

Section 5: Opportunities

Contents

1. State	36
a. State Leadership Team	36
b. Shooting Sports	36
c. State Fair	36
d. Horse Camp	36
e. Showcase Showdown	37
2. National	37
a. Citizenship Washington Focus	37
b. Leadership Washington Focus	38
c. 4-H Congress	38
d. 4-H Conference	38
e. Raton, New Mexico	38
3. Other sponsored trips/Exchanges	39
a. Domestic Exchanges	39
b. International Exchanges	39
c. International Four-H Youth Exchange (IFYE)	40

Section 5. Opportunities

1. State

a. State Leadership Team

The seven person State 4-H Leadership Team represents Wyoming 4-H at all statewide events and activities. These functions include state leadership team retreat, Showcase Showdown, Legislative Day, and the Wyoming State Fair. Team members are also involved in providing county or multi-county leadership workshops, assisting at all state 4-H contests and events, and representing 4-H at organizational meetings. Older youth apply to be a part of this team.

For more information, please go to <http://www.uwyo.edu/4-h/youth/leadershipteam/index.html>

b. Shooting Sports

State Shoot occurs mid-July in Douglas at three locations: Wyoming State Fairgrounds, Douglas Rifle Range, and Douglas Trap Club. Each county has requirements for a youth to qualify for State Shoot.

For more information, please go to <http://www.uwyo.edu/4-h/youth/contests/stateshoot/index.html>

c. State Fair

*See Section 4 Contests, 1. c. State Fair
<http://www.uwyo.edu/4-h/statefair/index.html>*

*See Appendix, Section 5, State Fair Educator Information Packet or
https://www.uwyo.edu/employee_resources/4h-files/state-fair-2012-educator-info-packet.pdf (this is updated annually)*

d. Horse Camp

4-H Horse Camp is open to all Wyoming 4-H Club members, parents, 4-H leaders, and UW Extension personnel. The educational programs provide practical, hands-on training. The camp emphasizes safe riding and handling skills.

Horse Camp is generally in mid-June at the Wyoming State Fairgrounds in Douglas. Registration is limited to 70 and is filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

The objectives of the camp accomplish the following:

- i. For participants to enjoy themselves and have fun
- ii. For participants to learn and understand horse safety
- iii. For participants to enhance horsemanship abilities
- iv. To improve basic horse knowledge through skill-a-thons
- v. To improve the skills of 4-H members in saddling, bridling, basic seat, balance, control turn on haunches, forehand, collection, and lateral flexion

e. Showcase Showdown

As well as the numerous contests during Showcase Showdown (See Section 4, 1. b.), numerous workshops and activities take place. In the past, these have included Project Runway, Film Festival, nature hikes in the Laramie area, tours of UW campus, and workshops ranging from filmmaking to dancing. Different workshops and activities are offered each year.

More information is at <http://www.uwyo.edu/4-h/showcaseshowdown/index.html>

2. National

a. Citizenship Washington Focus

Citizenship Washington Focus features an introduction to the nation's capital and orientation to governmental processes. Field trips acquaint participants with sites of interest in Washington, D.C., and surrounding areas. Youth must be 15 years old by the date of the trip to participate.

b. Leadership Washington Focus

Youth in grades 7-9 can participate in this leadership program in Washington, D.C. The trip includes workshops and training on leadership, public speaking, and communication, and several tours of historical sites in the D.C. area.

c. 4-H Congress

Members are selected by application and interview to attend. Record books are part of the application process. National 4-H Congress provides youth ages 14-19 a quality, educational, and cross-cultural experience that exceeds what any state independently provides. It is designed to address the needs and issues of youth while helping develop capable, competent, and caring citizens. This event takes place the weekend of Thanksgiving.

d. 4-H Conference

Selected senior members and two adult coordinators generally attend. Record books are used in the judging process. Held at the National 4-H Center, it offers delegations from across the country the opportunity to assist with the future programming of 4-H in the United States.

e. Raton, New Mexico

Fourteen Wyoming 4-H members are selected each year to attend an awards trip to the NRA Whittington Center in Raton, New Mexico. Twelve winners are selected during the Wyoming 4-H State Shoot based on their outstanding shooting skills, and two additional winners are selected based on portfolios submitted demonstrating their passion for shooting sports. To determine the top 12 competitors at State Shoot, point values are assigned to each youth who finish in the top 10 in any discipline for which they competed.

For more information about national opportunities, please go to:

<http://www.uwyo.edu/4-h/youth/>

3. Other Sponsored Trips/Exchanges

4-H exchanges promote understanding of diverse cultures and help young people learn about living in a global society. Exchanges may involve other counties, states, or nations and can exist in many forms. All exchanges should be developed with the idea of keeping costs within an affordable range so as many youth as possible can participate. Where feasible, scholarships should be made available to broaden participation.

a. Domestic Exchanges

Exchanges may be arranged between clubs, between counties, or between rural and urban communities within Wyoming or between Wyoming and another state. The exchange should have 4-H staff and/or county director approval before agreements are formalized with another state.

b. International Exchanges

4-H International Exchanges foster cross-cultural understanding and development through people-to-people encounters and give participants skills to live in a global society. Teens and adults, while either hosting or traveling, develop appreciation for their own culture and cultures around the world.

c. IFYE

Originally named the International Farm Youth Exchange and now called International Four-H Youth Exchange, IFYE was established in 1948 to foster world peace. IFYE offers three and six month exchanges in over 20 countries. *For more information about exchanges, contact the state 4-H office.*