



Blaine County 4-H News

April, 2009

MSU Extension
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Dear 4-H Members, Leaders and Parents,

Thank you to everyone who planned and participated in the Discover the Magic of 4-H Mini Congress. Thank you to all the Leaders and Youth Leaders who taught classes and assisted with meals and activities. We also have a few left over shirts if anyone wishes to purchase one. Great job everyone!

There will be a public informational meeting concerning the remodel of the Commercial Building on the Blaine County Fairgrounds on April 8th at 7:30 at Richman Insurance. Everyone is welcome to attend to learn more about this project that will be a great benefit to everyone in Blaine County. For more information contact the Extension Office.

Our 2009 Blaine County Fair is just over 90 days away. Be sure to get going on all your projects and remember the final date to drop or add projects is May 1st. Just as a reminder with Fair right around the corner, be sure to pick up showmanship clothes. If you need black pants and white shirts, the Extension Office has these available. Also, just as a reminder it is stated in the Fair rules that tennis shoes are not to be worn when showing.

Happy Spring Everyone!

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4-H Council Meeting

The next 4-H Council meeting will be April 6, 2008 at 7:00 at the Triple E Meeting Room. If anyone has agenda items, please send them to the Extension Office by 5:00 pm on Friday April 3th.

Horse Committee Meeting

There will be a horse committee meeting on April 6th prior to the council meeting starting at 6:00 in the Triple E Room. We will be discussing riding workshops before the fair and the upcoming Joani Kissock clinic in Blaine County.

Youth Leaders Meeting

There will be a Youth Leaders Meeting on April 15th starting at 6:00 in the Triple E Meeting Room. Please note the date change due to the Commercial Building Meeting on April 8th. Please bring your parents as we will be discussing the youth leader trip this summer. If you have any questions, please contact Juli at the Extension Office.

4-H Market Lamb Tail Docking Requirements

It's lambing season and time for you to be thinking about where you are going to purchase your market lambs. We would like to recommend that you purchase lambs with a tail length of 1 1/4 inches. This measurement helps prevent rectal prolapse.

Camp Workshop

The next camp counselor workshop will be April 13th in Rudyard starting at 11:00. We will be leaving the Extension Office at 9:00. Please bring your workshop, theme, game and activity ideas.

4-H Chuckwagon Managers

Rosella, Donald and Trista Higgins have graciously agreed to manage our 4-H Chuckwagon again this year. The Higgins Family did an outstanding job last year and we welcome them back!

Lamb, Pig & Goat Tagging and Weigh In

Any 4-H and FFA member 9 years and older may participate in the Market Lamb, Market Hog and Market Goat Project.

All lamb, pig and goat weights must be turned in to the Extension Office by April 12th. In order for your project to be considered for this year's Blaine County Fair market livestock sale your lamb, pig and goat's weight must be accompanied by a photo of you with your animal with a 4-H ear tag in it's ear on or before April 12th.

You may weigh in and tag two project animals and select the one to show prior to the fair. Please let us know ASAP if you are planning on tagging a buddy animal. If club's would like to set up a market animal weigh day for your club, please feel free.

You may e-mail your picture and your weight to Juli at sather@montana.edu or you may drop a hard copy off at the Extension Office. Tags are available at the Extension Office.

Only lambs, pigs and goats properly tagged, weighed, photographed and on file at the Extension Office will be allowed to sell at the 2009 fair – no exceptions – we will post those who are properly entered on the Blaine County 4-H Web site as the entries come in –it is your responsibility to ensure that your project is entered.

Please remember that April 12th is 90 days before the sale and it is also Sunday so please plan accordingly to get your picture and weights in to the office on time.

Spring 4-H Riding Clinic

The first horse project riding clinic of the year will be Sunday, April 26th (note date change) at Mike & Connie Copenhaver's south of Chinook. This is a very important clinic to attend. The clinic will begin at 1:30. Please make sure to have your horse current on their vaccinations before attending. For more information please contact the Extension Office.

Horse Project Assessments

If you are planning to assess to a higher level of Horsemanship prior to the fair this year, you need to contact the Extension Office before April 10th to let us know if plan to assess to a higher level. Please contact the Extension Office as soon as possible to set up your assessment.

Joani Kissock Clinic

Blaine County is excited to once again be hosting a Joani Kissock Horsemanship Clinic. The clinic will be June 6th at the Blaine County Fairgrounds. We are very excited to be offering this great opportunity to all of our horse project members. Registration will be available on the website soon and also in the May newsletter.

May 1st Add / Drop Deadline

May 1st is the deadline to add or drop 4-H projects. Please let the Extension Office know if you plan on adding or dropping any projects by 5:00 pm on May 1st.

Ambassador Applications—May 15th

All Blaine County senior 4-H members ages 14-16 who have not yet finished their sophomore year of high school are encouraged to apply to join our Ambassador team. We will have a Prospective Ambassador position available this year. The application will be available on the Blaine County Website in April. Being a 4-H Ambassador is a great leadership development opportunity and a lot of fun. Please submit your completed application and additional materials to the Extension Office by Friday May 15th.

4-H Foundation Scholarship

The Blaine County 4-H Foundation has scholarships available for all graduating and alumni Blaine County 4-H members. The application is available on the Blaine County Extension website. Applications are due to the Extension Office by June 1st. The winner of the scholarship will be announced at the Fair.

2009 Montana Advanced Youth Market Beef Tour

Advanced Youth Market Beef Project (AYMBP) tour will be June 4-5 in the Billings area. This tour is being offered to any 4-H member age 14 and up as of October 1, 2008. This event is designed to give participants an inside look at various aspects of the beef industry including feed companies, feedlots, and processing facilities, and hopefully stimulate some interest in the 4-H Advanced Youth Market Beef project.

One of the highlights of the tour is a visit to Stillwater Pack in Columbus, where we will be observing an animal being processed from start to finish. This will be a highly educational and fun thing to do. Participation will be limited, so register early.

Registration is due back to the Judith Basin County Extension Office by May 1st. The registration form is available on the Blaine County Extension website.

A block of rooms has been reserved for your convenience at the Wingate Inn at the rate of \$99/per night. The motel offers a reduced admission fee of \$10 for the Water Park. Participants will be responsible for their own accommodations and fees. Please call (877) 995-8999 to reserve your room by May 1st.

4-H Camp

The days are getting longer and warmer, Spring is in the air and its almost time for 4-H CAMP!! Our awesome team of 4-H counselors has an action packed three days of fun planned for you on June 8-10th at Camp Kiwanis in Beaver Creek Park. The counselors are in the process of selecting a theme and activities for camp. Registration materials will be available in the May 4-H Newsletter and on the Blaine County Extension Website. We look forward to seeing you all at camp!

Teen Camp Opportunity

The Ravalli County Camp Team is excited to announce a fantastic opportunity for teens to have 4-H camp experience.

This camp is designed specifically for teens! This is an opportunity for all Ravalli County and Montana 4-H members. Registration for in-county is open now, out of county youth can apply on May 15, 2009. So, get your registration in as soon as possible to reserve your spot.

When is Ravalli County Teen Camp?

July 29-August 1, 2009 (Wed.-Sat.)

For youth 4-H Age 13 and up.

Where is it?

LOON LAKE 4-H CAMP - BIG FORK, MT

What does it cost?

COST: \$105.00 - includes transportation from Ravalli County to camp, 9 meals, snacks, cabin bunk with mattress, hot showers, canoeing, swimming, campfires, fun workshops, games, camp t-shirt and dance.

Registration starts May 15 for non-Ravalli County youth. Get your registration in, space is limited!

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, July 17, 2009. Refunds until July 1, 2009

Registration Materials are available at the Blaine County Extension Office.

Operation Military Child

April is month of the military child. 4-H extension, in partnership with Operation Military Kids would like to show our appreciation to military kids and families for their sacrifice at home. Would you please distribute the attached materials and information to the clubs or whomever would be able to take advantage of it. Also, would you or the clubs mind coming up with something to show your appreciation and support for the youth and families. It could be something as simple as to wear a special color for a week or even to have an appreciation breakfast. For more information go to www.monthofthemilitarychild.com.

23rd Annual Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp, July 12th-17th

The future decisions of how our natural resources will be managed will be made by the youth of today. For more than 20 years, the Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp has provided youth an opportunity to study in an outdoor setting the scientific principles, economic realities, historical heritage, and social perspectives of today, to help these future leaders in their quest to gain a natural resources perspective that is informed and progressive.

Campers spend one week (July 12-17, 2009) in the rustic setting of the Lubrecht Experimental Forest east of Missoula and learn about Montana's natural resources. The students learn about wildlife, forestry, water, soils, geology, range management, and multiple land use, and spend a half-day rafting the Alberton Gorge of the Clark Fork River.

In between the field sessions, taught largely by professionals that volunteer from a variety of natural resources based agencies and industries, specialty evening programs, guest speakers, hands-on learning-through-discovery, and campfires provide for a lasting summer camp experience.

Student teams also compete in a Land-Use-Game where they manage a 3,400 acre ranch for 20 years. As in real life teams must make hard choices between profits and conservation ethics, especially if they face poor commodity prices. Most students enjoy the competition and have the typical reaction of "Wow, I never knew that making a living by managing land was so hard."

Enrollment is open now and campers are accepted on a first-come basis. The full cost of the camp is \$175.00 which includes meals, supplies, and lodging. Campers are encouraged to contact their local Conservation District for sponsorship which will cover much of the camp cost.

Link to the camp website: <http://www.mnryc.org>

Link to color poster and handouts: <http://www.mnryc.org/download.html>

Link to the registration information: <http://www.mnryc.org/download/MNRYCApplicationPackage.pdf>

For more information please contact Martin Twer, MSU Extension Forestry (phone 406-243-2775 or email martin.twer@cfc.umn.edu)

Thank you to everyone who attended the "Discover the Magic of 4-H" Mini Congress 2009!



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4-H: The Youth Development Program of MSU Extension

The MSU Extension Service is an ADA/EO/AA/Veteran's Preference Employer and Provider of Educational Outreach.