



UT/TSU Extension—Blount County
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Phone 865-982-6430
Office Hours M-F 8am-5pm (closed from 12-1 daily)

4-H Agents
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Upcoming Dates

For More information on any programs,
visit our website:

<https://blount.tennessee.edu/>

- Jan 4 4-H Horse Group Meeting 6:30 p.m. Blount County Library
- Jan 15 4-H Office Closed for Martin Luther King Day
- Jan 20 ER 4-H Horse Bowl and Hippology contest—Knoxville
- Jan 22 4-H Honor Club Meeting 5 p.m. at 4-H Office
- Jan 23 4-H Livestock Group Hybrid Zoom & Face-2-Face Meeting (call for link info 865-982-6430)
- Jan 25 Deadline for county 4-H Posters –absolute last day
- Jan 25 Public Speaking Winner’s Workshop
- Jan 29 4-H Demonstration & Table Top Exhibit Workshop Meeting
- Feb 1 Horse Group Meeting 6:30 p.m. at the Blount County Library
- Feb 1 Deadline for 4-H Congress Essay (9-10 graders only)
- Feb 3 Senior Regional Speaking contest in Knoxville
- Feb 9 Tagging for 4-H Market Steer program in Knoxville
- Feb 16 Big 9 sub-Region Public Speaking contest –Maryville

Blount County 4-H January Newsletter

4-H Project Demonstration Communication Skills Building

4th and 5th grade 4-H members may prepare a demonstration related to a 4-H project and share it at the February club meeting. A demonstration is where 4-H’ers show how to make or do something as they tell how to do it.

Rules & Guidelines:

- No live animals may be used in presentations
- It must relate to one of the 4-H projects.
- Only individual demonstrations advance to next level

Steps in Giving a Demonstration

- ◇ Planning
 1. Choose a topic you know (keep it simple.)
 2. List the important steps in order.
 3. Outline an explanation of each step.
 4. List the materials/supplies needed.
 5. Plan visuals—posters, signs, labels on props, etc.
 6. Plan video shots, scenes and angles
- ◇ Preparation
 1. Write an introduction — make it catchy & attention-getting.
 2. Write the body—this is the “show and tell” part.
 3. Write a summary to make sure the audience understands.
 4. Show a finished product when possible.
- ◇ Presentation
 1. Always face the audience (camera). Use good posture.
 2. Speak clearly and loud enough for everyone to hear.
 3. Talk while you are working.
 4. Use posters and don’t forget the title poster.
 5. Practice food safety in food demonstrations.
 6. Make sure the audience can see what you are doing.
 7. Ask for questions at the end. Say, “this concludes my demonstration”.



Just for Kicks and Giggles:

As for my new year's resolution—I've started investing in stocks: beef stock, vegetable stock, chicken stock. And one day I hope to be a bouillianaire.

4-H Honor Club!

If you are currently in the 6-12th grade, get your 4-H Honor application and start to work on it. The next initiation is just around the corner on April 8, 2024. We want you to be in the next group to be welcomed on the rolls. It is free to become an honor club member, but priceless once accepted into the fold. We want to recognize you before your peers, family and friends. And Honor Club is only the first step in Tennessee's recognition program for outstanding 4-H members. After this the next step is to become an All Star. This again is not won, but earned through your citizenship work. All Stars is the second step leading to the final step of recognition, "VOL STATE". Vol State is the highest recognition a Tennessee 4-H member can earn.



State 4-H Congress Essays

The 2024 Tennessee 4-H Congress will be held March 10-13 at the Embassy Suites, Murfreesboro, TN. This is the premiere event for Tennessee 4-H. The 2024 Congress theme is **Tennessee 4-H: Find Your Missing Piece**.

Registration will be open until February 1, 2024. The registration fee of \$330 per delegate is **due by, February 1, as well as the ESSAY**. Call or email the 4-H Office if interested in participating. Please do not wait until the last minute to submit an essay. Late registrations will not be accepted.

Congress is a Level I activity for 9th and 10th grade 4-H members. Guidelines for the selection of delegates can be found here: [State 4-H Congress | Tennessee 4-H Youth Development](#)

Exhibit Demonstration Workshop

Come and learn from an old pro—how to give a blue ribbon demonstration or prepare for the perfect table top exhibit presentation. We will cover topic choices, writing of opening statements, props needed, talking points, poster making, viewing stances, etc. This workshop is scheduled for Monday, January 29, 2024 at 5 p.m. Call the 4-H office if you plan to attend. A YouTube copy of the session will be posted later on the UT Extension Blount County FaceBook page at (<https://www.facebook.com/utblountcounty>).

Public Speaking Workshop

There will be a workshop for the county 4-H public speaking winners to practice and tweak their speeches for the next level at the region competition. Call the 4-H office for more information.

W.O.L.F. Camp

If you are 11-18, come experience hands on conservation at the Wildlife Outdoor Leadership Focus camp during 2024 Spring Break. Participants will learn to identify wildlife and plant species, determine best management practices and gain a greater understanding of natural resources. **See W.O.L.F. camp/club attachment.**

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Everyone needs to be valued. Everyone has the potential to give something back."

~ Princess Diana

4-H Art & Poster Contest Notice

We are looking for artists in our membership to step forward. It is 4-H Art & Poster time. 4-H Posters must be submitted by January 25 at the very latest. You may turn them in at your January club meeting or to your club leader, but it must in by the 25th. For a complete set of the rules and guidelines, you may visit the 4-H website and search "posters".



14"

22"

Some Camps and Conferences Dates for Your Calendars!

State 4-H Congress (9th-10th grades)

March 10-13, 2024

W.O.L.F. Camp

March 12-14, 2024

Spring All Star Conference (9th-12th grades)

April 12-14, 2024

Blount County 4-H Grilling Day Camp

June 4-7, 2024

Junior 4-H Camp (4th-6th grades)

June 10-14, 2024

Junior High Academic Conference (6th-8th grades)

June 11-14, 2024

Junior High Electric Camp (6th-7th grades)

June 24-27, 2024 (tentative)

Junior High Camp

July 8-12, 2024

State 4-H Roundup (9th-12th grades)

July 15-19, 2024 (Qualify to Attend)

Amy Berger

Ronnie Cowan

James McMillion

ADDENDUMS

BLOUNT COUNTY 2024 4-H PUBLIC SPEAKING RESULTS

ON DECEMBER 14 THE COUNTY PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST WAS HELD AT THE BROADWAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, DOWNTOWN MARYVILLE. MEMBERS FROM SEVERAL SCHOOLS AND HOME SCHOOLED WERE IN ATTENDANCE. LIST BELOW ARE MEMBERS THAT QUALIFIED FOR THE COUNTY LEVEL CONTEST. WINNERS IN GRADES 4-8 ADVANCE TO THE BIG 9 SUB-REGIONALS AND HIGH SCHOOL MEMBERS TO THE EASTERN REGIONAL CONTEST. WINNERS FIRST THROUGH THIRD PLACE ARE AS FOLLOWS.

WINNERS:

4TH—JALEN BUTCHER 1ST / LUCY RESSOR 2ND / AISLINN AYERS 3RD

5TH—TRISTAN SHOCKLEY 1ST / ANNABELLA HOLLIS 2ND / ROGAN JOE 3RD

6TH—CAROLINE WATERS 1ST

7TH—MAVRICK JOE 1ST

9TH—ZEE CARNES 1ST

4TH GRADE SPEAKERS

Aislinn	Ayers
Jackson	Baldwin
Jalen	Butcher
Aiden	Chiruck
Jace	Creasy
Rosalynn	Garcia
Macaylin	Gregory
Makena	Hall
Issac	Himes
Emily	Hollis
Noah	King
Baylee	Kyle
Meiah	Monroe
Lucy	Ressor
Reagan	Rubright
Aleesa	Staley
Lillian	Stines
Piper	Strayn
Mason	Summer
Hendrix	Vargo
Shae	Walker

5TH GRADE SPEAKERS

Dixie	Buchanan
Paxton	Cook
Javier	Cortez
Trakell	Fremming
Alexander	Harper
Anora	Hill
Anabella	Hollis
Rogan	Joe
MacKenzie	Macklin
Zoey	Muse
Adalee	Nestor
Avery	Scott
Tristan	Shockley
Michael	Vasquez

JR AND SR HIGH SPEAKERS

Caroline	Waters
Mavrick	Joe
Zee	Carnes

Wildlife Outdoor Leadership Focus W.O.L.F. Day Camp

Wildlife Outdoor Leadership Focus (W.O.L.F.) will address the human dimension of natural resources. This is a youth conservation program dedicated to making participants aware of the importance of natural resources recreation, and to apply the art and science of natural resource management. The target audiences for the camp are all youth ages 11-18 W.O.L.F. has three main objectives:

- Participants will learn how to identify wildlife and plant species
- Demonstrate Knowledge of best management practices for wildlife
- Have a greater understanding of the complexity of natural resource management

W.O.L.F. participants receive hands-on practice of being a conservationist. The camp has 4 sections: 1) Woods and Fields, 2) Freshwater, 3) Survival, and 4) Biologist Life. Each day has activities that offer up a daily challenge. W.O.L.F. campers learn about wildlife/plant identification, and what specific wildlife species need to survive. Furthermore, we show youth how our actions, intentional or unintentional, affect our environment. The day camp also covers the basic biology of mammals, birds, fish, and reptiles. Participants are encouraged to go out with adult supervision and see what's happening in the great outdoors.

The final activity is the wildlife challenge where campers must be wildlife biologists for a day. 4-H members are given a scenario with three wildlife species that the landowner wants to manage on a piece of property. The camper must evaluate the property based on the requirements the wildlife species need to survive. The camper completes a wildlife management plan. They look at the best management practices given to them during the course and decide if the property is a habitat for the desired wildlife species. If it is not, they must offer a solution.

Join W.O.L.F. Club - Wildlife Outdoor Leadership Focus with Blount County 4-H!

Are you passionate about the great outdoors? Do you have a curiosity for wildlife, conservation, and making a positive impact on our environment? Look no further than the Wildlife Outdoor Leadership Focus (W.O.L.F.) program brought to you by Blount County 4-H! We believe in understanding before preserving. Our program starts by unraveling the significance of natural resources in our daily lives. Dive into the world of leadership and explore how decision-makers shape the future of our natural treasures. Join us to learn more!

Become a conservationist in action! W.O.L.F. participants engage in hands-on experiences through our 4-H Club. Explore four exciting sections: Woods and Fields, Freshwater, Saltwater, Survival, and Biologist Life. Each day presents videos, challenges, and activities designed to enhance your understanding of wildlife/plant identification and the impact of our actions on the environment. Be a wildlife biologist for a day in our thrilling wildlife challenge! The club starts February 5 4:30 pm at the extension office, then every other Monday.

Contact Ronnie Cowan at rcowan2@utk.edu or 865-982-6430



4-H Poster Contest Blount County



State Contest Guidelines

- Posters should be made by individual 4-H members only.
- Posters must be designed **horizontally**.
- Posters must be **14 by 22 inches**.
- Name, address, county and age of the 4-H member should be clearly written on the back of each poster.
- 4-H is to be the topic for the poster.
- Well known cartoon figures cannot be used because they are copyrighted – such as Marvel Super Heroes, Disney characters, Ninja Turtles, Lego characters, Pokémon characters etc.
- Three dimensional objects or materials which extend 1/8 inch or more above the surface of the poster may not be used.
- When using the 4-H Emblem on a poster -
Do not place text or other images over or on top of the 4-H Emblem. No photo, drawing, symbol, word or other figure or object may be placed on or obscure the 4-H Emblem. Use green and white for the clover colors. The clover stem should turn to the right only and the clover should not be slanted. For more information on the proper use of the 4-H Name and Emblem, visit the [4-H website](#).
- The poster design must be original. Copies from previous winning posters will be disqualified.

Tips from the Tabletop Wizard

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- Can use the Science tri-fold board.
- Can use photos, web captures, or even your own artwork to illustrate your exhibit.
- Can put loose items on table in front of board
- May use all space from Table to floor.

Exhibit Construction

Rules

1. Includes a table top exhibit. (4 feet wide x 2 feet deep)
2. Must be related to a 4-H project.
3. 4-H'ers will have a 2 minute talk to explain the exhibit.
4. 4-H'ers need to be prepared to answer questions.
5. No Live animals!

Tips

- Exhibit should be easy to read and understand.
- Exhibit should be attractive and neat.
- Exhibit should be able to stand alone and convey a complete message to audience

Topics

- May show how to do something (how to plant a tree)
- May explain more about something (why we plant trees)
- May tell about what you have done in your project. ("Here are photos of me planting trees")

Presentation

- Be prepared to have an organized talk explaining your exhibit. The talk should last right at 2 minutes.
- Use proper speaking skills, good posture, proper grammar, and speak in complete sentences.
- Be well groomed and dressed appropriately.
- Be prepared to answer questions from judges concerning your exhibit.

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