



4-H Trail & Packing 2023

Note: Helmets are required for riding at all clinics.

Orientation/Introduction to 4-H Trail and Packing: Saturday January 7, 2023,
Location – Forest Service Supervisors office, 650 Wolf Pack Way, Kalispell

1:00pm to 4:00pm – Refreshments will be served. We will do an intro to packing equipment, goals, student experience. 4-H Horsemanship will be discussed and general 4-H requirements. Horse Etiquette will be discussed. Level 2 and 3 students will share what they learned last year and Level 4 and 5 students will share their packing experiences from the summer of 2021.

There will also be a demonstration on packing and horse desensitizing. **Weather Permitting All Leaders attending**

The Horse Helmet Video will be shown at the end of the introduction for those who need to get this done for 2022. All new 4-H members and those turning 14 will need to view the video and sign off on the proper documents.

Any Level 4 & 5 students with a new horse for 2022 will need to bring them to Clinic III and IV for evaluation. Make sure that you let leaders know what you need to work on.

Clinic I: - Saturday January 28, 2023,
Location – Country Kitchen – Flathead County Fairgrounds.

Bring your 4-H Trail & Packing Book
Bring your own lunch drinks will be provided

10:00am – 4:00pm – Level 1 thru Level 3,
Students will rotate through the following stations:

1. Mantying – Knots, Hitches
2. Trail Etiquette, Saddle Bags & Equipment
3. Riding Saddle Parts, Pack Saddle Parts
4. First Aid Kits – Equine & Human
5. Building Loads – Manty, Panniers

6. Highline – Putting up a highline, quick release knot

Level 4 & 5 Students

1. Pack Trip Planning
2. Equine First Aid – use of important medications
3. Demonstrations/Teaching

Lunch - Horse training/desensitizing demonstration

4:00pm – Assessments – Especially Vocal stuff

Clinic II: - Saturday – February 25, 2023

Location – Country Kitchen – Flathead County Fairgrounds

10:00am to 4:00pm – Level 1 thru 3, Level 4 & 5 will help train Level 1-3

Bring your 4-H Trail & Packing Book

Bring your own lunch drinks will be provided

Loading and Packing “Hands-on” practice stations with “Barrel Horses”

We will have 6 Stations for Hands on Training

1. Mantying – Knots/Hitches for Packing, making loads
2. Panniers – Making loads
3. Top Pack – adding a top pack to your loads & Fitting a Pack Saddle – Video’s on saddle placement and how to adjust a Pack Saddle
4. Highline – Putting up Highline, tying quick release knot, tying to post, tree, rail
6. Tying on Loads – Barrel Horses

4-H packing students will be broken up in to 6 groups and they will have 45 minutes or more at each station.

The last 30 to 45 minutes students will practice putting up a highline and tying quick release knots.

Lunch - Horse training/desensitizing demonstration

4:00pm - Assessments

Clinic III: - Saturday – March 25, 2023

Location – **Bad Rock Arena at 622 Kelly Road, Columbia Falls, MT** **Leave your stock at the trailer.**

9:00am to 4:30pm – Level 1 thru Level 3, Level 4 & 5

Bring your 4-H Trail & Packing Book

Bring your own lunch drinks will be provided.

½ of 4-H Members will attend from 9:am to 1:00pm the other ½ will attend from 12:00pm to 4:00pm. Participants will bring their own pack and riding stock. Participants should bring their own riding and pack saddles. If you do not have pack saddles, we will have a few extra for use at the clinic. We will also have a limited amount of stock that the instructors will bring for those who do not have pack stock **please let us know if you need pack stock.**

Level 1 thru 3 Students

1. Riding Horses and Rider will be put through Trail Riding Course; Pack Horses will be led through the same course. Pre-made loads will be available for those who can tie a load on their pack stock.
2. Assessments Available

Level 4 & 5 Students

1. Students will work on Trip Planning and Camping training, number of stock needed, how to get hay into a spot that doesn't have graze. How to manage a group that doesn't have enough pack stock.

Lunch 12:00pm both groups – Announcements and Horse training/desensitizing demonstration

4:00pm to 4:30pm - Assessments

Clinic IV: - Saturday April 22, 2023

Location – **Bad Rock Arena at 622 Kelly Road, Columbia Falls, MT** **Leave your stock at the trailer.**

Bring your 4-H Trail & Packing Book

Bring your own lunch, drinks will be provided.

9:00am to 4:30pm All Levels

½ of 4-H Members will attend from 9:am to 1:00pm the other ½ will attend from 12:00pm to 4:00pm. Participants will bring their own pack and riding stock. Participants should bring their own riding and pack saddles. If you do not have pack saddles, we will have a few extra for use

at the clinic. We will also have a limited amount of stock that the instructors will bring for those who do not have pack stock **please let us know if you need pack stock.**

Level 1 thru 3 Students

1. Riding Horses and Rider will be put through Trail Riding Test; Pack Horses will be led through the same course. Pre-made loads will be available for those who can tie a load on their pack stock.
2. Assessments Available

Level 4 & 5 Students

1. Loading Panniers & tying on a Top Pack
2. Handling Lead rope, turning around on the trail, tying to trail, what to do when accident happens.
3. Advanced Riding skills – re: neck reining, Side passing, practice other skills

For those with new riding or packing horses for 2022 you will be evaluated on their ability during this clinic.

Lunch 12:00pm both groups – Announcements and Horse training/desensitizing demonstration

4:00pm to 4:30pm – Assessments

Campout – May 20 & 21 – Swisher Lake Trailhead Eureka

Level I – III – Trailhead camping

1. Practice Highline installation
2. Feeding
3. Watering
4. Trail riding

Level 4-5 – Summer Trip Planning

1. Location
2. Dates
3. Menu
4. Stock needs