



HILL COUNTY 4-H



FAMILY HANDBOOK 2018-2019

Updated 8-27-2018

The members of Texas A&M AgriLife will provide equal opportunities in programs and activities, education, and employment to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity and will strive to achieve full and equal employment opportunity throughout Texas A&M AgriLife. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Hill County Extension Staff....	3
Hill County 4-H Clubs.....	4
4-H Help Desk.....	6
4-H Motto, Pledge, Prayer & Creed.....	7
4-H "411".....	8
Who's Who In 4-H.....	9
4-H Enrollment Guidelines.....	11
Age Divisions.....	12
4-H Projects.....	13
Project Selection Guide.....	14
Steps to Showing A 4-H Livestock Project & 4-H Contests.....	18
Definition of 4-H Terms.....	21
State 4-H Opportunities.....	22
National 4-H Opportunities.....	22
Texas 4-H Record Keeping System.....	23
Extracurricular Activities & 4-H Eligibility Issues.....	24
Dress Code.....	25
4-H Parents.....	26
Hill County 4-H Awards & Recognition.....	27
Senior Awards.....	28
Adult Leader Awards.....	30
Hill County 4-H Calendar 2018-2019.....	31

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Laura Huebinger, District 8 Specialist-4-H and Youth Development
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COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

County Judge.....Justin Lewis
Commissioner, Precinct 1..... Andrew Montgomery
Commissioner, Precinct 2.....Larry Crumpton
Commissioner, Precinct 3.....Scott Hawkins
Commissioner, Precinct 4.....Martin Lake

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2018-2019 HILL COUNTY 4-H CLUBS

Abbott 4-H Club
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Arend
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kathy_arend@yahoo.com

Aquilla 4-H Club
Club Manager, Courtney Lewis
aquillaaggie@yahoo.com

Bynum 4-H Club
Club Manager, Lyndsey Pederson
lpederson@bynumisd.net

Mount Calm 4-H Club
Club Managers, Nolan & Christal Pick
christalpick@yahoo.com

Hill 4-H Shooting Sports Club
Club Manager, Kama Soule`
kamasoule@gmail.com

Hillsboro 4-H Club
Club Manager, Pending
Angie.nors@ag.tamu.edu

Itasca 4-H Club
Club Manager, Monika Rhea
texasprincess78@yahoo.com

Hill County 4-H Robotics Club
Club Managers, Trey Buzbee and Brandy
Robertson
treybuzbee@yahoo.com
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Hill 4-H County Council
Angie Nors, Hill County 4-H & YD CEA
Angie.nors@ag.tamu.edu

Whitney 4-H Club
Club Managers, Monica Hunt & Nicole Burkett
Hunt1998@windstream.net
Nicole.burkett5@gmail.com

4-H HELP DESK

There are many times when 4-H youth or adults need assistance in accomplishing a particular feat or objective. Whether one needs help completing an on-line form or selecting swine for the season's shows, the following people are willing to assist you. Please do not expect them to do everything for you, but feel free to use their knowledge and experience to enlighten you on a subject or project.

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>WHO TO CONTACT</u>	<u>PHONE</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>
4-H Connect	Angie Nors	254-582-4022	angie.nors@ag.tamu.edu
Stock Show Registration (s)	Angie Nors	254-582-4022	angie.nors@ag.tamu.edu
Local/County/State/National Events	Angie Nors	254-582-4022	angie.nors@ag.tamu.edu
Volunteer Background Checks	Angie Nors	254-582-4022	angie.nors@ag.tamu.edu
Scholarships	Angie Nors	254-582-4022	angie.nors@ag.tamu.edu
Contests– FCH	Karen Jungman	254-582-4022	kljungman@ag.tamu.edu
Contests– AG, Shooting Sports	Angie Nors	254-582-4022	angie.nors@ag.tamu.edu
Contests– Horse	Angie Nors	254-582-4022	angie.nors@ag.tamu.edu
Camps/Retreats	Angie Nors	254-582-4022	angie.nors@ag.tamu.edu
Hill County Fair	Angie Nors/Zach T. Davis	254-582-4022	angie.nors@ag.tamu.edu ztdavis@ag.tamu.edu
Recordbooks	Angie Nors	254-582-4022	angie.nors@ag.tamu.edu
4-H Website, Facebook	Angie Nors	254-582-4022	angie.nors@ag.tamu.edu
Club Management	Angie Nors	254-582-4022	angie.nors@ag.tamu.edu
<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>WHO TO CONTACT</u>	<u>PHONE</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>
Swine	Angie Nors/Zach T. Davis	254-582-4022	angie.nors@ag.tamu.edu ztdavis@ag.tamu.edu
Beef Cattle	Angie Nors	254-582-4022	angie.nors@ag.tamu.edu
Goats	Angie Nors	254-582-4022	angie.nors@ag.tamu.edu
Lambs	Angie Nors	254-582-4022	angie.nors@ag.tamu.edu
Rabbits	Angie Nors	254-582-4022	angie.nors@ag.tamu.edu
Poultry	TBD		
Horse	Courtney Holt	817-992-5213	courtney.schneider@outlook.com
Shooting Sports	Kama Soule		kamasoule@gmail.com
Food Challenge/Food Show	Karen Jungman	254-582-4022	kljungman@ag.tamu.edu
Robotics	Brandy Robertson Trey Buzbee		theallinonespot@gmail.com treybuzbee@yahoo.com
Clothing	Karen Jungman	254-582-4022	kljungman@ag.tamu.edu
County Council	Angie Nors	254-582-4022	Angie.nors@ag.tamu.edu
Photography	Jennifer Gauer		Gauerfamily1998@yahoo.com
Judging Teams	Angie Nors	254-582-4022	Angie.nors@ag.tamu.edu
Ag Product ID	Courtney Lewis		aquillaaggie@yahoo.com
Consumer Decision Making	Courtney Lewis		aquillaaggie@yahoo.com

4-H MOTTO, PLEDGE, PRAYER, & CREED IN SUPPORT OF THE 4-H CLUB MOTTO

MOTTO

To Make The Best Better.

PLEDGE

The four “H’s” are explained in the pledge:

I pledge:

*My **HEAD** to clearer thinking,*

*My **HEART** to greater loyalty,*

*My **HANDS** to larger service and*

*My **HEALTH** to better living for My club, my
community, my country and my world.*

4-H PRAYER

“Help me, Oh Lord, to live so that the world may be a little better because Thou didst make me.

Amen

4-H CREED

I believe in 4-H for the opportunity it will give me to become a useful citizen.

I believe in the training of my **HEAD** for the power it will give me to think, to plan and to reason

I believe in the training of my **HEART** for the nobleness it will give me to become kind, sympathetic and true.

I believe in the training of my **HANDS** for the dignity it will give me to become useful, helpful and skillful.

I believe in the training of my **HEALTH** for the strength it will give me to enjoy life, resist disease and make for efficiency.

I believe in my country, my state and my community and my responsibility for their development. In all these things, I believe and I am willing to dedicate my service to their fulfillment.

THE 4-H CLOVER

The international emblem of 4-H is a green four-leaf clover with white “H’s” in each petal of the clover. The 4-H colors are green and white. Green symbolizes nature’s most common color and represents life, springtime and youth. White symbolizes purity.



4-H “411”

WELCOME TO HILL COUNTY 4-H. As a 4-H family, you probably have a lot of questions about 4-H. We hope that this handbook will answer many of those questions.

WHAT IS 4-H? 4-H is a youth development program which is part of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, a division of the Texas A&M University System. 4-H’s partners include the United States Department of Agriculture and local county governments.

WHAT DO YOU DO IN 4-H? The 4-H method is “*learn by doing.*” Members complete learning experiences called 4-H projects. A project is a subject or area of interest that the 4-H member wants to learn more about. There are more than 40 areas that are supported by project materials, but a member may also choose from other areas. Youth participate through local 4-H clubs. Clubs participate in community service projects, tour interesting places and learn interesting things. 4-H’ers learn leadership skills by planning club activities and by being officers in their clubs. Older 4-H members act as teen leaders, assisting adult volunteers with projects and activities for younger members. 4-H members also attend camps, contests and conferences at the county, district, state and national levels

WHAT DOES A 4-H CLUB DO? When you join 4-H, you pick a 4-H club. It elects its own officers and conducts its own business. The club group usually has a president, vice president(s), secretary, treasurer, reporter and may have a historian or parliamentarian. The club has a business meeting on a regular basis with an annual plan for their programs. At this meeting, the group discusses business and makes plans for activities. In addition, each meeting usually includes some kind of special educational program. The special program can be demonstrations by members, talks by members, parents or resource person(s), or anything else that interests the group. In this member guide is a listing of Hill County 4-H clubs, their club managers and assistants, meeting dates, times and places. Refer to this list for a club located near you or for one of the project clubs that might interest you.

4-H NEWSLETTER & FACEBOOK PAGE With over 140 4-H’ers, the Hill County 4-H Newsletter & the Hill County 4-H Facebook are the best forms of communication between all 4-H’ers, parents, and the County Extension Office. It is the responsibility of the 4-H’er to read the newsletter, which is sent out the first of each month. The newsletter contains important information about upcoming events, 4-H news, and deadlines. The Newsletter is also available on our website (<http://hill.agrilife.org>) Newsletters are emailed to all members with the current email on file on 4-H Connect.

4-H WEEKLY UPDATES Weekly updates are also emailed to 4-H members with weekly dates from the newsletter and any new dates.

WHO'S WHO IN 4-H

COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT: County Extension Agents have the responsibility for oversight of the 4-H and Youth Development Program in their assigned counties. This includes the following responsibilities:

- Charter county 4-H membership/organizations (i.e. 4-H Council, volunteer/parent groups, committees, etc.) annually. Chartering includes the permission to use the 4-H name and emblem.
- Provide opportunities for all youth who have reached the appropriate age to be participants and/or members in the 4-H and Youth Development Program.
- Plan and coordinate the county 4-H program.
- Staff the 4-H clubs/units utilizing volunteers with the assistance of the volunteer/parent leadership and youth leadership.
- Assist the volunteer/parent leadership and youth leadership in providing in-service education and resources for all 4-H volunteers in the county.
- Explain 4-H policies and procedures.
- Ensure that a quality 4-H educational program is conducted in the county.
- Inform 4-H volunteers and members about opportunities at county, district, state, national and international levels.
- Expect to conduct themselves as good role models for youth both in public and private.

4-H VOLUNTEER: 4-H is a non-formal educational program delivered by volunteers who are trained and supervised by County Extension Agents. A 4-H Volunteer Leader is a person who is responsible for a group, activity, or event, and the members and/or other volunteers involved. There are two major roles adults may assume in 4-H: 1) Direct volunteers, or 2) Indirect volunteers.

It is the responsibility of the 4-H volunteer to carry out the assigned position responsibilities that they have accepted. 4-H volunteers are expected to conduct themselves as good examples for youth in both public and private life. This includes appropriate dress code, correct use of language, and moral conduct in accordance with the generally recognized standards of our society. It should be understood by the volunteers that they are expected to participate in learning, training, and teaching opportunities provided for them. All volunteers must be screened through the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program.

HILL COUNTY 4-H PROGRAM AREA COMMITTEE (4-H PAC): a committee that helps guide and direct both the Hill County 4-H program and the youth development program for Hill County. This committee is made up of 4-H parents, community leaders, 4-H members, and other stakeholders in youth development.

WHO'S WHO IN 4-H

(CONTINUED)

COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL: A group of 4-H members who represent the community clubs, school clubs, or special interest projects on a county basis. County 4-H Council assists with developing and coordinating county projects and events. Presidents & council delegates from each club as well as elected officers make up the council. All members are invited to meetings.

COUNCIL DELEGATE: A youth elected as a representative for their club on the county-level during County Council meetings.

CLUB MANAGER: A 4-H club manager provides guidance in the general art of leadership and management to a 4-H club unit. A 4-H club manager involves 4-H officers, parents, leaders, and members in promoting the goals of 4-H and serves as the contact person between the club and the County Extension Office.

CLUB OFFICER: The 4-H club officers are elected by the club each year and have the responsibility of planning, implementing, and evaluating all club meetings and activities. Working with club managers, they form an executive committee to give overall guidance to the club.

CLOVER KID: 4-H Clover Kids are youth in grades K-2. As an affiliated group, youth enrolled as 4-H Clover Kids have activities and programs suitable for their age group. To advance their learning and competitive skills, Clover Kids are able to participate in activities, recognition programs, and competitive events only to receive a "*Participation*" award on the county level. Clover Kids are **not eligible** to serve as club and county officers. Clover Kids are not permitted to participate in any horse or shooting sports programs.

PROJECT LEADER: The 4-H project leader provides structured learning experiences and personal guidance and counseling in project-related opportunities for the 4-H members enrolled in the project group.

ACTIVITY LEADER: Activity leaders work closely with the club managers. They are responsible for one or more activity areas in the 4-H club. This will be a non-project area. Some examples of activity leaders are: new member/family coordinator, method demonstration leader, recordbook leader, judging leader, field trip coordinator, committee advisor, and community service leader.

PARENTS: Parents provide support and guidance to members and see that members attend meetings/activities and complete responsibilities. Parents should attend as many activities as possible and assist with one or more 4-H events.

4-H ENROLLMENT GUIDELINES

It is the policy of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service to extend equal opportunities for membership and participation in 4-H activities to all Texas youth in accordance with the provisions stated within all federal/state Equal Rights legislation provided that the membership requirements below are met.

Any youth may become a member of 4-H when he or she has reached 8 years of age and has entered the third grade. Young children ages 5 to 8 (kindergarten, first and second grades) may enroll as a Clover Kid. Some clubs in the county offer Clover Kid programs and many activities in the county allow Clovers to participate.

- Membership age is based on member's grade as of August 31, 2018. Must be at least 8 years old as of August 31, 2018 in addition to being in the 3rd grade to be eligible.
- ALL 4-H members must be officially enrolled (in an "active" status on 4-H Connect) to be considered an official 4-H member. No excused absences can be requested for any youth who is not enrolled in the official 4-H enrollment system (4-H Connect)."
- All 4-H enrollments must be conducted online via 4-H Connect. Please see 4-H Connect instruction manual at the back of this handbook. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service charges a \$20.00 participation fee for 4-H membership before October 31st, after October 31st a \$25.00 participation fee will be enforced. Clover Kids will not be charged a participation fee but will still need to register via 4-H Connect.
- A member must enroll in one or more 4-H projects and complete six project related learning experiences for each project.
- A 4-H'er cannot participate in 4-H activities, contests, projects, etc., in a county other than the county where he/she holds 4-H membership. If a 4-H member moves to another county, he/she may elect to join 4-H in that county but cannot retain membership in the previous county. A youth participates in 4-H by belonging to a 4-H club in the county where he/she

resides. Exception: If a member lives near a county line or if a specific project is not offered in his/her home county and it is more convenient, desirable, or logical to belong to 4-H in another county, he/she may join 4-H in that county if membership transfer is filed and approved.

AGE DIVISIONS: Texas 4-H will have new membership eligibility based on SCHOOL GRADE and not age. The eligibility rules and guidelines are:

Youth may participate in 4-H year from September 1st of grade three through August 31 following completion of grade twelve, with these age restrictions:

Minimum age - 8 (as of August 31, 2018 in addition to being in the 3rd grade)

Maximum age - 18 (as of August 31, 2018)

4-H members can look forward to new and different experiences as they get older. There are 4 age divisions in 4-H:

Clover Kids.....	2nd grade and younger
Junior.....	Grades 3, 4, 5
Intermediate.....	Grades 6, 7, 8
Senior.....	Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

4-H PROJECTS

The project is the heart of the 4-H program. A wide choice of projects is available for members. A member or a group can also select an area of interest that is not officially listed as a 4-H project and conduct a project in that area of interest. Projects available in 4-H include, but are not limited to:

- Agriculture Science
- *Clothing and Textiles
- Computer Science
- Dog Care and Training
- Texan Building Character
- *Food and Nutrition
 - *Goats
 - *Horse
- Investigating Water
 - *Photography
 - *Rabbits
 - Safety
- Science, Engineering & Technology
- Family Life Forestry
- Horticulture
 - *Leadership
 - *Poultry
- Sport Fishing
- *Veterinary Science
- *Beef
- *Community Service
- Dairy Cattle
- Entomology
- Field and Stream
- Housing
- Meat Science
- *Public Speaking
- Recreation
- *Shooting Sports
- *Swine
- *Wildlife
- Small Engines
- Biological Sciences
- County Government
- *Consumer Life Skills
 - Energy
- Range Science
 - *Sheep
 - *Robotics

***These Activities and/or Contests are offered in Hill County.**

Through a chosen project, members learn to use their resources, keep records, track profit and loss, assume responsibility and acquire knowledge and skills necessary for everyday living. Projects should be fun and challenge the youth to help develop skills, offer an opportunity to assume responsibility or explore interests and careers. Projects also offer a chance to do things with friends and develop leadership as they share their knowledge learned with others.

Not all 4-H projects have county-wide activities or contests. Some 4-H projects are self-initiated, in which the 4-H'er gains learning experiences on his/her own or with his/her family. More information about each project and activity is available in the Texas 4-H Clover Book.

TEXAS 4-H PROJECT SELECTION GUIDE

CONSIDERATIONS IN SELECTING A 4-H PROJECT

Select a project you like.

Select a project that can be completed.

Consider the money it will take.

Can parents/guardians help?

Consider the space and equipment that you have at home.

Consider the time the project will take.

Consider parental support for the project.

Be aware of the opportunities for growth in this project.

A 4-H project should be fun, serve a purpose, and be worth the effort. Select only the number of projects you can complete.

ITEMS AVAILABLE TO HELP YOU LEARN ABOUT YOUR PROJECT

4-H project promotional brochures

Project training workshops

Tours

Exhibits

Contests - judging, visual presentation and 4-H recordbooks

Reputable web sites

GOALS:

When you write down your goals and plans, you have already made a step toward reaching those goals. Your written goals will help you keep track of where you are going and how you are going to get there. Write your goals and plans for each project.

YOUR PROJECT GOALS SHOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING

Knowledge goals - things you want to learn.

Skill goals - things you want to raise, make and/or do.

Leadership goals - things you want to do and to teach others. Community

Service goals - things you want to do for others.

GUIDELINES THAT RELATE TO ALL PROJECTS:

Make a set of project goals.

Complete certain goals each month - most project work is done at home.

Keep a record of goals completed.

Exhibit project work.

Enter a contest at the local and county levels. Attend workshops on your particular project.

Attend 4-H meetings regularly.

Develop leadership by teaching other interested persons something about your project.

Carry out community service activities related to your 4-H project. Continue to study and broaden project knowledge and skills.

FIND OUT WHAT YOU CAN LEARN AND DO IN YOUR PROJECTS

KNOWLEDGE - THINGS TO DO AND RESOURCES TO USE IN DEVELOPING KNOWLEDGE OF YOUR PROJECT

- Read library books related to project.
- Read magazines.
- Purchase literature related to projects.
- Secure owner's manual.
- Attend workshops related to your project.
- Interview someone who is knowledgeable about your project.
- Tour places related to the project.
- Subscribe to magazines.
- Go on field trips to study project.
- Study careers related to your project.
- Study catalogs.
- Take correspondence course related to project.
- Study history related to your project.
- Surf the web for reputable, non-biased sources.

SKILLS - THE DOING PART OF 4-H IN WHICH YOU DEVELOP YOUR SKILLS TO THEIR POTENTIAL.

- Make several things related to your project.
- Raise and properly care for something related to your project.
- Repair things related to your project.
- Make a list of skills related to your project and practice them.

SAFETY - PART OF EVERY 4-H PROJECT.

- Purchase safety equipment.
- Make a safety plan (locating safety hazards).
- Participate in a safety clinic.
- Make a study of accidents related to your project.
- Study state and national safety laws related to your project.
- Use warning signs where necessary.
- Secure a safe place to work.
- Follow all safety recommendations.

LEADERSHIP - ALSO A PART OF EVERY 4-H PROJECT. IT IS YOUR DUTY AS A 4-H MEMBER TO DEVELOP LEADERSHIP SKILLS.

- Present and display in schools and your community to promote your project. Assist individual members with their project (list ways).
- Conduct interviews.
- Help plan and conduct workshops about your project.
- Serve as chair of your project group.

- Teach groups about project work.
- Organize a 4-H project club.
- Conduct project contests in the local 4-H club.
- Assist volunteer leader with project.
- Set up a project tour for your club.
- Assist with county contests.
- Serve as a project leader for your club.
- Recruit new club members into your project.
- Write an article for our local newspaper.
- Serve as a group leader during a workshops or tour.
- Assist with county exhibit days - register exhibits in your project.
- Secure a county donor for your 4-H project. Teach disabled children about your project.
- Write and give speeches about your project.
- Develop a business related to your project.
- Serve on a committee related to your project.
- Write news articles about your project.
- Make exhibits that tell other people about your project.
- Appear on T.V. and/or radio and talk about your project.
- Write an information sheet about your project and use it as a handout during workshops.
- Develop a slide set or video about a certain part of the project.
- Serve as a teen or junior leader.

CITIZENSHIP AND COMMUNITY SERVICE - PART OF EVERY PROJECT.

YOU SHOULD SET SEVERAL PROJECT CITIZENSHIP AND COMMUNITY SERVICE GOALS. DISCUSS WAYS YOU CAN WORK IN YOUR COMMUNITY TO PROMOTE A PART OF YOUR PROJECT THROUGH ASSOCIATIONS AND PRIVATE BUSINESSES.

- Make the public aware of the economic importance.
- Write your state and national legislators about issues related to your project.
- Give something related to your project to shut-ins.
- Secure pen pals who are interested in the project.
- Discuss project issues with local officials.
- Write project donors, thanking them for their support.
- Sell an item from your project and use the money for some worthy cause.
- Assist friends and neighbors with work related to your project.
- Make speeches about the importance of your project to the economy, society or school.
- Provide transportation for others to a project workshop.
- Organize a campaign to improve something related to your project.
- Conduct a radio program on your project, making the community aware of an issue.
- During National 4-H Week, do some type of project promotions.
- Take pictures of other 4-H'ers project exhibits, and use the pictures for publicity.
- Report to the proper authority things that you see in your project(s) that are dangerous to people of the community.
- Do volunteer work related to your main project.

- Serve on a county or community committee that is related to the project. Loan something that you have related to your project.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

- Study how your project related to conserving our natural resources.
- Share stewardship information with others in your project area.

ECONOMICS

- Study consumer reports about your project.
- Watch television; listen to the radio for economic news related to the project.
- Conduct your own price study.
- Make a study of how to cut cost and maintain quality.

EXPERIMENTS

- Develop your own design.
- Compare the outcome of more than one item, using different ingredients.
- Invent something that is useful in your project.
- Conduct experiments related to your project.

STEPS TO SHOWING A 4-H LIVESTOCK PROJECT

1. Must be enrolled in 4-H.
2. Purchase your animal and work with a County Extension Agent to help you find an animal if needed.
3. Validate your animal (Contact your County Extension Agent or check your Hill County Newsletter for dates).
4. Obtain Quality Counts Certification Online before November 1st. (<http://qualitycounty.tamu.edu>) *This is an online video system that will take approximately 2 hours to complete. Any student wanting to show livestock MUST complete this!*
5. Enter the shows you would like to participate in.
 - Hill County Livestock Show Entries are completed at the CEO in December.
 - All major show entries are completed at the Extension Office in November.



4-H CONTESTS

4-H holds many contests to give members a chance to display their skills and measure their knowledge. Participation in contests is optional but strongly encouraged. Winners of most county contests advance to district and state contests. Only seniors can advance to state level competition at State Roundup in College Station. State winners may be selected for regional and national competitions. Information about upcoming events are located in the 4-H newsletter and emailed to each 4-H family, events are also published weekly in the local newspapers.

FOOD & NUTRITION

- **FOOD CHALLENGE:** The Food Challenge is a unique opportunity to participate in an innovative food and nutrition competition. The 4-H Food Challenge, similar to the popular television show Iron Chef, brings fun, learning, application of knowledge and skills, and group competition together at one event. At your table, they will have all the ingredients and a recipe with just the amounts on the table and no directions! You are to come up with a dish with what ingredients you have on the table and only use the bucket of supplies. Then groups will present their dish to the judges.
- **4-H FOOD SHOW:** A chance for senior members of the Foods and Nutrition project to demonstrate their culinary skills and knowledge. Clover Kids are allowed to participate at the county level.

4-H COUNTY ROUNDUP: During Roundup, members continue the knowledge they have gained in their projects and their skill in public speaking and showing others their talents. Presentations are an integral part of the 4-H program. They are an effective tool for teaching young people how to organize their thoughts and present their ideas and themselves. There are two contests available at 4-H Roundup:

- **EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS:** a 5-12 minute speech where members demonstrate how to make or do something related to their project area. The emphasis is on “showing” how to do or make something. An illustrated talk is speech during which members talk about a project using slides, charts or photographs. The emphasis is on “telling” how to do something. Clover kids are allowed to compete at the county level.
- **SHARE-THE-FUN:** The 4-H talent show provides a chance to develop talent, leadership and confidence, as well as wholesome recreation. 4-H members compete as club groups or individuals in a variety of categories such as: Choreographed Routine; Vocal; Musical; Poetry/Prose and Celebrate 4-H. 4-H’ers can also participate as stage hands, props design, and crew, etc. A fun activity for both the performers, coaches and audience. Clover kids are allowed to compete at the county level.

CLOTHING AND TEXTILES:

- **4-H FASHION SHOW:** Fashion Show offers a contest for youth to gain valuable consumer skills in the Clothing Buying Division or demonstrate sewing skills in Clothing Construction and Textile Division. Youth learn poise and gain confidence modeling and speaking to judges about the garments and accessories. Clover kids are allowed to compete at the county level.
- **FASHION STORYBOARD CONTEST:** The purpose of the contest is to provide an opportunity for the individual to apply, synthesize and evaluate his/her knowledge of fabrics and the arts and principles of design. It also provides the individual an opportunity to develop his/her knowledge of the career responsibilities of a designer and a fashion illustrator, enhance his/her personal presentation, and his/her verbal and nonverbal communication skills, resulting in a successful presentation board.
- **DUDS TO DAZZLE:** Much like Food Challenge Competition. Teams repurpose garments provided. Supply table of goods provided.

CONSUMER DECISION MAKING: Athletic shoes, backpacks, emergency radios, gift cards, gold jewelry, insect repellent, pedometers, printing digital photos, sunscreen, are a few of the items 4-H Consumer Decision Makers have studied to be able to compare the relative qualities and prices of each to determine which offers the best value for the money. Each year the items change, but this judging contest teaches members how to be smart consumers and spend their money wisely. Clover kids are allowed to compete at the county level.

4-H RECORDBOOKS: Recordbooks become a record of what a member has learned and accomplished in his/her 4-H projects. Members submit their completed recordbooks to the County Extension Office, where they are judged by outside volunteers against other members in the same category and age group. Recordbooks are an excellent way to teach youth how to keep records and allow them to record progress toward achieving their goals. Recordbooks are required to be turned in order to compete for 4-H awards.

4-H PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST: Members may submit photographs in various categories to be judged at the county level. Senior (Grades 9—12) winners from each category will go on to compete at the state level in the spring contest. Junior, Intermediate, and Senior winners will advance to compete at the district level in the fall contest.

4-H LIVESTOCK JUDGING CONTESTS: These can include Meats Judging, Livestock Judging, Livestock Skill-a-Thon, etc.

4-H SHOOTING SPORTS: Rifle, Shotgun, Archery, Pistol, Muzzle Loading, & Wildlife. There are no county contests for these disciplines. Rifle is a state qualifying contest.

For more information on all contests and projects see our website at:

<http://hill.agrilife.org>

DEADLINES

It is important that 4-H'ers and parents pay close attention to entry deadlines. The Hill County Extension Office operates under a *zero tolerance* policy for deadlines.

No late entries will be accepted for ANY reason.

All deadlines are announced in the Hill County 4-H Newsletter, via email to 4-H members & the online calendar

4-H DEFINITION OF TERMS

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICE: is an educational agency, an outreach arm of the Texas A&M University System that extends research-based knowledge to enhance the well-being of Texans.

COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE: located at 126 S. Covington St., Hillsboro, Texas 76645

RECORDBOOKS: 4-H member records prepared in a specific format. Books are judged on the county and district levels with the opportunity for senior record books (Grades 9—12) to advance to the state level.

4-H COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT: An activity conducted by a 4-H member or club for the benefit of the community. Examples include neighborhoods clean-up, voter registration, food drive. etc.

EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS: Planned presentations by one or more 4-H members that teach information related to a project or activity.

JUDGING TEAMS: A group of 3 to 4 members who evaluate classes in the areas of consumer decision making, livestock, horse, plants, range, wool, mohair, meats, entomology, soils, and dairy.

SURGE: This district-wide leadership camp is held at the Texas 4-H Center, in Brownwood, in June. The camp is for 4-H'er ages 13 and older. Participants gain leadership skills that they are able to bring back to their county and share with others. At this camp, district council officers are also elected.

COUNTY 4-H AWARDS BANQUET: A banquet held to recognize 4-H'ers for their achievements in the 4-H program, from 4-H record books to Gold Star. Adult awards, such as Community Friend of 4-H and Friend of 4-H, are also presented at the banquet. The county 4-H awards banquet is for all 4-H families in Hill County.

4-H NEWSLETTER: A newsletter is sent to 4-H families and leaders. It is a good source of 4-H information on upcoming events, activities, and contests. The newsletter is for members and their families to remain updated.

NATIONAL 4-H WEEK: Held the first full week in October. This week provides 4-H'ers and leaders the opportunity to increase public awareness and understanding of 4-H in the community.

STATE 4-H OPPORTUNITIES

TEXAS 4-H ROUNDUP: For members 11 and older (Intermediates and Seniors). Round-up provides developmental experiences, which build on knowledge, skills and attitudes gained through local 4-H activities. Most contests are only open for seniors age levels and 4-H'ers must qualify at a district 4-H contest. Contests for Intermediates are invitational contests and does not require qualification at district level. State contests are held in June at Texas A&M University in College Station.

TEXAS 4-H CONGRESS: This mock legislative educational event is held in Austin in even-numbered years. During the week-long program, Senior 4-H youth experience the legislative process first hand. By role-playing senators, representatives, lobbyists and press corps members, youth are exposed to the full political scene. Activities range from debating bills in the actual Texas Legislature chambers to socializing with advocates and opponents at evening receptions. Youth return to their communities with a better understanding of how our state government works. Information is sent to County Extension Offices in the fall preceding the event year. Congress happens in even years.

NATIONAL 4-H OPPORTUNITIES

NATIONAL 4-H CONGRESS: This educational program for senior 4-H members is designed to teach participants the citizen's political approach to community action for youth. In addition, youth delegates participate in programs that focus on citizenship, leadership and communication. Youth between the ages of 14 and 18 on August 31 of the year attending are eligible to apply for Congress. Also, delegates must be participating in youth development programs in which Extension is a partner (4-H clubs, special interest groups, school curriculum enrichment, and ENP-Y). Information and application forms are sent to each county office in

March. Applications are due in May and finalists are interviewed in late May or early June. Opportunities for senior 4-H'ers to interact with members from across the nation in learning experiences. Texas' National 4-H Congress Web Site is:<http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/natcongress>

NATIONAL 4-H CONFERENCE: This week-long event held at the National 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland, involves youth, volunteers and staff in determining 4-H program directions at all levels. Participants are involved in an array of operations committees, consulting groups, pre/post conference commitments and obligations. Participants are representatives of their county, district and state constituency and are expected to add to discussion in an effort to gain input from all levels of involvement.

TEXAS RECORD KEEPING SYSTEM - “FOR THE RECORD”

Following is an overview of the system and information about completing a 4-H Member Achievement Plan and 4-H Recordbook. 4-H Recordbooks are due in June and are required in order to compete for awards. 4-H Recordbook Training is in the fall and each Spring.

CATEGORIES: A 4-H member who has participated in any project may also submit a record book for judging. The exception is senior members who have placed 1st at the state level in one of the awards program categories in any previous year. First place state winners in each of the categories will be awarded a scholarship toward a trip to Washington, D.C., during the Thanksgiving weekend.

Please refer to the “Record Improvement Guide” publication for guidelines to preparing a recordbook or go to the Ellis County 4-H website for more details about recordbooks:

<http://ellis.agrilife.org/4-hpublications>

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND 4-H ELIGIBILITY ISSUES

Starting September 1, 2018, all 4-H youth, including youth in public, private, and/or **home school**, must adhere to the following guidelines regarding extracurricular activities and academic eligibility: Complete a “Declaration of Eligibility Form” – If you are in public or private school, your form will be sent automatically to your school. If you are home schooled, you will be required to come to the office to pick one up and fill it out.

OR

Name of 4-H member must appear on a list of eligible students to participate in a specific extracurricular activity signed by the school principal or designee. – This list is usually used during the youth fair instead of filling out a form for each student. Extracurricular activities through 4-H that require a “Declaration of Eligibility Form” or List of Eligible names:

- All 4-H Competitive Events (this does include photography, Ellis County Youth Expo, Participation in ANY 4-H event or activity that would require them to be absent from school). Consistent with the UIL rules, the Texas 4-H Program has adopted a three school week waiting period upon change in status of school enrollment (from public to private or private to home or home to public or home to private) before the 4-H member is eligible for extracurricular activity. As a result of the 81st Legislation, no significant changes were made in TEA or UIL rules and procedures.

The 76th Legislature passed House Bill 3573 with 3 major changes in regard to school eligibility and extracurricular activities:

- Authorizes the Commissioner of Education (instead of State Board of Education) to adopt for extracurricular activities and to approve or disapprove UIL rules and procedures.
- Suspension period of “no pass, no play” changed to 3 SCHOOL weeks.

Authorizes local boards of trustees to adopt policies that establish the number of times that students may be absent to participate in extracurricular activities. It also requires that the policies allow at least ten absences for extracurricular participation but does not cap the maximum number of days that may be missed for extracurricular participation.

DAEP PLACEMENT AND PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Section 37.006 includes a list of types of conduct for which a district is required to place a student in a DAEP (Disciplinary Alternative Education Program). Subsection (g) of that section provides that “[t]he terms of a placement under this section must prohibit the student from attending or participating in a school-sponsored or school-related activity.” (Emphasis added). In addition to the required placements under Section 37.006, a district may include other bases for a DAEP placement in its student code of conduct under Section 37.0001(a) (1). Also, a principal may make a DAEP placement under Section 37.002(c) in response to a classroom removal under that section. The application of Section 37.006(g) is expressly limited to placements “under” that section. Section 37.006(g) does not apply to a placement made pursuant to Sections 37.001(a) (1) or 37.002(c) if the conduct is not included in Section 37.006. A district may adopt its own policy governing the terms of such a placement with respect to participation in school-sponsored or school-related activities. A district must be careful to apply Section 37.006(g) to any placement made for conduct that is included in Section 37.006 even if the conduct is separately identified in the district’s code of conduct or resulted in a removal under Section 37.002 6/20/2001. For more information on the “No Pass, No Play” policies, contact your local school or the Ellis County Extension Office.

4-H DRESS CODE

- A dress code for attending 4-H events will be enforced.
- If the apparel item cannot be worn to a public school or public school events, it is not acceptable for 4-H activities or events.
- No hats or caps worn in buildings.
- Dresses or skirt length minimum finger-tip length.
- Shorts must have a minimum 3" in-seam.
- No earrings for boys.
- No bare midriffs.
- No visible body piercing(s).
- No tube tops.
- No spaghetti straps or strapless tops or dresses, or straps less than 1-inch in width. Consideration will be given to special events such as banquets.
- No back-less shirts.
- No promotion of any alcohol, tobacco, drugs, sexual activity, vulgarity or profanity on clothing.
- No excessively sagging or bagginess of pants. No visible tattoos.

If clothes do not comply with the rules, the 4-H'er will be asked to change immediately to be able to participate.

4-H PARENTS – PARTNERS ON THE TEAM

Good youth development programs do not just happen. It takes a combined effort of parents and volunteers along with the guidance of Extension youth development professionals to establish a good 4-H program.

In 4-H we have a team a 4-H team which contributes to the ultimate development of youth. On this team are the parents who become partners of the team. If a 4-H team is to be successful, then the parents must become “regular players,” not “bench warmers.” 4-H work would be totally impossible without the active support of interested parents. In clubs where parental support is good, individual club members receive more personal attention and guidance from leaders and parents. Closer family unity comes from planning, sharing and working together. When a family works as a team, the strength, talents, and skills of each family member can be developed and appreciated.

What can parents do to support and/or help the 4-H program?

- Learn what 4-H is all about (purposes, objectives. etc.).
- Exhibit a genuine interest and enthusiasm in 4-H and in your child.
- Encourage participation in 4-H activities. Participation stimulates interest and enthusiasm.
- Assist your child in selecting a project the like, a project that they have the ability to accomplish, and one for which you can help furnish facilities, financing, needed materials and guidance.
- Provide encouragement and help in their project work with record keeping, demonstrations, judging and completion of attempted work and leadership responsibilities.
- Provide transportation for members to local club meetings and to county events and activities.
- Attend at the club meetings each year with your child.
- Get informed about “what’s going on” and continue to stay informed.
- Provide a meeting place for a project group.
- Assist leaders and club by providing refreshments or other help.
- Volunteer to be a project leader. All adults have abilities that would greatly assist the 4-H program.
- Serve on a committee to help plan and conduct special club activities and events.
- Participate in the Bell County 4-H Management Advisory Board and serve on special project committees with youth to plan our county program events and activities.

Participation in the 4-H program can give the parent a feeling of contributing to their community, a feeling of being helpful to young people, and a feeling of value and worth. There is some credibility to the saying that 4-H develops both youth and adults. 4-H is a family activity. There is something for everyone. 4-H can provide an extended family, a network of positive adult and older teen role models to help provide a positive environment in which their child can grow and develop.

VOLUNTEER BACKGROUND CHECKS

Each 4-H parent/volunteer/leader is required to complete an online Texas 4-H Volunteer Registration and undergo a criminal background check. The purpose of the volunteer background checks is to ensure the safety of all 4-H youth. If a background check does not come back with a positive result, that particular adult will be forbidden or limited on his/her involvement with 4-H youth. For more information on or questions regarding this system, please contact the Ellis County Extension Office.

HILL COUNTY 4-H AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

NOTICE: All 4-H members applying for awards (Gold, Silver or Bronze Star; or Danforth must submit the appropriate paperwork and applications by the specified deadlines. Recordbooks for county competition will be due on **June 18, 2018**. Awards age based on their grade level.

JUNIOR AWARDS

NEWCOMER AWARD:

To recognize outstanding first and second year 4-H members. 4-H members may receive this award only one time. Applicants may be of any age. This award is selected by the County Extension Agent. The Newcomer Award winner will receive an award at the Hill County 4-H Awards Banquet.

BRONZE STAR

To recognize outstanding achievements by 4-H members who are in grades 3, 4 or 5. The member must have been in 4-H for at least one year. A 4-H member may receive the award only once. The Bronze Star Award will be presented to the most deserving young people. The 4-H member must complete an application and submit a record book. All candidates will be required to provide an interview as part of the selection process. The number of awards will be determined by the awards and recognition judges, with the number of awards given to the most deserving individuals.

INTERMEDIATE AWARDS

NEWCOMER AWARD:

To recognize outstanding first and second year 4-H members. 4-H members may receive this award only one time. Applicants may be of any age. This award is selected by the County Extension Agent. The Newcomer Award winner will receive an award at the Hill County 4-H Awards Banquet.

SILVER STAR

To recognize outstanding achievements by 4-H members in grades 6, 7, or 8. Any 4-H member may receive the award only once. The Silver Star Award will be presented to the most deserving young. The member must have completed at least two years in 4-H including the current year. The 4-H member must complete an application and submit a record book. All candidates will be required to provide an interview as part of the selection process. The

number of Silver Stars to be awarded will be determined by the awards and recognition judges, with the number of awards given to the most deserving individuals.

SENIOR AWARDS

ROOKIE AWARD:

To recognize outstanding first and second year 4-H members. 4-H members may receive this award only one time. Applicants may be of any age. The 4-H member must meet the requirements of and turn in a Rookie Application. Rookie Award winners will receive a certificate presented at the Ellis County 4-H Awards Banquet.

WORKHORSE AWARD:

To recognize a 4-H member of any age that has shown supreme work ethic in everything they do. This member is involved in numerous 4-H and school activities and maintains good grades as well. They must show great determination and work ethic in all projects and tasks. This award is selected by the County Extension Agent.

NATIONAL DANFORTH “I DARE YOU” AWARD:

To award 4-H members 14 years (as of August 31st of the current year) or older for outstanding character. 4-H members may receive this award only one time. The requirements are the same as for the Gold Star Award and winners will receive an “I Dare You” book and certificate. The 4-H member must submit an awards program record book in the year he or she is to be considered for the award. All candidates will be required to provide an in-person interview as part of the selection process. The number of Danforth Awards to be awarded will be determined by the selection committee Awards and Recognition Judges.

GOLD STAR

Purpose is to recognize senior 4-H members for outstanding achievement. The Gold Star Award is the highest achievement award at the county level. Counties have award quotas based on the number of senior 4-H members. The award will be presented to the most deserving young people without regard to sex.

Qualifications:

1. The member must be at least 15 years of age as of September 1 of the current year and must have completed at least three years in 4-H including the current year.
2. The 4-H member must submit a record book in the year he/she is to be considered for the award.
3. The 4-H member must have completed projects in three different project areas including submission of appropriate record forms and have participated in at least three of the following areas: method demonstrations/4-H presentation; contests; projects; project exhibits; camps; SURGE; citizenship activities; public relations (demonstrations, radio, T.V., speeches, poster displays, newspapers, etc.); other (includes fund raisers, State and National Congress).

NOTE: It is not expected that the above requirements for projects and activities all be completed in the current year. They may have been accomplished over the entire period of time the 4-H'er has been in the program. During his or her years in 4-H, the member must have exhibited leadership skills, be serving as a 4-H officer or committee chairman (club, county, district or state); and/or as a junior or teen leader in an activity or project with or under the supervision of an adult volunteer leader. The 4-H member must have participated in one or more community service activities.

4. In addition to the record book, the 4-H member must submit an application signed by his or her current club manager and participate in an interview. All candidates will be required to provide an in-person interview as part of the selection process.

5. The 4-H member(s) receiving the Gold Star Award will receive a certificate and pin from the District 8 Office.

6.

NOTE: The number of Gold Star awards to be awarded in any one year are limited and determined by the State 4-H Program and that information are sent to the 4-H Program Coordinator.

HILL COUNTY CALENDAR

2018-2019

August:

- Enrollment Begins
- 4-H Banquet
- State Recordbook Judging
- Adult Leaders Meeting
- Fall Entries Due (West Texas State Fair, East Texas State Fair, State Fair of Texas)
- State validation tag orders due (lambs & goats)

September:

- 1st club meetings start
- West Texas Fair
- East Texas Fair
- State Fair of Texas
- Heart O' Texas Fair Entries Due
- State swine validation tag orders due
- State heifer validation UIN orders due for Fall Validation

October:

- National 4-H Week
- State Fair of Texas
- Lamb and Goat Validation (county and state)
- County swine validation
- Deadline for Online Enrollment
- Heart O' Texas Fair, Waco
- Heifer Validation (state and county)
- Hill County 4-H Club Officer Training

- BIG Scholarship Applications distributed
- Poultry Clinic
- Hill County Fair Broiler Orders Due

November:

- Major Livestock Show entries due (Ft. Worth, San Antonio, San Angelo, Houston, Austin)
- State Swine Validation
- Swine Clinic
- Lamb and Goat Clinic
- Holiday Classic Clinic & Livestock
- County Food Show/Food Challenge
- BIG Scholarship Applications Due
- Texas 4-H Opportunity Scholarship Applications distributed

December:

- District Food Show/Food Challenge
- County Christmas Party
- Hill County Fair Entries Due
- Hill County Fair Broiler Pickup

January:

- Adult Leaders Meeting
- Hill County Fair
- Texas 4-H Opportunity Scholarship Applications due for review
- Fort Worth Livestock Show & Rodeo

These are just a few projects/activities in Hill County 4-H. Check your monthly 4H Newsletter for more.

ELLIS COUNTY 4-H CALENDAR 2018-2019

February:

- Texas 4-H Scholarship Deadline
- Ft. Worth Livestock Show
- San Angelo Livestock Show
- San Antonio Livestock Show
- County Consumer Decision Making Contest

March:

- District Consumer Decision Making contest
- Houston Livestock show
- County Fashion Show
- County/District Photography Contest
- Rodeo Austin

April:

- District Range, Plant ID, Wool & Mohair, Ag Product ID, Livestock Skillathon
- District Horse Judging
- District Livestock Judging, Meat Judging, Soil Judging
- District Rifle
- District Fashion Show
- County Recordbook Training
- State Fair of Texas Lamb, Goat and Swine Validation Tag orders Due

May:

- District Roundup
- Texas 4-H Scholarship Interviews

- County Council meeting (*elections*)
- Club Manager Meeting
- Ag Awareness Day
- Tri County Youth Ag Tour Applications due
- Registration for SURGE, Texas 4-H Roundup, Southeast County Camp, Horse Show due

June:

- Texas 4-H Roundup
- District Horse Show
- District SURGE/Council Elections
- County Recordbooks due
- Southeast District 8 County Camp
- State Steer Validation
- State Heifer Validation (Summer)
- State Fair Lamb, Goat and Swine validation

July:

- 4-H Club Charters Due July 1
- District 8 Recordbook Judging
- Tri County Youth Ag Tour
- Texas 4-H Horse Show
- County Council Retreat
- Hill County Summer Fun Camps