



Lavaca County 4-H News March 31, 2023

always keep an eye on <https://lavaca.agrilife.org/> and our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/LavacaCounty4H>.

Mark Your Calendars

- April 4 – County Photography Entries available to be picked up
- April 21 – State Fair Swine Tag Orders Due (form in this newsletter)
- April 25 – Virtual Record Book Training – 6:00 p.m. (link in the next newsletter)
- May 8 – County Council (bring socks and puff paint, more details next newsletter)
- June 5-8 – Texas 4-H Round-Up
- June 13 – County Record Books and Awards Applications Due
(This year's awards applications will be made available by the end of April)
- June or July (date not set yet)– Cattleman's Round-Up for Driscoll Children's Hospital -
start working on your donations
- June 14-16 – District Leadership Lab
- June 22 – County Awards Interviews
- August 1 – 4-H Banquet – Hallettsville Youth Center



Are you doing your part to be an Active Member?

“I pledge my head to clearer thinking” . . . Did you complete projects with six new learning experiences where you learned something new and applied it?

“I pledge my heart to greater loyalty” . . . How have you represented 4-H? What have you done as a citizen and how have you helped your club and county 4-H? Are you attending and participating in meetings?

Are you a leader in your club? county?

“I pledge my hands to larger service” . . . How have you helped others outside of 4-H? What are you doing to take the lead?

“I pledge my health to better living” . . . Do you make smart choices and take care of yourself and serve as a role model for others? How have you avoided peer pressure?

Are you working on your 4-H Record Book?

The answers to the questions above tell your story that belongs in your book –unique to you.
Go make it happen!

Scholarship Deadlines:

Lavaca County Local Go Texan Scholarship – due April 1-pick up application at the Extension office
Lavaca County 4-H Council – due with recordbooks on June 13

State Level Leadership Opportunities

<https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/ambassadors/>

A great way to get involved!

We currently have three State Ambassadors in Lavaca County.

Abigail Hill – Livestock, Adalyn Pohl – STEM, and Keely Kneseck – Healthy Texas

If you are in the 8th -11th grade and would like project related leadership opportunities apply for an ambassador position! Some of the deadlines are quickly approaching.

Equine – April 15

Fashion and Interior Design (typically late April)

Healthy Texas – deadline past

Livestock – April 15

Poultry – April 15

Photography – typically summer

Shooting Sports – typically summer

STEM – typically summer

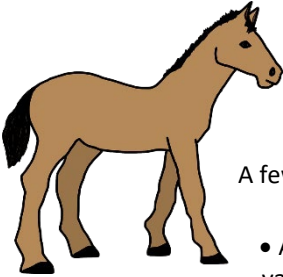
Water – May 1

Texas 4-H Summer Camp Ambassador



The 4-H Center is looking for members who will have completed 9th-11th grade this summer to serve as camp ambassadors. Working alongside summer staff, camp ambassadors serve as activity leaders and mentors to campers. This is a great way to earn state level volunteer leadership at one or more camps this summer. There will be a Teen Weekend at the Texas 4-H Center focused on training for this role on May 5-7, 2023. If you are interested in serving as a teen counselor or attending Teen Weekend (or both) call or email Natalie for details and contact information.

Horse Validation



Texas 4-H Horse Validation for the 2023 season **will be open in 4H Online from March 1 – May 1, 2023**. Please see the attached guidelines for families and County Extension Agents.

A few important reminders:

- ALL horses must be validated/re-validated each year. There is no limit to the number of horses that can be validated. You are encouraged to validate all horses that may possibly be shown at district and/or state shows. Only state validated horses can be substituted in the event that a validated horse becomes unusable due to lameness, sickness, etc.
- The family can submit payment of \$10.00 per horse (\$20.00 after April 15th, or \$250 from May 1st to May 5th), in the form of a **credit card ONLY**.
 - **From March 1 – April 15, the validation cost for each horse is \$10.00.** The \$10.00 cost is only guaranteed if the animal validation is approved by the county office by the April 15th deadline and the payment is processed.
 - **From April 16 – May 1, the validation cost for each horse is \$20.00.** The \$20.00 cost is only guaranteed if the animal validation is approved by the county office by the May 1st deadline and the payment is processed.
- Each validation must include front view, right side view, 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, sibling, parent, stepparent, 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. Once the updated registration papers have been received, please email me a copy of the new papers and I will add it to the validation.
- ***NEW IN 2023*** - Lease horses are now eligible to be validated and shown at District and State 4-H Horse Shows. An official Texas 4-H Horse Lease Agreement must be signed by the exhibitor, horse owner, and the supervising County Extension Agent. The lease period must include, at minimum, May 1st to August 31st of the current 4-H year. The lease agreement form can be found at <https://texasyouthlivestock.com/horse-validation/> and must be uploaded to 4H Online at the time of validation.
- Image uploads in 4H Online must be in the form of a .jpg, .gif or .png file.
- **Families should validate each horse only one time.** Once the horse is validated, any sibling within that family is eligible to show the horse at their district show and/or the State 4-H Horse Show.
- **Youth validating a futurity horse must be at least 12 years of age (as of Sept. 1, 2022) and at least in the 6th grade.**

Validation walk-through guide for families: https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/4honline_family_guide_horse_validation_2023.pdf

- For additional one-pagers and other resources, please visit <https://texasyouthlivestock.com/horse-validation/>
- Validation walk-through video: <https://youtu.be/OPoOmyC1kTk>
- The family will receive an automated message from 4-H Online when the County Extension Agent has approved the horse at the county level. **This approval does NOT guarantee eligibility.** After it is approved at the county level, the validation will then be reviewed at the state level. The family will be notified by June 1st if there are any issues with the validation at the state level.
 - We will begin to review validations at the state level on March 1st and will be working closely with families and agents to fix errors as quickly as possible prior to the validation deadline.

Fun at the Texas 4-H Center!
Register at <https://texas4hcenter.tamu.edu>
Early Bird Registration is Open at the Texas 4-H Center



County Camp – Grades 3-9

I – June 25-29

II – July 9-13

Traditional camp experiences ideal for total family groups.

Horizons -July 2-6– Grades 4-8

Sign up for a specific project: Hunting, Fashion, Shooting

Other projects to be added soon

Prime Time

I – July 16-19 – Grades 3-5

II – July 19-22 – Grades 6-9

Traditional camp experiences with less age differences than county camp.

High Adventure – age 10-15

June 18-20

Outdoor /High Energy

Reimbursement for Select Activities

The reimbursement policy was approved by the council and remains the same for 2023. Members may request reimbursement for a number of activities including participation at the Texas 4-H Center and entry fees for 4-H contests. Refer to the policy for details. Go to

<http://counties.agrilife.org/lavaca/files/2022/01/Lavaca-County-4-H-Reimbursement-Policy-and-Forms.pdf> to access the policy and forms.

Remember, also, to read the weekly e-mails you receive from Texas 4-H as they often have opportunities that do not get mentioned in this update. This update is sent via email to all actively enrolled members and leaders. It is also posted on the county website. If you know of someone who is not receiving the updates, please have them check their Spam folders and their enrollment. Thanks!

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension provides equal opportunities in its programs and employment to all persons, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in any Extension activity, are encouraged to contact the County Extension Office (361)798-2221 to determine how reasonable accommodations can be made.