



Upcoming Events

March

- 1 Deadline to let County Office know if doing Livestock Judging (before noon)
2 4-H Mid-South Food Pantry Competition
9 4-H @ MSU Basketball Game
State 4-H Livestock Judging Contest (MSU)
11-15 Ignite Conference (Washington DC)
15-16 Mississippi 4-H Volunteer Leaders Conference (MSU)
28 Deadline to let County Office know if doing Hippology, Horse Judging, Horse Public Speaking, Horse Individual Demo and Horse Team Demo (\$10 entry fee per person)
29 Extension Office closed for Good Friday/Spring Holiday



April

- 1 Registration open for Poultry Chain (closes June 15)
4 Deadline to let County Office know if doing Horse Bowl (\$10 entry fee per person)
5 Deadline to let County Office know if doing Dairy Judging
5-6 4-H Horse Contests (Hippology; Judging; Communication) (Starkville)
6 State Final Contest for The American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program "A Constitutional Speech Contest"
8 Solar Eclipse
12 Dairy Judging Contest (MSU)
19 4-H Wildlife Art & Photography Contest Entries Due
13 4-H Horse Bowl (Starkville)



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4-H CLUB NEWS



LUCKY 13 4-H CLUB



In January the club enjoyed an informative presentation by Elizabeth Englebretson, MSU Coastal Research and Extension, on pollution prevention and clean programs. This generated some great fundraising and community service ideas for the club.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, February 29, at 5:30p at the Extension office. Mrs. Connie Darden will be presenting on creating individual record books! If you/ your 4Her have made a record book in previous years please bring it to share.

We will also be making dog pull toys and market bags from old t-shirts donated by Ms. Shirley Wiltshire to sell as a fundraiser at the March Barnyard Marketplace, which will be Saturday, March 9, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Additionally, we will be selling hot and cold drinks in reusable drink cups, bottles, and jars. Bring your own reusable container and receive \$1 off your drink purchase.

- April Grecho

PEARL RIVER COUNTY JR. MASTER GARDENERS

The 4-H Jr. Master Gardeners are excited about SPRING!! We will be busy for the next few months growing our own plants for the Poplarville City Park Pollinator Gardens and 4-H Jr. Master Gardeners Plant Sales. Over 1000 seeds were started this month. Now off to the greenhouse to germinate and sprout. Once the plants are large enough the Jr. Master Gardeners will transplant to larger containers. Meanwhile, we will continue our Art in the Park project and start sprucing up the gardens. The schedule is to the right if you would like to come join us at the park!!! Call Roxann Gort 504-234-3579 for more details...

Phyllis Goodwin and I (Roxann Gort) would love to have you join us!!

- Roxann Gort and Phyllis Goodwin



Pearl River County Jr. Master Gardeners

At Pearl River County Extension Office, 204 Julia Street, Poplarville:

February 3, 2024 10:00 a.m.-Noon Paint Birdhouses	February 17, 2024 10:00 a.m.-Noon Seed Start
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At Poplarville City Park, 300 W. McClendon Street, Poplarville, MS (for GPS)

February 24, 2024
9:00-11:00 a.m.
Wildflower Bed Maintenance

March 16, 2024
9:00-11:00 a.m.
Place Art in Gardens
Raised Bed Maintenance

March 30, 2024
9:00-11:00 a.m.
Paint picnic tables
and stencils

April 20, 2024
9:00-11:00 a.m.
Add Garden Plants
Garden Maintenance

April 27, 2024
9:00 a.m.-Noon
Set-up starts at 8:30 prompt
Symposium in the Park
4-H Jr. Master Gardener
Plant Sale

Contact Roxann Gort
at 504-234-3579
to RSVP





National Shooting Sports Quiz Bowl Correction

There were some calculation errors in the scores for the National Shooting Sports Quiz Bowl. Instead of being 10th overall in the Junior Division, **Mavrick Smith** was **7th overall!** He was the **Junior South Division Reserve Champion!** Congratulations, Mavrick on a job well done!

Stock Show Pro

The results are in, and Pearl River County 4-H'ers did a great job in Stock Show Pro competitions. In Junior Ad Design **Ethan Shook** won 1st place, and **Haven Simon** won 2nd. In Junior Essay **Haven Simon** won 1st place, **Kayley Herrin** 2nd place and **Ella Crisp** 3rd place. **Haven Simon** won 1st place in Junior Sales Pitch. **Ethan Shook** won 3rd place in Junior Photography. The Overall Junior Stock Show Pro was **Haven Simon**. **Kaci Ladner** won 2nd place in Senior Sales Pitch. Congratulations to all of you! We're proud of you!

Dixie National Jr. Round-Up Livestock Shows

Pearl River County 4-Hers did a wonderful job showing their animals in the Dixie National Jr. Round-Up Livestock Shows! **Kinley Baudoin** placed in the top 5 in her age division of Dairy Showmanship. **Carlee Carnes** exhibited the Reserve Champion Red Brahman Heifer. **Maddie Haden** and **Nora Haden** placed in the top 10 in Dairy Showmanship in their age divisions. **Kayley Herrin** placed 3rd in Dairy Showmanship in her age division. **Kaci Ladner** showed the Division 1 Champion Market Hair Sheep, Division 1 Champion MS Bred Market Hair Sheep, Champion MS Bred Chester White Hog, Division 3 Champion Breeding Hair Ewe, Division 3 Champion MS Bred Breeding Hair Ewe and Champion Showman in her age group in the Market Hog Show. **Haven Simon** exhibited the Champion Commercial Dairy Cow and won 1st place in his age division in Dairy Showmanship. **Saylem Simon** showed the Reserve Champion Commercial Dairy Heifer and was in the top 10 in Dairy Showmanship for her age division. We're proud of the job they did representing Pearl River County!

Look for Pearl River County 4-H on Facebook!
Like our pages to keep up with upcoming programs.





4-H Cloverbuds Fun Day (5-7 Year Olds as of January 1, 2024)



Cloverbuds (ages 5-7 as of January 1), come and learn about 4-H projects! 4-H Cloverbuds Fun Day will be held on **Saturday, March 23, 2024, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the Extension Auditorium**, located at 204 Julia Street in Poplarville. You will get the chance to complete several hands-on activities that relate to 4-H projects, including making an Easter egg rocket! Come have fun with us! Call the Pearl River County Extension Service Office at 601-403-2280 by **Friday, March 15**, to let us know if you plan to attend. This will help us better prepare.

Livestock Information



4-H Poultry Chain

You can increase your knowledge of poultry management practices and life skills in the 4-H Poultry Chain. You have the opportunity to raise birds to sexual maturity while keeping a record of their progress. At the end of the project you will choose your top 3 birds to compete at the Mississippi State Fair in the poultry show. If you are a Cloverbud (ages 5-7 as of January 1, 2024) you will be able to compete on a county level. 4-H'ers ages 8-18 will be able to compete on the county and state level. You can only show one breed (females only) and must order at least 6 chicks (It is recommended that you order 20). There are 2 categories for chicks: Meat Category and Layer Category (call the office for a list of breeds). You must order your chicks from a NPIP-certified hatchery or a commercial operation that is supplied by an NPIP hatchery. Do NOT order from a NPIP-backyard flock. Now is the time to order your chicks to be delivered the week of May 19-25, 2024. You will need to register between April 1 and June 15 by calling the county office. There is an award for the Cutest Coop, for showmanship and for the show. Call the Pearl River County Extension Service Office at 601-403-2280 for more information.



Mississippi 4-H Wildlife Art & Photography Contests



The Mississippi 4-H Wildlife Art and Photography Contest is one opportunity to show off your talent or skill! The Art categories are Pastels/Charcoal/Graphite/Colored Pencil (Abstract or Realistic), Oil/Acrylic/Watercolor (Abstract or Realistic), Pen/Ink/Markers/Crayon (Abstract or Realistic), Cartoon, Sculpture/3-D and Mixed, Altered Media. Photography categories are Action, Non-Action and Human Interest (Digital only). Photographs must be 5"x7" format in sleeve. Age divisions are 8-13 years old and 14-18 years old (as of January 1, 2024). Entries are due in the Pearl River County Extension Service Office by **Friday, April 19, 2024**. The top 5 entries in each category will go on to be judged at the district level, top 5 there go on to Region level, top 5 there go on to State Level, and the top 5 in the state will go on to be displayed at the MS Wildlife Expo in Jackson in late July/Early August. Ribbons, rosettes and other prizes will be given on the State level. Call the Pearl River County 4-H Extension Service Office at 601-403-2280 for more details.

Staying Safe in the Sun

Because the days are getting longer, the temperatures are getting warmer and people are wanting to spend more time outdoors, let's talk about staying safe in the sun! How do you know if you have too much exposure to the sun? If you have a fairer complexion it can increase your risk, but excessive ultraviolet light can cause problems in all skin types, depending on the degree of exposure. Generally if the sun causes any redness or discomfort, then you have too much exposure. Some medications may cause problems with the effects of sunlight. Check with your doctor and pharmacist.

To protect yourself from excessive ultraviolet rays, follow these guidelines:

- Use sunscreen lotions and creams with skin protection factors (SPF) of 30. Follow the directions for the highest level of protection. You will need to reapply more often to your nose, feet, earlobes and bald spots. If you use sports formulas they will last longer, even through heavy perspiration. Replace lotions and creams every year and write the date of purchase on the container.
- Try not to be in the sun between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. as much as possible
- You can wear a hat and tightly woven clothing to shield covered body areas from exposure. If you wear a broad-rimmed hat (3- to 4-inch brim) it will protect your face and neck.
- Look for sunglasses that block most UVA and UVB light.

By following these tips you will almost totally prevent the ill effects of the sun. It's well worth the effort to take care of yourself now. In the long run you can prevent skin cancer, cataracts, premature aging, burns, lower immunity to illness and macular degeneration (a leading cause of blindness in adults).

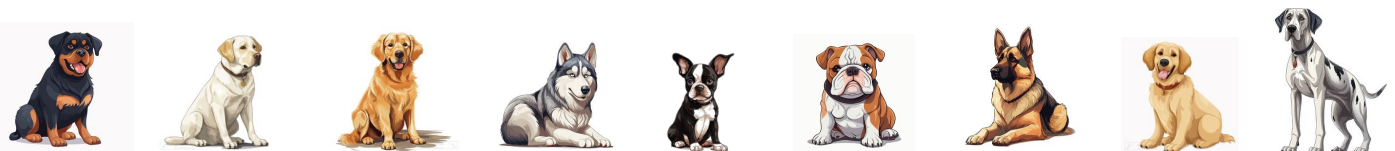
Health is another of the many 4-H projects from which you can choose. For more information contact the Pearl River County Extension Service Office at 601-403-2280.



AKC Family Dog Program

The American Kennel Club (AKC) is partnering with Mississippi 4-H to offer a family dog program. AKC Family Dog is a comprehensive good manners program for all dogs, purebred or mixed breed. When dogs are doing activities they enjoy with people, they become well-socialized and develop a lifelong bond with their owners.

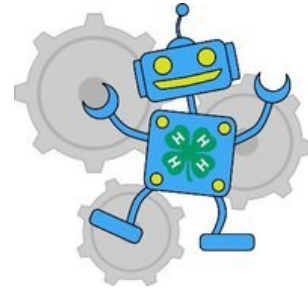
The programs teach family members how to best communicate with their dogs. It starts with basic skills, such as sit, down and come and builds on these skills as the dogs move from one activity to the next. The result is a dog that the owner can take into the community. Stay tuned for more information.



Robotics

4-H Robotics is gearing up for some exciting activities! Here's the schedule of things to come:

March 9—4-H @ MSU Basketball Game
 March 11-15—Ignite Conference in Washington D.C.
 April 8—Solar Eclipse (get your glasses)
 May 29-31—4-H Club Congress
 June 10-14—Camp Explore
 June 18-20—Earth Camp
 June 25—4-H STEAM Day



Solar Eclipse

Are you ready for the solar eclipse on April 8? Do you need glasses? Glasses can be ordered from MSU through our office. The cost is \$1.00 each. Lessons from Stormin' Bob Swanson, the Singing Weather Man, will be available soon. To order glasses or if you are interested in these lessons, call the Pearl River County Extension Service Office at 601-403-2280.

Call the Pearl River County Extension Service Office at 601-403-2280 if you have questions about any of the above activities.



Talk Your Way to College

Do you think you can talk your way to college? Could you use extra money to help with college expenses? The American Legion Department of Mississippi is giving students in grades 9-12 an opportunity to earn scholarships of up to \$25,000 through a constitutional speech contest. Go to www.legion.org/oratorical for more details.



4-H Newsletter Online



If you would like, you can view the newsletter online at www.msucare.com. At the top of the page, put the cursor on "Offices" and click "County Extension Offices". Then click "Pearl River" and then click "County 4-H". Click the newsletter link, and the newsletter will open.

4-H Mid-South Food Pantry Competition



The 4-H Mid-South Food Pantry Competition will be held on **Saturday, March 2, 2024**. This is your opportunity to compete in a food challenge at the Mid-South Farm and Gin Show to show your knowledge and skills relating to preparing a healthy meal with items commonly found in a local food pantry. Limited food waste, food efficiency and healthiness of a meal will be emphasized in this contest. Are you interested? If so, grab a friend or up to three friends to team with you for this contest! Your team will create a recipe and dish using provided mystery ingredients and pantry items. These will be items that are commonly found in a food pantry. You will have access to a pantry of additional ingredients which should be combined with the provided ingredients to make an original recipe and dish at the contest. For more information contact the Pearl River County Extension Service Office at 601-403-2280.



Club Meetings



PRC 4-H Livestock Assoc.
Toni Ladner (601-270-9288)

Call Ms. Toni for more information.

Extension Auditorium

Blazin' Saddles 4-H Club
Brandi Kirkland (601-303-0451)

Tuesday, March 12 @ 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 26 @ 6:00 p.m.

Fairgrounds Arena
Fairgrounds Arena

Junior Master Gardeners
Roxann Gort (504-234-3579)

Call Mrs. Roxann for more information.

295 Buck Kirkland Road
Poplarville, MS

Lucky 13 4-H Club
April Grecho (919-280-7411)

Thursday, April 25 @ 5:30 p.m.
We will be having a booth at the March 9 Barnyard Marketplace.

Extension Auditorium

Alex Shook
Extension Agent Ag/4-H
Pearl River County
204 Julia Street
Poplarville, MS 39470
601-403-2280