



4-H Calendar/Cost/Deadlines and More...

General

4-H County Council Meetings:

Meetings occur in January, March, May, August and October on the 2nd Tuesday at 6:30 pm generally at the Doña Ana Cooperative Extension Office with the exception of the October and January meetings which are held at the Gerald Thomas Auditorium. County Council is the governing body of the County 4-H Program and seeks to unify and provide communication between the 4-H clubs. The county council is made of youth representatives from each of the 4-H clubs in the county. The council officers, ambassadors and youth representatives make decisions on activities that are provided for county 4-H members and leaders along with how county 4-H funds are spent.

During the October Council Meeting, council officers are elected by club representatives. Council Officers must have met the attendance requirements and submitted a record book the previous year.

County Council Executive Meetings:

Meetings occur in February, April, July and November on the 2nd Tuesday at 6:30 pm at the Doña Ana Cooperative Extension Service.

Club Meetings:

Meetings occur every month on set days by the club. Clubs will also meet at other times to work on projects and activities.

Deadlines:

Please review calendar, Roving Clover and check with Club leaders for deadlines. Registration deadlines for events, activities and contests generally occur the month before. All registration for county, district, state and national events go through the through Doña Ana County Extension Office.

January

NM Senior Leadership Retreat

- Three day leadership conference for senior 4-H members presented by the State 4-H Ambassadors and Diplomats. The conference is located in Albuquerque. Members have the opportunity to attend workshops and learn about leadership, teamwork and much more and of course have fun. Members also participate in a community service project. Cost ~ approximately \$110
Deadline ~ December of the previous year.

National 4-H Western Roundup

- National competition for senior members who qualify at State 4-H Conference. For youth to participate in the National 4-H Western Roundup, they must have passed his or her 14th birthday and cannot have passed his or her 19th birthday by January 1st of the previous year.

February

County Leadership Training

A leadership workshop conducted by the County Leadership Team and Senior members who attended Senior Leadership Retreat. The training is opened to any county member interested in attending. This is approximately a 3-4 hour program and is held at the Radium Springs Community Service.

Shooting Sports Leader Certification

- New Mexico State 4-H conducts a leader training each year on a rotational basis across the state. To meet specific criteria for insurance, liability, etc. it is important that our volunteer leadership the Shooting Sports Program become certified. This provides some protection for you and the 4-H program. The training for the adult volunteer leaders is held in the following disciplines: Archery, Hunting, Muzzleloader, Pistol, Rifle and Shotgun. All participants bring their own equipment; especially hearing and eye protection. Class size will be limited to 20 participants per discipline and you can be certified in only one discipline per year. All volunteers must be enrolled and complete the screening process. Cost ~ \$80

4-H Day at the Roundhouse

- Youth travel to Santa Fe for the day to participate in the designated 4-H Day at the Roundhouse. This is a great way for our 4-H program to educate our youth about Citizenship at the state level. Youth learn about our state legislative process and are introduced to their Representatives and Senators, and possibly the Governor.

County Teen Leadership Conference (TLC)

- Three day conference for junior and senior 4-H members. Participants get to meet and know new friends and spend time with old ones. Youth learn games and activities to take back to their clubs enhance their leadership skills and discover opportunities available to junior and senior 4-Hers to expand their 4-H experiences. Other activities will include 4-H contest workshops as well as community service and 4-H promotion projects. The event occurs at White Sands Missile Range. Cost ~ \$55.00

March

Fun Fest

- An over-night event held at White Sands Missile Range Child & Youth Services Youth Center and sponsored by White Sands and Valle Verde 4-H Clubs. The event is designed to help novice 4-Hers learn about different things they can do in 4-H. Although geared towards novice 4-Hers, it is the perfect opportunity for beginning junior members to learn what 4-H is all about also. Participants get to know and visit with other county 4-H members, learn new games to take back to their clubs, attend workshops to help prepare them for county 4-H contests, learn about different 4-H projects and more. Cost ~ \$35.00

DAC Fun Shoot

- The fun shoot is a shotgun shoot that is used as a Doña Ana County 4-H Fundraiser. It is held at the Butterfield Shooting Range and is open to anyone.

Home Ec School

- The New Mexico 4-H Home Economics Schools are designed for 4-H members ages 9-19 who are interested in learning skills related to Home Ec Projects and finding out about project opportunities in New Mexico. 4-Hers choose between tracks, which change from year to year. All participants will be engaged in a service learning projects and fun evening activities. Home Ec School is held at Belen High School. Cost ~ \$70 per youth participant to cover meals and workshop supplies and \$40 per adult chaperone to cover meal costs. Registration ~ February 1st – 25th

County Sr. Shooting Sports

- County Contest for senior members competing in Archery, Rifle, Shotgun, Muzzleloader, Hunting and Pistol. Senior members placing in the top 8 have the opportunity to attend State and National competitions. Cost ~ 4-H members are responsible for the purchase of equipment and ammunition, contest fees include: \$5.00 per event except for shotgun which is \$15 per 100 rounds.
- An equipment check day will be held to insure all equipment is in good safe working order and is in compliance with the NM 4-H rules and regulations. Registration for the State Shooting Sports competition is the 2nd Friday in April.

April

Doña Ana County Expo Jackpot Party

- The Expo Jackpot Party is an event put on by the Doña Ana 4-H/FFA Expo Board. The proceeds from this event are used to support Livestock, Shooting Sports and Achievement Day premiums that are paid to Doña Ana 4-H and FFA members who participate in the Expo. This is an adult event, but youth help decorate and seek silent auction items. Cost ~ \$100.00 per ticket, which allows the entry of two adults.

Horse Certificates

- 4-H members who plan on attending a 4-H Horse Show, with the exception of DAC 4-H/FFA EXPO, must submit a Horse Certificate for any and all horses they plan on showing. Horse Certificates are due April 15th.

4-H Talent Show

- Novice, Junior and Senior members get to showcase their talents during the 4-H Talent Show. There are seven categories that members can compete in: Comedian, Poet, Vocal, Musical, Choreographed Routines, Drama and Celebrate 4-H. Senior members have the opportunity to qualify to compete at State 4-H Conference in July. Novice and Junior members compete at the county level for awards. Cost ~ no entry fee. May incur cost for materials member uses for their talent.

Youth Get Away

- Three day leadership conference for Novice and Junior 4-H members held at Inlow Baptist Camp near Torreon, New Mexico. Youth have the opportunity during the weekend to attend workshops with their camp counselors. For the workshops the youth will be with their age group. Novices will be with other Novices and Juniors will be with Juniors. Youth will participate in sessions, hands-on activities, and attend dances together. The event is hosted by the State 4-H Leadership Team and senior youth may apply to be counselors. Cost ~ \$110.00 Registration ~ March 1st – March 27th

Barnes & Noble

- Barnes and Noble is a bookfair that helps promote and raise money for 4-H. Youth are asked to help distribute bookfair vouchers and assist with the day's activities. The activities are held at the Mesilla Valley Mall Barnes and Noble and run from 10 am – 3 pm. This is done twice a year, April and October.

Kids Kows and More

- An Agricultural Education fieldtrip conducted for Doña Ana County 4th grade students. This event occurs at the Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum. 4-H members may be asked to assist with being a group leader to lead students from station to station.

May

Add/Drop Project Deadline

- This the deadline for members to add or drop projects that wish to complete and exhibit in at EXPO Achievement Day, NM State Fair and Southern NM State Fair.

State Shooting Sports

- 4-H Senior members, who qualified for state at County Shooting Sports, compete in Archery, Rifle, Shotgun, Muzzleloader, Hunting and Pistol. Senior members then have the opportunity to attend National Shooting Sports in Nebraska. The state shooting sports contest is held at the NRA Whittington Center in Raton, NM. Cost ~ \$45.00 per contestant entry fee for the contest. This fee will cover range fees, targets and costs of putting on the contest at Whittington. Travel and hotel costs are also incurred.

Rodeo Waivers

- Youth who participate in the 4-H Rodeo project are required to fill out a rodeo waiver, show proof of personal insurance and attend a rodeo safety clinic. Two rodeo safety clinics are scheduled yearly, typically in March and April. Rodeo waivers are due to the Extension Office on May 1st.

County Novice/ JR Shooting Sports

- County Contest for novice and junior members competing in Archery and Rifle. Senior members placing in the top 8 have the opportunity to attend district contest. Cost ~ 4-H members are responsible for the purchase of equipment and ammunition, contest fees include: \$5.00 per event.
- An equipment check day will be held to insure all equipment is in good safe working order and is in compliance with the SW District Contest rules and regulations.

County Contest- Horse & Livestock

- Judging contest where youth evaluate live animals in order to qualify for District and State competition. No cost associated with this event.

County Contests

- 4-H members enter various contests related to their projects or interests. Contests offered at Doña Ana County Contests are Ag Demos; Clothing; Consumer Decision Making; General Demos; Home Ec Demos; Impromptu Public Speaking; Prepared Public Speaking; Horse Public Speaking; Horticulture; Favorite Foods; Ento (Insect ID) ; Wildlife; Parliamentary Procedure; 4-H Bowl; Fashion Revue. Cost ~ no entry cost, but 4-H member may incur cost for materials depending on contest participating in (i.e. Favorite Foods, Fashion Revue, Demonstrations, etc.)

June

Tag Days

- 4-H members enrolled in animal projects must have animals purchased and in place in order to show at fairs. Exception of poultry and rabbits. Specific days and locations are set up for members to have their animals tagged and validated.

Horse School/Livestock School (alternate every other year)

- NM State 4-H Horse School is a statewide event where youth participate in activities and lessons related to horses and horse care. This event occurs at the Expo NM Fairgrounds in Albuquerque, NM. Cost ~ \$250.00; Registration deadline is usually around the first part of May.
- NM State 4-H Livestock school is a statewide event where youth participate in three days of very intense instruction with as much hands-on learning as possible relating to steers, lambs, meat goats, swine and dairy heifers. The subjects covered will be selection, nutrition, grooming, showmanship and sportsmanship, ethics, preparing for a fair, care during a fair and exercise. Livestock School is held at the New Mexico State Fair Grounds in Albuquerque, NM. Cost ~ \$200.00; Registration deadline is usually around the first part of May.

New Mexico State 4-H Dog School

- The NM State 4-H Dog School is designed to help youth and leaders become familiar with the 4- H Dog Project, the different events youth may participate in with their dogs and to promote Responsible Dog Ownership. State 4-H Dog School is two and a half days of workshops and presentations to help develop leadership, self-reliance, sportsmanship, a greater understanding of their dog and citizenship responsibilities by working together to support community dog projects and activities. Dog School is located at the Bernalillo Sheriff's Posse Arena, Albuquerque, NM. Cost ~ \$85.00

District Contest

- Novice and Junior 4-H members who qualify through County Contest have the opportunity to compete at District. The location rotates each year between counties: Grant County (2015), Catron (2016), Hidalgo (2017), Socorro (2018), Luna (2019), Doña Ana (2020) and Sierra (2021). Cost ~ \$1 per contest, social fees, transportation and lodging. Registration deadline is the Wednesday following County Contest.
 - Contests available are: Livestock Judging, Horse Judging, Archery, Rifle, Welcome to NM 4-H Bowl, Agriculture Presentation, General Presentation, Home Economics Presentation, Prepared and Impromptu Public Speaking, Consumer Decision Making, Clothing Revue, Favorite Food, Horticulture, Crops Judging, Entomology ID, Range Plant ID, Wildlife and Agronomy.

National Shooting Sports

- National Shooting Sports occurs in Nebraska and is for those Senior 4-H members who qualify at the State Shooting Sports competition. These members have the opportunity if they choose to represent New Mexico and Doña Ana County at the national level. Cost ~ Registration, Travel, Hotel, Meals (Fundraising occurs)

July

Electric Light Parade

- Doña Ana County 4-H has decorated a float that is entered in the Las Cruces Electric Light Parade. Members are encouraged to help decorate and assist with supplies.

DAC 4-H Rodeo

- Sanctioned 4-H Rodeo hosted the Doña Ana County 4-H Rodeo Board. 4-H Rodeos are hosted around the state on weekends from May- July.

State Conference

- State 4-H Conference is held every July on the NMSU Campus. The Conference consists of contests, workshops, evening sessions, awards ceremony, and the election of new State 4-H Officers. Those eligible to attend State 4-H Conference are senior 4-Hers who participated and qualified at county contests, officer candidates or members of the State Leadership Team. Costs: \$110.00 Registration deadline is the Wednesday following County Contest. An orientation for participants and their parents will be held the 1st Tuesday of July at 5:30 pm at the Extension Office.

August

Doña Ana 4-H/FFA County Expo/Achievement Day

- The Expo is for Doña Ana County 4-H and FFA members. This event allows youth to exhibit their livestock and non-livestock projects, including shooting sports, for premiums and helps prepare youth for fairs. Achievement Day is held in conjunction with the Expo and provides the opportunity for 4-H members to exhibit their non-animal exhibits and qualify them for Expo NM (NM State Fair). Premium book can be found at <http://www.donaanacountyexpo.com/> Registration occurs in July. Cost ~ entries vary.

Family Night

- Family Night is a Doña Ana County 4-H Fundraiser. It occurs on Saturday evening of Expo at 6:30 pm with a hamburger fry and dance. Family Night occurs at the Southern New Mexico State Fair Grounds – Coca Cola Pavilion. Clubs assist with food items, decorating, clean up and bringing baskets and silent auction items. Cost ~ \$8.00 per person

National Night Out

- National Night Out is sponsored by the City of Las Cruces and is an event with youth activities which we use to promote 4-H. Clubs and members are asked to assist with activities at event.

Cloverbud Day

- Cloverbud Day is an event for our cloverbud members' ages 5-8 years of age. Members share different hands-on activities giving our cloverbuds a chance to experience the different projects 4-H has to offer. Cost ~ No cost to Cloverbud members. Cost would be for materials used for activities presented.

September

NM State Fair & El Paso County Fair

- These are events where 4-H members exhibit their finished projects and livestock. Cost ~ varies for projects – review premium books, Roving Clover for details and deadlines.
 - NMSF: <http://exponm.com/state-fair/> Entry Deadline: August 1st.
 - El Paso County Fair: <http://www.elpasotxcountyfair.com/Premium--Book.html>
 - Southern NM State Fair: <http://snmstatefairgrounds.net/> Entry Deadline: September 4th.

October

County Record Books Due

- Record books are submitted to the Doña Ana Cooperative Extension Office by October 31, if the 31st falls on a weekend, the record books will be due the following Monday by 5:00 pm. Record books are an educational component of the 4-H Youth Development Program and serve as a showcase of projects and activities the youth have participated in throughout the current 4-H year. Record books are judged and members receive awards at the Annual Awards Night in December.

New 4-H Year Begins

- New enrollment year begins in October, with the deadline being January 15th. Re-enrollments are done through the 4honline.com system. Every year, every member (youth and adults) must re-enroll and turn in a new medical release and code of conduct form to maintain your active status in 4-H. If you don't not re-enroll and turn in the required paperwork by January 15th, you will not be allowed to be a member of 4-H for one year.

November

Judging of Record Books

- Record books are judged by volunteers, 4-H leaders and parents. The judging process helps determine the merit of each record book for awards.

NM 4-H Adult Leaders Forum

- The NM 4-H Adult Volunteer Leaders Forum is statewide educational and fun event designed for adults working with the New Mexico 4-H Youth Development Program. It will be held in Albuquerque at the Workforce Training Center, located off Alameda Blvd. Leaders have the opportunity to meet other adults involved in 4-H; hear a motivational speaker; participate in workshops, a community service project, Make and Take activities, silent auction and more! Cost ~ \$30.00 plus transportation and possible hotel.

Senior Interviews

- Senior 4-H members who submit a record book have the opportunity to interview for Top Senior Awards in Leadership, Achievement and Citizenship.

Ambassador Interviews

- Junior and Senior 4-H members who wish to run for county ambassador, submit an application by the designated deadline and go through an interview process. Ambassadors are announced at Awards Night and serve on the County Leadership Team along with County Council Officers.

December

Awards Night

- End of the year awards program to recognize 4-H members for their accomplishments and individuals for their continued support of the Doña Ana County 4-H Program. Cost ~ Estimated \$15 per person/\$5 for those who turned in a record book

Leaders Meeting

- Meeting held annually for organizational leaders to inform them of any changes; update and remind them of the policies and procedures of the 4-H program.

National Opportunities

The National 4-H Congress

- National 4-H Congress occurs in November (the Friday after Thanksgiving) in Atlanta, Georgia. On the basis of state record book (portfolios) competition, delegates are selected to attend this national event. Senior 4-H members are rewarded with an all-expense paid trip where they join other members from across the nation in exciting, educational and leadership experiences.

Citizenship Washington Focus

- Every summer thousands of young people stay at the National 4-H Center, near Washington, D.C. to participate in this week long program. This program provides opportunities for youth to broaden appreciation and practice respect for themselves and others in their world; increase individual commitment to citizen involvement; and understand the importance of civic and social responsibilities as they relate to the development of better citizens and leaders. Time is provided for 4-H members to report accomplishments in 4-H to their representatives in the Washington, D.C. area as well as participate in sightseeing trips.