

YELLOWSTONE COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER- MAY 2025

406-256-2828 301 N 27th Street – Old Chamber Building – 3rd Floor

Mailing Address: PO Box 35021, Billings MT 59107-5021

<https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/index.html>

Facebook: Yellowstone County 4-H

4-H FOLKS IN FOCUS

Now is a great time to start working on your 4-H record books! Go to the [Yellowstone County 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/recordsheets.html) at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/recordsheets.html> to find links to fillable record sheets. Each 4-H member completes a My 4-H Record, and one Animal/Non-animal record sheet for each project they are enrolled in. You may also visit the [State 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/projects/support/record_books/zsuite.html) at https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/projects/support/record_books/zsuite.html. They have record book video tutorials and other resources that can assist you. You can also keep your records online through your ZSuite account.

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, 2024, after which time the online program will be locked and NO changes can be made to projects. **No exceptions!**

4-H FRUIT SALE TOP SELLERS

Thank you and congratulations to these 4-H members. We appreciate their efforts during this fundraiser whose proceeds benefit the Yellowstone County 4-H Council and 4-H members.

4-H Member	4-H Club	# of boxes sold
Isabelle Brito	Shepherd Pioneers	131
Olivia Arneson	Cool Clovers	122
Reece Lackman	Hesper Hustlers	41
Tate Ackerman	Hesper Hustlers	40
Aidan Lentz	Lockwood Humble Bs	37

4-H COUNCIL MEETING

On Thursday, May 1, in the 4-H Building, there will be the Department N (non-animal projects) meeting at 6:00 pm with the 4-H Council meeting to follow. All are welcome to attend.

4-H CAMP APPLICATIONS DUE MAY 9

The 4-H Camp application can be printed off the county 4-H website at

<https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/index.html>

The completed registration and payment is due in the extension Office by May 9, at 5:00 pm (NOT postmarked by).

OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND 4-H CONGRESS IN JULY

Were you 13 years old by October 1, 2024, and are interested in attending 4-H Congress in Bozeman this July? The following briefly describes the activities and events that are available at State 4-H Congress. Please read them carefully. Congress will be July 8-11, 2025.

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

Career Communication - You practice the skills of applying for a job including an application, cover letter and resume. Contact Roni if you are interested.

Public Speaking - You must have received a blue ribbon at the county Communication Day contest. We may 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 may take a team of four. Contact Roni if you are interested.

Livestock Judging - We may take a team of 4 or individual members to compete in judging classes and giving reasons. Contact Roni if you are interested.

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. Contact Roni if you are interested.

Gavel Games - This is a Parliamentary Procedure contest. Teams of four compete. If you are interested in this program, contact Roni at the Extension Office.

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 you are interested.

Video - Learn communication skills through creating, editing, and presenting a video. Contact Roni if you are interested.

4-H members interested can attend as a delegate (a member of age wanting to attend) or by competing in Career Communications, Demonstration or Illustrated Talk, Fashion Review, Gavel Games (Parliamentary Procedure), Horse Judging, Horse Hippology (Skillathon), Livestock Judging, Public Speaking, Quilt Contest, Stir-ups, or Video. Descriptions of each contest can be found on the [State 4-H website Congress page](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs/events/mt_4h_statecontests/index.html) at

https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs/events/mt_4h_statecontests/index.html

Contact Roni Baker by May 9.

LET'S HAVE A 4-H/FFA FAIR STICKER CONTEST

The 2025 MontanaFair theme is "Celebrate 110 Years of Fun". Think of a creative sticker design and submit it to the Extension Office as a .pdf file by April 30. We will then put it out to everyone to vote. We can then do our sticker contest based on the theme as well as decorate at the fair.

MONTANAFAIR EXHIBITOR HANDBOOKS ONLINE

The 2025 MontanaFair Exhibitor handbooks for Department A and N will be available on the [MontanaFair website](http://www.montanafair.com/) at www.montanafair.com/. On the Yellowstone County website, there is a link to the handbooks under the MontanaFair heading. You can begin writing down your entries on the MontanaFair entry worksheet that can be printed off the Yellowstone County 4-H website under the MontanaFair section. This will help you be prepared when entry opens on the MontanaFair website.

MONTANAFAIR CAMPER SPACE INFORMATION

Those that have made a camper space reservation request will receive camper space information letters and clovers to put in your camper window, mid- to late-June.

All 4-H/FFA exhibitor requests for MontanaFair Camper/Trailer reservations are only accepted through [this link](https://4h.zsuite.org/external-event-registration/37654): <https://4h.zsuite.org/external-event-registration/37654>. Completing a request does not guarantee a space reservation.

GRADUATION WELL WISHES

Our congratulations to all 4-H members graduating from high school this year. We wish you the best!

Graduate	4-H Club	Graduate	4-H Club
Sara Ackerman	Hesper Hustlers	Brylenn Olstad	Huntley Eagles
Jacob Baeten	Laurel Roadrunners	Ariel Petersen	Hesper Hustlers
Sarah Boetticher	Jumping Bucks	Lauren Petersen	Hesper Hustlers
Parker Cook	Huntley Eagles	Syler Pizzolato	Northern Lights
Dean Green	Kountry Kritters	Cadence Sims	Ruff Riders
Dakota Hale	Shepherd Tumbleweeds	Jorden Trupka	Ruff Riders
Max Hawkins	Shepherd Pioneers	Sophia Wagner	Ruff Riders
Cale Hockhalter	City Kids	Will Wetzel	Jumping Bucks
Ainsley McFarland	Northern Lights	Audrheanna Williams	Project Rockin' Wranglers
Lilly Morris	Pine Ridge Red Ryder	Benjamin Woods	Northern Lights
Claire Murnin	Whips & Sticks		

COMMUNICATION DAY SUCCESS!

The following members participated in up to three categories of Demonstration, Speech, Video presentation, Short Take, Interview and Commercial.

Tate Ackerman	Adeliah Curry	Taytum Lynch	Remington Rau
Madilyn Aldrich	Graclynn Fallang	Joy Mortensen	Erin Robertson
Olivia Arneson	Annabelle Fournier	Hayes Mosher	Mae Russell
Traden Beddes	Teddy Fournier	Sawyer Mosher	Elizabeth Saunders
Tristen Beddes	Cale Hockhalter	Kaidence Osborne	Maverick Sorensen
Isabelle Brito	Michaela Hockhalter	Pike Pankratz	Emma Teter
Wesley Browning	Rex Koivu	Amanda Parks	Mackenzie Turner
Cahill Clark	Aidan Lentz	Matthew Parks	Madison Turner
Callen Clark	Stetson Longmire	Sarina Parks	Mason Turner
Colt Clark	Hadleigh Lynch	Ariel Petersen	

COMMUNITY SERVICE/SERVICE LEARNING

It is springtime and it makes everyone want to go outside and enjoy the weather. Now is the perfect time to get active and perform community service. I would encourage your club or you individually to visit a park, softball field, church, or your neighbor(hood) and pick up some garbage, tree branches - whatever needs cleaning up.

FINDING YOUR INITIALS IN THE NEWSLETTER

Look for your initials (first and last) and birthdate in the newsletter. A sample looks like this: (ac/05/12/98). If you find your initials, call the Extension Office at 406-256-2828 and 4-H Council will mail you a \$10 check.

CLOVERBUD CAMP MEETING

Cloverbud Camp 2025 will be held on Tuesday, July 22 at the 4-H Building. The camp theme will be "Super Heros". If you are interested in helping, please email Roni (rbaker@yellowstonecountymt.gov) or Stephanie (sjohnson@yellowstonecountymt.gov).

SUPPORT 4-H BY CHOOSING THE 4-H LICENSE PLATE

The 4-H license plate is still available. Be sure to ask for the application at the Motor Vehicle Department when you renew/purchase your next license.

4-H ADULT AWARDS

The Montana 4-H Foundation and 4-H Center have consolidated the award nomination for adults into one form. The awards categories are:

Tribute to Volunteer Excellence Awards: The 4-H Center will recognize individuals from each 4-H District in two award categories. The Outstanding Lifetime Volunteer recognizes individuals who have served as 4-H volunteers for 10 years or more. The Volunteer of the Year recognizes individuals who have served as 4-H volunteers for less than 10 years.

Hall of Fame Award: The 4-H Foundation honors individuals such as community leaders, alumni, former or current directors or former or current staff for their outstanding lifetime efforts to generate opportunities for 4-H youth by giving, volunteering, or community support of 4-H.

Outstanding 4-H Alumni Award: The 4-H Foundation recognizes 4-H alumni who have made a significant impact on 4-H by promoting, supporting, and enhancing the benefits of youth and adult involvement in the program or a specific 4-H project area.

For details regarding qualifications, requirements and forms visit the [State 4-H website](http://www.montana4h.org/programs/awards/adult-awards.html) at <http://www.montana4h.org/programs/awards/adult-awards.html>. **Nominations are due June 1.**

ACTIVE PROJECT LEADER/VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS

Each year Leaders and volunteers are asked to complete a form that outlined and recorded the minimum requirements for being an "Active" leader. The purpose is to evaluate an adults involvement in the program and their eligibility for

event scholarships, awards, etc. **(This information will be used in considering MontanaFair ticket requests.)** In ZSuite under the Events section, please complete the “Active Project Leader/Volunteer Requirement Report & Request for MontanaFair Tickets” by July 11, 2025.

The first question on the form is “Have you completed the mandatory Clover Academy Montana 4-H Volunteer Orientation?” If you cannot answer “yes” you will be unable to move forward until it has been completed. To be considered an active leader you MUST complete the orientation.

The following information must also be included:

- **Attend and list the dates of three club meetings.**
- **Attend at least one County, Regional or State meeting or training.** Some examples are Horse and Colt, Sale, Livestock, Dept. N, Fruit Sale, Animal Quality Assurance, Committee Officer, etc.
- **Give a project or activity report at a club meeting. Provide the date and topic.**
- **List additional activities that are planned between July 11 and August 8, 2025.**
- **Project leaders must hold at least three project meetings/workshops related to your project areas. List the dates, project area and a brief description of what you did.**

OR

Volunteers must sign up and fulfill one club adult responsibility and provide a brief description of what you did. Some examples are Community Service, Showcase, Communication Day, Camps, Awards, Family Fun Night, Ice Cream Booth, Club T-Shirt order, organizing Club Jackpot Show, organizing club or county workshop, recreation committee, fair decorations, club activities, organizing a fundraiser, etc.

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. For 2025, there are several opportunities for Montana families to host international delegates, both short-term, 3-4 weeks; and long-term, 10 months. Here are the available host family opportunities for 2025 inbound delegates that state 4-H has committed to and the approximate dates of their exchanges.

Two Norwegian delegates (possibly more), 14-18 years old &/OR one adult chaperone. Dates: June 25 to July 18/19.
Twenty Japanese delegates, 18 youth, 12-18 years old, and 2 adult chaperones. Dates: July 21-23 to August 16-18

In addition, state 4-H has also committed to hosting two Academic Year Program (AYP) students from Japan and/or South Korea. These students are seeking to spend an entire academic year, mid-August to early June, with a host family in Montana while attending public school. This hosting opportunity does not require a host sibling although it does make transiting to a new school environment much easier. These students have a higher English language proficiency but still require a fair bit of emotional and financial management support during their homestay.

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.

MONTHLY CLUB MINUTES HIGHLIGHTS

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

Jumping Bucks: Members will clean up the area at the Audubon Center for their club Community Service project.

Lockwood Humble Bs: The clubs cooking project members went to the Ronald McDonald house and cooked meals for the people staying there. They made cookies, corn bread and chili.

Shepherd Pioneers: Club demo day will be in April. We recognized club leaders with treats for National Volunteer Week.

4-H SUPPORTERS

Many businesses and organizations in our community support 4-H. Each month I have been listing several of those supporters in the newsletter. I would 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
Albertsons	2334 Central Ave, Billings MT 59102
Betaseed	6734 Hesper Rd, Billings, MT 59106
D & S Construction Inc.	5243 Powmer Rd, Billings, MT 59105
Rocky Mountain Rain Gutters	PO Box 186, Worden, MT 59088
J & L Livestock	4935 Powmer Rd, Billings, MT 59105
Albertsons	1212 Grand Ave, Billings, MT 59102
Ross Company Trucking	4990 Metzger Rd, Laurel, MT 59044
Auto Acres	PO Box 960, Billings, MT 59103
Arrow Septic	8105 Hofferber Rd, Shepherd MT 59079

DEPARTMENT N – POST COMMUNICATION CONTEST/SHOWCASE MEETING MAY 1

On Thursday, May 1, in the 4-H Building, there will be the Post Communication Contest meeting at 5:30 pm; the Post Showcase meeting; Department N (non-animal projects) meeting at 6:00 pm with the 4-H Council meeting to follow. All are welcome to attend.

STATE BB GUN RESULTS

The State BB Match was held in Glendive April 5 and 6. There were 22 teams and 146 kids competing, ranging in age from 7 to 15. Yellowstone County 4-H sent 3 teams made up of 20 members.

- Team Blue placed 3rd: Traden Beddes, Jack Holberg, Karter Shivar, Karlin Clayton, Trigg Rouse, Jacob Schiermeister and Cahill Clark.
- Team Red placed 7th : Ella Dykes, Tristen Beddes, Rex Koivu, Marie O'Donnell, Gunner Hanson, Aiyana Anderson, and Gannon Grice.
- Team Purple placed 15th: Bo Martin, Trent Gabel, Eva Rouse, Rafe McCaffree, Hazen Pearce and Callen Clark

We extend a big thank you to all of our BB Gun coaches, educational teachers, and parents who have been helping these members since December to get ready for this competition. Full match results can be viewed the [Orion Result Center website](https://www.orionresults.com/team/MatchPage.aspx?MatchID=1.2304.2025032518055991.0) at <https://www.orionresults.com/team/MatchPage.aspx?MatchID=1.2304.2025032518055991.0>.

CERAMICS WORKSHOPS FOR JUNE AND JULY

Sheri will be gone the month of May. We will meet June 14 to finish projects from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm OR 1:00 to 4:00 pm. Then Wednesday June 18 will be a pour day from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Bring your own lunch. We can also paint while waiting for molds to set. July 9 will be a regular day for projects 10:00 am to 1:00 pm and 1:00 to 4:00 pm. July 19 will be our final pour day from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (these items can be used for next year). Bring your own lunch. Questions? Call Sheri at 406-633-5531.

2025 SHOWCASE WINNERS

Junior Shopping in Style Overall: Amanda Parks

Senior Shopping in Style Overall: Jordan Trupka

Beginner Shopping in Style Overall Appearance:

Annabelle Fournier

Senior Shopping in Style Overall Appearance:

Erin Robertson

Junior Sewing Overall Winner: Inara Leonard

Cloverbud Sewing: Hazel Long – two outfits

Beginner Sewing

Construction: Madison Turner

Advanced Intermediate Sewing

Presentation: Scarlet Preble

Display Overall: Mason Turner

Junior Display Overall: Adeliah Curry

Senior Display Overall: Mae Russell

Beginner Display

Construction: Adeliah Curry

Junior Display

Construction: Scarlett Preble

Presentation: Sonja Humphrey

Embroidery Overall: Isabelle Brito
Cloverbud Costume: Sarina Parks
Junior Costume

Appearance (purchased): Amanda Parks
Presentation (made): Adeliah Curry
Senior Costume: Jordan Trupka

2025 QUILT SHOW WINNERS

Some members had multiple entries within a category.

Overall Member Judges Choice: Lauren Petersen

Member Wall Hanging or Quilted Item – 3 years and under in Project: Lydia Tidwell

Member Wall Hanging or Quilted Item – Over 3 years in Project: Ariel Petersen

Member Small – Lap or Crib Size – 3 years and under in Project: 1st Lydia Tidwell; 2nd Rayna Griffith

Member Medium – Twin or Full Size – Junior: 1st Alexa Kuhr; 2nd Morgan Ready; 3rd Paul Kuhr

Member Medium – Twin or Full Size – Senior: 1st Hazel Russell; 2nd Ariel Petersen; 3rd Molly Arnold

Member Large – Queen or King Size – Over 3 years in Project: Brooklyn Kuhr

Overall Adult Judges Choice Quilt: Jessica Russell

Adult Small Quilt: 1st Jane Montmeny; 2nd Candice Fournier; 3rd Megan Turner

Adult Medium Quilt: 1st Amy Ready; 2nd Jennifer Williams

Adult Art Quilt: Meleia Booth

SMALL ANIMAL, LIVESTOCK & SALE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Wednesday, May 28, the Small Animal Committee will meet at 6:00 pm, Sale Committee will meet at 6:30 p.m. and the Livestock Committee will meet immediately following Sale Committee. We meet in the 4-H Building. Everyone is welcome. (CJV/6/6/11)

SKILLATHON (PRE-MONTANAFAIR EVENT) – REGISTER IN ZSUITE BY MAY 2

Skillathon will be held in conjunction with small animal judging on Saturday, May 10, 2025, in the 4-H Building at MetraPark. Large and small animal skillathon will be available to participants. We begin at 8:30 and run until Small Animal Judging (also held in the 4-H Building on May 11) is finished. Skillathon is required if you intend on entering Department A All-Around at MontanaFair. You do not have to enter All Around to participate in the Skillathon. Register in ZSuite through your household profile under “Events”. Registration deadline is May 2 by 5:00 pm.

A Skillathon or "Livestock Learning Laboratory" is an excellent method of involving youth in challenging, learn-by-doing activities. The purpose of the Skillathon is to evaluate member knowledge, their skill in applying that knowledge and their attitudes and understanding of the knowledge and projects. It is designated in a series of mini-learning stations with a facilitator at each station. Members rotate from station to station, attempting to perform specific tasks. There will be an interview/scoring judge at each station. Twenty points will be available at each station. You must sign up for Skillathon on your Department A Fair entry as Division 3, Class (select) 1–6.

SMALL ANIMAL JUDGING CONTEST (PRE-MONTANAFAIR EVENT) – REGISTER IN ZSUITE BY MAY 2

The Small Animal Judging Contest will be held on Saturday, May 11, 2024, in the 4-H Building at MetraPark. Check-In at 11:00 a.m. and the contest will start at 12:00 noon. Small Animal Judging is required if you intend on entering Department A All-Around at MontanaFair. Register in ZSuite through your household profile under “Events”. You must sign up for Small Animal Judging on your Department A Fair entry as Division 2, Class (select) 1-3. Registration deadline is May 2 by 5:00 pm.

Classes may consist of, but are not limited to, poultry, rabbit, pocket pet, cat, dog, feed analysis and/or knowledge test. There will be two classes of reasons.

SWINE, SHEEP & MARKET GOATS EAR TAGGING FOR 2025 MONTANAFAIR

Any 4-H or FFA member wishing to enter a market swine, sheep, or goat in the 2025 MontanaFair must be enrolled in the

project by **April 30** and ear tag their animals on **Saturday, May 3. The tagging site will be Public Auction Yards (PAYS) 1802 Minnesota Avenue, from 8:00 - 11:00 am.**

SCALES AVAILABLE FOR WEIGHING

County scales are available to weigh your animals leading up to fair. Please reach out to the following leaders:
Lisa Mosher at 406-698-6730. Lisa has a pig scale with a crate.
Cher Myers at 406-690-5101.

SHEEP AND GOAT SHOWMANSHIP HELP

If you need any sheep or goat showmanship help, you can contact Heather Arkell to set up a time with her on a weekend. Please call or text Heather Arkell at 406-208-4463.

MAY EDUCATIONAL HORSE WORKSHOP

We will be covering anatomy and conformation on Thursday, May 15, 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm in the 4-H Building at Metra Park. The workshop is open to all 4-H youth interested in learning more about horses! Contact Bonnie DeVerniero with any questions at 406-694-5234.

HORSE & COLT MEETING

The Horse & Colt meeting will be on May 21, at 6:00 pm. At this meeting we will be discussing job descriptions for MontanaFair duties. Duties will be assigned at the June Horse & Colt meeting. We encourage anyone involved in Horse & Colt projects to attend our monthly meetings.

ALPACA CLINIC MAY 24

J K Lone Sandal Farms invites 4-H to come learn about alpacas and how to show them. We would love to have you come and learn more about Alpacas. They will show you how to take care of Alpacas and how to show them. They will be going over showmanship and obstacle course training. They would love for you to visit their farm and learn more about these wonderful animals! You never know, you may just fall in love with them and join us this year showing them at MontanaFair. Meet at their farm (1797 Milam Road in Huntley) on Saturday, May 24 at 1:00 pm. Questions? Call 406-696-0905.

HORSE ID CARD REQUIREMENTS & POLICY FOR MEMBERS & LEADERS

All MontanaFair 4-H horse exhibitors must turn in a completed Horse ID card with proof of current 4 in 1 vaccination (influenza, tetanus, and eastern and western sleeping sickness) attached to the card. Cards must be turned into exhibitor's horse leader who will verify that the ID card is complete and deliver it to the Extension Office with Assessment Result Sheets by June 15. Horse ID cards must be signed by the member, parent, leader and include a picture of the horse and rider. Cards received after the June 15 deadline will not be accepted and horses without completed cards on file will not be allowed to show at MontanaFair. Only one ID card per Horse Project will be accepted. (English and Western Horsemanship are different projects, and two different horses may be used.)

Questions? Please reference the [2024-25 Horse & Colt Policy](https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/4-hpolicies.html) on the county website at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/4-hpolicies.html>.

HORSE FINAL ASSESSMENTS FOR MONTANAFAIR

4-H members will be assessed at the club level by a horse leader or teen horse leader. The assessment sheets are not to be turned into the county office but are to be kept in the member's record book. The assessment Results Sheet signed by the horse or organizational leader showing the new levels and projects for all members will be turned into the Extension Office. These sheets with all level changes are to be completed by June 15 each year. Members will show in the level above what has been completed. Leaders can decline to assess a member; however, members must be assessed to attend MontanaFair. The member may ask the Horse & Colt committee for another registered Horse Leader to assess them.

SADDLE UP FOR 4-H HOURS ON HORSEBACK PROGRAM

It's time to join the "Hours on Horseback" program. Keep track of the hours you ride your project horse from May 1 to September 30, 2025. This is the easiest way to track just how much time you put into your project and shows your riding consistency. It can also be added into your record book next to your "What I did & What I learned" sections. You can also track your time for your 1- and 2-year old colt to maturity projects. Awards are given at Family Fun Night in November. Register in ZSuite through your household profile under "Events". Logs for recording hours can be printed off the [Yellowstone County 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/departmenta.html) at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/departmenta.html>

2025 HORSE SHOWS AND CLINICS

Contact your club Horse leader for more information.

Event	Date	Location
No Glitz No Glamour Show	May 17-18	Miller's Horse Place
All Breed Ranch Horse Challenge	May 30-June 1	SuperBarn at MetraPark
Big Sky Classic Quarter Horse Show	June 6-8	Cottonwood Arena in Silesia
Black Diamond 4-H Horse Show	June 14	SuperBarn at MetraPark
Big Sky State Games	July 12-13	Check BSSG website
Lewistown Open Show	July 19	Lewistown Fairgrounds
Rockin' the Project Show	July 19	SuperBarn at MetraPark
Montana State 4-H Working Ranch Show	September 12-14	406 Arena in Vaughn, MT
Montana State 4-H Horse Show	September 26-28	406 Arena in Vaughn, MT

2024-2025 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. Yellowstone County has two 4-H age brackets for AQA training. Exhibitors must attend AQA as Beginners/Juniors (4-H age 8-13), and as a senior member (4-H age 14-19). This age is based on the exhibitors "4-H Age" – the age as 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 are exhibiting in an animal project. All classes will include the same teaching materials and use the same forms and paperwork. Class content is determined by a committee and updated every two years. A parent or legal guardian must also attend the AQA Training.

There will be hands on, group activities. Please plan on arriving on time with a parent with both staying for the complete 1½ hours. If you and your parent are not in attendance for the complete training, you may be asked to attend another session. Plan on attending a session early in the year so conflicts do not occur in your family schedule. **NO workshops will be held after the June 3 class. It is the final opportunity for 2025.**

The session in May is face-to-face at PAYS. For the virtual sessions, people will log into the Webex meeting (Webex link information will be sent out via email prior to each session) to learn the information then go to the online program, pay their own \$12 fee, and take the online class. Send a copy of the completion certificate to the Extension Office.

Saturday, May 3: 9:00-10:30 am at PAYS (Public Auction Yards) – Large animals focus

Tuesday, June 3: 6:30 pm Virtual training

MSU EXTENSION 4-H HORSE HELMET POLICY & WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Participants in the 4-H Horse Project 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" – the age as of October 1 of the current 4-H year. Exhibitors must attend a Horse Helmet Workshop the first year they reach every age bracket or the first year they are exhibiting in an animal project. A parent or legal guardian must also attend the Horse Helmet Workshop.

After attending a 4-H Helmet Workshop, riders may choose whether they will wear a certified helmet. It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian of the 4-H member to see that the headgear worn complies with such 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 4-H horse 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 usually 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 in this policy 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 3 class. It is the final opportunity for 2025.**
Saturday, May 3: 11:00 am-12:00 pm at PAYS (Public Auction Yards)

PREPARING YOUR CATTLE FOR THE SHOW RING

The American Angus Association recently produced a two-part video for its junior members to answer some of the questions about how to best prepare cattle for the show ring. You can watch these videos by going to the links provided below:

[National Junior Angus Association Fitting and Showing Part 1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SCyJ0mKCiUU) at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SCyJ0mKCiUU>

[National Junior Angus Association Fitting and Showing Part 2](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5f51j5CWUn4) at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5f51j5CWUn4>

NILE MERIT HEIFER PROGRAM

This year the NILE will select recipients for the Merit Heifer Program and match them up with donors from across the region. Applications are being accepted via email. No hard copies will be accepted. Visit the [NILE website](https://thenile.org/events/livestock/nile-merit-heifer-program/) at <https://thenile.org/events/livestock/nile-merit-heifer-program/>

The NILE Merit Heifer program is a "live animal" scholarship that strives to help youth get a start in the beef cattle business by awarding heifer calves to participants chosen based on merit, future goals, and ability to care for the animal. Any youth ages 12-16 as of June 30, 2025, who are a 4-H or FFA member, may apply. Applicants are not limited to Montana residents.

During the program duration, participants are responsible for raising the heifer, arranging for her to be bred, completing the record keeping procedure and bringing the animal back one year later as a bred replacement heifer for exhibit at the NILE Stock Show in October.

MAY 2025 4-H CALENDAR



4-H Building Cleaning Schedule:
Call the Extension Office to Schedule.

Hesper Hustlers: April 19-May 2
 Lockwood Humble Bs: May 17-30

City Kids: May 3-16
 Ruff Riders: May 31-June 13

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 5:30 Post Comm. Day 5:45 Post Showcase 6:00 Dept N followed by 4-H Council <i>All at the 4-H Building</i>	2	3 8-11 Swine, Sheep & Goat tagging 9:00 Animal Quality Assurance 11:00 Horse Helmet <i>All at PAYS</i>
4	5	6	7	8	9 4-H Camp Application Due	10 Skillathon / Sm. Animal Judging <i>4-H Building</i>
11	12	13	14	15 6:00 Horse Workshop <i>4-H Building</i>	16 June Newsletter Articles Due	17
18	19	20	21 6:00 Horse & Colt meeting <i>4-H Building</i>	22	23	24 1:00 Alpaca Workshop <i>1797 Milam Rd in Huntley</i>
25	26 Memorial Day Office Closed	27	28 6pm Small Animal Comm. 6:30 Sale Comm. followed by Livestock Comm. <i>4-H Building</i>	29	30	31 4-H Day at Shipton's Big R West on <i>Gabel Road</i>