The bananas can be cut into slices instead if you like, (while still in the peel) for easier handling later.
4. Carefully open the banana just wide enough to place the chocolate chips and marshmallows inside the peel with the banana. Stuff with as much of the chocolate chips and marshmallows as desired.
5. Wrap the bananas with the aluminum foil and place on the grill or directly in the coals of a fire. Leave in long enough to melt the chips and the marshmallows, about 5 minutes. Unwrap bananas, open the peels wide, and eat with a spoon.”

(www.kidsdomain.com)

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**Father’s Day Maze**

Help the kids find their dad and give him a Father’s Day hug

[maze image]

Happy Father’s Day

Maze by Katherine Sylvan, Icons by Yuki
There’s a pest in our region that is causing quite a stir with our Hemlock tree population. Members of the Roots & Shoots 4-H Club headed out for a service project in late May to help Forest Service workers fight back against the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid. We look forward to hearing about their experience. Here’s a little background information for those who may not be familiar with this troublesome insect:

“The hemlock woolly adelgid is a small (1/32 inch), reddish-purple, aphid-like insect that covers itself with a white, fluffy secretion. Some adults have two pairs of wings. Their mouthparts are thread-like and about 1/16 inch long and used to suck sap. Sucking sap from young twigs slows or prevents tree growth and causes needles to turn grayish-green, and drop prematurely. The loss of new shoots and needles is highly detrimental to a tree’s health. A tree may defoliate (lose its leaves) and die within several years.

Eggs are brownish-orange and are hidden within the white, fluffy secretion. When the eggs hatch, flat, reddish-brown adelgid crawlers move about actively. Once the crawlers settle, they become black with a white fringe around the edge and down the center of the back. Young adelgids live on twigs or at the bases of old needles. They soon secrete a white, fluffy "wool" that completely covers their body. The wingless nymphs resemble adults but are smaller. Infested branches become covered with circular, fluffy, white blobs.

**Biology:** The hemlock woolly adelgid only survives on hemlock (Tsuga sp.). This is an extremely damaging pest of hemlock. This insect is thought to have been transported to North America from the Orient. It has been known in the Pacific Northwest since 1927. In recent years, hemlock woolly adelgid was found in the Northeastern US where it has become a severe pest. It was first reported in North Carolina in 1995. In 2005, surveys show that hemlock woolly adelgid is known to be in most of the counties where Tsuga sp. is found. Infested hemlocks become covered with dirty white globs of cottony puffs. Infested trees shed needles prematurely and may die eventually. Natural stands of hemlock are at greatest risk for death. Landscape plantings may need treatment if infested.

**Control:** The hemlock woolly adelgid is a difficult insect to control because the fluffy white secretion protects its eggs from pesticides. The insecticidal soaps and the horticultural oils seem to be very effective for adelgid control with minimal harm to natural predators and parasites of this pest. Trees that are heavily infested and are showing symptoms of decline should probably be sprayed [chemically].

Researchers with NCSU, in cooperation with the NC Dept. Agriculture and Consumer Services, are conducting biological control strategies using releases of a tiny Japanese lady beetle in hopes of reducing the damage this pest causes to hemlocks. Laricobius nigrinus, a native beetle from western North America is being tested.”

James R. Baker, Extension Entomologist (emeritus)
Stephen Bambara, Extension Entomologist
Robert C. Baldwin, NCDA&CS Plant Industry
(www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/ent/notescs/O&T/trees/note119/note119.html)

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**Madison County Fairbooks**

The Madison County Fair is set for October 7-10 but you can pick up your fairbook today. We have added more contests and activities this year with lots of fun and exciting categories. Last year, 4-H played a major role in the fair with great participation, but as always, we would like to see even more 4-Her’s this year. Fairbooks are available at the Extension Office, you can stop in for one or call us at 649-2411 and we will be happy to mail you one.
Club News

(Please send by snail mail or email to Vickie_burick@ncsu.edu by the 20th of every month)

Mountain Laurel 4-H Club: The most recent meeting of the Mountain Laurel 4-H Club was held on April 27th. 13 people attended the meeting. The pledges were led by Lucas Cody and Anna Farlessyost. They then broke up into groups. The 9-18 year olds learned about Exotic Animals with Sue Mickey. The 5-9 year olds did Pet Care with Jenny Miller. Refreshments were provided by the Farlessyosts. The next meeting will be on May 25th. The 5-8 year olds will be doing Gardening with Jeanette Jenkins and the 9-18 year olds will be doing Modern Dance with Brianna and Grace Mickey and Sylas Owen.

Submitted by: Case Cody, Reporter

Mars Hill 4-H All-Stars: April 14, 2009 Minutes “Play and Plan Meeting”: We met in April during Spring Break and had a great time playing indoor games on a rainy day. We practiced our strategy and thinking skills as well as our sportsmanship (thanks Hannahlynn). For our business meeting, Grace Emerson said the pledge, Kathryn Young was the president, Kaitlyn Young was the secretary. For new business and our program, Ms. Julie Young explained what 4-H Madison County Activity Night (Thur., 5/28) was. Grace and Amber E. represented our club last year when they demonstrated how to weave (last year’s service project for Mars Hill Retirement Community). We all brainstormed possible topics to present on 5/28 as a club and discussed what we know about presentations. We decided to present how to help our environment after our May meeting with Ms. Tamara Willsie. After a lemon ice box cake snack provided by Kaitlyn and Kathryn, we dismissed.

May 12, 2009 Minutes “Going Green to Save our Environment Meeting”: The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Riana Willsie. She introduced the Program Speaker, Ms. Tamara Willsie (Mom). Tamara told us how the earth is just like our home and we need to take care of it. “We have only 1 earth; we can’t just grow another one”, she said. She asked us to think of ways to help and go green. Riana and Tanner said to limit driving and ride a bike or carpool when you can. Grace Emerson said at their house they are raising chickens now. The group suggested planting trees to help re-build especially with all the new construction going on. Also, we all agreed recycling helps; most of us do it some. Next, Riana read a poem “Earth Day” by Jane Yolen. Our group discussed the poem means earth is like a person who needs natural things. Like people, it is fragile. Grant Willsie shared a great resource, his book Environmental Disaster Kit. After talking about what a carbon footprint is, Tamara divided us into 2 teams for the Decomposition Game. We had fun and learned while we tried to figure out how long common objects, such as plastic water bottles and leather shoes, take to break down in landfills (some take up to 500 years or never!!!) Tamara shared the story of the boy who tried to save the starfish but thought he couldn’t do it all himself. But even one can make a difference . . . While we enjoyed a healthy and environmentally friendly snack (fruit and cheese on washable snack trays) provided by Nancy, Grace, and Amber Emerson, our group created a mini-earth mobile made from melted crayon shavings and wax paper (to remind us we are all to take good care of our earth). Last, we wrote down a pledge to help our earth on a paper leaf and shared it with the group to practice for our 5/28-club presentation. We remembered to speak loudly, clearly, and to make eye contact with our audience. We had a very memorable, enjoyable meeting!! Thanks so much, Ms. Tamara.

Submitted by: Julie Young

Roots & Shoots 4-H Club: Our May meeting was short! We discussed different projects but could not get too far as we were missing two of our officers. We did go out and measure our bluebird and butterfly native garden sites and were very happy to find out that one of our bluebird boxes has bluebirds in it! Next week we are going with the Forest Service to watch and learn about treating the hemlocks for woolly adelgids. The Farlessyosts provided a lovely snack.

Submitted by: Indigo Hollister
June 2009

2  4-H Volunteer Appreciation
15-17  4-H Citizenship Focus, Raleigh
21  Father's Day
23  West DAD (Buncombe Co. Host) @ Brevard College

* See Specialty Camp calendar for dates & details www.nc4h.org/centers

We’re on the Web!
http://madison.ces.ncsu.edu/

Eve Kindley
Extension Agent
4-H Youth Development

Vickie Burick
Program Associate
4-H Youth Development

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