



Upcoming Events

April

- 1 Registration open for Poultry Chain (closes June 15)
- 4 Deadline to let County Office know if doing Horse Bowl (\$10 entry fee per person)
- 5-6 4-H Horse Contests (Hippology; Judging; Communication) (Starkville)
- 8 District 4-H Shooting Sports Competition registration due
Solar Eclipse
- 12 4-H Ambassador and Council Officer applications due
Dairy Judging Contest (MSU)
- 13 4-H Horse Bowl (Starkville)
- 19 4-H Wildlife Art & Photography Contest Entries Due
- 23 Horse Shows Sign-up, 5:00 p.m., Extension Auditorium
- 25 Registration deadline for State 4-H Congress

May

- 3-4 Southeast District 4-H Shooting Sports Competition (Lumberton)
- 10 4-H Camp Scholarship applications due
- 17 Registration deadline for 4-H Summer Camp Explore
- 19-25 Delivery week for chicks for Poultry Chain
- 27 Extension Office closed for Memorial Day Holiday
- 29-31 State 4-H Congress (MSU)
- 30 MS State Fair Premium Book Art Contest entries due
- 31 Horse Art, Photography & T-shirt Design Contests entries due



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4-H CLUB NEWS



HOT SHOTS 4-H CLUB

Hot Shots members are gearing up for competition season. With our first county competition being held in mid-April and the Southeast District competition in early May.

Members were recognized at the club awards party recently.

The Archery group will be hosting a mock competition on Monday, April 8, with the Hancock County 4-H Archery Group.

-Twila Hoover



4-H CLUB NEWS (continued)

LUCKY 13 4-H CLUB

The Lucky 13 4-H Club met on February 29 and learned about creating 4-H record books. The group also had fun making dog-pull toys from scraps of old t-shirts. These were sold as a fundraiser at the Barnyard Marketplace on March 9th. The kids made so many that the club is also going to be donating some to the local shelter.

Coming up next the club will be participating in some litter clean-up events in April. The next club meeting will be Thursday, April 25, 5:30 p.m. at the New Palestine Baptist Church in the fellowship hall.

- April Grecho



PEARL RIVER COUNTY JR. MASTER GARDENERS

The Pearl River County Jr. Master Gardeners will have their Plant Sale and Symposium on Saturday, April 27, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Poplarville City Park Pollinator Gardens. The address is 300 McClendon Street, Poplarville.



Mississippi State Fair Premium Book Art Contest



The Mississippi Fair Commission is inviting 4-H and FFA youth to design a cover for the 2024 Mississippi State Fair Premium Book in an art contest. Submit your "Agriculture Fair Theme" painting or drawing for a chance to be featured on the cover of the 2024 premium book. Prizes are: \$100 for 1st place, \$75 for 2nd place and \$50 for 3rd place. To submit your artwork, scan it and email it to alex.shook@msstate.edu by **Thursday, May 30, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.**

Look for Pearl River County 4-H on Facebook!
Like our pages to keep up with upcoming programs.





Art & Photography Contests



Do you want to show off your artistic talents or photography skills? If so, you have several opportunities to do so:

Mississippi 4-H Wildlife Art & Photography Contests

The Mississippi 4-H Wildlife Art and Photography Contest is one opportunity to show off your talent or skill! The Art categories are Pastels/Charcoal/Graphite/Colored Pencil (Abstract or Realistic), Oil/Acrylic/Watercolor (Abstract or Realistic), Pen/Ink/Markers/Crayon (Abstract or Realistic), Cartoon, Sculpture/3-D and Mixed, Altered Media. Photography categories are Action, Non-Action and Human Interest (Digital only). Photographs must be 5"x7" format in sleeve. Age divisions are 8-13 years old and 14-18 years old (as of January 1, 2024). Entries are due in the Pearl River County Extension Service Office by **Friday, April 19, 2024**. The top 5 entries in each category will go on to be judged at the Region level, top 5 there go on to State level, and the top 5 in the state will go on to be displayed at the MS Wildlife Expo in Jackson in late July/early August. Ribbons, rosettes and other prizes will be given on the State level. Call the Pearl River County Extension Office at 601-403-2280 for more details..

Horse Art, Photography & T-Shirt Design Contests

You do not have to own a horse to enter the Horse Art, Horse Photography or Horse T-Shirt Design Contests! The Art categories are Pastels/Charcoal/Graphite/Colored Pencil (Abstract or Realistic), Oil/Acrylic/Watercolor (Abstract or Realistic), Pen/Ink/Markers/Crayon (Abstract or Realistic), Cartoon (Single Frame or Strip), Sculpture/3-D (Abstract or Realistic) and Mixed, Altered Media. Photography categories are Breed Promotion, Action, Non-Action and Human Interest. Call the Pearl River County Extension Office at 601-403-2280 for more information. Entries will be due in the 4-H Office by **Friday, June 2, 2023**.

Call the Pearl River County 4-H Extension Service Office at 601-403-2280 for more details.



Cloverbuds 4-H Club



ATTENTION 5-7 YEAR OLDS (AND PARENTS)! The Cloverbuds 4-H Club will meet on **Saturday, April 20, 2024, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. in the Extension Auditorium**. We will be doing fun age-appropriate hands-on activities to learn about different 4-H projects. This won't be a boring, sit-in-your seat meeting. Come have lots of fun with us! Invite your friends to come! Call the Pearl River County Extension Service Office at 601-403-2280 by **Friday, April 12, 2024**, to let us know if you plan to attend the April 20 meeting. This will help us better prepare.

4-H Record Book Workshops

Do you want to know why 4-H Record Books are important? Do you want to know what you can win with your record book? Are you interested in learning how to do a 4-H Record Book? If you answered yes to any of these questions, call the Pearl River County Extension Service Office at 601-403-2280 to add your name to the interest list. If we have enough people, we will hold a Record Book Workshop.





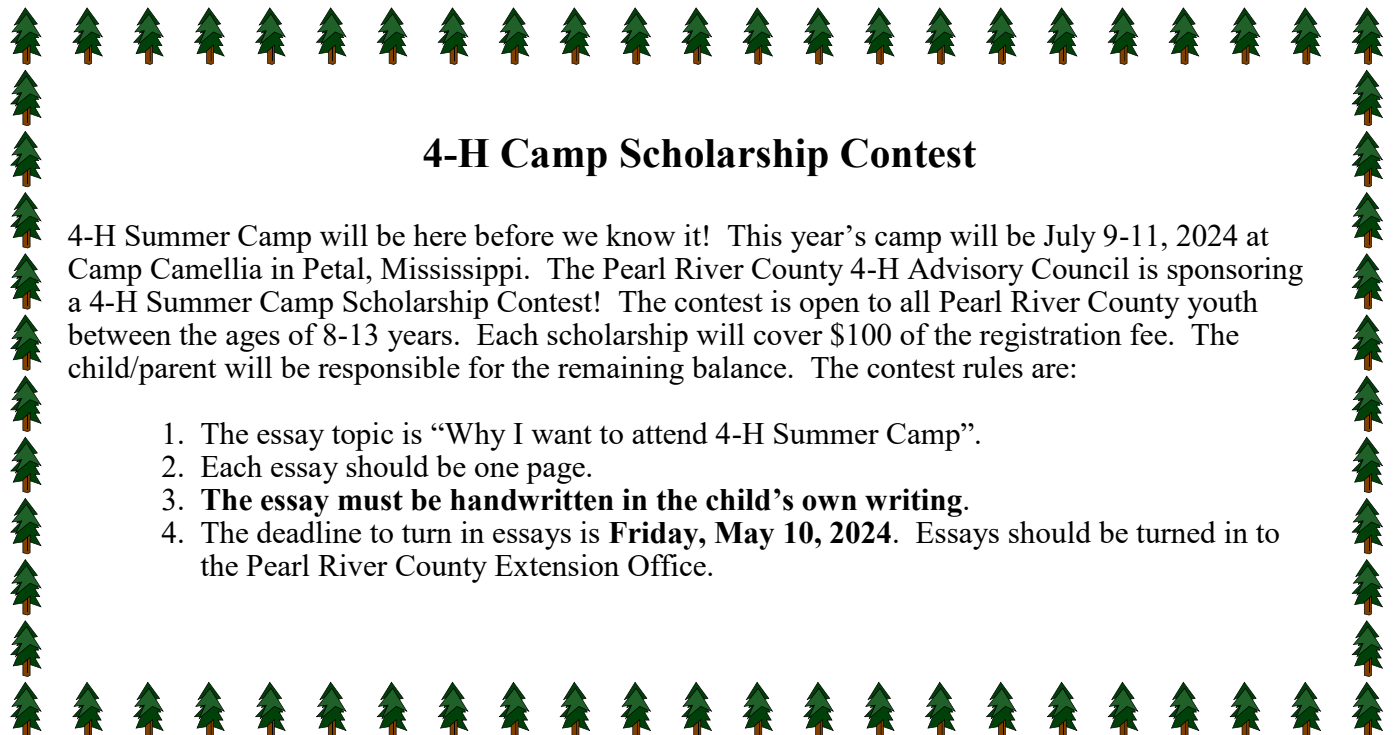
Solar Eclipse

A solar eclipse happens when the sun, Earth and moon are in a line and the moon covers the sun. On April 8, parts of the United States will experience a total solar eclipse. We will only experience about an 80% solar eclipse. You may ask how the moon can cover the sun when it is so much smaller (about 400 times smaller). The answer is that things that are farther away look smaller, and things that are closer look bigger. During the solar eclipse the moon will be about 400 times closer to the Earth than the sun, so it will look a lot bigger than it usually does and will cover the sun.

It is important to protect your eyes when watching a solar eclipse. Here are some tips on how to use solar eclipse viewing glasses safely:

- * Always check your viewing glasses before you use them. If they are scratched, torn or damaged throw them away.
- * Stand still and put on your viewing glasses before looking up at the bright sun. After looking turn away and take off your viewing glasses. Don't take off your viewing glasses while looking at the sun.
- * Do not use sunglasses to look at the eclipse. They are not safe to look at the sun.
- * If you normally wear glasses, keep them on. Put your viewing glasses over them.

4-H offers a variety of STEM projects. For more information contact the Pearl River County Extension Office at 601-403-2280.



4-H Camp Scholarship Contest

4-H Summer Camp will be here before we know it! This year's camp will be July 9-11, 2024 at Camp Camellia in Petal, Mississippi. The Pearl River County 4-H Advisory Council is sponsoring a 4-H Summer Camp Scholarship Contest! The contest is open to all Pearl River County youth between the ages of 8-13 years. Each scholarship will cover \$100 of the registration fee. The child/parent will be responsible for the remaining balance. The contest rules are:

1. The essay topic is "Why I want to attend 4-H Summer Camp".
2. Each essay should be one page.
3. **The essay must be handwritten in the child's own writing.**
4. The deadline to turn in essays is **Friday, May 10, 2024**. Essays should be turned in to the Pearl River County Extension Office.



Horse Information

The Southeast District Horse Show will be held **June 6-7, 2024 in Meridian**, the State Horse Show will be held **June 19-22, 2024 in Jackson**, and the Southern Regional 4-H Horse Show will be held **July 31-August 4, 2024, in Perry, Georgia**. Be sure to mark these dates on your calendar. The sign-up meeting for the District 4-H Horse Show and for state-only entries will be held on **Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. in the Extension Auditorium**. **All district and state-only entries are due at this time**. Forms and rule books will soon be available in the Extension Service Office. You must be 8 years old by January 1 to compete in the District and State 4-H Horse Shows. The ownership deadline for your horse (in 4-H'ers' name or an immediate family member) is **May 1**, and you must have a current 4-H enrollment form by this date also. When you come to register, you will need to bring each horse's Coggins test, registration or grade papers, entry fee, fees for each class in which you plan to enter and stall fees. **BE SURE TO SEND YOUR PHOTOS TO alex.shook@msstate.edu BEFORE APRIL 23 FOR YOUR GRADE HORSES!** This will give me time to have the forms ready for you on sign-up night. Fees for the District show are: Ground Entry Fee - \$5.00 per exhibitor, Class Fee - \$10.00 per class, Cattle Charge - \$15.00 plus \$15.00 for re-runs, Goat Charge - \$10.00, Working Cow Horse Fee—\$25.00, Stall Fee - \$30.00 **FLAT FEE** (for Wednesday through Friday), and Shavings - available on site for purchase.

Please keep the following in mind as you prepare for the shows:

- * You must have the **original Negative Coggins test** with you at the show. **Copies and faxes will not be accepted.**
- * You must have your **original registration papers and grade papers** with you at the show. **Copies will not be accepted. Horses must be in the 4-H'ers name or an immediate family member's name. Farm names are not acceptable.**
- * All ponies and miniatures will be measured.
- * If you have questions about tack, make sure ahead of time it is eligible by calling or coming by the Pearl River County Extension Service Office.
- * Be sure to read the rulebook carefully to make sure you are following all of the rules.

If you have any questions about the District or State 4-H Horse Show, please call the office at 601-403-2280.

Horse Ethics

If this will be your first year to participate in the District and State Horse Shows or you are a new 4-H volunteer that will assist 4-H'ers with their horses, you will need to be certified in Horse Ethics. This will take about 45 minutes to an hour. Call the Pearl River County Extension office and schedule a time to complete Horse Ethics Training. **THIS NEEDS TO BE DONE BEFORE APRIL 23, 2024!**



4-H Poultry Chain

You can increase your knowledge of poultry management practices and life skills in the 4-H Poultry Chain. You have the opportunity to raise birds to sexual maturity while keeping a record of their progress. At the end of the project you will choose your top 3 birds to compete at the Mississippi State Fair in the poultry show. If you are a Cloverbud (ages 5-7 as of January 1, 2024) you will be able to compete on a county level. 4-H'ers ages 8-18 will be able to compete on the county and state level. You can only show one breed (females only) and must order at least 6 chicks (It is recommended that you order 20). There are 2 categories for chicks: Meat Category and Layer Category (call the office for a list of breeds). You must order your chicks from a NPIP-certified hatchery or a commercial operation that is supplied by an NPIP hatchery. Do NOT order from a NPIP-backyard flock. Now is the time to order your chicks to be delivered the week of May 19-25, 2024. You will need to register between April 1 and June 15 by calling the county office. There is an award for the Cutest Coop, for showmanship and for the show. Call the Pearl River County Extension Service Office at 601-403-2280 for more information.

Camp Explore

4-H Summer Camp Explore will be held June 10-13, 2024 at Holmes Community College in Goodman, Mississippi. It is open to Junior 4-H'ers, ages 8-13. The cost of camp is \$225, which includes lodging, meals, activities, a t-shirt and 4-H activity insurance. Registration is due in the Pearl River County Extension Service Office by **5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 17, 2024**. Activities will include Outdoors, Expressive Arts, STEM, SAFETY and Teambuilding.



4-H Ambassador and State Council Officer

Would you like to be a member of the Mississippi 4-H Ambassador team or be a State 4-H Council Officer or both? If so, contact the Pearl River County Extension Office at 601-403-2280 for more information and an application. Applications are due by **Friday, April 12, 2024, by 5:00 p.m.**



Robotics

4-H Robotics is gearing up for some exciting activities! Here's the schedule of things to come:

April 8—Solar Eclipse (get your glasses)
May 29-31—4-H Club Congress
June 10-13—Camp Explore
June 18-20—Earth Camp
June 25—4-H STEAM Day



Solar Eclipse

Are you ready for the solar eclipse on April 8? Do you need glasses? Glasses can be ordered from MSU through our office. The cost is \$1.00 each. Lessons from Stormin' Bob Swanson, the Singing Weather Man, will be available soon. To order glasses or if you are interested in these lessons, call the Pearl River County Extension Service Office at 601-403-2280.

Call the Pearl River County Extension Service Office at 601-403-2280 if you have questions about any of the above activities.

4-H Newsletter Online



If you would like, you can view the newsletter online at www.msucare.com. At the top of the page, put the cursor on "Offices" and click "County Extension Offices". Then click "Pearl River" and then click "County 4-H". Click the newsletter link, and the newsletter will open.



Club Meetings



Blazin' Saddles 4-H Club
Brandi Kirkland (601-303-0451)

Tuesday, April 9 @ 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, April 23 @ 5:00 p.m. (Horse Shows sign up)

Fairgrounds Arena
Extension Office

Junior Master Gardeners
Roxann Gort (504-234-3579)

Call Mrs. Roxann for more information.

Lucky 13 4-H Club
April Grecho (919-280-7411)

Thursday, April 25 @ 5:30 p.m.

New Palestine Baptist
Church Fellowship Hall
Picayune, MS
Extension Auditorium

Thursday, May 23 @ 5:30 p.m.

Alex Shook
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