



DEVIN ALTOBELLO

ALDERMERE FARM, A PRESERVE OF MAINE COAST HERITAGE TRUST

Aldermere Farm, a landmark of midcoast Maine, is one of the world's premier breeders of Belted Galloway cattle. The 136-acre farm is owned and managed by Maine Coast Heritage Trust, a statewide land conservation organization dedicated to protecting the scenic beauty, outdoor recreational opportunities, ecological diversity, and working landscapes of the Maine coast. The Trust maintains Aldermere as a working farm and educational center, helping visitors deepen their appreciation for land conservation and sustainable agriculture.

VOLUNTEER FOR 4-H

We rely on engaged volunteers who are passionate about raising the next generation of entrepreneurs, ecologists, and farmers to help run the 4-H programs at Aldermere Farm. Volunteers can offer their mentorship and expertise in different project areas through mentoring members on independent projects or guest speaking at our General Club Meetings. We are also always in need of volunteers to supervise during meetings. Contact our farm office to inquire about becoming a 4-H Leader.

To register contact:

Aldermere Farm
20 Russell Avenue
Rockport, ME 04856
207-236-2739
eespinosa@mcht.org
www.aldermere.org



Aldermere Farm 4-H Club



The 4-H Club at Aldermere Farm club meets year-round to engage in exploratory and experiential learning activities. This club meets monthly to plan community service projects, attend field trips, and build skills. All members additionally complete a project to show at the annual Union Fair. Project options range widely from raising an Aldermere Belted Galloway heifer to presenting a science experiment. Members can join at anytime and must be between the ages of 12-18.

Aldermere Farm is a preserve of



ABOUT 4-H*

4-H is the youth development program of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension. 4-H is the largest youth organization in the world! Youth can participate in “learn by doing” projects. There are a number of ways for youth to participate in 4-H, including club programming, school enrichment programs, camps, individual projects, and many other activities.

4-H youth:

- develop leadership skills
- participate in community service projects
- learn about science, from animals to aerospace
- travel to attend national youth events
- learn many useful skills such as computers, money management, sewing, cooking, animal care, or starting a business

Traditional 4-H programs are delivered through community clubs, which are led by volunteers. Clubs may focus on animal projects, community service, science, healthy lifestyles and more. All clubs provide opportunities to engage positively in the community using leadership and citizenship skills gained through participation in 4-H. Because clubs are led by volunteers, every county and club is different. Contact your local UMaine Extension county office to learn more about what opportunities are available in your area.

*Source: <https://umaine.edu/knox-lincoln/4-h/>



SCHEDULE

General Club: Youth across all project areas meet monthly at Aldermere for announcements, field trips, social time, and fundraising. General club meetings occur one Wednesday afternoon a month.

Project Meetings:

Beef Project (requires approval from Herd Manager) Members meet weekly and take responsibility for a heifer from Aldermere to show at Union Fair and other regional fairs.

Independent Project: Members work on their own time alongside a mentor, parent, or other members on a topic of their interest.

The Union Fair is the only fair 4-H members are required to show their projects at. When available, they have the option to show their animals or projects at other fairs, such as Windsor Fair, Fryeburg Fair, and the Eastern State Exposition.

MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Volunteer 4-H Leaders provide some assistance and guidance, but each 4-H member has many responsibilities from meeting deadlines to providing the best care for an animal.

Members maintain project records documenting their work and are responsible for submitting their records to the Knox-Lincoln County Extension office by the end of the session. Members are required to participate in some service and fundraising projects, which the club plans and schedules. These responsibilities give members opportunities to gain confidence in their own abilities.

PARENTS' RESPONSIBILITIES

It is expected that parents will be engaged in club activities and attend quarterly club meetings. The more involved families are, the more members get out of the experience.

BENEFITS

- Participate in a nationally renowned program that is well esteemed amongst colleges, universities, and trade schools.
- Access national and local scholarships to fund projects, camps, and experiential learning opportunities.
- Gain confidence, build a diverse skill-set, and develop leadership skills.
- Collaborate with like-minded youth.