



January.

2025

4-H NEWSLETTER 2025

Welcome new 4-H Families!

We are pleased to welcome all new families, members, cloverbuds and volunteers to the Fergus/Petroleum County 4-H Program. We look forward to getting to know you and participating in 4-H events and activities together. Please feel free to contact us at the Extension Office with any questions you might have. We are located behind the Courthouse in Lewistown and our phone is 406-535-3919. Your club leaders and families in your 4-H club are also a great resource for help and information. Attending your monthly club meetings is vital for the best possible experience in the 4-H Program.

4-H Enrollment Final Deadline January 15th

If you missed the January 1st deadline you may still enroll during the Grace Period from January 2nd to January 15th, please complete all steps to the enrollment process by this date. You will need to pay for your own literature and check with the organizational leader of the club you would like to join, to make sure they will still accept new members for the year.

Welcome our New Ambassadors

The Fergus/Petroleum County Ambassadors would like to welcome 2 new members, Aubrey Hankins and Johnnie Schultz. We are excited to have these two joining the team and bringing with them new ideas and enthusiasm to make the best better.

Did You Know

We adopted the Montana State 4-H Horse show rule book. Please be sure to read it since it comes with many changes to our horse show.

Project books are no longer required, but you can still enter them into the fair as an exhibit. You will find the entry information in Department 1 class 1797 of the 4-H and FFA section of the fair book.

Each family is permitted to tag one "family" animal. This family animal MUST be designated at tagging. To utilize the family animal, a death certificate or note of injury from a veterinarian must be provided for one of the member-specific animals (e.g. the family animal may not be used unless one of the other animals becomes un-showable; underweight market animals or open heifers are not valid reasons for utilizing the family animal).

Small animals need an ID card to be turned into the Extension Office by June 1st. The cards are available at the Extension Office. Please fill them out for every small animal you are taking to fair.

4-H Happenings

Winter Fair

Winter Fair is coming up soon. The dates have been moved back and it will be held Jan 17th-19th. There are many events to take part in. Livestock judging will be Friday and the rabbit, cat and poultry show will be on Saturday at the trade center starting with the cat show at 2pm, poultry at 3pm and the rabbit show at 4pm. On Sunday the beef show will be going on in the pavilion.

We will also be hosting the concessions in the trade center on Sat 8:30 - 4pm. The link to the sign-up genius is below for times to help and donations needed. Please remember that this fundraiser helps us to offer more to our kids throughout the year and many hands make light work. **Sign-up Link:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10COE4CA9AB2AA0F4C34-54117291-winter>

Leaders Council Meeting

February 13th 5:30pm Sheriff's Complex

Leader's Council meeting will be February 13th at 5:30pm at the Sheriff's Complex. We will be organizing scholarship and endowment committees. Please come and voice your opinions and stay current on the Council business, members are always welcome and encouraged since this is their program.

Valentine Cakes

February 13th Extension Office

February is sneaking up on us. We will be selling Valentines cakes again this year. Please put this on your meeting agendas as each club needs to bring at least 5 cakes. Please have them at the extension office by Thursday February 13th. We will be hand delivering them on Friday and would love it if you have a little time to help. This is a great way to say Happy Valentines Day or Thank you! We will be selling them for \$10. People can call or stop by the extension office to order and pay.

County Public Speaking Day

March 23rd Boys & Girls Club

Mark your calendars for County Public Speaking Day! March 23rd at the boys and girls club. This event allows you to compete in public speaking on the county level. For those of you wanting to compete at State Congress in public speaking you must attend and place to compete at Congress. This is also a perfect opportunity to improve your communications and public speaking skills. Remember you will always need these skills no matter what you choose to pursue in life. All members and cloverbuds should be doing a presentation in their club.



Static Committee Fundraiser Stickers

1 for \$3

2 for \$5



4-H Happenings

Leadership Academy

Always at 3pm at the Extension Office or by Zoom

Join the Montana 4-H Leadership Academy workshop on Sunday afternoons in 2025. The Leadership Academy is a network of Montana 4-H members interested in exploring and developing their own leadership skills while serving their local 4-H program in new ways.

Local leadership groups will have an opportunity to join with members from around the state as well as the Montana 4-H Ambassador Officer team, virtually, to work on skill building, planning and mentorship.

Each month the officer team will be presenting a different workshop topic that they found to be important as they have grown their own leadership abilities.

January 12th

Icebreaker 101

In this workshop you will get an inside look on what makes a good icebreaker and how to keep your audience engaged. With a group and a State Ambassador you will brainstorm and design your own icebreaker!

February 9th

Leading with Confidence

This workshop will teach attendees about how to be confident, but not arrogant. Learn all about how to grow your confidence through leadership and how to use it properly.

March 16th

Collective Leadership

Presented by Morgan Sites from Park County

This leadership academy will focus on leadership within a group. Attendees will learn about common problems that occur within committees, why they arise, and how to solve them.

Radio Dates

January radio dates are 1/10 at 10:10, 1/21 at 10:30, and 1/31 at 10:10. This is a great time to let our community know what you are doing in 4-H. It is important for our community to know you are working on your projects throughout the year and not just at fair time. This is also a great way to work on your communications skills. If you are unable to attend in person and still would like to be on the radio, you can either go after school and record or record in MP3 format and email it to Heidi at heidi@kxlo-kbcm.com.

Shooting Sports

Cody and Andy are working on getting dates for different Shooting Sport practices with different disciplines.

Livestock, Horse, Small Animal

Rate of Gain Contest

The Rate of Gain Contest initial weigh-in will be held at Gateway Simmental on January 12th from 10am-2pm. Participating in the Rate of Gain Contest gives youth a way to track performance and emphasizes real-world metrics of success in the livestock industry. This will also be the time for members needing assistance to get help tagging/weighing animals. Please let the office know if you are needing help with tagging before January 10th.

Winter Fair- Livestock Judging

Montana Winter Fair is just around the corner, which means so are opportunities for youth to get involved. Please note that Montana Winter Fair is a week earlier than usual and will be on January 17th-19th. The Livestock Judging Contest will now be held on Friday, January 17th. Registration starts at 1pm and the contest starting at 2pm. Saturday will have events such as the Stick Horse Rodeo, Dog Show, and Small Animal Show. Activities at Montana Winter Fair will end out with the Youth Beef Show on Sunday.

Livestock Judging Practice

January 15th & 29th

As the new year begins, there is no better time to join the Fergus-Petroleum Livestock Judging Team! Members of this team will have the opportunity to grow their skills of animal evaluation and participate in livestock judging contests throughout the year. Please reach out to the office if you have any questions.

Small and Large Animal Workbook Workshop & Small Animal Committee Meeting

January 11th 9am First Christian Church (Meeting Starts at Noon)

Small and Large animal workbook Workshop will be January 11th at 9:00 AM at the First Christian Church. This is a time to sit with others in this project and work through your seven activities in your workbook. Most kids can get all seven activities done in the time that we are together. This alleviates pressure and stress in the days before interview day.

The Small Animal Committee meeting will be following the small and large animal workbook workshop on January 11th at noon. We will be discussing the spring showmanship clinic, fair prizes, and sponsorships. Please come and voice your opinions, members are always welcome and encouraged since this is their program.

Horse Committee Meeting

January 6th 5:30pm Extension Office.

We will discuss fundraiser and sponsorship ideas, budget, clinics, and more. Horse Judging Dates will come out in a separate email from Riley, be on the lookout for those details.

Rec Lab Citizenship Seminar & Legislative Breakfast

2025 Montana 4-H Citizenship Seminar and Legislative Breakfast

The 2025 Montana 4-H Citizenship Seminar and Legislative Breakfast will take place from January 19-21, 2025, in Helena, Montana. This event is designed to educate Montana youth about the rights and responsibilities of citizenship and the legislative process through fun and interactive format. Participants will interact with each other during a mock legislative process, using bills they have written and submitted. 4-H members must be 13 years of age by October 1, 2024. Citizenship Seminar youth and adult participants will also attend the Legislative Breakfast on Tuesday, January 21st and the practice dinner on Monday January 20th. There is a \$95 registration fee per youth and adult to offset the seminar program costs. The program fee includes all meals for both Montana Citizenship Seminar and the Legislative Breakfast.

Youth log into your Z-Suite Profile and register under Events starting November 29, 2024 – January 8, 2025. Please check with your county office to confirm the amount before paying. Registration for Citizenship Seminar includes registration to Legislative Breakfast. Participants attending Citizenship Seminar do not need to register separately for Legislative Breakfast.

Rec Lab 2025

SAVE the DATE and follow the yellow brick road to the 2025 Rec Lab because “There’s No Place Like 4-H!

March 28-30th, 2025 in White Sulphur Springs, MT

“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. Montana 4-H Rec Lab is open to youth 13+ years old (age as of Oct. 1st, 2024).

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. The event has a camp feeling because everything will take place in one school or location! Participants will bring air mattresses and sleeping bags to sleep on the gym floor and attend workshops all together in the school and join lots of social and fun activities.

Registration will be through Z-Suite and is set to open on **February 10th and will close March 12th. The cost will be around \$100 per person.** Participants will have the opportunity to pick from a list of workshops during registration. If you are interested in leading a workshop, please let Chris know.

Camps

Camp Counselor Applications Due and Mandatory Meeting February 15th (application due) February 23rd (mandatory meeting)

Camp counselor applications are due Feb 15th, and a mandatory counselor meeting is scheduled for Feb 23rd. This is a great opportunity to use your leadership skills. As a counselor you will work as a team to plan, organize and run the junior camp this June 23rd-26th. This is a great learning experience and a great way to make a difference with the younger members. The application can be found on the Fergus MSU website, in Z-Suites and is attached.

Senior Camp June 9th-13th

We excited to be offering a new adventure this year for senior camp. We are again partnering with Judith Basin County and joining us this year will also be Chouteau County.

We are still working to plan the camp in its entirety, but we will be headed outside Paradise Valley tucked in the mountains of Emigrant, Montana. We will be working as a team on a rope course, learn the art of fishing, practice our etiquette, work on life skills such as cooking a meal on a budget, and maybe check out some grizzly bears.

Save the date for this exciting adventure June 9-13th. Stay tuned for registration form and pricing.

Tween Camp August

We are again partnering with Judith Basin County and working on an adventure to the top of the state. We are tentatively planning for an August camp. We are currently working towards solidifying reservations and accommodation and will send out further information when details are finalized.

Junior Camp June 23rd (counselors) June 24th-26th

More information to come :)

Cloverbud Day Camp Tentatively June 2nd or 16th

More information to come :)



Shoutout Page



Big Sky 4H Club hosted a bake sale in December 20th and will donate proceeds to a charity of their choice.

Ambassadors

The Ambassador Toiletry Drive was a huge success thanks to the Berger family, Moore Barn Stompers, Shamrocks, Teppert family, and Winifred Mustangs. We were able to donate almost 200 items to the elderly and the community cupboard. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. The Bergers were the winners of the ice cream party.



4-H Calendar

January

- 1st- 4-H Enrollment Deadline
- 6th- Horse Committee Meeting 5:30pm Ext Office
- 7th- Livestock Committee Meeting 6pm Sheriff's Complex
- 8th- Last day to register for Citizenship Seminar on ZSuites
- 10th- Radio Spot 10:10am
- 11th- Small & Large Animal Workbook Workshop 9am-noon First Christian Church
 - Small Animal Committee Meeting Noon First Christian Church
- 12th- Leadership Academy Webex 3pm
 - Rate of Gain Contest 10am-2pm Gateway Simmental
- 15th- Beef Tag Information Due
 - Enrollment Grace Period Ends
 - Livestock Judging Practice 4pm Ext Office
- 17th-19th- Winter Fair (concessions, small animal shows, livestock judging)
- 19th-21st- Citizenship Seminar
- 20th- Office Closed Martin Luther King Jr Day
- 20th-21st- Legislative Breakfast
- 21st- Radio Spots 10:30am
- 29th- Livestock Judging Practice 4pm Ext Office
- 31st- Radio Spot 10:10am

February

- 9th- Leadership Academy Webex 3pm
- 13th- Leaders Council Meeting 5:30pm Sheriff's Complex
 - Valentine Cakes due to Ext Office
- 14th- Valentine Cake Delivery 10am
- 15th- Junior Camp Counselor Applications Due
- 17th- Office Closed Presidents Day
- 23rd- Counselor Training- Day and time TBD

March

- 1st- EIN 1% Fee to the office from all clubs due
 - Ambassador Applications Due to Ext Office
- 10th- Public Speaking Registration Due
- 16th- Cloverbud Day Camp Planning 1pm Ext Office
 - Leadership Academy Webex 3pm
- 23rd- Public Speaking & Gavel Games 1pm Boys and Girls Club
- 28th-30th- Rec Lab

April

- 1st- Horse Cards Available
- 8th- Farm Safety Day 8am Pavilion
- 15th- Swine Tag Information Due
- 21st- Traveling Farm 9am Bowling Alley

May

- 1st- Fair Entry Begins
- 15th- Sheep & Goat Tag Info Due
- 26th- Office Closed Memorial Day

June

- 1st- Fair Entry Deadline
- 2nd-15th- Fair Entry Grace period
- 9th-13th- Senior Camp
- 15th- final day to sign up for fair
- 24th-26th- Junior Camp

July

- 4th- Office Closed Independence Day
- 6th-11th- Pre Congress & Congress
- 13th- Pre Fair Interview Day Setup
- 14th- Pre Fair Interview Day
- 16th- Ranch Horse Show 8am
- 17th- Performance Horse Show 8am
- 21th-26th- Fair Week

August

September

- 1st- Office Closed Labor Day
- October
- 1st- New 4-H Year Enrollment Begins.
 - Club Award Nominations Due
- 12th- Office Closed Columbus Day

Facebook & Instagram

Facebook Group:
4-H Fergus/Petroleum County

Instagram Page:
4hferguspetroleumcounty

Important Web Pages

Montana State University Printable Documents & Fliers

<http://fergus.msuxextension.org/printable-4-h-ag-documents-fliers.html>

Montana State University Fergus County 4-H Clubs
<http://fergus.msuxextension.org/4H.html>

Fergus/Petroleum County 4-H Newsletters Montana State University Fergus County 4-H Clubs
<http://fergus.msuxextension.org/4H.html>

Sun

Mon

Tues

Wed

Thur

Fri

Sat

January 2025

¹ HAPPY
New Year

Office
Closed

2

3

4

5

6

7

Livestock
Committee
Meeting
6pm
Sheriff's
Complex

8

Last Day to
Reg for
Citizenship
Seminar &
Legislative
Breakfast

9

10

Radio Time
Slot
10:10am

11

Small &
Large Animal
Workshop
9am-12pm
Small Animal
Committee
Meeting
12pm
First
Christian
Church

12

Leadership
Academy
3pm
Ext Office

13

14

15

Final
Enrollment
Deadline

Beef Tag
Pic & Weigh
Sheets Due

16

17

Winter
Fair

18

Winter
Fair

19

Winter
Fair

20

Office
Closed
Martin
Luther King
Jr Day

21

Radio Time
Slot
10:30am

22

23

24

25

**Citizenship Seminar &
Legislative Breakfast**

26

27

28

29

30

31

Radio Slot
10:10am

4-H Junior Camp Counselors Application- due to the Extension Office by Thursday, February 15th

Name _____ Phone _____ Text? Yes No

Age as of Oct. 1, 2024 _____ Email _____

Counselors must be 14 by October 1, 2024. Counselor assistants are 13 by October 1, 2024.

____ Camp Director (must be 16 or older and have served as a counselor for at least one previous year)

____ Counselor Assistant (13-year-olds)

Please rank the following, 1-7, 1 being most liked and 7 being least, according to your interests and abilities.

____ Organize and Lead Check in Craft Activity (1) and Craft Workshops (2)

____ Organize and Lead Dance Workshop and Build Energy and Desire to Dance at the Dance

____ Plan, Organize and Lead structured Camp Fire Ceremonies (2)

____ Plan, Organize and Lead structured Flag Ceremonies (4), Opening and Closing Ceremonies

____ Plan, Organize and Lead Get Acquainted Games (1 hour), and Game times (1 hr. Wed., 1/2 hr. Thurs.)

____ Plan Organize and Lead Evening Activity's (Tues. 2 1/2 hours structured activity(s), Wed. 2 1/2 hour dance).

____ Plan and Organize a 1-hour workshop that is not a craft, dance, or game. (3 positions available).

Please answer all the following questions, carefully and completely.

What are your hobbies, what do you do in your free time? _____

Please describe any camps you have attended and your experience at them. _____

Describe your experience working with younger children. _____

Explain your understanding of a camp counselors' responsibilities. _____

Explain what is involved in planning, organizing, and leading an activity at camp. _____

Explain what being a "team player" with the other counselors would involve. _____

I have carefully read the Job Description for Camp Counselors and believe I can fulfill those responsibilities.

Signature

____/____/____

Date