



Take the **green**
challenge !

2009 Montana 4-H Recreation Lab

March 20-22, 2009 in Forsyth

Registration details will be available in January 2009. The event will be hosted by District 8 and held at the Forsyth elementary and middle schools.

Sign Up to be a Workshop Presenter



Open to teen & adult presenters.

Please complete the workshop proposal form and return your proposal by January 2, 2009
to: Custer County Extension, 1010 Main , Miles City, MT 59301

The theme selected for this coming Rec Lab is: "Take the Green Challenge" (The green refers to both 4-H and the environment.) Keep in mind the participant age range is 13-19 year olds. You can call us at 406-874-3370 if you have any questions about this.

Event details will be available online at www.montana4h.org.

Go to Events ... Montana 4-H Rec Lab.





New 4-H Year Checklist

Many of you have asked for a checklist to remind you of the many tasks to complete that prepare you and your leaders for a successful 4-H year. The 2 attached files contain a New 4-H Year Checklist and Project Code Updates that need to be entered into the youth enrollment program. As always, please call the 4-H Center if you have any comments, questions or suggestions. Thanks for your help in making your county programs run smoothly. Although it often appears simple, it is anything but and we appreciate all that you do.

New EIN Number Update

Thank you to all of you who are trying so hard to be up-to-date in getting charters and EIN's for your clubs. Here is the latest information we have received from Maria Arnold at National 4-H Headquarters about requests for new EIN's. .

Go to "www.irs.gov and type "SS-4 Instructions" in the keyword search. That's where you'll find where to send paper SS-4 forms. MT forms go to Philadelphia – to the address listed.

An SSN is not needed for the paper format. A SSN is required if people use the on-line version of the SS-4 so we don't advise that because we don't think it's wise for 4-H volunteers to ever associate their SSN with their club. That said, I have heard that the SSN is removed once the EIN is assigned. Still, we don't advise this.

It is critical that the GEN 2704 be included on the SS-4 form.
This has been a most confusing process but hopefully it will soon become less stressful.

Contact Us:

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<http://www.montana4h.org>

210 Taylor Hall
Bozeman, MT 59717-3580



Program Assistant Positions at National 4-H Youth Conference Center

Do you know a 4-H'er who has a passion for government, history, political science, working with youth, public speaking, or leadership? If so, encourage them to apply for the position of Program Assistant (PA) at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center! Application deadlines are approaching soon and we want to give 4-H alumni and Collegiate 4-H'ers an opportunity to make a difference during their spring or summer semester. Our Program Assistants will be touching the lives of thousands of high school-aged students from all over the United States while working for our Wonders of Washington (WOW) or Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) programs in Washington, DC.

The WOW program gives young people the chance to explore, develop, and refine the skills necessary to become outstanding citizens and leaders in their home communities. Using the living classroom of Washington, D.C., youth learn about the history of our nation, its various leaders, and how they can put their skills of leadership and citizenship into use when they return home. Throughout the spring semester, WOW Program Assistants receive opportunities for professional development not only through interactions with youth groups, but also through interactions with various departments of National 4-H Council to develop their professional skills.

CWF provides 4-H'ers the opportunity to strengthen their communication, leadership, and other citizenship skills on a national level. Nearly 2,000 young people exchange ideas, practice respect, and form friendships with other youth from diverse backgrounds throughout the summer. Through hands-on activities, simulations, and tours of various monuments and memorials, participants figure out what citizenship means to them and develop action plans to make a difference in their home communities. As a CWF Program Assistant, these 4-H leaders will create, develop, and facilitate curriculum to be used during the 2009 program.

We are looking for individuals with at least a high school diploma (preferably some college experience) and a passion for youth development, hospitality, teaching, history, politics, or leadership. If you know a college student looking for credit towards graduation, National 4-H Council will happily work with the student and the school to make this possible. Listed below are links for information and application materials for both programs. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact:

Molly Young
Freeman Thompson
Director, Youth Opportunities
Coordinator, Youth Opportunities

myoung@4HCenter.org

ftompson@4HCenter.org

301-961-2812

301-961-2917

301-961-2813

Wonders of Washington Program Assistant: Application due December 1, 2008 <http://www.wowwashington.org/programassistant.aspx>

Citizenship Washington Focus Program Assistant: Application due January 27, 2009
<http://www.citizenshipwashingtonfocus.org/programassistant.aspx> <<http://www.citizenshipwashingtonfocus.org/programassistant.aspx>>





It's your Congress...

**START
PLANNING !**

Montana 4-H Congress Planning

January 18-19, 2009 in Helena

Sunday 4:00 pm to Saturday 4:00 pm

The purpose of congress Planning weekend is to bring together those individuals who have a vested interest in the success of Montana 4-H Congress in order to develop events and activities that will provide all participants with a fun and educational state congress experience.

What will Congress look like?

What will the speaker talk about?

What will the theme be?

What will the workshops be?

This opportunity is open to youth and adult members who have attended Montana 4-H Congress **at least one year.**

To apply please complete the congress planning application. Application is available online at www.montana4h.org. Go to Events ... Montana 4-H Congress to download an electronic application form.



Questions... please contact Brett Schomer, bschomer@montana.edu.





International Programs

If you're in 4-H and have always wanted to travel abroad, you can apply to go to Australia, Costa Rica, Finland or Japan in the summer of 2009. You'll travel with other 4-Hers from around the country, accompanied by at least one chaperone, and stay with a host family during the exchange. In addition, you'll get to see some of the sights in the major cities like Sydney, Helsinki and Tokyo. In Costa Rica, you'll visit a rain forest. When you return to Montana, you'll get to continue the exchange by making small presentations to your schools, 4-H clubs or other community organizations that want to hear about your cool adventure.

For volunteers or 4-H staffers over the age of 25, you can apply to chaperone one of the trips listed above. The applications are reviewed on the national level and preference is given to those who have significant experience chaperoning youth and to those with previous International travel experience (not required).

IFYEs

Former 4-H members can travel for up to six months on the IFYE program. Choose the country(s) of your choice and the 4-H Center will work with you and the destination country to put together an exciting exchange. IFYEs can expect to help their host families work on their farms and ranches.

The application deadline for all of the programs listed above is **January 15, 2009**. Applications are available online at www.montana4h.org or by contacting Stephanie Davison at 994-3502 or sdavison@montana.edu

IFYE Reporting

Please complete the IFYE Reporting Request Form (by December 1) to have a 2008 IFYE come to your county in 2009. This year's IFYEs are Christine Haaland (Ireland), Jacob Smith (Scotland and Luxembourg), Amanda Brandt (Switzerland and Finland) and Jeff Sather (Austria).

Healthy Living

Health Rocks! Sites - remember that your initial reports are due by **November 19!**





Please feel free to use this information in your monthly newsletters. We are attempting to make as "newsletter ready" as possible. Please send us any suggestions you may have.

MT 4-H Foundation Update

November 2008

A monthly update for county agents and county representatives

New:

Former 4-H members Eric Larsen and Josie Evenson have been hired as this years 4-H Phonathon coordinators. The MT 4-H Foundation Phonathon will be the first two weeks in February

Upcoming:

- "400 Club" members (those contributing \$400.00 in a given year) will receive a hand-crafted lapel pin (MT Silversmiths) or a 10-year plaque. Look for examples to come!

Reminders:

- Member contribution letters went out the 1st of November. If you need past years' shingles to complete your plaque, let Martha know.
- "40 Ways" brochure information went out recently. Let us know how many of these brochures you would like.
- Greytak Calendars make great Christmas gifts! Let us know if you need more.

4, 40, 400 Challenge!

The MT 4-H Foundation is currently challenging 4-H members, clubs, and counties to meet the 4, 40, 400 County Challenge in honor of the Foundation's 40th anniversary in 2009! The challenge is for 4-H members to donate \$4 each , clubs to donate \$40 each , and for counties to donate \$400 each to the Montana 4-H Foundation. The Foundation exists to support statewide 4-H programs and projects and gives out about \$100,000 a year in support of these statewide efforts.

Some counties have already started in on the challenge in clever ways. A club in the Fort Shaw area of Cascade County, has decided that

members will take an extra exhibit or two (resulting in at least a \$4 premium) to the fair, and raise the \$4 per member that way. Other ideas from agents include selling an extra "county critter" at the fair, or even re-

challenge. The clubs in Madison/Jefferson County were challenged to meet the \$40 club challenge by their county representative. Many of them have already sent in their checks. All clubs meeting the challenge will receive a certificate of completion that can be displayed in historian books or elsewhere. The Foundation's hope is that rather than deplete already limited budgets that members and clubs get creative with fundraising activities and events. Let us know your creative fundraising activities and we may choose to showcase **your club or**



**Celebrate the 40th Anniversary!
Meet the challenge!**

sell an animal with proceeds going towards the

People Partner Grants

We have included an attachment explaining People Partner Grants. We hope that you will share those with your clubs, and encourage them to apply for the grant. People Partner Grants emphasis the partnership between the club and the community members or

other groups. It is critical that the applicants communicate with the community partners before submitting an application. People Partner Grants are a great way to promote community service, develop or strengthen partnerships for 4-H and make your community a better

place to live. Please encourage all clubs to apply. Remember, the deadline to submit applications is February 1st. However, if we receive the application prior to January 10th, we will give suggestions to improve the application. Please submit your applications on time!



Citizenship.....

Citizenship Seminar

Remember that the deadline for Citizenship Seminar “Return” delegate applications is December 1. This is a great opportunity for those who have been to the event in the past to help plan Citizenship Seminar 2009 and to mentor younger 4-H members as they learn the legislative process. Send your completed applications to Stephanie Davison. The deadline for **new** Citizenship Seminar delegates is February 1, 2009. Contact your county agent for more information.

Citizenship Washington Focus

Application deadline for delegates and chaperones is February 1, 2009. Application materials are available on the website at www.montana4h.org.

Girls for a Change

Mark your calendars for the 2009 day-long conference in Bozeman , Saturday, February 28. This year's theme is The Courage to Climb and Keynote Speaker, Dr. Luanne Freer, will inspire girls as she talks about the volunteer medical clinic she set up at the base of Mt. Everest. Workshops will focus on giving back to your world (service), protecting your world (environment) , understanding your world (culture), caring for yourself in your world (self care) and expression in your world (art, crafts). The registration fee is \$15.00.

Kids Voting

If you are interested in learning more about implementing this citizenship program in your county, please contact Stephanie Davison at 994-3502.

The programs of the MSU Extension Service are available to all people regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. Issued in furtherance of cooperative extension work in agriculture and home economics, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Douglas L. Steele, Vice Provost and Director, Extension Service, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717.