

Rockwall County 4-H Member Guide

TEXAS 4-H CENTENNIAL 2008



**Do that
thing you do...
in 4-H!**



**Astronomy to
Zebras and
everything in
between.**

4-H is about doing the things
that you like to do. Some 4-
H'ers choose to work with
animals, while others focus on
food, crafts, sports,
or even technology!
If you can dream it,

**4-H is
where
you are!**

From the
biggest city
to the smallest farm,
all over the world!



**I'm ready!
Who do I
contact?**

Contact the Extension agent
in your county. They can tell
you even more about the
awesome opportunities in
your community!

MKT-3570D

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4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship and life skills.

History of 4-H

4-H began at the dawn of the 20th century, when progressive educators started to emphasize the needs of young people and to introduce nature study as a basis for a better agricultural education. The program aimed to extend agricultural education to rural youth by organizing clubs and through “learning by doing.” Boys and girls clubs and leagues were established in schools and churches to meet these needs. To spark the interest of young people, Farmers Institutes cooperated with school superintendents by promoting production contests, soil tests, and plant identification contests.

By March 1904, several boys and girls clubs had already exhibited projects. Most states organized clubs outside the schools, with rural parents acting as volunteer leaders and County Extension Agents providing materials. Farmers saw the practical benefits, and soon public support and enthusiasm for 4-H grew throughout the nation.

The state land-grant universities and the U.S. Department of Agriculture maintained close contact with the development of 4-H. By 1912, nearly all of the land-grant institutions in the southern states had signed cooperative agreements with USDA and had organized Extension departments. In 1912, Congress began appropriating funds to the land-grant institutions to help develop this early Extension work. In 1914, Congress formally established the Cooperative Extension System as a partnership among USDA, the state land-grant universities, and the counties. Congress has continued to support 4-H ever since.

Through the years, the overall objective of 4-H has remained the same: to help youth develop as individuals and as responsible and productive citizens.

Welcome to 4-H!

As a new 4-H family, you probably have lot of questions about 4-H. We hope this Member's Handbook will answer many of those questions.

What is 4-H?

4-H is the youth development program of Texas Cooperative Extension, 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 4-H is to provide opportunities for young people to become productive and contributing members of society.

The four "H's" are explained in the organization's pledge, which every 4-H member should know:

I pledge:
*My **Head** to clearer thinking,*
*My **Heart** to greater loyalty,*
*My **Hands** to larger service and*
*My **Health** to better living for*
My club, my community,
My country and my world.

The 4-H Motto is "**To Make the Best Better.**" The international symbol of 4-H is a green four-leaf clover with white "H's" in each petal of the clover.

Who are 4-H members?

4-H members are boys and girls between 8 (and in the 3rd grade) and 19 years old. They live in cities, suburban neighborhoods, small towns and farms. They join 4-H because it's fun, it provides opportunities to work and play with friends, to learn about and do interesting things and to develop leadership skills.

What do you do in 4-H?

The 4-H method is ***Learn by Doing***. Members complete learning experiences called 4-H projects. A project is a subject or area of interest that the 4-H member wants to learn more about. There are more than 40 projects that are supported by project materials, but a member may also choose from other areas.

Youth participate through local 4-H clubs. Clubs are located in schools, communities or neighborhoods. 4-H clubs meet in member's homes, churches or community centers. Clubs participate in community service projects, tour interesting places, and take trips to fascinating locations. 4-H'ers learn leadership skills by planning club activities and by being officers in their clubs. Older 4-H members act as teen leaders, assisting adult volunteers with projects and activities for younger members.

4-H members also attend camps, contests and conferences at the county, district and state levels. 4-H even sponsors trips to Japan, Europe, Africa and Australia for those with international interests.

More about 4-H clubs

4-H clubs may average from 15 to 25 members and are managed by adult volunteers, called club managers. The club manager(s) work with the club officers to plan the monthly club meetings and other activities. Monthly club meetings often include an educational program, selected by club members, and recreational activities. Members also participate in project group meetings. Project groups consist of 5-10 members who participate in the same 4-H project and are led by an adult project leader. Clubs may have several project groups.

4-H Projects

4-H projects are specific areas of study, such as training pets, learning to take photographs, growing plants or making clothing. The project consists of at least six hours of learning time, and provides in-depth learning experiences for the member. About 40 projects are available with written project materials available from Texas A&M University.

A member may participate in one or more projects each year. The 4-H leader should help the member choose projects carefully and realistically, so that the member is setting reachable goals. Here is a partial list of projects available:

Beef Cattle	Bicycle
Clothing & Textiles	Citizenship
Fashion	Consumer Skills
Community Service	Dog Care & Training
Energy Conservation	Entomology
Field & Stream	Foods & Nutrition
Gardening & Horticulture	Horse Science
Health	Leadership
Natural Resources	Photography
Public Speaking	Rabbits
Recreation	Safety
Sheep	Shooting Sports
Swine	Veterinary Science
Wildlife & Natural Resources	

What does a project cost?

The costs vary depending upon the project chosen. A member enrolled in the foods and nutrition project might use supplies from around the home to practice the skills being learned. A member who buys and raises a horse can expect to invest much more; possibly thousands of dollars. Keep costs in mind as you select your projects. The project must be realistic to your family's situation.

Are 4-Hers expected to do their own project work?

Yes, with the guidance of an adult. 4-H is a "learning by doing" program. Adults may show the member how, but members are expected to learn how to do things themselves. The adult may be a recognized leader; more often it is a parent.

4-H members may conduct some project work in groups. Working in groups can be fun, and the members get the experience of helping each other. But most projects call for some work to be done by the individual member, and each member should be learning to do things for themselves.

Self Determined Projects

Projects are not limited by the materials available from the 4-H curriculum. For example, a member may be interested in model airplanes. Members should discuss such projects with their leaders or the County Extension Agent. Together, you can create a program with steps and goals that will make learning about the project fun. The 4-H member must be prepared to report on the progress and to record his or her accomplishments.

Age Divisions

Clover Kids	*K- 2nd grade (may participate in learning activities but not competitive events)
Juniors	Ages 8 <u>and</u> in the 3rd grade through 10
Intermediates	Ages 11 through 13
Seniors	Ages 14 through 19

4-H age divisions change on August 31 of each year. If you were 10 on August 31 and turned 11 on September 1, you would still be a Junior for the rest of the year. If you had turned 11 before September 1, you would be an Intermediate. (Various 4-H contests may also be divided into Junior and Senior Divisions. In that case, 4-H members age 8 and in the 3rd grade to age 13 would be considered Juniors.)

Camps, projects, events and activities in 4-H are designed to fit the abilities and interests of these age groups. 4-H members can look forward to new and different experiences as they get older.

4-H Activities

What is the difference between a "project" and an "activity?"

Projects and learning experiences take place most often at the club level and project meetings. An activity usually refers to an event or contest planned through the Extension office or 4-H County Council for 4-H members. A project would be all of the planned learning activities completed towards a specific subject matter.

Activities that are run as contests are usually preliminary events at the county level. County winners are eligible to compete for further awards at a district contest. Senior 4-Hers who win at the district level, may advance to state-wide competition.

Some clubs appoint or elect an adult volunteer to serve as Activity Leader. The Activity Leader becomes the club's "specialist" who advises and recruits youth for participation in these special learning experiences.

4-H Competition

4-H holds many competitive events to give members a chance to display their skills and measure their knowledge. Participation in contests is optional. Winners of most county contests advance to district and/or state contests. Only senior 4-H members advance to State. Winners may be selected for Regional or National competitions. Information about contests is mailed to each 4-H family in the bi-monthly newsletter, the *Rockwall County 4-H Gazette*. Updates that occur between newsletters are sent to club managers and are available from the 4-H office.

Local and County Competitions

Clubs may have local competitions or preparatory activities to help project members prepare for county and district competitions. Club managers and project leaders are responsible for scheduling these events.

County competitions may be required as a qualification for district competition. However if there is no competition among county entries, 4-Hers may proceed directly to district competition. For more information on specifics contact the County Extension Office.

District 4-H Roundup

Roundup is an opportunity for several District 4-H events to be held on one weekend. During District 4-H Roundup, members exhibit knowledge and skills they have gained in their projects in a wide variety of challenges.

District 4-H Roundup continued

Hosted in the month of March, Roundup provides the outlet for 4-H'ers to demonstrate their skills and knowledge learned in specific subject matter . Opportunities include Public Speaking and Expressive Arts as well as Educational Presentations; Share the Fun; Quiz Bowls; Shooting Sports, Consumer Decision Making and much more. Competition is held on the Texas A&M University Commerce campus.

Educational Presentations

Educational Presentations **(EP)** are demonstrations of knowledge and skills in a certain project area. An effective tool for teaching young people how to organize their thoughts and present their ideas and themselves, EP's can be accomplished using props (method demonstration), posters or media presentations (illustrated talk), or just speaking and educating with words alone (public speaking).

Educational Presentations are 5 to 12 minutes long and teams can consist of 1-5 4-H members. During which the presenter can use props to "show" the audience how to do something or slides, posters, or photographs to "tell" the audience how to do something. Topics will be announced.

Public Speaking is a 5-7 minute talk made by an individual 4-H member. Presentations are suitable as a platform speech or radio broadcast. Props and visual aids are not used in Public Speaking presentations.

District 4-H Roundup continued

Share-the-Fun

This 4-H challenge provides a chance to develop talent, leadership and confidence, as well as wholesome recreation. 4-H members compete as individuals or in groups in a variety of categories. 4-H'ers also serve as stage hands, crew, etc. This is a fun activity for both the performers and audience.

SHARE THE FUN CATEGORIES:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Vocal - | Individual or group of up to 9. Vocal presentation may be done acappella or with accompanying tape or instruments. No lip sync allowed. Judged on talent, showmanship, vocal presentation and material chosen. |
| Prose/Poetry - | Individual, or group of up to 9. Acts which showcase prose or poetry are required. This category does not require 4-H related material. Will be judged on material, message, talent, presentation, style and props/costuming. |
| Musical/Band - | Individual or group of up to 9. May be accompanied by background tape or musical instrument. Band performance may include vocal performance. Judged on talent, showmanship and material chosen. |
| Choreographed Routines - | Individual or group of up to 9, No speaking, skit, story line or twirling. Judged on material, talent, uniformity, creativity, showmanship, and costumes. |
| Celebrate 4-H - | Individual or group of up to 9. Must be 4-H based story line promoting 4-H, community service, or a project or activity. Judged on material chosen, talent, creativity, showmanship, costumes and props. |

Beef Quiz Bowl

A contest of knowledge similar to "Jeopardy," but all of the question categories are about beef cattle . Youth compete in teams three or four.

Horse Quiz Bowl

A contest of knowledge similar to "Jeopardy," but all of the question categories are about horses. Youth compete in teams three or four.

Nutrition Bowl

A challenge of knowledge that is also similar to "Jeopardy" , but all of the question categories are about food preparation, nutrition, food safety, and meal planning. Youth participate in teams of three or four.

District Food Show

This is a chance for members of the Foods & Nutrition project to demonstrate their culinary skills and knowledge. Participants compete in four categories: Main Dish, Fruits and Vegetables, Breads and Cereals, and Nutritious Snacks.

4-H Fashion Show

Fashion Show allows those with skills in clothing construction and design to show off their skills by modeling an outfit they have made. Members may also model outfits they purchased in the consumer buying division. Modeling also increases poise and reduces "stage fright" in timid 4-H members. Youth also have the opportunity to design their own outfit, accessory, or fabric in the Fashion and Fabric Design Competition which is held with the Clothing Project.

District 4-H Roundup continued**Consumer Decision Making**

Backpacks, DVD players, Sunscreen and Pick-up Trucks are a few of the items 4-H consumer judges study to be able to compare the relative qualities and prices of each and determine which offers the best value for the money. This judging contest teaches members how to be smart consumers and spend their money wisely.

Shooting Sports - Rifle Contest

Through the Shooting Sports project, young people learn about gun safety, target shooting, clay pigeon shooting, and other masteries of the discipline. The district Rifle Contest allows 4-H'ers to demonstrate these acquired disciplines.

Entomology Identification

Teams of 3 or 4 identify selected insects and complete a written examination on insects. Questions will be selected primarily from "Study Materials for 4-H Entomology Contests."

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More 4-H Sponsored Competitive Opportunities (Not Held in Conjunction with District 4-H Roundup)

Texas 4-H Rabbit Extravaganza

This event is open to all 4-H members. Opportunities for participation include exhibition for numerous breeds, art, costume contest, breed identification, judging, photography and showmanship.

NOVEMBER

Dog Show

The 4-H Dog Show provides 4-Hers with the opportunity to demonstrate their skills and knowledge of dog obedience and training.

DISTRICT - MAY
STATE - JULY

Horse Show

4-H members demonstrate their horsemanship skills by participating in various Western, English and Speed events. Older 4-H members can demonstrate their skills in training horses by participating in the Yearling Halter and two year-old Western Pleasure futurities. All 4-H horses must be owned by May 1. Futurity projects must be nominated by March 10.

DISTRICT - JUNE
STATE - JULY

Photography

Most everyone loves taking pictures. The photography project promotes an opportunity for young people to learn how to think about the picture they are taking. Also, composition, lighting, background and more. Project members can compete on the county, district and state level.

County - TBA
District - March
State - June

Dairy Judging

Learning to evaluate dairy cattle on fact and not emotion, helps young people understand importance of composition, structure and purpose of dairy cattle. Youth learn the ideal dairy cow and evaluate against it. A further process is learning to give reasons for why they placed the animals in their respective positions. This activity looks at the animal itself and its producing ability. Thus, the reproductivity and udder development play major roles in the placement of these animals. This provides the youth with critical thinking skills, public speaking skills, and self control while developing self esteem.

DISTRICT - JANUARY
STATE - JUNE

Livestock Judging

Learning to evaluate livestock (beef cattle, sheep, and swine) on fact and not emotion, helps young people understand importance of composition, and structure of the animals. Each animal has a purpose, whether it is for market or reproduction. Youth learn the different characteristics for each and learn to evaluate these animals. A further process is learning to give reasons for why they placed the animals in their respective positions. This provides the youth with critical thinking skills, public speaking skills, and self control while developing self esteem.

DISTRICT - APRIL
STATE - JUNE

Horse Judging

Learning to evaluate horses on fact and not emotion, helps young people understand the importance of composition, and structure of horses. Youth learn the ideal horse and evaluate against it. A further process is learning to give reasons for why they placed the animals in their respective positions. This provides the youth with critical thinking skills, public speaking skills, and self control while developing self esteem.

DISTRICT - APRIL
STATE - JUNE

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Plant Identification

Grasses and weeds are all around us. In pasture and lawn care, it is important to be able to identify plant materials in order to cultivate the desired plants and get rid of the undesired. Youth learn identification of cool season and warm season plants (mainly grasses), their characteristics and purposes. An achievement event allows youth to be presented with a slate of plants to be identified. Youth are evaluated on knowledge of plant material and spelling.

DISTRICT - JANUARY
STATE - JUNE

Record Books

Record books become a record of what a member has learned and accomplished in a 4-H project during the year. Members submit their completed record books to the 4-H office, where they are evaluated by outside volunteers against other members in the same category and age group. Each member receives a medal at the county awards banquet for completing a record book and the winners in each category advance to the next level of competition. Record books are an excellent way to teach youth how to keep records and allows them to record progress toward achieving their goals.

The records also prove to be invaluable when completing college entrance applications and college scholarship applications. Most of the information required can be copied from record books.

COUNTY - JUNE
DISTRICT - JULY
STATE - AUGUST

Competitive Opportunities Not Hosted by 4-H

There are many opportunities in which 4-H'ers can participate and compete that are not hosted by the 4-H program. These include but are not exclusive to:

The State Fair of Texas - Competition information can be located on line at www.BigTex.com

The Southwestern Livestock Show and Exposition - Competition information can be located on line at www.fwstockshowrodeo.com/

The East Texas State Fair - Competition information can be located on line at www.etstatefair.com/

Rockwall Youth Fair

The County Youth Fair is sponsored by the Rockwall County Youth Fair Board. Events included in this achievement opportunity are a livestock show, shop project show, photography and an art show. It is open to all Rockwall County 4-H'ers and Rockwall FFA members to exhibit their livestock projects. Many youth use this event to display their skills and knowledge acquired through project work. Youth do not advance to other competitions based on placings at this event. Competition information can be located on line at <http://www.orgsites.com/tx/rockwallyouthfair/index.html>

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4-H members completing a 4-H Record Book each year are eligible to apply for several county awards. Awards are offered in age category, and are judged based on an application and an interview. These awards are presented at the annual county awards event and can only be received once. The awards are:

Rookie of the Year

The award is presented to a first-year 4-H member who has really tried to experience 4-H by project involvement, club involvement, leadership, community service and club attendance. The person will have joined 4-H sometime during the calendar year, September 1 - August 31 of the current 4-H year. Must be 8 - 19 and in at least the 3rd grade. Club managers nominate candidates in June.

Silver Star

The highest county 4-H award received by Junior 4-Hers. It is open to all Junior 4-H members that have been in participating in 4-H for at least two years. An application form must be completed and accompany the record book that is submitted in June. Awarded based on the application and an interview.

Gold Star

The highest county 4-H award provided by Texas Cooperative Extension. 4-H members must be at least 15 years of age as of August 31 of the current 4-H year and have been a member for At least three years, in addition to other requirements. An application form must be completed and accompany the record book that is submitted in June. Awarded based on the application and an interview.

"I Dare You"

Awarded to Senior 4-H members. It recognizes emerging leaders, young people who possess personal integrity, live balanced lives and hold the potential for leadership. An application form must be completed and accompany the record book that is submitted in June. Awarded on application and interview.

Distinguished Service

Presented to two adult leaders for their outstanding leadership and dedication to 4-H in Rockwall County. Winners of this award are very active at the county and often district or state level. Nominations are taken from across the county 4-H membership and leaders.

(The afore mentioned awards may each only be received once.)

Recognition Events**Club Recognition/Achievement Events**

4-H Clubs are encouraged to hold local recognition events for club members. This may occur during the club meeting or be scheduled at a separate time. The purpose is to recognize the achievements of the club members for that year. It is recommended to hold the event in May. Recognition can include but is not exclusive to: project participation, project completion, years in 4-H, project leadership, activity leadership, community service, etc.

Rockwall County Achievement and Recognition Event

These awards are presented at the annual Rockwall County 4-H Achievement and Recognition Event held in the latter part of August. Recognition is given to 4-H'ers completing and turning in record books, district participation, district competition, state participation, and state competition of 4-H sponsored events.

District 4-H Gold Star Banquet

Held on the district level in October for all current Gold Star recipients across the district. Distinguished adult leaders across the district are also recognized at this event.

Scholarships

The Texas 4-H Foundation oversees a scholarship program that awards over \$1,500,000 annually in college scholarships. To apply, graduating seniors must be planning to attend a Texas college or university and have a minimum score of 910 on the SAT or 19 on the ACT tests.

4-H Policies

Membership - Participants must be 8 and in the third grade to 19. In home school situations, the child must be at least 8 with the lowest level of course work being third grade. 4-H members must be enrolled in a 4-H club and complete one 4-H project per year. 4-H membership cannot be held in more than one county or state. 4-H members must be members in the county in which they live.

Clover Kids - Youth who have enrolled in Kindergarten on September 1 and have not enrolled in the third grade. Clover Kids are younger siblings of 4-H members who want to be involved.

Projects - Clover Kids may participate in specific 4-H projects offered through regular 4-H programs. Animal projects may not be larger than rabbits in size. Early childhood developmental studies show that the children at this age level do not fully comprehend place differences and can not process being singled out. Therefore, Clover Kids are not allowed to compete at any level.

Public School Absences - The Texas Education Agency (TEA) recognizes 4-H as a legitimate extracurricular organization, and members may apply for excused absences to participate in 4-H activities. To request an excused absence for a 4-H activity, obtain an "Eligibility Form" from the county 4-H office two weeks prior to the event, and have it completed by the school principal or counselor. Return the form to the 4-H office.

No Pass-No Play - Because TEA recognizes 4-H as a legitimate extracurricular organization, 4-H must abide by all of the rules of Senate Bill I. This means that a 4-H member must have passed all subjects in the prior grading period in order to participate in competitive 4-H events. This rule applies even if the event is on a weekend and does not require an excused absence from school. Two weeks prior to the event, the 4-H member should obtain an "Eligibility Form" from the 4-H office and have it completed by the school principal or counselor. Return the form to the 4-H office no later than two weeks before the event. Three weeks would be ideal. One Eligibility Form is required for each 3 week grading period unless you are requesting to be excused from school. Then a separate form must be completed for specific dates.

4-H Terminology

Ambassadors - Senior 4-H members who have been chosen to represent 4-H before civic and community groups in Rockwall County.

Community Service Project - an activity conducted by a 4-H member for the benefit of the community. Examples: neighborhood clean-up campaigns, voter registration drives, collecting food or clothing for the needy.

County Parent/Leaders Association - an organization of adult volunteer leaders whose purpose is to facilitate leader development, assist in resource development and assist in planning county-wide 4-H events.

County Awards Recognition Event - recognizes 4-H members for completion of record books and project work, years in 4-H and the top county awards. Also recognizes adult leaders and friends of 4-H.

County 4-H Council - a council composed of two elected delegates, usually the President and Council Delegate, from each organized 4-H club in the county. Its purpose is to plan and coordinate activities and events on a county-wide basis. Two delegates from this group represent Rockwall County on the District IV 4-H Council.

County 4-H and Youth Development Committee - a committee of 4-H members, volunteer leaders and other community leaders. This committee is responsible for reviewing the overall youth situation in the county, making recommendations and developing plans for expanding the 4-H program throughout the county.

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County Extension Agent - an employee of Texas Cooperative Extension who specializes in either agriculture, family and consumer sciences or 4-H and youth development. In Rockwall County, both agents, the Agriculture and the Family and Consumer Sciences agents supervise and manage the 4-H program.

Curriculum Enrichment Along with the traditionally recognized 4-H and Youth Development programming of Texas Cooperative Extension, on going educational efforts are also performed within the organized school systems. These “enrichment “ programs are for groups that meet on a daily basis and may span from a week to one month in length.



District 4 Adult Leaders Association - a district level organization consisting of two delegates from each county in the district. Responsible for planning district level 4-H events and leader development.

District 4 (North) 22 Texas counties make up District 4. The District headquarters are located at the Texas A&M University Research and Extension Center, 17360 Coit Road, Dallas, Texas 75252-6599.

Educational Presentations - individual or team presentations given by 4-H members. Demonstrations may be presented at county, district or state competitions. Refer to the Texas 4-H Roundup Guide for specific rules and categories.

Enrollment Forms - standardized enrollment and registration forms are used to record important information about 4-H members and volunteer leaders. These are completed annually.

4-H Age - eight and in the third grade to age 19. Your 4-H age is the age you are on August 31 of each year.

4-H Club - a club made up of young people (boys and girls) between the ages of 8 and in the third grade and 19 with volunteer leaders and parents. Each club elects their own officers who preside at club meetings.

4-H Emblem and Colors - the 4-H club emblem is a green four-leaf clover with the letter "H" in white on each leaf. The four "H's" stand for Head, Heart, Hands and Health. White is for purity. Green is nature's most common color and is symbolic of youth, life, and growth. The 4-H Clover is protected under 18 U.S.C. 707. Approval must be given before it can be used on literature or promotional materials.

4-H Leader - an adult volunteer who works with 4-H club members. These are the main classifications of leaders.

Club Manager - responsible for the organization and management of the 4-H club.

Project Leader - an adult who helps 4-H members learn through involvement in a specific 4-H project.

Activity Leader - an adult with the responsibility for helping 4-H members learn through their involvement in one or more activities in 4-H. Some activities are recreation, method demonstrations or illustrated talks, community service, exchange programs or recognition activities.

4-H Project - an area of study in which 4-H members participate. There are more than 40 projects from which to choose.

4-H Record Books - a record of the 4-H member's accomplishments. Record books may be entered in competition at the county level. Completion of a record book is required to apply for many 4-H awards. These are due each year in June.

4-H Year - September 1 to August 31 of the following year. All 4-H members and leaders must re-enroll in their club in September to remain active.

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

Junior Leader - a member with at least one year of experience and between the ages of 10 and 19 years old. Assists project leaders in teaching projects, assists younger members, and recruits new members to 4-H. Also assists with county events and activities.

Leader Training - workshops, usually taught by county Extension agents, Extension specialists or local resource persons for the purpose of teaching subject matter information or 4-H organization and management.

National 4-H Center - located in Chevy Chase, Maryland, near Washington, D.C. Operated by National 4-H Council, the center is an educational 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 Cooperative Extension Service.

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

National 4-H Supply Service - a service of National 4-H Council that supplies 4-H clubs and members with 4-H t-shirts, backpacks, cups, notepads, jewelry and other 4-H items. Items may be ordered from the 4-H Source Book, which is available from the county 4-H 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 - A fun and exciting time away from home at the fabulous Texas 4-H Center on Lake Brownwood. Sessions are in July for ages 9-11 and 12-13. Registration is in May. Accommodations are in staffed dorms. Activities include swimming, canoeing, archery, rifles, crafts, and many games. Parents may attend as chaperones on limited basis.

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Project Curriculum - There are many projects with complete manuals for leaders to utilize when instructing project groups. Other literature is also available to assist in planning project activities and helping both the leader and the participants establish and accomplish goals.

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

Rockwall County 4-H Gazette - The bi-monthly 4-H newsletter prepared by the County Extension office to keep 4-H families, leaders, and supporters informed about 4-H events and activities and to recognize 4-H members, volunteers and donors.

SpecTra - Held in July, with registration in May, this program enhances project knowledge and expands leadership skills of senior 4-H members. About 20 hours of intensive training in: Agricultural and Natural Resources, Aquatics, Creative Leadership, Computer Technology, Horticulture /Floriculture, Human Sciences Education, Journalism, Public Speaking, or Sportfishing. Held at the Texas 4-H Center on Lake Brownwood, attendees stay in dorms.

State Roundup - a competitive event held each June at Texas A&M University. Senior 4-H members participate in Public Speaking, Method Demonstrations, Share the Fun, Food Show, Fashion Show, Quiz Bowl and Judging Contests.

Scholarships - scholarships up to \$15,000 are available to graduating 4-H members meeting the minimum criteria for application. The state scholarship program is administered by the Texas 4-H Foundation.

Self-determined Project - a project area in which a member is interested, but there is not a project guide and/or club project leader available. Extension agents, leaders and parents work with the member to set goals and objectives and plan learning experiences to complete the project.

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Short-term Project - conducted for various projects and/or special interest groups meeting for only the length of time necessary to complete the objectives of the program. The groups may be organized without formal structure and usually disband at the end of the project.

Teen Leader - members who are at least 13 years old who accept the full leadership responsibility for a 4-H project group or special interest short-term group. Must have previous experience working with younger 4-H members.

Texas 4-H Center - a camp facility owned and operated by the Texas 4-H Foundation on the shores of Lake Brownwood (12 miles north of Brownwood, TX). The Center includes a conference center with 22 motel style rooms, 10 dormitories that can accommodate 300 persons as well as a lakeside pavilion. Extension training programs and 4-H camps and retreats are conducted year-round.

Texas 4-H Center T-shirt Shop - retail outlet of T-shirts and other 4-H paraphernalia that is produced specifically for Texas 4-H.

Texas 4-H Congress - an educational event for 4-H members, ages 15 years or older, held in Austin, Texas on even-numbered years.

Texas 4-H Council - consists of two 4-H delegates from each of the 12 Extension districts. They help plan and carry out many state-wide events such as 4-H Roundup and Texas 4-H Congress.

Texas 4-H Clover - a handbook outlining statewide 4-H contests, educational workshops and the 4-H recognition program. Includes all information on 4-H scholarships. Updated annually.

Texas 4-H Volunteer Leaders' Association - a state-wide organization consisting of two delegates from each of the 12 District Adult Leader's Associations.

Helpful Websites

Texas 4-H Conference Center
texas4h-ctr.tamu.edu/

Texas T-shirt Shop
texas4h-ctr.tamu.edu/shirt_shop.html

Texas 4-H Website
texas4-h.tamu.edu/

Rockwall County Extension website
rockwall-tx.tamu.edu/

Rockwall Youth Fair
<http://www.orgsites.com/tx/rockwall-youthfair/index.html>

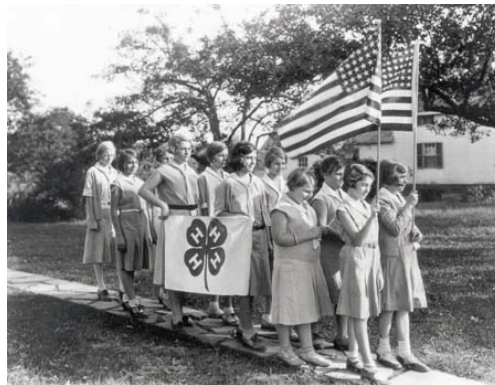
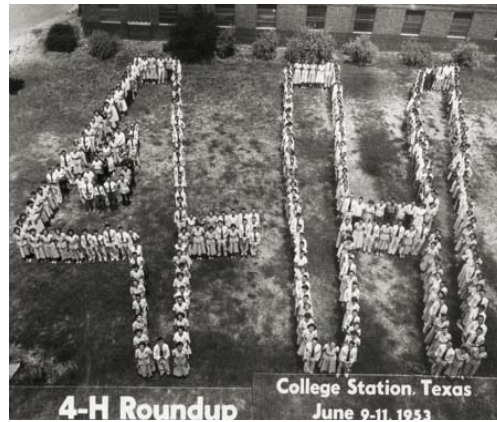
Rockwall County
Master Gardener Association
rockmga.org/

District IV 4-H Website
dallas.tamu.edu/4H/

District IV 4-H Calendar
dallas.tamu.edu/4H/events.html

National 4-H Council
www.fourhcouncil.edu/

National 4-H Supply Catalog
www.4-hmall.org/



Rockwall County Extension Staff



Todd K. Williams
County Extension Agent -
Ag/ Natural Resources



Position Open
County Extension Agent -
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