One of the best ways to promote youth leadership in your county 4-H program is to help youth widen their network. Regional and statewide activities are the best way to motivate youth to experience new things and give them the confidence to apply their strengths in their own community. Adults need to encourage youth to participate and see these opportunities as a priority.

**FALL LEADERSHIP TRAINING**

Focus on building individual leadership skills and building relationships with 4-H peers. Youth 14+

Fall Leadership Training is the annual leadership development retreat for Montana 4-H Ambassadors and Teen Leaders. The event is planned, implemented, and evaluated by the State Ambassador Officer Team. Youth leave the weekend prepared and excited to take the knowledge and skills they gain and apply them in their counties. It is also a great place to have youth leaders exchange ideas and create a statewide network of resources. Fall Training takes place each year over MEA weekend, the third Thursday/Friday in October.

**LEADERSHIP ACADEMY**

Monthly Online Leadership Workshops One Sunday a month November - March via Zoom.

The leadership academy is a network of Montana 4-H members interested in exploring and developing their own leadership skills while serving their county 4-H program in new ways.

Each month the officer team present a workshop topic that they have found to be important as they have grown their own leadership abilities. This workshop can be paired with a local county leadership meeting to work on county projects that serve the local 4-H program and community.

One workshop left for this year, March 5 @ 3:00 PM.

**4-H REC (RECREATION) LAB**

Hosted by District 4 Counties in Culbertson March 17-19, 2023. Youth 13+ as of October 1. Registration deadline is 2/22 for $100 and 3/1 for $150.

Rec Lab stands for Recreation Lab and means that everything is hands-on and fun! A 4-H member favorite providing an opportunity for youth and adults to enhance their leadership, communication, and team building skills in an action-packed and interactive setting.

Programming provides participants with tips and tricks for being a better club, camp, and community leader.

Is ideal for younger senior members to attend as a first-time state event. It allows them to form relationships with 4-H peers from across the state, broaden their skills, and widen their network.

**4-H CONGRESS**

MSU Bozeman Tuesday July 11 - Friday July 14. Youth 13+ and chaperones certified volunteers 21+

Montana 4-H Congress provides youth from across the state an opportunity to come together on the Montana State University campus in Bozeman for four days and participate in an event like no other. Congress offers both youth and adults a venue in which to learn, be challenged, and most of all, have a great time with their peers.

Educational Workshops Taught by MSU Faculty and Staff / Competitive Events/ National Speakers / Fun Social Activities

Registration opens May 1  / Registration Deadline is June 15
Pre-Congress and Officer Selection Sunday July 9 - Tuesday 11
State Contests Wednesday July 12

**YOUTH STATE AWARDS**

Earn a trip to represent Montana at National 4-H Congress in Atlanta, GA. Application Deadline is May 1 each year.

Members apply in a project area they have mastered and "gone above and beyond" regular project expectations.

Communication, Goals/Learning, Leadership and Service are the 4 categories in the application process.

**INFORMATION ABOUT THESE OPPORTUNITIES AND MORE.**

Scan this QR code to reach montana.edu/4h program page with links to each of these opportunities and many more.

INQUIRE WITH YOUR MSU COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE FOR SPECIFIC INFORMATION ABOUT EACH OF THESE EVENTS OR OPPORTUNITIES. THERE MAY BE COUNTY SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINES.

**SPARK DOING / GROW DISCOVERY AT MONTANA.EDU/4H**
YOUTH LEADERSHIP RESOURCE FOLDER

- Montana Leadership curriculum books: Learning To Lead and Leading to Learn
- Michigan State University 4-H Leadership Book
- Florida State University: Unlock Your Leadership Potential
- Plan of Action Lesson
- Plan of Action Worksheet
- MORE

You can download any of the resources and use to promote youth leadership in your own 4-H work.

MONTANA.EDU/4H RESOURCES

Visit montana.edu/4h/programs to access information on Montana 4-H youth Leadership events and opportunities.

- Youth Leadership Page
- Statewide Events
- National Events
- Youth Awards

SPARK DOING / GROW DISCOVERY AT MONTANA.EDU/4H