

April 2024



PHONE: 936-539-7823

FAX: 936-788-8394

ON THE WEB
County 4-H

[agrilife.org/
montgomery4h](http://agrilife.org/montgomery4h)

RSVP hub
[agrilife.org/
montgomery4/rsvp/](http://agrilife.org/montgomery4/rsvp/)

Facebook:
[@4HMontgomeryCounty](https://www.facebook.com/4HMontgomeryCounty)

Twitter:
[@MontgomeryCo4H](https://twitter.com/MontgomeryCo4H)

Instagram:
[@Montcotx4H](https://www.instagram.com/Montcotx4H)
County Extension
Service
montgomery.agrilife.org

District
d94-h.tamu.edu

State
texas4-h.tamu.edu

Office Hours
8:00am - 12:00pm
1:00pm - 5:00pm

M. Michelle Mihalek
County Extension Agent
4-H Youth Development

Alyssa Sims
County Extension Agent
Urban Youth
Development

Jo Picken
4-H Program Assistant

Tami Ward
4-H Volunteer
Coordinator

Montgomery County 4-H Focus



Congratulations to all of our 4-Hers who participated in the major shows! 23 out of 34 breeding projects placed in the top 10 with 4 Reserve Division Champions and 1 Division Champion, 12 out of 19 placed in the top 10 in the individual contests with Division Champion Photo, and a 2nd, 3rd, and 4th place in Science Fair. 33 out of 81 market projects made auction with a Grand Champion Barrow and Reserve Breed and Reserve Champion overall. 12 out of 88 teams placed in the top 10 with a 2nd place Food challenge team, 1st place Wildlife, 8th place individual Wildlife, and 6th place individual Consumer Decision Making.



Mo. Co. Soil & Water Conservation
District & Lake Creek
Greenway Partnership


Due by April 1, award will be announced May 1.
***application attached**

Producers Cooperative Association
Due by April 30

- **Must be a child, grandchild, or legal dependent of an active member of Producers Cooperative Association**
- **Been involved in 4-H or FFA for the last 3 years**

***flyer attached**





COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTIONS

County Council meetings are held the
4th Monday of the Month
7:00 p.m. at the Extension Office
(unless noted otherwise)

Club delegates are strongly encouraged to attend, but are open to everyone!

Meeting Date:
April 22, 2024

Program Activity/Topic:
MCFA Jr. Committee

Community Service Project:
Snack packs for seniors

Please RSVP here if you will be joining us
for dinner at 6:30pm:
<https://forms.gle/K6TD8KE5gmQudiw77>

TEXAS 4-H ONLINE: <https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>
MONTGOMERY COUNTY 4-H WEBSITE: <http://agrilife.org/montgomery4h/>
DISTRICT 9 4-H: <https://d94-h.tamu.edu/>



For my club, my community, my country, and my world.

4-H ROUNDUP



Each year contests are held throughout the counties, the twelve Texas A&M AgriLife Extension districts, and at the state level hosted in College Station. Contests are held to test a 4-H member's knowledge of the skills they learned.

Check out the State 4-H webpage for more information: <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/events/roundup/>

**35 members participated at County Roundup.
Good luck as you advance to District Roundup!**

Entries for Big Time in D-9 are done on 4honline and are due by April 2.



District Roundup/Big Time In D9 – April 25-27, 2024
Open to all 4-H members in District 9 (18 counties)
Schedule of events can be found here:
<https://d94-h.tamu.edu/eventsandcontests/bigtime/>



State Roundup/Texas 4-H Roundup – June 3-6, 2024

For Senior (9th – 12th grade) 4-H members only
Qualifying Contest: 4-H members must qualify from District Roundup.
Invitational Contest: Any Senior 4-H member can participate.

Montgomery County Fair

April 11-21, 2024



Eligibility Form clarification

Academic eligibility will be required to participate. Club managers were given the eligibility forms to hand out to their club's participants. Forms are due to the Extension office (not the fair office) at least a week before your contest. Substitute showmen are not allowed if an exhibitor is ineligible to participate due to grades.

Kids days 4/15 and 16

- **Volunteers needed to be tour guides**
- **Sign up genius:**
- **<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090B4BAFAB2AAAFB6-47291653-kids>**
- **Must be 13-18 years of age**
- **Must be 4-H or FFA member**

*Be sure to follow the MCFA Facebook page for important information and reminders.

www.mcfa.org

TX 4-H AMBASSADORS Program

This program is for motivated individuals who seek to become a leader, mentor, and teacher, inspiring positive change in their community. Ambassador programs strive to provide 4-H members the opportunity to develop & practice advanced leadership skills to mentor other youth. Montgomery County 4-H has funds to assist with these registration fees

Shooting Sports 6/1-September

<https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/shooting-sports/>

Photography applications open in Spring to those who have completed the two-part Junior Master Photographer trainings.

STEM applications open 7/1-7/31

<https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/ambassadors/>

Water applications open 3/15-5/1

<https://www.texas4hwaterambassadors.com/application>

***See Livestock page for more opportunities**

SAVE THE DATE

DISTRICT 9 4-H

SENIOR LEADERSHIP LAB

June 11-13, 2024 Camp Lone Star Pines

GET READY FOR THE WILD WEST

LET'S GO
CAMPING

TEXAS 4-H CENTER
REGISTER NOW!

For more information on summer camps available, visit:

[Youth Camps & Retreats - Texas 4-H Center - Lake Brownwood \(tamu.edu\)](https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/youth-camps-and-retreats)



LIVESTOCK PROJECTS



FALL MAJOR SHOW VALIDATION ORDERS

Heart of Texas - State Fair of Texas - East Texas State Fair

Steers (ALL major shows), Heifers, Lambs, Goats, & Swine

Livestock Validation refers to the multi-step process including ordering tags, attending validation, and submitting a show entry if you intend to show at any of the Major shows.

This is not for County Fair animals

ALL orders must be placed through the online link using the correct species form.

<https://agriflife.org/montgomery4h/4-h-validation/>

ALL Late Orders DUE: June 14, 2024 (except Swine)

***Late orders will have a price increase.**

Sign-Up Genius Link will be sent to the email of all purchased tags to schedule a validation time. The Link will be sent closer to the actual validation date.

⇒ STEERS

Steer validation is for FALL 2024 & SPRING 2025 MAJOR SHOWS

Late orders received by June 14: \$30/tag

Validation:

Date: June 24, 2024 Time: 4:00-7:00pm Location: The Montgomery County Fairgrounds

⇒ HEIFERS

Late orders received by June 14: \$30/tag

If you have not validated your heifer before, or if the heifer has been validated but has changed ownership, registration papers must be in the exhibitor's name. 4-H members should bring the papers to the 4-H Office prior to validation so that they can be scanned.

Heifers will be validated and tagged similar to steers. UIN's will no longer be used.

*If you're not going to State Fair there will be another Heifer Validation in October 2024.

Validation:

Date: June 25, 2024 Time: 4:00-7:00pm Location: The Montgomery County Fairgrounds

⇒ LAMBS & GOATS

Late Orders received by June 14: \$27/tag

TLBA tags must be in lambs Ears before it can be marked on the validation form.

Validation:

Date: June 20, 2024 Time: 4:00-7:00pm Location: The Montgomery County Fairgrounds

⇒ SWINE

Orders received by April 12 \$17/tag Orders received 4/13-5/24 \$20/tag

Purebred Gilts must be validated

Validation

Date: June 24, 2024 Time: 4:00-7:00pm Location: The Montgomery County Fairgrounds



Texas 4-H Livestock, Equine and Poultry Ambassador Programs



2024 Short Course Offering:

Texas 4-H Equine Ambassador Short Course, Texas Tech University – June 10-13, 2024
 Texas 4-H Poultry Ambassador Short Course, Texas A&M University – June 24-27, 2024
 Texas 4-H Livestock Ambassador Short Course, TAMU -Kingsville – June 17-20, 2024
 Texas 4-H Livestock Ambassador Short Course, Texas A&M University – July 15-18, 2024
 Texas 4-H Livestock Ambassador Short Course, West TAMU/Texas Tech University – July 22-25

Selection Criteria:

- Senior level (grades 9-12 in fall 2024) 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:

1. Applications will be released on the Texas Youth Livestock and Agriculture website (www.texasyouthlivestock.com) on February 15, 2024
2. Student will complete the application and enter the contact information of supervising County Extension Agent
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 April 15, 2024



Horse Validation now open in 4-honline



From March 1 – April 15, the validation cost for each horse is \$10.00. The animal validation must be approved by the county office and payment processed by April 15th.

From April 16 – May 1, the validation cost for each horse is \$20.00. The animal validation must be approved by the county office and payment processed by May 1st .

Each horse must be validated or re-validated every year.

Each validation must include front view, right side view, and left side view images. Entire horse should be included in the photo and markings should be clearly visible. Uploads must be .jpg, gif, or .png file.

If the horse is registered, a copy of the registration papers must be uploaded. Papers must list 4-Her, sibling, parent, stepparent, grandparent or legal guardian as the current owner. If 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 Michelle a copy of the new papers and she will add it to the validation online.

Lease horses are eligible to be validated and shown at District and State 4-H Horse Shows. An official Texas 4-H Horse Lease Agreement must be signed by the exhibitor, horse owner, and the supervising County Extension Agent. The lease period must include, at minimum, May 1st to August 31st of the current 4-H year. The lease agreement form can be found at <https://texasyouthlivestock.com/horse-validation/> and must be uploaded in 4-H Online at the time of validation.

Families should validate each horse only one time. Once the horse is validated, any sibling within that family in 4-H Online is eligible to show the horse at their district show and/or the State 4-H Horse Show.

Youth validating a futurity horse must be at least 12 yrs. of age (as of Sept. 1, 2023) and at least in the 6th grade.



NON-LIVESTOCK PROJECTS



UPCOMING SPRING AND SUMMER EVENTS
4-H NATURAL RESOURCES PROGRAM

- 4-H WILDLIFE & FISHERIES PROJECT WORKSHOP - COLLEGE STATION - MARCH 23
- WOODLAND CLINIC - NACOGDOCHES - APRIL 18
- FORESTRY PROJECT TRAINING FOR COUNTY EXTENSION AGENTS - LUFKIN - APRIL 30-MAY 2
- 4-H WILDLIFE HABITAT (WHEP) STATE CONTEST - TBD - MAY 11-12
- 4-H WILDLIFE CHALLENGE (ROUNDUP) - COLLEGE STATION - JUNE 6
- 4-H OUTDOOR CHALLENGE - RICHMOND - JUNE 15-16
- WILDLIFE CONSERVATION CAMP - JOHNSON CITY - JULY 15-20

4-H NATURAL RESOURCES WEBPAGES:
[HTTPS://TEXAS4-H.TAMU.EDU/PROJECT-CATEGORY/NATURAL/](https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/project-category/natural/)

4-H NATURAL RESOURCES FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM:
- [FACEBOOK.COM/TEXAS4HNATURALRESOURCES](https://www.facebook.com/texas4h.naturalresources)
- [INSTAGRAM.COM/TEXAS4HNATRES](https://www.instagram.com/texas4hnatres)

Contact Larry Hysmith at lhysmith@tamu.edu with questions

2024 TEXAS 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

SENIOR 4-H MEMBERS
15 CATEGORIES
4HONLINE ENTRY: APRIL 1-15, 2024
\$250 PER BEST OF SHOW

See website for complete rules and eligibility:
<https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/photography-video/>

TEXAS 4-H

APERTURE ACADEMY

LEARN PHOTOGRAPHY SKILLS AND TECHNIQUES

JULY 7-10
TEXAS 4-H CONFERENCE CENTER
Brownwood, TX
Grades 6-8

Join us this summer for a fun and exciting camp where youth will learn the basics of photography. This camp is geared for beginners and promises hands-on learning in an engaging camp atmosphere.

\$300 EARLYBIRD REGISTRATION ENDS APRIL 15

Register online at texas4hcenter.tamu.edu
All camera equipment and supplies provided during camp.

Individuals who require any type of accommodation in order to participate in this program are encouraged to contact the Texas 4-H Center at (254) 784-5432 to determine how reasonable accommodations can be made. Educational programs of the Texas 4-H Aperture 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, the United States Department of Agriculture and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

T S S R M

Youth Range Workshop

JUNE 16-21, 2024

Texas Tech University Center at Junction, TX

Priority acceptance will be given to students that apply by April 15th.

Join other high school students across Texas for a fun week with rangeland and natural resource experts!

Students will gain hands-on experience including:

- Plant ID & Collection**
Students will learn how to identify range plants and start their own plant collections!
- Field Trips to Local Ranches**
We've partnered with local land stewards to give students boots-on-the-ground experience to emphasize learning objectives
- Range & Wildlife Habitat Management**
Students will be exposed to the fundamentals of proper grazing management and forage preferences of livestock and wildlife
- & Much More!**
Other topics include soil health, fire ecology & prescribed burning, carbon cycle relationships, brush management, rainfall effectiveness, and rangeland health evaluation

Students must be 14-18 years old and have completed 8th grade to attend.
Cost is \$500 per student and includes all meals, lodging, and educational materials.
Check with local Soil and Water Conservation Districts, ranches, or businesses for sponsorship opportunities!

Apply now at tx.ag/YRW2024

Contact us!
tssrmr@gmail.com
[tssrm-youthrangeworkshop.com](https://www.facebook.com/tssrm-youthrangeworkshop)

ENGAGE

with Texas Farm Bureau's Student Success Series Program for Graduating Class of 2026 and 2027

- Learn more about Texas Farm Bureau
- Engage with community leaders in agriculture and western industries
- Gain insight into the free enterprise system
- Learn how to navigate and have an engaging presence on social media and in digital environments
- Tour a local agricultural operation

District 11 Engage Event
May 10, 2024
Long Acres Ranch
2335 Richmond Pkwy
Richmond, TX 77469

Contact your TFB Field Representative Ronda Pfeiffer at rpfeiffer@txfb.org or call 713-446-8672 with questions.

Eligibility
Any high school student entering 10th or 11th grade in August 2024 is eligible to participate.

Register by April 22
texasfarmbureau.org/student-success-series



DATE:	TIME:	LOCATION:	EVENT:
May 2024			
• 5/1-5/13		4-Honline	Texas 4-H Roundup registration open
• 5/4	2-4 pm	Extension Office	JMG Project meeting
• 5/15		4-Honline	District 9 4-H Leadership Lab Fees and registration due
• 5/20	7pm	Thomas LeRoy Ed. Bldg.	County Council meeting
• 5/22		4-Honline	District 9 Horse Show Entries & Fees due

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY FORMS

Eligibility forms are **REQUIRED** for every event that mandates 4-H membership. This is true whether or not an excused absence is necessary = also true for weekend events. A separate form is needed for each event, but you can make a list and submit at once for all those which fall within a single grading period. **If you have entered a major stock show or, later in the year, the county fair, you will NOT need to make this request. We automatically generate those.**

We are switching over to an easier process for the 2023-24 year. Instead of phone calls or emails, place your request online at <https://forms.gle/LadR3ohSycgNs3Gx7> . If you are able to provide an email address for the individual who will be responsible for these on your campus and willing/able to send us a copy of your own signature, we will get this completed digitally. Given enough time, we can mail a hard copy to you or you may come by the office to physically pick it up. Before carrying these to campus, parents must sign the form. Upon completion, those physical copies are returned to students, and you as a family are responsible for returning it to us. Our standard timeline is to have it on file a week before the event or competition. If you are in a time crunch, send a digital copy and follow that with the original. Forms will be generated on Mondays and Thursdays. (There is not an acceptable version of the eligibility form for Montgomery County 4-H'ers posted online anywhere.)

If you have special needs for any of the programs offered at the County or District level, please give us a least five days' notice. We will make every reasonable effort to accommodate your needs.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension provides equal opportunities in its programs and employment to all persons, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the

County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating



Montgomery County 4-H 2023-2024



SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

	1	2	3	4	5	6
		D-9 Entries Due	D-9 Judging Contest entries due		Swine Tag Orders Due	D-9 Horse Judging and air Rifle/pistol contests
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
				Montgomery County Fair		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	MCF Kids Day	MCF Kids Day				D-9 Livestock, Meats, and Soils judging contests
			Montgomery County Fair			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	County Council Meeting and Elections					
28	29	30				
				Big Time in D-9 4-H Roundup		



Montgomery County 4-H 2023-24



SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

			1 Texas 4-H Roundup registration opens	2	3 District 9 4-H Robotics Contest	4 JMG meeting 2-4pm Thomas LeRoy Ed. Bldg.
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 Texas 4-H Roundup registration due	14	15 D-9 Leadership Lab registration due	16	17	18
19	20 County Council meeting 7pm Thomas LeRoy Ed. Bldg.	21	22 D-9 Horse Show entries due	23	24 Late Swine tag orders due	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	