**4-H Blast**

May 1, 2020

[www.join4h.com](http://www.join4h.com)

**Texas 4-H will not conduct face-to-face programming until May 20th. Programming includes 4-H club meetings, project meetings, practices, contests and recognition events.**

The following events have been CANCELED due to this regulation as well as other cancellations:

* **May 2:** District 4-H Roundup, Riesel High School (more info coming soon)
* **June 5:** 4-H Clover Kid Fun Day Camp **POSTPONED!** Will have new date soon!
* **June 8-12:** Texas 4-H Roundup ***NEW!!!!!!! CANCELED!!!!!***

4-H Happenings Coming Up:

* **May 1:** FreeCo Livestock Judging Practice Contest Deadline, Livestockjudging.com
* **May 1:** Healthy Texas Ambassadors Applications Due, County Extension Office
* **May 1:** Texas 4-H Water Ambassador Application Due
* **May 1-28**: Entomology Contest
* **May 4-8:** Consumer Quiz, Kahoot
* **May 4**: Livestock Quiz Bowl, D8 4-H Facebook Page
* **May 4**: Horse Quiz Bowl, D8 4-H Facebook Page
* **May 5:** Texas 4-H Congress Registration Deadline ($350)
* **May 7**: Livestock Quiz Bowl LIVE question/answer, 4:30pm, D8 4-H Facebook Page
* **May 7**: Horse Quiz Bowl LIVE question/answer, 4pm, D8 4-H Facebook Page
* **May 8:** Milam County 4-H Foundation Scholarship Deadline
* **May 8**: State Fair Swine Tag Orders Due
* **May 11**: Livestock Skillathon, Live online
* **May 11-15:** Fashion Video Challenge
* **May 12**: Public Speaking Virtual Workshop, Zoom, (More info out later)
* **May 13**: Virtual Catfish Skill-a-thon Deadline to register
* **May 16:** RFA Commercial Heifers: 8:00 am to 10:00, Tag-in at Milam County Auction Barn **SEE NEW DATE!!!!!**
* **May 16-17:** Catfish Skill-A-Thon
* **May 14:** RFA Steers: 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., Tag-in at Rockdale Fair Park
* **May 22:** DEADLINE District 8 Surge (Leadership Lab) and District Council Officer Elections
* **May 22:** RFA Broiler Orders: Order through RFA
* **May 23-24:** Catfish Skill-A-Thon
* **May 28:** Deadline for State Entomology Contest
* **May 30-31:** Catfish Skill-A-Thon

***More summer dates to come soon!!!!***

* **June 17-19:** District 8 Surge (Leadership Lab) and District Council Officer Elections
* **June 17:** Rockdale Fair Turkey Pickup, Rockdale
* **June 22:** Recordbooks and Awards Due
* **June 23:** Club Manager Training, 5:30pm, Bea’s Kitchen
* **June 23:** County Recordbook Judging (Awards and Recordbooks due for parents that judge), 6pm, Bea’s Kitchen
* **June 26-28:** Southeast District County Camp, Palestine
* **July 9:** District 4-H Recordbook Judging
* **July 12-15:** Texas 4-H Congress

***ENROLLMENT!!!*** Please sign up then! [www.join4h.com](http://www.join4h.com) Tell your friends to sign up!!! To re-enroll or join 4-H, please see our website: <http://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/4-h-enrollmentguidelines/> This link will show you the steps to join as well as many important items for the 4-H year! Join us for 4-H fun!

***4-H Facebook:*** Don’t forget we have a 4-H Facebook page!!!! We post 4-H Blasts, 4-H contest results and neat opportunities to do in 4-H! Make sure that you “see us first” in your settings. Step 1: Like the Page, Step 2: Click on Following, Step 3: See First, Step 4: Turn Notifications ON! Then you will see all 4-H posts when they arrive! **DURING THIS TIME, PLEASE CHECK THE FACEBOOK FOR UPDATED INFORMATION ON EVENTS SO YOU CAN RECEIVE THEM IN A TIMELY MANNER!**

***State Fair Swine Validation Tags:*** Our deadline will be ***Friday, May 8th 2020*** by 5:00pm. Tag price will be the same and checks will need to be made out to E.L.A.B. and mailed to Milam County Extension Office. 100 East 1st St. Cameron ,TX 76520. Tags are $20 each.

I have had a few questions on what the contingency plan will be if for some reason we cannot validate for State Fair. I personally do not see that happening, but if it does, Milam County will be refunding your any and all Major Show tag orders in full.

With all that is going on right now we still do not have a set date for Validation but are hoping for the 3rd week of June.

***Rockdale Fair Rules Updated:***

The Rockdale Fair Rules for 2020 have been updated on the website and there are some MAJOR changes! Please look ASAP!!! <https://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/rockdale-fair/> PLEASE READ ALL RULES FOR DATES AND DEADLINES! Here are the major livestock dates!!! More rules for baked goods and Home Economics will be available soon!

1. Commercial Heifers: **May 16, 2020**, 8:00 am to 10:00, Tag-in at Milam County Auction Barn, Cameron; Palpation and Body Condition Scoring: **Oct. 3, 2020**, 8:00 to 10:00 a.m., Milam County Auction Barn Cameron
2. Steers: **May 14, 2020**, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., Tag-in at Rockdale Fair Park
3. Lambs, Swine & Goats: **July 11, 2020**, 7:00 to 9:00 a.m., Rockdale Fair Park
4. Rabbits: **September 10, 2020**, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., Home Demonstration Building, Rockdale Fair Park
5. Broilers: Order through RFA, by **May 22**, pick-up **September 4**, Home Demonstration Bldg., Rockdale Fair Park, 5: 30 to 7:00 p.m. Cost per broiler: $1.74
6. Turkey: Order through RFA, by **April 24**, pick-up **June 17**, Home Demonstration Bldg., Rockdale Fair Park, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., Cost per turkey: $6.25
7. Breeding Beef Heifer entries postmarked and due **September 10, 2020**

***FreeCo Livestock Judging Practice Contest:*** Contest is live! Freestone County 4-H is offering a Virtual Livestock Judging Contest on Livestockjudging.com, it is open to all {Texas}4-H members. There will be prizes for the District 8 high individuals in each age division (Junior, Intermediate & Senior). Practice runs from **April 13-May 1st** contest code: KBH8

***Consumer Decision Making:***

**Virtual Consumer Challenge & Quiz**

While we were unable to conduct our district contest this year, our planning committee has outlined plans for 2 learning experiences we hope you will participate in.  Both opportunities are open to all youth in grades 3-12 in D8.  We are utilizing kahoot.com for these online experiences. After you have completed your tasks, please fill out the VERY SHORT survey! Thanks!!! <https://agrilife.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2mf5SBWIziLiqHP>

**Consumer Quiz**

The quiz will have participants answering questions related to the consumer products outlined in the current Texas 4-H Categories and Descriptions guide.

* Each question will have 4 multiple choice answers to select from
* Quiz will be open May 4th – May 8th
* We will release the quiz link by May 4th
* Be sure to include your first and last name and county name (not just nickname) on kahoot so we can recognize appropriately
* Prizes will be mailed to top participants

***Fashion Video Challenge:*** MAKE A 3 MINUTE VIDEO ALL ABOUT YOU AND YOUR FASHION IDEAS!!

WHAT CREATIVE ITEMS CAN YOU COME UP WITH? HOW DO YOU STYLE SOMETHING YOU ALREADY HAVE? SHOW US WHAT YOUR PERSONAL STYLE IS AND HOW YOU CAN BE CREATIVE WITH YOUR DESIGNS. TO ENTER: Send in your video the week of ***May 11th-15th*** to

Karen Jungman: kljungman@ag.tamu.edu or

Angie Nors: angie.nors@ag.tamu.edu

Videos will be posted to the District 8 4-H Facebook page along with results on

Monday, May 18th PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED !!

***District 8 Surge (Leadership Lab):***

Below are the details for this year's SURGE (Leadership Lab). The D8 Website (website below) has the SURGE Letter, District Council Information, camp waiver, and schedule. Please note that we have pushed check-in back to 3:00.

SURGE:

**June 17-19, 2020**

Texas 4-H Center, Brownwood

Who: Senior-Aged 4-H Members (must have completed the 8th grade)

Registration on 4-H Connect:

**May 4-22, 2020**

Registration Fee:

$215 per youth

$160 per adult chaperone

Release Forms: PDF (Required for youth and adults)

REMINDER THIS YEAR!! The completed, signed forms will need to be scanned as a pdf and uploaded to 4-H Connect during the registration process. Please note: The forms require a copy of the participant’s insurance card.

Theme: Going all in on 4-H

FMI: <https://agrilife.org/d84h/events-and-activities/leadership-lab/>

***District Council Officer Elections:*** The District 8 4-H Youth Development Program provides District 8 4-H Council officers many opportunities to be ambassadors for the 4-H program, practice and share their leadership skills, and assist in making District 8 4-H events run smoothly. District 8 4-H Council members are held to a high standard of excellence which should be demonstrated by participation in the scheduled events and activities. Application on 4-H Connect – Due ***Friday, May 22, 2020*** (Opens on Monday, May 4, 2020)

FMI: <https://agrilife.org/d84h/district-4-h-council/>

***Entomology:*** Are you interested in collecting bug? We have the project for you! This is a SELF-GUIDED project and we have information on the contest. For more information, you can visit <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/entomology/> \*NEW\* this year, the contest is virtual. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 4-H Entomology Collection Contest will be submitted through photographs. Photographs will be uploaded to 4-H Connect, ***May 1- May 28, 2020***. The LAST DAY to upload submissions is May 28th.

The contest is open to Junior, Intermediates and Seniors. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top 4 entries per age division. Additional awards may be provided if sponsorship is available.

***2020-20201 Healthy Texas Ambassador:***

Are you looking for ways to expand your program? Looking for ways to improve the health and lives of youth and adults? Do you have teens in your county who are looking to make a difference in their health and the health of others? If so, the HEALTHY TEXAS YOUTH AMBASSADOR PROGRAM is the perfect opportunity for them to become trained in health, wellness, and safety while helping you grow your local program efforts!

Eligibility requirements include:

• Be in at least the 9th grade at beginning of the 2020-2021 school year

• Submit completed application to the local county extension office by ***May 1, 2020***

***For Handbook and application go to:*** [***https://drive.google.com/file/d/1no5Y9N8VtZdFOGVVjUAgaipJLG0HekYC/view?usp=sharing***](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1no5Y9N8VtZdFOGVVjUAgaipJLG0HekYC/view?usp=sharing)

• Have an interest and passion to serve others in the area of health education which includes nutrition, physical activity, passenger safety, and safe environments!

What does the program entail?

After youth are accepted to the local program, they must fulfill the following obligations:

• Complete and report 40\* hours of leadership, program efforts, or community service annually. \*This is a reduction in previous hours to be consistent with other ambassador programs.

• Attend a Regional Healthy Texas Youth Ambassador Summit in a location nearest to them.

• Attend face-to-face and online trainings

• Remain academically eligible.

• Must agree to the obligations and requirements outlined in the HT Youth Ambassador Handbook.

• Ambassadorship is a 12-month commitment, beginning June 2020. Ambassadors who fulfill the minimum (40) hours of service will be invited to reapply for the following year. New and returning ambassadors MUST complete a new application annually.

• To meet all commitments for which the Ambassador volunteers and to complete those commitments with excellence.

For more detailed description of requirements and expectations, agents should review the 2020-21 Healthy Texas Youth Ambassador Handbook.

***Texas 4-H Water Ambassador:*** APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN FOR 2020/2021

Help Spread the News!!! Applications are now open for the 2020/2021 class of 4-H Water Ambassadors. Up to (30) youth will be selected to serve this leadership position. The role of 4-H Water Ambassador requires youth who are dedicated, mature and dependable with a genuine interest in water and natural resources. To be eligible, youth must:

• Be in high school or entering high school for the 2020/2021 academic year

• Be 14 years of age or older by August 31, 2020

• Be a current 4-H member, OR be willing to join a local 4-H club if selected

Download the complete application guidelines and instructions here. More information is also available on our web site, [www.texas4hwaterambassadors.com](http://www.texas4hwaterambassadors.com).

On-line applications are due **May 1, 2020.**

***2020 4-H Outdoor Challenge:***

When: June 21-22, 2020

Where: Texas 4-H Center, Brownwood

Contest- 4-H Connect (https://texas.4honline.com), **April 15-May 15, 2020;** Participation is **limited to the first 60 full teams who register**. Registration fee is $50 per contestant.

Lodging & Meals- Optional Lodging and Meals at the 4-H Center are available by reserving on https://texas4hcenter.tamu.edu/ during same timeframe as Contest Registration.

Rules and Resources Guide:

General information can currently be found in the 4-H Outdoor Challenge Rules and Resources Guide posted on the 4-H Outdoor Education and Living Skills webpage; <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/outdoor-education-living-skills/>.

***Virtual Catfish Skill-A-Thon:***

Please see D5 Website for all information and rules: d54-h.tamu.edu

Species

Catfish: Channel, blue and their hybrids or subspecies and flathead

See link below to learn how to identify specific fish species in Texas.

<https://tpwd.texas.gov/landwater/water/aquaticspecies/inland.phtml>

Catfish Schedule:

May 16-17

May 23-24

May 30-31

Begins 8:00 am on Saturday

Ends Sunday at 3:00 pm

Location

• Fish anywhere permitted by law (freshwater, ponds, stock tanks, rivers, lakes, etc.).

• Boats are not required.

• Post entry pictures for judging on Facebook during specified dates and times.

Safety and State Fishing Regulations

• Be sure to follow all Texas regulations regarding fishing licenses, bag limits, length requirements and other rules https://tpwd.texas.gov/regulations/outdoor-annual/fishing/

• Each 4-H family entered is responsible for the safety of youth anglers during the tournaments.

Educational Opportunities

• 4-H members that join the Facebook 2020 4-H Fishing group, will have the opportunity to view videos from Texas A&M AgriLife Extension and Texas Parks and Wildlife on using fishing gear, selecting lures and other topics of interest.

Entry Requirements

• Register on 4-H Connect beginning ***April 28, 2020*** at https://texas.4honline.com

• After registering on 4-H Connect, participants must join the Facebook 4-H Fishing group by clicking here or going to https://www.facebook.com/groups/1202432833284039/

at least 2 days before the skill-a-thon begins.

Registration Deadlines

• Entry to 4-H Connect is due by ***May 13, 2020*** to participate in the May 16th skill-a-thon. Only those registered on 4-H Connect by the deadline will be eligible to participate.

• 4-H Connect will reopen on May 18th for registration for the May 23rd skill-a-thon (you only need to register again, if you did not register for the initial skill-a-thon).

• 4-H Connect will reopen on May 25th for registration for the May 30th skill-a-thon (you only need to register again, if you did not register for the initial or second skill-a-thon).

Entry Fees

• 4-H youth, including Clover Kids, may enter the statewide, district and big catfish skill-a-thons. Participation at the state level is REQUIRED (individual and/or team).

• Teams are comprised of 3 or 4 members of any 4-H age division (mixed teams are permitted).

REQUIRED ENTRY

State Events - $25 per individual per event

State individual – Exhibit your skills against all entered 4-H’ers across the state.

State team – Exhibit your skills as a 3-4 member team against all entered 4-H’ers across the state.

***Texas 4-H Congress Announcement:***

As of today, we are working towards a Texas 4-H Congress happening as it has been held for many years. As of today…………………………..

I understand that members and their families may be a little wary about whether to register for the event or not since our normal schedules have been altered so much recently and we cannot give a definite direction about the summer events. However, I would encourage interested youth to go ahead and submit a bill and get registered as if we knew for sure we were hosting Congress. Registrations will not be approved until we are certain about the event.

As a reminder, all students wanting to attend Congress, will need to submit a bill.

Quick Congress Info:

When: ***July 12-15, 2020***

Where: Texas State Capitol, Austin

Who: Senior 4-H members

Cost: Varies (**$350 May 5**)

All other information can be found here: <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/events/congress/>

***Milam County 4-H Information!*** For information about any 4-H related activity, please go to the website or facebook page! www.Join4-h.com or www.facebook.com/milamcountyfourH

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. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating