



Welcome to Lake County 4-H!



We're so glad that you've joined 4-H! Here is some information about 4-H to get you started. If you have any additional questions or need more information, please contact the Extension Office at:

Phone: 605-256-7603

Email: jennifer.hayford@sdstate.edu or lake.county@sdstate.edu.

Please visit our Facebook page: [SDSU Extension Lake County 4-H | Facebook](#)

What do the H's stand for?

They stand for Head, Heart, Health, and Hands.

4-H Motto: To make the best better!

4-H Pledge (movements in parentheses)

I pledge my Head to clearer thinking,

(use one hand to touch head)

My heart to greater loyalty,

(place right hand over heart)

My hands to larger service,

(hold both hands palm up)

My health for better living,

(hands at sides)

For my club, my community, my country, and my world.



For younger children, we have the Cloverbud program during the school year, which is open to 5 to 7-year olds by January 1 of the current year.

Cloverbud youth are also allowed to participate during the year in 4-H clubs, and Achievement Days.

Cloverbud youth cannot show hooved animals, participate at State events or shooting sports.

For older youth, we offer a Jr. Leaders program throughout the year that is open to any youth in grades 7+. They meet monthly and focus on building leadership skills and service learning opportunities.



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4-H is open to youth ages 8 – 19. A child needs to be 8 on January 1st before they can participate in most 4-H activities. The 4-H year begins in October. Youth can stay in the 4-H program, until they are 19 on January 1st.

Ages are broken into 3 groups. These age groups are used to determine contest groups and project requirements.

Community Clubs (a.k.a. 4-H Clubs)

Joining a community club is one way to participate in 4-H. These clubs are led by volunteer leaders and meet several times during the year. Club meetings include club business, speeches or demonstrations by members, activities, and projects. Clubs also participate in community service projects and may go on club picnics or trips. 4-H clubs include 4-H members of all ages and of all interests.

The Extension Office keeps a current list of community clubs. We encourage new families to visit a few clubs before deciding which one to join. It's also possible to switch clubs, if you find one that suits your child better.



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Cloverbud - Ages 5-7

Beginners – Ages 8-10

Juniors – Ages 11-13

Seniors – Ages 14-19

Project Groups

Project groups are focused on a specific project; they usually meet for just a portion of the year and hold practices rather than business meetings.

Examples of project groups are archery, guns, robotics, horse and dog.



A 4-H member can belong to a community club and a project group, or, choose to belong only to a project group.

All 4-H members (whether they belong to a community club, a project group or both) are welcome to participate in other 4-H activities (4-H camp, Achievement Days, Youth in Action contests, etc.)

Projects without Groups

There are over 70 projects that you can be involved with in 4-H! Unfortunately, we don't have project groups or workshops for all those projects. The good news? We have resources so that kids can pursue these projects at home.

At the Extension Office, we have materials for all our project areas that we can give or loan you. In some cases, we can also link 4-H members to a family or community volunteer with experience in that project.

4-H Information

The office provides families information on events, guidelines, deadlines and a monthly newsletter by email. Please be sure we always have your current email, so you won't miss anything that we send!

4-H Online and Fair Entry

Enrollment in 4-H and registering for events such as County Horse Show, 4-H Camp, Achievement Days and State Fair is all on-line. The Extension Office will continue to keep 4-H families informed of how and when to complete the enrollment and registrations. Please contact us if you have questions on how to complete on line registrations.

Important Dates

The 4-H year runs from October - September. This is a general schedule of what happens during the 4-H year. Some event dates may vary from year to year. Please watch your email for dates and deadlines and contact the Extension Office with questions.

October

- 4-H Enrollment completed yearly

November

- 4-H Recognition Event

January

- Shooting Sports Practices Start

March

- 4-H Scholarship applications by Mar 15

April

- 4-H State Shoot

May

- Rodeo Registration by May 1
- Dog Practices Start
- 4-H Enrollments must be in by May 31st

June

- Livestock Affidavits and Lease forms entered into 4Honline by families by June 1
- 4-H Horse Literacy training due by June 1
- 4-H Camp
- Teen Leadership Conference
- County Horse Show

July

- Youth Livestock Literacy training for rabbit, poultry, dairy, sheep, goat and swine due July 1.
- State Horse Show
- Achievement Days registration in FairEntry

August

- Achievement Days
- Regional Dog Shows
- State 4-H Rodeo

September

- South Dakota State Fair
- State Livestock Judging Contest
- Sportsmanship nominations due by Sept 15th
- 4-H Record books and awards applications due Sept 30th.
- 4-H Leaders Camp Scholarship due by Sept 30th



Livestock and Animal Projects



It is very important to have all animal registrations completed by the deadlines. Late or missing forms will prevent your child from participating in 4-H shows.

Youth in Action Events



4-H Youth in Action are activities that provide 4-H members with an opportunity for additional educational experience at the club, county, and state level.

Special Foods Contest: 4-H members cook a recipe for a judge, speak with a judge about the nutrition of that recipe, and bring a decorative place setting to show off their creation.

Fashion Revue: 4-H members can model their sewing projects and purchased outfits.

Public Presentation Contest: 4-H members perform a speech or demonstration.

Judging and Skill-A-Thon Contests: Judging contests include livestock, horticulture, and consumer sciences.

Achievement Days

Achievement Days is our 4-Hers opportunity to compete and show off their project work for the year (in some counties, this event is called the County Fair). There are exhibit classes for all our project areas.

Be watching our newsletter for Achievements Days dates!

Our Achievement Day classes and rules follow the State Fair Book. The fair book includes all the contest rules and exhibit classes. They usually come out in the Spring – we will contact you by email when it's available on-line. If you'd like to look through the previous year's fair book, we have those available, though some classes may change.

All Achievement Day entries need to be pre-registered on Fair Entry. We will send out information on how to pre-register with Fair Entry in July. At that time, we'll also have any special entry forms available at our office.

State Fair

All 4-H projects are eligible to go on to the State Fair (except Cloverbuds). It is important to follow the guidelines the State 4-H Office establishes to register static and livestock projects in Fair Entry.

For static/indoor exhibits, we will transport those for exhibit at the State Fair. Large static exhibits are the responsibility of the family to transport to and from the State Fair. All animal exhibits are the responsibility of the 4-H member and their family.

There's even More to 4-H!

4-H isn't just club meetings. There are also camps, conferences, project workshops, leadership trainings, 4-H events, and national trips like Citizenship Washington Focus. These opportunities will be sent out by e-mail. Please contact us for more information about any events you read about in the newsletter. We also have funding available to make these opportunities available to all youth. Please don't hesitate to contact us.



Awards and Record Books

In 4-H, we encourage 4-Hers to set goals and keep a record of their 4-H participation and project work.

One way they can do this is with a 4-H Member's Annual Report. 4-Hers use the annual report to record their club meetings, activities, community service, and project work throughout the year, including what they learned and the best and most challenging moments.

Some 4-H awards are tied to completion of the 4-H record book. 4-Hers can work on earning pins each year (year and project area pins) and toward larger awards (Citizenship, Leadership, and 4-H KEY awards).

Award applications, booklets and 4-H record books are available at the Extension Office, in the monthly newsletter and online at <http://www.lake.sd.gov/custom/lake-county-4-h>.

Opportunities to be Involved

Parents and family members are an important part of the 4-H program! They're often needed to help host and assist with 4-H Club meetings.

If you'd like to get even more involved with 4-H, we encourage your help with the Leaders Association, Achievement Day committees, volunteering for different 4-H events, or chaperoning a 4-H trip or camp.

As you get more involved with 4-H, you may need to become a registered volunteer. This is for anyone over the age of 18 that will be alone with youth other than their own children, chaperoning a trip or overnight event, or working with 4-Hers more than 15 hours a year).

If you would like to be involved at that level, we can help you with the paperwork and answer any questions you have.

One Last Note

The true value of 4-H is what kids learn as they participate – whether it's responsibility from taking care of an animal, leadership skills from being the vice president of their 4-H club or how to safely shoot a gun.

We ask that parents and adults help our 4-Hers focus on what they can learn. 4-H offers something for everyone! We have many project areas, and realize it can be overwhelming at first, but we are here to help and would love to answer any questions you may have!

Meet the Extension Office staff!



My name is Jen Hayford. I'm the 4-H Youth Program Advisor for Lake County. I'm here to help manage the Lake County 4-H program, and I'd love to help answer any questions you have. You can reach me at 256-7603 or at jennifer.hayford@sdstate.edu.

My name is Jill Dold. I am the 4-H Program Assistant for the Extension Office. If you have a question, or need forms, I'd love to help you out. You can reach me at 256-7603 or at lake.county@sdstate.edu.



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Lake County 4-H Clubs



For more information about 4-H, contact the Lake County Extension Office:

Phone: 605-256-7603

Email: lake.county@sdstate.edu or jennifer.hayford@sdstate.edu

To join 4-H, a youth must be 8 years of age on or before January 1, 2024.

A Cloverbud must be age 5-7 years of age on or before January 1, 2024.

To enroll in Lake County 4-H go to: <https://v2.4honline.com>

Enrollment begins Oct 1, 2023

Lake County 4-H Chartered Clubs

Clever Clovers – meeting time varies in Oldham/Ramona

Club Leaders: Rebecca Hanson – (605 482-8251) & Lori Hyland – (605-480-0706)

Country Cousins – 1st Sunday of each month @ 1:30 p.m. @ Extension Office

Club Leader: Marty Warns (605-480-1606)

Country Swingers – 2nd Sunday of each month @ 1:30 pm @ Extension Office

Club Leaders: Robin & Terry Wicks (605-695-2292)

Desperado's – 3rd Sunday of each month @ 5:00 pm @ Extension Office (Horse)

Club Leader: Meredith Fischer (605-480-2706)

Prime Cut's – 1st Tuesday of each month @ 6:30 pm @ Extension Office

Club Leaders: Katie Jeratowski (605-270-0863) & Ashley Johnke (605-270-3862)

Smokin' Barrels & Flyin' Arrows – 3rd Sunday of each month @ 1:00 p.m. @ Extension Office (Shooting Sports)

Club Leaders: Kelly Hanson (605-291-9933); Charlene Weber (605-553-2183); Laura Sudenga (605-480-0399) & Josh Weber (605-553-1902)

Aviation/Robotics Club – 3rd Monday of the month @ 4:00 pm Meetings will be at Madison Airport

Club Leader: Heather Lee – (605-291-2357)

Project Groups

4-H Lego League - Starts in October (Once a month Oct-March no December class)

Clover buds - Starts in October (Once a month Oct-March no December class) Clover bud youth are welcome to join a 4-H Club.

4-H Dog Practice – Tuesday evenings April through August @ 4-H Grounds

4-H Horse Practice – April through June – Wednesday's @ 7:00

4-H Shooting Sports – (Archery, BB Gun, Air Rifle, Air Pistol, Shotgun, Rifle, & Muzzle loader)

Sign up for Shooting Sports comes out in November; practice is once a week per discipline youth signs up for. Starts in January - April
(Shotgun/Muzzle loader are summer disciplines)

Static projects - these can be entered in Achievement Days/State Fair; you can do projects on your own, with your club or on a project day.

I pledge my ...



HEAD

to clearer thinking,



HEART

to greater loyalty,



HANDS

to larger service,



HEALTH

to better living

for my CLUB, my COMMUNITY, my COUNTRY, and my WORLD.



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