

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

Must be 12 years of age by October 1st of the current 4-H year.

Must have taken Hunters Education or had at least one (1) year of 4-H shooting sports range experience or have taken an equivalent firearms educational course and/or pass the safe firearm assessment test administered by a trained 4-H Cowboy Action Shooting instructor.

Must demonstrate the ability to safely handle firearms throughout the course of the project in the judgment of the 4-H instructor and fellow 4-H members and parents.



Sportsmanship

Safety

History

Culture

Responsibility

Fun

Respect



Montana

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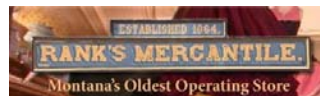
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4-H Cowboy Action Shooting

Part of the
Montana 4-H Western
Heritage Project



Montana 4-H Shooting Sports

Montana 4-H Center for Youth
Development
(406) 994-6816

The Montana State University Extension Service is an ADA/EO/AA/
Veteran's Preference Employer and Provider of Educational Outreach.

4-H COWBOY ACTION SHOOTING



4-H Cowboy Action Shooting is a part of a larger and comprehensive study of the Old West known as the Montana 4-H Western Heritage Project. The purpose of this project is to provide an avenue for 4-H members and adult leaders to experience the lifestyles and cultures of the Old West from the period of around 1860- 1900 through a living history approach to learning.

The Cowboy Action Shooting portion of this project is arguably the fastest paced, most exciting, and spectator friendly project in 4-H shooting sports. Shooters dressed in Old West garb compete against the clock by firing at steel or cardboard targets at various distances with period firearms such as single action revolvers, lever action rifles, and double barreled shotguns. Scoring is based on accuracy and the time that lapses between the initial buzzer and last shot. Each missed target is penalized by the addition of five seconds to a competitor's time. During a shoot, 4-Hers travel through a series of stages in a posse (group of shooters) along with an adult range officer. Stages consist of a series of targets set up at distances appropriate for sidearms, rifles, and shotguns. The shooting location of the stage may be as elaborate as a façade of a building, like the front door of the sheriff's office, the window of the church, or just outside the door of the jailhouse, or as simple as engaging targets over a campfire and bedroll.



Goals and Purpose

- The learning and application of the safe fire-arm handling.
 - Place 4-H life-skill development over competition.
 - Provide an enjoyable and action oriented shooting sports activity that will attract and retain 4-H members throughout their teen years.
 - Create a safe and inclusive environment for learning for all 4-H participants regardless of race, gender, culture, or socio-economic background.
 - Promote a positive image of 4-H Cowboy Action Shooting and 4-H in general to the public at large.
 - Teach in a living history style through the use of historically accurate firearms, clothing, and accessories while participating in the Montana 4-H Western Heritage Project.
 - Preserve and gain an appreciation for the heritage of the Old West within the time period of 1860-1900.
 - Instill in 4-H members an investigative interest in Montana history that will lead to personal research and increased knowledge of the Old West
 - Recognize the accomplishments and importance of both men and women from a diversity of cultures and races that contributed to Montana history.
- Promote 4-H Cowboy Action Shooting and historical study to 4-H programs across the state and country.



4-H Western Heritage Curriculum Outline

Intro to Cowboy Action Shooting

- The Objective of the Project
- Safety on the Range
- Rules
- Targets used
- Firearms and ammo used
- Shooting for time

History of Old West Firearms

History of Old West Holsters

Hats of the Old West

Old West Attire – Spurs, Boots, Everyday Clothes, and Formal Wear.

Stories of Montana's Lawmen, Outlaws, Cowboys, Troops, Native Americans, Minorities, and Influential Women



Plus...

Interesting Sidebars of Little Known Historical Facts that will Answer Some Questions, Dispel a Few Myths, and Provide a Broader Understanding of the Old West