



**Ravalli County
New Member
4-H family
Welcome Packet**



Welcome to the 4-H program in Ravalli County!

Dear New 4-H Family-

We are so pleased to have you and your family involved in the program!

This booklet should be reviewed with you by a Club Organizational Leader, club leader or someone from the MSU/Ravalli County Extension Office. In doing so, your questions can be answered as you go through the information.

You will also want to review “The New Family Handbook”; it is a Montana 4-H publication and is available at the Extension Office. The book explains in detail, the basic information about 4-H, the Pledge, Motto, Emblem, the Learning Model and Philosophy of 4-H.

All first (1st) year members should also purchase a copy of “For the Record”; it will help them understand the record forms and how to complete them.

Contact information for the MSU/Ravalli County Extension Office is in the back of this booklet. Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

We look forward to getting to know you and sharing 4-H events and activities with you!

Sincerely,

Montana State University/Ravalli County Extension Office

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Ravalli County 4-H Year Time line

October

- 1 4-H Year begins (4-H age is calculated by this date)
- 1 Enrollment and re-enrollment begins
 - * Clubs hold their first official meeting of the year – be sure to attend
 - * National 4-H Week (always 1st full week in October)
 - * Applications due for Alberta Leaders' Forum
 - * Fall Ambassador Training

November

- * Enrollment continues
- * Project materials are ordered and distributed at club meetings
- * Award programs in clubs
- * National 4-H Congress in Atlanta (always Thanksgiving weekend)
- * 4-H Advisory Council meeting (third Monday of the month)

December

- * Enrollment continues
- * Club Holiday activities
- * Camp Youth Director and Junior Counselor applications due for Ravalli County 4-H Camp
- * IFYWE (International 4-H Youth Exchange) applications begin to come due for Delegates as well as Chaperones

January

- * Market Steer and heifer weigh in, first Saturday in January
- * State Leaders Council Dues paid for all enrolled leaders
- * Alberta Leaders Forum
- * Club Officer Training
- * 4-H Legislative Breakfast, Helena (Presidents Day, Legislative years only)
- * 4-H Advisory Council meeting (third Monday of the month)

February

- 1 People Partner Grant applications due
 - * CWF (Citizenship Washington Focus) application due
 - * Susan Kay Duffner CWF Scholarship applications due
 - * WRLF (Western Regional Leaders Forum), location varies every year

March

- 15 Japanese Host Family Applications due
 - * 4-H Carnival
 - * 4-H Citizenship Seminar, Helena (Legislative years only)
 - * FLEX/IFYE Host Family Applications due
 - * National 4-H Conference, D.C., generally the last weekend in March
 - * Ambassador Application due
 - * 4-H Loon Lake Camper Applications begin
 - * 4-H Advisory Council meeting (third Monday of the month)
 - * County Speech & Demo Day and County Fashion Revue: begin looking in your monthly newsletter for places, dates and times

April

- 15 State Award Selection Committee Applications due
 - * County Phon-A-Thon
 - * Rec Lab

May

- 1 4-H Project Drop/Add deadline to participate in the Ravalli County Fair
 - * State Award Applications due
 - * County Ambassador fees due to State
 - * 4-H Advisory Council meeting (third Monday of the month)

June

- * CWF in D.C., second full week
- * Congress Registration due to Extension Office
- * IFYE's arrive & depart

July

- * 4-H Congress in Bozeman, Montana
- * Ravalli County Loon Lake 4-H Camps, last weekend/week in July
- * Japanese Exchange Arrives
- * 4-H Advisory Council meeting (third Monday of the month)

August

- * Record books: be sure to show your books to leaders before filing out and sending in Fair entry form
- * Fair entries due to the Fair Office (contact Fair Office for dates and information, 363-3411)
- * 4-H Horse at Fair, Saturday before Fair officially opens
- * 4-H Dog at Fair, two Saturday's before Fair officially opens
- * 4-H Livestock to Fair, Tuesday before Fair officially opens
- * Ravalli County Fair, Wednesday through Saturday of Labor Day weekend

September

- * Complete record books
 - * 4-H Advisory Council meeting (third Monday of the month)
- 30 Last day of the 4-H year
- 30 Club and Committees Treasurer Reports due to Extension Office

Helpful Hints

- ◆ Record Books – take 10 minutes each month to keep it updated
- ◆ Project Books – take 10 minutes each month to get your activities done!
- ◆ Project Workshops – conducted by club project leaders, some offered by County

Be sure to read your 4-H newsletter each month for information about all of these events and more! Please call the MSU/Ravalli County Extension Office if you do not receive a newsletter soon after you enroll.

We want YOU to take advantage of all there is to do in 4-H!



4-H Clubs

4-H Clubs are the backbone of the 4-H program! The entire family should be attending and participating in club meetings and activities.

Attend your monthly club business meetings! This is your opportunity to learn about parliamentary procedure and experience democracy in action. You will complete important paper work at meetings; get updates on club and county level activities and reminders about deadlines. Clubs have varying expectations for members and their parents; be sure you know what those expectations are.

Improve your community! Every club has at least one community service project they complete each year. Members and their families take pride in seeing the results of this project and enjoy the team work required to complete it.

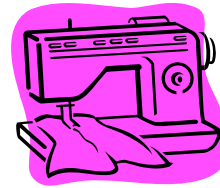
Have fun! Games and activities should be a part of every club meeting; clubs will have special fun events throughout the year.

Meet new friends! You will truly get to know your fellow members that can create life long friendships with entire families.

Youth/Adult Partnerships! Members learn to appreciate your fellow 4-Hers of all ages, working with them as partners on a team.

Family Opportunity! Whole families can be involved in 4-H together. While each member can pursue their own special interests and set their individual goals.

Fund Raising! Most clubs have at least one fund raiser per year. Members learn that working together toward a common goal can be fun and fulfilling.



4-H Projects

- Every member is required to enroll in and complete a minimum of one project per year.
- 4-H is based on a “Learn by Doing” model. Projects are hands on educational activities.
- There is huge variety of projects for members to choose; projects that can hold a special interest for them. Although members can choose any number of projects, please encourage them to enroll in a realistic number of projects that they can complete each year.
- Project workshops may be available on the club level, if parents, teens and adult leaders are willing to volunteer as project leaders.

WHAT IS A "COMPLETED" PROJECT IN 4-H?

One of the five fundamental life skills in 4-H is described as "making decisions and taking responsibility for choices." Another life skill important in Montana 4-H is "developing an inquiring mind." Both of these life skills are related to project completion. By learning how to complete a project, youngsters can work toward another of the life skills: fostering positive self-concept.

Here are some commonly asked questions about project completion:

When is a 4-H project "complete" ?

Each 4-H project has unique and specific guidelines for project completion. Over the past several years, however, we have been moving toward a system that is more uniform and consistent regarding project completion. For all the animal science projects, foods, sewing & textiles, child development, entomology, woodworking, electricity, aerospace and others, the following general guidelines apply:

- Complete a minimum of seven activities found in the project book within the 4-H year.
 - There are usually 21 activities required to complete the book; therefore completing the project for the year does not necessarily mean completing the level).
- Complete the appropriate minimum number of required and optional activities in each level within at least 3 years.
 - Many will move along more quickly, but all 4-H members should aim to complete their project book in at least 3 years. Usually this means completing 14 of the required activities found in most project books and 7 of the optional. The number of required and optional activities many vary from project to project.
- Complete a minimum of three learning experiences each year (such as a demonstration, tour, exhibiting, participating in showmanship, etc.);
- Complete a set of records for the project (including My 4-H Year, Project & Financial Journal and, if applicable, Animal Journal).

What if my project doesn't have these kinds of requirements?

Some of our older 4-H projects still don't have specific completion requirements. In this case, there are a couple of options. First, sit down with the individual 4-H member and help him/her set some specific goals and objectives for the year. These become the requirements for completion. Second, you could use the Montana 4-H Clover Project Selection Guide along with the project manuals to determine specific project requirements. For example, photography and leathercraft both list suggested guidelines that are designed to serve as a basis for project completion. However, you will want to negotiate this with each 4-H'er at the beginning of the year and have him/her record these expectations on the record forms (My 4-H Year and the Project & Financial Journal).

When are records complete?

Records must be completed in order to complete a project. The minimum set of records that must be completed consist of at least two and perhaps three forms: My 4-H Year, Project & Financial Journal and the Animal Journal. In order to receive a "Gold Seal of Excellence," each member must complete a set of records for EACH project in which he/she is enrolled after the "drop/add" deadline, May 1. Complete sets of records include the eight criteria listed on the Record Book Completion Check Sheet.

Project and Record Books

If a project is listed in the "Clover" magazine, it is a state project. If it is listed on an insert sheet, it is a county project. For the county projects you may only find a brief project outline.

The cost of the project literature is listed in the "Clover" under the project summary. You may also ask the MSU/Ravalli County Extension Office.

Project literature should be received through your Club Organizational Leader at the beginning of each year. This literature is distributed by the MSU/Ravalli County Extension Office and can be ordered and picked up directly from the Extension Office. Always check with your Club Organizational Leader about any materials you need.

Record Keeping

This is a "Life Skill" opportunity that 4-H teaches. Record keeping is required to advance each year. Records books are checked by your Club Organizational Leader each year.

A general record, My 4-H Year, is kept for each year that gives each member an opportunity to record all of their activities, and awards; 4-H and non 4-H. They also keep separate records for each project that include For the Record and a Project & Financial Record. Members will input what they did, what they learned and the costs for their project(s). These forms are available at the MSU/Ravalli County Extension Office for a small fee.

If a member wants to advance to higher levels in a project they must complete the records and project requirements for that project.

For a member to receive a yearly completion award and/or move on to the next level in 4-H, they must complete all sections of the three (3) above named record sheets and the requirements for at least one project.

Record books are to be up to date and shown to your Club Organizational Leader before the fair entry form is signed. After the fair, record books are to be completed and signed by your Club Organizational Leader.

If a member does not complete their records, they may re-enroll, but will not get year end awards or move up in project levels.

These records can be used as a reference for scholarship and job applications.

Green 4-H folders or binders can be purchased at the Extension Office to keep your Records organized. It is not required to have your records in one of these specific binders, but they do need to be kept in some kind of folder and kept organized.

New members are recommended a book called for "For the Record" that gives detailed instructions on completing 4-H record forms. These are available for sale at the MSU/Ravalli County Extension Office.

Helpful Hints

- ❖ Keep a family calendar on which you record ALL activities; use it as a reference when updating your record books.
- ❖ Members should update record books once a month at your club meetings.

Record Book Completion Check Sheet

Criteria for Complete 4-H Record Sheets

Each member must complete one “My 4-H Year” form, and a “Project and Financial Journal” form for each project submitted for the fair. If the project is an animal, the member must complete an “Animal Journal” form for each animal. *Only one “My 4-H Year” has to be completed for the entire year.*

- _____ Enroll in and complete at least one project
- _____ Identify and achieve at least 3 goals for the 4-H year
- _____ Submit your book which includes, as a minimum, the “My 4-H Year” form, followed by the Project and Financial Journal, and if an animal is owned, the Animal Journal. You may include other things to personalize your book (i.e. photos, articles, ribbons, memorabilia)
- _____ Complete all sections of the “My 4-H Year” journal form
- _____ Participate in at least 3 additional learning activities during the 4-H year and record them in your journal (i.e. speeches, demonstrations, judging, public presentations, etc.)
- _____ List any awards and honors received – both in 4-H and other
- _____ Complete the “Project and Financial Journal” for each project in which you are enrolled
- _____ If an animal is owned, keep records for it on the “Animal Journal” according to the type of project carried (i.e. breeding, market, companion animal, other)

Criteria for Complete 4-H Project Books

Each 4-H project has unique and specific guidelines for project completion. For all the animal science projects, foods, sewing & textiles, child development, entomology, woodworking, electricity, aerospace and others, the following general guidelines apply:

- Complete a minimum of seven activities found in the project book within the 4-H year.
 - There are usually 21 activities required to complete the book; therefore completing the project for the year does not necessarily mean completing the level.
- Complete the appropriate minimum number of required and optional activities in each level within at least 3 years.
 - Many will move along more quickly, but all 4-H members should aim to complete their project book in at least 3 years. Usually this means completing 14 of the required activities found in most project books and 7 of the optional. The number of required and optional activities many vary from project to project.

For more information on completing Montana 4-H Record Sheets, please see *For the Record: Guide to Completing Your 4-H Records, #5277*

Market Animal Projects



4-H and FFA members are allowed to sell only one (1) animal at any county fair.

There are deadlines for weighing and tagging all market animals that will be sold at the Ravalli County Fair. Please make a careful note of the weigh in and tagging deadlines for each species. They will be listed in the 4-H newsletter. Ear tags do cost a nominal amount, which must be paid at weigh in or check in time.

Thank your notes : all members that sell an animal at the Ravalli County Fair are expected to write their buyer(s) a thank you note. You may have the note ready and give it to your buyer at the livestock sale or send it to them. We must have record of your note before your check will be released.

Market animal payments: Your check will be mailed to you. Checks are not mailed until the buyers have paid the bank for the animals. Checks are usually mailed out before December.

Promotion: the Livestock Committee asks that market animal owners contact potential buyers prior to the fair and that they help promote the 4-H & FFA Livestock sale that is held on Saturday morning of the Ravalli County Fair.

Quality Assurance : This training helps ensure that you are providing a high quality product to consumers. All 4-H and FFA livestock project members, large animal and small animal, must complete this training in order to sell an animal at the Ravalli County Fair.

Horse Projects



All members must start with Horsemanship I, with either English or Western. If a member is more advanced, they may be “assessed” by the horse committee and moved up in levels **before April 30** of the current year. The leader will check the workbook when they assess a member’s skill and make sure the workbook is completed for that level before they move the member. The leader must contact the Extension Office to notify them of level changes. All project changes must be done before the drop/add deadline on May 1.

Members must have completed Horsemanship 1 and 2, and be enrolled in or completed Horsemanship 3 before they can enroll in any other Horse projects.

All horse members may enter Showmanship at the fair for their age group. You must write this class and lot number information on your fair entry form.

All vaccinations must be current for your horse before you bring them to any clinics, or to the fair.

Public Speaking



4-H has a reputation of producing members that are fluent speakers and great communicators. Members learn this skill by participating in their club business meetings, club demonstrations, fair interviews, and club and county public speech meets. Cloverbuds can begin this tradition with a show and tell.

Presentation options for all members

- Prepared Speech – memorized speech with no visual aids, (seniors could also give an impromptu speech)
- Illustrated Talk – a presentation with visual aids, but no end product
- Demonstration – a presentation with visual aids and an end product

Additional options for members 13 and younger

- Broadcast – pretend to be a radio or TV announcer and read your presentation
- Commercial – prepare a short commercial
- Interview – prepare a resume and participate in a mock job interview

Cloverbuds are not required to participate in public speaking but have this option if they choose.

- Give a “Show and Tell”

Literature that explains each of these types of presentations, how to prepare and time requirements is available at the MSU/Ravalli County Extension Office. There will also be information in the newsletter.

County Speech and Demo Day is held each spring. Look for dates in the newsletter.

The Power of YOUTH!

4-H OPPORTUNITIES

COUNTY

Club Officer Training – Club officers and other members receive training on how to do their jobs and how to conduct meetings. (December or January)

Livestock/Horse Judging – Members compete at various events around the state. Top senior members can compete at State Congress

Stir-Ups - Cooking Competition. Members plan and prepare a nutritionally balanced meal. Top senior members can compete at State Congress. (Winter)

Carnival – Fundraiser - Each club participates by creating a booth and selling tickets ahead of time. Each club contributes to the Silent auction and to the Door Prizes. (Spring)

Speech and Demo Day - Participants prepare speeches, illustrated talks and demonstrations and compete at three age levels. Top senior members can compete at State Congress. (Spring)

Fashion Revue - Members interview and model articles of clothing that they have sewn. Top senior members can compete at State Congress. (Spring)

Phone-A-Thon - Fundraiser. Members submit lists of people they feel would support the 4-H program. Cards are sent to these people asking if they want to participate in the Phone-a-thon. Prizes are given to callers and they can use ½ of net money they bring in for 4-H trips and events. (Spring)

Junior Recreation Lab – Is a Teen Council sponsored event. Youth who are not yet eligible to go to the State Recreation Lab are invited to attend. Youth learn lots of fun games and attend activity workshops. (Spring)

District One Teen Retreat – This is a fun weekend at Loon Lake. This event is a great starter event for those not quite old enough to attend Rec Lab; 4-H Age 12 and up. (Spring)

County Camp - Located at Loon Lake. These are two great 4-day events for Juniors & Teens. Members are bussed to Loon Lake 4-H Camp near Big Fork. Members age at least 14 can be Junior Counselors and help plan Camp. (Planning begins in January, Camp is in July)

Horse Camp - Members bring their horses with them to this camp (summer)

County Fair - This is the place for members to strut their stuff, whether it is an animal or participating in interview judging. Each club works a shift in the Corner Cafe (food booth-fundraiser) and provides monitors for the 4-H Exhibit Building. (August-September)

Teen Council – Is an opportunity to our County youth to work with our Ambassadors, plan events and learn leadership skill.

4-H age is age on October 1st of the current 4-H year (Example: Oct. 1st 2009)

STATE

Legislative Breakfast

This event is open to any and all 4-H members, volunteer leaders, and anyone who supports 4-H. Members of all ages share their 4-H experience with their legislators. (January – legislative years)

Citizenship Seminar

Meeting with government officials, participating in a mock court and legislature highlight this event. It is held in Helena. 4-H age at least 14. (January – legislative years)

Recreation Lab

Recreation and leadership training where you learn lots of fun games and activities to do with all ages of kids and even adults! 4-H age at least 13. (March)

State 4-H Congress

Is held on the MSU-Bozeman campus and focuses on leadership development and personal growth. Members Compete in Competitions. 4-H age at least 14. (July)

State Project Awards

State Project Award Winners (announced at State Congress) are invited to attend National Congress. More than one winner in each project area is possible. (Deadline for State Award Applications May 1)

Youth Leadership Opportunities:

Applications can be downloaded at mt4h@montana.edu and must be submitted electronically by your county agent to mt4h@montana.edu. 4-H age at least 14. Expenses covered by MSU 4-H Center for Youth Development. Deadline is September 2nd of current 4-H year.

Montana 4-H Youth Cabinet

Each District may have two youth representatives. The Cabinet will meet four times each year. This year District One has an opening for a two-year-term

Montana 4-H Council

There are four youth positions; the Council meets four times a year.

Montana 4-H Foundation

Two youth positions are open on the Foundation. Foundation meets three times a year.

Montana Range Days

Youth are able to learn about current trends in rangeland management. Evaluating sites and weed identification.

Montana 4-H Shooting Sports – State Shoot- youth age 9-18 enrolled in the shooting sports program can compete in this event the following disciplines: air rifle, small bore rifle, precision air rifle, air pistol and various archery classifications. This event is also the qualifier to attend the National 4-H Shooting Sports Tournament in air rifle, air pistol. Registration begins in January.

Montana 4-H Congress Planning - bringing together those individuals who have a vested interest in the success of Montana 4-H Congress in order to develop events and activities that will provide all participants with a fun and educational state congress experience.

Western National Roundup - This regional travel opportunity services as an award trip for individuals recognized as State Contest winners. This event is held in Denver CO, in January.

AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

This is an opportunity to promote 4-H with potential members, parents and general public, help conduct 4-H events, make friends, develop leadership skills and self-confidence and guide other 4-H members in the county. Your 4-H age must be 14 or older.

Fall Training

This weekend leadership retreat focuses on the purpose of Ambassadors, recreational activities and leadership workshops. You may attend as a Junior, Senior or prospective Ambassador. (October)

State Officers

Five Ambassadors are selected at State 4-H Pre-Congress to serve in the following state offices: President, Publicity Chair, Foundation Trustee, MEAC Representative, and Council Representative

NATIONAL

National 4-H Congress - Held in Atlanta, Georgia. Winners of State Awards & Congress competitions may attend. (November)

Washington D.C. Focus - Stay at National 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, MD, enjoy the sights of Washington D.C., attend government workshops and tour the Capitol and historic sights. To attend you must be 4-H Age 15-19 year and older as of October 1 of current 4-H. (June)

National Design Team - Occasionally 4-H'ers have the opportunity to serve as a member of a National Design Team. Past Teams have developed a Drug-Free Program, a Technology Project, and a Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Project. (Announced when available)

National 4-H Shooting Sports Tournament - compete against youth across the U.S. in the following disciplines: air rifle, small bore rifle, precision air rifle, air pistol and various archery classifications.

4-H Conference – A working conference for youth and adults to attend at the invitation of the Secretary of Agriculture. At this conference you will assist in the development of recommendations to help guide 4-H Youth Development Programs nationally and in their communities. Youth must be between 15 and 18 and not a High School senior and adults must be over the age of 25.

INTERNATIONAL

Japanese Exchange - A one-month summer experience. This special exchange with Japan fosters friendship and understanding through the home-stay experience. Montana hosts approximately 20 youth each summer. Montana youth are also encouraged to participate in an exchange to Japan.

IFYE Ambassador/Representative - Outbound opportunities are available to Japan, Australia, Costa Rica and Finland. These are four to eight week stays between June and September.

Alberta 4-H Club Week - This personal development program challenges participants to take a look at relationships with peers, family and community. (July)

LEADER/ADULT OPPORTUNITIES

County

County Organizational Leaders Training – All Adults are welcome to attend and learn how to guide club members through the 4-H year. (Fall)

Project Leading – Do you have expertise or interest in one of the project areas? Consider forming a project group either with your child's club or a county wide group (like dog, archery, shooting sports, horse etc) Contact Extension for help!

County Committees – On your enrollment form indicate on which committees you would like to serve. Become involved in your child's project areas.

Leadership College - This is an exciting new program that provides leaders with up to date information on the youth – adult partnership aspect of 4-H leadership. Participation in this is a requirement for chaperoning National and International trips.

Montana State Leadership Forum – Hosted by a different District each fall. Workshops offer leadership development in 4-H Basics, new projects, and how to teach and work with youth. This forum is open to teens as well as adults.

Ravalli County 4-H Advisory Council – Help your MSU/Ravalli County Extension Agents make your County program the best it can be!

Shooting Sports Instructor

Adult leaders can become a certified instructor in Archery, coordinator, Hunting, Muzzle loading, Pistol, Rifle, Cowboy Action and Shotgun. Junior leaders, 4-H age 14 or older, can become Junior Leaders in their sport.

LEADER/ADULT OPPORTUNITIES

State & National

Alberta Leaders Conference – Eight leaders are selected to attend as guests. The Canadians treat you like royalty! (January)

Western Regional Leaders Forum - This event is hosted by a different western State each winter. Many outstanding workshops expand skills and knowledge in leadership and volunteerism.

Livestock & Horse Leaders' Forum

Provides horse & Livestock leaders' an opportunity for education and training specific to their needs.

State Awards Selection Committee – Serve on the committee to select state award winners. Gain experience in selection process. Expenses paid by the Montana 4-H Foundation. (May)

Chaperoning Opportunities:

County: Camp, District Retreat

State: Legislative Breakfast, Citizenship Seminar, Recreation Lab, Congress

National: National Congress, National Western Stock Show, WRLF, National Conference, Citizenship Washington Focus

International - Chaperone positions are available to travel to Japan, Australia, Costa Rica or Finland. You may host an inbound youth from any of these countries and Norway. Travel dates are between June and August.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

County

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
Meritorious Service Award
Year-End Award

State

Montana 4-H Hall of Fame
Outstanding 4-H/FFA Alumni
Outstanding 4-H Alumni
Tribute to Volunteer Excellence
State Awards

Scholarships & Grants from the Montana 4-H Foundation

DOUGLAS A. DEAR SCHOLARSHIP: Applicant must have a background in the 4-H Horse Project who will be attending a college or university (Deadline: May 1st)

MONTANA AGRI-BUSINESS SCHOLARSHIP: Applicant needs to be interested in a college education that has a special interest in Ag business. (Deadline: May 1st)

MONTANA MEAT PROCESSORS SCHOLARSHIP: Applicant needs to have an interest/background in meat science that will be attending a college or university. Must have participated in some of these 4-H/FFA activities within the last 4 years: Livestock and meat judging, Carcass evaluation, or Livestock project options related to meats. (Deadline: May 1st)

MONTANA WHEAT & BARLEY SCHOLARSHIP: For 4-H Members who have done outstanding work in bread baking, or similar projects utilizing grains and grain products (such as use of grains with a livestock project), or project work in the crop science area. (Deadline: May 1st)

MURDOCH'S RANCH & HOME SUPPLY SCHOLARSHIP: Contact a local Murdoch's store or Extension Offices in the following counties: Flathead, Lewis & Clark, Custer or Gallatin. (Deadline: May 1st)

N.A. JACOBSEN SCHOLARSHIP: Applicant must be a junior or senior enrolled in the College of Agriculture at Montana State University-Bozeman who is interested in a career with the MSU Extension Service. (Deadline: May 1st)

SUSAN DUFNER SCHOLARSHIP: scholarship available to help fund a trip for one 4-H member to attend the Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) program. (Deadline: February 1st)

INNOVATIVE PROGRAMMING GRANT: Financial support to new programs with innovative efforts and specific outcomes that can be duplicated from one county to another. (Deadline: May 1st)

PEOPLE PARTNER GRANT: To provide incentives and financial support to groups and individuals for programs that enhance the quality of living for people in their communities. (Deadline: February 1st)

STAFF DEVELOPMENT GRANT: Available to Montana State University Extension agent or support staff wanting to attend a particular educational conference, training session, event, or program. (Deadline: October 1st)

Are you interested in any of these? Would you like to join 4-H?
Contact your MSU/Ravalli County Extension at 375-6611 or ravalli@montana.edu
County 4-H Web Site: www.msuextension.org/ravalli
State 4-H Web Site: www.montana4h.org

FAIR TIME



- ✓ Preparation will reduce stress
 - ✓ Work on your project(s) throughout the year
 - ✓ Keep your record book up to date
 - ✓ Work on your workbooks throughout the year
 - ✓ Practice with your animals
- ✓ Attend workshops and clinics to get all the information and advice you can
 - ✓ Attend appropriate county committee meetings so you understand schedules and policies

Read the Fair Book

- Copies of the current Ravalli County Fair Book are available at the MSU/Ravalli County Extension Office, or you can go online to www.ravallcountyfair.org
- Refer to the Fair Book to complete your entries
- All schedules and rules are in the Fair Book – the 4-H schedule should be referred to for 4-H activities, not the general fair schedule in the front of the book
- Be sure you know the dress codes for animal shows
- Be sure to refer to the 4-H Department, not open class for 4-H entry information

Fair Entries

- Entries are due to the fair office, completed in August (about two weeks before the Ravalli County Fair officially opens)
- Please respect the fair entry deadline, plan ahead if you are busy in August since late entries will not be accepted.
- Read the 4-H section of the fair book for the correct class and lot numbers
- If you want to compete in showmanship, enter it on your fair entries
- The projects listed at the top of the entry form are what you are eligible to enter in, you must write all your entries on the blank lines provided
- Proof read your entries when the fair book comes out in July. If you have ANY changes you must contact the Fairgrounds.
- ALL pen and cage numbers will be assigned by the Barn Superintendents

Interviews

- ❖ All indoor entries are judged by interviews.
- ❖ All non-perishable projects will be scheduled for Monday the week before fair. Members bring their exhibits and visit with the judges about how they prepared their projects and what they learned in the project.
- ❖ Foods and horticulture are interviewed on Monday of fair week. Bring your exhibits, records and work book to the interview.
- ❖ Horse entries must also participate in an interview. They will be scheduled.
- ❖ Livestock interviews are “by barn”, please check the fair book or call your barn superintendent(s) for information.

- ❖ If you cannot attend an interview on the scheduled date, you must make an appointment with your barn superintendent(s) to have an “absentee” interview. You will bring your exhibits and record books to this interview.

General fair hints

- ❖ There is a huge demand for camping spots on the fairgrounds, Contact the fair office to get your name on a spot.
- ❖ Everyone must purchase day passes or season passes for the fair. The proceeds from this income pay for the premium money awarded to exhibitors.

Have fun

Fair time should be a positive learning experience that your entire family enjoys and shares.

4-H Food Booth

- * The food booth is operated during the fair and is the primary fundraiser for the Ravalli County 4-H Program.
- * Each club must take at least one shift during the fair. All members, leaders and parents should work a shift for their club.
- * Larger clubs are asked to take on a full shift and have overflow members help out at another time.
- * This is an opportunity for 4-H members to learn about food and customer service.
- * Each club should call the booth organizer to be assigned a shift. Check the newsletter for details.





Monthly 4-H Newsletter

Each 4-H family chooses how to receive their newsletter.

- ✘ If you receive the newsletter by mail, you can expect it on or around the first of each month.
- ✘ You can read the newsletter online at: www.msuextension.org/ravalli
- ✘ Please be sure to read it over carefully each month.
- ✘ You will find dates, deadlines, registration forms, upcoming activities, committee news, policy & advice in each one.

Your MSU/Ravalli County Extension Office is a satellite office for the Montana State University Extension and is located in the Ravalli County Administrative Building

Katelyn Andersen – MSU/Ravalli County Extension Agent

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Carianna Newton- Administrative Assistant

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Ravalli County 4-H Web Site

www.msuextension.org/ravalli

Club and County Adult and Teen Leaders

Your club Organizational Leader, project and activity leaders will be able to answer many of your questions. Teen members with first hand experience in a project or activity are also a great resource. We have county level resource leaders that are willing to help in specific areas.