



Gallatin County 4-H - 2025-2026 Year at a Glance



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| <p>October 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 4-H Year Enrollment OPENS 4 MSU Concessions Fundraiser 5-11 National 4-H Week 7 Unlimited Leaders Council (ULC) meeting 11 MSU Concessions Fundraiser 13 Office Closed (Columbus Day) 23 Newsletter blurbs due 23 Foundation meeting 31 Returning 4-H Youth & Volunteer Re-Enrollment Deadline | <p>November 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Youth Leadership Applications Due (Camp Counselor, Teen Ambassador, Youth Committee Members) 3 New 4-H Family Orientation 4 ULC meeting 7-9 Montana 4-H Fall Teen Leadership Training (Butte) 8 MSU Concessions Fundraiser 11 Office Closed (Veteran's Day) 13 MSU Concessions Fundraiser 15 MSU Concessions Fundraiser 23 Newsletter blurbs due 27-28 Office Closed (Thanksgiving) 27-Dec. 2 National 4-H Congress 30 Club/Committees 1% due | <p>December 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 ULC meeting 4 Foundation budget meeting 12 MSU Concessions Fundraiser 17 Club Officer Training (TENTATIVE) 23 Newsletter blurbs due 23-28 Office Closed (Christmas) |
| <p>January 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Office Closed (New Years) 6 ULC meeting 7 Winter 4-H Workshop (TENTATIVE) 8 Foundation Annual Business Meeting 14 4-H Winter Volunteer Training Series Session #1 15 4-H Year Enrollment CLOSES – Last day to add/drop 4-H projects in ZSuite 19 Office Closed (MLK Day) 21 4-H Winter Volunteer Training Series Session #2 23 Newsletter blurbs due 28 4-H Winter Volunteer Training Series Session #3 | <p>February 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 ULC meeting 4 4-H Winter Volunteer Training Series Session #4 13 County Contest Registration DUE 14 Montana 4-H Foundation Higher Education Scholarships DUE 16 Office Closed (President's Day) 18 Animal Quality Assurance Workshop #1 (TENTATIVE) 27 County Communications Day Contests 28 County Foods Contests (Better Batter Baking & Stir-Ups Cooking) 23 Newsletter blurbs due | <p>March 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Fairbook Edits Due to Office 3 ULC meeting 6-8 Montana 4-H State Shoot 23 Newsletter blurbs due 27-28 MSU Concessions Fundraiser 29 Animal Quality Assurance Workshop #2 (TENTATIVE) TBD Montana 4-H Rec Lab |
| <p>April 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Gallatin 4-H Foundation Scholarship Applications DUE 7 ULC meeting 23 Newsletter blurbs due 23 Foundation meeting 30 - May 1 Give Big Fundraiser | <p>May 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 MT 4-H State Youth Award Applications Due 5 ULC meeting 5-7 Farm Fair 20 Spring 4-H Workshop (TENTATIVE) 23 Newsletter blurbs due 25 Office Closed (Memorial Day) 26 Fair Registration OPENS | <p>June 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 ULC meeting 15 Fair Registration CLOSING 23 Newsletter blurbs due 24 Record Books DUE 25 Foundation meeting |
| <p>July 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 ULC meeting (*date change) 3 Office Closed (4th of July) 5-7 Montana 4-H Pre-Congress 7-10 Montana 4-H Congress 9-10 4-H Animal Project Interviews 12 4-H Indoor Project Interviews 10-19 Big Sky Country State Fair 23 Newsletter blurbs due | <p>August 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1-5 Gallatin 4-H Summer Camp (TENTATIVE) 6-9 Bozeman Stampede 15 Manhattan Potato Festival 23 Newsletter blurbs due 27 Foundation meeting TBD 4-H Western Heritage State Shoot | <p>September 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 ULC meeting 4 Record books DUE for Awards 4 Achievement Journals DUE 7 Office Closed (Labor Day) 23 Newsletter blurbs due TBD MSU Concession Fundraisers TBD Montana 4-H Working Ranch Horse Show TBD Montana 4-H State Horse Show TBD Gallatin 4-H Awards Banquet |

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FAQs:

1. *What is MSU Concessions Fundraising?*

- a. We have the AMAZING opportunity to work a Concessions Stand at various **Montana State University** and this has become a GREAT way to raise money for 4-H club/project activities! Depending on the event, the day/time/hours will vary and depending on our concessions stand location, the number of people we will need per event will vary. **What does working MSU Concessions entail?** We will need a combination of youths (**minimum age of 10 with parent accompaniment**) and teens/adults (ages 15+) to run cash registers. All food is made and prepped by MSU Culinary/Concessions staff, 4-H members/parents just simply sell and serve it out of one of the concessions stands on MSU Campus (Stadium or Fieldhouse depending on the event). This is a super easy, fun and quick way to make money for your Clubs/Projects and gain some skills in the service industry! A Stand Leader and MSU Concessions staff will train you on the spot with what you need to know - No experience necessary!

2. *What are the Winter/Spring 4-H Workshops and should I attend?*

- a. We encourage ALL Gallatin 4-H youth members (both new and returning) to attend. We try to provide county-wide workshops on varying topics throughout the year to serve as growth and development opportunities for those engaged in our program. Topics vary from year to year based on needs, but typically include trainings on Record Books, Club Officer roles, navigating Fair and Project Interviews, county and state event trainings, etc.

3. *What are County Contests and am I required to participate?*

- a. Participation is highly encouraged because these contests (Stir-Ups Cooking Contest, Better Batter Baking Contest, Communications Day Contest) give members the opportunity to practice communication skills, become more confident, gain experience presenting to a small panel of judges, and have some fun! These contests are open to ALL 4-H members – you don't need to be in the Baking/Cooking project to participate! Contest winners that are ages 8-13 can earn money towards a trip to our annual 4-H Summer Camp and those that are ages 14+ can earn money towards a trip to Montana 4-H State Congress.

4. *What are the Animal Quality Assurance Workshops?*

- a. Animal Quality Assurance (AQA) workshops aim to teach youth about proper livestock management practices that can lead to the production of safe, wholesome, high quality food products for consumers and/or long-term care of breeding animals. Topics such as proper care & handling, biosecurity, nutrition, animal health and fair etiquette will be covered in this workshop.
- b. Montana 4-H policy requires that **all** youth members enrolled in **any** animal project complete an AQA workshop at least once as a **Junior** 4-H member (ages 8-13) and recertify once as a **Senior** 4-H member (age 14+) in order to participate at the county fair. Parents are encouraged to attend.

5. *Is participating in the Fair required?*

- a. No, but highly encouraged as it is our annual opportunity to showcase youth members' hard work, skills, creations and products to our community!
- b. 4-H Members involved in livestock projects compete in various show classes throughout the week. Those who have market animals sell through the Livestock Market Auction on the Friday night of fair week.
- c. 4-H members in Indoor Projects (ex. photography, sewing, cooking, shooting sports, woodworking ,etc.) can compete in the Indoor Exhibit Building with their creations and skills they learned throughout the year.
- d. Completing Record Book(s) and Project Interview(s) are both **required** to participate in the Fair. Interviews are the week before the Fair. More information is sent out May-July each year.