
NDSU

EXTENSION



Renville County
4-H Focus



August 2024

Dear 4-H Families:

Welcome to the start of the new 4-H year! School started recently and I am sure everyone is adjusting to their busy schedules. We would like to welcome the new and returning families that will be participating in the Renville County 4-H program this year.

4-H Online enrollment for the new year will be open on September 7. If you were in 4-H last year, you can log in to the account you used last year and simply update last year's information in a few minutes. Call or email Bethany with any questions about online registration. The deadline for registrations in 4-H Online is now **December 1**.

Now is a great time to start thinking about the projects that you want to learn about during this 4-H year. As a reminder, a 4-H Project is a long-term area of study and learning that is done over months and even years. Younger members often try out different project areas while older members have usually "honed in" on their favorite few areas and work on more advanced learning and skills within those areas.

You can find the 4-H Project Guide, which describes all the program areas that 4-H has to offer, online at www.ag.ndsu.edu/4h/. If you would like to look at the individual project books, we have a copy of all the project books here in the office. You are more than welcome to stop by to take a look at them. You can also order these books and materials online.

For last year's 4-H'ers: 4-H project awards application information is included with this letter. 4-H awards are the chance to get recognition for all the hard work that you put into your projects and to reflect on what you learned in the past year. I would encourage each of you to apply in at least one project area. Keep in mind that you can apply for your 4-H awards in any project area that you have completed (brought an exhibit to the fair). Awards applications are due in the Extension Office by **Thursday, September 26th**. Each of you do such a great job on your projects that you deserve a little recognition!

Welcome to a new 4-H year!

Sincerely,



Bethany Gates
Renville County Extension Agent
701-756-6392
Bethany.gates@ndsu.edu



Fall for 4-H

4-H Fall Calendar of Events

September

- 7 4-H Online Enrollment Opens
- 26 4-H Awards Applications Due to the Extension Office

October

- 6-12 National 4-H Week
- 13 Renville County 4-H Kick-Off & Awards Night
-MLS Multi-purpose area

December

- 1 4-H Online Enrollment Deadline

June 2025

- 23-25 Renville County Fair

New Members

When new members join a Renville County 4-H Club, it is helpful to the new family and our county office if leaders or others can send their contact information to Bethany at the Extension Office.

Even if new potential members are not quite ready to officially join but want more information about Renville County 4-H, you can send their contact information (email and mailing address) on to the Extension Office so that we can make sure that they receive newsletters and any important information that we may send out.

The newsletter will also be posted online in the Renville County 4-H Drive, which can be found online at :

<https://www.ag.ndsu.edu/renvillecountyextension/4h>

4-H Kick-Off and Awards Night

The 4-H Awards Day and Family Fun Night is scheduled for **Sunday, October 13th** at the MLS Multi-purpose area. Be sure to add it to your calendars.

We will once again play a few games including dodgeball and corn hole. The day's schedule is as follows:

- 3:00 4-H Club Meetings (check with your leaders)
- 4:00 Games – Corn hole, Dodgeball, and other games.
- 5:00 Awards Program
- 5:30 Potluck Supper

Bring Gym Shoes!

Every family is asked to bring an item for the potluck supper. The office will provide cups, plates, utensils, and a beverage.

The Awards Program honors achievements and work from this past year, but all new families are encouraged to attend see what 4-H is all about and get ideas for potential projects. **Please extend an invitation to any potential new families to join us for Awards Night on the 13th.**

Ribbon Premiums are Ready Soon!

The 4-H Council has set the ribbon premiums for county fair at the same amounts as last year. State fair premiums are also tallied, but we are waiting for their check. As soon as we receive the state fair money we will send checks to your club leaders and they can then have the treasurer write out checks to each member.

4-H Online Enrollment

As mentioned on the calendar, the 4-H Online enrollment will be up and running on September 7. Please do not try to make any updates until after the 7th. Look for this log in on the North Dakota 4-H page – simply click and enroll. Use the “Sign in to 4-H Online” button at www.ag.ndsu.edu/4h.

If you have any troubles please contact Bethany at the Extension



Office and she will help you with your enrollment. We will also be set up to help with enrollment questions on Awards Night.

The deadline to enroll thru 4-H Online has been moved up to **December 1** this year. The earlier deadline gives us at the Extension Office a better idea of our total number of members and helps us know who to keep on our mailing lists.

If you are a returning 4-Her you will just need to update last year’s information in the account you set up before. Your login is your email address. If you have forgotten or do not know your password, please select “I forgot my password”. A temporary password will be sent via email.

Project Awards Applications

Enclosed are copies of the Awards Applications for your 4-H Project Story. Please complete the 4-H Story in the project area that you are applying for an award in. You must have completed this project and exhibited at the County Fair. You may apply for an award in any project area that you have completed. This is limited to one application per project area – but you can complete awards applications in as many different project areas as you would like!

Your 4-H project story is a brief narrative about some of your accomplishments in your project. You can list what you have done and add any extra fun things that you have learned. It may be interesting, funny, or problems that you encountered with your project. If you have any questions, would like to see an example of a Project Story, or would like additional application sheets, please contact our office at 756-6392 or email Bethany. 4-H stories will be due in the Extension Office by **Thursday, September 26**. We will be judging the awards shortly after this deadline, so they must be in on time. The following is a list of requirements for your awards application:

1. The 4-Her must have completed their 4-H year (county event, attended 6 club meetings, exhibited at county fair, etc.)
2. 4-H'er must write an application in their **own handwriting** and written in a dark pen (no light color gel pens) or a soft lead pencil written dark enough that it will make photo-copying possible. Please do not put your name anywhere on the form except on the back at the end where your signature is asked for. This allows us to easily cover up the name for judging purposes.
3. 4-H'er must have been 8 years old as of September 1, 2023 (not a Cloverbud last year).
4. 4-Her and parent or guardian must **both** sign the award application.



Leader Nominations

Leaders are asked to select nominees from their club's membership, and submit a written recommendation for these awards. You are welcome to have parents help write these recommendations.



The selections will be made from the written recommendations. Please keep nominations to one page in length. The selection committee looks at the recommendations with the names hidden, so make sure to spend some time filling them out well. 4-H leaders, we would like your nominations from your club for the following awards:

- 4-H T-Shirt Award (One member from each club under 13)

Each club can submit a nomination for the following awards, but only one is selected for the county:

- Outstanding 4-H'er 13 and over
- Outstanding 4-H'er under 13
- Key Club
- I Dare You

Key Club - This is awarded in recognition of significant accomplishments through 4-H work. Those receiving it should have passed their 16th birthday and have been in 4-H for at least four years. The award is presented to a 4-H'er one time.

I Dare You - This award is presented to a youth in their junior or senior year. Selection is based on excellence in character and personal development as well as leadership potential. This award is given only once.



2025 Fair Dates

At our Leaders Council meeting this month we decided to keep our county fair during the same week as we did this year. Please make a note and help spread the word of our dates for next year:

Renville County Fair:

June 23 – Static Entry Day (Monday)

June 24 & 25 – Livestock Shows (Tuesday and Wednesday)

North Dakota State Fair : July 18-26, 2025

Celebrate 4-H Week!

National 4-H Week is October 6-12, and this year we have a few fun ways you can celebrate with us

- Wear green or your favorite 4-H gear on Wednesday October 9.
- Send a thank you note to your club leaders or officers to let them know you appreciate everything they do.
- Plan a service-learning project in your community with your club.

Renville County 4-H Family Survey

Please consider taking a few minutes to fill out a quick survey of 4-H families. The survey is a way for us to gather information on preferred forms of communication, programs/events you would like to see in our county, ways you can help out, and any other questions or feedback you may have.

You can find the survey at <https://forms.gle/Qf91sBF5MnW5XwmN6> or by scanning this QR code:



Thank you for your responses!