



Congratulations to Hamilton County's 4-H Art Poster Contest Regional Winners!

Two posters from Hamilton County won first place in the eastern region and are now in the state contest! See all of the regional winners at the [website of the UT Extension Eastern Region](#). Stay tuned for updates on this contest. . .



4-H IS GOOD FOR YOUR...



Digital poster by Alivia Hanks, Soddy Elementary School

March is Extension Month!

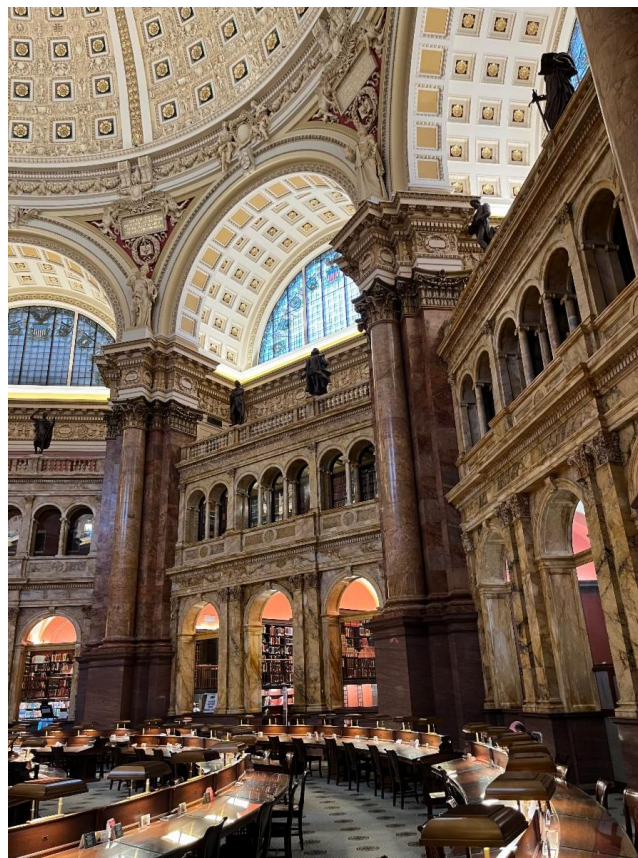


What is Extension? Extension is an outreach branch of the University of Tennessee and Tennessee State University, providing research-based information and education programs to the citizens of Tennessee. There is an Extension office in all 95 counties in

Tennessee! Programs include 4-H for grades 4th-12th, Agriculture and Natural Resources (Horticulture, Animal Science), and Family and Consumer Sciences (Nutrition, Wellness, Financial Literacy). The UT/TSU Extension Hamilton County Office is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Find out more about Extension at [the Extension website](#)

Get Involved in a 4-H Competition this Month!

March Extension Month Photo Contest Entries due by March 28



"Library of Congress" - 2024 Contest entry and 1st place in "Places" category
by Darah Moreland

Enter the Extension Month Photo Contest by sending in your best photos to the Extension Office **by March 28!** Both youth and adult competitions are available. Find out how to enter this contest (**entries must follow contest rules**) at the [Extension Office website](#).

Photo Contest Rules

2025 4-H Piggy Bank Pageant Contest

Entries due by March 31

Turn in a photo of the piggy bank you create at a March 4-H club meeting or to the Extension office **by March 31** to enter this fun contest! Use items you have at home and be sure you can put money in and take it out without damaging the bank. Size limit is 12" x 12" x 12". Email photos to HamiltonCounty4H@tennessee.edu to enter this contest! The contest includes separate categories for youth in Pre-K through 12th grade.



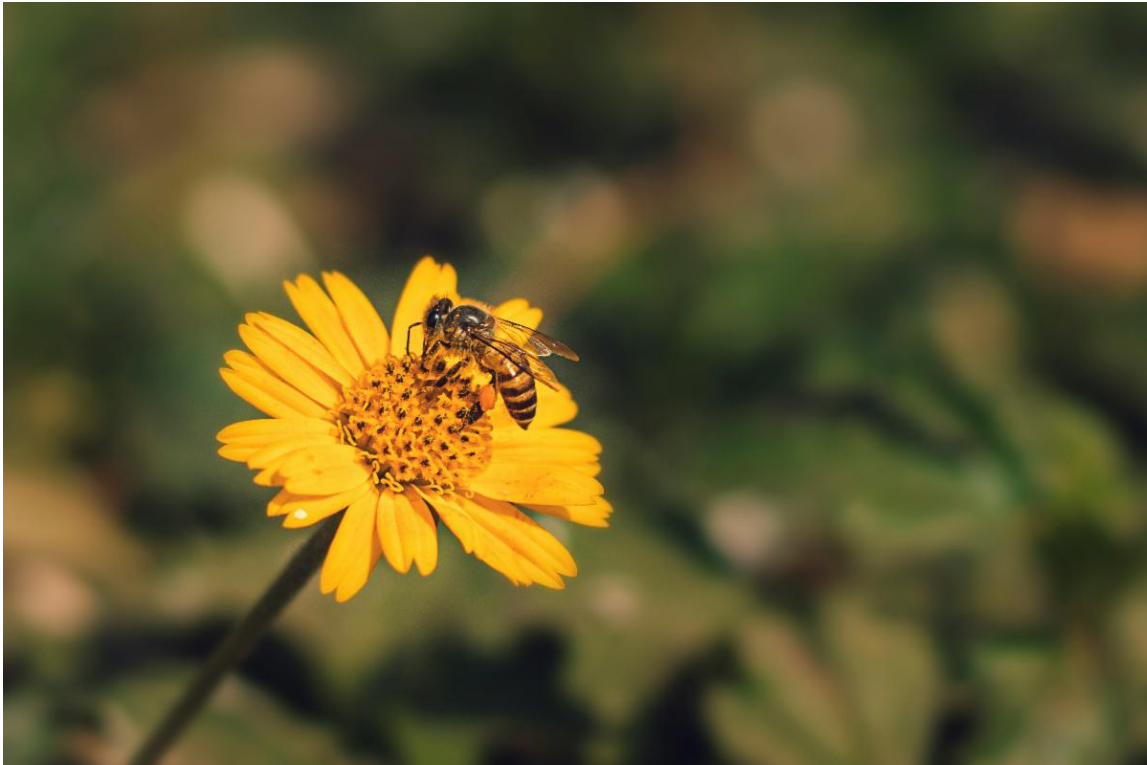
2024 Hamilton County 6th-8th grade Piggy Bank Pageant winning bank by
Liam Anderson, 4-H Archery club

**Piggy Bank Pageant
Guidelines**

**County 4-H Demonstration &
Interactive Exhibit Contest -
RSVP by March 31!**

The Hamilton County 4-H Countywide Demonstration Contest for grades 4th and 5th, and the Interactive Exhibits Contest for grades 6th-8th, will take place Friday, April 4 at Chattanooga State Community College in the Health Science Center. 4th and 5th grade students who won first place in their classroom or club demonstration contests, as well as all Hamilton County 6th-8th grade students who created an interactive exhibit this year, are welcome to participate. Let us know you will be at this contest **by March 31** - call the Extension Office at 423-209-8560 or email HamiltonCounty4H@tennessee.edu.

4-H Honeybee Essay Contest Entries due by March 15



Enter the Beekeeping Essay Contest! All information on the Honey Bee Essay Contest is found at <https://tiny.utk.edu/BeeEssay>.

All essays are to be submitted to beeessay@utk.edu. The **submission deadline is March 15**.

The Beekeeping Essay Contest allows 4-H'ers to use their writing and research skills in developing an essay on a beekeeping-related topic. Cash awards are available to winners on the national and state level.

2025 Topic: The Importance of Youth in Beekeeping: How 4-H Members Can Make a Difference!

**Honeybee Essay Contest
Info**

Sign Up for a 4-H Camp or Conference Today!

4-H offers camp/conference opportunities for juniors (grades 4th and 5th), junior high/middle school (grades 6th through 8th), and senior high (grades 9th through 12th). Registration is open now. [Check out the Hamilton County Extension Office's 4-H camp page for more information](#) or call the Extension Office 423-209-8560.

Camp/Conference Info Page

4-H Junior Camp

**June 9-13 at Clyde Austin 4-H Center
Grades 4th - 6th**

Registration Open Through May 22, or until full

4-H Junior Camp is June 9-13, 2025 at [Clyde Austin 4-H Center](#) in Greeneville, TN! Grades 4th through 6th as of 1/1/2025 can attend this week of fun and learning. **Registration is open through May 22 or until full** (space is limited). Online registration and fee payment is at tiny.utk.edu/4HJrCamp.

Registration fee is \$400 - payable **online** or at the Extension Office by cash, money order, credit card, or check payable to "University of Tennessee." **Scholarships are available.** Transportation to and from camp, as well as lodging, food, and most activities, are covered by the registration fee.

Activities at camp include swimming (swim lessons available), waterslide, fishing (and fishing tournament), arts & crafts, archery and rifle ranges, wildlife, nature walks, tie dyeing or airbrushing t-shirts, Ga Ga ball, basketball, kickball, canoeing, kayaking, and more. Campers stay in air-conditioned lodges and eat great home-cooked meals in the air-conditioned dining hall.



Hamilton County's 2024 Junior Camp group at Clyde Austin 4-H center in Greeneville, Tennessee. Camp lodges are shown in the background.

**Get Junior Camp
Information**

4-H Junior High Academic Conference

June 10-13 at UTK

Grades 6th - 8th

**Applications due to the Extension Office by
March 28**



4-H members in grades 6th through 8th (as of 1/1/25) can apply for the 4-H Academic Conference, to be held at UTK June 10-13, 2025. Youth who are chosen as delegates for this Conference will receive extensive, hands-on training in project areas under the supervision of university scientists and specialists at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. They will stay on campus in the UTK dorms with other 4-H youth from across the state and will be chaperoned by adult 4-H volunteer leaders. The application process includes a summary (**on a Section A form**) of the youth's activities for the past year in a particular project area.

Available project areas are Beef, Citizenship, Communication/Public

Speaking, Companion Animals, Computers & Technology, Consumer Education, Creative Arts and Design, Dairy Cattle, Entrepreneurship, Food Science/Dairy Foods, Forestry/Wildlife/Fisheries, Goat, Horticulture/Gardening, Horse, Nutrition/Health/Fitness, Outdoor Recreation/Shooting Sports, Poultry, Sheep, Swine, Veterinary Science.

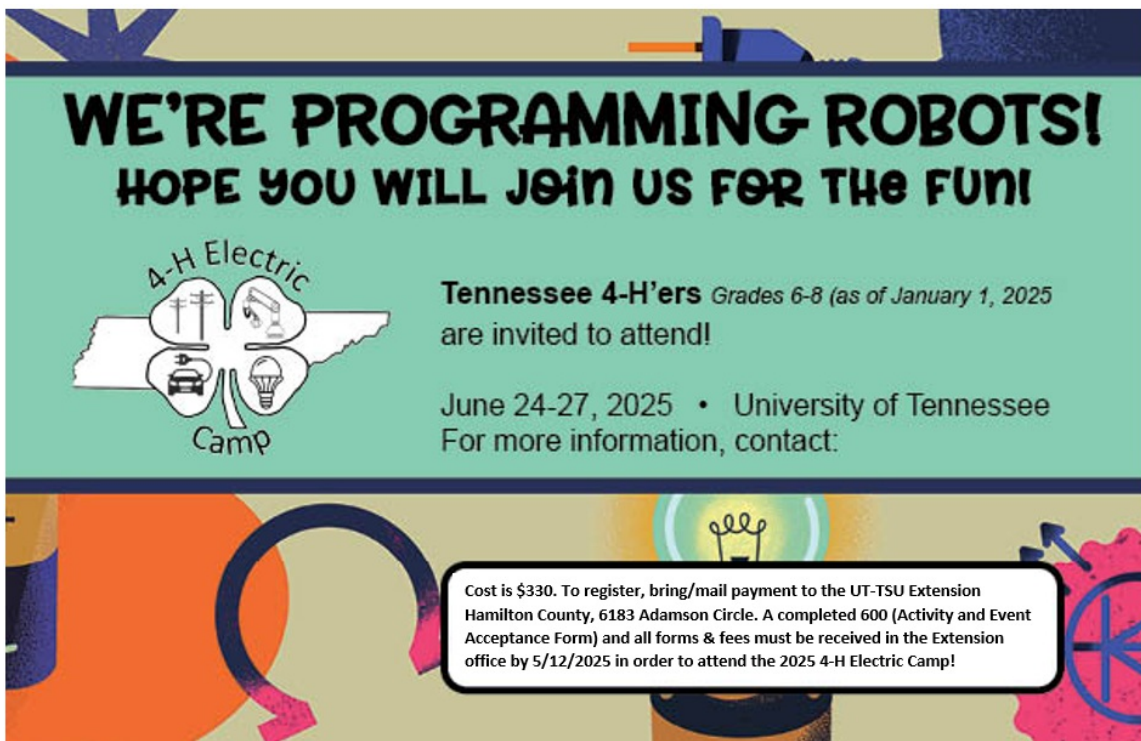
Applications and completed Section As are due by March 28 to the Extension Office. Contact the Extension Office with questions, or for assistance in filling out the Section A - 423-209-8560 or HamiltonCounty4H@tennessee.edu

Get Academic Conference Info & Application Form

4-H Electric Camp

**June 24-27 at UTK
Grades 6th - 8th**

Application deadline is May 12 (or when full - space is limited)



**WE'RE PROGRAMMING ROBOTS!
HOPE YOU WILL JOIN US FOR THE FUN!**

4-H Electric Camp

Tennessee 4-H'ers *Grades 6-8 (as of January 1, 2025)* are invited to attend!

June 24-27, 2025 • University of Tennessee
For more information, contact:

Cost is \$330. To register, bring/mail payment to the UT-TSU Extension Hamilton County, 6183 Adamson Circle. A completed 600 (Activity and Event Acceptance Form) and all forms & fees must be received in the Extension office by 5/12/2025 in order to attend the 2025 4-H Electric Camp!

4-H Electric Camp is a STEM camp for middle school age students! A fun-filled, rewarding adventure in electricity. You will explore the world of energy, electricity, energy conservation, electrical safety, and other basic sciences in fun-filled, “hands-on” learning activities.

You will work with electrical specialists from across the state in

learning centers. Each learning center will consist of hands-on activities to learn by doing. You will also have the chance to meet other 4-H'ers from across Tennessee and explore careers in energy, electricity, and basic sciences. It's an electrifying experience!

Cost is \$330. To register for 4-H Electric Camp, turn in 1) \$330 check (payable to University of Tennessee) or pay by credit card at the Extension Office, 2) **4-H enrollment form with t-shirt size** (Note that only adult shirt sizes are available), and 3) completed **600A Activity and Event Acceptance form** to the UT-TSU Extension Hamilton County office by May 12, 2025.

Electric Camp Info

4-H Fashion/Design Conference

June 3-5 at Edgewater Hotel in Gatlinburg
Grades 6th - 12th

Application deadline is March 27



Fashion & Design

Eastern Region 4-H Conference

\$250

June 3rd-5th, 2025

Edgewater Hotel - Gatlinburg, TN

6th-12th Grade

(must have completed 6th grade)

This conference will be held June 3-5, Edgewater Hotel, Gatlinburg, Tennessee. The cost is \$250. The conference is open to 6th – 12th graders. There will be a sewing project, design workshops, offsite adventure at Dollywood, a decade dance party and more. Deadline to turn in payment and registration is March 27th. This conference is limited to 100 youth from the region.

**Fashion & Design
Info**

4-H Junior High Camp
**July 7-11 at Clyde Austin 4-H Center in
Greeneville**
Grades 6th - 8th
Application deadline is June 16



Junior High Camp for grades 6th - 8th is a lot of fun. Don't miss the second annual Slime Wars at this camp! Junior high camp includes choosing activities and having a great time with friends old and new. Some of the activities to choose from at this year's junior high camp will include seeing vintage autos at the Greeneville City Car Garage, paddling down the Nolichucky River, visiting Brights Zoo, and racing through the treeline at the Bays Mountain Ropes Course and Zipline!

Cost is \$400, payable online at the [2025 Junior High 4-H Camp payment site](#) or at the Extension Office. More registration information is available at the Extension Office [website](#).

Jr High Camp Info

4-H Quilt Camp
**June 24-26 Clyde Austin 4-H Camp in
Greeneville, TN**
Grades 6th - 12th
Application deadline is April 25



June 24-26 at Clyde Austin 4-H Center in Greeneville, TN. Grades 6th through 12th. Must be able to sew a 1/4" seam allowance with accuracy and use a sewing machine independently. This camp is limited to 20 participants, so don't delay in sending in your application! All applications must be sent by April 25 - see application for details and address to send application. [Download the application](#). Cost is \$250.

Eastern Region 4-H All Stars Conference



**April 11-13 at Clyde Austin 4-H Center
Grades 9th-12th
[Application Deadline is March 24!](#)**

April 11-13 at Clyde Austin 4-H Center in Greeneville, TN. The

theme is game shows. This conference is open to all 9th – 12th graders (you do not have to be an All Star to attend). Cost is \$165. If you have never attended an All Star Conference, the first four Hamilton County first time attendees registered will get \$50 off the registration fee. **Registration forms and fees are due to the Extension Office by March 24.** Go the website for more information. <https://eastern.tennessee.edu/eastern-region-4-h-allstar/>

**All-Star Conference
brochure**

Join 4-H!

Hamilton County youth in grades 4th through 12th can participate in 4-H! Join 4-H at any time - there is no cost to join. To join, complete **the online 4-H enrollment form**. Then, come to a 4-H meeting this month!

Join 4-H!

What's Going on with 4-H Clubs in March?

**4-H Honor Club and Citizenship
Club meets March 25 at 5:00
(change of meeting date)**



This club for grades 5th - 12th is open to all 4-H club members - we will work with you to get the points necessary to join the 4-H Honor Club. The Honor Club and Citizenship Club meet Tuesday, March 25 (this is a change of meeting date) at 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. on the 3rd floor of the Extension Office. Questions? Call the office 423-209-8560.

**4-H Gardening Club meets
March 31 at 4:30**



The 4-H Gardening Club will plant spring vegetables (carrots!) in the Club's raised bed at this meeting. Club members will also get to try out the Clover Bowl quiz machines. Youth in Hamilton County in grades 4th-8th are welcome to participate in this club, and there is no cost. New members are welcome at every meeting. Meetings are held 4:30-6:00 p.m. at the Extension Office. Call the office with any questions 423-209-8560 or [email 4-H Agent Maria Sabin](mailto:4-H Agent Maria Sabin).

4-H Mane Attraction Horse Club meets April 7 at 6:30



The 4-H Mane Attraction Horse Club meets on the first Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Saddle Pals Riding Club in Soddy Daisy. Meetings focus on the study of horses, rather than horseback riding, and help members prepare for competitions through 4-H that test

knowledge of horses. Horse Club youth are now preparing for region 4-H Horse Judging. The packets are out for the Eastern Region 4-H Horse Show. The state packets will be out soon.

Hamilton County youth in grades 4th-12th are welcome to participate in the 4-H Mane Attraction Horse Club. Interested in attending the next club meeting? Call the Extension Office 423-209-8560 or text the Club's volunteer leader, Adam Presley (423-595-5409).

4-H Veterinary Science Club meets March 13 at 6:00



Interested in animals and veterinary science? Hamilton County youth in grades 4th-12th are invited to join the 4-H Veterinary Science Club. The March meeting will focus on preparing to participate in the 4-H Wildlife Judging competition (see photo of a past competition, above), which is coming up on May 16. Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month during the school year. This meeting will be held on the 1st floor of the Extension Office, 6183 Adamson Circle, at 6:00-7:30 p.m. There is no cost to participate, and no advance

More Fun 4-H Activities!

4-H Day
March 29 at UTK



On March 29, 2025, the Eastern Region All Star Council will host the first annual 4-H Day at the Agriculture and Natural Resources Building on the UTK campus. The location is the Agriculture and Natural Resources Building, 2431 Joe Johnson Dr., Knoxville, TN (parents are responsible for transportation).

This event aims to provide a hands-on opportunity for the community to learn about and experience 4-H. **The event will take place from 1:00 to 5:00 PM ET**, beginning with an opening ceremony at 1:00 PM ET. Admission is free. Throughout the day, we will feature:

- A fun extemporaneous public speaking contest
- A 4-H Skillathon contest
- Project area exhibits—All 29 4-H project areas will be represented, with members providing demonstrations at designated tables.
- Displays from State Council, Eastern Region Council, 4-H Foundation, and 4-H Volunteers

4-H Hippology and Horse Bowl Contests



Hamilton County youth participated in the Eastern Region 4-H Hippology and Horse Bowl Contests. Competitors included: Evie Nazor, Kailee Coulter, Beau Duval, Carol Hurst, Olivia Brown, Landon Gentry. Beau Duvall placed 11th high individual in the region contest. The team of Beau Duvall, Evie Nazor and Kailee Coulter competed at the state 4-H Hippology Contest.

**Getting Ready for 2025
Tennessee 4-H Congress!**



Congratulations to Liam Cook, Noah Ham, and Anay Srivastava. They have been selected to attend the 78th Tennessee 4-H Congress. This conference is the premier 4-H event related to leadership and citizenship. Youth will learn more about state government and vote on resolutions and bills in the Tennessee Capitol legislative chambers. They will meet with state legislators, hear speakers, take a tour on the General Jackson and meet with senior high youth from across the state. Richard Ham will also attend as a volunteer leader for Hamilton County and the Eastern Region. Hamilton County Farm Bureau Board supports this group by underwriting their registration fee.

4-H Gear Grinders Robotics Team Competes at State Championship



Hamilton County's 4-H robotics team, the 4-H Gear Grinders, competed in the FIRST Tech Challenge State Championship at MTSU on February 22. As part of this competition, the robot that the team designed, built, and programmed was able to pick up game pieces from the floor and deposit them into a basket 43 inches above the floor.

The 4-H robotics program is open to 7th - 12th grade students in Hamilton County. This competition marked the completion of this season of robotics. Many thanks to the team's coaches - Gay Halliburton, Jerry McClanahan, and David Ringheimer!

June Dairy Month Chairperson



2024 Hamilton County June Dairy Month Chairperson Beau Duvall, talks with a young visitor at a Dairy Month Event.

We are looking for someone to serve as the Hamilton County June Dairy Month Chairperson for 2025. You will have the opportunity to market June Dairy Month in social media, on TV and in the community. This opportunity is open to 7th – 12th graders. If you are interested, **contact Nancy Rucker** by April 15th.

Sign up for the 4-H newsletter!

Did you receive this newsletter from a friend, or read it online? Sign up to have a copy emailed to you each month: **Newsletter Sign-Up**

UT-TSU Extension - Hamilton County

6183 Adamson Circle

Chattanooga, TN 37416

Phone: 423-209-8560

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Website: Hamilton.Tennessee.edu

4-H Staff:

Nancy Rucker, Extension Agent & County Director nrucker@tennessee.edu

Maria Sabin, Extension Agent msabin@tennessee.edu



Programs in agriculture and natural resources, 4-H youth development, family and consumer sciences, and resource development. University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture and county governments cooperating. UT Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

