

April 2022 Focus

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Congratulations to all of our 4-H members that competed at the Houston and Austin Livestock Shows!

Tractor Supply Spring Clover Sales begin **April 27 and continue through May 8**. We are looking for 4-H members to man the Temple, Belton, and Killeen stores anytime during their regular business hours. Proceeds from the Clover Sales support 4-H at the National, State, and County levels with the County receiving the highest percentage. Please consider supporting our 4-H program by signing up for a few hours during the Spring Clover Sales. Contact Barbara Wood at woodbtwice@gmail.com for more information or to sign up for your chosen time slots and location.



1605 N. Main, Room 102

Belton, TX 76513

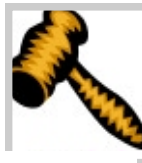
Phone: (254) 933-5305

Fax: (254) 933-5312

Website: <http://agrilife.org/bell4h/>



County Council & Ambassadors



County Council Meeting Dates

These meetings will take place at the Bell County Extension Office starting at **6:30 PM**.

Date	Meeting Program	Community Service Projects
May 9	Council Officer Elections	Canned Food Drive

March Community Service Project Canned Food Drive

Date: May 9, 2022

Location: Bell County Extension Office

Time: 6:30 PM

Bring your canned food donations to any 4-H Club Meeting! Donations will also be accepted at the Bell County Extension Office. Your donation helps families in need.

2022-2023 County Council Elections and Intent to Run Forms

If you are interested in being a Council Officer for the 2022-2023 4-H year, read the Council Officer Elections Handbook and fill out an Intent to Run Form. The Intent to Run Form is now an online Google Form. <https://forms.gle/agzwnfU5ntELTywy9>. Complete this form by **April 29, 2022** (NO EXCEPTIONS) to be eligible to run for an office on Election Day, **May 9, 2022**. All information about the election is posted on the Bell County 4-H Council website.

2022-2023 Bell County 4-H Ambassadors Applications

The 4-H Ambassador Program aims to project a clear and accurate image of the Texas and Bell County 4-H Program. They help older youth develop leadership and communication skills, help the public understand the full scope of the 4-H program, and recruit new members from diverse backgrounds. Bell County 4-H Members must meet the following requirements to be considered for selection as a Bell County 4-H Ambassador: Be at least 14 years of age as of August 31st on the year of application. **Submit a complete application, due on June 3, 2022.** A formal interview will be given after all applications have been submitted. Members will be notified for interview times. Interviews will be formal dress.

RENEWAL OF AMBASSADORS:

Meet all activity requirements and minimum points by the **application deadline, June 3, 2022**, of the current 4-H year to be considered for renewal. (Recordbook is also a requirement and is due **June 3, 2022**)

Please turn in point sheets with renewal application!

For applications go to: <http://agrillife.org/bell4h/4-h-clubs-and-councils/ambassadors/>

4-H Club Managers & Volunteers

Hunter's Spectacular Planning Meeting

We will have our next Hunter's Spectacular planning meeting on **Thursday, April 21st** starting at 6:00 pm at the Bell County CEO. Please come help us get the ball rolling on this event!!

For more information, contact Sheryl Long at Sheryl.long@ag.tamu.edu

Membership Advisory Board Meeting

When: May 24, 2022 **Where:** CEO **Time:** 6:00 pm

This meeting is open to all parents and leaders! We encourage all Club Managers to attend and give their opinions on the Bell County 4-H program.

Scholarships

Graduating Seniors

Make sure and watch the newsletter and the Bell County 4-H Website for scholarship application deadlines. The website is always being updated with new scholarships and deadlines. Sheryl will be e-mailing applications to family e-mails listed on 4-H Connect for 4-H members listed in Grade 12.

2022 Scholarships Available!

Capital Farm Credit – **April 6**

Bell County Youth Fair - **April 11**

Bell County Area Go Texan – **April 15**

District 8 TAE4-HA Scholarship—**TBD**

Don't hesitate to ask for help if you have any questions regarding scholarships.

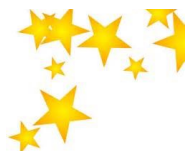
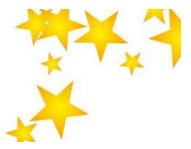
Outdoor Project News

District 8 Rifle/Light Rifle Contest

If you are interested in competing in the District 8 Rifle Contest that will take place on **Saturday, May 7th**, at the Leon County Gun Club in Oakwood. Entry deadline is **April 15, 2022** on 4-H Connect. Cost is \$10 per member per match.

All details are updated on our website: <https://agrillife.org/d84h/events-and-activities/rifle-contest/>

Contact Sheryl Long if you have any questions regarding this contest.



Awards

ADULT LEADER AWARDS

Bell County 4-H volunteer leaders and Bell County 4-H County Council will solicit nominations and vote to select two individuals to be recognized at the Annual 4-H Banquet for "Distinguished Service." One will be chosen by the MAB and one chosen by 4-H members. 4-H volunteer leaders who are chosen for this award include outstanding club managers, leaders, project leaders, workshop leaders and volunteer leaders who go above and beyond their leader capabilities.

OUTSTANDING LEADER AWARD- The Outstanding Leader Award chosen from the 4-H member requires an essay no longer than 1 page. **The ESSAYS ARE DUE June 3, 2022!** The essay should include the following:

Name of Person Making Nomination

Leader Nominated

Date

Why do you think this leader is an outstanding leader?

What does this leader do that is outstanding?

How has this leader helped you?

How has this leader helped others?

Nominations should be emailed to Sheryl.Long@ag.tamu.edu

Bell County 4-H Awards

All 4-H members applying for awards (Gold, Silver or Bronze Star; Rookie, Honor Roll, All-Star Letterman; Danforth, Senior Awards Outstanding Community Service, must submit the appropriate paperwork and applications by **June 3, 2022**. Record books for county competition will be due on **June 3, 2022**.

Awards age based on 4-H Grade as of August 31, 2021

Graduating seniors for the 2022 year, who are members of 4-H, may apply to receive a Senior Award, to be presented at the Bell County 4-H Awards Banquet. Seniors must have been active and meet the requirements listed on the application.

Other descriptions and awards information is available on the Bell County 4-H Website by going to:

<http://agrillife.org/bell4h/4-h-activities/4-h-awards/>

4-H Award Interviews

When: June 15, 2022

Where: CEO

We will schedule interview times for those members that applied to receive an award. Interviews will take place before 5:00 pm.

Upcoming Events

Clover Kids Meeting Dates for 2021-2022

May 21

Clover Kids Fair: June 18, 2022

Clover Kids Recordbooks Due: July 8, 2022

Clover Kids Summer Camp: July 16, 2022

For more information, contact Dawn Brown at bc4hcloverkids@yahoo.com.

Ag Product ID Practice

In-person practices will continue on the following dates :

April 6th, and 13th

Practices will be held at the CEO at 6:00 pm.

Upcoming contests:

Leon County - April 15th

Please contact Michael Canales at guajeman1@gmail.com or 254-541-6293 to get your name on the contest list or for more information.

Wildlife Project

The wildlife project covers species identification (flora and fauna) and facts, habitat evaluation and management, and hunting/fishing techniques, laws, and safety. Classroom meetings consist of learning (themed presentations, videos, etc.) and practice (games and activities), with snacks provided. Field trips are focused on material covered in classroom sessions. The project is open to any 4-H member interested in wildlife, management, conservation, and outdoor recreation. Upcoming classroom sessions will be held on

April 22, April 29, and May 13 from 5:00-6:00 pm at the CEO.

For more information, email joendecastillo@hotmail.com.

District 8 4-H Youth Ag Tour

Save the date! **July 20-22, 2022.** Meet people in different facets of the ag industry, and learn about ag careers you may have never dreamed of. 3 days, 2 overnight stays, lodging, meals and transportation provided. \$100 per participant. Limited to current high school freshman, sophomores or juniors. More details coming soon!

Texas 4-H Videography Contest

Texas 4-H is excited to announce a brand-new state contest, and thanks to the Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation, there is some great prize money available for the top 3 entries! Attached you will find the rules for the **2021-2022 Texas 4-H Videography Contest**.

All the details about the contest, who is eligible to compete, the prize money offered, registration deadline, scoring rubric, and much more can be found on the Bell County 4-H website.

Upcoming Events

Bell County Round Up

The Bell County Roundup includes 3 different contests. Educational Presentations, Public Speaking and Share The Fun. You **must** enter the county contest in order to advance to the District 8 Contest.

We WILL have an in-person county contest in 2022. Entries due to Sheryl.Long@ag.tamu.edu by **Friday, March 18, 2022.**

Contest will take place at the Bell County Extension Office on **Thursday, April 7, 2022.**

Educational Presentations are where you teach the audience about a certain topic/4-H project or it can also be a "how to" methods demonstration. Only open to individuals or teams of two.

Categories for Educational Presentations include:

Agricultural Technology & Farm Safety, Animal Science, Beef, Health & Wellness, Horse, Open, Open Ag & Natural Resources, Open Family & Community Health, Promote 4-H, Safety & Injury Prevention.

Public Speaking is speaking to a group without visuals and about an issue or topic.

Share The Fun is similar to a talent show for those who are very talented with music whether that is singing, playing an instrument or dancing, poetry, or skits. The skit is a "Celebrate 4-H" skit, it usually is something very entertaining and fun that has to do with 4-H.

New for the 2022 Contest!

1. New Category – Variety Show! This category has replaced the previous category of Dramedy.

Categories include:

Choreographed Routines, Variety Show, Poetry/Prose, Vocal, Celebrate 4-H, Musical/Instrumental, Solo/Band

Entry Forms and more information can be found on the Bell County 4-H website under Projects.

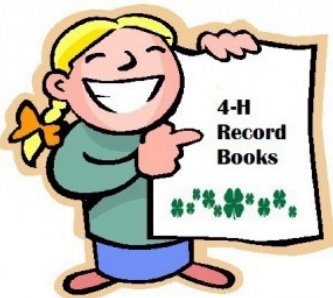
4-H members may participate in multiple events. 4-H members of all age divisions may enter a maximum of one contest from each of the three columns on the website <http://agrillife.org/bell4h/projects/roundup-contest/>

For a description of what could possibly fit under each category go to Bell County 4-H Roundup Website: <http://agrillife.org/bell4h/projects/roundup-contest/>

Bell County Record Books

Due: June 3, 2022 to the CEO

Where: CEO by 5pm



If you would like Sheryl to review your recordbook BEFORE the June 3rd FINAL submission date, then please give her your recordbook ASAP. We will trade record books with Williamson counties on **June 17th** for those who want to help us judge.

We will be judging Williamson County books in Bell County while they judge our books in Williamson County.

District 8 Record Books will be judged on **July 7th** in McLennan County.



FCH Project News



District 8 Fashion Show Contest AND CDM Contest

The date of the District 8 4-H **Fashion Show AND CDM** contest will be held on **April 25th** in Cleburne at the Conference Center. Entry deadline is **April 15!**

Things to note:

- Students will be asked to give a presentation, like they do in Food Show, instead of just conducting an interview. Each contestant will start by introducing themselves and model their garment to the judges. Participants will then provide a **5-minute presentation** to the judges. During the presentation the participants need to describe their project activities, outfit selection, construction or buying skills and their knowledge of fiber and fabrics.
 - We are planning for a Fashion Show to take place at the conclusion of judging, prior to awards.
 - Fashion Storyboards are an invitational contest, meaning that no qualification will take place at the District
- All information is posted on the Bell County 4-H website.
Don't forget to have all the correct paperwork filled out!

Consumer Decision Making

Consumer Decision Making practices are scheduled for **April 5 and 20 at 6:00 p.m.** at the County Extension Office. If you have questions or would like to know more about Consumer Decision Making, contact Barbara Wood at woodbtwice@gmail.com.

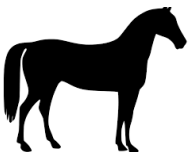
FCH Quiz Bowl Practice

FCH Quiz Bowl practice will be **April 2 and 23 at 6:00 p.m.** at the County Extension Office. This practice will be geared to the team advancing to State, but we encourage others to join us to fill out the teams and make it more challenging. Contact Barbara Wood at woodbtwice@gmail.com with any questions **or if you are interested in being considered for as a substitute on the team advancing to State (must have participated in a District 4-H contest to be considered).**

Leaders 4 Life

Leaders 4 Life practice will be **April 4, 11, 22, and 29 at 6:00 p.m.** at the Mary Ruth Briggs Library in Morgan's Point Resort. This practice will be geared to the team advancing to State as well as their Service Learning Project supporting the library, but we encourage others to join us to fill in vacancies and learn about parliamentary procedures. Contact Barbara Wood at woodbtwice@gmail.com with any questions **or if you are interested in being considered for as a substitute on the team advancing to State (must have participated in a District 4-H contest to be considered).**

The Leaders 4 Life members are continuing to collect gently used books for their Service Learning Project. Please bring any donations by the County Extension Office and leave in the L4L Collection Box outside the CEO door or contact Barbara Wood at woodbtwice@gmail.com for pickup.



Livestock Project News



4-H Horse Club Events

April 1-15: Horse Validation (Online: 4H Connect)

Apr 2: District Horse Judging Contest (TAMU-All day)

Apr 4: Drill Team Practice (5:30pm @ TLRC Arena)

Apr 4-15: District Roundup Registration (educational presentations)

Apr 9: Cow Horse Clinic (7:30am @ 3C Arena)

Meeting (5:30pm @ 3C Arena)

Apr 18: Drill Team Practice (5:30pm @ 3C Arena)

Apr 21: Horse Judging Practice (6pm @Bell CEO)

Horse Quiz Bowl Practice (6:45pm @Bell CEO)

Apr 28: Horse Judging Practice (6pm @Bell CEO)

Horse Quiz Bowl Practice (6:45pm @Bell CEO)

June Validation Dates and Tag Order Information

2022-2023 Cattle

State/BCYF Market Steers

State/BCYF Registered Heifers

2022 State Fair of Texas

Market Lambs

Market Goats

Registered/Commercial

Breeding Sheep & Goats

Market Barrows

Registered/Crossbred Gilts

2022 Heart O' Texas Fair

Registered/Crossbred Gilts

Bell County validations **REQUIRE** all 4-H and FFA members to order and pay for their tags prior to validation to ensure the correct number of tags are ordered. All orders must be handled through the Bell County Extension Office or placed online through the Bell Livestock Coalition Square Site.

Cattle and Swine tags orders are due **Monday, April 18th!** To **order online** and pay by credit card, visit: <https://bell-livestock-coalition.square.site/>. Contact Whitney Ingram if you have any questions.

2023 BCYF & 2022-2023 Major Show Cattle Validation

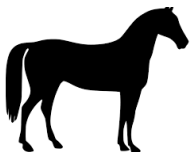
Tuesday, June 28th from 7:00 – 10:00 AM and 4:00 – 6:00 PM at the Bell County EXPO

2022 State Fair of Texas Sheep & Goat Validation

Thursday, June 16th from 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM at the Bell County Extension Office

2022 State Fair of Texas & Heart O' Texas Swine Validation

Dates TBD - Scheduling will take place once orders are complete.



Livestock Project News



Texas 4-H Horse Validation

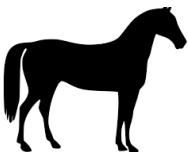
Validation for the 2022 season is now open in 4-H Online.

Horse Validation will be open from March 1 - May 1, 2022.

A few important reminders:

- The family can submit payment in the form of a **credit card ONLY**.
- **From March 1 - April 15, the validation cost for each horse is \$10.00.**
- **From April 16 - May 1, the validation cost for each horse is \$20.00.**
- Each validation must include front view, right side view, and left side view images. **The entire horse should be included in the photo and markings should be clearly visible.**
- **If the horse is registered, a copy of the registration papers must be uploaded.** These papers must list the 4-Her, sibling, parent, stepparent, grandparent or legal guardian as the current owner. If the ownership is in the process of being transferred, please list "pending" in the registration number area. Once the updated registration papers have been received, please email me a copy of the new papers and I will add it to the validation.
- In order to be eligible for breed specific awards, correct registration papers for that breed must be uploaded. If the horse is registered with more than one association, then multiple sets of registration papers can be uploaded.
- Image uploads must be in the form of a .jpg, .gif or .png file. **PDF documents are not an accepted file type.**
- **Families should validate each horse only one time.** Once the horse is validated, any sibling within that family is eligible to show the horse at their district show and/or the State 4-H Horse Show.
- Horses owned in partnership or jointly with any other person not listed above do NOT meet ownership requirements.
- Horses CANNOT be leased, rented, borrowed, or loaned.
- There is no limit to the number of horses that can be validated. You are encouraged to validate all horses that may possibly be shown at district and/or state shows. Only state validated horses can be substituted in the event that a validated horse becomes unusable due to lameness, sickness, etc.
- **Youth validating a futurity horse must be at least 12 years of age (as of Sept. 1, 2021) and at least in the 6th grade.**

The family will receive an automated message from 4-H Online when the County Extension Agent has approved the horse at the county level. **This approval does NOT guarantee eligibility.** After it is approved at the county level, the validation will then be reviewed at the state level. The family will be notified by June 1st if there are any issues with the validation at the state level.



Livestock Project News



Texas 4-H Ambassador Opportunities

I am excited to announce that the program is continuing to expand in 2022 with the inaugural Texas 4-H Poultry Ambassador Short Course! This course will be modeled after the Livestock and Equine Ambassador Short Courses and will be held at Texas A&M University in collaboration with the Poultry Science department this summer. More information can be found on the Bell County 4-H website.

We hope you will consider identifying potential Texas 4-H Livestock, Equine and Poultry Ambassadors in your county and recruit them to the program. Our hope is when they return from one of our short courses, you will find them to be eager to assist you with educational programs. More details regarding the programs can be found at www.texasyouthlivestock.com.

2022 Short Course Offering:

1. Texas 4-H **Equine** Ambassador Short Course, Tarleton State University – June 13-16, 2022
2. Texas 4-H **Poultry** Ambassador Short Course, Texas A&M University – June 15-17, 2022
3. Texas 4-H **Livestock** Ambassador Short Course, Texas A&M University-Kingsville – June 20-23, 2022
4. Texas 4-H **Livestock** Ambassador Short Course, Texas A&M University – July 18-21, 2022
5. Texas 4-H **Livestock** Ambassador Short Course, West Texas A&M/TX Tech University – July 25-28, 2022

Selection Criteria:

- Senior level (grades 9-12) 4-H youth that have exhibited a superior level of ambition regarding his/her livestock/equine/poultry projects
- Students with a profound interest in animal/equine/poultry science, animal production and advocacy
- Students have shown advanced leadership qualities and a willingness to help others
- Top 25% class rank

Application Process:

Applications will be released on the Texas Youth Livestock and Agriculture website (www.texasyouthlivestock.com) on February 15, 2022

2. Student will complete the application and enter the contact information of supervising CEA
3. CEA will be automatically emailed a recommendation survey
4. A selection committee will review the applications and accept up to 25 participants per short course

Applications are due **May 1, 2022**



Summer Fun Activities



District 8 Leadership Lab (Surge)

When: June 21-23, 2021

Cost: \$225per person

Deadline: May 20

Where: Camp Buckner, Burnet, TX (<https://www.buckner.org/camp-buckner/>)

Who: Students who have completed the 8th grade through seniors in high school.

Theme: TBD

REMINDER THIS YEAR!! The completed, signed forms will need to be **scanned as a pdf and uploaded** to 4-H Online during the registration process.

Please note: The forms require a copy of the participant's **insurance card**.

More information and required forms can be found online at: <https://agrilife.org/d84h/events-and-activities/>

Texas 4-H Conference Center Summer Camps @ Brownwood

County Camp I	June 15-18	\$250/Y, \$135/A
Horizons Camp I	June 21-24	\$250/Y, \$135/A
Horizons Camp II	June 26-29	\$300/Y, \$160/A
County Camp II	July 3-6	\$250/Y, \$135/A
County Camp III	July 6-8	\$200/Y, \$110/A
Prime Time I	July 10-13	\$250/Y, \$135/A
Prime Time II	July 13-16	\$250/Y, \$135/A

To register, go to Texas4Hcenter.tamu.edu website "Camps" page and click on REGISTER NOW button.

- 3rd Grade and up
 - All camp enrollment based on grade in 2021-2022 school year
 - 4-H membership is NOT required
 - Pay deposit by June 14th or pay full amount
 - Late fee \$50
 - All adult volunteers must enroll as a 4-H volunteer, have verified background check, and complete child protection training in 4-H Connect prior to camp.
- . The Bell County 4-H program WILL NOT be providing chaperones for any of the camps listed above. If your child wants to attend camp, either the parent or another approved 4-H volunteer must attend**

Important Dates

April 2022

April 1: D8 CDM Entry Deadline
April 2: D8 Horse Judging, College Station
April 2: FCH Quizbowl Practice
April 4: Leader 4 Life Practice
April 5: CDM Practice
April 6: Capital Farm Credit Scholarship deadline
April 6: Ag Product Id Practice
April 7: Bell County Round Up & STF Contest
April 8: D8 Fashion Show & D2D Entry Deadline
April 11: Bell County Youth Fair Scholarship deadline
April 11: Leader 4 Life Practice
April 13: Ag Product Id Practice
April 15: COUNTY HOLIDAY, CEO Closed
April 15: D8 Fashion Show Entry Deadline
April 15: D8 CDM Entry Deadline
April 15: TX 4-H Photography Contest Deadline
April 15: D8 Round Up and STF Entry Deadline
April 15: D8 Rifle/Light Rifle Contest Entry Deadline
April 15: Bell County Area Go Texan Scholarship deadline
April 18: State & BCYF Cattle Tags Due & SF Swine
April 20: CDM Practice
April 21: Hunter's Spectacular Meeting
April 22: Wildlife Project sessions
April 22: Leader 4 Life Practice
April 23: D8 Livestock Judging Contest
April 23: D8 Meats Judging Contest
April 23: FCH Quizbowl Practice
April 25: D8 Fashion Show & D2D Contest, Cleburne
April 25: D8 CDM Contest, Cleburne
April 29: Wildlife Project sessions
April 29: Leader 4 Life Practice
April 29: County Council Intent to Run Form
April 30: D8 Round Up, West

May 2022

May 1: Livestock, Equine, and Poultry Ambassador Application Deadline
May 1: LAST DAY for 4-H Horse Validation
May 7: District 8 Rifle Contest, Leon County
May 9: County Council Meeting
May 13: Wildlife Project sessions
May 20: D8 Surge Deadline
May 21: Clover Kids Meeting
May 24: MAB Meeting

June 2022

June 3: BC 4-H Ambassador Applications Due
June 3: Adult Leader Awards Due
June 3: Bell County 4-H Awards App Due
June 3: Bell County Recordbooks due
June 15: 4-H Awards Interviews
June 16: State Fair Lamb & Goat Validation
June 18: Clover Kids Fair
June 21-23: D8 Leadership Lab, Burnet
June 28: 23 BCYF & 22-23 Major Show Cattle Validation

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

BELL COUNTY
4-H NEWSLETTER

Bell County Extension
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Shel Long



Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating

Everything will be posted on the Bell County 4-H website

<http://agrilife.org/bell4h/>