

Trips and Events

The following pages include the major events available to 4-H members. Events range from local to international in their focus.

International Events

IFYE Ambassador A four to five week program for young people ages 15 to 19 to experience living with host families in other countries. Available countries vary from year to year. Departure is in June/July. Application deadline is October 15. For more information, go to the [Missouri State 4-H Web Page](#).

National 4-H Japanese Exchange Program A two-way cultural exchange between American 4-H members and Japanese delegates who are 12 to 19 years old. The exchange begins with a Japanese youth staying with a 4-H family in the U.S. for one month. Later the host 4-H member or other interested 4-H members return the visit to Japan. Arrival/Departure is mid-July. Application deadline for hosting a Japanese delegate is April 1. Application deadline for the outbound program is February 15. For more information, go to the [Missouri State 4-H Web Page](#).

High School 4-H/Japanese Japanese students arrive in August, enroll in local high schools with Junior or Senior status, and depart in mid-June. Families provide home stay and support for the Japanese student. The students provide their own medical insurance and spending money for school and personal expenses. Application deadline is March 1. For more information, go to the [Missouri State 4-H Web Page](#).

National and Interstate Events

American Royal Livestock Show Held annually in Kansas City in mid-November. 4-H members may exhibit in the show in one of the following categories: beef steer, junior heifer show, sheep show, swine show, or horse show. Members may request applications by writing to the American Royal, 1701 American Royal Court, Kansas City, MO 64102, or by calling 816-221-9800.

American Royal Livestock Judging Contest Members of the 3rd place winning team in the Missouri 4-H Livestock Judging Contest represent the state in this contest. All members must be at least 14 years of age as of January 1st of the program year. For more information, go to the [Missouri State 4-H Web Page](#).

Citizenship Washington Focus Designed as a living learning experience for members ages 15-19. Held at the National 4-H Center located in Washington D.C. There is a fee for this trip. For more information, go to the [Missouri State 4-H Web Page](#).

National 4-H Congress A premier 4-H event held in late November in Atlanta, GA. Members must be between 14 and 18 years old on January 1 of the current year. This event requires submission of the [Y2200](#), Special Teen Learning/Recognition Experience. Applications are due February 15. Members will have an interview at the regional level in March. Applications forwarded on to the state will be reviewed and the top 40-45 applicants will be invited to interview during State 4-H Congress in June. The top 30 members are selected to attend National 4-H Congress. There is a fee for this trip. For more information, go to the [Missouri State 4-H Web Page](#).

North Central Regional Leaders Forum An event for volunteers held in early November. Missouri selects a team of volunteer leaders from applications to attend this event. Leaders who attend are charged with returning to Missouri and help plan and present the State Volunteer Forum the following year. The focus of the program is to increase the effectiveness and competencies of volunteers working with 4-H youth audiences, and expand their horizons by providing a training experience. Cost and location vary from year to year. Scholarships may be available for those who wish to apply. Information about this event will be posted in the county newsletter prior to the event. There is a fee for this trip. For more information, go to the [Missouri State 4-H Web Page](#).

State Events

Agri-Business Academy Sponsored by the Missouri Department of Agriculture, this program provides the opportunity for selected high school students to explore the agribusiness resources of Missouri. Members meet leaders in agriculture, government, and education, and view firsthand the many career opportunities available in agriculture. Must be a sophomore and come from a Missouri farm family or be an active member of 4-H. This event is usually held in June.

Kansas City Global Conference Open to members 15 and older, this annual conference provides opportunities for members to explore careers, technology,

environment, and cultural diversity in a global society. Hands-on and interactive sessions involve members in examining issues central to their lives, families, and communities. Members attending the conference for the first time have priority. This event is held in March each year. There is a fee for this event. For more information, go to the [Missouri State 4-H Web Page](#).

Missouri 4-H Youth Forum Available to high school age youths, this three-day workshop takes place in Jefferson City in late June or early July each year. Members must have completed 8th grade or be at least 14 years old by January 1 of the current program year. This workshop has a capacity of 250 delegates. Delegates may attend more than once in order to participate in all three educational tracts: legislative, judicial, and media. Registration information is available in January or February. There is a fee for this event. For more information, go to the [Missouri State 4-H Web Page](#).

Missouri State Fair The state fair is held each August in Sedalia, MO. 4-H exhibits which have received a blue ribbon at the Ozark Empire Fair are eligible to go on to the state fair. 4-H members may show livestock or participate in the dog show, horse show, or contest events. For a list of events and contests held at the state fair, check with your Extension Office.

State 4-H Congress Open to members ages 14 to 19 as of January 1 of the current program year. Designed to provide a quality learning experience, simulate campus living, allow 4-H members from throughout the state to become acquainted with one another, and facilitate identification of the next year's State 4-H Council. Held annually in early June at the University of Missouri in Columbia. Registration deadline is May 1. There is a fee for this event. For more information, go to the [Missouri State 4-H Web Page](#).

State 4-H Council A body of teens who are elected and serve for a one-year term in an advisory capacity. One of their primary roles is to plan and implement the annual State 4-H Congress and State 4-H Teen Conference. Council members also serve in a public relations role at the state and local level, assisting at the Missouri State Fair, State 4-H Contest Days, 4-H Foundation meetings and other events. Comprised of four officers, four state representatives, and 24 regional representatives. Regional representatives go through an interview process and are elected by the delegates from their region attending the State 4-H Congress. For more information, go to the [Missouri State 4-H Web Page](#).

State 4-H Teen Conference Designed to introduce 12 and 13 year old teens to state conferences and trips. The conference is planned and implemented by the Missouri State 4-H Council and the collegiate Mizzou 4-H. Members must be at least 12 years old but not older than 13 years old on January 1 of the current program year. There is a fee for this event. For more information, go to the [Missouri State 4-H Web Page](#).

State Volunteer Forum Designed to provide an opportunity for leaders to develop leadership skills, introduce new 4-H curricula, pilot programs, etc. Volunteers are selected by county 4-H programs to attend the forum. Volunteers will then be expected to assist in conducting local training sessions. Held in March annually. There is a fee for this event. For more information, go to the [Missouri State 4-H Web Page](#).

State Contest Days Two events, one in spring and one in fall, which offer advanced competition for those who have excelled at the county and regional level. Many state winners represent Missouri in national contests within their specific areas. A complete list of state contest events is found at the end of this section and in the Clover. For more information, go to the [Missouri State 4-H Web Page](#).

Regional Events

4-H Camp Regional 4-H camps are held each year in June at Camp Smokey, located at Roaring River State Park in Cassville, Missouri. Two 1-day Clover Kids Camps are held for those members enrolled in the Clover Kids program. Member camp, for those ages 8-12 is four days, and there is a teen camp for older members. There is a fee for this event. For more information, go to the [Newton County 4-H Web Page](#).

Hippology Contest Regional contest held in February. Provides an opportunity for youth enrolled in the Horse project to demonstrate their knowledge of horse and equine related subject matter. A regional team will be selected to compete at the state contest.

Ozark Empire Fair This regional fair is held in Springfield, Missouri during August each year. Exhibits that qualify at the county fair are eligible to be shown at OEF. Members may also show livestock, give demonstrations, and participate in judging events.

Regional Achievement Day This event is held annually in July, in Springfield. Members who earned first place in demonstrations, judging, personal appearance, and public speaking at County Achievement Day are eligible to compete at this event. Members may only take part in one event at the regional level.

Regional Member/Leader Training Two events held annually, one in November on the east side of the region and one in January on the west side of the region. Workshops on various topics of interest are offered at each of the events.

RATT (Regional Action-packed Teen Trip) An annual event for teen members planned by the Regional Teen Council. This is a daylong event that takes place on a Saturday, usually between January & May. Trips are designed for both their educational value and fun. Members must be 4-H age 12 or older to participate. There may be a fee for this event.

County Events

Achievement Day This annual event allows members to show what they have learned through demonstrations, judging, public speaking, and personal appearance. Members may present demonstrations or judge only in those projects in which they are enrolled. All members may participate in public speaking and the personal appearance contest. This event is held annually in late May or early June.

County Fair This annual event is held in July each year at the county fairgrounds. Members may submit articles made in their projects and animals they have raised. The fair is governed by an independent board which sets the rules for exhibiting at the fair. Members and other individuals may enter items in the open division for project areas in which they are not enrolled.

4-H Awards/Recognition Night An annual event held in late October or early November to recognize the accomplishments of 4-H members and leaders. Members who have completed the previous year receive year pins, and those members who excelled at Achievement Day are presented with their awards. Other awards, such as outstanding 4-H member, are presented at this event.

4-H Orientation

4-H Carnival Held in March each year, this is a fundraising event for the County 4-H Council. Each club selects, decorates, and mans a game booth. The 4-H Council supplies the prizes. There is a king and queen contest, and a basket auction at the carnival. Members and clubs can also participate in Share the Fun, which is a talent

show. Winners of Share the Fun are eligible to participate in the Regional Share the Fun, held in conjunction with Regional Achievement Day.