



HUDSON COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER

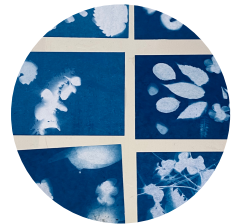
4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills.



Photos first from left: Youth with Shirley Parcon at Urban Quack; youth learning about herbs at Guttenberg Arts; youth painting affirmation boxes for Environmental Camp . Photos below: artwork made by youth at Guttenberg Arts.



4-H Hudson County Youth Urban Farm Club



For questions or more information on 4-H programs, please contact:
 Claudia Urdanivia at HUDSON4H@NJAES.RUTGERS.EDU or 201-395-4789, ext. 4229
 Visit our website: <https://HUDSON.NJAES.RUTGERS.EDU/4H/>

 Find us on Instagram: [@HUDSONCOUNTY4H](https://www.instagram.com/HudsonCounty4H)

Hudson County 4-H had quite a busy summer outdoors! Thanks to the leadership of our incredible volunteers and partners, the Youth Urban Farm Club in Hudson County was able to expand from 1 to 4 sites, which included: Historic Jersey City & Harsimus Cemetery, Urban Quack, Sgt. Anthony Park & Garden (all in Jersey City), and Guttenberg Arts. Each site had its own unique focus yet all incorporated learning agriculture and horticulture skills, and youth citizenship in helping to beautify the community. Despite of some inclement weather along the way, our youth completed anywhere from 7 to 16 hours of community service hours and earned their well-deserved certificates and 4-H pins. *We look forward to continuing our program in Summer 2022!*

Program Highlights Summer 2021

Youth Urban Farm Club (continued)

Youth Urban Farm Club offers youth the opportunity to make a difference in their community by learning about gardening while building leadership and teamwork skills. This summer, 30 youth participated in the program across 4 sites, each with its own unique focus. Urban Quack focused on animal husbandry; Guttenberg Arts on gardening, art, exploring heritage crops, and food justice lessons; Sgt. Anthony Park and Garden on caring for native and perennial plant gardens with some community service activities at a local food pantry; and Harsimus focused on vegetable and herb production.



Photos from left: Youth at Sgt. Anthony Park and Garden; youth after harvesting at Harsimus Cemetery; youth planting their raised beds at Guttenberg Arts

Summer Environmental Camp

The one-week summer in-person Environmental Camp for girls ages 9-14 was established by Hudson County 4-H and the YWCA of Northern NJ. The camp was centered on leadership and confidence-building along with hands-on learning components on ecosystems, food systems, and climate change. The program was outdoors at Washington Park and sponsored by our friends at Washington Park Association. Guest speakers included the Feminist Bird Club, 4-H STEM Ambassadors, and educator Lauren Morse. Youth were able to make observations and collect data in addition to many other hands-on activities such as making seed bombs and bird feeders. Youth also engaged in learning to identify their strengths, create affirmations, self-care activities, and appreciate the importance of diversity. *We hope to continue this program in 2022!*



4-H STEM Ambassadors

The Rutgers 4-H STEM Ambassador Program is an opportunity for teens entering 8th and 9th grade to learn about STEM, develop as a leader in their community, and prepare for college. Over the summer, Hudson County youth completed their virtual modules and met with Rutgers scientists and engineers. This fall, they will be starting their project to educate their younger peers about STEM in the community. *The application period will open again in April 2022.*

EL HUERTO URBANO SERIE VIRTUAL

**CRECIENDO HORTALIZAS
DE OTOÑO A PARTIR
DE SEMILLAS**

19 DE JULIO DE 2021
A LAS 6:30 P.M.

PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN Y PARA
REGISTRARTE VISITA:
<https://go.rutgers.edu/ry9mwd9>



El Huerto Urbano - Webinar Series in Spanish

Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Passaic County teamed up with Hudson County 4-H to present a new urban gardening webinar series in Spanish, titled "El Huerto Urbano." This series consisted of live webinars offering advice for beginner gardeners with a different gardening topic each week, such as crop planning, season extension, and compost. This series was geared towards beginners interested in learning how to grow a vegetable garden in urban spaces. We hope to expand these webinar series in Spanish in the upcoming seasons.

Fall 2021 Opportunities for Youth & Community

Teen Council

Hudson County 4-H Teen Council offers the opportunity for youth to develop leadership skills, participate in community service projects year-round, take on club officer roles, join the network of 4-H youth across the state and beyond, and lead the direction of the club regarding projects and initiatives.

Teen Council meets monthly via zoom and will conduct in-person projects.

Interested in learning more? **Attend our first Teen Council virtual meeting of the year on October 14th at 6:30 pm.**

To register for the meeting, please visit:

https://rutgers.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5cMvCPLD7Jb3Qxg

4-H STEM Challenge "Galactic Quest"

Saturday, October 9th
10am - 12noon

This program will be hosted on Zoom video and will offer an interactive experience for youth participants. All families will receive program materials prior to program date.

This program is intended for NJ youth in grades 4-9

Please register by Saturday, September 26, 2021 using this link: <https://go.rutgers.edu/cm2vu4lb>

4-H From Home and STEP CLUBS

4-H From Home continues to offer free virtual programs for youth and families! Programs include short-term workshops, virtual clubs, and summer camps. STEP Clubs are short-term exploratory programs focused on a topic (STEM, Healthy Living, etc.). STEP clubs meet multiple times over the course of several weeks virtually. Register online and visit our page for more updates.

Check out STEP Clubs here: <http://nj4h.rutgers.edu/4h-from-home/virtual-step-club.html>

Earth Day, Every Day Webinar Series

Rutgers Cooperative Extension's "Earth Day, Every Day" educational webinar series is back this fall. Open to the public, these free sessions focus on steps everyone can take to protect the environment. We can all do our part to take actions that make our homes more sustainable, from controlling invasive pests to collecting environmental data to protecting your local watershed. These actions, more than ever, start at home. Join us on zoom every Monday starting September 13th at 6:30 PM

To register or for more information, please visit:

<https://envirostewards.rutgers.edu/Earth-Day.html>



NJ will host the 2021 4-H STEM Challenge "Galactic Quest" Saturday October 9th - 10am - 12noon
This program will be hosted on Zoom video conferencing and will offer an interactive experience for youth participants. All families will receive program materials prior to program date.
This program is intended for youth in grades 4-9

Please register by Saturday, September 26, 2021 using this link: <https://go.rutgers.edu/cm2vu4lb> Or scan the QR code to register!

Program supported by: FACEBOOK We 4-H USDA SPACE FORCE

Learn more online at: 4-H.org/STEMChallenge #4HSTEMChallenge

We 4-H 4-H FROM HOME STEP CLUB

Let's Go On An AG-VENTURE!

A JOURNEY FROM FARM GATE TO PLATE TO SEE HOW FOOD AND OTHER PRODUCTS ARE MADE!

JOIN US FOR THREE DAYS OF EXPLORING THE SCIENCE OF AGRICULTURE! LEARN HOW FOOD AND OTHER ESSENTIAL PRODUCTS ARE MADE. LEARN ABOUT LIVESTOCK, CROPS, & LIFE ON A FARM THROUGH INTERACTIVE GAMES & ACTIVITIES!

MAY 18-19-20
4 PM - 5 PM
GRADES 3-6

AG-MAZING!

Register Today: NJ4H.RUTGERS.EDU/4H-FROM-HOME



Fall 2021 Opportunities for Partners and Educators

For questions or more information on 4-H programs below, please contact: Claudia Urdanivia at hudson4h@njaes.rutgers.edu or 201-395-4789, ext. 4229

TD 4-H Smart Cents Program (for Educators)

The 4-H Smart Cents program trains formal and informal educators on financial literacy and behavior and skills development for youth ages 8-13 using a "train-the-trainer" approach.

Additional FREE workshops will be offered to educators this fall. Interested districts can contact 4-H!



[Polar Literacy Initiative](#)

This spring, 4-H partnered with a school and climate scientists to explore topics of polar science. The Polar Literacy Initiative hosted youth and educators virtually, and provided opportunities for youth to "see the Arctic and Antarctica through the eyes of real polar scientists." This program was supported by NSF Grant #1906929 and will continue to be offered to out-of-school-time groups in Essex and Hudson County. **Any partners who are interested in hosting a polar science workshop for middle school-age youth can find out more information here!**

<https://polar-ice.org/polar-literacy-initiative/>

[4-H Youth Futures Peer Mentorship Program](#)

The Rutgers 4-H Youth Futures program seeks to build academic, leadership, and job readiness skills through mentorship and college exposure opportunities for youth ages 13-19. This program runs the entire school year and will provide one-on-one and small group time with college mentors. Youth will have access to Rutgers University Tours and other resources. Youth can expect to meet with their mentor once a week and attend some fun group activities such as the winter retreat and the 4-H Teen Conference in spring 2022. We are recruiting a new cohort of youth and adult mentors. Potentially interested partners can contact 4-H for more information!



4-H YOUTH FUTURES
COLLEGE WITHIN REACH



THANK YOU!

Thank you to our Funders, Volunteers, and 4-H Department!

A special note of gratitude to our adult leaders and partners from YUFC: Jill Koproski and Shirley Parcon/Urban Quack from the 4-H Advisory Board; Roxana Marroquin of Agua de Jade; Russ Spitkovsky and Matt Barteluce of Guttenberg Arts; Emily Lavallee, Alexandra Axel, Yawa Endara, and Eric Bulakites of Sgt. Anthony Park and Garden. Also, we are grateful to WPA for sponsoring our environmental camp!