



Bastrop County 4-H
901 Pecan Street | PO Box 650 | Bastrop, Texas 78602
Phone: 512-581-7186 | Fax: 512-581-7187



WELCOME TO OUR 4-H FAMILY!

Dear New 4-H Family,

Welcome to Bastrop County 4-H! We are glad that you have chosen to be part of the largest non-formal youth education organization in the United States! Over 7 million youth participate in 4-H each year to become self-motivated, productive, and contributing citizens.

The purpose of this welcome packet is to give you an overview of the opportunities and resources available to help your family have an incredible experience in 4-H. Keep in mind that this is only a brief overview. Your best way to stay informed is to meet regularly with your club, look through the Family Handbook, and to read the email blasts sent out through the 4-H CONNECT system. Your family will start receiving the emails once your enrollment is confirmed for the current 4-H year.

The 4-H program is so large and the opportunities so vast that it can sometimes seem a little overwhelming when you are new. Just keep in mind that your family's 4-H experience can be tailor-made to fit your goals, schedules, and interests. When describing 4-H to someone new, we often use the analogy of a big department store. 4-H is like a "store" full of wonderful, fun, positive educational programs. It has pretty much every type of workshop, project, contest, trip, conference, camp, or activity you could possibly want or need. It is just up to you and your family to decide what and how much you want and to determine what things fit into your schedule and your budget. Your club leaders and the County Extension Agents (CEAs) are like the "greeters" at the front of the store to help you find what you need. We are here to answer your questions, so please do not hesitate to reach out!

4-H is designed to be a family affair, so 4-H parents are encouraged to get involved in the 4-H experience. This also helps your club leaders, who are volunteers. Like all of us, your leaders are more than willing to do their part, but your leaders also need help. Ways that 4-H parents can contribute range from serving as a project leader to providing transportation to activities, or even supplying refreshments for meetings or special events. 4-H parents are also needed to help supervise 4-H activities. Ask your leaders what you can do to support your child's club. Often, many hands make light work and more fun!

The Bastrop County Extension office is located at 901 Pecan Street; Bastrop, Texas 78602 and the mailing address is PO Box 650; Bastrop, Texas 78602. Our office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, closed 12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM for lunch. Since we love working with our 4-H members and actively host and attend many events, we may not always be in the office to answer questions. Our Administrative Assistants, Stacy Ott and Ciera Goode, will be happy to help with any questions or take a message!

Again, welcome to our 4-H Family!

Sincerely,

Mellanie Mickelson

CEA, 4-H & Youth Development

MLMickelson@ag.tamu.edu

Ashley Radde

CEA, Ag & Natural Resources

Ashley.Radde@ag.tamu.edu

Hillary Long

CEA, Family & Community Health

Hillary.Long@ag.tamu.edu