

## March 2026



Ayden DeBruycker passed along knowledge and experience for Demonstrations to Clair Duty and Brooks Johnson on Sat, Feb 21. Ayden designed and led a workshop to give back to Teton County 4-H youth before she graduates high school this upcoming May. **See more on pg. 5!**

### On the Horizon ...

- Mar 2.....Council Meeting Fairfield Public Library at 6 pm
- Mar 6.....Communications Day Registration due: Fri at 5 pm registration on pg. 5
- Mar 13.....Rec Lab Registration Closes: Wed on Zsuite
- Mar 14.....Communications Competition Day at 10 am at Power Public School
- Mar 21.....Western Heritage Begins at 1 pm Find out more on pg. 6
- Mar 27-29.....Rec Lab, Columbus MT
- Mar 31.....**Swine Possession Deadline:** paperwork, photos, fees, Extension Office, Tue at 5 pm
- Apr 6.....**Livestock Committee Meeting:** Fairfield, New Life Church, Mon at 6 pm
- Apr 7.....**Lamb/Goat Possession Deadline:** paperwork, photos, fees, Extension Office, Tue at 5 pm
- Apr 15.....Project Drop/Add Deadline: Wed at 5 pm
- Apr 19-25.....**4-H Volunteer Appreciation Week**
- Apr 25 .....Meat Science Education Day, 1 to 4:30 pm in Townsend, MT find out more on pg. 10
- May 1.....Fair Registration opens
- May 29.....Fair Registration Closes
- Jun 7-10.....4-H Camp at Camp Rotary
- Jun 24-28.....4-H Fair Week! Interview Judging, Livestock Shows, Sale
- Jul 7-10.....4-H Congress, MSU Campus Bozeman MT



**Beyond Ready**

# 2026 Teton County Club Rotations

Clubs its time to begin planning for your role in the fair. Include the youth in your club to brainstorm ideas and to take part in the decision-making process to meet your club's responsibilities.

A good strategy is to create sign-up sheets, with specific tasks, days, and times for families.

The Extension Office will send club leaders a more detailed explanation of each task. Please ask questions to the office if you have them!

## Challenging Champs

- Hospitality for Interview Judges
- Create the 4-H Exhibit Hall Display

## Eager Eagles

- Exhibit Hall Set Up
- Exhibit Hall Maintenance during Fair
- Recruit Greeters for Exhibit Hall

## Old Agency

- Meat and Greet (coordinate 4-H baked goods and staff the buffet line)
- Concessions (option to make and sell yummys -or- recruit food trucks!)

## Spring Creek

- Weatherbeater Daily Facility Maintenance

*It's a great time to start thinking about what you are going to bring to Fair!*

**Want to earn more ribbons and premiums at Interview Judging?!?**

Enter your project journal pages, a poster about each 4-H project in which you are enrolled, and school projects you are proud of, in addition to your exhibit item.

# Club Leadership Updates

## All clubs: Update club bank statement mailing address!

**Please update the mailing address for your club's bank account by the end of March!** All statements should be mailed to the Teton County MSU Extension Office at **PO Box 130, Choteau, MT 59422**. The statement will then be forwarded to the adult signers on the account and the youth treasurer for each club. Let the office know when you have made the change and whether you would like your monthly statement forwarded in email or hard copy form.

## Club Dues and 1%:

Invoices for club dues and 1% were sent to club leaders and treasurers. **Please send your club payment, payable to Teton County 4-H Council, to Teton County MSU Extension Office, PO Box 130, Choteau, MT 59422.**

## Club Fair Rotations:

**Begin planning your club's Fair rotation** with youth and adults. Contact the Extension Office with questions. See page 3 for rotation roles.

## Volunteer Recognition Week April 19-27:

Work with your club to design a volunteer recognition project to recognize ALL volunteers in your club. The Extension Office will send a list of names and contact information for volunteers affiliated with your club. **This is a great opportunity for club youth to take on a leadership role to design and implement your club's volunteer recognition activity.** Many volunteers have shared that a thank-you note, handwritten by youth they have worked with makes the most impact.

## Youth Club Historians or Reporters:

**Write up a short paragraph about your club's volunteers.** The Extension Office will use this in the April 'Volunteer Spotlight' issue of the 4-H newsletter. Make sure to include their names and the impact they have had on your club in 2025-2026. Get their permission to include a photo for the newsletter. Please send this to the Extension Office by **Friday, March 27.**

## Youth Club Secretaries:

**Send your Club's meeting minutes** via mail to Teton@montana.edu, or bring a physical copy to the Extension office, after each meeting. Each club should have six separate meeting minutes on file in the Extension Office no later than September 30, 2026.

# Agent's corner: Our Teton 4-H Family has great work in the pipeline! *Let's Celebrate & Collaborate!*



**Congratulations, new 4-H Ambassadors!**

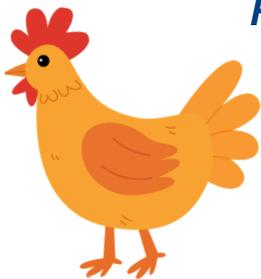
- The 4-H Ambassadors for 2025-2026 have been selected and are Nolan DeBrucyker, Annie Diekhans, Grace Toeckes, and Ayden DeBruycker!

**In loving memory of the late Bob Lee, D.V.M.**

- The family of Doc Lee have committed to sponsoring an annual livestock judging contest in Teton County! Plan to participate this fall...



**Bok Bok - here chick chick chick - *calling all Poultry and Rabbit Judges!***



- Youth member Hannah Meyer (Spring Creek Club) has aspirations to host a chicken and poultry judging event, tentatively set for May 17. If you know of someone who knows chickens and/or poultry, she's looking for a judge. Contact Loraine Meyer or the Extension Office!

**We're doggone proud!**

- Cora Hirst has been working hard on getting a dog training group rejuvenated. Contact Cora or the Extension office for more information!



**Let's Dance!**



- Psst... rumor has it that Spring Creek 4-H Club is planning a *dance!* Stay tuned for details!

## Ambassador, Ayden DeBruycker, *leads by doing* at her Demonstration Workshop.



Watch Ayden's Video:  
<https://bit.ly/4bklClr>

**Communications Day**  
registration deadline Friday, March 6

Communication's Day Registration  
Form <https://bit.ly/4l4akVL>

Communications Day will be **Saturday, March 14**, at Power Public School beginning at 10 am, hosted by the Challenging Champs. The Communications Day application is **due Friday, March 6, 2026**.

The Stir-Ups competition this year will be an oatmeal-based on-the-go breakfast bar. Click on the Stir-Ups link below for more information on the contest.

Communications Day is open to all 4-H members from Cloverbuds to Seniors. 4-Hers 13 and up who win a blue ribbon will be eligible to compete at state Congress in July. For those 14 and up, Congress winners will be eligible to attend National 4-H Congress as a member of the Montana Delegation.

## 2026 Western Heritage Meetings

### What is the Western Heritage Project?

The 4-H Western Heritage Project is a combination of 4-H Shooting Sports and a living history of the frontier west from 1860 to 1900.

### When:

The first Western Heritage project meeting will be held on **March 21 at 1 p.m.** There will be a fun shoot and chili feed. Please contact Brian Bedord at 406-590-9092 to RSVP.

### Who:

Everyone is welcome to attend and find out more about the Western Heritage project in Teton County. To participate in the Western Heritage project, 4-H youth must be 10 years old by October 1, 2025.

### Where:

The location will be weather dependent.

If the weather is good, the meeting will be held at the shooting range between Simms and Augusta.

In case of inclement weather, the meeting will be held at the Rocky Mountain Rifle Club near Fairfield.

[Find out more about the Western Heritage Project in Montana.](#)



## 4-H Shooting Team Competes in Conrad...by Loren Tacke

Teton County 4-H members were well represented on February 7, as 12 members of the Rocky Mountain Top Shots and six members of the Rocky Mountain Archers traveled to Conrad to compete in the Pondera County Invitational.

The event drew an impressive 132 youth from 13 counties, bringing together both new and experienced competitors from across the region. Among them were several Teton County members participating in their very first competitive shoot. The meet provided valuable experience as both teams continue sharpening their skills in preparation for the Montana 4-H State Shoot, scheduled for March 6 -8 in Bozeman.

Coaches Chris Tacke and Alan Peace accompanied the shooting team, while Jennifer Miller assisted the archery competitors. Coaches were pleased not only with the athletes' performances, but also with their positive attitudes throughout the day. "We had a great showing and all the kids shot exceptionally well," said Coach Tacke. "Even the first-year kids had smiles from ear to ear."

While the teams competed in Conrad, Head Coach Brian Bedord traveled to Bozeman with Leah Paulson and Kyndal Becker to participate in a Junior Olympic match. Paulson competed in air pistol, and Becker shot standing air rifle. Coach Bedord said both athletes performed very well and did an outstanding job representing Teton County. Official results from the Junior Olympic event were not available at press time.

The next competition for the Teton County 4-H shooting sports teams will be held February 21 at the Great Falls Fairgrounds. Competition begins at 8 a.m., and community members are encouraged to attend and support the local 4-H shooters and archers.

### Archery

#### Primitive

12-14 yrs. – Logan Becker 1st

#### Bare bow

9-10 yrs. – Josiah Bacon 4th, William Tacke 5th, Lachlan Miller 8th

#### Bow Hunter

11-12 yrs. – Owen Morris 3rd

13-14 yrs. – Dylan Ulsh 3rd

### Rifle

#### 3-Position Air Rifle

11-12 yrs. – Jack Tacke 1st, (1st overall), Hannah Meyer 2nd, (6th overall), Blaise Skierka 5th

#### Prone

9-10 yrs. – Josiah Bacon 8th, Lexi Egbert, Michaela Skierka, Henry Freeman

11-12 yrs. – Jack Tacke 1st, (2nd overall), Crew Egbert 4th, Eva Redd, Kessler Sparing

13-14 yrs. – Kingston Egbert 8th

#### Standing

11- 2 yrs. – Jack Tacke 1st, (4th overall) Hannah Meyer 2nd, (6th overall)

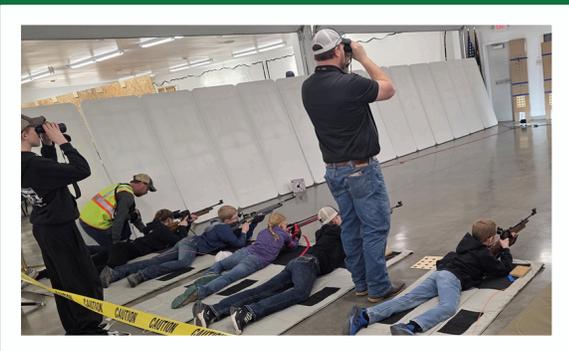
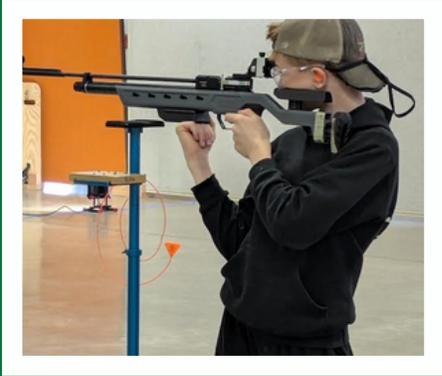
### Pistol

#### Basic

9-10 yrs. – Micaela Skierka 3rd, Josiah Bacon 5th

#### 1 Handed

13-14 yrs. – Hannah Meyer 5th, Gibson Franks 6th, Blaise Skierka 7th



# Challenging Champs 4-H Club

## It's all about Community Service!



**Members of the Challenging Champs 4-H Club helped the Power American Legion put over 60 flags up in Power, to recognize President's Day on February 16.**

SAVE THE DATE

# 4-H & FFA MEAT SCIENCE EDUCATION DAY



APRIL  
**25**  
1:00-4:30 PM

**TOWNSEND  
SCHOOLS**

210 N. PINE  
TOWNSEND MT 59644

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

A farm to fork experience of meat science featuring hands-on activities that explore:

- Meat processing.
- Relationship between animal care, quality assurance practices and meat quality.
- Kitchen chemistry and cooking.
- Meat and food safety.

All livestock species represented including rabbit and poultry.

Meat tastings including goat, lamb and rabbit.

Open to 4-H and FFA members, ages 8-18.

Cost: \$10

Pre-registration required. Opens in March.

For more information:

 406-266-9242

 [broadwater@montana.edu](mailto:broadwater@montana.edu)

If you need special accommodations or have questions about physical access, please contact the MSU Extension Office in Broadwater County at in advance of your participation or visit.

*Montana State University Extension is an ADA/EO/AA/Veteran's Preference Employer and Provider of educational outreach.*



Hosted by the Broadwater County 4-H Livestock Committee.

# State 4-H Rec Lab registration closes

## March 13 on ZSuite

**Cost to youth: \$50, half of fees sponsored by 4-H Council**

March 27-30th, 2026 in Columbus, MT. Montana 4-H Rec Lab is open to youth 13 years of age or older as of October 1, 2025.

What is Rec Lab? "Rec Lab" stands for Recreation Lab and means that everything at this Montana 4-H state event is hands-on and fun! This event provides an opportunity for youth to enhance their leadership, communication and team building skills in an action-packed and interactive setting. Rec Lab programming is designed to provide participants with tips and tricks for being a better club, camp and community leader.

Go to this web address (<https://bit.ly/47mGqX7>) to see the agenda and workshops offered.



### Montana Farmers Union Camp at Arrowpeak

**Camp Cost:**

\$100 members

\$150 non-members

**Mini-Junior Camp Cost:**

\$75 members

\$125 non-members

**Registration** is open and closes two weeks before start of each camp.

**Questions?**

Call: 406-452-6406

Email:

[camp@montanafarmersunion.com](mailto:camp@montanafarmersunion.com)

Web:

[www.montanafarmersunion.com/camp](http://www.montanafarmersunion.com/camp)

June 7-12 Senior/Teen 1 (Ages 13-18)

June 14-16 Mini Camp (Ages 7-9)

June 14-16 Parent Camp (With Registered Mini Camper)

June 28-July 2 Junior 1 Camp (Ages 8-12)

July 6-10 Junior 2 Camp (Ages 8-12)

July 12-17 Teen 2 Camp (Ages 11-14)

July 21-23 Ag For Classroom Teachers Camp

## Contact Info/Resources

### Teton County MSU Extension

#### Mailing Address:

- PO Box 130, Choteau, MT 59422

#### Phone (voice call):

- 406-466-2491

#### Text only:

- 406-530-5373

#### Email (send club minutes, most questions/issues):

- [teton@montana.edu](mailto:teton@montana.edu)

#### Other:

- <https://www.montana.edu/extension/teton>
- <https://www.facebook.com/TetonCoExt>
- <https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h>



## Fair Dates

**2026** June 22-28

**2027** June 21-27

## Rec Lab

**2026** March 27-29

## Camp Dates

**2026** June 6-10

## 4-H Congress, Bozeman

**2026** July 7-10

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