



# Gallatin County 4-H - 2025-2026 Year at a Glance



<p style="text-align: center;"><b>October 2025</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 4-H Year Enrollment OPENS</li> <li>4 MSU Concessions Fundraiser</li> <li>5-11 National 4-H Week</li> <li>7 Unlimited Leaders Council (ULC) Committee meeting</li> <li>11 MSU Concessions Fundraiser</li> <li>13 Office Closed (Columbus Day)</li> <li>23 Newsletter blurbs due</li> <li>23 Foundation meeting</li> <li>31 Returning 4-H Youth &amp; Volunteer Re-Enrollment Deadline</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>November 2025</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Youth Leadership Applications Due (Camp Counselor, Teen Ambassador, Youth Committee Members)</li> <li>3 New 4-H Family Orientation</li> <li>4 ULC Committee meeting</li> <li>7-9 Montana 4-H Fall Teen Leadership Training (Butte)</li> <li>8 MSU Concessions Fundraiser</li> <li>11 Office Closed (Veteran's Day)</li> <li>13 MSU Concessions Fundraiser</li> <li>15 MSU Concessions Fundraiser</li> <li>17 Ambassador/Committee Rep Interview</li> <li>20 Foundation Committee meeting</li> <li>23 Newsletter blurbs due</li> <li>27-28 Office Closed (Thanksgiving)</li> <li>27-Dec. 2 National 4-H Congress</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>December 2025</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 ULC Committee meeting</li> <li>3-4 Camp Counselor Interviews</li> <li>6 MSU Concessions Fundraiser</li> <li>12 MSU Concessions Fundraiser (x2)</li> <li>17 Club Officer Training</li> <li>20 MSU Concessions Fundraiser</li> <li>23 Newsletter blurbs due</li> <li>23-28 Office Closed (Christmas)</li> <li>30 Club/Committees 1% due</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>January 2026</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Office Closed (New Years)</li> <li>1 County Contest Registration OPENS</li> <li>6 ULC Committee meeting</li> <li>7 Youth Winter Workshop</li> <li>14 4-H Winter Volunteer Training Series Session #1</li> <li>15 4-H Year Enrollment <b>CLOSES</b> – Last day to add/drop 4-H projects in ZSuite</li> <li>19 Office Closed (MLK Day)</li> <li>21 4-H Winter Volunteer Training Series Session #2</li> <li>23 Newsletter blurbs due</li> <li>28 4-H Winter Volunteer Training Series Session #3</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>February 2026</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Fairbook Edits Due to Office</li> <li>2 County Contest Registration CLOSES</li> <li>3 ULC Committee meeting</li> <li>4 4-H Winter Volunteer Training Series Session #4</li> <li>14 Montana 4-H Foundation State-Level Scholarships DUE</li> <li>16 Office Closed (President's Day)</li> <li>25 Animal Quality Assurance Workshop #1 (*8-13 yr olds only)</li> <li>27 County Communications Day Contests</li> <li>28 County Foods Contests (Better Batter Baking &amp; Stir-Ups Cooking)</li> <li>23 Newsletter blurbs due</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>March 2026</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 ULC Committee meeting</li> <li>6-8 Montana 4-H State Shoot</li> <li>10 County Contests Awards Night</li> <li>21 Animal Quality Assurance Workshop #2 (*8-13 yr olds only)</li> <li>23 Newsletter blurbs due</li> <li>27-28 MSU Concessions Fundraiser</li> <li>27-29 Montana 4-H Rec Lab (Columbus, MT)</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>April 2026</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Gallatin 4-H Foundation County-Level Scholarships DUE</li> <li>7 ULC Committee meeting</li> <li>9-12 MSU Concessions Fundraiser</li> <li>19-25 National Volunteer Appreciation Week</li> <li>23 Newsletter blurbs due</li> <li>23 Foundation Committee meeting</li> <li>30 - May 1 Give Big Fundraiser</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>May 2026</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 MT 4-H State Youth Award Applications Due</li> <li>1 Gallatin 4-H Summer Camp Reg. Opens</li> <li>2 Gallatin 4-H Junior Rec Lab</li> <li>2 Clover Bash Dance</li> <li>5 ULC meeting</li> <li>5-7 Farm Fair</li> <li>23 Newsletter blurbs due</li> <li>25 Office Closed (Memorial Day)</li> <li>26 Fair Registration OPENS</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>June 2026</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Gallatin 4-H Summer Camp Reg. Closes</li> <li>2 ULC Committee meeting</li> <li>7 All-Species Workshop: Round Robin Bootcamp</li> <li>16 All-Species Workshop: Marketing</li> <li>17 Fair Registration CLOSES</li> <li>23 Newsletter blurbs due</li> <li>24 Record Books DUE</li> <li>25 Foundation Committee meeting</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>July 2026</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 ULC Committee meeting (*date change)</li> <li>3 Office Closed (4<sup>th</sup> of July)</li> <li>5-7 Montana 4-H Pre-Congress</li> <li>7-10 Montana 4-H Congress</li> <li>9-10 4-H Animal Project Interviews</li> <li>12 4-H Indoor Project Interviews</li> <li>10-19 Big Sky Country State Fair</li> <li>23 Newsletter blurbs due</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>August 2026</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2-5 Gallatin 4-H Summer Camp</li> <li>6-9 Bozeman Stampede</li> <li>13 Manhattan Potato Festival</li> <li>23 Newsletter blurbs due</li> <li>27 Foundation meeting</li> <li>TBD 4-H Western Heritage State Shoot</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>September 2026</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 ULC Committee meeting</li> <li>4 Record books DUE for Awards</li> <li>4 Achievement Journals DUE</li> <li>7 Office Closed (Labor Day)</li> <li>23 Newsletter blurbs due</li> <li>TBD MSU Concession Fundraisers</li> <li>10-13 Montana 4-H State Horse Show</li> <li>18-20 Montana 4-H Working Ranch Horse Show</li> <li>20 Gallatin 4-H Awards Banquet</li> </ul>

# Gallatin County 4-H - 2025-2026 Year at a Glance

## FAQs:

### 1. *What is MSU Concessions Fundraising?*

- a. We have the AMAZING opportunity to work a Concessions Stand at various **Montana State University** and this has become a GREAT way to raise money for 4-H club/project activities! Depending on the event, the day/time/hours will vary and depending on our concessions stand location, the number of people we will need per event will vary. **What does working MSU Concessions entail?** We will need a combination of youths (**minimum age of 10 with parent accompaniment**) and teens/adults (ages 15+) to run cash registers. All food is made and prepped by MSU Culinary/Concessions staff, 4-H members/parents just simply sell and serve it out of one of the concessions stands on MSU Campus (Stadium or Fieldhouse depending on the event). This is a super easy, fun and quick way to make money for your Clubs/Projects and gain some skills in the service industry! A Stand Leader and MSU Concessions staff will train you on the spot with what you need to know - No experience necessary!

### 2. *What are the Winter/Spring 4-H Workshops and should I attend?*

- a. We encourage ALL Gallatin 4-H youth members (both new and returning) to attend. We try to provide county-wide workshops on varying topics throughout the year to serve as growth and development opportunities for those engaged in our program. Topics vary from year to year based on needs, but typically include trainings on Record Books, Club Officer roles, navigating Fair and Project Interviews, county and state event trainings, etc.

### 3. *What are County Contests and am I required to participate?*

- a. Participation is highly encouraged because these contests (Stir-Ups Cooking Contest, Better Batter Baking Contest, Communications Day Contest) give members the opportunity to practice communication skills, become more confident, gain experience presenting to a small panel of judges, and have some fun! These contests are open to ALL 4-H members – you don't need to be in the Baking/Cooking project to participate! Contest winners that are ages 8-13 can earn money towards a trip to our annual 4-H Summer Camp and those that are ages 14+ can earn money towards a trip to Montana 4-H State Congress.

### 4. *What are the Animal Quality Assurance Workshops?*

- a. Animal Quality Assurance (AQA) workshops aim to teach youth about proper livestock management practices that can lead to the production of safe, wholesome, high quality food products for consumers and/or long-term care of breeding animals. Topics such as proper care & handling, biosecurity, nutrition, animal health and fair etiquette will be covered in this workshop.
- b. Montana 4-H policy requires that **all** youth members enrolled in **any** animal project complete an AQA workshop at least once as a **Junior** 4-H member (ages 8-13) and recertify once as a **Senior** 4-H member (age 14+) in order to participate at the county fair. Parents are encouraged to attend.

### 5. *Is participating in the Fair required?*

- a. No, but highly encouraged as it is our annual opportunity to showcase youth members' hard work, skills, creations and products to our community!
- b. 4-H Members involved in livestock projects compete in various show classes throughout the week. Those who have market animals sell through the Livestock Market Auction on the Friday night of fair week.
- c. 4-H members in Indoor Projects (ex. photography, sewing, cooking, shooting sports, woodworking ,etc.) can compete in the Indoor Exhibit Building with their creations and skills they learned throughout the year.
- d. Completing Record Book(s) and Project Interview(s) are both **required** to participate in the Fair. Interviews are the week before the Fair. More information is sent out May-July each year.