

LAKE COUNTY

4-H NEWS



Oregon State University
Extension Service



January/February 2026



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How to Experience 4-H

In Lake County, our 4-H members have the opportunity to experience the 4-H program in many ways. Some members are even involved in one or more areas within our 4-H Program! Below is some helpful information in defining those areas and providing information for each.

In-School 4-H

The exciting part of being an in-school 4-H participant is that you meet in school. That also means you do not attend club meetings outside of school and you do not exhibit at the Lake County Fair.

Club-Based 4-H

The club-based 4-H program is what you might think of when you imagine 4-H. If you are a club-based 4-H member, you attend club meetings hosted by a 4-H Leader outside of school. You complete a record book, pay a 4-H enrollment fee and, typically, exhibit your project at the Lake County Fair.

After-School 4-H

Did you attend 4-H Lego Day Camp, Hiking Club or Girls Go Run? These are all examples of short-term 4-H Programs. The best part, if you answered yes to the above questions, you guessed it —that's 4-H! Check out the awesome experiences you can use to jump-start and expand your 4-H experience!



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Facebook.com/lake4h

Beav.es/lake4h

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LAKE COUNTY 4-H ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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JANUARY 2026

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 2 3
New Years Eve, Ext. Office Close @ 12
New Years Day, Ext. Office Closed

4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Cloverbuds 11 am
Enrollment Due 3 pm

11 12 13 14 15 16 17
An. Sci. monthly
High Desert Leadership Retreat, (HDLR) Redmond

18 19 20 21 22 23 24
MLK, Ext. Office Closed
Cloverbuds 11 am
HDLR (continued)

25 26 27 28 29 30 31
Small Animal YQCA Alternative

FEBRUARY 2026

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

8 9 10 11 12 13 14

New Family Orientation
Animal Science monthly topic
Cloverbuds 11 am

15 16 17 18 19 20 21

22 23 24 25 26 27 28

YQCA Alternative Horse
Cloverbuds 11 am

Jump Start Your 4-H Experience

If you are just beginning your 4-H experience, welcome! This page outlines some of the awesome opportunities you can take advantage of. Both club-based members and in-school participants are encouraged to attend after-school programs, Lego Camp and other summer activities offered by the OSU Extension Service. Club-based 4-H members can look forward to the New 4-H Family Orientation in February.

New to 4-H?

The New 4-H Family Orientation is a great way for NEW 4-H members and their families to meet other new members and learn about the 4-H year to come! During the orientation, members will learn about the 4-H pledge, record books, county fair and what to expect. This is the perfect opportunity to jump-start your 4-H career!

The New 4-H Family Orientation date:

February 10, 2026

**In-person Lake County Extension
Office:**

5:30 pm

OR

Virtual Zoom Orientation: 6:30 pm



Club Meetings

If you are a member of the club-based 4-H program in Lake County, club meetings are an exciting opportunity to learn more about your project, gain skills (like public speaking and leadership) and work on your record book! Each club has their own meeting schedule and location set by the 4-H leader. Your attendance at club meetings plays a very important role in the success of your 4-H project.

Cloverbuds

Cloverbuds is a program intended for youth 5-8 years old who are not yet old enough for the traditional 4-H experience. The Cloverbuds experience gives kids a well-rounded introduction to multiple project areas (animals, art, science and technology, leadership, etc.). They do not exhibit in a competitive manner at fair. Instead we do a "Cloverbud Show & Tell" and a "Cloverbud Showcase" at fair where the Cloverbuds get to share their knowledge and skills with the community.

Camp Tumbleweed

Camp Tumbleweed is held over Spring Break, at Camp Tadmor (near Lebanon, OR). This fun camp is open to youth in 4th-6th grades across the state to practice decision making, meet friends, learn new skills and, most importantly, have fun. During Camp, youth can expect to practice survival, communication and leadership skills during classes, have fun using the low ropes course, explore the forest during group hikes and much more! Youth do not need to be currently enrolled 4-H members to attend camp. More information to come.



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4-H Record Books—Portfolio/Standard (revamp)

Record keeping is a very important life skill you will learn as a 4-H member. All 4-H members must complete a record book. Lake County 4-H members can choose which type of record book they'd like to complete; 4-H members can either do a **Standard Record Book** or a **Portfolio Record Book**.

- **Standard Record Book:** This record book only requires 4-H members to complete an ID page, table of contents, 4-H resume, project record(s), and record book guidelines. It will receive ribbons but will not be eligible for special awards at fair.

OR

- **Portfolio Record Book:** This record book is more in-depth, requiring 4-H members to include an ID page, table of contents, 4-H resume, 4-H story, project record(s), pictures, previous years' records, and record book guidelines. It will receive ribbons and be eligible for special awards at fair.

In Lake County Record books are due to the OSU Extension Office for judging on the **first Friday in August**. Record book covers and tabs are available for purchase. If you have questions about your record book, you can ask a leader, junior leader, or even attend a record book workshop held during the summer! Check out our website for more information about record books in Lake County: <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/4h/lake/record-books>

After-School Programs

Did you know 4-H offers many after-school programs? Examples of after-school programs include Girls Go Run (offered in the spring), Garden Camp, Harvest Camp, STEM Camp, and Hiking Club.



Lego Day Camp

4-H Lego Day Camp is a fun way to spend time with friends during the summer, while challenging your brain with Legos and robotics! Throughout Lego Camp, youth can expect to work with a trained Teen Staff member to build a variety of Lego Challenges! Lego Camp is held in July and is open to youth going into 2nd-6th grades (Sept. 2026).



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National 4-H Opportunities

Did you know you could represent Oregon 4-H and Lake County 4-H at a national level? In the past, youth have represented #lake4h at both the National Shooting Sports Championships and at National 4-H Congress. Youth who attended these events got to travel, meet 4-H members from across the U.S. and build a tool box of skills to bring back to Lake County!



4-H Summer Conference

Held at Oregon State University in June, 4-H Summer Conference is the perfect opportunity to travel out-of-county, see a college campus and practice leadership skills! Participants (in 7th-12th grade) stay in the dorms on campus, take fun classes in university classrooms and even get to visit some of the labs, the vet school and animal science barns.

Summer Conference is held June 24-27, 2026. Registration opens in the spring. More information in future newsletters! Contact the OSU Extension Office for more details about this opportunity.

Summer Opportunities

Looking to earn a little extra cash over the summer? Look no further! Put those leadership skills to work (and bulk up your 4-H Resume) by serving as a Teen Staff member for summer programs hosted by the OSU Extension Service! In the past, Teen Staff have assisted with Lego Camp. This summer, there will be similar opportunities. Be sure to visit the Lake County 4-H Oregon Facebook page to stay up-to-date on Teen Staff opportunities.

4-H Leaders Needed

The Lake County 4-H Program welcomes new volunteer 4-H leaders in all project areas year-round.

However, at the beginning of every 4-H year, we solicit key leaders for project areas that have a strong interest and currently no leader for that project area.

If you would like more information on becoming a volunteer 4-H leader, please contact Abby Walker at abby.walker@oregonstate.edu or 541.947.6054.



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Enhance Your 4-H Experience

These pages are for older 4-H members who may be looking for ways to take on additional leadership roles or participate in out-of-county opportunities like Summer Conference and National 4-H Congress. Some opportunities that take place during the summer allow older 4-H members to grow their leadership skills and get paid! Check out these options to gather ideas about how you want to enhance your 4-H experience.

Junior & Teen Leader

Have you ever considered signing up to be a Junior or Teen Leader? Taking a leadership project is a great way to pass along information you have learned through the 4-H Program to younger youth in your club and community. **Junior Leaders** (grades 7 & up) complete one leadership project per year in addition to helping during club meetings and working with the 4-H Leader. Junior Leader projects from the past have included: hosting a fitting clinic, organizing a community service project, hosting a record book workshop, and even creating photo banners for the county fair! **Teen Leaders** (grades 10-12) take on a more intensive leadership role within their club — leading club meetings, planning activities, and generally coordinating the club with the guidance of your club leader.

If you would like to serve as a Junior or Teen Leader, contact the Extension Office to add the project no later than June 1!

Mini-Grants

Applying for a 4-H mini-grant is a great opportunity to expand your 4-H Experience! These grants are available through the Lake County 4-H Association and applications are due twice yearly, **March 15 and July 15**. You may apply for funds to purchase supplies that benefit your club or the Lake County 4-H Program as a whole! In the past, grants have funded the purchase of community service supplies, club clippers, a club photo printer and start-up supplies for new clubs. Visit our website to find the grant application.

Scholarships

Did you know there are several college or vocational school scholarship opportunities through the Oregon 4-H program? That's right! All those leadership and community service hours (that you have documented in your 4-H Resume) can earn you college cash! A scholarship meeting was recently recorded for any juniors or seniors looking for scholarship money. If you'd like to receive the email recording and included links, please email Abby Walker at abby.walker@oregonstate.edu.



Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)

All 4-H members who completed the YQCA course so they could exhibit at fair will not have to take it again this year. However, any new 4-H members will need to take a YQCA course this year. Abby Walker will be teaching a local course. Keep an eye out for more information to come! If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Abby Walker at 541-947-6054 or via email at abby.walker@oregonstate.edu.



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ANIMAL SCIENCE

EDUCATION 2026

A Monthly Topic of Interest

Meet virtually with Animal Science experts each month to deepen your knowledge!



6 p.m.
on Zoom

The Line Up!

January 16

Topic: Choosing Your Market Animal

February 10

Topic: Horse Psychology

March 2

Topic: Feeding Up Swine

April 8

Topic: Poultry and Turkey Showmanship

May 5

Topic: Rabbit Showmanship

May 21

Topic: Choosing Your Market Poultry and/or Rabbits

June 9

Topic: Dog Showmanship



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