



March 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



The Extension Office will be CLOSED Friday, March 29th for Good Friday.

Scholarship Opportunities



Texas Agrilife Extension Service County Scholarships



Scholarships 2023-2024 - Montgomery (agrilife.org)

**4 different scholarships from \$500-\$2000
Due 3/15**

**Montgomery County Fair Scholarship
Due 3/4 by 5pm**

**Scholarships – Montgomery County Fair Association (mcfa.org)
Capital Farm Credit**

**Due by March 29 [https://www.capitalfarmcredit.com/about-us/
community-support/youth-scholarships](https://www.capitalfarmcredit.com/about-us/community-support/youth-scholarships)**

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

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

COUNTY COUNCIL



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:

March 25, 2024

Program Activity/Topic:

Congress

Community Service Project:

Birthday Boxes

Please RSVP here for if you will be joining us for the dinner at 6:30pm:
<https://forms.gle/36WcqxpJJEoKA5HH6>

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.



Young Leaders – Apply to FEMA’s Youth Preparedness Council Today!



**Represent
Your
Community**



**Learn
&
Grow**



**Create
Change
Now!**

Applications Due March 4, 2024



FEMA

To apply visit:

<https://community.fema.gov/PreparednessCommunity/s/apply-to-ypc>

Texas 4-H Congress July 14-17, 2024



Applications for press corps and Lobbyist roles are open and due on 4-H online by March 14. 4-H Congress is a 4 day mock legislative experience (July 14-17, 2024) held at the Texas State Capitol. Seniors going into



the 9th grade-just graduated 12th grade are eligible to apply. 4-H members assume the roles of legislators, lobbyists, and press corps to gain a first-hand understanding of how the legislative process works. All participants must submit a bill for consideration. Bills must be submitted by March 25. A guide to assist in writing a bill can be found here: <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/events/congress/under> Bill Submissions. These bills are assigned to the appropriate committee, debated in meetings, and then on the floor of the House or Senate. If the bill is successful in all 3 stages, it is delivered to the Governor for his or her signature or veto. Copies of all bills that are signed into law during Texas 4-H Congress are provided to the Office of the Governor for review.



Texas 4-H At-Large Council Delegate

applications now being accepted through March 28, 2024
<https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/ambassadors/>

At-Large Delegates serve as ambassadors for the Texas 4-H Youth program. Members represent the organization statewide while collaborating with Extension faculty to plan, coordinate, and facilitate activities and events.



Healthy Texas Youth Ambassador Applications Open February 1-April 1

Healthy Texas Youth Ambassadors work with Extension agents to help provide leadership with programs. You will become knowledgeable and skilled in the healthy lifestyles subject matter. You will also learn to coordinate and present educational events that will encourage better health in your community.

To apply you must:

- Be high school aged
- Make a 12 month commitment
- Have a passion for health and wellness
- Serve 40 hours of community service

Other Ambassador opportunities

Fashion & Interior Design Applications taken 3/1-3/31

<https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/fashion-interior-design/>

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



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/>

Initial Orders DUE: March 20, 2024

ALL Late Orders DUE: June 14, 2024

***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

Orders received by 3/20: \$27/tag **Late orders: \$30/tag**

Validation:

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

⇒ HEIFERS

Orders received by 3/20: \$27/tag **Late orders: \$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

Orders received by 3/20: \$17/tag **Late Orders \$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

*Swine orders are not open at this time, but will be soon.

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



Montgomery County Fair

April 11-21, 2024



Fair Rules to make sure you are aware of:

- **Academic eligibility will be required to participate. Eligibility forms will be given to your club manager to hand out at your March club meeting. Forms are due to the Extension office at least a week before your contest. Substitute showmen are not allowed if an exhibitor is ineligible to participate due to grades.**

Broiler pickup March 1

3/15 National Anthem contest entries due

Re-tag dates 3/9 and 3/23 at 9am

Rabbit tag-in March 19

Barn set up 3/23

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

www.mcfa.org

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**



NON-LIVESTOCK PROJECTS



March 9, 2024



RSVP on the 4-H website's hub.
Questions:
michele.scaife@ag.tamu.edu



Who? any 4-H member
What? Come join the fun!
When? 1st Saturday, 2 to 4
Where? Montgomery Co AgriLife Extension Office
9020 Airport Road
Conroe, TX 77303
Why? "hands-on" group experiences that promote a love of gardening and an appreciation for the environment, plus cultivate the mind

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/TX4HNATURALRESOURCES
- INSTAGRAM.COM/TX4HNATRES

Contact Larry Hysmith at lhysmith@tamu.edu with questions

Crochet Class
March 16th
1-3 pm
Extension Office
RSVP:
<https://forms.glesRotafTMfrGy4U5V6>

2024 TEXAS 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

SENIOR 4-H MEMBERS
15 CATEGORIES
4H ONLINE 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) 798-5449 to determine how possible accommodations can be made. 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, The United States Department of Agriculture and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperate.

TSSRM

Youth Range Workshop

JUNE 16-21, 2024 Priority acceptance will be given to students that apply by April 15th.

Texas Tech University Center at Junction, TX

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

2024 Spring



Virtual TEXAS 4-H REEL 'EM IN

2024 FISHING SKILL-A-THON

Program Highlights

- Register **individually** as 4-H youth (grades 3-12) or Clover Kid (grades K-2) via 4HOnline at <https://v2.4honline.com/> beginning February 1st
- Clover Kids - FREE to participate and will receive a participation certificate
- Prizes to be listed March 2024
- Judging via FishDonkey App (no fee to use app!) Rules posted February 1st at <https://d54-h.tamu.edu/>

NEW! *Species Divisions*

- Saltwater - Spotted Seatrout, Flounder & Redfish
- Freshwater - Bass, Catfish & Panfish group

Official Check-it-Stats to be mailed to first-time registered 4-H participants!

More Ways to Win!

- Longest single fish or stringer by tournament, species, division and overall
- Grand Slam - post 3 different fish species within species division
- Wild Card - random drawing of all fish posted on FishDonkey

Fee:

- Regular Registration: February 1-March 7, \$50 flat fee per division per 4-H participant (saltwater and/or freshwater)
- Late Registration: March 8-31, \$100

Questions?

- Contact Jheri-Lynn McSwain, Ph.D., Extension Program Specialist at jmcswain@ag.tamu.edu

Spring Tournament
 Fish at YOUR Location:
 March 15 at 12:00 am thru
 May 27 at 11:59 pm

The members of Texas 4-H AgLife will provide equal opportunities in programs and activities, education, and employment to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, sexual orientation or gender identity and will strive to achieve full and equal employment opportunity throughout Texas 4-H AgLife.

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



Bearkat STEM Summer Camp

Automation and Robotics
Construction and Safety




June 10-14, 2024
Grades 9-12
in the 2023-2024 School Year

The Department of Engineering Technology will offer two camps at the same time June 10-14, 2024. One camp will be focused on Automation and Robotics and the other camp will be focused on Construction and Safety. These camps will be funded by a Texas Workforce Commission grant, and there will not be a charge to students who attend. However, there is an application and selection process. High school students are encouraged to apply, and the department will update the website as the application closes and applications are evaluated. The application link is coming soon and will be ready in the next two weeks. The handbook will also be updated.

Note: The Department of Engineering Technology is cancelling the paid summer camp that was advertised. The department will be offering the option described above now that we have the Texas Workforce Commission Grant.

Questions? Contact Michelle Boyd at 936-294-1190 or mmk002@shsu.edu

Website: <https://www.shsu.edu/academics/engineering-technology/summer-camps/index>





4-H ROUNDUP



What is County, District, & State Roundup????

Competitive events allowing 4-H members the opportunity to develop & practice citizenship and leadership skills. It consists of approximately 50 competitive events.

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/>

County Roundup - March 19, 2024

<https://forms.gle/PSrBjeonePMA5kRb8>

County 4-H members have the opportunity to present their projects, completed or not, to judges to receive constructive guidance to improve or better complete their project.

Entries for Big Time in D-9 are done on 4honline starting March 20th and will be due by April 2 with the exception of Horse Judging, Photography, Air Rifle, and Air Pistol. Those entries are due by March 20.

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.



In-



To find out how you can help those affected by the Texas Panhandle wildfires visit:

[2024 Texas Panhandle Wildfire Relief Resources - Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service](#)

UPcoming EVENTS

DATE:	TIME:	LOCATION:	EVENT:
April 2024			
• 4/2		4-Honline	D-9 Roundup Entries due
• 4/6			D-9 Horse Judging and air rifle/ pistol contests
• 4/6	2-4pm	Extension Office	JMG project meeting
• 4/11-4/21		Fairgrounds	Montgomery County Fair
• 4/22		Thomas LeRoy Ed. Bldg.	County Council meeting/ elections
• 4/25-4/27		Lone Star College	Big Time in D-9 4-H Roundup

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY FORMS

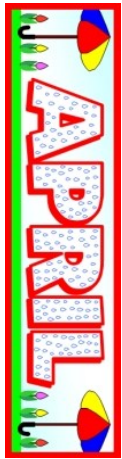
Eligibility forms are **REQUIRED** for every event that mandates 4-H membership. This is true whether or not an excused absence is necessary = also true for weekend events. A separate form is needed for each event, but you can make a list and submit at once for all those which fall within a **single 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			D-9 Horse Judging , Air Rifle, and air 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				
			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 MCF Broiler pickup Thomas LeRoy Ed. Bldg.	2
3	4 MCF scholarship applications due	5	6	7	8	9 JMG project meeting 2-4pm Extension Office
10	11	12	13	14	15 County Extension scholarship applications due	16 Crochet Class 1-3pm Extension Office
17	18	19 County Roundup MCF Rabbit tag-in	20 D-9 horse judging, photography, rifle, air rifle, & air pistol entries due	21	22	23 TAMU judging clinics
24	25 County Council meeting 7pm Thomas LeRoy Education Bldg.	26	27 Fall show tag orders due	28	29 Extension Office CLOSED for Good Friday	30
31						