

# Bastrop County 4-H Family Handbook



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Welcome!

Welcome to the Bastrop County 4-H Program!

If you are new to the 4-H program, we welcome you to our family! If you are returning for another year of fun and adventure, welcome back!

We provide this handbook as a resource of information to assist you and your family in becoming more familiar with the 4-H program and all that it has to offer. In this book you will find some brief descriptions about opportunities involving camps, leadership retreats, awards and much more. Please take the time to read through the book to learn more about the 4-H program and be sure to keep it handy throughout the year.

4-H is definitely a family affair, so we encourage the entire family to get involved! Eventually, 4-H becomes an everyday part of your life. You will get out of 4-H what you put into it, so learn everything you can and don't hesitate to ask questions. It's easier for us to help if we know what questions you have and allows us to get to know you more! Please note that we use 4-H CONNECT Email Blasts as a primary means of communication throughout the year for opportunities and deadlines.

Best wishes for a fantastic 4-H Year! If you have questions, please call or email us at the Extension office or talk with fellow club members and volunteer leaders. We look forward to seeing you throughout the year!

Sincerely,

*Bastrop County Extension Agents & Staff*

Bastrop County Extension Office (CEO)

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Commissioner, Precinct 2	Clara Beckett
Commissioner, Precinct 3	Mark Meuth
Commissioner, Precinct 4	Donna Snowden

Primary Communication:

**The Bastrop County 4-H Program utilizes 4-H CONNECT email blasts as a primary means of communication.** Please be sure that an updated email address is registered in 4-H CONNECT and be sure to read the email blasts to keep up to date with opportunities and deadlines.

Objective of the Bastrop County 4-H Handbook:

To outline the many opportunities open to youth and adults in the Bastrop County 4-H Program. Moreover, this policy handbook also reveals policies that govern the Bastrop County 4-H Program. Participation in Bastrop County 4-H is open to anyone regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity.



# Table of Contents

<b>WHAT IS 4-H?</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>4-H HISTORY</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>WHAT DO YOU DO IN 4-H?</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>4-H CLUB MEETINGS &amp; STRUCTURE</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>4-H VOLUNTEERS &amp; CLUB LEADERS</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>4-H MEMBERSHIP &amp; ENROLLMENT</b> .....	<b>11</b>
Program Year .....	11
Membership Policies .....	11
4-H Age Requirements & Age Categories .....	11
Clover Kids .....	11
4-H Member Eligibility Requirements for 4-H Activities .....	12
How to Join 4-H .....	12
<b>4-H CONNECT HELP</b> .....	<b>13</b>
STEP 1—Creating a Log-in and Family Profile .....	13
STEP 2—Creating a Youth Profile (Actually Registering) .....	13
Creating an Adult Profile .....	13
Renewing Youth/Adult Member 4-H Membership .....	14
Registering for an Event .....	14
4-H Connect Registration Tips .....	14
<b>4-H FACTS &amp; PLEDGES</b> .....	<b>15</b>
<b>4-H EVENTS &amp; CONTESTS</b> .....	<b>16</b>
<b>4-H LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES BEYOND THE 4-H CLUB</b> .....	<b>22</b>
<b>4-H RECORDBOOKS</b> .....	<b>23</b>
<b>BASTROP COUNTY 4-H PROGRAM STANDING RULES</b> .....	<b>24</b>
<b>BASTROP COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL BYLAWS &amp; STANDING RULES</b> .....	<b>25</b>
ARTICLE I: Name & Objectives .....	25
ARTICLE II: Membership .....	25
ARTICLE III: Council Officers .....	25
ARTICLE IV: Council Officer Responsibilities .....	26
ARTICLE V: Club Officer Policy .....	27
ARTICLE VI: Financial Management .....	27
ARTICLE VII: Fiscal Accountability .....	27
ARTICLE VIII: Meetings .....	27
ARTICLE IX: Quorum .....	28
ARTICLE X: Voting Body & Election of Officers .....	28
ARTICLE XI: County Equipment .....	28
ARTICLE XII: Club Disbandment .....	28
ARTICLE XIII: Amendments .....	28
ARTICLE XIV: Standing Committees .....	28
ARTICLE XV: County Awards & Scholarships .....	28
ARTICLE XVI: 4-H Sweetheart .....	30
ARTICLE XVII: Contests .....	31
ARTICLE XVIII: Sponsorship of Activities .....	32
<b>THE 4-H YEAR: A TIMELINE</b> .....	<b>33</b>
<b>4-H TERMINOLOGY &amp; ACRONYMS</b> .....	<b>35</b>
<b>CIVIL RIGHTS AND AFFIRMATIVE ACTION</b> .....	<b>38</b>
<b>AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT</b> .....	<b>38</b>

# WHAT IS 4-H?



The **4-H and Youth Development Program** is a non-profit, educational program which is open to all youth regardless of socio-economic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin.

4-H is a part of the Texas A&M University System. 4-H partners include the United States Department of Agriculture and local county governments. The purpose of the 4-H program is to provide opportunities for young people to become productive and contributing members of society through "Learn By Doing" projects.

Members in the 4-H and Youth Development Program reflect a continuum of life-long learning from program contact through participation to the full benefits of membership. Membership in 4-H and Youth Development Program educational outreach is inclusive and representative of all segments of the Texas youth population. Educational outreach is enhanced by a qualified, diverse, and empowered volunteer base. The curriculum development and management system evolves with the changing needs, concerns, and interests of Texas youth. Funding for the 4-H and Youth Development Program is fortified by funding sources beyond the institutional allocations. Stakeholders are able to identify and demonstrate advocacy for the positive impact of 4-H and Youth Development Program educational outreach. All county, district, and state-based Extension personnel demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and commitment to achieve the mission, purpose, and goals of the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program. All program functions are continually evaluated as to the mission, purpose, and goals of the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program.

We value positive life skills development for youth. We promote diversity among youth participants, families, and Extension personnel. We exercise the importance to utilize research-based information in creative, diverse, hands-on educational environments.

Our mission is to prepare youth to meet the challenges of childhood, adolescence, and adulthood through a coordinated, long-term, progressive series of educational experiences that enhance life skills and develop social, emotional, physical, and cognitive competencies.

Our objectives are to acquire knowledge in Agriculture, Natural Resources, Family and Consumer Science, Science and Technology; to acquire positive self-concepts; to respect and get along with people; to learn and practice leadership skills and fulfill leadership roles; to adopt good health practices; to explore career and job opportunities; to make productive use of leisure time; and to plan for personal goals.

# 4-H HISTORY

Since its humble beginnings more than 100 years ago, 4-H has grown to become the nation's largest youth development organization. The 4-H idea is simple: help young people and their families gain the skills they need to be proactive forces in their communities and develop ideas for a more innovative economy. That idea was the catalyst to begin the 4-H movement.

As one of the first youth development organizations in America, 4-H opened the door for young people to learn leadership skills and explore ways to give back. 4-H revolutionized how youth connected to practical, hands-on learning experiences while outside of the classroom.

## The Birth of 4-H Programs

During the late 1800's, researchers at public universities saw that adults in the farming community did not readily accept the new agricultural discoveries being developed on university campuses. However, they found that young people were open to new thinking and would "experiment" with new ideas and share their experiences and successes with adults. In this way, rural youth programs became an innovative way to introduce new agriculture technology to their communities. The seed of the 4-H idea of practical and "hands-on" learning came from the desire to make public school education more connected to country life. Early programs tied both public and private resources together for the purpose of helping rural youth. Building community clubs to help solve these agricultural challenges was a first step toward youth learning more about the industries in their community.

A. B. Graham started one such youth program in Clark County, Ohio, in 1902, which is considered the birth of the 4-H program in the United States. The first club was called "The Tomato Club" or the "Corn Growing Club". T.A. "Dad" Erickson of Douglas County, Minnesota, started local agricultural after-school clubs and fairs also in 1902. Jessie Field Shambaugh developed the clover pin with an "H" on each leaf in 1910, and by 1912 they were called 4-H clubs. When Congress passed the Smith-Lever Act in 1914 and created the Cooperative Extension System at USDA, it included work of various boys' and girls' clubs involved with agriculture, home economics and related subjects, which effectively nationalized the 4-H organization. By 1924, these clubs became organized as 4-H clubs, and the clover emblem was adopted.

## 4-H in Texas

The first County Extension Agent in Texas was appointed in 1906, eight years prior to the organization of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. Two years later, Tom Marks, County Agricultural Agent, organized the first boys' "corn club" in Jack County. Marks found that he was more successful teaching new production technology to the youth than to the adults. Within a matter of years, "pig clubs," "beef cattle clubs" and girls' "tomato clubs" (Mrs. Edna Trigg, Milam County, 1912) were also initiated. The stage was set for the rapid expansion of educational programs directed to rural youth. Within a span of eighty-nine years, 4-H enrollment in Texas has grown from the original 25 corn club members in Jack County in 1908 to over one-half million in the 1990s. The Texas 4-H Museum is located in Jacksboro, Jack County, the birthplace of 4-H in Texas.

## Origin of the name of 4-H

The first use of the term "4-H Club" in a federal document appeared in 1918 in a bulletin written by Gertrude L. Warren. At a Washington, D.C. conference early in the 1920's, Miss Warren and several others favored the name "4-H Club Work." By 1924, wider usage of the name "4-H" was adopted and used thereafter throughout the world.

## Origin of the Clover emblem

The first emblem design was a three-leaf clover, introduced by O.H. Benson between 1907 and 1908. From the beginning, the three H's signified "Head, Heart, and Hands." A four-leaf clover design with H's appeared around 1908. Benson and others incorporated this design on posters, labels, and more. In 1911, Benson referred to the need for four H's rather than three - suggesting they signify, "Head, Heart, Hands and Hustle. Head, trained to think, plan, and reason; Heart, trained to be true, kind, and sympathetic; Hands, trained to be useful, helpful, and skillful; and the Hustle to render ready service, to develop health and vitality." In 1911, at a meeting of club leaders in Washington, D.C., a committee recommendation was adopted approving the present 4-H design. O.B. Martin is credited with suggesting that the H's signify "Head, Heart, Hands, and Health," universally used since then. The 4-H emblem was patented in 1924, and Congress passed a law protecting the use of the 4-H name and emblem in 1939, which was slightly revised in 1948.

## Origin of the 4-H pledge

Otis Hall, State 4-H Leader of Kansas, was responsible for the original wording of the 4-H pledge, officially adopted by the state 4-H leaders at the first National 4-H Camp in 1927. The pledge remained unchanged until 1973, when it was revised to include "and my world." This change was officially approved in 1973 by the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy.

# WHAT DO YOU DO IN 4-H?

There are hundreds of opportunities to participate in 4-H! 4-H members can participate in club meetings, fun activities, leadership activities, camps, exhibitions, and will complete learning experiences called 4-H projects. Members will also keep records of their projects and submit Recordbooks. You can also check out the Texas 4-H Clover Guide to see more information on these opportunities. It is available for download at <https://counties.agrilife.org/bastrop/files/2020/04/2019-2020-Texas-4-H-Clover-Guide.pdf>.

## What is a 4-H Project?

Projects are the heart and soul of the 4-H Program. Through well-chosen projects, members learn to use their resources, assume responsibility, and acquire the knowledge and skills necessary for everyday living. A 4-H Project is an experience in a project area that has 4 components completed during the 4-H year:

- 6 learning experiences that are at least 30 minutes each in length
- Community Service
- Leadership
- Exhibition of Project Work.

Projects can be conducted as project group meetings, regular club meetings, tours, field trips, family activities at home, individual work towards project goals, etc. There is no limit! 4-H projects help youth learn how to do new and interesting things through a “learn-by-doing” process. A 4-H project should be fun, serve a purpose, and be worth your efforts. There are approximately 40 projects available, including growing plants, raising animals, handling firearms, or making clothing to name just a few. A member may participate in one or more projects each year.

### **LEARNING EXPERIENCES** can be:

Educational tours	Bowl contests
Workshops	Self-study
Clinics	Exhibits
Contests	Expos
Demonstrations	Speeches
Interviewing the experts	Videos/DVDS
Educational presentations	Television shows

**COMMUNITY SERVICE** can be any type of community service activity associated with your project.

**LEADERSHIP** can include (but not limited to...):

Teaching/Guiding others	Demonstration/speech
Conducting a workshop	Assist an adult
Organize a group activity	Plan a tour
Lead an activity	Junior/Teen Leader
Share information with others	

**EXHIBITION** can include

Contest	Fair
Livestock show	Exhibit
Educational presentation	Project meeting
Speech	

There is no set timeline for a project, just the 4-H project year. The only thing projects can revolve around at times are times and dates of contests. That means...CONTESTS ARE NOT THE WHOLE PROJECT!!!

## How to Choose a 4-H Project:

1. Select a project you like – check out a list of 4-H projects at <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/>
2. Consider the money and time it will take. Can parents/guardians help?
3. Consider the space and equipment that you have at home.
4. A 4-H project should be fun, serve a purpose, and be worth the effort.
5. Select only the number of projects you can complete.

*Remember to contact your County Extension Offices to learn about purchasing deadlines associated with animal projects*

## Project Support

Most support comes in the form of Project Leaders (Adult, Teen, and Junior). These Leaders can help you to find resources such as:

- Curriculum
- Books
- Magazines
- Hobbyists, Experts, & Professionals
- Associations & Organizations
- Websites
- AND always your County Extension Agents - we are here to help!

## Project Goals

When you put your goals and plans on paper, you have taken a step toward reaching those goals. Your written goals will help you keep track of where you are going and how you are getting there. They will help you discover what you can learn and do in your project. Your goals should include, among other things:

- **Knowledge** - the things you want to learn
  - Read books, magazines and articles related to your project
  - Visit websites, attend workshops, tour places, and go on field trips that relate to your project.
- **Skill** - the things you want to raise, make and/or do
  - Make several things related to your project
  - Raise and properly care for your project
  - Make a list of skills related to your project and practice them.
- **Leadership** - the things you would like to teach others
  - Promote your project through presentations and displays in your school or community
  - Write and give speeches about your project
  - Organize a 4-H Project Club and serve as the Chair
  - Recruit new club members into your project
  - Serve as a group leader during workshops or tours
  - Assists volunteer leaders with the project
- **Community Service** - the things you want to do for others
  - Give something project related to shut-ins
  - Provide transportation for others to a project workshop
  - Assist friends and neighbors with work related to your project
  - Do volunteer work related to your project
  - Serve on a county or community committee that is related to your project

## Possible 4-H Projects:

Below is a partial list of projects from which you could choose:

- Aquatic Science
- Beef Cattle
- Bicycle
- Citizenship
- Clothing & Textiles
- Community or volunteer services
- Consumer Education
- Dairy Cattle
- Dog Care & Training
- Energy
- Entomology
- Family Life Education
- Foods & Nutrition
- Forestry
- Global Education & Awareness
- Goats (Dairy, Meat, or Hair)
- Healthy Lifestyles (Health)
- Horse
- Horticulture
- Housing & Home Environment
- Junior Master Gardener
- Leadership
- Livestock Judging
- Meat Science
- Natural Resources
- Outdoor Education & Living Skills
- Photography/Video
- Poultry (Chickens & Turkeys)
- Public Speaking
- Rabbits
- Range Science
- Robotics
- Rocketry/Aerospace
- Safety
- Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics
- Sheep
- Shooting Sports
- Soil & Crop Science
- Swine
- Theater & Performance Arts
- Veterinary Science
- Water Conservation & Education
- Wildlife & Fisheries
- Workforce Preparation/Careers
- Youth Entrepreneurship

# 4-H CLUB MEETINGS & STRUCTURE

The local 4-H clubs meet regularly, once a month, at a scheduled meeting time and place, under the leadership and guidance of club officers and adult leaders.

## Meeting Components

A good 4-H club meeting usually lasts approximately one (1) to one and a half (1 ½) hours and consists of the following components:

- **Inspiration/Opening Exercises**
  - Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas flags
  - 4-H Motto, Pledge and Prayer
- **Business**
  - Roll call
  - Reading and approval of minutes
  - Treasurer's report
  - Report of standing and special committees
  - Transaction of unfinished business and new business
- **Program**
  - Project or activity
  - Demonstration
  - Special program
- **Recreation and refreshments**

4-H is a family activity and Parents and Family Members are encouraged to participate in club activities and attend meetings.

## 4-H Club Officers & Roles

Each club is unique, so officer positions may vary from club to club. Club officers are elected at the May meeting to take office the following September. Club officers have the responsibility of planning, implementing, and evaluating all club meetings and activities. Clover Kids are **not eligible** to serve as club officers. Typical club officer positions include:

- **PRESIDENT** - assists club manager in arranging a meeting place. They remind and encourage each person on the program to be prepared. The President will preside at all the club meetings and will follow his/her agenda. They appoint committees as needed and coordinate activities of officers and leaders to insure 4-H'ers involvement in all club activities.
- **1<sup>st</sup> VICE-PRESIDENT** - assists the President. They preside over meetings in case the President is not able to attend. The 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President becomes President if the President leaves the club or resigns their office. They also serve as chairman of the program committee.
- **2<sup>nd</sup> VICE-PRESIDENT** - assists the President. They preside over meetings if the President and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President are not able to attend. They serve as chairman of the recreation committee and see that recreation is planned and led at each meeting. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President appoints 4-H families to be hosts and provides refreshments at each meeting. They also plan other recreational activities for the club, such as Christmas parties, picnics, etc.
- **3<sup>rd</sup> VICE-PRESIDENT** - assists the President. They preside over meetings if the President, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Presidents are not able to attend. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President serves as chairman of the membership committee to recruit, enroll and orient new members of the club. They work closely with the membership committee advisor and/or the new member/family coordinator. They prepare new member packets and give them to new members who join the club during the year. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President is responsible for new members completing the on-line enrollment and introducing new members and guests at meetings.
- **SECRETARY** - keeps the Secretary's guide. They call the roll and check attendance. They read the minutes of the last meeting. They keep complete and accurate minutes of all meetings. The Secretary reads letters of information or any other correspondence to the club. They write letters for the club. In some instances the Secretary serves as the Treasurer.
- **TREASURER** - keeps accurate, up-to-date records of all receipts and expenditures of club funds and the balance on hand in the club treasury. They pay bills as approved by the club or, in some cases, the club manager. The Treasurer reports on club's financial condition at each meeting or as requested by the president. They also arrange for money to be kept safely.



- **PARLIAMENTARIAN** - assists in training the other officers in their duties. They make parliamentary rulings during the business portion of the meetings. They open and close nominations. They take nominations and hold elections. The Parliamentarian may reopen nominations or elect by acclamation. They may make a motion and amend a motion.
- **REPORTER** - submits interesting reports and pictures of club activities, members, and leaders to local newspapers, radio and television stations. They become familiar with the “how to’s” of news writing. The Reporter is also responsible for reporting club news to the County Extension office to be included in the 4-H blog.
- **HISTORIAN** - assists the Reporter in collecting pictures, newsletters, and local newspaper articles of 4-H activities, events, parties, and various functions of the club.
- **COUNCIL DELEGATE** - reports all local club activities and recommendations at the county council meetings held at the County Extension office. Council delegates also report back to their club members all activities, reports, and county announcements from the council meeting. Each club is allotted three (3) spots for Council delegates.
- **HEALTH AND SAFETY OFFICER** - provides health/safety information at club meetings and can schedule speakers and demonstrations, as well as “ice breakers” and recreational activities. They should arrive early to help set up for the meeting and can assist the other officers in planning the club’s activities. They serve as the chairman of the Health/Safety Committee.

#### 4-H Club Committees

Club committees can serve many functions. They can give many members extra involvement and leadership opportunities in the club. They can make business meetings go more smoothly since much of the detailed planning can be done outside of the regular club meeting.

Clubs should only appoint necessary committees or committee work will lose its importance. Follow-up with the committees to give them information and encouragement. Appoint an officer to each committee to keep communication open with the executive committee. Appoint a parent or leader to each committee as an advisor to involve adults. Allow committees to do their job. Plan time for committees to meet and work and report at regular club meetings to make involvement on a committee easier.

The **Executive Committee** consists of the president, vice-president, secretary-treasurer, reporter, council delegates, parliamentarian and any other officers. The organization leaders act as advisors to this group. The Executive Committee often serves as the program planning committee. If this is true in your club, refer to the “*Texas 4-H Club Program Planning Workbook*” for special help in this area. Even if the Executive Committee is not the planning committee, it needs to function in carrying the program for the year into each meeting.

# 4-H VOLUNTEERS & CLUB LEADERS

Volunteers are essential to the successful implementation of the 4-H program. Their time and efforts are what makes our program successful and engaging!

All adult volunteers working with youth in a mentoring capacity must register as a volunteer in the 4-H CONNECT System because the Texas 4-H Youth Development Program is committed to helping create safe environments for young people to learn, have fun, and develop socially. All registered volunteers complete a Youth Protection Standards Program (criminal background check) and receive training. Teens may also serve in volunteer roles through the 4-H Leadership Project.

4-H volunteers are expected to conduct themselves as good examples for youth in both public and private life. This includes appropriate dress, correct use of language and moral conduct in accordance with the generally recognized standards of our society. It should be understood by the volunteers that they are expected to participate in learning, training and teaching opportunities provided for them by the Extension Service.

There are a variety of ways that volunteers can help our program, even if you don't have a lot of time available to commit:

- 4-H Club Managers
- Teachers
- Event Judges
- Community Resource Persons
- Camp Counselors/Chaperones
- Parent Helpers
- Coalition Advisory Members
- Mentors
- Coaches

## Leadership Roles

Below is a brief outline of the leadership roles within the Bastrop County 4-H Program:

- **County Extension Agent (CEA)** - Agents have oversight responsibility for their assigned counties. They will charter 4-H clubs and monitor the use of the 4-H name and emblem. They plan and coordinate the county program; develop and utilize parent and/or other volunteers; explain 4-H policies and procedures; ensure that quality educational programming is done in the county; and, inform adult and youth program participants of 4-H opportunities at the county, district, state, and national levels.
- **Adult Volunteer** - A 4-H Volunteer Leader is a person who is responsible for a group, activity, or event, and the members and/or other volunteers involved. Volunteers are expected to participate in opportunities provided for them. Volunteers are screened through the Texas Youth Protection Standards office.
  - **Background checks:** *Each volunteer must complete a profile in 4-H Connect. At the end of the registration process will be a section to collect an annual volunteer application fee, and to have a background check performed. (You will need a credit/debit card for this payment.) The background check will be valid for three (3) years.*
- **Club Manager** - The club manager provides leadership and management to a 4-H club. The manager involves 4-H officers, parents, leaders, and members in promoting the goals of 4-H. They also serve as the contact person between the club and the county Extension office.
- **Project Leader** - The project leader provides structured learning experiences for members in the project group. The project leader also provides guidance and counseling on project-related opportunities.
- **Activity Leader** - Activity leaders work closely with the club manager and are responsible for one or more non-project activities. Examples of activities include: new member/family coordination, judging leader, field trip coordinator, committee advisor, community service leader, etc.
- **Junior Leader** - Junior leaders are aged 13 through 19 and assist adult leaders with specific tasks as requested by the leader.
- **Teen Leader** - Teen leaders are aged 16 through 19 and accept the full leadership responsibility for a project group, club or special short-term interest group.
- **Parents** - Parents provide support and guidance to members. They see that members attend meetings and activities. They ensure that members complete their responsibilities. Parents are encouraged to attend as many activities as possible and assist with one or more 4-H events.

# 4-H MEMBERSHIP & ENROLLMENT

## Program Year

The 4-H Program year begins on September 1 and concludes on August 31 the following year.

## Membership Policies

Any person, regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, religion, disability, or national origin, may enroll as a 4-H member. Texas 4-H Activities and events are open to enrolled 4-H members who meet the age categories outlined below. For certain fall events that require registration, certification, or entry during the summer prior to the beginning of the 4-H year – County Extension Agents may sign entry forms for events that will occur during the 4-H year for youths who will become eligible for and enroll in 4-H on September 1, but these youths may not participate in 4-H competitive events and activities until September 1.

Texas 4-H utilizes zero-based enrollment for accountability purposes and the requirement for keeping mailing/communication lists updated. This means that we start anew every 4-H year and must re-enroll previous members and volunteers in the system each year, as well as new members and volunteers.

4-H members must be enrolled in a 4-H club and complete one or more 4-H projects per year. Membership cannot be held simultaneously in more than one county or state, but membership may change with residence or school attendance, as long as the member competes in a given project in only one county or state.

Exception: If it is more convenient, desirable or logical for a 4-H member or Clover Kid to belong to 4-H in an adjacent county, he/she may do so if both agents involved agree. This agreement has to be in writing using the Texas 4-H Transfer form. In addition, crossing county lines requires either changing all membership from the home to the host county or participating in the project in the host county but representing the home county in events and activities.

## 4-H Age Requirements & Age Categories

Youth may participate in 4-H year from September 1st of grade three through August 31st following completion of grade twelve, with these age restrictions:

- Minimum age - 8 (in addition to being in the 3rd grade)
- Maximum age - 18 (as of August 31)

Special education youth who are older than 19 and have not graduated from high school may participate in 4-H Youth Development programs as members, with approval by the county Extension agent. Participation is limited to the club or county level. County Extension staff have the option, on a case-by-case basis, to allow Special Education youth older than 19 to participate in competitive events at the club or county level.

Texas 4-H member categories:

- Junior - Grades 3, 4, and 5
- Intermediate - Grades 6, 7, and 8
- Senior - Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12

In support of the youth development mission of 4-H, the purpose of the 4-H Clover Kids Program is to help youth learn social skills, reinforce formal school programs through informal, noncompetitive experiential educational projects and activities, develop self-esteem and build family strengths. The annual participation fee does not pertain to Clover Kids. The following rules and guidelines are based on youth development research indicating competitive events and competitive judging are inappropriate for Clover Kid aged youth:

## Clover Kids

Age Requirement - The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service extends a limited version of the 4-H experience to youth in grades K-2 as "4-H Clover Kids." This age category is further defined as youth who are eligible to enroll in Kindergarten on September 1 of the current year and have not entered (started classes) the third grade on September 1. Clover Kids are not eligible to serve as club officers, nor are they eligible to participate in activities, recognition programs, and competitive events reserved for older youth.

Enrollment - Any chartered 4-H club may organize a "4-H Clover Kids" group within the club. Each 4-H Clover Kids member may participate only through organized learning groups under the guidance of qualified and trained volunteer 4-H leaders. Members may be enrolled on 4-H CONNECT. Most Bastrop County 4-H clubs encourage Clover Kids to attend regular Club meetings and fun activities.

## 4-H Member Eligibility Requirements for 4-H Activities

In Texas, 4-H is classified as an extra-curricular activity by public schools. The State of Texas requires that all youth who wish to participate in extra-curricular activities be eligible in accordance with Texas Education Code - No pass No play guidelines. The State Board of Education also allows for public school students to be considered "in attendance" when participating in off-campus activities with an adjunct staff member of the school district. County Extension Agents are approved yearly as adjunct faculty members by each local school board.

4-H members must abide by the provisions of the no pass-no play rule when participating in official 4-H sanctioned activities or where the 4-H member is participating because he or she is a 4-H member (such as stock shows, judging contests, round-up, food show, fashion show, etc.) This includes all competitive activities. Generally, 4-H members may participate in normal club meetings, non-competitive and non-recognition activities that do not require the student to miss school. It is imperative that each 4-H member / parent become fully aware of their school's policies in maintaining compliance with the Texas Education Code - No Pass - No Play Rule.

In order to participate in any 4-H activity or show, a child must become a 4-H member by completing 4-H Enrollment on 4-H Connect and attending ½ or fifty percent (50%) of the club meetings or show just reason for their inability to meet the requirement in the form of a letter from parents or guardian that is approved through the club manager. 4-H Club Managers have the responsibility to report to the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service staff those 4-H members that do not meet the requirements and provide agents with documentation. 4-H Project Leaders and Club Managers must be registered as official 4-H Leaders by completing the online Leader Enrollment on 4-H Connect. All volunteers working directly with youth will need to comply with Youth Protection Standards

These policies are subject to change at any time as policies of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and State 4-H guidelines are revised.

### How to Join 4-H

1. Look at the current 4-H Clubs in the County and where they meet to determine what is feasible for your family
2. Reach out to the Club Manager with questions and verify that meeting time & location have not changed (Examples: does your club have a Clover Kid program, what project areas are youth in this club actively participating in?)
3. Attend 1 to 2 meetings to decide if the club is a good social fit for your family and you enjoy the programs and activities
4. Once you have found the club that fits your family, register them in the Texas 4-H CONNECT system at <https://tx.4honline.com>:
  - a. Create a family profile first
  - b. Add each member of your family in that profile
  - c. Cost of membership is usually \$25 to \$30 for youth and \$10 for adults
5. Choose your projects and attend 4-H meetings, events, & activities!

# 4-H CONNECT HELP

Each 4-H youth member and adult leader **MUST** complete a profile in the state-wide online application, **4-H CONNECT (also called 4-H Online)** at <https://tx.4honline.com>. Annual registration and renewal occurs from August 15 through October 31 of each year. Late registration/renewal begins on November 1.

The creation of a profile is only required once; in each following year members should only review and update their existing profile. Profile status will change to INACTIVE on August 14 of each year in preparation for re-enrollment. Instructions sheets and more information are available online at <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/4honline/>.

4-H members may not register for an event or contest until their registration has been approved and their status is shown as ACTIVE.

## STEP 1—Creating a Log-in and Family Profile

- Access *4-H Connect* (at the URL show above) and select “Don’t have an account?”
  - Complete the remaining information as requested. Please do not use ALL CAPS or all lower-case letters.
  - Remember to make a note of the email address and password you used as you will need these each time you log in to *4-H Connect*. Consider using one of the free email accounts (Yahoo, Gmail, Hotmail, etc.) over your service provider account in case you change providers during the year.
- Select “Texas” from the *State* drop-down menu, then select “Texas 4-H Youth and Development” for the *Institution*; In the *County* field, select “Bastrop” and then click *continue*.
- Complete the remaining fields with the appropriate information. Required fields are marked in red and must be completed to move to the next screen.
- Click the “Create Account” button; enter your family’s address information and click “Verify.” The verification process may require you to select an appropriate USPS format.
- After the address is verified, your family profile has been created! You will receive an email confirming your family profile.

## STEP 2—Creating a Youth Profile (Actually Registering)

To the right of your Family Profile you will find “Add Member” click on the “Add Member” button.

- Complete all requested information fields appropriately.
  - The system will keep you from advancing should you miss an important field.
  - Incorrect information may jeopardize your ability to receive school excused absences.
- Select/click on “4-H” then click “Next”; Click to join 4-H as a New or Returning 4-H participant then click “Finish”
- After reading the instructions for the Clubs section, click “Select Clubs”
  - Click “Add” next to the club to add to the enrollment
  - Click the “Select Clubs” button and repeat to add additional clubs
  - Once all clubs have been added, click the “Next” button (you may select up to 5 clubs)
- After reading the instructions for the Projects section, click “Select Projects”; follow the same process as for clubs
- After reading the instructions for the Questions section, click “Show Questions”; Complete the questions, click the “Next” button
- Repeat the process for the Health Section and the Consents Section. (Note: By registering to become a member of 4-H you are committing yourself to following their rules during meetings and events.)
- **Payment By Card** - If you do not already have a payment method saved in your family profile, add the card information and click “Add Credit Card”. (Alternative payment methods **must** be arranged in advance). Review the Refund and Pay by Computer terms, sign to accept and click “Next”
- Click to confirm and submit the enrollment:
  - Your enrollment will not be processed until you click on the “*Confirm Order*” button. Your enrollment status on your “My Member List” page should now read “*Pending*.”
  - Upon completion of the above steps, the enrollment will progress to the County level. It will be reviewed for completion. Once approved, your status will change to “*Active*” and your payment will be processed.

## Creating an Adult Profile

***This is required for adults who wish to serve in a volunteer leader role or will be interacting with youth in any form of mentor capacity.***

- To the right of your Family Profile you will find “Add Member” click on the “Add Member” button.
  - Complete all requested information fields appropriately.
  - The system will keep you from advancing should you miss an important field.
- Select/click on “4-H” then click “Next”; Click to join 4-H as a New or Returning 4-H Volunteer then click “Finish”
- Click to “Select Volunteer Type”; Select the volunteer type from the drop down menu, then Click “Add” next to the volunteer type to add to the enrollment; Once all types have been added, click the “Next” button
- After reading the instructions for the Clubs section, click “Select Clubs”
  - Click “Add” next to the club to add to the enrollment
  - Click the “Select Clubs” button and repeat to add additional clubs
  - Once all clubs have been added, click the “Next” button (you may select up to 5 clubs)
- After reading the instructions for the Projects section, click “Select Projects”; follow the same process as for clubs
- After reading the instructions for the Questions section, click “Show Questions”; Complete the questions, click the “Next” button
- Repeat the process for the Health Section and the Consents Section. (Note: By registering to become a member of 4-H you are committing yourself to following their rules during meetings and events.)
- **Payment By Card** - If you do not already have a payment method saved in your family profile, add the card information and click “Add Credit Card”. (Alternative payment methods **must** be arranged in advance). Review the Refund and Pay by Computer terms, sign to accept and click “Next”
- **Click to confirm and submit the enrollment; THEN**
  - After reading the instructions for the Screening section, click “Show Screening”; Complete the screening, click the “Next” button
  - Complete the two required training sessions
- Your enrollment will not be processed until you click on the “*Confirm Order*” button. Your enrollment status on your “My Member List” page should now read “*Pending*.”
- Upon completion of the above steps, the trainings, the background screening and county-level review/approval, you will be shown as “*Active*”.

#### Renewing Youth/Adult Member 4-H Membership

You are now in your second year of 4-H and need to re-enroll for the upcoming year. **DO NOT CREATE A NEW PROFILE!** If you create a new profile, none of the events you registered for the previous year will be included in your new profile. By *renewing* the existing profile, this participation information is retained.

- Log in to your established profile using your 4-H Connect email address and password. (See “Creating a Log-in and Family Profile” instructions)
- Click on the “Enroll” button to the right of the person’s name in the “Member List” area.
- Review the information and update as needed.
- Once you are at the “Invoice Page”, proceed as directed above.
- Be sure to review payment information. Add new card if needed.

Should you experience any problems, or have any questions, during enrollment or re-enrollment, please contact the county Extension office as soon as possible. Remember, you are **not** an official member or volunteer in Bastrop County 4-H until your status is shown as “Active.”

#### Registering for an Event

Once an enrollment has been approved and the person’s status is shown as “Active”, they may register for various 4-H events. To register for an event:

- Log in to your Family Profile; Click on “Events” in the navigation pane
- Click on the Members’ name that you would like to register for the event; then click the “Select” button
- Click on the “Session/Type” name for the registration (in some events, the member may qualify for more than one session/type)
- Click the “Start Registration” button and Follow the prompts and pay for the event
- If a file upload is needed, click the upload button. Navigate your device and select the file to upload.

#### 4-H Connect Registration Tips

- Use the free Mozilla Internet browser ([www.mozilla.com](http://www.mozilla.com)) or the Google Chrome Internet browser (<https://www.google.com/chrome/>). 4-H Connect does not work well in others
- Use an email account that will not change should you change your Internet provider. Such accounts are available for free at Yahoo, Gmail, etc.



# 4-H EVENTS & CONTESTS

Bastrop County has various 4-H events in which a member may participate. However, with every county competitive 4-H event we enforce the “No Pass, No Play” policy. An Academic Eligibility form is required by ALL participating 4-H’ers.

Other forms may also be required, depending on the event at hand:

- Texas 4-H & Youth Development Code of Conduct
- Texas 4-H & Youth Development Consequences of Misbehavior
- Texas 4-H Center Health History Form
- Texas 4-H Center Minor’s Release Form
- Waiver & Release of Claims and Indemnification Agreement (w/Authorization for Medical Care)

As other events and/or contests become available, notifications will be posted on the website, blog and Facebook page.



**Contests may be at various levels - County (C), District (D), State (S), or National (N)**

**Resources for most contests and events may be accessed online at <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/events/roundup/>**

## 4-H Day at the Capitol (C, D, S)

All 4-H members, parents, and county Extension agents are invited to join Texas 4-H at the 4-H Day at the Capitol in Austin, Texas. This event will be a day filled with 4-H being recognized in both the House of Representatives and Senate Chambers. In the afternoon, 4-H’ers spend some time with their legislators and let them know about the great things 4-H is doing in their community.

## 4-H Dog Show (S) (\*various shows throughout the year)

Competitors come from all over the state and range in age from 8 to 18. All breeds, including mixed, are welcome to compete after they have met the minimum requirements. Dog and 4-H member teams can compete in five different classes, such as: obedience or rally, conformation, showmanship, drill team, and/or costume.

## 4-H Golf Challenge (C, D, S)

The Texas 4-H Golf Challenge was developed by county Extension agents, 4-H Specialists, and others to provide youth the opportunity to compete in an outdoor sporting event. While competing, youth also have the opportunity to gain invaluable knowledge in the areas of sports nutrition, golf course and turf grass management, and the rules and etiquette of golf.

## 4-H Rabbit Extravaganza (S)

The Texas 4-H Rabbit Extravaganza is open to official Texas 4-H-age enrolled members. The event includes opportunities for youth to exhibit their rabbit projects in numerous breeds in addition to single fryers and meat pens. 4-H members without rabbits also may participate in a variety of other educational events. These include Art (graphic and handicrafts), Best Dressed Rabbit (costume), Breed Identification, Educational/Promotional Rabbit Posters and Displays, Hands-on-Judging (by the youth), Photography, Rabbit Quiz Bowl, and Showmanship. This event takes place in the Fall of every year.

## 4-H Roundup (C, D, S)

4-H County Roundup provides an opportunity for members to compete in contests related to their projects by preparing demonstrations, illustrated talks, public speaking, or Share-the-Fun contests. 4-H’ers who participate in each of the categories have the opportunity to compete at the district and state level by winning at the county contest. Roundup guides are distributed in the Fall to all county Extension offices.



### Ag Products Identification Contest (D, S) (\*various contests throughout year)

20 Texas agricultural products are selected and exhibited at separate stations. Contestants select the correct identification of each product from four possible answers. Following, the product identification, each station has one multiple choice question pertaining to the product on display. Questions can be general to the industry that produced the product, (i.e. Texas' national ranking, economic impact to Texas, general nutritional content, region of production) and specific to the individual product that is on display (i.e. cooking method, use, growing season, specific nutrition of the cut or variety). Contestants are given 40 seconds at each station to answer both questions.

### Consumer Decision-Making Contest (C, D, S, N) (\* various contests throughout year)

Everyone is a consumer. Being a consumer is a role that lasts a lifetime. We all make purchases to satisfy our basic human needs for food, clothing, and shelter. As consumers, we also have a variety of wants -- other goods and services we would like to have. So when we buy consumer goods and services, we are satisfying either a consumer need or a consumer want.

The 4-H Consumer Life Skills Project is one method to help youth gain the knowledge and skills to become successful and satisfied consumers. Youth learn how the economy operates, how to make choices and the effects those choices have on the economy and environment, and how to manage money. They learn their rights and responsibilities as consumers.

The Consumer Decision-Making Contest is a competitive event that enables 4-H'ers to practice making decisions based on information about a situation and the marketplace options available. This contest is an opportunity to practice marketplace skills and compare decisions with a panel of judges who are knowledgeable about today's marketplace and the goods and services available.

### County Camps

County Camp allows counties to send youth of all ages (9-18) to camp at the Texas 4-H Center at one time. Whereas Prime Time is age specific, County Camp is for all ages. County groups are housed together in the dorms (by gender) unless it is specified differently on the registration form. Our goal is to fill the Texas 4-H Center to capacity for each of the County Camp sessions. Campers will experience team building and communication skill development through their participation in Challenge Course activities, canoeing, riflery, archery, swimming, dance, sport fishing, and other camp activities. For more information visit the web site: <http://texas4h-ctr.tamu.edu>.

### District 10 Leadership Lab (D)

A leadership workshop geared towards youth ages 13 and up to 4-H'ers who have not graduated from high school. Participants focus on leadership, communication, and teambuilding.

### Duds to Dazzle (C, D, S)

Entry: Teams of 3 to 5

New in 2014, Duds to Dazzle allows 4-H members to demonstrate their knowledge and skills learned in the Clothing and Textiles project. Teams will create a re-designed or repurposed item from the predetermined material(s). Teams will have 60 minutes to design and create their product. Teams will make a presentation to a panel of judges, explaining their design process, how they created their item, how the product would be cared for, and determine a market and price for the sale of their item. The first place teams (from each of the three categories) advance to the state contest.

Contest guide and resources: <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/clothings-textiles>

### Entomology Identification (C, D, S)

Entry: Teams of 3 or 4 youth

Teams will identify selected insects and complete a written examination on insects. Questions will be selected primarily from "Study Materials for 4-H Entomology Contests."

Resources: 4-H Entomology Resource Center website - <http://insects.tamu.edu/youth/4H/index.html> and <http://Lubbock.tamu.edu/4hinsects/>

### Fashion Storyboard Contest (C, D, S)

The 4-H Fashion Storyboard is an industry-inspired method of displaying original designs. The best storyboards create vivid visual images that are interesting and appealing to viewers. The storyboard "tells the story" of the designer's idea. The storyboard includes original illustrations and flats, as well as additional materials such as photos from the Internet or magazines, paper, fabric swatches, patterns, etc., that have influenced the unique design.

### Fashion Show Contest (C, D, S, N)

The 4-H Fashion Show allows members to exhibit skills developed in their clothing projects, including application of knowledge of fibers and fabrics to wardrobe selection; clothing construction or comparison shopping; fashion interpretation and understanding of style; good grooming and poise; and modeling and presentation of themselves and their garments at the county, district, and state levels. The Fashion Show has two subject divisions - Buying and Construction.

There are four categories in each of the two age divisions: Intermediate Division categories include dress/jumper, separates, ensembles, and specialty, while the Senior Division categories are casual, dressy, formal, and specialty. Garments entered at the state levels that meet specific fiber requirements may also be entered in the Natural Fiber Competition.

Senior district winners in each category in both divisions compete at the state level. The State 4-H Fashion Show is held during the State 4-H Roundup. First place winners in each of the Fashion Show categories are eligible to compete in the Fashion Revue at the Western National Roundup in Denver, CO.

### FCH Quiz Bowl (C, D, S)

This team activity helps participants learn core concepts of nutrition, food preparation, and food safety. Clubs can use this "game show" activity as an effective and fun teaching method any time during the year. Refer to "4-H Quiz Bowl Guide" for official procedures.

### Food Challenge (C, D, S, N) (\*various contests throughout year)

The 4-H Food Challenge is a grass-roots effort developed by county Extension agents to address the need for a new, 'highly charged' foods experience. Modeled after such competitions as the Food Network's Iron Chef, the 4-H Food Challenge allows teams of 4-H members to create a dish using only a predetermined amount of ingredients. From these ingredients, 4-H members must identify, prepare and then present information related to the serving size, nutritional value, and cost of the dish. Throughout this energized process, the 4-H members are demonstrating their culinary and food safety skills to judges and on-lookers.

### Food Project Days (C)

Throughout the 4-H year, workshops will be conducted that focus on the Food and Nutrition project.

### Food Show Contest (C, D, S)

This activity is open to all 4-H members. The Food Show provides for educational and personal development, and recognizes youth who excel in the 4-H Food and Nutrition program. The state-level competition is open to senior 4-H members and is held during 4-H State Roundup. Scholarships are awarded to top place. There are similar processes at county and district levels. Refer to "State 4-H Food Show: Guidelines, Rules and Regulations", sent to each county Extension office with the current year's information, or at <http://fcs.tamu.edu>.

### Horizons Camp

The Horizons Program is designed to introduce top students to career opportunities that they may not usually be exposed to through traditional on-campus resources, and then provide them with guidance and support as they proceed through the recruiting process. Although we're primarily focused on business career opportunities like consulting, banking or finance, you don't have to be a business major to join Horizons. In fact, we are really interested in having a diverse group of students in Horizons, to include engineering majors, liberal arts majors, etc.

### Horse Judging (D, S) (\*plus various other contests throughout the year)

Entry: Teams of 3 or 4 youth

Teams will judge two to four Halter classes and four to six Performance classes. Two or three sets of oral reasons will be required—one Halter and one or two Performance. Halter classes will be chosen from the following breeds: American Paint Horse, American Quarter Horse, Appaloosa, and Palomino. Performance classes will be chosen from the following: Trail, Western Pleasure, Western Horsemanship, Western Riding, Reining, Calf Roping, Showmanship at Halter, Hunter Under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation, and Hunter Hack. Classes are judged according to the 4-H Horse Show Rules and Regulations. One or more of the classes in this contest may be presented via electronic methods such as video or DVD. Resources: TAMU Animal Science website - <http://animalscience.tamu.edu>; Online Horse Judging (<http://animalscience.tamu.edu/academics/equine/index.htm>); Youth and Collegiate Horse Judging Leader Guide (<http://agrilifebookstore.org>); Youth and Collegiate Horse Judging Manual (<http://agrilifebookstore.org>)

### Horse Quiz Bowl (C, D, S)

Entry: Teams of 3 or 4 youth only; no individual entries allowed

This contest will follow the rules and procedures listed in the 1999 revision of the "Texas 4-H Quiz Bowl Guide" (4-H 3-2.030). "Horse Quiz Bowl Supplement" (4-H 3-2.031) should be utilized for support information. Official references utilized for contest preparation should be from the Fall 2002 reference list. Additional information is available from the contest superintendent.

### Junior Leadership Retreat (S)

The workshop will focus on basics such as communication skills, leadership, team building, new project and/or activity opportunities, community service, leading recreation, how to manage groups, and more. It is the goal of the workshop to empower youth with the skills they need to become leaders in their community clubs and county programs. The workshop is geared towards 4-H members under the age of 14.

### Leaders 4 Life Skill-a-thon (C, D, S, N)

Entry: Teams of 4 to 6 youth (must have completed Leaders 4 Life curriculum)

This is a fourfold contest that will include the following: (1) Parliamentary Procedure Contest - a demonstration of a simulated 4-H meeting using a standard agenda (provided). Each team will have 20 minutes to conduct their model meeting in front of a panel of judges; (2) Question and Answer with the Judges - Each team will be asked seven questions. Each team member must answer at least one question. The remaining questions may be answered by any team member, as chosen by the team. No team member may answer more than two questions. The questions will be based on parliamentary procedure; (3) Community Service Interpretation - Teams will create a one-page (front and back) interpretation priced highlighting one or more community service projects coordinated and conducted by the county 4-H council. This document will be turned in prior to the state contest for judging.; (4) Quiz Bowl - Teams will choose 4 members to compete in the Quiz Bowl. Two teams will compete at a time. Total score for each team from one round of 30 questions will be their score for this portion of the Skill-a-thon. Teams may make two substitutions during the round. Complete rules and guidelines can be found in the "Leaders 4 Life Skill-a-thon Resource Packet" on the website.

Resources: Leaders 4 Life website - <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/leaders4life/index.php>

### Livestock Judging (D, S, N) (\*plus various other contests throughout the year)

Entry: Teams of 3 or 4 youth

Teams will judge eight classes (three beef, two sheep, two swine, and one goat) and give oral reasons on four (4) classes. No printed materials may be used as an aid during the contest. See rules regarding college students.

Contestants will utilize Expected Progeny Differences (EPD's) on breeding classes.

Resources: TAMU Animal Science website - <http://animalscience.tamu.edu>

### Livestock Quiz Bowl (C, D, S, N)

Entry: Teams of 3 or 4 members; up to 3 teams per district

This Quiz Bowl is an exciting, fast-paced opportunity for youth to display their knowledge of the livestock industry and the science surrounding livestock species. The Bowl is played as a double-elimination tournament, with teams going head-to-head for top honors. The contest will follow the rules and procedures listed in the 1999 revision of the "Texas 4-H Quiz Bowl Guide" (4-H 3-2.020).

### Meat Judging and Identification (D,S)

Entry: Teams of 3 or 4 youth

Meat Judging and Identification is the evaluation and selection of meat cuts from the beef, swine and sheep species. The three high-scoring members of a team shall constitute the official team for the contest; the fourth ranking automatically becomes the alternate. Contestants shall not have competed in an intercollegiate meat contest, or be currently enrolled in or have completed a college-level meats course.

Resources: TAMU Animal Science website - <http://animalscience.tamu.edu>

### Mohair Judging and Evaluation (D, S, N)

Entry: Teams of 3 or 4 youth

Similar to Wool Judging and Evaluation - two (2) classes of four (4) fleeces each will be placed and reasons checked.

Twenty mohair samples will be evaluated for fineness.

Resources: "Judging Wool and Mohair" publication ([www.tcebookstore.org](http://www.tcebookstore.org))

### National 4-H Congress (N)

National 4-H Congress is the flagship event for leadership and community service learning for 4-H members between the ages of 14 to 18 from across the United States. Over 1,300 youth from forty-eight states and two providences participate in the five-day event, beginning the weekend of Thanksgiving, in Atlanta, GA. During the National 4-H Congress, members will take part in various programs and cultural events. Additionally, more than 20 educational programs will feature topics that range from conflict mediation and effective youth leadership skills to biotechnology in agricultural and global environmental policies. The application process to attend begins in the spring.

### Photography Contest (C, D, S)

This contest is open to all 4-H members. The purpose of the 4-H Photography Contest is to develop life skills in composition, light, story line, posing, and awareness; to encourage 4-H members to use photography as a meaningful communication tool in their lives; to provide a photography project showcase opportunity for 4-H members; to improve the public image of 4-H; and to utilize photographs which can promote and strengthen the 4-H program.

### Prime Time Camps

This camp is designed especially for youth ages 9-13 with opportunities to meet new friends, develop new skills, and learn how to work with others. The 3-night, 4-day event is sure to be just the ticket to rejuvenate and recharge you! A well-trained staff of college students under the direction of Youth Development Professionals coordinate camp activities. Activities include: swimming, canoeing, archery, riflery, crafts, sport fishing, climbing and rappelling, and much more! Special evening activities for the whole camp will encourage teamwork and cooperation! For more information visit the web site: <http://texas4h-ctr.tamu.edu>.

### Professional you – 4-H Finishing School (C)

A workshop designed to help youth look towards the future: learning interview skills; obtaining knowledge on completing applications; improving dining etiquette; building resumes; and more.

### Range Evaluation (D, S)

Entry: Teams of 3 or 4 youth

Contestants identify 20 to 40 range plants; determine use, condition, site, and practices for range area; and judge four range plots. In case of inclement weather, mounted plants will make up the contest.

Resources: A master plant list is available from the contest superintendent

### Range and Pasture Grass Identification (D, S)

Entry: Teams of 3 or 4 youth

Participants will identify and classify 40 to 50 live or mounted grass specimens according to their life span, season of growth, origin, and grazing value for livestock and wildlife.

Resources: A grass list is available from the contest superintendent; Texas 4-H website - Projects (<http://texas4h.tamu.edu>)

### School Tour Guides

The School Tour Program was created to organize local and area grade school tours at various livestock shows. The primary reason for school tours is to provide a safe, educational tour of the stock show grounds to the young students and their teachers. The children that are guided on tours are kindergarten through third grade students, ages 5 through 9. Most of the children are from inner city schools and have never seen real farm animals up close. Even school children from a rural area may have never been to a stock show.

### Shooting Sports (C, D, S, N)

The Shooting Sports Project is a comprehensive introduction to shooting sports safety and the fundamentals of shooting disciplines including: archery, pistol, rifle, shotgun, muzzle-loading, and hunting. Youth may participate in one or more of the listed disciplines, however, all disciplines may not be offered in every county. The project concentrates on a strong youth development approach based upon long-term mentorship.

### Soil Judging (D, S)

Entry: Teams of 3 or 4 youth

Teams will judge four soil profiles with 20 minutes allowed for each. They will determine the soil characteristics of the profiles and make interpretations based on observation. Practice sites for the contestants to use will be judged and made available prior to the contest. Resources: Contact the contest superintendent to schedule use of practice sites

### Teen Retreat (S)

A retreat designed to build leadership and life skills in youth to help them become productive leaders in their 4-H clubs.

Workshops will address the following objectives:

- Development of Leadership Styles and Skills
- Exploring Creativity
- Working with Audiences of all Ages
- Team Dynamics
- Communication Skills
- Opportunities through Community Service

### Texas 4-H Congress (S)

Texas 4-H Congress is a four-day mock legislative conference held in the State Capitol in even-numbered years. Through this event, senior 4-H (ages 15 and up) members are able to serve as members of the Senate, House of Representatives, and the Executive Branch. The event also has 4-H members serve as press corps and lobbyists.

Texas 4-H Congress is the premiere leadership conference for Texas 4-H members. It provides outstanding leadership opportunities in public speaking, conflict management, working with others, and oh yes, lots of FUN! The Congress includes exciting theme banquets, formal events, and, of course, a 4-H dance.

Texas 4-H Congress takes place in July of even years in Austin, Texas. Since participation numbers are limited, an application must be completed to be considered attend. Applications are made available in the spring.

### Texas 4-H Volunteer Conference (S)

As the 4-H Program continues to expand and becomes more vital to the youth of Texas, it is imperative that we effectively engage and empower our volunteer network. Our volunteers need access to the highest quality educators and resources so they are best equipped to work in partnership with their local County Extension Agents to further develop our youth. Conference details are posted as they become available. Conferences may also be conducted on-line.

### Wildlife Contest and Workshop (at State Round-Up)

Entry: Open to all intermediate and senior 4-Hers; (non-qualifying) Teams of 3-4 youth

This contest and workshop will give youth the opportunity to explore five 4-H Natural Resource project areas: sport fishing, hunting/wildlife, forestry, entomology, and wildlife habitat evaluation plan (WHEP). The three-part contest includes identification, decision-making, and a knowledge-and-skills quiz that covers the five aforementioned areas.

Resources: Texas 4-H Shooting Sports Hunting and Wildlife Guide; National 4-H Sportfishing Guide, National Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Manual (WHEP); Texas 4-H Forestry Invitational (Texas AgriLife Bookstore); and, Key to Game, Furbearing and Varmint Mammal Skulls of North America

### Wool Judging and Evaluation (D, S, N)

Entry: Teams of 3 or 4 youth

Teams will judge two classes of wool and complete an evaluation form on each. They will evaluate 20 fleeces for grade, staple length and yield. The First and either Second- or Third-Place teams will represent Texas in the National Wool Judging Contest.

Resources: "Judging Wool and Mohair" publication ([www.tcebookstore.org](http://www.tcebookstore.org))

### Youth Leadership Program (C)

Does standing before a group seem a little intimidating? If you answered yes, then you need to take advantage of the Youth Leadership Program. By participating in this 3-day workshop, students will learn to deliver great presentations, lead teams, conduct meetings, give and receive constructive evaluations, and learn to be better listeners.

# 4-H LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES BEYOND THE 4-H CLUB

There are several leadership opportunities for active 4-H members available through the 4-H and Youth Development Program.

## Texas 4-H Leadership Events

The following events are opportunities are leadership opportunities available either annually or every other year and are described in the 4-H Events & Contests section of the handbook:

- County Camps
- District 10 Leadership Lab\*
- Junior Leadership Retreat
- Texas 4-H Congress\*
- National 4-H Congress\*
- National 4-H Conference\*
- Horizons Camp
- Mission Possible\*
- Prime Time Camps
- Teen Retreat
- Texas 4-H Volunteer Conference

\*Some of these opportunities will require an application process in order to be added to a list of candidates

## Texas 4-H Ambassadors Groups

The Texas 4-H Ambassadors groups of youth in a discipline area that promote, advertise, and advance the 4-H program to other youth, volunteers, and community leaders. Not only do they promote the 4-H program to kids and adults, but they also discuss issues and solutions as they apply to youth. Additionally, they assist the County Extension Agents and County 4-H Council with planning the 4-H year and events. These youth apply for these positions in the spring of each year. If selected for this opportunity, they receive training over the summer months and begin working within their disciplines with the start of the new 4-H year.

- Bastrop County 4-H Ambassador Opportunities:
  - 4-H & Youth Coalition
  - Youth Livestock Coalition
  - FCH Coalition
  - Natural Resources Coalition
  - For more information, visit:
- State 4-H Ambassador Opportunities:
  - Healthy Youth Texas Ambassadors
  - Texas 4-H Equine Ambassadors
  - Texas 4-H Fashion & Interior Design Ambassadors
  - Texas 4-H Livestock Ambassadors
  - Texas 4-H Science, Engineering, & Mathematics (STEM) Ambassadors (Tech Team)
  - Texas 4-H Shooting Sports Ambassadors
  - Texas 4-H Water Ambassadors
  - For more information, visit:

## Bastrop County 4-H Council

The County 4-H Council is a committee elected by the 4-H clubs of the county and is responsible to them and to the County Extension Agents who serve as their advisors.

The purpose of serving on the County Council is to:

- Offer an opportunity for the exchange of ideas between clubs.
- Strengthen 4-H club work in the county through involving 4-H club members in helping plan county events and the club's participation in them.
- Demonstrate how to be a democratic representative and how to do specific jobs.
- Provide an opportunity for young people to get to know and work with Extension Agents.
- Provide an opportunity to introduce new ideas, projects, and proposals and explore club members' interest in them.
- Provide an opportunity for young people to work together on countywide community service projects.

Voting membership includes the president and two elected delegates from each club. Elected alternates may vote in the absence of delegates for each club. Each club may have a total of three (3) votes at a Council Meeting. A voting delegate may only represent one club and have one vote at County Council meetings.

Be sure to look through the Bastrop County 4-H Council Bylaws and Standing Rules for more information.

# 4-H RECORDBOOKS

The 4-H Recordbook is the official record of a 4-H member's time and work in the 4-H Program! This book is the place where you keep a record all of your project experiences, leadership experiences, community service activities and much more! You also get to create pages with pictures from your 4-H year to show everyone what you did in 4-H during the past year. While the record book may seem difficult and time consuming at first, once you have a system down, it gets much easier.

Each 4-H member is encouraged to keep a record of their 4-H work throughout the year. This kind of record is the one that remembers your accomplishments and triumphs during the year and are not an extra task, but are a part of the 4-H program. Keeping a 4-H record-book is cool and fun! It's like writing your own history, because it helps you keep track of what you've done and helps you review what you've learned in your projects and is an important life skill. You will keep records in high school, at home, in college, and even if you own your own business or work for someone else. Now is the time to learn how to keep good records.

Completing your record-book can give you a sense of personal accomplishment. Your records:

- Help you earn credit for completing the 4-H year
- Make you eligible to participate in other activities
- Give you the opportunity to be recognized on the county and district level
- Help you set increasingly challenging goals.
- Assist with college and scholarship applications

## Why Should I Complete a Recordbook?

There are many different reasons why you should complete your 4-H Record Book. Keeping a recordbook is a great way to hold onto your memories about each incredible year you have in 4-H. In a few years, you can look through these journals and remember what fun you had. Keeping records is also a great way to develop your skills in communication, organize your time, document events and actions, evaluate your own efforts, set goals, solve problems, and keep track of money. Another good reason to complete your books is the awards and scholarships that you can win with it! Every time you complete a recordbook, you get a project pin in the area you created it in, as well as a year pin! You can also enter it in the county and district recordbook contests for ribbons and other prizes.

**Note: Starting in 2020-2021, Seniors will be required to submit a 4-H recordbook for the 2 previous 4-H years in order to be considered for Bastrop County 4-H Scholarships. So, they would need to submit a recordbook during their Junior (2019-2020) and Senior (2020-2021) year of high school.**

## How Do I Get Started?

Record-books are like journals - they're a way to keep track of what you do and when you do it. Think of it as an entry book that you keep regularly (we recommend weekly or monthly). The point to remember is **when something important happens, write it down.**

The hardest thing to do is stay on top of working on your recordbook. This starts at the beginning of each new 4-H year in August. So, at the beginning of each 4-H Year:

- Set goals for each of your main 4-H projects
- Find a way for you and your family to track your 4-H experiences throughout the year
  - Printing the County 4-H Calendar and highlighting meetings/workshops you attended
  - Writing down experiences in a family calendar
  - Keeping a journal where you log your experiences and write notes about them
  - Keeping a folder with agendas/notes from meetings, workshops, etc.
- Set aside some time each month to work on your recordbook so you don't have to do it in one big sitting
- Mark the due date for Recordbooks in your calendar and turn them in on time!

As you participate in activities throughout the year, think, about what you want to remember about your year in 4-H. It will be your record of progress. Make it yours. Make it creative. Make it memorable. Design your own unique story and pictures. Put it on the computer. Add to your records so that they become your scrapbook. Add photographs. Remember - these are your records. Make them fun!

## Where can I get more Information?

Your County Extension Office will host workshops a couple times a year to go over the guidelines and provide help. You can also access forms and guidelines online at <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/recordbooks/>

# BASTROP COUNTY 4-H PROGRAM

## STANDING RULES

These guidelines outlined below are the general standing rules for the Bastrop County 4-H Program. Other rules exist in the County Council Bylaws which are included in the Family Guide in the next section.

### Code of Conduct:

- All 4-H members and their families are expected to know and abide by the Texas 4-H Code of Conduct, which is accessible online at <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/management/>
  - According to the Texas 4-H Rules, 4-H has a Three-Strikes Rule, which will be enforced
  - Failure to follow the Texas 4-H Code of Conduct will result in consequences as laid out by the Texas 4-H Consequences of Misbehavior document (also available on the website above)
  - The following people will be involved in the discussion and determination of consequences:
    - County Extension Agents & Texas 4-H Staff
    - 4-H Member(s) involved
    - Parent/Guardian of 4-H member(s) involved
    - Club Manager (as determined by County Extension Agents)
  - In the event that someone does not follow the code of conduct, we will respect and maintain the privacy of the individual(s) involved and will not address the specific consequences decided upon with other parties.
- If you are not a registered 4-H member or volunteer, and behave in a way that is detrimental, dangerous, or otherwise not in the best interest of youth development and the 4-H program, you will be asked to leave and escorted from the premises.
- There are to be NO knives, multi-tools, pepper spray, tasers, firearms (not used for Shooting Sports), or any other type of weapon allowed at ANY 4-H event unless otherwise stated.

### 4-H Volunteer Screening:

- Based on concerns for the safety of youth involved in all Extension programs and current societal expectations of volunteer management of youth programs, completing the entire online Texas 4-H Volunteer Leader Registration document **is required** for all volunteers working directly with 4-H and youth.
- Attendance records will be kept and reported to the Bastrop County Extension office by 4-H Club Managers or 4-H Project Group Leaders after each meeting.

### Deadlines:

- 4-H members must adhere to all deadlines for 4-H events and activities.
- *Deadlines are a 4-H member's and parent's responsibility. This includes deadlines for the 4-H Connect System.*
- If a deadline is missed, the 4-H member or volunteer is subject to miss that event.
- Bastrop County 4-H reserves the right to charge a \$25 late fee for missed deadlines

### Consumer Education Project Participation Requirement:

- All participants in Consumer Decision Making who wish to participate in the District 10 Consumer Decision Making Contest hosted at the San Antonio Livestock Show MUST participate in the Bastrop County 4-H Consumer Decision Making Contest in order to compete.
- Please note: 4-H members must register for the San Antonio CDM contest on a San Antonio entry form AND in the District 10 CDM contest in 4-H CONNECT in order to be fully registered for the District 10 CDM contest.

### Food & Nutrition Projects Fee:

- All participants in Food Challenge will be required to pay a one-time annual \$5 fee to participate on a team.
- This is to pay for the upkeep of food challenge kits, practice supplies, resources, and the county contest.

### Livestock Drug Policy:

- Any youth exhibiting an animal testing positive for an illegal drug at a livestock show shall be **disqualified** and **prohibited** from ever representing Bastrop County 4-H at **ANY livestock show**.



# BASTROP COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL

## BYLAWS & STANDING RULES

### ARTICLE I: NAME & OBJECTIVES

- A. The name of this organization shall be the Bastrop County 4-H Council.
- B. This shall be a nonprofit organization exclusively for the purpose of promoting 4-H Club work.
- C. The objectives of this organization shall be:
  - 1. To provide learning situations for the development of leadership, responsibility, and effective citizenship.
  - 2. To provide educational and challenging experiences that will enable young people to become knowledgeable and skilled in their selected project areas.
  - 3. To provide information and training in other 4-H activities as members' interests dictate.
  - 4. To help each member experience personal growth and achievement, as well as be of service to others.

### ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

The Bastrop County 4-H Council membership is composed of the following:

- 5. The president and two council delegates from each 4-H club in the county
- 6. The officers of the Council
- 7. Delegates should be at least twelve years old with two (2) years of 4-H club membership.

### ARTICLE III: COUNCIL OFFICERS

- A. Officers to be elected for the Council include: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, Reporter, Historian, two District Delegates and one Alternate District Delegate.
- B. **Age requirements:** President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, three District Delegates and one Alternate delegate must be fourteen by August 31st of the year they are elected.
- C. **Term of office:** Officers shall be elected annually and shall not be eligible for the same office in two consecutive full terms (with the exception of District and Alternate Delegates). The term of office for all officers shall be September 1st to August 31st of the next year.
- D. Officers shall have had at least two (2) years of club membership including the current year.
- E. No council officer should hold more than one (1) office on the council, with the exception of district delegates.
- F. President and vice president cannot be in the same family.
- G. Those wanting to run for office must fill out an application and submit it to the County Extension staff by March 15th. Officers will be elected at the April meeting for the following year.
- H. **Those wanting to run for office must have submitted a recordbook the previous year and must submit one for the current year. (Summer is when county record books are due. Recordbook as defined by the Texas 4-H Program.)**
- I. **Missed meetings:** Two unexcused absences are all that is allowed without the officer being replaced. An excused absence does not count against you. An excused absence is defined as a death in the family, illness, conflicting school functions or if you are participating in another approved 4-H function. Bring proof of an excused absence to the next meeting and present it to the secretary.
- J. **Mandatory Planning/Training Attendance:** It is mandatory for all Council officers to attend the annual planning meeting and the Prestige Leadership Conference. Failure to attend these two (2) events will result in the 4-H member relinquishing their Council Officer position. An excused absence does not count against you.

## ARTICLE IV: COUNCIL OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

### A. **President**

1. Serves as chairman of the executive committee.
2. Presides at all council meetings and uses basic parliamentary procedure to conduct effective, orderly meetings.
3. Assists in developing a council meeting agenda for each meeting.
4. Contacts each person who has a part during the meeting and encourages them to be prepared.
5. Appoints committees as needed. The president is an ex-officio member of all committees.
6. Arrives at least thirty minutes before the meeting to set up room suitable for meeting and program, including setting up flags and banners, and to counsel with other officers, leaders and county agents about last minute changes to the agenda.
7. Exhibits good leadership qualities and is a role model to the members of the council and all 4-H members in the county.
8. Attends District 10 4-H Council Meetings as a delegate and acts as leader of delegation attending.(see district delegate responsibilities)

### B. **Vice President**

1. Assists the president at council meetings.
2. Presides at meetings and performs other duties of the president in the absence of the president.
3. Becomes president if the president leaves, resigns or is relieved of office.
4. Arrives at least thirty minutes before meeting to set up room suitable for meeting and program.

### C. **Secretary**

1. Calls the roll and keeps attendance records.
2. Reads the minutes of the last meeting.
3. Reports if a quorum is present to conduct business.
4. Keeps complete and accurate minutes of all meetings.
5. Submits a copy of the minutes to the Extension office by the Friday following the council meeting.
6. Writes and reads thank you letters, on behalf of Bastrop County 4-H Council.
7. Reads correspondence by Bastrop County 4-H Council at meetings.

### D. **Treasurer**

1. Gives report of council's financial condition at each meeting.
2. Keeps accurate records of all receipts and expenditures of council funds.
3. Signs checks on the council account.
4. Balances 4-H Council checkbook each month.
5. Serves on the finance committee.

#### **District Delegates** (*4 total consisting of council president, 2 acting delegates and 1 alternate*)

6. Attends each district 4-H Council meeting and participates. Mandatory for delegates.
7. Reports to the county council on district activities.
8. Serves as a voting delegate for the county at district events.
9. Works on district 4-H Council activities.

### E. **Parliamentarian**

1. Is versed on parliamentary procedure and assists in maintaining order at council meetings.
2. Provide interpretation of by-laws to council when in question.
3. Review 4-H club by-laws and assesses whether they agree with County 4-H Council statutes.

F. **Reporter**

1. Writes accurate articles for news releases of county 4-H council activities
2. Submits these articles to the county Extension office.

G. **Historian**

1. Maintains county 4-H scrapbook each year.
2. Retrieves area newspapers, and photographs of 4-H events from Extension office to compile scrapbook.

ARTICLE V: CLUB OFFICER POLICY

The policy governing 4-H club officers will be set by each individual club in their by-laws. Officer responsibilities can be reviewed by requesting a copy of the club by-laws from either the 4-H Club Manager or the Bastrop County Extension Office.

ARTICLE VI: FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

*Note: The Extension office will not take cash. Payments must be made by money order or check only.*

A. **Finance Committee:**

This committee shall consist of two adult leaders, two senior 4-H Council members and the Council treasurer.

- B. A 4-H Adult Leader and the treasurer of the 4-H Council will be responsible for the signing of checks provided that both officers are not from the same club or in the same family. In this case it will move to another 4-H Adult Leader.

- C. The official review date of the 4-H Council books for the current calendar year will take place during May or June of the current 4-H year. A report on the findings of the official review will be presented at the September 4-H Council meeting.

- D. The Bastrop County 4-H Council shall not and will not be held responsible for any expenses concerning the transportation of Adult Leaders or 4-H members to any activity unless prior approval is granted by the 4-H Council.

E. **Office Procedures:**

*The Extension office has procedures that will be enforced for the safety of all staff and for the safety of all records. No financial transactions will take place after 4:30 p.m. No cash will be taken, only checks and money orders. The office will be locked at 5:00 p.m.; any business after 5:00 p.m. will be conducted the next day.*

F. **District/State Contest and Event Registration on 4-H Connect:**

The Bastrop 4-H Council partially pays for some State Contests and events (please check policy handbook for those events). The Council will continue to pay their share of these events; however, the office has a reimbursement policy for bookkeeping purposes.

*After the participant has attended the activity or event, please bring the 4-H Connect or other 4-H system registration receipt and proof the member participated in the event to the office and you will be reimbursed for the amount 4-H Council pays for that specific event. Please call the office and allow one week for reimbursement. This will insure that all best practices policies are being met. Financial transactions will not be conducted in the Extension office after 4:30 p.m. due to safety reasons.*

***Registration deadlines are a 4 -H member's and parent's responsibility.***

ARTICLE VII: FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY

The 4-H club/group shall adhere to all guidelines related to financial accountability as outlined in the Texas 4-H Youth Development 4-H Club Financial Management Rules and Guidelines.

ARTICLE VIII: MEETINGS

The Council shall meet at least five (5) times per year with the meetings scheduled on the First Tuesday of September, October, December, February, and April. The president may call special meetings when necessary.

An additional planning meeting may be held during the month of August to organize the Bastrop County 4-H Achievement Banquet.

## ARTICLE IX: QUORUM

A quorum shall consist of one-third (1/3) of the voting members. This number shall include representatives from at least one half (½) of the clubs in council. A quorum must be present before any business can be conducted. Clubs may be subject to removal if they miss two council meetings.

## ARTICLE X: VOTING BODY & ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Each club will have three (3) voting delegates eligible to vote at the election of Council officers. Only those candidates who have filled out an application and submitted it to the Extension staff by the March deadline will be eligible for election. The president of Council votes on a motion, or in an election, only to break a tie. All other business can be voted on by council delegates.

## ARTICLE XI: COUNTY EQUIPMENT

The equipment belonging to Bastrop County 4-H Council may only be **signed out and used** by 4-H club members, Texas Extension Education Association Clubs, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension staff and to whomever permission is granted by the Extension staff of Bastrop County.

When checking out 4-H equipment, you are responsible for the care of the equipment and for returning it to the Extension Office on date specified on sign out sheet. Equipment is checked out on a first-come, first-served basis, so make your reservation early. A deposit is required when checking out equipment. The deposit will be returned to you if the equipment is returned undamaged after being checked by an Extension Agent.

## ARTICLE XII: CLUB DISBANDMENT

Upon the disbandment of the club, all real property, including money, equipment and land shall become the property of the County 4-H Program for care and disposition and authorizes the Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service and county extension agent(s) full rights to access bank records, bank funds, and all other banking authority. This also applies to all inventory and assets acquired by and or owed by this organization.

The last official duty of the club's manager shall be to affect the transfer of club property and to turn over club records to the county Extension Agent or other extension designees.

## ARTICLE XIII: AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the club by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided that the proposed amendments have been presented to the club in writing and filed with the secretary at the previous meeting of the club. Amendments must not conflict with the basic 4-H philosophy or the Texas 4-H Club/Group Charter Agreement. These amendments are effective upon the affirmative vote of the members present.

## ARTICLE XIV: STANDING COMMITTEES

- A. The Standing Committees shall be 4-H Week Committee, 4-H Achievement Banquet Committee, and the Fund-Raising Committee.
- B. Other Committees will be created as needed and assigned to a Bastrop County 4-H Ambassador group for planning.
- C. Standing Committee Membership shall consist of members of the assigned club or Bastrop County 4-H Ambassador group. These committees will assume their responsibilities as of September 1st of the given year.
- D. **Committee Responsibilities:**
  1. **4-H Week Committee** - Responsibilities include developing a plan for the county to follow throughout National 4-H Week to promote 4-H and recruit new members.
  2. **Banquet Committee** - Responsibilities include securing and decorating the facility and coordinating the dinner, assisting with registration.
  3. **Fund Raising Committee** - Responsibilities include helping plan, coordinate and implement the 4-H Cake Auction and other fund-raising activities.

ARTICLE XV: COUNTY AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

A. **Year Pins:**

A year pin checklist must be submitted to determine whether a Bronze, Silver, or Gold Pin will be awarded. To be eligible for a pin, members must attend fifty percent (50%) of their club meetings after they join or for the entire year. Club managers' signatures are required.

B. **Project Pins:**

To be eligible for a Pin, members must submit a completed recordbook and attend fifty percent (50%) of their club meetings. Upon request, a 4-H member may substitute a project pin in a secondary project, if properly documented in the 4-H Recordbook. (1 project pin per year)

C. **District & State Winners:**

All 4-H members winning 1<sup>st</sup> place at District Contests and 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> place at the State level in various 4-H contests will be given an award at the 4-H Awards Banquet. Animal related (livestock, rabbit and dog) shows are not eligible for this award.

D. **4-H Jackets:**

4-H members placing first at District or State level contest will have the opportunity to receive a County 4-H jacket. The Council will pay 100% of the cost of the 4-H Jacket. Each 4-H'er is allowed one jacket as a Junior or Intermediate 4-H member and one jacket as a senior 4-H member (for a maximum of two jackets in a 4-H member's career). Jackets will be uniform consisting of the same color scheme and style.

E. **District & State Officers or Committee Members:**

Bastrop County 4-H members who are elected to a District or State 4-H office or committee will receive an award for their leadership roles.

It is the responsibility of the District and/or State winner to notify the Extension office of their award so that jackets or awards can be ordered. Please notify the office on or before July 1. Agents are not able to attend all District and State events, so please call the office if the 4-H member places in an event so they can receive proper recognition at the County Awards Banquet.

F. **Gold Star Award:**

The Gold Star Award is the highest county achievement award and intended to be received only once in a member's 4-H career. Counties have award quotas based on the number of senior 4-H members. The award will be presented to the most deserving young people without regard to sex. **The award recipients will be expected to attend the County Achievement Banquet.**

The following criteria for selection are the minimum requirements that must be met:

1. The 4-H member must be at least fifteen years of age as of August 31 of the current year.
2. The 4-H member must have completed at least three years in 4-H including the current year.
3. The 4-H member must submit an awards program recordbook in the year he or she is to be considered for the Gold Star Award, and the previous year.
4. The 4-H member must have completed projects in three different project areas, including submission of appropriate record forms, via recordbook.
5. The 4-H member must have participated in one or more activities in at least three of the following areas:

*\*Method Demonstration \*Projects \*Project Exhibits*  
*\*Camps \*Leadership Labs \*Citizenship Activities*  
*\*Public Relations \*Community Service \*Other 4-H Activities*

6. The 4-H member must have exhibited leadership skills by having served as a 4-H officer or committee chairman at some level of 4-H organization (club, county, district or state), and/or having served as a Intermediate or teen leader in an activity or project with, or under the supervision of, an adult volunteer leader.
7. The 4-H member must have participated in one or more community service activities. Examples include:

*\*Working or counseling Junior 4-H members.*  
*\*Participating in community service projects.*  
*\*Motivating other 4-H members through participation in demonstrations, projects, and/or exhibits.*

**Gold Star Application:** (available at the county Extension office) must be submitted in full with the 4-H recordbook on the date announced by the Extension office in the newsletter. Winner scores will be determined by application, recordbook and interview. ONLY in extenuating circumstances and after submitting a letter of request explaining the need, a phone interview can be granted.

G. **Silver Star Award:**

This award will be presented to the senior age 4-H member that excels in their work, who is involved in at least three (3) different project areas, but does not have as much leadership and community service experience as the Gold Star recipients. Winners' scores will be determined by application, recordbook and interview. Application should be submitted with recordbook on the date announced by the Extension office in the newsletter.

H. **Bronze Star Award:**

This award will be presented to the Intermediate age 4-H member that excels in their work, who is involved in at least two (2) different project areas, and exhibits exemplary leadership and community service experience. Winners' scores will be determined by application, recordbook and interview. Application should be submitted with recordbook on the date announced by the Extension office in the newsletter.

I. **I Dare You Award:**

This award is offered as recognition of excellence in character, well balanced personal development, as well as demonstrated qualities of constructive leadership. To be eligible, the 4-H member must be at least 14 as of August 31<sup>st</sup> of the current year, complete three years in 4-H and submit completed 4-H recordbook with application on the date announced by the Extension office. Winner will be determined by application, recordbook and interview.

J. **Outstanding County Junior & Intermediate 4-H Member Awards:**

The selection of these awards will be based on the completed 4-H Recordbook that is submitted. **Two (2) Juniors and two (2) Intermediates will be selected.** To be eligible, 4-H members must carry two (2) or more projects and not have received the award in previous years. Applications are due as announced by Agent in the 4-H newsletter.

K. **4-H Scholarships:**

As information is received regarding scholarships, it will be printed in the 4-H newsletters and other 4-H media. These scholarships include the Bastrop County Texas Extension Education Association Club, Texas 4-H Foundation, Texas A&M University College of Agriculture, Pecan Auxiliary, L. F. McDonald, Bastrop County 4-H Memorial, Bastrop County Home and Community Council and Go Texan. County Scholarships - applications to be completed in FULL by due date. Applicant must submit a 4-H recordbook in order to be eligible to receive a scholarship.

L. **Adult Leader Recognition:**

In five (5) year increments, leaders from the Active Enrollment List will be presented with leader pins.

M. **4-H Alumni & Friend of 4-H Awards:**

Each Club is eligible to nominate one (1) person for 4-H Alumni and one (1) person for Friend of 4-H. These nominations are due in the Extension office on or before April 15.

ARTICLE XVI: 4-H SWEETHEART

A. **Event Representation Requirements:**

The 4-H Sweetheart will represent Bastrop County 4-H at several public events throughout the given year from September 1st through August 31st. Those events will include:

1. Bastrop Homecoming Parade or Bastrop Christmas Parade
2. Smithville Jamboree Parade
3. Elgin Western Day Parade
4. 4-H Cake Auction
5. 4-H Achievement Banquet
6. Bastrop County Junior Livestock Show
7. Bastrop Area Livestock Show
8. Smithville Livestock Show and Exposition
9. McDade Watermelon Festival Parade

The Sweetheart must attend these events to represent 4-H. If she cannot attend, she must notify the 4-H princess two weeks prior to event. Failure of the sweetheart to attend three events will relinquish title to 4-H princess.

**B. Qualifications:**

1. Candidate must be eleven and not over eighteen by August 31 of the current year.
2. Candidate must be an active 4-H member for the past two years, prior to submitting Sweetheart application.
3. Candidate must be selected or nominated by their 4-H Club.
4. Candidate must have submitted a 4-H Recordbook on the county level the year of submitting the Sweetheart application and the previous year.
5. Candidate must provide proof of an overall minimum seventy grade average with Sweetheart application. This may be done with a letter from your principal or with your current report card. If during her reign the Sweetheart has failing grades at report card time, the Princess will assume Sweetheart duties.
6. Candidate must complete an application and turn it in at the County Extension Office on the date of the current year as announced by the County Extension Agent.
7. 4-H members cannot serve more than one term as 4-H Sweetheart during their 4-H career.

**C. Selection:**

1. A panel of judges will judge the Sweetheart candidates. The judges will select a Sweetheart and a Princess.
2. Scoring will be based on 4-H Recordbook (35%), application (35%), and interview (30%).

**D. Awards:**

The 4-H Sweetheart will be awarded a 4-H Jacket, a crown and leather banner. The 4-H Princess will receive a plaque and a leather banner. The crown and leather banners will be passed down from year to year, and must be returned to the Extension office in August at the end of the reign.

ARTICLE XVII: CONTESTS

*Note: Bastrop County 4-H Contests will follow District and State 4-H Guidelines.*

**A. County Roundup:**

Consists of State Roundup contests including: Public Speaking Demonstrations or Talks, Quiz Bowls and Share the Fun. Contest age groups are determined as of August 31st of current year. In these contests, the first place entry in the Junior, Intermediate and Senior Division in each category will advance to District Roundup. See Texas 4-H Roundup Guide for categories.

**B. Team Judging Events:**

A team is a group of members working together and sharing their knowledge. One may participate on an individual basis. Team members must attend fifty percent of their workshops to be on a judging team. If a team member has attended the workshops and finds out he/she will be unable to attend a contest, the adult leader or coach should immediately contact all team members so an alternate can fill the vacancy.

**C. County Food Show:**

An individual 4-H member enters a recipe and required paperwork by a designated date for judging. The individual then exhibits the recipe submitted at County Food Show. The 4-H'er will be judged on food exhibited and nutrition knowledge. High point awards in each age division Junior, Intermediate and Senior divisions will be awarded.

**D. County Fashion Show:**

An individual 4-H member submits a short description of your garment and a Fashion Show worksheet by designated date. There are fashion show divisions for buying and construction. High point awards in each age division Junior, Intermediate and Senior divisions will be awarded.

## ARTICLE XVIII: SPONSORSHIP OF ACTIVITIES

- A. **County 4-H Camp:**  
Any 4-H member who is enrolled in a Bastrop County 4-H club is eligible to attend camp. Club managers and the Extension office will verify membership. Enrollment in 4-H Connect must be completed and in the Extension office by September 30th of the current 4-H year. Exception: The 4-H'er is a first time enroller. The 4-H Council will pay the full registration cost for the required number of adult chaperones attending camp (1:8 ratio of adults to youth). Chaperones must be enrolled as a 4-H adult leader in the county, and have been approved through YPS screening. Fuel cost will not be reimbursed.
- B. **District 10 Leadership Lab:**  
4-H members age thirteen (as of August 31) and older from Bastrop County may attend. 4-H Council will pay 75% of the lab costs for each participant. The Bastrop County Pecan Auxiliary offers a one (1) time scholarship to pay for a portion of a 4-H members' Leadership Lab registration fee. **Attendance is required in order to be eligible to receive sponsorship.** Applications for this scholarship are available in the Extension Office.
- C. **District 10 4-H Roundup:**  
The 4-H Council will not reimburse any registration fees or expenses for attending District Roundup competitive events.
- D. **Texas 4-H Congress:**  
Congress is for older 4-H members who are at least fifteen years of age at the time Congress is held. Congress is held in Austin in even numbered years. 4-H Council will pay 75% of the cost of 4-H Congress. **Attendance is required in order to be eligible to receive sponsorship.**
- E. **Texas 4-H Roundup:**  
The Council will pay for ½ of the cost of the registration fee for youth members attending State Roundup in College Station, Texas. Council will not pay for lodging, tours, food, parking or tee-shirts. **Attendance is required in order to be eligible to receive sponsorship.**



# THE 4-H YEAR: A TIMELINE

**Events marked with an asterisk (\*) are subject to being held at different times in other years.**

Be sure to check the Bastrop County 4-H Blog for other (especially local) planned events & note that this is not all inclusive for all events. If you have any further questions, contact the County Extension Office (CEO).

## AUGUST

- Awards banquet
- Calf Scramble paperwork due to CEO
- Enroll/Re-enroll in 4-H Connect
- Lamb and goat tag order due at county office
- State Fair & HOT entries due

## SEPTEMBER

- 4-H Fun Night (4-H 101)
- BALS Steer & Heifer Validation/Entries Due
- Broiler entries for BALS due
- Broiler orders for major shows due
- County Council meeting
- FCH Project Leader Trainings
- D-10 Conference
- Swine tag orders due at county office

## OCTOBER

- County Council meeting
- County Food Challenge \*
- County Food Show \*
- Major Heifer, Lamb, & Goat Validation
- National 4-H Week
- One Day 4-H
- State Fair of Texas & HOT Shows

## NOVEMBER

- Late enrollment fee begins on the 1<sup>st</sup>
- BALS Rabbit entries due
- Elgin Livestock Show entries due
- Major show entries and paperwork due at CEO
- Swine validation
- Validation for Livestock entering Smithville Show

## DECEMBER

- County Council Meeting
- District 10 4-H Roundup \*
- Pecan Auxiliary Pecan Bake Show & Sale
- Record-book workshop
- Scholarship workshop \*
- Validation for swine, lambs, & goats entering BALS

## JANUARY

- Dog Project validations & verifications \*
- Elgin Livestock Show
- Fort Worth Livestock Show
- Ft. Worth and San Angelo, & San Antonio eligibility forms sent to schools
- Texas 4-H Foundation Scholarship Reviews

## FEBRUARY

- BALS Rabbit Validation
- County Council Meeting
- District 10 CDM contest \*
- Pecan Auxiliary V-day Bake Sale
- Rodeo Austin/Star of Texas eligibility forms sent to schools
- San Angelo Livestock Show
- San Antonio and Houston eligibility forms sent to schools
- San Antonio Livestock Show

## MARCH

- Bastrop Area Livestock Show (BALS)
- Houston Livestock Show
- Locate Steers for next year's major shows
- Smithville Rabbit Validation
- Star of Texas eligibility forms sent to schools
- Star of Texas Livestock Show

## APRIL

- County and District Fashion Contests
- County Council meeting
- District judging contests - livestock, soil, etc.
- District Rifle Contest
- Plan for next year's livestock projects
- Record-book workshop
- State Fair lamb, goat and swine tag orders due at CEO
- State Horse Validation due
- State Photography entries due
- Steer tag order due at county office
- Textile contest entries due

## MAY

- Club officer elections
- District Fashion Show \*
- District Horse Show paperwork due at county office
- District Leaders 4 Life \*
- District Round-up \*
- District Storyboard contest \*
- Leadership Lab registration due at county office
- Record-book work-day

## JUNE

- Award applications due at county office
- County Recordbook Judging
- District 10 Horse Show
- District 10 Leadership Lab
- Major Show Steer validation
- Record-books due at county office
- State 4-H Round-up
- Summer opportunities
- Youth Leadership Program \*

## JULY

- Charter clubs for next year
- County Camp
- State Horse Show
- State Shooting Sports games
- Summer camp opportunities
- Turkey orders due

# HELPFUL WEBSITES

## Bastrop County 4-H Websites:

- Main Website: <https://bastrop.agrilife.org>
- Blog: [www.bastrop4h.blogspot.com](http://www.bastrop4h.blogspot.com)
- Facebook: [www.facebook.com/BastropCounty4H](http://www.facebook.com/BastropCounty4H)

## Texas & National 4-H Websites:

- 4-H After School: <http://4hafterschool.org>
- District 10 4-H Website: <https://d104-h.tamu.edu/>
- National 4-H Curriculum Center: <https://4-h.org/parents/curriculum/>
- National 4-H Headquarters: <https://4-h.org>
- National 4-H Supply: <http://www.4-Hmall.org>
- Texas 4-H Center (Brownwood, TX) home page: <https://texas4hcenter.tamu.edu/>
- Texas 4-H Clover Guide: <https://counties.agrilife.org/bastrop/files/2020/04/2019-2020-Texas-4-H-Clover-Guide.pdf>
- Texas 4-H Friends & Alumni: <https://texas4hfoundation.org/alumni/>
- Texas 4-H home page: <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/>
- Texas 4-H Management: <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/management/>
- Texas 4-H Projects: <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/>
- Texas 4-H Recordbook Information: <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/recordbooks/>
- Texas 4-H Roundup (Contest) Information: <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/events/roundup/>
- Texas 4-H Scholarship Information: <https://texas4hfoundation.org/scholarship-resources/>

## Quality Counts Website (Mandatory for Livestock Exhibitors):

- Quality Counts Website: <https://www.texaslivestockvalidation.com/qc/qcregister.aspx>

## Local Livestock Show Websites (in alphabetical order):

- Bastrop Area Livestock Show (BALS/BALSFA): None
- Elgin Livestock Show (ELS/ELSA): <https://www.elginlivestockshowassociation.com/>
- Smithville Livestock Show: <https://www.jamboreesmithville.com/>

## Major Livestock Show Websites (in typical date order):

- State Fair of Texas (Dallas, TX): <https://bigtex.com/>
- Heart of Texas (Waco, TX): <https://www.hotfair.com/>
- Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo (Fort Worth, TX): <https://www.fwssr.com/>
- San Angelo Stock Show & Rodeo (San Angelo, TX): <https://www.sanangelorodeo.com/>
- San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo (San Antonio, TX): <https://www.sarodeo.com/livestock>
- Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo (Houston, TX): <https://www.rodeohouston.com/>
- Rodeo Austin/Star of Texas (Austin, TX): <https://rodeoaustin.com/>

# 4-H TERMINOLOGY & ACRONYMS

**4-H Calendar** - Annual schedule of events provided to each 4-H family. The calendar may be found on the Bastrop County 4-H blog and website.

**4-H Blog** - A source of information on upcoming events, activities and contests, it is intended to be read by both 4-H members and parents. The blog is located at [www.bastrop4h.blogspot.com](http://www.bastrop4h.blogspot.com).

**4-H Volunteer** - People who care about kids and who supervise activities. They are carefully screened and trained to make sure that 4-H'ers are safe.

**4-H Year** - September 1 to August 31 of the current year.

**Academic Eligibility Form** - "No Pass - No Play" rule. 4-H members enrolled in public school must be academically eligible to participate and compete in all 4-H events or activities and/or when being absent from school to participate in a 4-H event or activity. Not all events/activities are acceptable to missing school or class time.

**Achievement Awards** - Are judged on application, record book, and/or interview. These awards are presented at the end of the 4-H year annual banquet.

**Activity** - Any event planned through the club or Extension office for 4-H members.

**Background Check** - Screening required by the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program prior to an adult serving as a volunteer.

**Clover Kid** - Kids ages 5 through 8 who are eligible to participate in any 4-H event, activity, or project but are not eligible to compete for an award.

**Club Manager** - Selected annually by the club and approved by the County Extension office. The club manager gives leadership to the overall organization and management of the club. A club manager serves as both a key person to your club and to the county 4-H program.

**Code of Conduct** - Explains the behavior that is expected of a 4-H member and the consequences for inappropriate behavior. ***This on-line form is required*** and must be signed and dated by each 4-H member during enrollment or re-enrollment.

**Community Service Project** - An activity conducted by a 4-H member or group for the benefit of the community. Examples: planting flowers, collecting canned foods.

**Consumer Judging** - Participants learn to make decisions about their available resources. Participants are part of a team and learn to compare four like items and rank the items based on the most economical to least economical.

**County Extension Agent (CEA)** - An employee of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service who specializes in either agriculture, family and consumer sciences, horticulture, youth development, or natural resources. All agents have some responsibility for the 4-H program.

**County Extension Office (CEO)** - The office housing the CEA's and 4-H program; the Bastrop CEO is physically located at 901 Pecan Street; Bastrop, TX 78602.

**County 4-H Achievement Banquet** - An annual event held in the fall of the year to honor 4-H members, leaders, and supporters. A meal is served and an awards program is conducted by the Bastrop County 4-H Council.

**County 4-H Camps** - A time for 4-H members to learn and have fun. Camps may be overnight or day camps. Day camps have included Food 'n Fitness, Clothing 'n Crafts, and many others.

**County 4-H Council** - A council composed of three elected delegates from each organized 4-H club in the county. Its purpose is to plan and coordinate activities and events on a county-wide basis. Three delegates from this group represent Bastrop County on the District 10 4-H Council.

**District Leadership Lab** - A three-day retreat held at the Texas 4-H Center in Brownwood. Designed for older 4-H'ers to practice and learn leadership skills. The election of District 10 4-H Council officers is held at Leadership Lab.

**District 10 (Southwest)** - 21 counties make up District 10, including Bastrop County. The district headquarters is located in Uvalde at the Texas A&M University System Research and Extension Center.

**District 10 Conference** - A gathering of district agents and leaders for training.

**Enrollment** - On-line enrollment is used to record important information about 4-H members and volunteer leaders. Profiles must be updated every year before youth/adults will be enrolled and allowed to participate in 4-H.

**FFA** - Future Farmers of America (Officially changed in 1988 to The National FFA Organization to reflect the growing diversity of agriculture). An organization structured in middle and high schools.

**Fashion Show** - An activity for 4-H members that allows members to exhibit skills developed in their clothing projects.

**Food Show** - An activity for 4-H members providing educational and personal development and recognizing youth who excel in the 4-H Food and Nutrition program.

**Gold Star** - Highest county achievement award and will be awarded only once in a member's 4-H career. The award is presented to the most deserving young person without regard to gender.

**HLSR** - Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo

**Horse Show** - An activity that helps 4-H'ers increase their knowledge of horses and the Texas 4-H Horse Program. Horse show skills in horsemanship, horse training, and horse management.

**IFYE** - International Foreign Youth Exchange. IFYE delegates live and work with host families abroad for 6 to 8 weeks. Must be 19-25 years old to participate. Texas families may host IFYE delegates from other countries for 2 to 3 week periods during the summer.

**Junior Leader Rally** - A District 10 leadership workshop for youth 9-13 years old.

**Leadership** - A skill for 4-H'ers to motivate and inform speakers who work with youth to understand topics such as goal setting, conflict resolution, relationship, direction, and personalities.

**Livestock** - Farm animals used to compete in various events in Texas. Here 4-H'ers build their knowledge about market- and breeding beef, swine, and sheep.

**Mega Meeting** -

**National 4-H Center** - Located in Chevy Chase, Maryland, just outside Washington, D.C. Operated by the National 4-H Council, the center is an education facility that can provide lodging for over 700 people.

**National 4-H Council** - Chartered as a non-profit organization with the sole purpose of supporting and complementing the 4-H program and activities of the AgriLife Extension Service.

**National 4-H Supply Service** - A service of the National 4-H Council that supplies 4-H clubs and members with 4-H shirts, cups, note pads, and many other 4-H items. These items can be ordered from a catalog available from the Extension Office.

**National 4-H Week** - Held the first full week in October. Provides the opportunity to increase public awareness and understanding of 4-H.

**Prime Time Camp** - A summer camp for 4-H'ers ages 9 to 13 held at the Texas 4-H Center. One-half of the week is for 12-13 year olds and the other half is for the 9-11 group.

**Project** - A subject or specific topic in which 4-H members complete learning activities throughout the year. Written materials are available in many areas. Project meetings are usually held at times other than when 4-H club business meetings are held.

**Project Group Meeting** - Meetings where 4-H members learn about their specific project area. Coordinated by an adult project leader or teen leader.

**Record-book** - A journal of knowledge gained, skills learned, and goals accomplished.

**Round-Up** - Round-up consists of competitive contests in which participants qualify for the opportunity to compete at the state level by winning at the county and district levels. Activities include educational presentations, Share-the-Fun, judging contests, quiz bowls, public speaking, and fashion shows.

**SALE** - San Antonio Livestock Exposition (Livestock Show and Rodeo)

**Scholarship** - Monies awarded to youth based on participation. Application may be obtained from the Extension office.

**School Curriculum Enrichment** - A cooperative effort between a school and the Extension Service. It is an educational program designed to complement school enrichment.

**SpecTra Camp** - A summer camp for 4-H'ers ages 14-18 held at the Texas 4-H Center. This camp is project-specific. Project areas vary from year to year. This event takes place during odd-numbered years.

**STFR** - Star of Texas Fair and Rodeo

**Tags** - Identification marks that are ordered for goats, lambs, swine, and steers. These tags are placed on the animal to identify ownership and county.

**Teen Leader Retreat** - A retreat for 4-H'ers ages 14-19, held annually in January, designed to gain leadership skills, make new friends, and have fun.

**Texas 4-H Conference Center** - A facility owned and operated by the Texas 4-H Foundation on Lake Brownwood, 12 miles north of Brownwood, Texas. The center includes a conference center with 22 motel style rooms, 10 dormitories that can accommodate 300 people, meeting facilities, a cafeteria, a swimming pool, recreation facilities, and a lake-side pavilion. 4-H programs are conducted year-round.

**Texas 4-H State Council** - Consists of two or three 4-H delegates from each of the 12 Extension districts. They help plan and conduct state-wide 4-H events and represent the Texas 4-H program.

**Texas 4-H Clover** - A handbook outlining state-wide 4-H contests, educational workshops, and the 4-H recognition program. Updated annually, the handbook includes all information on scholarships.

**Texas 4-H Volunteer Leaders Association (TX VLAT)** - A state-wide organization consisting of delegates from each of the 21 district leaders associations.

**Validation** - A validation registers an animal to an owner in Bastrop County by ear tag, tattoo, nose print, and/or DNA sample.

**Youth Protection Standards (YPS)** - The state office each county goes through to have volunteers screened.

# CIVIL RIGHTS AND AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

Beginning in the late 1960's, the United States Department of Agriculture made an introspective review of its programs. The purpose of this effort was to determine if discriminatory practices were in effect in hiring or programming. As a result of this internal study, the Secretary of Agriculture issued a memorandum to all agencies charging them to examine their programs in relation to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. This memorandum has become known as "Secretary's Memorandum 1662" and now serves as the basis of the Affirmative Action program nationwide.

The 4-H Affirmative Action Program was an outgrowth of the charges in this and supplemental memorandums. A national committee took guidelines provided by the Justice Department and devised a plan which was submitted and approved. In early 1972, each state was instructed to devise their own state Affirmative Action Program using the national plan as a guideline.

The Texas plan was written and approved, and has become the Texas 4-H Affirmative Action program. The Program was instituted in 1972, and individual plans were completed by every Texas county served by Extension in early 1972. The plan calls for expansion of the total 4-H program and includes methods meant to insure benefits and services of the 4-H program to all youth between the ages of 8 (and in the third grade) and 19.

The Texas 4-H Affirmative Action Program was designed to:

- Preclude discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin, socioeconomic level, sex, or disability
- Increase minority participation in an effort to achieve a racially balanced program
- Serve as an effective basic management tool for agents
- Involve an ongoing committee system and evaluation procedures as an aid to counties in planning to meet the needs and interests of all youth between the ages of 8 (and in the third grade) and 19

# AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

People with disabilities can make valuable contributions if they are given the opportunity. Since the passage of the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA), federal and state governments have passed provisions requiring governmental agencies to provide reasonable accommodations to handicapped people.

If you require auxiliary aids, services, or other accommodations due to a disability, please contact the Bastrop County AgriLife Extension Office at 512-581-7186 at least two (2) days prior to the event to discuss your needs.

***Cooperative efforts of Bastrop County and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service have made the Bastrop County 4-H programs possible. Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, genetic information, veteran status, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.***

# 4-H IN BASTROP COUNTY

901 Pecan Street | PO Box 650 | Bastrop, Texas 78602  
Phone: 512-581-7186 | Fax: 512-581-7187 | Email: [bastrop-tx@tamu.edu](mailto:bastrop-tx@tamu.edu)

## County Extension Agents:

### Mellanie Mickelson

CEA, 4-H & Youth Development  
[MLMickelson@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:MLMickelson@ag.tamu.edu)

### Ashley Radde

CEA, Ag & Natural Resources  
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### Hillary Long

CEA, Family & Community Health  
[Hillary.Long@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:Hillary.Long@ag.tamu.edu)

## WELCOME

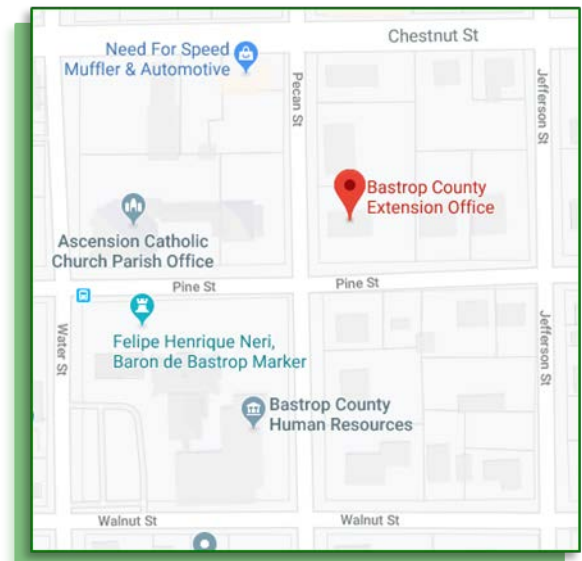
We are glad that you have chosen to be part of the largest non-formal youth education organization in the United States! Over 7 million youth participate in 4-H each year to become self-motivated, productive and contributing citizens.

4-H is designed to be a family affair so 4-H parents are encouraged to get involved in the 4-H experience. 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.

Bastrop County has an outstanding group of dedicated adult volunteer leaders as well as a superb group of motivated 4-H members. We welcome your family into our Bastrop County 4-H family!

Please feel free to contact the Bastrop County Extension Office (CEO) for more information about the county 4-H Program.

Best wishes for a fulfilling year in 4-H! We look forward to seeing you at events throughout the year.



## HOW TO JOIN 4-H

1. Look at the current 4-H Clubs in the County and where they meet to determine what is feasible for your family
2. Reach out to the Club Manager with questions and verify that meeting time & location have not changed (Examples: does your club have a Clover Kid program, what project areas are youth in this club actively participating in?)
3. Attend 1 to 2 meetings to decide if the club is a good social fit for your family and you enjoy the programs and activities
4. Once you have found the club that fits your family, register them in the Texas 4-H CONNECT system at <https://tx.4honline.com>:
  - a. Create a family profile first
  - b. Add each member of your family (youth and adult) in that profile
  - c. Cost of membership is usually \$25 to \$30 for youth and \$10 for adults
5. Choose your projects and attend 4-H meetings, events, & activities!

## HOW TO CHOOSE A 4-H PROJECT

1. Select a project you like – check out a list of 4-H projects at <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/>
2. Consider the money and time it will take. Can parents/guardians help?
3. Consider the space and equipment that you have at home.
4. A 4-H project should be fun, serve a purpose, and be worth the effort.
5. Select only the number of projects you can complete.

*Remember to contact your County Extension Offices to learn about purchasing deadlines associated with livestock projects*

# 2020-2021 BASTROP COUNTY 4-H COMMUNITY CLUBS

## Bastrop 4-H Club

**Club Managers:** Cindy Sharp 512-304-0010 [cindyisharp@gmail.com](mailto:cindyisharp@gmail.com)  
**Meeting Location:** Wexford Building at 278 Highway 304; Bastrop, TX 78602  
**Meeting Day & Time:** 6:00 PM on the second Monday of each month

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## Bastrop Bulls Eyes Shooting Sports 4-H Club

**Club Managers:** Janice Dale 512-905-2237 [ldale1015@aol.com](mailto:ldale1015@aol.com)  
**Meeting Location:** TBA  
**Meeting Day & Time:** TBA

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## Loblolly 4-H Club

**Club Managers:** Jed Dube 512-626-5255 [dubetwins@gmail.com](mailto:dubetwins@gmail.com)  
Debbie Barrington 512-629-7956 [debbiebarrington428@hotmail.com](mailto:debbiebarrington428@hotmail.com)  
**Meeting Location:** New Hope Lutheran Church; 1970 Hwy 290 E; McDade, TX 78650  
**Meeting Day & Time:** 4:00 PM on the second Sunday of each month

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## Rockne 4-H Club

**Club Managers:** Susan Masur 512-988-0977 after 3 PM [sfmasur@yahoo.com](mailto:sfmasur@yahoo.com)  
Kim Morriss 512-308-2759 [Morriss5k@gmail.com](mailto:Morriss5k@gmail.com)  
Dovie Briseño 512-809-9635 [dovie.briseno@gmail.com](mailto:dovie.briseno@gmail.com)  
Barbara Lang 512-321-5832 [Bot712@yahoo.com](mailto:Bot712@yahoo.com)  
**Meeting Location:** Holtan Hall at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church; 4045 Farm to Market 535; Bastrop, TX 78602  
**Meeting Day & Time:** 6:30 PM on the second Wednesday of each month

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## Smithville 4-H Club

**Club Managers:** Jimi Lynn Young 512-914-9592 [smithvilletx4.H@gmail.com](mailto:smithvilletx4.H@gmail.com)  
Amber Gonzales 512-629-7707  
**Meeting Location:** Smithville Recreation Center; 106 Gazley Street; Smithville, TX 78957  
**Meeting Day & Time:** 6:30 PM on the second Tuesday of each month

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