



Kittitas County 4-H FOCUS

Calendar

March 9	4-H Horse Panel Meeting, 5:15 p.m., Armory Room A
March 12	4-H Cat Project Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Heritage Center
March 15	State 4-H Scholarships Due
March 17	Livestock Committee Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Armory Room A
March 21	Beef Weigh-In, Pre-Show, and Judging Contest, 7:00 a.m., Bloom Pavilion
March 31	4-H Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Armory Room A
April 1	Kittitas County 4-H Scholarship Applications due
April 6	1st Horse Judging Contest, 6:00 p.m., Bloom Pavilion
April 9	4-H Cat Project Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Heritage Center
April 11	Bits & Buckles Schooling Show - Bloom Pavilion, 8am – 7pm
April 13	4-H Horse Panel Meeting, 5:15 p.m., Armory Room A
April 21	Livestock Committee Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Armory Room A
April 28	4-H Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Armory Room A
April 30	4-H Horse Certificates due in Extension Office
April 30	4-H Honor Cord Applications due for graduating seniors

Club Business

4-H Council Meeting

A representative from each club needs to attend 4-H Council meetings. Meetings are held the last Tuesday of every month, except August and December. The next meeting is Tuesday, March 31 in Armory Room A at 7:00 p.m. Please join us!

Teen Opportunities

Elementary Agriculture Appreciation Day

Senior 4-H members are needed to serve as group leaders at Elementary Agriculture Appreciation Day. The event will be held over two days: Tuesday, March 31 and Wednesday, April 1 at the Fairgrounds. If you can help one of these days, please contact Mark Crowley by March 6 at: mark.crowley@kccd.net or 509-925-3352 ext. 5

4-H Honor Cords-Applications due April 30

Attention graduating 4-H Seniors! Celebrate your achievements with a 4-H Honor Cord at graduation. These cords recognize your dedication and involvement in 4-H on your special day. Recipients will also receive a complimentary photo session sponsored by Root 'N' Tillie Media.

To apply, complete the [4-H Honor Cords Application](#) by April 30. You must be a graduating high school senior and have been in 4-H for at least 2 years (any 2 years) to apply.

Friends of the Fair Scholarships

Friends of the Fair are offering scholarships to 2026 Kittitas County High School Graduates. Applications available at [Friends of the Kittitas County Fair Grounds Foundation](#).

Washington State 4-H Scholarships

The 2026 WSU/4-H Scholarship Application is open now! Open to all active 12th grade 4-Hers who have completed at least two years of 4-H participation. Applications must be received by March 15. Visit the [State 4-H Scholarship Page](#) for details and requirements.

WSU Kittitas County 4-H Youth Development

Vision Statement:

The WSU Kittitas County 4-H program is a community recognized and supported quality youth development program that helps youth of the county acquire practical hands-on experiences and life skills enabling them to become self-directing, productive, and contributing members of a diverse and changing society.

2026 Fair Theme
“Country Charm From the Farm”

Kittitas County 4-H Scholarships

Kittitas County 4-H Council is sponsoring six scholarships in the amount of \$2000 each:

- **4-H Endowment Trust Fund Scholarship**-Awarded to a graduating senior who is actively involved in the 4-H leadership project.
- **Jeanette K. Burghart 4-H Memorial Scholarship**-Awarded to a graduating senior who has been actively engaged in 4-H Know Your Government (May have been current and/or earlier years.)
- **Barbara Schnebly Shaw A Scholarship**-Awarded to a graduating senior who excelled in demonstrations and/or club leadership.
- **Barbara Schnebly Shaw B Scholarship**-Awarded to a post-secondary student who excelled in demonstrations and/or club leadership.
- **Kittitas County 4-H Leaders Council A Scholarship**-Awarded to a graduating senior who has been actively involved in Kittitas County 4-H at the club and community level.
- **Kittitas County 4-H Leaders Council B Scholarship**-Awarded to a graduating senior who has been actively involved in Kittitas County 4-H at the club and community level.

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Current or former member of Kittitas County 4-H.
- Cumulative high school/college GPA of 2.0 or better.
- Intend to pursue post-secondary education through trade school, 2-year college, or 4-year college.
- Submit a cover letter introducing oneself. Give a brief history of your 4-H experience.
- Submit the Kittitas County 4-H Scholarship General Application form.
- Submit a resume that includes your 4-H involvement.
- Submit two letters of recommendation focusing on your 4-H involvement, leadership qualities, and community service involvement. Should not be from family members or leader(s) who helped with the application process.
- Submit current transcripts-can be unofficial.
- Submit an essay on your 4-H experiences and how they have affected you. Essay should be: Times New Roman, size 12 font, double spaced, and no more than 750 words. Include adequate details of what 4-H has done to prepare you for the future addressing each of the following:
 - Growth in values of 4-H: Head, Heart, Hands, Health
 - Challenges overcome
 - Community service in and out of 4-H
 - Leadership involvement in 4-H
 - Demonstrations

Submit most recent complete 4-H Record Book. Record Books will be reviewed for:

- Completeness
- Appearance/Presentation
- Quality of details
- Submit most recent KYG 4-H Project Record if applicable.

Applications will be submitted [online](#) and are due April 1.

Dog Project Information

Dog Practice Dates

Hello Dog Project! It was so awesome to see some of you at our first contest practice. Here is our forecasted calendar for the rest of this year. Save these dates:

- Thursday, April 30th, All County Dog Contest Practice, 6pm in the Heritage Center at the Fairgrounds
- Thursday, June 25th, Dog Pre-Show in Umtanum & Teanaway Hall at the Fairgrounds
- Thursday, July 30th, All County Dog Contest Practice, 6pm in the Heritage Center at the Fairgrounds
- Sunday, August 16th, AM Agility - Lunch - Fair Contests (Judging, Dow Bowl & Skill-a-thon)

All County Practices will resume on the 1st Thursdays of the month when the Agility Field in Grasslands is open for the season, estimate in March. We will do stations and include Showmanship, Obedience, and possibly Demonstrations (if needed).

4-H Dog Pre-Show

The 4-H Dog Pre-Show is scheduled for June 25 at 4:00 p.m. in the Hunt Memorial Arena and Umtanum Hall at the Fairgrounds/Event Center.

Cat Project Information

4-H Cat Project Meetings

4-H Cat Project Meetings have been scheduled. Meetings begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Heritage Center at the Fairgrounds/Event Center. Upcoming dates are:

March 12
April 9
May 7
July 9

All 4-H Cat Project members are encouraged to attend!

4-H Cat Pre-Show

The 4-H Cat Pre-Show is scheduled for June 11. More details will be in the May FOCUS.





Livestock Project Information

Beef Pre-Show, Weigh-In and Judging Contest

Beef project members should begin to plan for the Beef Weigh-In, Pre-Show, and Judging Contest to be held on Saturday, March 21 in Bloom Pavilion at the Fairgrounds.

7:00-9:00 AM WEIGH AND TAG STEERS

9:15-11:00 AM BEEF JUDGING CONTEST—
Feeder Steers, Heifers, Beef Parts, Oral Reasons

12:00 PM SPRING MARKET CLASSES -
Mini-Beef, Market Steers
(Market classes will start one hour
after the conclusion of the judging
contest)

****SHOWMANSHIP CLASSES WILL
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOW MARKET CLASSES.**

ORDER WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

NOVICE, JUNIOR, INTERMEDIATE, SENIOR

**This is a required event. If you want to show at the Kittitas County Fair, you will need to participate in the Beef Judging Contest and the Showmanship Classes.

**A growth implant and dewormer injection will be offered and available at no charge to the youth at the scale again this year.

**Generators are encouraged. Half of Bloom Pavilion will be open to stall grooming chutes.

**All stalls must be cleaned out prior to leaving the show for the day, with shavings being removed and placed outside in the bedding pit. The bedding pit is located at the south end of the barns, and east of the wash rack. Please check with Superintendents or 4-H Leaders/Grange Leaders/FFA Instructors to be excused from the fairgrounds for the day.

**Exhibitors who have a conflict with the March 21 date are required to write a letter to the Livestock Committee Chair, 901 E 7th Avenue, Suite 2, Ellensburg, WA 98926 asking to be excused from the Beef Pre-Show by March 17th. The letter needs to be written by the 4-H, Grange, or FFA member requesting to be excused, address the reason for not attending, and who will weigh the animal. The Livestock Committee will review these requests. Members must have another exhibitor weigh their steer in their absence.

Livestock Committee Meeting

The next Livestock Committee meeting will be **Tuesday, March 17th at 7:00 p.m. in Armory Room A.** Meeting dates have been set for 2026 - 3rd Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m. with one exception *

April 21
May 19
June 16
August 11 * 2nd Tuesday
September 15
October 20
November 17

Every club with livestock projects needs to have a representative at Livestock Committee meetings.

2026 Livestock Dates

The dates for livestock events have been set at the Kittitas County Fairgrounds:

March 21	Beef Pre-Show
May 30	Sheep Pre-Show
May 30	Goat Pre-Show
June 14	Swine Weigh-In & Clinic

Attendance at Pre Fair Activities

The **Beef Pre-Show, Swine Clinic, Sheep Pre-Show, and Goat Pre-Show** are **required** activities for members to attend to be able to show and sell their Livestock at the Kittitas County Fair. If there is an emergency or problem with attending these events a letter must be written to the Livestock Committee **PRIOR** to the event. The letter needs to address the reason for not attending pre-shows or clinic, who will weigh and show the animal in a feeder class (if applicable), a plan to make up the missed activity and be written by the member requesting the excuse.

Animal Health Record

Members need to bring a copy of the Animal Health Record to be filled out and signed by the producer when purchasing their project animal(s). Animal Health Records are available at the Extension Office or on our website under [Animal Project Add Sheets](#). All species (steers, lambs, goats, and swine) are required to upload a copy of the health record signed by the original producer and information up-to-date when registering for Fair, and must turn in a hard copy at Fair Vet Check.

Kittitas County Quality Assurance Checklist/ YQCA

Kittitas County 4-H is using a quality assurance checklist to encourage, promote and track skills and knowledge as members advance through the livestock program. This checklist is a multi-year document that is kept in record books. It is available at the Extension Office, or on our website under [Animal Project Add Sheets](#). This is in place of the YQCA curriculum. The YQCA training can also be used—contact the Extension Office for more information.



Horse Project Information

2026 HORSE 4-H DATES

April 6	1 st Horse Judging – Bloom Pavilion – 6:00 pm
April 11	Bits & Buckles Schooling Show - Bloom Pavilion 8am – 7pm
April 30	Horse Certificates Due by 5:00 p.m.
May 9	4-H Spring Leader’s Show – Rodeo Arena—8am – 7pm
June 15, 22, 29	Monday Night Riding – Rodeo Arena—7-9 pm
June 27-28	4-H Horse Fair Training Days, Bloom Pavilion 8am-8pm
June 28	2nd Horse Judging, Bloom Pavilion, 8:00 a.m.
July 6, 20, 27	Monday Night Riding – Rodeo Arena 7-9pm
July 17-19	4-H Horse Pre-Show – Bloom Pavilion & Rodeo Arena – 8am – 8pm
August 3	Monday Night Riding – Rodeo Arena 7-9pm
August 7	State Fair Interest form due by 5:00 pm
August 18	Junior Horse Fair: Barn Open for Decorations
August 19	Junior Horse Fair: R.V. Parking Open
August 20-23	Kittitas County Junior Horse Fair – Bloom Pavilion & Rodeo Arena
September 3-7	Kittitas County Fair
October 4	4-H Fall Leader’s Show – Bloom Pavilion – 8am – 8pm

Horse Judging Contest Information

There will be two judging contests held. **Youth enrolled in the Horse Project are required to participate in one county horse judging event to be eligible to compete at the Kittitas County Junior Horse Fair and complete the 4-H year.** For senior, intermediate, and junior members to be eligible to judge on the Kittitas County 4-H State Horse Judging team, they must judge in two county judging events completing oral reasons.

The first 4-H Horse Judging Contest will be held on **Monday, April 6 at 6:00 p.m. in Bloom Pavilion.** The classes are Showmanship, Western Pleasure, and Trail. There will be Oral Reasons and a horse parts worksheet.

The second 4-H Horse Judging Contest will be held **Sunday, June 28, at 8:00 a.m. in the Bloom Pavilion during Horse Training days.** Classes TBD; Oral Reasons.

Bits and Buckles Schooling Show

The Bits and Buckles Open Schooling Show will be held Saturday, April 11 in the Bloom Pavilion at the Kittitas County Fairgrounds. This is a good show to start the year, gain experience, learn something and have FUN. For more information contact Bobbi Broderius at 929-2352.

Horse Certificates Due April 30

A Horse Certificate for each horse being used as a 4-H Horse Project needs to be filed at the Extension Office by 5:00 p.m., April 30 to be eligible to exhibit the animal in the Junior Division of the Kittitas County Fair. **The certificate needs to be signed every year.** For a horse that will be used for the first time the leader or member may pick up a 4-H Horse Certificate at the Extension Office or on our website under [Animal Project Add Sheets](#). This needs to be filled out and brought to the Extension Office to be signed. The member keeps the original and puts it in their record book. If the same horse is used in following years the original needs to come in each year to be signed at the Extension Office. If a horse is leased then a Kittitas County Lease form must be used. A copy of the lease is to be filed with the horse certificate.

4-H Horse Leaders Spring Open Show

The 4-H Horse Leaders Spring Show will be held Saturday, May 9 in the Rodeo Arena. Entry forms will be e-mailed once they are available.



WSU EXTENSION
Kittitas County

Washington State University Extension helps people develop leadership skills and use research-based knowledge to improve their economic status and quality of life.

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“Helping You Put Knowledge to Work”