BEXAR COUNTY

4-H NEWSLETTER

January 15, 2025

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BULLETIN BOARD

The bulletin board section will highlight critical events, deadlines, and information for quick viewing.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Upcoming Events section will provide a complete look at the known upcoming events and deadlines.

JAN 16 JAN 20 JAN 27 JAN 29 JAN 31 FEB 1 FEB 1 FEB 2 FEB 4 FEB 7 FEB 8 FEB 15 FEB 15 FEB 15 FEB 16 FEB 18 FEB 19 FEB 22 - 23 FEB 28 - MAR 2 MAR 1 MAR 1 - 2 MAR 7 - 8 MAR 15 MAR 19 MAR 22 APR 1 MAY 3 MAY 6 MAY 10 MAY 21	Bexar County 4-H Council Meeting – Pg. 5 San Antonio Rodeo Junior Vaquero Cook-Off <u>DEADLINE</u> – Pg. 11 Montgomery County 4-H Dog Show <u>DEADLINE</u> – Pg. 7 4-H Day at the Capitol <u>DEADLINE</u> – Pg. 12 Air Across Texas Opportunity <u>DEADLINE</u> – Pg. 15 Montgomery County 4-H Dog Show – Pg. 7 San Antonio Rodeo Junior Vaquero Cook-Off – Pg. 11 Texas 4-H Night at NASA <u>DEADLINE</u> – Pg. 15 District 10 4-H Horse Judging Contest <u>DEADLINE</u> – Pg.10 Bell County Youth Fair Judging Contest <u>DEADLINE</u> – Pg.10 Bell County Youth Fair Judging Contest – Pg. 7 Gulf Coast Shootout – Pg. 14 2024 – 2025 Texas 4-H Opportunity Scholarship <u>DEADLINE</u> – Pg. 6 Hood County 4-H Dog Show <u>DEADLINE</u> – Pg. 7 4-H Shooting Sports Coach Training <u>DEADLINE</u> – Pg. 14 District 10 4-H Photography Contest <u>DEADLINE</u> – Pg. 16 4-H Refashion Registration <u>DEADLINE</u> – Pg. 11 2025 Junior Master Gardener National Leader Training – Pg. 13 Buc Days Clays 4-H Youth Shoot – Pg. 14 4-H Refashion Registration – Pg. 15 4-H Shooting Sports Coach Training – Pg.14 Hexar Ag/Nr Committee Scholarship <u>DEADLINE</u> – Pg. 6 Bexar County 4-H Dog Show – Pg. 7 Texas 4-H Night at NASA – Pg. 15 4-H Shooting Sports Coach Training – Pg.14 Bexar County 4-H Council Meeting – Pg. 5 4-H Day at the Capitol – Pg. 12 Gillespie County Photography Workshop – Pg. 13 Capital Farm Credit Scholarship <u>DEADLINE</u> – Pg. 6 Buc Days Canstruction Junior – Pg. 15 Texas 4-H Roundup <u>DEADLINE</u> – Pg. 18 Buc Food Days Challenge – Pg. 11 Bexar County 4-H Council Meeting – Pg. 5
JUN 13	Bexar County 4-H Awards <u>DEADLINE</u> – Pg. 17

<u>4-H Reimbursement Form – Reimbursement Submission DEADLINE August 1, 2025</u> Information: The Bexar 4-H Council has money set aside to reimburse for selected District and State events to encourage participation and help ease the financial burden for active 4-H families. The money reimbursed will need to be requested from our office; it will no longer be automatically mailed. See details below: How: Please fill out and return the <u>Reimbursement Form</u> to <u>kennedy.green@ag.tamu.edu</u>.

CONTEST PAGE

The contest page will provide a look at all major contests at the county, district, and state levels.

2024 – 2025 County – District – State CONTEST/EVENTS CALENDAR

		F/	ALL & WINTER DATES	
	District 10 4-H Horse Judging at HLSR			
			ers must submit an HLSR Stock Show	
	entry form/f	ees	to their County Office to compete in	
			0 4-H Horse Judging contest that is	
		-	nction with the Houston Stock Show.	
			DISTRATION OPENS: Jan. 6, 2025	
	DISTRICT REGISTRATION DEADLINE Feb. 4, 2025			
	DISTRICT L	AT.	E REGISTRATION: Feb. 5-7, 2025	
	Mar. 10, 202	25	 Horse Judging @ HLSR 	
	District 10 4-H Virtual Photography Contest			
	REGISTRATION OPENS: Tues., Jan. 21, 2025			
	REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Tue. Feb. 18, 2025			
	LATE REGISTRATION: WedFri. Feb 19-21, 2025			
	Feb. 21, 2025		4HOnline Registration CLOSES	
	Mar. 31, 2025 Photography Results Released			
NEW	2025 National 4-H Conference Application			
*	REGISTI	RA	FION: Dec. 18 – Jan. 8th, 2025	
	Information		Announcement Letter	
	Information Contact:		<u>Announcement Letter</u> <u>Megan.Logan@ag.tamu.edu</u>	
NEW	Contact:	exa		
New	Contact: 2025-2026 T		Megan.Logan@ag.tamu.edu	
NEW	Contact: 2025-2026 T	ΑΤΙ	Megan.Logan@ag.tamu.edu as 4-H Council – At Large Delegate	
New	Contact: 2025-2026 T	<mark>АТІ</mark> <u>2</u> !	Megan.Logan@ag.tamu.edu as 4-H Council – At Large Delegate ON DEADLINE: Mar. 27, 2025	
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SPRI	SPRING & SUMMER DATES			
District 10 SPRI	NG Roundup – Fredericksburg, TX			
REGISTRATIC	ON OPENS: Tues., Feb. 25, 2025			
REGISTRATION	REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Tues., Mar. 18, 2025			
LATE REGISTRATION: WedFri, Mar. 19-21, 2025				
Spring F	Spring Roundup CONTEST DATES			
April 8, 2025	 Leaders 4 Life (Seguin, TX) 			
April 9, 2025	 Meat Judging (San Angelo, TX) 			
April 10, 2025	 Livestock Skillathon NEW! 			
	 Range/Pasture ID & 			
April 11 2025	Range Evaluation (AM)			
April 11, 2025	 Soil Judging (AM) 			
	 Wool & Mohair Judging (PM) 			
April 14, 2025	Livestock Judging			
Amril 24, 2025	Consumer Decision Making			
April 24, 2025	 Talent Showcase 			
	• Duds 2 Dazzle (Team/Solo)			
April 25, 2025	• Fashion Show & Natural Fibers			
	• 4-H Storyboard			
April 26, 2025	• Smallbore Rifle (Floresville, TX)			
Di	strict 10 Horse Show			
Due to low partic	ipation & increased costs for the past			
2 years, the Distri	ct 10 4-H program has decided not to			
host a Horse Show for the 24-25 year. We will promote				
	other local events during the year for horse exhibitors.			
) Leadership Lab – Alto Frio			
	OPENS: Thursday, May 1, 2025			
	EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: May 27, 2025			
LATE FEE REGISTRATION: May 28-30, 2025				
EVENT DATE: June 25-27, 2025				
	rd Book Judging – Fredericksburg			
REGISTRATION OPENS: Friday, June 6, 2025				
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Tues., June 24, 2025				
LATE REGISTRATION: WedFri. June 25-27, 2025				
EVENT DATE: Thursday, July 10, 2025				

4-H EVENTS AND TRAININGS

The Local Events section will provide upcoming county meetings and training opportunities.

4-H Training Request Form- PERSONAL CLUB TRAININGS AVAILABLE

• Information: Please contact us at 210-631-0400 with questions.

2024-2025 Upcoming Virtual/In-Person Trainings							

<u>2024-2025 Bexar County 4-H Council Dates</u> January 16th, March 19th, May 21st (Office Elections)

SCHOLARSHIPS

The scholarship page will provide a look at all upcoming scholarship opportunities for 4-H members.

2024 – 2025 Texas 4-H Opportunity Scholarship (SCHOLARSHIPS) (RESOURCES)

The Texas 4-H Opportunity Scholarships are awarded each year to applicants based on their academic record, 4-H experience, and financial need (for scholarships for which it is a required criterion). The Texas 4-H Opportunity Scholarship Program is conducted by the Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation. Over 200 academically competitive scholarships will be awarded in the 2025 Texas 4-H Opportunity Scholarship Program ranging in amounts from \$1,000 to \$30,000. No scholarship recipient whose award is based on this application process will receive less than \$1,000. For most of the total scholarships and scholarship funds available, participation in a livestock show is not a requirement for consideration.

IMPORTANT DATES

- December 1, 2024 FAFSA OPENS
- January 31, 2025 FAFSA DEADLINE
- February 15, 2025– DEADLINE to Apply *Note: Online portal closes at 11:59 PM
- April 25-27, 2025 Interviews (College Station)
- May 2025 Award Notifications
- June 4-5, 2025 Scholarship Banquets in College Station at Texas 4-H Roundup

NEW THIS YEAR:

- A CEA Verification Form will require a CEA signature. The form will need to be signed/uploaded before submitting the application.
- The top-ranking scholars will be invited back for virtual interviews May 2-4 to interview for a \$30,000 scholarship.

Bexar Ag/NR Committee Scholarship - DEADLINE March 15th (FLYER) (APPLICATION)

Bexar Agriculture & Natural Resource Committee Scholarship is \$1000 for 2023-2024 Academic Year for Agriculture Studies. Qualified applicants must be: A resident of Bexar County or attending school in Bexar County currently graduating high school senior with at least a 3.0 GPA. Attending a Texas college on a full-time basis (minimum of 12 hours/semester) for the 2024-2025 academic year. Pursuing and Agriculture-related degree (i.e. Animal Science, Animal Nutrition, Ag Development, Ag Education, Ag Business, Veterinary Medicine, etc.)

2025 Capital Farm Credit Scholarships (APPLICATION) – DEADLINE April 1st

Capital Farm Credit awards \$1,000 scholarships to graduating high school seniors across Capital Farm Credit market territories. Youth scholarships are awarded using the following eligibility requirements in the link above.

Preference will be given to applicants who reside inside Capital Farm Credit market territories. Those territories are:

- Austin Market
- Houston Market
- San Antonio Market
- Plains Market
- South Texas Market

AGRICULTURE & LIVESTOCK

The ag and livestock page will be your one stop shop for all critical livestock information.

Project Visits – If you have any questions or need help with your livestock project, feel free to contact me. You're welcome to call, email, text, or swing by the Extension Office. I would like to see your project throughout the feeding period and would prefer to stop by when you and your parents(s) are available. Please reach out to schedule an appointment.

Project Meetings/Resources – If you have an idea for a livestock project meeting or you're an adult looking for resources to share with members, feel free to contact Sam womble. Sam is happy to help! Contact <u>Sam.Womble@ag.tamu.edu</u> or call the office # 210-631-0400 or cell # 361-649-5836.

2024 – 2025 Livestock Project Meetings				



Important Quality Counts Update (FAQ) (QC Enrollment Instructions)

A reminder, all exhibitors are required to provide a verified QC number at the time of major livestock show entry. This new process/exam is NOT required for everyone. Only those users who are new or are moving to the next grade level course (junior: 3-5th grade, intermediate: 6-8th, senior: 9-12th) are required to take Quality Counts this year.

Montgomery County 4-H Dog Show (FLYER) (ENTRY) – DEADLINE January 27th

Join Montgomery County on February 1st, 2025 for a 4-H Dog Show. Please see the flyer for more information.

Hood County 4-H Dog Show (FLYER) – DEADLINE February 15th

Join Hood County 4-H Dog Show on March 1st, 2025 for a 4-H Dog Show. Please see the flyer for more information.

2025 Bell County Youth Fair Judging Contest

The Bell County Youth Fair will host four Judging Contests on Friday, February 7, 2025, at the Cadence Bank Center in Belton, Texas. The contests are invitational and open to all 4-H and FFA members.

- Ag Product ID (<u>RULES</u>)
- Livestock Judging (<u>RULES</u>)
- Vet Science Skillathon (<u>RULES</u>)
- Wool Judging (<u>RULES</u>)

Pre-registration is required and must be completed through Judging Card. The fee is \$10/contestant and scantrons will be provided for all contests. Please get with your county extension agent to register.

AGRICULTURE & LIVESTOCK

The ag and livestock page will be your one stop shop for all critical livestock information.

Validation Reminders! (Ethic Policy)

As we move into the holidays and then quickly into major livestock show season, we wanted to send a few very important reminders regarding validation, Ethics Policy and other rules. Please reference the 2024-2025 Ethics Policy.

I'd like to draw special attention to Rule #3 which covers continuous care of livestock.

- ANY time livestock is out of the care of the exhibitor, parents/family, or CEA/AST for ANY amount of time, a Rule #3 Approval Form must be submitted and *approved*. This must be signed and approved by the validation committee before the livestock can be out of the care of the above listed. The form can be found here: <u>https://texasyouthlivestock.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Rule-3-Approval-Form.pdf</u>
- Excessive involvement of third-party consultants, breeders, fitters not affiliated with the Texas 4-H and/or Texas FFA programs is prohibited.

Please read **Rule #4** in its entirety! Here are a few highlights that may impact exhibitors at majors AND county shows:

- If any Texas state validated animal is exhibited and SOLD at any other major livestock show officially sanctioned by Texas state validation, the animal will be ineligible to show at any subsequent major livestock show in the animal's lifetime.
- Additionally, Texas state validated livestock offered for sale during the feeding period via private treaty, private or public auction (including terminal county livestock show auctions) will be ineligible to show at any subsequent major livestock show during the feeding period.

Additional important points:

- PLEASE check all tattoos [steers (county number) and heifers (ID from registration papers)]. If you need to re-tattoo an animal, please do so at least 3 weeks prior to the show and complete this form: <u>https://texasyouthlivestock.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/FINAL-Steer-Guidelines-2024-2025-6-</u> <u>3.pdf</u> (pg. 29).
- If an exhibitor's heifer registration papers need to be reprinted for ANY reason, we MUST receive the new copy with a letter of explanation from the Association before the show. Otherwise, the animal will be disqualified at the show for the papers not matching what was validated. Please email them to dottie.goebel@ag.tamu.edu.

BCJLS UPDATES

The BCJLS page will provide a look at all major updates from the Bexar County Junior Livestock Show.



HORSE UPDATES

The horse page will provide a look at all horse events at the county, district, and state levels.

District 10 4-H Horse Judging Contest (INFORMATION) – DEADLINE February 4th

The 4-H Horse Judging contest is designed for teams of three or four youths in the same age division to demonstrate their skills in evaluation and observation. Youth use the knowledge and skills they have about the subject matter to place the class from best to worst. Youth also develop public speaking skills through learning how to present reasons on why they placed a class as they did. The District 10 4-H Horse Judging contest will be hosted at the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo (HLSR) again this year. ****All 4-H members** must have submitted entries/fees for the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo via their County Office to compete in the District 10 4-H Horse Judging gualifier. ******

FAMILY & COMMUNITY HEALTH

The FCH page will provide a look at all major FCH related events at the county, district, and state levels.

2024 – 2025 Food Show and Food Challenge State Guidelines

The Texas 4-H Food Show and Food Challenge committees are pleased to release the 2024-25 guidelines for each of these contests! *County and district contest rules will vary so please review those guidelines related to those contests.*

Food Show:

24-25 Rules & Guidelines PACKET Food Show PREPARATION Scorecard Food Show PRESENTATION Scorecard Food Challenge:

24-25 Rules & Guidelines PACKET Food Challenge PREPARATION Scorecard Food Challenge PRESENTATION Scorecard

2024 – 2025 State Fashion and Interior Design Contest Guidelines UPDATE

The 2024-2025 Fashion & Interior Design State contests have been updated! Please keep in mind that these changes apply only to the Texas 4-H STATE contests. The official rules and guidelines for state contests can be found on the <u>Texas 4-H Fashion and Interior Design webpage</u>.

Buc Days Food Challenge (REGISTRATION)

Students from all around Texas are invited to participate in the second annual Buc Days Food Challenge presented by H-E-B. Located in the Shops at Treasure Island Exhibit Hall, this event will take place on Friday, May 10, 2025, with three rounds of competition, followed by the award ceremony on the Community Stage presented by KIII 3 News. More than 100,000 youth participate in the 4-H Food & Nutrition Project, learning how to prepare nutritious and safe meals and snacks and adopt behaviors that can help reduce their risk for chronic disease. This contest challenges teams of students to create a dish using only a predetermined set of ingredients.

4-H Refashion Retreat Registration Open (REGISTRATION)- DEADLINE February 19th

Join us February 28–March 2 at the Texas 4-H Center for a weekend full of creativity, fun, and skill-building! Learn sewing techniques, dive into sustainable fashion, thrift materials, and transform them into one-of-a-kind.

San Antonio Rodeo Junior Vaguero Cook-Off (ENTRY) – DEADLINE January 20th

Join us February 1, 2025, for our Junior Vaquero Cook-Off! Teams of 2-5 people will test their cooking skills for a chance to win a scholarship. Teams will be competing in 3 categories: Fideo Loco, Charro Beans, and Cook's Choice. All participants must be enrolled in a high school program for the spring semester of 2025.

LEADERSHIP & CITIZENSHIP

The leadership / citizenship page will provide all leadership events at the county, district, and state levels.

2025 – 2026 Texas 4-H Council Information

The 2025-2026 At-Large Delegate application information has been posted at https://texas4-

<u>h.tamu.edu/ambassadors/</u>. Interested candidates that would like to run for At-Large Delegate positions should review the contract and agree to it before running for one of the positions that serves on the Texas 4-H Council. The **MANDATORY** July Council Training is scheduled for Monday, July 28, through Thursday, July 31, in Stephenville, TX. Additional details about these dates and other dates for the year can be found in the contract. Please communicate these dates early on with your potential district candidates along with anyone you know considering one of the six At-Large Positions.

- <u>2025-2026 At-Large Delegate Application</u> Deadline May 27, 2025
 <u>2025-2026 At-Large Leadership History Form</u> (word document)
- <u>2025-2026 Texas 4-H Council Membership Contract</u> Required by both At-Large and District Delegates
- Texas 4-H Council Standing Rules

American Farm Bureau Convention for Youth (FLYER)

Save the date for the 4-H, FFA, and Jr. MANRRS Youth Leadership Program to take place Sunday, January 26, 2025, from 8:00-5:00 p.m. at the Henry B Gonzalez Convention Center in San Antonio, TX. This program offers learning opportunities designed for youth leaders and FREE registration for 4-H, FFA and Jr. MANRRS members (and their chaperones) to attend the AFBF Convention in San Antonio, Texas.

4-H Day at the Capitol – DEADLINE January 29th

The Texas 4-H Youth Development Program will once again host 4-H Day at the Capitol on Wednesday, March 19, 2025. This event is designed as a citizenship experience for youth of all ages to learn more about the state legislative process, as well as meet their state representative and senator through an office visit. Because this event is held during the legislative session when other groups are also in the Capitol, attendance must be limited. Registration opens on <u>4HOnline</u> on January 22nd. Contact megan.logan@ag.tamu.edu with questions regarding the event.

4-H International Camp United Program (INFORMATION)

The US 4-H International Camp United Program brings teens from around the globe together to provide participants an opportunity to understand while developing leadership skills. 4-H members from New Jersey, Florida, Arkansas, Michigan, and others will join global 4-H youth from Taiwan, Italy, Jamaica, and Azerbaijan in this multi-cultural camp. Workshops centered around United National Sustainable Development Goals will be presented in English. This program will be hosted at the Vines Center in Arkansas August 7-13.

NATURAL RESOURCES

The natural resources page will provide a look at all major events at the county, district, and state levels.

2025 Junior Master Gardener National Leader Training (INFORMATION)

It's almost time to register for the 2025 Junior Master Gardener National Leader Training! This year's NLT is celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the JMG program and will be held virtually from February 18th to 19th.

Wildlife & Fisheries Project Workshop

Join us January 18, 2025, in Wichita County for a Texas 4-H Wildlife and Fisheries Project Workshop. This event is open to 4-H youth and adults statewide. Learn about: wildlife species ecology, wildlife habitat features, wildlife habitat management, and 4-H wildlife contests strategies. Register now through January 15th on <u>4HOnline</u>.

Texas 4-H Slam – Bay Fishing Tournament (FLYER) (REGISTRATION)

Join us for a fishing tournament supporting programs, grants, and scholarship opportunities for the youth of Texas 4-H Districts 9 & 11!

Gillespie County Photography Workshop (FLYER)

Join Gillespie County for a photography workshop on March 22, 2025 at the Gillespie County Extension Office.

TAMU Entomology Camp (FLYER)

Introducing the Entomology Youth Adventure Program (YAP) camp hosted by the Texas A&M Entomology Department for July 2025. YAP Camps are week-long camps with a focus on career exploration at Texas A&M University's College Station campus. Registration will open January 2025, and several scholarship opportunities will also be available.

SHOOTING SPORTS

The shooting sports page will provide a one stop shop for all upcoming shooting sports activities.

Buc Days Clays 4-H Youth Shoot (REGISTRATION)

Students from all around Texas are invited to participate in the first annual Buc Days Clays 4-H Shoot presented by Flint Hills Resources on February 22nd – 23rd, 2025. The Buccaneer Commission will be awarding \$25,000 in cash prizes and scholarships during this event. Located at the Corpus Christi Gun Club (CCGC), the Qualifying Round will take place on Saturday with the Championship Round on Sunday for the top 20 contestants.

Gulf Coast Shootout (FLYER)

Montgomery County 4-H Shooting Sports Club will be hosting the Gulf Coast Archery Match on February 8, 2025, at Texas Archery.

Clover Classic Clay Shoot (FLYER) (REGISTRATION)

Join The Texas 4-H Foundation on March 13th, 2025 for a Clay Shoot Fundraiser benefitting Texas 4-H Districts 4 & 5 Scholarships, Programs, and Grant opportunities!

Clovers and Clays Shoot (FLYER) (REGISTRATION)

Join us for a Clay Shoot Fundraiser benefitting Texas 4-H Districts 6 & 7 Scholarships, Programs, and Grant opportunities!

National 4-H Shooting Sports Quiz Bowl (REGISTRATION)

The 2025 4-H Shooting Sports National Quiz Bowl registration portal is now open. Quizzes this year are comprised of 50 questions for Intermediate & Seniors, and 25 questions for Juniors. Questions are a mix of General 4-H, STEM, Rifle, Pistol, Shotgun, Archery, Hunting Skills and Western Heritage. Quiz Bowl registration price is the same as last year, \$10 for individuals and \$40 for teams. Team members are automatically scored as individuals and receive individual awards/recognition as well as team awards/recognition.

4-H Shooting Sports Coach Training (INFORMATION) – DEADLINE February 16th

The Shooting Sports Coach Training which will take place **FRIDAY- March 7**th **& SATURDAY- March 8**th. Please note this registration takes place through the **4-H Center Registration Site**, NOT 4-H Online. All participants **MUST** have an active profile through 4-H Online to meet 4-H Volunteer requirements. For questions about registering or available lodging, please contact 325-784-5482.

STEM

The STEM contest page will provide a look at all STEM opportunities at the county, district, and state levels.

Ag Robotics 2024 – 2025 Theme & Rules Released! (GAME MAT)

We are excited to announce that the game mat and game piece supply list for this year's AgRobotics contests is now available <u>HERE</u>. This year's theme is titled *Coastal Cultivators* which focuses on agriculture, aquaculture, and resource stewardship along the coast. The following major stock shows will use this game during the 2024-2025 4-H year:

- Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo January 31, 2025
- San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo February 13, 2025
- Rodeo Austin March 26, 2025
- San Angelo Stock Show & Rodeo April 12, 2025

Buc Days Canstruction Junior (REGISTRATION)

Students and youth groups from all around the Coastal Bend will use STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) to create innovative can art structures using unopened cans of food. Participants bring the whole community together by collecting canned goods through school can drives, community outreach events, and more. The participants can use anything from canned tuna to green beans to canned pet food! On May 3rd, 2025, each team of five will build their structures in the American Bank Center Grounds for festival goers to admire.

Air Across Texas Opportunity (APPLICATION) – DEADLINE January 31st

The Air Across Texas project is a high school student research project funded by the National Science Foundation designed to engage high school students across the state of Texas in academic research focused on air quality. The program will emphasize the quality and development of the research process and will use hands-on project-based learning to enable students to understand how to use a researchbased approach when encountering challenging scientific concepts or subjects. The AAT program will run twice, each time in three phases. These phases will include virtual and in-person settings and emphasize parallel active learning (via hands-on activities) and teamwork.

Texas 4-H Night at NASA (INFORMATION) – DEADLINE February 2nd

This is a unique overnight program held at the Johnson Space Center in Houston. It is scheduled for March 1-2 and is open to all junior, intermediate, and senior 4-H members along with their parent/guardian. Youth will learn about space exploration and take part in hands-on STEM activities. Please note that every youth and parent/guardian must register in two locations. The starting point to register is <u>4HOnline</u> starting on January 10. Registering within our system will ensure that everyone in attendance is actively enrolled. Once that registration is submitted, the family will receive an automatic email with the link to register and pay on NASA's registration portal. If they do not receive that automatic email from 4HOnline, they can contact derrick.bruton@ag.tamu.edu, and he will send it to them. Space is limited, so please register as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please let Derrick Bruton know. As a courtesy, please do not contact the Space Center directly.

STEM

The STEM contest page will provide a look at all STEM opportunities at the county, district, and state levels.

2024 – 2025 State Photography Contest (INFORMATION)

The rules for the 2024-2025 state contest are also attached. For those who may be new to Extension, the state 4-H photography contest is a senior-only qualifying contest where photos qualify directly from COUNTY to STATE. We have added 3 new categories this year, as such each county may now submit a maximum of 18 total photos (1 photo per category). As stated in the rules, counties are highly encouraged to have some type of selection process in place to determine which photos are eligible. Key points:

- Qualify from county level (district contests have no bearing on qualifications)
- Open to senior age division only
- 18 categories (includes a new "Patriotic" theme for this year)
- Entry timeline is April 1-15
- No late entries accepted

District 10 4-H Photography Contest (GUIDE) – DEADLINE February 18th

The District 10 Photography Contest encourages self-expression and allows youth to demonstrate skills learned in photography, including the use of photographic equipment and process of photographs. *NOTE: The District 10 4-H competition does not qualify Senior 4-H members for the Texas 4-H State Photography contest. State qualifications will come for your local County Photography contest. Please contact your County Extension Agent for local County Photography contest. Photography contest rules and submission deadlines.

GENERAL INFORMATION/EVENTS

The general information page will be the classified section of our newsletter for all general opportunities. This will also be our section to advertise for local businesses that support Bexar County 4-H.

Texas 4-H Curriculum (RESOURCES)

Did you know Texas 4-H offers multiple resources for curriculum? Click here to see the frequently updated full list of what we have to offer!

Introducing the Official Texas 4-H Podcast! (LINK)

Texas 4-H now has an official podcast: Deep in the Heart of Texas 4-H! Check it out wherever you listen & you get your podcasts. Check for a new episode every other Monday.



Bexar County 4-H Awards Handbook – DEADLINE June 13, 2025

(HANDBOOK)

We are excited to release the Bexar County 4-H awards handbook for 2025. This handbook is being released early in the year to allow 4-H members who wish to apply for awards the entire year to work towards achieving the requirements.

Texas 4-H Center Updates and 2025 Summer Camps (SCHEDULE)

2025 Summer Camp Registration is LIVE!

Link for more information- Youth Camps & Retreats - Texas 4-H Center - Lake Brownwood Link to register- Texas 4-H Center Registration Management

Texas 4-H Center Teen Retreat

Join the Texas 4-H Center in January for Teen Retreat! Teen Retreat is a fun camping experience for teens ages 14-18 who have aged out of traditional camp (ages 8-13). During the weekend, we will explore everyone's favorite camping activities from archery/riflery, high-ropes, low ropes challenge course, songs, dances, and games, and of course a campfire! The cost is \$170 per camper. Visit <u>https://apps.ideal-logic.com/texas4hcenter?key=T6DM-JF52T_K9KH-5PTF_a6c5cedca76f</u> to register now.

AGLS On Tour (INFORMATION)

The TAMU College of Agriculture and Life Sciences is coming to a location near you! Join them for a casual, come-and-go student reception near you. Whether you're an admitted student or a prospective student, they welcome you to dive into the exciting world of student life and college success. When you come to an AGLS on Tour reception, you will...Hear from vice chancellor and dean Dr. Jeffrey Savell, as well as dedicated faculty and staff within the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, meet current College of Agriculture and Life Sciences students who are excited to welcome you into the Aggie family, have an opportunity to be awarded a competitive academic scholarship if you are an admitted student thanks to the College of Agriculture Development Council, and enjoy light refreshments and appetizers *Parents, you're invited too!*

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2025 Texas 4-H Roundup – DEADLINE May 6th

- Texas 4-H Roundup Handbook HERE
- Texas 4-H Roundup Schedule HERE
- Texas 4-H Roundup Hotel Block HERE
- Texas 4-H Roundup Buckle Blitz HERE

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Excused Absence Policy and Procedures – UIL Side-By-Side Guidelines Link

• Process steps

- 1. The Bexar County AgriLife Extension Service Office will use registrations to send excused absence requests and academic eligibility checks directly to the school for all contests.
 - Should you register for a contest as a 4-H member through judgingcard or other third-party registration system, it is your responsibility to notify the county extension office in a timely manner.
- 2. Schools will complete the eligibility check and determine if excused absences will be granted
 - Bexar County 4-H staff works hard yearly to maintain adjunct faculty agreements with all 19 school districts in Bexar County to facilitate these requests.
 - Excused absence requests will include all days you might be at a contest, show, or trip under the supervision of a Bexar County Extension employee or a 4-H volunteer.
- 3. If there is an issue with the academic eligibility check, Kevin will call you directly.
 - If you wish to confirm the academic check, you are welcome to contact the Bexar County Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Office.

Items of Note

- **1.** The request for an excused absence from our office is simply a request. Schools have the right to decline the request at their discretion.
- If the request is denied, the family must work out the issue with the school directly
- **2.** 4-H excused absences are governed by UIL side-by-side guidelines and adhere to the same rules used for school athletic, academic, or extracurricular activities.
- **3.** Excused absences are limited to 10 district absences/5 post-district absences/2 additional max.
 - Distribution of these days is up to the schools and is not controlled by the Bexar County AgriLife Extension Service Office
 - We recommend that for competitions that might require multiple days (e.g., major stock shows), a parent or other family member handles the arrival and early care of the animal, if possible, and the exhibitor participates in the final show prep and active showing of the animal to minimize days needed for excused absences.
 - The Bexar County Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service does not condone the care or preparation of show animals at a show by third-party individuals who are not members of the exhibitor's immediate family without a member of the exhibitor's family present at all times.

CLUB MANAGER REPORTS

The Club Manager Report page will contain the link and QR Code for all club managers to submit their monthly reports to the County Extension Office.

DUE BY THE 25th OF EACH MONTH



LINK: https://forms.gle/x188S6EJfBa6Wbpk7