



UT/TSU Extension—Blount County
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Phone 865-982-6430
Office Hours M-F 8am-4:30pm

4-H Agents

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Upcoming Dates

For More information on any programs,
visit our website: blount.tennessee.edu/

- Dec 4 – Fabric & Yarn Club meeting 4-6 p.m.
- Dec 5 - Preregister for county speaking contest
- Dec 9 - Public Speaking Workshop - by RSVP only 5 p.m.
- Dec 11- County Public Speaking contest 5 p.m. @ Broadway United Methodist Church
- Dec 12-132 - Regional Hog Show @ Roane State CC
- Dec 15 - 4-H Honor Club 4:45p.m.
- Dec 18 – Fabric & Yarn Club meeting 4-6 p.m.
- Dec 22- 26 - Extension Office Closed for Holiday Break
- Dec 29 - Chick Chain Applications due in 4-H Office with payment
- Jan 1-2 – Extension Office Holiday Closing
- Jan 5 - 4-H Honor Club 4:45 p.m.
- Jan 8 – Fabric & Yarn Club meeting 4-6 p.m.
- Jan 8-10 - State Market Hog Show, Cookeville
- Jan 12 - 4-H Poultry meeting 4:30 p.m.
- Jan 13 - 4-H Demonstration Workshop 4:30 p.m.
- Jan 15 - Fabric & Yarn Club meeting 4-6 p.m.
- Jan 17 - 4-H Horse Bowl & Hippology Contest @ UTK Ag Campus
- Jan 19 - Holiday Closure Martin Luther King Day
- Jan 20 - Slingshot Challenge Orientation meeting
- Jan 22 - Fabric & Yarn Club meeting 4-6 p.m.
- Jan 23 – 4-H Portfolio deadline
- Jan 24 – State 4-H Shooting Sports Certifications
- Jan 29 - Fabric & Yarn Club meeting 4-6 p.m.

Blount County 4-H December Newsletter '25

Welcome to the Slingshot Challenge



Registration for the 2026 Tennessee Middle and High School Online Mapping Contest is now open! The contest is open to any public, private, or home school students across the state that are using geospatial technology to better understand their community.

We believe that changing the future of conservation begins with small steps - with great ideas that drive impact in our communities. We believe that together, our ideas and actions will add up to progress protecting our planet and improving our future.

We invite 13-18 year-olds to submit a 1-minute video describing their idea for solving environmental issues for a chance to receive up to \$10,000. This fosters creativity and problem-solving.

This event is organized and supported through the combined effort of UTK Geography and Sustainability, TNGIC - Tennessee Geographic Information Council, and the Tennessee Geographic Alliance.

Challenge submissions are due by **February 6, 2026**; learn more about the challenge at the orientation meeting on January 20.

Sign up below using this link or QR code to get involved now!

<https://forms.office.com/r/vsRvjjetnw9>



4-H Summer CAMP in 2026



Mark your calendars for summer camp. Our dates are June 1-5, 2026 for Junior Camp and July 6-10, 2026 for Junior High Camp. We will have the application with cost available after the first of the year and more details closer to the dates of camp. See page 2 for more camp dates.



Dad Jokes of the Day:

I met a microbiologist the other day. He was much bigger than I expected.

Bread is a lot like the sun. It rises in the yeast and sets in the waist.

4-H Demonstration Workshop!

On **Tuesday, January 13**, there will be a Hybrid 4-H Demonstration workshop conducted via Zoom and face-to-face for any member wishing to learn the art of teaching others. A part of your 4-H experience is to



show others what you have learned. To prepare for the workshop, all you will need is an idea for what you wish to teach another. We will meet at the 4-H Office or by Zoom. RSVP to james@utk.edu which you prefer.

WHAT'S HAPPENING OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS?

DECEMBER:

- Poultry Chick Chain applications are available for members starting Nov 1 until Dec 29.
- Nov 28 to Dec 14, visit the local Tractor Supply and help support Blount County 4-H. Buy a Paper Clover and support 4-H.
- 4-H Project Portfolio workshop to assist members with record keeping ideas and how to assemble their portfolio (TBD).
- Public Speaking workshop, slated for Dec 9, 5p.m. at 4-H office, for speakers planning to participate at the county contest.



RSVP to
james@utk.edu

JANUARY:

- Beekeeping Essay—TBA.
- State Swine show in Cookeville
- Regional Horse Bowl and Hippology competitions
- Demonstration Workshop January 13.
- 4-H Poster contest deadline January 23. **FEBRUARY:**



Goal: Raise money for Tennessee 4-H Camp Scholarships through the Tennessee 4-H Congress "Hands to Larger Service" project. At Tennessee 4-H Congress, the three regions will go head-to-head in a friendly Penny War!



Coins for Camp: Tennessee 4-H Congress

Save and drop in spare change or even a few dollars—to help the Eastern Region win fund 4-H camp scholarships and give more youth the opportunity to experience camp. Every penny counts toward making a difference!

The club collecting the most coins will win an ice cream party from Mr. McMillion and the 4-H Office in May before the end of school.



4-H Art & Poster Contest Notice

We are looking for the artists in our membership to step forward. It is 4-H Art & Poster time. 4-H Posters must be submitted by January 23 at the very latest. You may turn them in at your January club meeting if you wish, but they must in by or before the 23rd. For a complete set of the rules and guidelines, you may visit the 4-H website and search "posters".



Attention All Members

There is a Portfolio workshop in the works! More details will be released at a later date. To prepare, be sure and keep an accurate record of what you have done and plan to do this year in 4-H as a project.

Camps/Conferences for Your Calendars!

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

March 7-11, 2026

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

March 20-22, 2026

State Target Smart Camp (5th-9th grade)

May 25-29, 2026

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

June 1-5, 2026

Fashion & Design Conference (6th-12th grade)

June 1-4, 2026

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

June 9-12, 2026

Eastern Region Culinary Camp (6th-12th grade)

June 16-18, 2026

Quilt Camp (6th-12th grade)

June 22-24, 2026

State Electric Camp (6th-8th grade)

June 23-26, 2026

Junior High Camp (6th-8th grade)

July 6-10, 2026

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

July 20-24, 2026 (Must Qualify to Attend)

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything."

~ Bernard Shaw

Amy Berger

James McMillion