



# TEXAS A&M AGRI LIFE



**MARCH 2026**

## **ATASCOSA COUNTY 4-H**

The latest news and updates from Atascosa County 4-H



### **Important Events in this issue:**

- Texas 4-H Horse Validation- opens March 1<sup>st</sup>**
- Atascosa County Livestock Show Thank You letters- due March 16<sup>th</sup> by 5:00 p.m.**
- Steer & Heifer Validation Tag Orders due March 13<sup>th</sup> by 5:00 p.m.**
- State Fair Sheep & Goat Validation Tag Orders due March 13<sup>th</sup> by 5:00 p.m.**
- 4-H Recordbook Workshop- March 31<sup>st</sup>**
- State Fair Swine Tag Orders- More information coming soon**
- Atascosa 4-H Council Nomination forms due- April 30<sup>th</sup>**
- Atascosa 4-H Council Meeting- May 7<sup>th</sup>**
- Fort Worth, San Angelo, San Antonio, & Texas Elite Livestock Show results**
- District 12 4-H Contest registration information**
- 4-H Opportunities**
- Scholarship Opportunities**



**ATASCOSA COUNTY**

Contact Us:

830-569-0034

Dale Rankin - CEA Ag/NR

Ashlie Stayton - CEA FCH

Sandra Andrade- PVAMU FCH Agent

Holly Kopplin- 4-H Program Assistant

Monica Zepeda - Administrative Secretary

"Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service 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." If you need any type of accommodation to participate in this program or have questions about the physical access provided, please contact the Atascosa County Extension Service at 830-569-0034 twelve days (12) prior to the program or event.



# ATASCOSA COUNTY 4-H CLUB INFORMATION



## **BLACKHILL 4-H CLUB**

2ND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH  
6:00 PM

BLACKHILL COMMUNITY CENTER  
KIM LUTZ & KIMBERLY KING  
KIMLUTZ97@GMAIL.COM

## **POTEET 4-H CLUB**

2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH  
6:30 PM

POTEET HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA  
USVALDO LANDA, MARIAN PURCHIS,  
& LAUREN BRIANS  
LANDA@JLAURENCE.COM

## **MESQUITE 4-H CLUB**

2ND MONDAY OF THE MONTH  
6:00 PM

PLEASANTON 1ST BAPTIST CHURCH  
LESLEY MCMILLAN & LINDSEY SLOMCHINSKI  
FLOWERSHOP78026@GMAIL.COM

## **LYTLE 4-H CLUB**

2ND MONDAY OF THE MONTH  
6:30 PM

LYTLE ANNEX BUILDING  
(NEXT TO LYTLE COMMUNITY CENTER)  
JENNIFER CRISWELL & PAULA DEAN  
JENNIFER.CRISWELL.JC@GMAIL.COM

## **LEMING/VERDI 4-H CLUB**

2ND MONDAY OF THE MONTH  
6:30 PM

VERDI COMMUNITY CENTER  
CARL ROYAL, JAMES CARAWAY, MATT ADAMITZ  
CARL.ROYAL@YAHOO.COM

## **LA PARITA 4-H CLUB**

2ND MONDAY OF THE MONTH  
6:30 PM

COWBOY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH  
JOURDANTON, TX  
JASON & VALERIE AGUILAR  
JASON.SGC@GMAIL.COM

## **CHARLOTTE 4-H CLUB**

2ND MONDAY OF THE MONTH  
6:30 PM

CHARLOTTE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
FELLOWSHIP HALL  
MICHAEL & PATRICIA SCOTT  
UNKLEMIKESPLACE@GMAIL.COM

## **ATASCOSA COUNTY 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS**

### RIFLE

JASON AGUILAR: JASON.SGC@GMAIL.COM  
210-260-6046

### ARCHERY

CODY DAVENPORT: CDAVENPORT30@GMAIL.COM

### SHOTGUN

PHILIP TOM: TOM.PHIL@YAHOO.COM  
MICHAEL SCOTT: UNKLEMIKESPLACE@GMAIL.COM

## **NO PASS NO PLAY**

IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY 4-H SPONSORED EVENT INCLUDING STOCK SHOWS, SHOOTING SPORTS, OR OTHER CONTESTS, MEMBERS MUST BE ENROLLED WITH ONE OF OUR AREA CLUBS AND MEET THE 50% ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENT PRIOR TO THE CONTEST. PARTICIPATION IN ANY COMPETITION OR SHOOTING EVENT IS ONLY PERMITTED WHILE MEETING ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA UNDER TEXAS EDUCATION CODE 33.081 "NO PASS NO PLAY".

## **Registration for Texas 4-H**

Enrollment is now open for Atascosa County 4-H on the **4-H Online website**.

Please visit <https://www.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in> to register.

- Enrollment fees for 4-H members are \$30.
- Clover Kid participation fees are \$10.
- When you register, select all 4-H projects that you are interested in. We will send you information on those projects throughout the 4-H year.
- Volunteers must register through 4-H Online and pay a \$10 fee. You will also complete trainings and a background check to be fully enrolled.

For more information on the 4-H registration process,  
please visit <https://sites.google.com/view/texas4honline/family-support>

# Atascosa 4-H Upcoming Events & Activities

## Atascosa 4-H Merit Scholarship

- The Atascosa County 4-H Merit Scholarship Letter of Intent to Apply is due by March 1st to the Atascosa County 4-H Extension Office.
- You must have completed a Record Book the two years prior to apply for this scholarship.
- The scholarship application will be due on June 8<sup>th</sup>.

## Atascosa 4-H Steer & Heifer Tag Orders

- Steer & Heifer tag orders are due on March 13<sup>th</sup> by 5:00 p.m.
- Tags are \$26 each for steers & heifers.
- Tag orders must be placed with the Atascosa County 4-H Extension Office.
- If you have any questions, please call the office at 830-569-0034.

## State Fair Sheep & Goat Validation Tag Orders

- State Fair Sheep & Goat tag orders are due on March 13<sup>th</sup> by 5:00 p.m.
- Tags are \$26 each.
- Tags must be purchased at the Atascosa County 4-H Extension Office.
- If you have any questions, please call the office at 830-569-0034.

## 4-H Recordbook Workshop

- March 31<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m.
- Location: Atascosa County 4-H Extension office auditorium
- This would be a great opportunity to learn about 4-H Recordbooks and how to enhance recordkeeping skills. The workshop will be led by the District 12 4-H Specialist Grace Henicke.

## State Fair Swine Validation Tag Orders

- Please be on the lookout for more information in the near future.
- Tags must be purchased at the Atascosa County 4-H Extension Office.
- If you have any questions, please call 830-569-0034.

## Atascosa 4-H Council Nomination Forms

- The Atascosa 4-H County Council is a group of members from various clubs from around the county that are elected by their peers. The County Council is the body that makes the decisions for the Atascosa County 4-H. Any 4-H Member in the county is eligible to run for County Council. We will be holding Atascosa County 4-H Council Officer Elections at our May Meeting.
- If you would like to have a voice in the decision of what Atascosa County 4-H does, submit an officer application by 5 PM on April 30<sup>th</sup>. Please email nomination forms to [holly.kopplin@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:holly.kopplin@ag.tamu.edu).
- Applications can be found at <https://agrilifeextension.tamu.edu/counties/atascosa-county/>

## Atascosa 4-H Council Meeting

- The Atascosa County 4-H Council will meet on Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.
- Location: Atascosa County 4-H Extension office auditorium
- We will be holding Atascosa County 4-H County Council Officer Elections for the 2026-2027 4-H year at our May Meeting.
- If you are a current council officer, club voting delegate, or you are running for an office, this is a meeting for you to attend.
- All County Council meetings are open to all Atascosa County 4-H members to attend.

## Recordbook information

The updated 2025 - 2026 Texas 4-H Record Book information has been posted at: [https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/record\\_book\\_family\\_guide\\_2025\\_2026.pdf](https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/record_book_family_guide_2025_2026.pdf)

Records books for the Atascosa County 4-H Record Book Contest are due on June 8<sup>th</sup>.

# **ATASCOSA COUNTY LIVESTOCK SHOW**

## **BUYER THANK YOU LETTERS DUE MARCH 16<sup>TH</sup> BY 5:00 P.M.**

**You must bring your letters to the Atascosa County 4-H Extension office.  
We will check that you have met all requirements. Bring your Thank Yous in addressed, stamped, & unsealed envelopes. You may mail your Thank Yous after we check them.  
You will mail your pictures to your top 4 buyers.**

### **Major Livestock Show Reminders**

**Breeding Animal exhibitors need to make sure and have health papers for their breeding animals.**

**Please check tattoos on steers, heifers, lambs, & goats. If there is an issue, contact Dale Rankin as soon as possible.**

### **Livestock Show links**

**Stock Show Season is in full swing!!  
Please review major stock show requirements.  
Do not forget about Health Certificates.**

#### **Houston**

[https://www.rodeohouston.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/2026-Exhibitor-Handbook\\_V7.pdf](https://www.rodeohouston.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/2026-Exhibitor-Handbook_V7.pdf)



#### **Austin**

<https://rodeoaustin.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/2026-Final-Premium-Book-10.30.pdf>



# District 12 4-H Contests

The **District 12 4-H Photography registration** will be open on 4-H Online February 2-March 2, 2026. This contest is virtual & will be held in March 2026. You must have competed in the Atascosa County 4-H Photography Contest to be eligible to compete in the District 12 4-H Contest. Please visit: <https://d124-h.tamu.edu/4-h-event/photography/>

The **District 12 4-H Shooting Sports- Trap, Skeet, & WhizBang Shoot registration** will be open on 4-H Online February 9-March 10, 2026. The contest will be held in Mission on March 21<sup>st</sup>. Please visit: <https://d124-h.tamu.edu/4-h-event/shooting-sports/shotgun/>

The **District 12 4-H Food Show registration** will be open on 4-H Online February 23-March 16, 2026. This contest will be held in Falfurrias on March 28<sup>th</sup>. You must have competed in the Atascosa County 4-H Food Show to be eligible to compete at the District Contest. Please visit: <https://d124-h.tamu.edu/4-h-event/food-show/>

The **District 12 4-H Food Challenge registration** will be open on 4-H Online February 23-March 16, 2026. This contest will be held in Falfurrias on March 28<sup>th</sup>. You must have competed in the Atascosa County 4-H Food Challenge to be eligible to compete at the District Contest. Please visit: <https://d124-h.tamu.edu/4-h-event/food-challenge/>

The **District 12 4-H Consumer Decision Making registration** will be open on 4-H Online February 23-March 16, 2026. The contest will be held on March 28<sup>th</sup> in Falfurrias. Please visit: <https://d124-h.tamu.edu/4-h-event/roundup/>

The **District 12 4-H Fashion Sensation- Fashion Show, Duds-to-Dazzle, & Natural Fiber registration** will be open on 4-H Online February 23-March 16, 2026. The contest will be held on March 27<sup>th</sup> in Falfurrias. You must have competed in the Atascosa County 4-H Fashion Show to be eligible to compete at the District Contest. Please visit: <https://d124-h.tamu.edu/4-h-event/fashion-show/>

The **District 12 4-H Roundup- Talent Showcase registration** will be open on 4-H Online February 23-March 16, 2026. The contest will be held on March 27<sup>th</sup> in Falfurrias. You must have competed in the Atascosa County 4-H Roundup to be eligible to compete at the District Contest. Please visit: <https://d124-h.tamu.edu/4-h-event/roundup/>

The **District 12 4-H Roundup- Public Speaking registration** will be open on 4-H Online February 23-March 16, 2026. The contest will be held on March 27<sup>th</sup> in Falfurrias. You must have competed in the Atascosa County 4-H Roundup to be eligible to compete at the District Contest. Please visit: <https://d124-h.tamu.edu/4-h-event/roundup/>

The **District 12 4-H Livestock Judging registration** will be open on 4-H Online March 11-April 1, 2026. The contest will be held on April 16<sup>th</sup> in Alice. Please visit: <https://d124-h.tamu.edu/4-h-event/roundup/>

The **District 12 4-H 3-P & Silhouette Rifle Match registration** will be open on 4-H Online March 16-April 10, 2026. The contest will be held on April 25<sup>th</sup> in Benavides. Please visit: <https://d124-h.tamu.edu/4-h-event/shooting-sports/4h-smallbore/>

**For instructions on how to register for an event on 4-H Online,** please visit: [https://texas4h.tamu.edu/wpcontent/uploads/4honline\\_family\\_guide\\_event\\_registering.pdf](https://texas4h.tamu.edu/wpcontent/uploads/4honline_family_guide_event_registering.pdf)

# Scholarships

## Capital Farm Credit Youth Scholarship Program

Visit <https://www.capitalfarmcredit.com/about-us/community-outreach/youth-scholarships/> for more information.

Applications are open until March 16, 2026.

## Texas Farm Bureau has scholarships available.

Visit <https://texasfarmbureau.org/youth/scholarship-apps/> for more information. Scholarship applications are due March 2, 2026.

The **Atascosa County 4-H Merit Scholarship Letter of Intent** to Apply is due by March 1, 2026. to the Atascosa County 4-H Extension Office. You must have completed a Record Book the two years prior to apply for this scholarship. The scholarship will be due on June 8<sup>th</sup>.

The **Atascosa Cattlemen's Association Scholarship** will be due on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Please reach out to the Atascosa County 4-H Extension Office for more information.

The **Atascosa County Fair Scholarship** application is due to be postmarked by April 1, 2026. Please reach out to the Atascosa County 4-H Extension Office for more information.

The **Atascosa County Livestock Show Scholarship** application is due on April 15<sup>th</sup>. Please visit <http://aclsweb.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/2024-ACLS-SCHOLARSHIP-APPLICATION.pdf>

Submit ONE .PDF FILE by email to the ACLS Scholarship Committee at [acls.stockshow@gmail.com](mailto:acls.stockshow@gmail.com) by 11:59 p.m. on April 15.

For more information on local scholarships, please visit: <https://agriflifeextension.tamu.edu/counties/atascosa-county/>  
Information will be posted as it becomes available.

For more scholarship opportunities, please visit:  
[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1qWPVMu4INiVoeW\\_sjbQRMT4Xe-h6hOWXpU3MQJ5YSok/edit?gid=0#gid=0](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1qWPVMu4INiVoeW_sjbQRMT4Xe-h6hOWXpU3MQJ5YSok/edit?gid=0#gid=0)

More local opportunities can be found at:  
<https://saafdn.org/scholarships/apply-for-a-scholarship/>

## **4-H Members in Action**

**Congratulations to the following Atascosa 4-H members on their accomplishments at the 2026 Major Livestock Shows!!**

### **Fort Worth**

**12 Atascosa 4-H members participated**

### **San Angelo**

**Avery Martin- Grand Champion Finewool Cross lamb**

### **San Antonio**

**Peter Pawelek- 10<sup>th</sup> place Turkey Tom**

**Videlia Zapata- 4<sup>th</sup> place Turkey Hen**

**Coy Huizar- Reserve Champion Turkey Hen**

**Avery Martin- 1<sup>st</sup> place Finewool Cross Lamb**

**Jhonnelle McMillan- 3<sup>rd</sup> place Medium Wool Lamb**

**Makenna Slomchinski- 5<sup>th</sup> place Charolais Steer**

**Easton Rankin- 1<sup>st</sup> place Santa Gertrudis Steer**

**Scottlyn Haufler- 1<sup>st</sup> place Red Cross Steer**

**Kyle Brymer- 5<sup>th</sup> place Crossbred Barrow**

**Other participants in San Antonio include:**

**Ty Brymer 5<sup>th</sup> place Duroc Gilt**

**Samantha Schroeder- 4<sup>th</sup> Junior Beef Skillathon**

**Landon Davila- 12<sup>th</sup> place Commercial Doe**

**Avery Martin- 6<sup>th</sup> place Commercial Does**

**Addison Scott- 5<sup>th</sup> place Commercial Doe**

**Elizabeth Lopez- 8<sup>th</sup> place Commercial Doe**

**Macy Katsmorak- 8<sup>th</sup> place Duroc Barrow**

**Rhylee Wagner- 6<sup>th</sup> place Chester White Barrow**

**Great job to all Atascosa 4-H members that participated in the major shows listed above! Good luck at the Houston & Austin Livestock shows!**

**For pictures from the shows, please visit: <https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjCGLp6>**

**The Atascosa County 4-H Photography Contest took place virtually. If you had a 1<sup>st</sup> place photo in your age group & category, you are eligible to register for the District 12 4-H Photography contest.**

**Registration closes on 4-H Online March 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

# 4-H Opportunities

Local family in Pleasanton looking for youth to help with planting seeds during spring break. If interested, call 858-603-9606.

Health Texas Youth  
Ambassador applications  
now open!

For more information, please  
visit  
[https://healthytexas.tamu.edu/  
resources/youth-  
ambassadors/](https://healthytexas.tamu.edu/resources/youth-ambassadors/)

2026-27  
**HTYA REGISTRATION IS  
NOW OPEN!**  
APPLY BEFORE  
APRIL 1, 2026

TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
EXTENSION

HEALTH TEXAS  
YOUTH  
AMBASSADORS

Texas 4-H Water Ambassador  
applications now open!

For more information, please visit,  
<https://www.texas4hwaterambassadors.com/application>

**Join us!**  
**Texas 4-H Water Ambassadors  
Applications Open March 1!**  
[www.texas4hwaterambassadors.com](http://www.texas4hwaterambassadors.com)

**Leadership**

**Mentorship**

**Community Service**

**Eligibility**

- Applicants must be 14 years of age or older by September 1, 2026, and be entering the 9th- 12<sup>th</sup> grades for the 2026-2027 school year.
- Applicants must be or become a 4-H Member (\$10 annual membership fee)
- If accepted, applicants must pay \$300 membership fee by June 1<sup>st</sup> 2026

**Leadership Academies!**

- SESSION 1 – Tier 1 4-H2O Leadership Academy (June 7 – June 12, 2026)
- SESSION 2 – Tier 1 4-H2O Leadership Academy (June 14 – June 18, 2026)

\*Youth will be assigned to only one session.

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

**Cost: \$210 per camper**  
(includes 2 nights dorm lodging, meals, t-shirt, water bottle and activities)

## Lone Star 4-H Splash Camp

Presented by  
**Texas 4-H Water Ambassadors**

Take the plunge for a fun-filled weekend with the Texas 4-H Water Ambassadors. Immerse yourself in hands-on and interactive water activities and expand your knowledge and appreciation of all things WATER. Make new friends and lasting memories!

**Open to 6th -8th grade students**

**March 27th - 29th, 2026**  
Texas 4-H Center, 5400 FM 3021 Brownwood, Texas

**Registration is now open on the Texas 4-H Center's website and closes March 13th, 2026.**

**Camp Activities:**

- Water Fair
- Fishing
- Kayaking
- Seining
- Water model building
- High ropes course
- Dance & games

Check-in: Friday, March 27th 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM  
Pick-up: Sunday, March 29th 11:00 AM

Adult Chaperones Needed.  
(Chaperones may attend free of charge but must register and be approved Texas 4-H Adult Volunteers.)

For more information, contact us at:  
[david.smith@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:david.smith@ag.tamu.edu)  
[makeyla.waiser@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:makeyla.waiser@ag.tamu.edu)  
(325) 784-5482

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

The **Texas 4-H Horse Validation** opens on Texas Show Pass March 1<sup>st</sup>.

The validation process will close on May 1, 2026.

**You must validate your horse to be eligible to participate in the District and/or State Horse Show.**

The cost is March 1 – April 15 = \$10 per horse  
The cost from April 16 – May 1 = \$20 per horse

Please visit <https://texasyouthlivestock.com/horse-validation/> for more information.

Please call the Atascosa County 4-H Extension Office at 830-569-0034 if you have any questions.

# 4-H Opportunities

Be sure to check out all the unique educational opportunities offered across the state on the Texas 4-H website at <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/sportfishing/>

## 2026 TEXAS 4-H VIRTUAL SPORTFISHING PROGRAM Educational Opportunities

**SPRING & SUMMER 2026**

### TEXAS 4-H VIRTUAL SPORTFISHING PROGRAM

**Program Highlights**

- Zoom Educational Programs - No charge  
March 17, 24, & 31 and May 13, 20, & June 9, 16, & 23 pm  
Registration required via Google: <https://forms.gle/B9w72z6f6M8V7Z>
- Freshwater & Saltwater Division Tournaments - \$50  
Fish in YOUR location across the state!  
Spring: April 4-May 30 Summer: June 13-August 9  
Register via 4HOnline at <https://texas.4honline.com>
- Texas 4-H Sportfishing Skill-a-thon Contest - \$5  
Spring: May 15-30 Summer: July 17-August 9
- Texas 4-H Sportfishing Angler Certification - No charge  
Participate in 3 educational programs, one tournament and one skill-a-thon

**New for 2026**

- Complimentary tail-pinch tool & Check-it-stik
- Saltwater Fishing 101 & Managing Fish Resources programs
- First Fish Species Caught - original Texas Sportfishing
- Black Drum and Rio Grande Cichlids permitted

Questions? Contact Dr. Beth Lynn McInnis at [emcinnis@tamu.edu](mailto:emcinnis@tamu.edu)

All information for the 2026 Texas 4-H Virtual Sportfishing program can be found at either site:

**2026 Texas 4-H Virtual Sportfishing**

This Facebook page is a private group that you will need to receive permission to join. Already following? No need to rejoin!  
<https://www.facebook.com/group/412024329833284032>

**Texas 4-H Sportfishing website**

Information on Texas 4-H sportfishing programs can be found on this website. Check back on this site for official placings at the end of each tournament and skill-a-thon.  
<https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/sportfishing/>

2026-2027 Texas 4-H Council At-Large Delegate Applications NOW OPEN!!

## Texas 4-H Congress

Texas 4-H Congress applications are now open. The event will take place in Austin on July 19-22, 2026. This event is only for 4-H members entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade or have just graduated 12<sup>th</sup> grade at the time of the event. Texas 4-H Congress is a four-day mock legislative experience for 4-H members in grades 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>. During this time, 4-H members assume the roles of legislators, lobbyists, and press corps to gain a first-hand understanding of how the legislative process works. Please visit <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/events/congress/>

Please check back periodically as various roles open.

### ONLINE LEARNING SERIES

**course summary:**

- Oct. 30, 6pm | Mental Health Check-In  
"It's Okay to Not Be Okay... Mental Health for Teens"
- Dec. 18, 6pm | Gratitude & Giving Back  
"Gratitude in Action: Service and the Power of Thankfulness"
- Feb. 5, 6pm | Managing the Juggle  
"Balance, Boundaries & Burnout: Self-Care During Busy Seasons"
- April 9, 6pm | Spring into the True You  
Topic: "Goal-Setting That Sticks: How to Create Habits That Last"
- May 14, 6pm | Digital Life, Real Impact  
"Digital Citizenship: Social Media, Identity, and Responsibility"

## WHEP

Presented by Texas 4-H Natural Resources Program

### 4-H Wildlife Habitat Education Project State Contest

May 16-17, 2026

To be held in the Palo Duro Canyon State Park, Randall County

Contest is open to all 4-H Age Divisions (Jr., Int., Sr.)

Registration on 4HOnline - April 1-30, 2026

For more information on Contest Ecoregion, 2026 Revised WHEP Manual, Location Details, please visit <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/wildlife-fisheries/>

Texas 4-H Ambassador Applications: <https://texasyouthlivestock.com/>  
Click on the Ambassador Program tabs

## 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
  - Aperture Academy (Ages: 10-14)
- 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.

## TEXAS 4-H YOUTH LIVESTOCK & AGRICULTURE 2026 PROGRAM DATES

**TYAA**

- TEXAS 4-H EQUINE AMBASSADOR SHORT COURSE  
COLLEGE STATION, TX  
JUNE 8-11, 2026
- TEXAS 4-H POULTRY AMBASSADOR SHORT COURSE  
COLLEGE STATION, TX  
JUNE 22-25, 2026
- TEXAS 4-H LIVESTOCK AMBASSADOR SHORT COURSE-TAMUK  
KINGSVILLE, TX  
JUNE 15-18, 2026
- TEXAS 4-H LIVESTOCK AMBASSADOR SHORT COURSE-TAMU  
COLLEGE STATION, TX  
JULY 13-16, 2026
- TEXAS 4-H LIVESTOCK AMBASSADOR SHORT COURSE-TTU/WT  
LUBBOCK, TX/CANYON, TX  
JULY 20-23, 2026
- \*NEW\*** TEXAS 4-H AGRIBUSINESS ACADEMY  
COLLEGE STATION, TX  
JUNE 29-JULY 1, 2026
- TEXAS 4-H ADVOCACY ACADEMY  
AUSTIN, TX  
JUNE 29-JULY 1, 2026
- TEXAS 4-H PACIFIC AGRICULTURAL EXPERIENCE  
TBA  
JULY 31-AUGUST 9, 2025

## 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 0+ 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)

# 4-H Opportunities

**ENTRY FORMS**  
Entry forms can be obtained from TCFB by contacting Brady Miller or Rachel Hernandez at membership@tcfa.org. Feel free to call the TCFB office at (800) 358-3681. Entry forms are also available at www.tcfa.org.

*The TCFB Allied Industries Committee conducts the contest. If you would like a personal visit by a representative, please contact TCFB at (800) 358-3681.*

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**February 27:**  
Earliest date steers can be validated.

**March 20:**  
Last date steers can be purchased and validated.

**April 6:**  
Entry form, validation information and entry fee must be received by TCFB.

**July 14 - 17:**  
Final steer closeout weights.


**July 17:**  
Steers delivery location  
Lonestar Stockyards, Willadoro, TX  
check-in by 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

**July 20:**  
Digital record book due and emailed by 5:00 p.m.

**July 31:**  
Contest Day at West Texas A&M University

Junior/Senior participants check in from 7:30 a.m. to 7:50 a.m.  
Contest begins at 8:00 a.m. Winners to be announced that afternoon following the contest.

**2026 TCFA JUNIOR FED BEEF CHALLENGE**



July 31, 2026

Paul Engler College of Agriculture and Natural Sciences  
West Texas A&M University  
Canyon, Texas



**TEXAS CATTLE FEEDERS ASSOCIATION**  
500140Vest • Amarillo, TX 79108  
(800) 358-3681 • FAX: (800) 352-6026  
www.tcfa.org • membership@tcfa.org

**TCFA JUNIOR FED BEEF CHALLENGE**

*The objective of the Junior Fed Beef Challenge is to encourage young people to gain practical experience in feeding commercial beef cattle. This program stresses the importance of proper animal husbandry and financial management.*

**INFORMATION**

Steers must be validated between February 27 and March 20. Official entry deadline is April 6 and must include the validation date, photo of the steer with the TCFB ear tag visible, scale tickets and a \$35.00 per person entry fee.

For entry information and to obtain an Official Rule Book, 4-H, FFA leaders and feedyard managers should contact Brady Miller or Rachel Hernandez at (800) 358-3681. Contestants or the adult leader may contact TCFB to order contest ear tags. (Allow a minimum of one week lead time before validation deadline).

After entries are received by TCFB, the adult leader and contestants will be sent details for the written exam and oral interview/presentations.

**OVERALL SCORING**  
(Possible Points, Part of Total)

Steer Points (per total)	100
Record Keeping	100
Digital Record Book	20 pts.
Steer Photos	10 pts.
Feed Samples	30 pts.
Weight Tickets	20 pts. (10 pts. each x 3)
Online BQA Certificate	10 pts.
Drug Certificate	10 pts.
Interview/Presentation	150
Written Exam	150
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>500</b>

**2025 JUNIOR FED BEEF CHALLENGE WINNERS**

**SENIOR DIVISION AWARDS**

Scholarships will be awarded to the highest overall points in the Senior Division.

Champion Overall	\$5,000
Reserve Overall	\$3,000
First Runner-Up	\$2,000

**TOP EVENT AWARDS:**

Best Written Exam	\$500 prize
Best Oral Interview	\$500 prize
Top Pen Steer Points	\$500 prize
Top Individual Carcass	\$500 prize
Top Rookie	\$500 prize


**JUNIOR DIVISION AWARDS**

An achievement award will be presented to the overall winner.

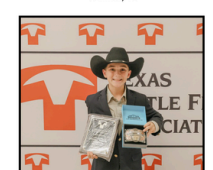
**TOP EVENT AWARDS:**

Overall Junior Champion	\$350 prize
Best Written Exam	\$250 prize
Best Presentation	\$250 prize
Top Pen Steer Points	\$250 prize
Top Individual Carcass	\$250 prize
Top Rookie	\$250 prize

The top Senior and top Junior contestants in each event will be recognized with a plaque. Second and third place winners will receive a certificate of excellence.



Sr. Division Overall Champion  
Logan Kainer  
Weimar, TX



Jr. Division Overall Champion  
Crockett Gunther  
Schulenburg, TX

## Texas Farm Bureau- Student Success Series

Students in 8th through 12th grade can learn more about leadership and networking and grow confidence and personal professionalism.

**Jumpstart:** Any student entering 8th grade in August 2026 is eligible to participate. Students will: Become familiar with Texas Farm Bureau, Discover and explore unique careers in the Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources Career Cluster, Develop leadership skills through interactive, hand-on opportunities, Network with peers from across the state.

**Activate:** Any student entering 9th grade in August 2026 is eligible to participate. Students will: Learn more about Texas Farm Bureau, Be challenged to create a plan for leaving a legacy, Grow leadership skills through interactive, hands-on opportunities, Network with peers from across the state

**Engage:** Any student entering 10th or 11th grade in August 2026 is eligible to participate. Students will: 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

**Thrive:** Any student entering 12th grade in August 2026 is eligible to participate. Students will: Grow public speaking and leadership skills, Learn more about the free enterprise system, Hear from engaging motivational speakers, Dive deeper into social media and digital advocacy efforts, Develop an understanding of agricultural marketing

For more information on these programs, please visit: <https://texasfarmbureau.org/youth/youth-opportunities/student-success-series/>

2026 SUMMER CAMP SCHEDULE			
JUNE	7-11	SOUTH TEXAS BUCKSKIN BRIGADE CHAPARROSA RANCH	LA PRYOR, TX
	7-11	ROLLING PLAINS BOBWHITE BRIGADE THE 1687 FOUNDATION	RISING STAR, TX
	17-21	SOUTH TEXAS BOBWHITE BRIGADE BUCK HORN CREEK RANCH	MCCOY, TX
	27-JUL. 1	SOUTH TEXAS RANCH BRIGADE DUVAL COUNTY RANCH	FREER, TX
JULY	7-11	NORTH DAKOTA WATERFOWL BRIGADE 4-H CENTER	WASHBURN, ND
	8-12	BASS BRIGADE WARREN RANCH	SANTA ANNA, TX
	13-17	RANCH BRIGADE WARREN RANCH	SANTA ANNA, TX
	22-26	WATERFOWL BRIGADE PINTAL HUNTING CLUB	GARWOOD, TX
	26-30	NORTH TEXAS BUCKSKIN BRIGADE WARREN RANCH	SANTA ANNA, TX
	28-AUG.1	COASTAL BRIGADE THE OAK ISLAND LODGE	ANAHUAC, TX

APPLY NOV 1 - MAR 15 • [TEXASBRIGADES.ORG/APPLICATIONS](https://TEXASBRIGADES.ORG/APPLICATIONS)

Texas Brigades registration is open until March 15th. Please visit <https://www.texasbrigades.org/applications/> for the applications and information.

**JOIN US AT BUC DAYS!**  
Register at [BucDays.com](https://BucDays.com)

**BUC DAYS FOOD SHOW**

THURSDAY MAY 7, 2026

\$5,000 in prize money awarded

**BUC DAYS PUBLIC Speaking**

SATURDAY MAY 9, 2026

\$1,500 in prize money awarded

**BUC DAYS HORTICULTURE Competition**

SATURDAY MAY 9, 2026

\$3,000 in prize money awarded

**BUC DAYS AG PRODUCT ID Contest**

SATURDAY MAY 9, 2026

\$1,500 in prize money awarded

**BUC DAYS FOOD Challenge**

FRIDAY MAY 8, 2026

\$7,500 in prize money awarded

**BUC DAYS LIVESTOCK Quiz Bowl**

SATURDAY MAY 9, 2026

\$3,000 in prize money awarded

For more information on any of the events above, please email [holly.kopplin@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:holly.kopplin@ag.tamu.edu)