



4-H Horse Program Annual Calendar:

October – March: Educational Horse Program Contests and Clinics

- Hippology, Horse Bowl, and Horse Judging Contests and Clinics are hosted throughout the state by Clubs and Districts, and are used as Qualifying events for EquiSmartz in the spring.
- Block and Bridle hippology and horse judging contest usually held early February
- Intro to EquiSmartz – for entry level contestants new to Hippology, Horse Bowl and Horse Judging
- [Communications contests](#) (public speaking, individual and team presentations) hosted by and held in various locations per District as Qualifiers for EquiSmartz.
- See the [PDF Calendar](#) for events and direct links for information as they are scheduled

January 1: All 4-Her's must be enrolled in v2.4honline.com to be eligible for the State 4-H Horse Show in September.

January: 4-H Equine Advisory Council and State Show Steering Committee

- agents and volunteer leaders from each district plus several at large members meet to review the year, plan the coming year, and establish rules

March /April: EquiSmartz contests

- State qualifying contests for Hippology, Horse Bowl, Horse Judging, Public Speaking, Individual and Team Presentations for top teams moving on to Southern Regionals and Eastern Nationals
- 3 days of competition held in Lexington, VA

March – July: District Qualifying Shows, Clinics and Horsemanship Skills evaluations for State Show Eligibility

- Youth must qualify at a District show or clinic AND each horse/rider combination who is entering the State Show for the first time must pass Levels 1 and 2 of Horsemanship skills.

May 1: 4-H Project Animal Eligibility/Declaration Hard Deadline

- Eligibility/Declaration entered into 4honline system to be eligible for the State 4-H Horse Show in September.

June: Mary Cole 50 Mile Horsemaster Trail Ride

- 10 4-Hers accepted

July: State Show Entry Deadline

- July 12
- Agents must approve and sign all entries for their county and submit by deadline as per the state show rulebook

July/August: Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championships

- Must qualify for this contest from the previous year's State Show
- Held late July, early August in Perry, GA

September: State 4-H Championship Horse and Pony Show

- Youth must be at least 9 years old to show at the State Show and meet all other requirements
- Non-riding contests are Art, Photography, Hippology, Horse Bowl, and Horse Judging
- contests, Project Book and Portfolio contest, Stall Decorations contest, Stable Management
- Cloverbud Camp on Friday and Saturday
- Location: Virginia Horse Center, Lexington, VA

October: State Fair 4-H Events

- 4-H & FFA Hippology contest and AgriPoster contest with scholarship awards
- Meadow Event Park, Doswell, Virginia

November: Eastern Nationals 4-H Competitions

- Horse Bowl, Hippology, Horse Judging, Public Speaking, Individual and Team Presentations
- Louisville, KY

Contact Information

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- WEBSITE - <http://www.ext.vt.edu/youthhorse> (Dates, Information, Rulebooks, Contacts)
- LISTSERVE – announcements of horse program events across the state
 - Subscribe or Unsubscribe link - <http://www.ext.vt.edu/topics/4h-youth/horse/horse-listserv.html>
- FACEBOOK - <https://www.facebook.com/va4Hhorse>
- PDF CALENDAR - https://ext.vt.edu/content/dam/ext_vt_edu/topics/4h-youth/horse/calendar-of-events.pdf