

YELLOWSTONE COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER - MARCH 2026

406-256-2828 2320 3rd Avenue N, Billings MT 59101

www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/index.html

Facebook: Yellowstone County 4-H

HIGHLIGHTS FROM RONI BAKER

Thanks to the following people who made the Make It and Take It Project Day a huge success – Tate Ackerman, Samantha Lynch, Grace Sedlacek, Sheri Antilla, Francisco Gamboa, Wade Bekkedahl, Brooklyn Kuhr, and Stephanie Johnson.

I would like to encourage members to also take part in county, regional and/or state events and activities. These are great opportunities to learn. Take part in Communication Day, Make It & Take It, 4-H Camp, Junior Leaders, Project Day, Interstate Exchange, Congress, Citizenship, Washington Focus, etc. Events like Family Fun Night build community connections and help clubs grow.

NO MARCH 4-H COUNCIL MEETING

NO meeting in March. Next meeting is April 2, at 6:00 pm in the 4-H Building. We encourage everyone to attend.

****UPDATED**** MONTANAFAIR CAMPING SPACE RESERVATION REQUESTS

Only 4-H and FFA members exhibiting in Department A and N at MontanaFair and MontanaFair 4-H officials may request a camper space. A limited number of spaces are available on a first requested, first-filled basis. Completing a request does not guarantee a space reservation.

All 4-H/FFA exhibitor requests for MontanaFair Camper/Trailer reservations are only accepted electronically. NO calls or emails for reservation requests. Registration requests open at 8:00 am on April 1. All requests are date and time stamped once you have completed all questions, paid (if applicable), and hit Submit.

****IMPORTANT UPDATE**** You must LOG Out of ZSuite BEFORE YOU BEGIN A RESERVATION REQUEST. Log out of ZSuite by scrolling down to the bottom of your household dashboard and click on LOGOUT. Please familiarize yourself with the LOGOUT function BEFORE April 1.

Everyone must use [this link](https://4h.zsuite.org/external-event-registration/41024) at <https://4h.zsuite.org/external-event-registration/41024>. A registration window will open and will ask you to sign into ZSuite – **DO NOT SIGN BACK IN!** The ZSuite program does not allow us to alter that sentence. Complete all registration fields, pay and submit.

Be prepared: Credit/debit card payment is required. Checks or cash are NOT accepted. There is a credit/debit card processing fee of \$5.00. Refunds (less \$5.00 debit/credit fee) for cancelations are possible by contacting the Yellowstone County Extension Office at 406-256-2828, before August 1, 2026.

Information required to complete a request: Please know the make of your camper, camper license plate number, and exact length. If length is not actual, and the camper/trailer will not fit the assigned camper space based on the information you provide, you may not be accommodated. You also must provide the license plate numbers for ALL vehicles that your family will be parking in the camper space areas.

Requestors will be notified in late June/early July of their request status via a letter, map of space location, and identification that must be placed in your camper window.

Your space request is for 9 days at MontanaFair.

- Full Hookup: \$150
- Electric/water only Hookup: \$80
- Dry camping: No charge but completing a reservation request and contract are required.

APPLY NOW IN ZSUITE TO ATTEND 4-H CAMP JUNE 9-12

This year camp will be held on June 9-12, at the Beartooth Christian Camp near Absarokee. You can look forward to great dances, campfires, swimming and many more crafts and activities. Camp will cost \$225.00 for campers. Partial scholarships are available for those that write a scholarship request letter.

We will have a limit of 120 campers (Yellowstone, Stillwater, & Carbon counties). Applications are accepted on a first come, first served basis. **Applications MUST BE COMPLETED IN ZSUITE through the Household Primary profile under the Events section in the dashboard.** Application deadline is May 8, at 5:00 pm.

CLOVERBUD CAMP MEETING APRIL 2

A planning meeting for the 2026 Cloverbud Camp will be held on Thursday, April 2, at 5:30 p.m. in the 4-H Building. Come and share your ideas to plan this fun event. Everyone is welcome! Cloverbud Camp will be held on July 16. (LRW/4/29/19)

2026 EVENT DAY – SATURDAY APRIL 11 IN THE MONTANA PAVILION

Showcase - Communications Day – and Workshops all on the same day at the same location! Come and spend the day or come and go for different activities. Just stop by to watch and learn. Communication Day in the morning, Showcase in the afternoon and midday workshops.

Communication Day is a county-wide event that allows members the opportunity to participate in speech, demonstration, career communications (interviews), video, short take, broadcast and poetry. You do not need to be enrolled in a specific project to do this event. You can enter it on your fair entry and receive premium money. You can also do it at the fair. Cloverbuds are welcome to do this event. Speech, demonstration, interview and video winners can qualify to compete at State 4-H Congress in Bozeman.

Registration is open in ZSuite under Events. Registration deadline is March 27 by 5:00 pm.

Anyone can participate in the workshops. No registration is required.

11:30 am – 12:30 pm Painted Cookie Decorating. A variety of cookie shapes and icings for painting. Royal icing, marshmallow paint or store-bought frosting. We'll also have lots of sprinkles!

12:30 – 1:30 pm Wildflower Seed Bombs. A seed bomb is a little ball of compost, clay, and flower seeds that can be placed anywhere and after it rains, flowers will grow! You can make them for yourself, gifts for family and friends, and for local service projects.

1:30 – 2:30 pm Photography Exposure and Composition. You will learn how light affects an image, how to control brightness, and how to intentionally frame a photo to tell a story. The workshop offers guided practice and photo activities, allowing you to apply what you learn right away. Instruction will cover both cameras and smartphones, with tips for using cellphone camera features to improve photo quality. **Bring your camera/phone.**

Showcase is an opportunity for members in Clothing and Textiles projects to show items they have made or purchased in their projects. After being judged the participants take part in a public fashion show. You must be enrolled in sewing, quilting, shopping in style or needlework projects to be able to take part in any of the areas of competition. Cloverbuds can also take part in these events. Sewing and quilting winners can qualify to compete at State 4-H Congress in Bozeman. Everyone is welcome at 4:30 pm to watch the public fashion show, view the quilts and the award ceremony.

Members can enter items they have sewn, do a display, duct tape items, costumes, international clothes, quilting or needlework. There is even a category for adults to enter their quilts.

Registration materials will be sent to all members enrolled in a sewing, quilting, shopping in style and needlework project. Registration can be found on the county website. Deadline for entries is March 27 by 5:00 pm in the Extension Office (not postmarked by).

Please call the Extension Office if you have questions.

ATTENTION! ENROLLMENT DROPS & ADDS MUST BE MADE BY APRIL 30

ALL members and volunteers enrolled in 4-H have access to their records through ZSuite and will be solely responsible for adding, dropping, and verifying the accuracy of their projects including the level of the project. Members may make changes to their PROJECTS up until April 30, 2026, after which time the online program will be locked and NO changes can be made to projects. **No exceptions!**

Verifying the accuracy of projects and levels is very important as it can affect your MontanaFair entries and eligibility.

Please access your ZSuite profile and add and/or drop projects in your enrollment. To do this you will choose "Update Enrollment" and then click on the CLUBS tab. Click on the green box "Add projects". After selecting each project, you want to add, click on the blue "add project". When you have finished adding all desired projects be sure to click on the pink "submit" box at the bottom to save all added projects. If you wish to drop projects, locate the Project name you want to drop. To the right of the project name, you will see an "X" to click on. A box will display asking for confirmation to delete the project. Click on the red "yes" box to confirm deletion of the project. After deleting the project(s), be sure to click on the pink "submit" box at the bottom to save all changes.

FRUIT SALE FRUIT DELIVERY MARCH 14

Saturday, March 14, 8:00-11:00 am: Fruit pick up day at the Expo Building at Metra. You can pick up extra fruit on this day (from the semi in the Expo) if you have late orders!

Wednesday, March 18: 5:30-6:30 pm at Lockwood IGA's back door. Extra fruit available if you have late orders.

Remember that you are responsible for collecting and turning in fruit money to your club for the fruit you sell. **NO EXCEPTIONS. Your club must pay the 4-H Council, so if you do not pay, your club must cover the check.** You are responsible for the fruit once you check it out from the club fruit sale chairman. Check each box to verify the condition of the fruit when you pick it up. Handle fruit correctly and deliver it quickly.

YELLOWSTONE COUNTY 4-H FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

The Yellowstone County 4-H Foundation Scholarship is available for Yellowstone County 4-H Alumni (including those that have been out of high school and are now planning on attending a college or trade school) who are pursuing a post-secondary education. The application was mailed and emailed to all current 4-H members who are seniors in High School. Members can receive this scholarship once. Deadline for submitting the application is April 1. Information and application are on the [Yellowstone County website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/4-hopportunitiesandevents.html) at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/4-hopportunitiesandevents.html>

LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

For Members 4-H Age 12 and older (as of October 1, 2025)

Join the 2026 Montana 4-H Leadership Academy workshop series on Sunday evenings from 6 pm – 7 pm. Each month the State Ambassador Officer Team will present a different workshop topic that they have found to be important as they have developed their own leadership abilities.

The leadership academy is for Montana 4-H members interested in exploring and developing their own leadership skills while serving their county 4-H program in new ways. The workshop content is considered beginner level for emerging leaders. Members with more leadership experience may find this to be a review and should consider mentoring younger members just starting out in leadership activities before or after these workshops.

Visit the [State 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/youth_leadership/academy.html) to register for the workshop series and receive the Zoom link at https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/youth_leadership/academy.html

March 8 – Motivating and Inspiring Peers

April 12 – Decision Making

REC LAB REGISTRATION OPEN! MARCH 27-29 IN COLUMBUS, MT

What is Rec Lab? Rec Lab stands for Recreation Lab and means that everything is hands-on and fun! This event gives kids the opportunity to enhance their leadership, communication, and team building skills in an action-packed and interactive setting. This event is ideal for younger senior members to attend as a first-time state event. It allows them to form relationships with 4-H peers from across the state, broaden their skills, and widen their network.

Extension Staff and volunteers: The program is conducive to meeting people from around the state and exchanging ideas. You are sure to gain some great info and bring home motivated youth leaders. Chaperones can attend for free.

Registration is open in ZSuite under Events. Youth must be 13 by October 1, 2025. Yellowstone county attendees, DO NOT pay online in ZSuite. Yellowstone County will invoice members for only \$25. Ambassadors pay nothing. Yellowstone County 4-H Council will contribute to the registration fee. Yellowstone participants will have the opportunity to pick from a list of workshops during registration. Visit the [state 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/events/rec_lab/index.html) at https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/events/rec_lab/index.html. Registration deadline is March 13.

OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND 4-H CONGRESS IN JULY

Were you 13 years old by October 1, 2025, and interested in attending 4-H Congress in Bozeman? The following briefly describes the activities and events that are available at State 4-H Congress. Congress will be July 7-10, 2026.

Demonstration - You must have received a blue ribbon at the county Communication Day contest. We can take any number of competitors.

Career Communication - You practice the skills of applying for a job including an application, cover letter and resume.

Public Speaking - You must have received a blue ribbon at the county Communication Day contest. We can take any number of competitors.

Fashion Revue - We may take more than one participant. Selection is made at the county Showcase event.

Horse Judging - We can take a team of four.

Livestock Judging - We may take a team of 4 or individual members to compete in judging classes and giving reasons.

Stir-Ups Contest - This is a fun, challenging food program where members plan a meal, prepare a low-fat main dish, display the meal, and create a notebook. We can take individuals or teams.

Gavel Games - This is a Parliamentary Procedure contest. Teams of four compete. Contact Roni if interested.

Quilting - Quilts judged at the county Showcase event are eligible to attend Congress.

Horse Skillathon - A team of four can compete in this contest about horse knowledge. Contact Roni if interested.

Video - Learn communication skills through creating, editing, and presenting a video.

Visit the [State 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/events/mt_4h_congress/index.html) to learn more specifics about each contest or go to

https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/events/mt_4h_congress/index.html

4-H CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2025-2026

Congratulations to the following youth leaders in the 4-H program.

Club	President	Vice President
Big Sky Thunderbolts	Heaven Reed	David Reynolds
Blue Creek Jumping Bucks	Lukas Arkell	LynnLee Richardson
City Kids	Hazel Russell	Michaela Hockhalter
Compass Allstars	Hadleigh Lynch	Matthew Parks
Cool Clovers	Olivia Arneson	Keona Muessig
Hesper Hustlers	Brooklyn Kuhr	Wade Bekkedahl
Huntley Eagles	Walt Lindeen	Trent Gabel
Kountry Kritters	Jachin Boheman	Julia Leivestad
Laurel Roadrunners	Paisley Walter	Logan Conklin
Lockwood Humble B's	Amy Schmidt	Jake Cesnik
Northern Lights	Saphron Myers	Ellalayah Dykes

Pine Ridge Red Ryders	Danica Albrecht	Brooklynn Armstrong
Project Rockin Wranglers	Rex Koivu	Madelyn Aldrich
Ruff Riders		
Shepherd Lonestars	Kye Knaff	Brody Styren
Shepherd Pioneers	Ella Dumas	Tristen Beddes
Shepherd Tumbleweeds	Keegan Kennedy	Aiden Turitto
Shepherd Wranglers	Harrison Cook	Audrey Noonkester
Whips and Sticks	Cooper Murnin	Tilden Botts
Worden Riverdale	Natalie DelCamp	Kember Rienhart
Yellowstone Mavericks	Bella Colwell	Rhen Long
Yellowstone Silver Spurs	Ember Solberg	Eliana Johnston

HOST AN INTERNATIONAL DELEGATE THIS SUMMER OR ACADEMIC YEAR!

4-H is seeking host families with a youth within 3-4 years of age and same gender of youth delegates.

More information about the various inbound programs and hosting a delegate, please visit the [States' 4-H International Exchange Programs website](https://www.states4hexchange.org/) to begin an application at <https://www.states4hexchange.org/>

Contact the 4-H Center for Youth Development International Program Coordinator, Dave Brink at david.brink@montana.edu or 406-822-3547 for more information.

ADULT AWARD NOMINATIONS DUE JUNE 1

4-H is made possible through the outstanding support of adults who provide their time, resources, and support to improve the lives of Montana 4-H youth and strive to constantly make the best better. Through the following award categories-**Tribute to Volunteer Excellence Awards, Hall of Fame Award, and Outstanding 4-H Alumni Award**, Montana 4-H recognizes outstanding contributions of volunteers, staff and alumni at the county and state levels. All awards are presented at the Montana 4-H Leadership Forum in the fall or another statewide event. Award nominations are due May 15, 2026, in Bozeman. Please visit the [Montana State 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/awards/adult-awards.html) at https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/awards/adult-awards.html for additional details and the nomination form.

STATE AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

May 1, 2026, is the due date for State Awards application. Members who are 14 and older as of October 1, 2024, are eligible. The Montana 4-H State Awards program is in place to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of 4-H members who have reached a standard of excellence in a variety of project and activity award areas. State Award winners have gone above and beyond regular project work with a focus on leadership, communication, and community service. 4-H members may self-nominate.

To apply for state awards, members must use the Montana State 4-H Awards application off the [Montana State 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/awards/state-awards.html) at https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/awards/state-awards.html.

CHASE HAWKS FRANK CHESAREK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Chase Hawks Memorial Association is offering \$10,000 in scholarships in 2026. Applicants must pursue a degree from an accredited institute of higher education or a certification from an accredited trade or vocational institution and enroll at that institution within the next 9 months. For more information you can call the Chase Hawks Memorial Association office at 406-248-9295 or email info@chasehawks.com, or visit the [Chase Hawks website](http://www.chasehawks.com), at www.chasehawks.com.

JOHN OSTLUND MEMORIAL VOCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Chase Hawks Memorial Association is honored to introduce a new scholarship opportunity, the John Ostlund Memorial Vocational Scholarship. This scholarship was established to honor the legacy of John Ostlund, a longtime county commissioner and county employee who was deeply dedicated to Montana's youth and to the skilled trades.

Offered annually, this scholarship is intended to support students pursuing education and training in trade and vocational fields, reflecting John’s lifelong commitment to workforce development and practical career pathways. This scholarship is proudly offered in partnership with the Yellowstone Electric Cooperative.

Applicants must:

- Be pursuing a degree from an accredited institution of higher education **or** a certification from an accredited trade or vocational institution
- Reside in one of the following counties: Big Horn, Carbon, Fergus, Golden Valley, Musselshell, Park, Petroleum, Rosebud, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Treasure, Wheatland, or Yellowstone

Application Information

- Application Deadline: March 27, 2026
- Notification of Awards: Applicants will be notified following the selection process

For more information you can call the Chase Hawks Memorial Association office at 406-248-9295 or email info@chasehawks.com, or visit the [Chase Hawks website](http://www.chasehawks.com), at www.chasehawks.com.

MONTANA FARM BUREAU SCHOLARSHIPS

The Montana Farm Bureau Federation has many scholarships that are awarded to Montana and Yellowstone County youth. Information and requirements for each scholarship and the application can be found on the [Montana Farm Bureau Federation website](https://mfbf.org/Foundation/Foundation-Scholarships) at <https://mfbf.org/Foundation/Foundation-Scholarships>. Application deadline is April 1.

MONTANA RANGE DAYS

Save the dates of June 22-24, 2026, for [Montana Range Days](https://www.montanarangedays.org/) that will be held in Malta. For more information visit their website at <https://www.montanarangedays.org/>.

CLUB SECRETARY MINUTES SHOULD BE SUBMITTED MONTHLY

The Extension office should receive a copy of your monthly club meeting minutes. **Club secretaries must use the format (page 3) or form (page 13) provided in the Montana 4-H Secretary’s Handbook. All minutes must include the club’s name & meeting date, FIRST and LAST names of members/leaders and a description of what was talked about/decided/voted on, etc.** Include all details that would be helpful to a member that missed the club meeting.

Minutes must also include club expenses that were voted on using Roberts Rule of Orders (Parliamentary Procedure). Minutes may be typed on your computer and submitted in hard copy to the Extension Office or emailed to ronibaker@montana.edu or faxed to 406-256-2825.

Make certain your email subject includes your club’s name. Remember, if you don’t get an email reply from us saying “Thank you”, our firewall blocked the email so try to resend it.

MONTHLY CLUB MINUTES HIGHLIGHTS

The following clubs turned in club minutes by the newsletter deadline:

City Kids: Members gave reports on December activities-holiday shopping, bell ringing and the club holiday party.

Compass All Stars: Members turned in fruit orders; members met their goal of selling more fruit than last year.

Lockwood Humble Bs: Cooking members went to the Ronald McDonald House to cook for people who had family members in the hospital.

Pine Ridge Red Ryder: A club member provided education and discussion on bullying.

Worden Riverdale: Members turned in fruit orders. Club demonstrations were held. Members delivered Valentine to the senior lunch at the VFW.

4-H SUPPORTERS

Many businesses and organizations in our community support 4-H. We list several each month. We encourage you to thank them and support them in return. If you would like to submit names for this article, please send them to Roni.

4-H Supporter	Mailing Address
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Flowmark	6837 Commercial Ave. #6246, Billings MT 59101
World West Sire Services	25 Winterpast Ln, Joliet MT 59041
Huntley Storage Units	3205 Hwy 87 E, Billings MT 59101
Billings Livestock Commission	PO Box 31533, Billings MT 59107
Albertson's	5317 Grand Ave, Billings MT 59102
Merchants Trading	PO Box 1781, Billings MT 59103
Albertson's	611 N 27 th St, Billings MT 59101
North15 Catering	2577 N 15 Road, Worden MT 59088
Asphalt Plus	425 Johnson Ln, Billings MT 59101

NO MARCH DEPARTMENT N (NON-ANIMAL PROJECTS) MEETING

NO meeting in March. Mark your calendars to attend the April 2 meeting at 6:00 pm in the 4-H Building.

CERAMICS WORKSHOPS FOR MARCH AND APRIL

The ceramics workshop will be held Saturday, March 28 and April 4. Times are 10:00 am - 1:00 pm or 1:00 - 4:00 pm. Call Sheri Anttila at 406-633-5531 to let her know if you have any questions, need directions to her home, and which class/time you will be attending.

YELLOWSTONE COUNTY SHOOTING SPORTS INVITATIONAL RESULTS

Thank you to the leaders and adults that made the event happen for the 4-H members. The following Yellowstone County 4-H members placed. Individual results for all disciplines (except archery) can be view on the [Orion Results website](https://www.orionresults.com/ycmt4h) at <https://www.orionresults.com/ycmt4h>

BB Gun	Age 8	Age 9	Age 10	Age 11
1	OOC	OOC	Bo Martin	OOC
2	OOC	Phoebe Reed	OOC	OOC
3	Harleigh Boheman	Mackenzie Turner	Leighton Kuzo	Graclynn Fallang

BB Gun	Age 12	Age 13	Age 14	Age 15
1	OOC	OOC	Karlin Clayton	Tristen Beddes
2	OOC	Jacob Schiermeister	OOC	Ellalayah Dykes
3	Gunner Hanson	Trent Gabel	n/a	Addison Mercier

Air Pistol	Basic Supported	Standing Supported	International Standing	Overall
1	OOC	OOC	OOC	OOC
2	OOC	Colt Clark	OOC	OOC
3	OOC	n/a	OOC	OOC

Air Rifle	Age 11-13	14-15	16-17
1	OOC	Jack Holberg	Dawson Serock
2	OOC	Traden Beddes	Hazel Russell
3	OOC	OOC	Mesa Mettes

Primitive	Age 13-14	15-18
1	Colt Clark	Colby Harty
2	Ellalayah Dykes	n/a
3	n/a	n/a

Bare Bow	Age 9-10	Age 11-12	Age 13-14	Age 15-18
1	Elise Nemitz	Dayton Riffel	Lily Mercier	Samantha Lynch
2	James Reichardt	Taytum Lynch	Hadleigh Lunch	Paige Walter
3	Madilyn Aldrich	Myleigh Penman	Layla Dickerson	n/a

Bow Hunter	Age 9-10	Age 11-12	Age 13-14	Age 15-18
1	Gannon Grice	Xayvior Connelly	Jubilee Waskow	Charlotte White
2	Rafe McCaffree	OCC	OOC	Jack Holberg
3	OOC	OCC	Isabelle Brito	Mae Russell

Unlimited	Age 9-10	Age 11-12	Age 13-14	Age 15-18
1	Bo Martin	OOC	OOC	TJ Martin
2	OOC	n/a	Owen Rouse	OOC
3	Kaden Sluggett	n/a	n/a	Tristen Beddes

Olympic Recurve	Age 11-12	Age 13-14
1	OOC	Ellalayah Dykes
2	n/a	n/a
3	n/a	n/a

DEPARTMENT A (ANIMAL PROJECTS) MEETINGS

Wednesday, March 25, the Small Animal Committee meets at 6:00 pm, Sale Committee will meet at 6:30 pm. and the Livestock Committee will meet immediately after Sale Committee. All are held in the 4-H Building. Everyone is welcome.

LIVESTOCK JUDGING

Yellowstone County 4-H members competed at the Cowtown Livestock Judging Contest on February 6, 2026. The contest consisted of nine cattle classes and three sets of reasons.

Novice: 1st – Jolie Murnin; 8th – Pike Pankratz; 9th – Adelia Curry. Novice Team placed 2nd overall
 Junior: 6th – Carlee Bomar; 7th – Harrison Cook. Junior Team placed 3rd overall.

Additional Yellowstone County team members include Cooper Dumas, Elyse Heaton, Waylon Hofer, Cooper Murnin, Corbin Murnin and Peyson Rolph. Congratulations to all participants! If you are interested in Yellowstone County Youth Livestock Judging, please contact Samantha Murnin at 970-318-6551.

HORSE AND COLT MEETING

The March Horse and Colt meeting will be held on March 18, at 6:00 pm at the Extension Office. Everyone is welcome.

HORSE WORKSHOP

Educational Horse Workshop – Hoff Care & Farriers Thursday, March 19, 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm in the 4-H Building at Metra Park. Open to ALL 4-H youth interested in learning more about horses! Contact Bonnie DeVerniero with any questions, 406-694-5234. Next dates: April 23: Veterinary Care May 14: Conformation Evaluation

CAT WORKSHOP

Meet Saturday March 21, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm at the 4-H Building. This meeting will be all about grooming and showmanship. Please bring the cat you intend to use for showmanship and any (non-electric) grooming tools you use at home. Seniors and Juniors that have shown cats before, please be prepared to demonstrate Showmanship for new and beginning members, as time allows. Brush up on your cat parts. Juniors/Seniors will be quizzed on skeletal parts.

POCKET PET WORKSHOP

Meet Saturday March 21, 1:00 – 2:00 pm at the 4-H Building. This meeting will be about showmanship. Please review the questions that Aiden provided last year, they have been uploaded to ZSuite. I would appreciate it if my Juniors and

Seniors that have shown Pocket Pets at fair before, have a presentation (Sr's up to 5 minutes, Jr's up to 3 minutes) prepared for this meeting.

DOG RALLY PRACTICE

Meet Saturday March 21, at the 4-H Building. Novice: 2:30 - 3:15 pm. Intermediate +: 3:30 - 4:15 pm. This session is for all dog project members and dogs that have been assessed for participation. Lacey Wood will be assisting with sign instructions and questions. Questions? Call Angie Murdick at 406-208-3324.

** NEW SWINE MEMBERS MEETING **

Are you new to the swine project? Members and parents are invited to attend a meeting on Tuesday, March 24, at 6:00 pm in the 4-H Building. Swine leaders will provide an overview of the project requirements, MontanaFair tagging day, necessary paperwork, deadlines and weigh ins. Questions? Call Lisa Mosher at 406-698-6730.

MARCH SMALL ANIMAL WORKSHOPS AND AQA

On Monday, March 30 there will be a Poultry workshop at 5:30 pm, followed by a small animal focused Animal Quality Assurance. At 7:00 pm the rabbit and cavy workshop will take place. In order to fulfill the AQA requirement, a member and parent or legal guardian must attend either workshop and the AQA component which runs from 6-7 pm.

Although this Animal Quality Assurance is focused on small animals, anyone needing AQA is welcome to attend – remember the member and parent or legal guardian must also attend either the poultry workshop or the rabbit & cavy workshop to fulfill the AQA requirement. Everyone is welcome to attend.

AREA LIVESTOCK SALES AND SHOWS

Please remember that many local 4-H members raise livestock to sell.

Drange's Meat Goats Sale: March 1, at 1:00 pm. 8357 Danford Road, Laurel. For more information and updated photos visit their Facebook page at Drange's Meat Goats or call Jodie at 406-855-3767

Botts Show Pigs. March 7. Preview 9:30am; Sale 11:30 am. 587 Squaw Creek Rd, Huntley. Call Beau at 541-263-0988.

Montana Prime Pick Show Lamb sale. April 1, 2026, online at [Willoughby Sales](https://www.willoughbyshowstock.com/sales) at <https://www.willoughbyshowstock.com/sales>. For more information or to schedule a barn visit contact Trish Hays at 406-671-7493. You may also visit the [Hays Show Lambs website](https://haysshowlambs.com/) at <https://haysshowlambs.com/>.

Pigs by private treaty. Contact Mike Baker at 406-860-7718.

Rockin the Project Small Animal Jackpot: April 18 in the 4-H Building at MetraPark.

Small Animal Bootcamp: April 18, 8-5 at the Carbon County Fairgrounds in Red Lodge. Watch the [Stillwater County 4-H Facebook Page](https://www.facebook.com/Stillwater4H) at <https://www.facebook.com/Stillwater4H> for registration information.

Large Livestock Bootcamp: May 22 & 23 at the Stillwater ACE Civic Center in Columbus. Watch the [Stillwater County 4-H Facebook Page](https://www.facebook.com/Stillwater4H) at <https://www.facebook.com/Stillwater4H> for registration information.

Livestock Judging Camp: May 28-30, in Red Lodge. Youth and adult instruction. Watch the [Stillwater County 4-H Facebook Page](https://www.facebook.com/Stillwater4H) at <https://www.facebook.com/Stillwater4H> for registration information.

2025-2026 ANIMAL QUALITY ASSURANCE POLICY & WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

All 4-H and FFA members exhibiting any animal in Department A (Junior Livestock) at MontanaFair are required to attend an MSU Extension **ANIMAL QUALITY ASSURANCE TRAINING (AQA)** (per state guidelines) provided by the 4-H Committee or an FFA Advisor/Agriculture Educator prior to the first MontanaFair entry deadline or exhibitors do not show. A parent or legal guardian must also attend the AQA training with the member. Yellowstone County has two 4-H age brackets for AQA training. Exhibitors must attend AQA as a beginner/Junior member (8-13), and as a senior member (14-19). This age is based on the exhibitors "4-H Age" – their age on of October 1 of the current 4-H year. Exhibitors must take Animal Quality Assurance the first year they reach each age bracket or the first year they exhibit any animal project. Class content is determined by a committee.

There will be hands-on, group activities. Plan to arrive on time with a parent/legal guardian staying for the complete 1½ hours. If you and your parent are not in attendance for the entire session, you may be asked to attend another. Plan to

attend an early session to avoid conflicts that may arise later. **NO workshops will be held after the June 3 class. It is the final opportunity for 2026.**

The May session is in person at PAYS. For virtual sessions, attendees must log into a Webex meeting (link will be sent via email prior to each session) to get instructions about how and where to go to complete the online program. The online program requires members to pay a \$12 fee to take the online class. A copy of the completion certificate must be provided to the Extension office.

Monday, March 30 – 5:30 pm – 4-H Building – (focused on small animals)

Thursday, April 23 – 6 pm at the 4-H Building – focused on Horse)

Saturday, May 2 - 9:00-10:30 am at PAYS (Public Auction Yards)

Wednesday, June 3 - 6:30 pm Virtual training

MSU EXTENSION 4-H HORSE HELMET POLICY & WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Participants in 4-H Horse Projects are required to attend a Horse Helmet Workshop once as a beginner/junior 4-H member (8-13) and again as a senior 4-H member (14 and up). This age is based on the exhibitors “4-H Age” – their age on October 1 of the current 4-H year. Exhibitors must attend the workshop the first year they reach every age bracket or the first year they are exhibiting in a horse project. A parent or legal guardian must attend with the member.

After attending a 4-H Helmet Workshop, riders may choose whether they will wear a certified helmet. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian of the 4-H member to see that the headgear worn complies with standards and is in good condition. The Montana 4-H Center for Youth Development encourages the use of ASTM certified/SEI approved safety helmets in all equine events. Protective headgear may be used in all classes and shall not be discriminated against. Helmet use is encouraged in all activities any time a 4-H member is around a horse. A certified equestrian helmet with safety harness fastened in place is required in over fence classes and gymkhana events, activities, and practice sessions. Gymkhana refers to horseback speed events (timed or un-timed) that do not use livestock. Events that may fall in this category include, but are not limited to barrel racing, pole bending, keyhole races, stake races, rescue races, pony express race, etc. Events that are not intended to be included are events such as calf roping, team roping, goat tying, and team penning that may be timed but use livestock. **NO workshops will be held after the May 2 class. It is the final opportunity for 2026.**

Wednesday, April 15: 7:00-8:00 pm at the Extension Office – 2320 3rd Ave. N

Saturday, May 2: 11:00 am-12:00 pm at PAYS (Public Auction Yards)

BLACK DIAMOND JACKPOT AND LIVESTOCK JUDGING CONTEST

May 8-10 in Billings. All entries must be completed in the [Showman App](https://showman.app/shows#/black-diamond-jackpot-show-6998) at <https://showman.app/shows#/black-diamond-jackpot-show-6998>.

The Livestock Judging Contest will take place May 8 in the SuperBarn at MetraPark. Check in at 8:00 am with contest starting at 8:30 am. Questions? Call Samantha Murnin at 970-318-6551.

Entry Deadlines:

April 26 – Regular Price Entry Deadline. \$25/individual (includes lunch for participant)

May 3 – Late Price Entry Deadline. \$35/individual.

SHEEP STARTER FLOCK AVAILABLE. APPLICATIONS DUE MARCH 1

The U.S. Targhee Sheep Association is again offering three free registered Targhee Starter Flock to be awarded to a deserving youth. Applications, due March 1, are now available to at [US Targhee Sheep Association](https://www.targheeshsheepus.com/) at <https://www.targheeshsheepus.com/> Questions can be directed to the USTSA office at 605-553-3331 or emailed to ustargheeshsheep@gmail.com.

2026 4-H/FFA MontanaFair Schedule (updated 2/23/2026)

MONDAY, AUGUST 3 – INTERVIEW JUDGING – Montana Pavilion

All exhibitors entered in 4-H and FFA at the fair pick up packets from 9 am–7 pm

9:00 am-1:00pm Interview Judging of Dept. N (non-livestock) Exhibits – Exhibitors with many exhibits will be contacted.
and Clubs will be assigned a morning or evening time. Please come at your scheduled time-check in ½ hour
4:30 - 7:30 pm prior to your scheduled time to tag your exhibits.
Department N Club Exhibits can be set up during this time also.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5

4:00 - 8:00 pm Department N Club Exhibit set up – Montana Pavilion
5:00 - 7:30 pm Department N Best of Class nominees who want to sell in “Buy A Piece of 4-H” set up - MT Pavilion

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6

8:00 - 3:00 pm Horse Check in @ SuperBarn
1:30 pm Mandatory Horse Meeting @ SuperBarn
2:00 pm All showmanship classes/CTM Lv 1/Trail Yearling/Jr./Sr./CTM/GH @ SuperBarn
Following Trail Horse Mixer @ SuperBarn

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7

8:30 am Horse: Division 70, Class 2-56 @ SuperBarn
11:00 am – 4:00 pm Poultry and Rabbit Check in @ Expo
1:00 - 3:30 pm Pocket Pet check in @ Expo
4:00 pm Mandatory Small Animal (Rabbit, Poultry, Cavy & Pocket Pet) Meeting @ Expo
5:00 pm Pocket Pet Show @ Expo *Pocket Pets check out after Show*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8

7:00 - 7:45 am Cavies check in @ Expo
8:00 am Cavy Show @ Expo
8:00 am Mini trail/Lv 1-3 Trail/Ranch Lv 1-4/Team Penning @ SuperBarn
Horses check out after all the classes are complete.
9:00 am Rabbit Show and Showmanship @ Expo
11:00 am Cloverbud Activity (meet outside Dept. A office)
12:00 - 5:00 pm Draft Horse Expo @ Infield
5:00 - 7:00 pm Sheep, Goat, Llama/Alpaca check in @ Expo
5:00 - 7:30 pm Breeding Sheep Classification Sheep and Goat pictures to follow
6:00 pm Rabbit Agility

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9

8:00 am Poultry Showmanship, Egg Show, Jr. Pigeon Show, Fancy Feather, Game & Ornamental Bird, Meat Pen, Market Breeds, Waterfowl, Turkeys, and remaining Poultry Show @ Expo
9:00 - 11:00 am Beef and Dairy Cattle check in @ Expo
11:00 am Cloverbud Activity (meet outside Dept. A office)
12:00 - 5:00 pm Open Draft Horse Expo @ Infield
6:00 pm *Small Animal Check out*
6:30 pm Quiz Bowl in Department N @ Montana Pavilion

MONDAY, AUGUST 10

7:30 am Beef Ultrasound @ Expo
9:00 am Meat Goat Showmanship, Show; Breeding Meat Goat Show @ Expo.
Breeding goats may check out
11:00 am Archery Shoot @ SuperBarn
11:00 am Cloverbud Activity (meet outside Dept. A office)
1:00 pm Breeding Beef @ Expo
Dairy Cattle show begins 30 minutes after the conclusion of Breeding; followed by Dairy Showmanship then Beef Showmanship. *Breeding Beef Cattle check out after Show*
4:00 pm Sheep Ultrasound – Goat Ultrasound to follow

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11

9:00 am Market Steer & Heifer Show; pictures @ Expo.
11:00 am Cloverbud Activity (meet outside Dept. A office)
12:00 pm Small and Large Animal Skillathon Contest
1:00 pm Sheep Showmanship followed by Market Lamb & Breeding Sheep Show @ Expo
4:00 pm Small Animal Round Robin Training Clinic @ Expo (meet outside Dept. A office)
5:00 pm Small Animal Judging Contest
6:30 pm Department N Awards Program and Showcase @ Expo Arena

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12

5:00-8:00 am Swine Check in @ Expo
8:30 am Dairy Goat, Pygmy Goat, Nigerian Dwarf Goat Shows; Supreme Buck & Doe followed by Goat Cart Class & Goat Showmanship @ Expo. *Dairy goats, Pygmy goats, Nigerian goats check out after show*
11:00 am Cloverbud Activity (meet outside Dept. A office)
12:00 pm Small and Large Animal Skillathon Contest
1:00 - 3:00 pm Foods Festival/Edible Arts Display @ Montana Pavilion
2:00 pm Swine Showmanship & pictures (*animals entered in Costume Parade do photos first*) @ Expo
6:30 pm Costume Animal Parade @ Expo
8-10 pm 4-H Dance

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13

7:00 - 8:30 am Ag Breakfast @ Metra Exhibit Hall
8:00 am Market & Breeding Swine Shows @ Expo
11:00 am Cloverbud Activity (meet outside Dept. A office)
2:00 pm Llama and Alpaca Show @ Expo large arena
3:00 pm Small Animal Round Robin Contest @ Expo small arena – *Small Animals Check out after show*
5:00 pm Goat and Llama Obstacle Course @ Expo large arena
After Obstacle Course Large Animal Round Robin Training Clinic @Expo large arena

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14

6:00 am - 9:00 am *ALL large and small animals NOT in the Sale or Round Robin **MUST** check out*
10:00 am Large Animal Round Robin–Senior, Beginner, Junior @ Expo and SuperBarn
11:00 am Cloverbud Activity (meet outside Dept. A office)
12:00 - 2:30 pm All Class Judging @ Montana Pavilion
2:00 pm Beef Fitting Contest @Expo
5:00 pm *Round Robin Large Animals not in the Sale **MUST** check out*
5:00 pm Root beer Floats @ Expo
6:30 pm Department A Awards @ Expo

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15

11:00 am Junior Livestock Sale Preview @ Expo
11:30 am Junior Livestock Sale Buyer Lunch @ Metra Exhibit Hall
12:15 pm Junior Livestock Sale Exhibitors must have animals ready
12:30 pm Junior Livestock Sale @ Expo

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16

10:00 am-2 pm Department N check out Best of Class Items and unsold “Buy A Piece of 4-H” Items

MARCH 2025 4-H CALENDAR



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Design Your Own & Independent Study plans due in Extension.	2	3	4 Dog Obedience <i>4-H Building</i>	5	6 March 6-8 4-H State Shoot, <i>Bozeman</i> ←	7
8 6 pm Leadership Academy Workshop online →	9	10	11 Dog Obedience <i>4-H Building</i>	12	13	14 Fruit Sale Delivery <i>Expo at MetraPark</i>
15	16	17	18 5:30 - 6:30 2 nd Fruit pick up at <i>Lockwood IGA back door</i> <i>1960 Old Hardin Road</i> 6 pm Horse & Colt meeting <i>Extension Building</i> Dog Obedience <i>4-H Building</i>	19 6:00 Horse Workshop <i>4-H Building</i>	20 4-H Newsletter Articles Due	21 11 am Cat Workshop 1 pm Pocket Pet Workshop 2:30/3:30 Dog Rally <i>4-H Building</i>
22	22 6 pm Interstate Exchange <i>4-H Building</i>	24 6 pm Swine mtg for new members <i>4-H Building</i>	25 6pm Small Animal Comm. 6:30 Sale Comm. followed by Livestock Comm. <i>4-H Building</i> Dog Obedience <i>4-H Building</i>	26	27 Events Day: Showcase & Communication Day reg. Deadline ← March 27-29 Rec Lab in Columbus	28
29 →	30 5:30 Poultry Wkshop 6 pm Animal Quality Assurance 7 pm Rabbit & Cavy Wkshop <i>4-H Building</i>					