



# San Patricio County

## 4-H NEWSLETTERS



219 N. Vineyard, Sinton, TX 78387; Phone: 361-587-3400; Fax: 361-364-6237; email: sanpatri@ag.tamu.edu

### DATES TO REMEMBER

#### March 1

Texas 4-H Horse Validation Opens

#### March 19

Deadline to enter 4-H County Fashion Show

#### March 26

4-H County Fashion Show

Deadline to register for District 11 Multi-District Judging Contest

#### March 31

Steer & Heifer Tag Orders Due

#### April 1

Deadline to apply for Healthy Texas Youth Ambassador

#### April 6

Deadline to enter District 11 Spring Spectacular

#### April 15

Texas 4-H Livestock, Equine, Poultry and Water Ambassador Applications Due

#### May 2

Multi-District Judging Contest

TEXAS A&M  
**AGRI**LIFE  
EXTENSION

### March 2026



#### Texas 4-H Horse Validation

2026 Texas 4-H Horse Validation Process opens on **March 1, 2026** on 4-H Online and will run through **April 15, 2026** at a cost of \$10 per horse. From **April 16, 2026** to **May 1, 2026** the cost increases to \$20 per horse. All horses must be validated or re-validated with payment each year, to be eligible to show at District and State 4-H Horse Shows. Horses validated last year on 4-H Online, you will need to re-activate on 4-H Online and pay for validation. Each validation must include front, right side, 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, parent, sibling, 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. Uploads must be images.

**\*Lease Horses\*** : Official Texas 4-H Horse Lease agreement must be signed by the exhibitor, horse owner, and county extension agent. Lease period must include, at minimum, May 1st to August 31st of the current 4-H year. The lease form must be uploaded to 4HOnline at validation.

For more information and to download instructions for validating horse, go to <https://texasyouthlivestock.com/horse-validation/>.



#### 2026 District 11 Spring Spectacular

May 5 - 6, 2026

Victoria College Emerging Technology Complex

4-H Online Registration: March 16 - April 6, 2026

For more information visit:

<https://d114-h.tamu.edu/district-11-4-h-spring-spectacular/>

#### Major Show Information

##### **Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo**

January 15 - February 6, 2027

Fort Worth, Texas  
[www.fwssr.com](http://www.fwssr.com)

##### **Rio Grande Valley Livestock Show**

March 12 - 22, 2026

Mercedes, Texas  
[www.rgvls.com](http://www.rgvls.com)

##### **San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo**

February 11 - 28, 2027

San Antonio, Texas  
[www.sarodeo.com](http://www.sarodeo.com)

##### **State Fair of Texas**

Sept 25 - Oct 18, 2026

Dallas, Texas [www.bigtex.com](http://www.bigtex.com)

##### **Heart O' Texas**

October 8-18, 2026

Waco, Texas [www.hotfair.com](http://www.hotfair.com)

##### **Texas' Elite Showcase**

February 12-14, 2026

Kerrville, Texas  
[www.texaseliteshowcase.com](http://www.texaseliteshowcase.com)

##### **San Angelo Stock Show**

February 5 - 22, 2026

San Angelo, Texas  
[www.sanangelorodeo.com](http://www.sanangelorodeo.com)

##### **Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo**

March 2 - 22, 2026

Houston, Texas  
[www.rodeohouston.com](http://www.rodeohouston.com)

##### **Star of Texas Rodeo**

March 13 - 28, 2026

Austin, Texas  
[www.rodeoaustin.com](http://www.rodeoaustin.com)



## 4-H COUNCIL MEETING

March 22  
3:30pm

It is very important  
that all club  
presidents, council  
delegates and Club  
Representatives  
attend meeting!

4-H  
MEETING  
REMINDER

 4-H GROWS HERE

### Meeting Schedule

Mar 1 - Harbor Hands  
Mar 1 - Ingleside  
Mar 1 - Rocking O  
Mar 8 - Clover T  
Mar 8 - San Pat Horse  
Mar 8 - Taft  
Mar 9 - Mathis  
Mar 10 - Wildcat  
Mar 11 - Gregory-Portland  
Mar 15 - Blue Ribbon  
Mar 15 - West Sinton



### 2026 Healthy Texas Youth Ambassadors

**Application Deadline:** April 1, 2026



**What is it all about:** This program is designed for high school age youth who have a passion for health & wellness. Youth will be trained at the local & regional level to become youth health experts who can motivate others to make changes in their lifestyle and improve overall health.

**Why choose us:** Become a trained student assistant to Texas A&M AgriLife Extension agents, helping to provide leadership with programs. Become knowledgeable & skilled in healthy lifestyles.

**Who can apply:** Open to all youth entering at least 9th grade. Ambassadorship is a 12-month commitment beginning June 2026 to May 2027.

**Where to apply:** <https://healthytexas.tamu.edu/resources/youth-ambassadors/>

**When is Training:** June 2026. Ambassadors will attend a state-wide "Building Healthy Youth to Build a Healthy Texas" Summit. This summit will lay the foundation for ambassadors.

**More Information Contact:** Norma Munoz, CEA, Family & Community Health at 361-587-3400

**IMPORTANT  
NOTICE**

### 4-H Club Meeting Attendance

**ATTENDANCE**

All 4-H members that will be participating in the 2027 A&H Show in any division, including Homemaking, must attend 60% of club meetings. Attendance for the 2027 show started January 2026.



### 2026 STEER TAGS

ALL MAJOR SHOWS AND THE 2027 A&H SHOW

Deadline: March 31, 2026

\$27 per tag

All Late and Replacement tags \$30 per tag

Order forms are available at the Extension Office

### 2026 REGISTERED HEIFER VALIDATION TAGS

Deadline to order: March 31, 2026

\$27 per heifer

**No Late Orders will be accepted**

Order forms are available at the Extension Office

### 2026 District 11 Multi-District Judging Contests

May 2, 2026

Pearce Pavilion, 555 George Bush Dr. W, College Station, TX

**Registration Deadline:** March 27, 2026 via 4-H Online

**Entry Fee:** \$20 per individual

**Age Divisions:** Junior Division (3rd-5th grade); Intermediate Division (6th-8th grade); Senior Division (9th-12th grade)

More Information visit: <https://d114-h.tamu.edu/events-and-contests/judging-contests/>



## San Patricio County 4-H Fashion Show

March 26, 2026

San Patricio Extension Office



**Entry Deadline:** Thursday, March 19, 2026

### **Junior & Intermediate Divisions (grades 3-8)**

- Construction Categories - Everyday Living, Re-Fashion, Dressy and Special Interest
- Buying Categories: Everyday Living, Fantastic Fashion under \$25, Dressy, & Special Interest

### **Senior Division (grades 9-12)**

- Construction Categories - Everyday Living, Re-Fashion, Semi-Formal to Formal, Theatre / Costume
- Buying Categories - Business/Interview Attire, Fantastic Fashions under \$25, Semi-Formal to Formal, & Special Interest

**More Information:** <https://d114-h.tamu.edu/district-11-4-h-spring-spectacular/>

## **2026 Texas 4-H Livestock, Equine & Poultry Ambassadors**

**Application Deadline:** April 15, 2026

**Application Process:** Visit [www.texasyouthlivestock.com](http://www.texasyouthlivestock.com). Complete the application. A selection committee will review the applications & accept up to 25 participants per short course.

**Selection Criteria:** Sr 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 & advocacy, and have shown advanced leadership qualities & willingness to help others. Top 25% class rank.

**Program Fees:** \$450 - includes all branded apparel, meals, lodging, & traveling during the short course.

**Program Dates:** If selected you will have to attend the Short Course. Equine Ambassador dates - June 8 - 11, 2026. Poultry Ambassador dates: June 22 - 25, 2026. Livestock Ambassador dates: June 15 - 18, 2026, July 13 - 16, 2026 or July 20 - 23, 2026.

**For more information:** Contact Kelley Ranly at [Kelley.ranly@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:Kelley.ranly@ag.tamu.edu)

## **Texas 4-H Water Ambassadors Applications**

Deadline to Apply: April 15, 2026

**Eligibility:** Must be 14 years old or older by September 1, 2026 and entering the 9th - 12th grade for the 2026 - 2027 school year. Must be or become a 4-H Member. If accepted, applicants must pay \$300 membership fee by June 1, 2026.

**Leadership Academics:** Session 1 - Tier I 4-H2O Leadership Academy (June 7 - 12, 2026). Session 2 - Tier I 4-H2O Leadership Academy (June 14 - June 18, 2026). Youth will be assigned to only one session.

**To Apply visit:** [texas4hwaterambassadors.com](http://texas4hwaterambassadors.com)

**Contact:** [david.smith@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:david.smith@ag.tamu.edu) for any questions

## **Pen Pal Opportunity with New York 4-H**

A 4-H club in New York through Cornell Cooperative Extension is looking to start a pen pal program with their livestock club and Texas 4-H members.

If you are interested in the pen pal program, please contact Amanda Terhune at [ajt247@cornell.edu](mailto:ajt247@cornell.edu).



**TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION**

**2026 States' 4-H International Exchange Program**

**HOST TODAY!**

**13 Japanese Delegates seeking placement!**

**HOSTING DETAILS & REQUIREMENTS**

- **Hosting Period:** July 21 - August 16, 2026
- Host a youth aged 12-18 (majority are 12-14) or an adult chaperone.
- You must have a child of the same gender & within 4 yrs. of age of the hosted youth. (Children aged 9+ are eligible to host)
- Families without children of the appropriate age may host an adult chaperone.
- Youth have a range of English language abilities, so host families should be prepared to communicate imaginatively.

**HOW TO APPLY:**

- Eligible Families must submit an application: <https://www.states4hexchange.org/apply/host/>
- Note: Host family selection is dependent on completion of an application & screening process, as well as student availability & personality compatibility.
- This is a voluntary program; no stipends will be provided.
- Questions? Contact your Texas Inbound Coordinator:
  - [Natalie.Cervantes@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:Natalie.Cervantes@ag.tamu.edu)

**Summer 2026**  
AT THE TEXAS 4-H CENTER!  
Get Ready for a summer full of friends, fun, and unforgettable adventures!

**MINI CAMP** July 1-3 | \$325  
Ages 8-14

A perfect introduction to 4-H camping! Enjoy swimming, crafts, games, and campfires while making new friends and lasting memories.

**SPECIALTY CAMP WEEK** July 6-10 | \$500  
Ages 8-14

- 4-H Hunting Camp (Extra \$5 fee for Hunting Certification)
- Food Challenge Camp
- Ropes and Team Building
- Arts & Crafts Camp
- Sports & Games
- Fishing Camp
- Refashion
- Aperture Academy (Ages: 10-14)

**Early Bird Special**  
\$25 Dollars off each camp until March 15th, 2026

**COUNTY CAMPS** July 12-16 | July 26-30 | August 2-6 | \$500  
Ages 8-14

County Camp gives youth the chance to dive deeper into their favorite activities by choosing three focus areas—plus enjoy all the classic 4-H camp fun, from games and swimming to campfires and new friends!

**TEEN ADVENTURE CAMP** July 19- 24 | \$600  
Ages 13-18

Teen Adventure Camp is packed with excitement and challenge—teens will build leadership skills, tackle outdoor adventures, and make lasting memories with friends!

**Location: Texas 4-H Center**

Register today at: <https://texas4hcenter.tamu.edu/>  
Email: [makayla.waiser@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:makayla.waiser@ag.tamu.edu)  
Call: (325) 784-5482

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service is an equal opportunity employer and program provider.

**JUNE 15-19 2026**

**EXPLORE Texas Panhandle**

**Mission**

TO PROVIDE HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE CAREER AND LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES IN A DIVERSE GLOBAL ECONOMY AS WELL AS LEARN ABOUT POST-SECONDARY DEGREE INSTITUTIONS ACROSS TEXAS

**CORE**  
Career Opportunities Reflecting Excellence

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION

Participants that are not selected for the 2026 CORE Academy will be refunded their \$250. Once selected, payments will not be refunded.

**Core4H**

**\$250 With Application**

**April 15<sup>th</sup>**

**GOALS**

Includes

- 5 Day/4 Nights Exploration
- Hotel
- Meals
- Transportation

Registration Deadline

- Payment **MUST** be Submitted

Experiences in

- Higher Education
- Career Choices
- Teambuilding
- Networking

Register NOW

CLICK HERE

Questions Please Contact

Kara Spangler  
[Kara.spangler@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:Kara.spangler@ag.tamu.edu)  
830-796-7755

Jennifer Smith  
[Jennifer.Smith@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:Jennifer.Smith@ag.tamu.edu)  
830-257-6568

**San Patricio County 4-H Fashion Show**  
March 26, 2026  
San Patricio County Extension Office

Entry form deadline: Thursday, March 19, 2026  
Forms are available at the following website - [https://d114-h.tamu.edu/district-11-4-h-spring-spectacular/Spring Spectacular \(District 11 Fashion Show\) - May 5-6, 2026](https://d114-h.tamu.edu/district-11-4-h-spring-spectacular/SpringSpectacular%20(District%2011%20Fashion%20Show)-May%205-6%202026)

<b>Juniors &amp; Intermediates Construction Categories</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Everyday Living</li> <li>• Refashion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dressy</li> <li>• Special Interest</li> </ul>
<b>Seniors Construction Categories</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Everyday Living</li> <li>• Refashion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Semi-Formal to Formal</li> <li>• Theatre/Costume</li> </ul>
<b>Juniors &amp; Intermediates Buying Categories</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Everyday Living</li> <li>• Dressy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fantastic Fashion under \$25</li> <li>• Special Interest</li> </ul>
<b>Seniors Buying Categories</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business/Interview Attire</li> <li>• Fantastic Fashion under \$25</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Semi-Formal to Formal</li> <li>• Special Interest</li> </ul>

**NEW** Juniors, Intermediates & Seniors Upcycle Your Style

**NEW** Seniors Only Texas Natural Fibers Cotton & Wool/Mohair

For detailed category descriptions or additional information contact  
Cheryl Handy, County Extension Agent  
4-H & Youth Development  
361-587-3400  
[cheryl.handy@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:cheryl.handy@ag.tamu.edu)

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION



# TEXAS 4-H SOCK DESIGN CONTEST

SUBMIT YOUR BEST 4-H SOCK DESIGN TO BE FEATURED ON THE OFFICIAL 2026 TEXAS 4-H ROUNDUP SOCKS!

**SUBMIT ENTRIES BY MARCH 23<sup>RD</sup>**  
**ONLINE VOTING MARCH 25<sup>TH</sup> AND 26<sup>TH</sup>**  
**WINNER ANNOUNCED MARCH 27<sup>TH</sup>**

**DIVISIONS:**  
**CLOVER: GRADES K-2**  
**JUNIOR: GRADES 5-8**  
**INTERMEDIATE: GRADES 6-8**  
**SENIOR: GRADES 9-12**

ENTRIES MUST BE EMAILED TO  
 CALLIE.CLINE@AG.TAMU.EDU

**WINNING ARTISTS OF EACH DIVISION TO RECEIVE 4-H SWAG BAG AND ROUNDUP RECOGNITION! TOP DESIGN WILL BE FEATURED ON SOCKS.**



If interested in participating or for more information in the Judging Contest, please contact Cheryl Handy to register by **March 16, 2026.**

# NRS FEED INVITATIONAL LIVESTOCK Judging Contest

THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2026  
 Registration 8:00am-8:30am Contest 9:00am  
 HOSTED AT THE NRS ARENA

**DIVISIONS**

4-H Junior: 8+ Classes & 2 Reasons Senior: 8+ Classes & 4 Reasons	FFA Junior: 8+ Classes & 3+ Questions Classes Senior: 8+ Classes & 3+ Questions Classes
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**AWARDS**

1st: Justin Boots (Team + Coach)  
 2nd: NRS Gear (Team + Coach)  
 3rd: NRS Gift Cards (Team + Coach)  
 Top 5 Individuals: NRS Gift Cards  
 Top 3 Scores = Team

AWARDS MUST BE PICKED UP FOLLOWING THE CONTEST ON THE NRS BACK PATIO.



**REGISTER HERE**  
 WWW.JUDGINGCARD.COM  
 Enter by March 29, 2026: \$20 per student + Optional \$10 lunch  
 Late entry: \$40 per student

Questions: Jim Allsup (940) 399 8665 or Gary Gerhardt (209) 505 8868



## BUC Days Contests

Check out the 4-H contests at BUC Days this year! Registration closes April 1, 2026, except for Horticulture, which closes March 2, 2026. This year, Buc Days will award over \$90,000 in prize money and scholarships across competitions.

To learn more about BUC Days or the contest scan the QR Code or contact Cheryl Handy

### BUC DAYS PUBLIC Speaking COMPETITION



\$30 Entry Fee  
 Junior and Senior Division

**\$1,500**  
 in prize money awarded

**SATURDAY**  
**MAY 9, 2026**



### BUC DAYS FOOD Challenge



H-E-B Helping Here

\$75 Entry Fee per team  
 Junior, Intermediate, and Senior Divisions

**\$7,500**  
 in prize money awarded

**FRIDAY**  
**MAY 8, 2026**



### BUC DAYS FOOD Show



\$30 Entry Fee  
 Junior, Intermediate, & Senior Divisions

**\$5,000**  
 in prize money awarded

**THURSDAY**  
**MAY 7, 2026**



## Helpful Links:

### Texas 4-H Website

<http://texas4-H.tamu.edu/>

### Register for 4-H

<http://texas.4honline.com>

### San Patricio County Website

<http://sanpatricio.agrilife.org>

### District 11

<http://d114-h.tamu.edu/>

### San Pat/Aransas A&H Show

<http://sanpatahshow.com/>

### Online 4-H Record book

<http://4hreports.com/>

### 4-H Mall

<http://4-Hmall.org/>



To be eligible to compete in the A&H Show in any division, (including Homemaking) you must attend at least 60% of club meetings. Attendance for the 2026 Show starts in January, 2025. You must also meet **UIL academic eligibility requirements** by passing all of your classes. Start out the 4-H year right by attending club meetings and keeping your grades up!

**New 4-H members** must also attend 60% of their club meeting, however, their club attendance begins on Sept. 1, 2025. Only new 4-H members will be allowed to count January 2026 attendance.



Like us on Facebook and follow us on Instagram! Feel free to share any pictures you have of you or your fellow 4-Hers in action!



If your address changes,  
**PLEASE** correct it on 4-H Online:  
<http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/>



The address needs to be corrected on the family profile AND in each individual's profile. The labels for the newsletter and other miscellaneous mailings are generated by the information entered by you or your family. Don't risk missing out on the monthly 4-H newsletter or other important mailings!



### Reminder:

If your animal loses its validation tag, call the Extension Office ASAP with the tag number so that a replacement can be ordered.

### ADULT VOLUNTEER BACKGROUND CHECK

To protect our 4-H members, the Texas 4-H Program administers an adult screening program. This screening is conducted every 3 years. All adults who will be working directly with youth (other than their own children) must complete the adult registration form on 4-H Online to be screened. Once their registration has been approved from the State office, then we can certify those adults as San Patricio County volunteers. Only those adults who have been screened and cleared through YPS will have the privilege of working with 4-H members. There is a \$10 annual fee for each adult who will be a Volunteer. This fee is paid on 4-H Online.



# March 2026



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Deadline to enter County Fashion Show	20	21
22 4-H Council Meeting	23	24	25	26 4-H Fashion Show	27	28
29	30	31 Steer & Heifer Tag Orders Due				

## TEXAS 4-H AGE CATEGORIES (9-1-25 through 8-31-26)

**Clover Kids:** Kinder through 2nd grade

**Juniors:** 3rd - 5th grade as of Sept. 1, 2025

**Intermediates:** 6th - 8th grade as of Sept. 1, 2025

**Seniors:** 9th - 12th grade as of Sept. 1, 2025



### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### April 2026

- 1: Deadline to apply for Healthy Texas Youth Ambassador
- 6: Deadline to enter District 11 Spring Spectacular
- 15: Deadline to apply for the 4-H Livestock, Equine, Poultry and Water Ambassador Program

#### May 2026

- 2: Multi-District Judging Contest