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Horse Feathers – We All Flock Together (Horse & Poultry)

2019 Animal Crackers event provides NY youth with fun, hands-on, science-oriented learning experiences

The Cornell University Department of Animal Science is pleased to announce Animal Crackers 2019, "Horse Feathers - We All Flock Together (Horse and Poultry)" will take place on Saturday, May 4th, 2019 on the Cornell University campus. This year's program will highlight horse and poultry topics. 4-H youth 9-12 years old or those with beginner to intermediate knowledge of the covered species are invited to participate.

Interesting, educational, hands-on activities are planned to make Animal Crackers a memorable learning event. Participants will have the opportunity to learn about horse or poultry care, biology, and management while having fun participating in a variety of interactive activities, with 4-H'ers from across NYS.

Horse workshops include:

Heads Up! Helmet Safety and Concussion Awareness. We all know to wear **helmets and proper equine footwear**, but this workshop will present information about the why. NYS law tells us to wear a helmet when mounted on a horse if you are under age 18. Regardless of your age, your head is your most valuable body part and it needs protection. Learn to select and fit a helmet, explore styles and other safety research available on concussion **protocols**. Protocols are standard procedures in 4-H to keep you safe.

Donkeys are Different! Donkeys and mules are just a few of the equines that you can also "lease" and show in the NYS 4-H program, even if you already own and show another equine. Learn about physical features and behaviors that make donkeys unique in the **Equidae** family. Why do they **bray**? Are they naturally stubborn? What uses do donkeys serve around the world? Learn more about these fascinating and fun creatures from a Cornell donkey expert.

Neighing and Weighing Equine Body Weight. Too fat, too thin, or just right? Learn how to study a horse and learn more about basic feeding management tips to keep your horse in good condition. Learn more about body condition scoring methods and walk away with new skills and weight tapes you can use at home to practice and implement bodywork knowledge.

Hammers and Clinchers: Farrier Tools 101. What do these tools have in common? They help keep horse hooves in good shape. Trimming and balancing of horses' hooves and placing shoes on their hooves is the job of an experienced professional. Learn more from an experienced 4-Her who knows his way around these tools. Learn how to identify some common and unusual tools to help maintain a healthy horse.

Building Strong and Vibrant New York Communities

Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities and provides equal program and employment opportunities.

All Knotted Up! Do you know the difference between a **slipknot** and a **square knot**? Do you know how to tie a quick-release knot? Learn some new tricks and useful take home skills of haltering and knot tying with an experienced rodeo roper and practical equestrian.

Why is my horse itchy? Did you know that animals need dermatologists too sometimes? Have you ever seen a horse with rain rot, scratches, hives, or just itchiness? In this workshop you will learn about why the skin is such an important barrier that protects horses from the outside world, what can harm that barrier, and what you can do to keep it safe.

Poultry workshops include:

Birds of a Feather... Wait! What about body type, comb, etc.... Meat, Eggs, Fancy and more! Every breed has a unique look and purpose. In this track, we will be learning the different purposes for raising poultry and what breeds fall into each of those purposes. A few of our feathered friends will be joining us to help instruct!

Chicken Anatomy: We're going in! How does a chicken digest its food? How does it lay an egg almost every day? In this workshop, we will take an exciting look inside a chicken to learn about the digestive and reproductive systems that make them the amazing creatures they are! You will learn how chickens, which do not have teeth like us, grind down their food. You will also learn how the reproductive system is like a factory assembly line, almost always at work to deliver you that next fresh egg! Time to put on your surgery gloves, because we are going in!

Chicken Food: Feeling Peckish? Have you ever wondered what's in chicken food? What do chickens eat for snacks and treats? How can we feed them so that they stay happy and healthy? This workshop will explore the chicken diet - what types of nutrients are necessary, and how these requirements change throughout the layer hen's life. To apply our new knowledge of balanced diets, we will also be measuring out and creating our own nutritious snack mix (but one meant for humans of course!). Let's make some egg-cellent diets.

Coop Costs and other expenses: Join an American Poultry Association Judge Apprentice and an experienced teen leader as they share from experience what is needed to raise birds and the costs of keeping birds safe and healthy from chick to chicken.

Biosecurity for Small Flocks: Join our NY avian veterinary specialist and learn about biosecurity, the first line of defense for preventing diseases from entering your farm and spreading among your flock. Dr. Jagne will discuss the necessary measures and practices you need to put in place to protect your flock.

Let's Get Crackin': Want to learn more about 4-H poultry knowledge and skills competitions and other food prep possibilities in 4-H? Interested in learning more about the world of poultry? Join us for some friendly competitions and an opportunity to act as a *foodie* judge. It is sure to be an egg-citing experience.

There is a \$15 per youth cost to attend the program - adult chaperones are free. Attendees are asked to bring their own lunch. Registration for the event must be done through your local Cornell Cooperative Extension Office and must be completed no later than April 26, 2019. All groups must have at least one chaperone per species track. Chaperones are asked to review the chaperone information sheet on the Animal Crackers website: <http://4h.ansci.cornell.edu/events-2/animalcrackers/>. Additional information about the event, as well as the Cornell University campus, can be found on the same website. Mark your calendars for one of the most exciting animal science programs of 2019!

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