

# 4-H FAMILY HANDBOOK

2023-2024



## Brazos County



TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
EXTENSION



PRAIRIE VIEW  
A&M UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE  
AND HUMAN SCIENCES

Cooperative Extension Program



# Welcome to Brazos County 4-H!

We are glad that you have chosen to be part of the largest non-formal youth education organization in the United States! Over 5.6 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 supervise 4-H activities.

Brazos 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 Brazos County 4-H family!

Please read through your Brazos County 4-H Handbook to answer any questions you may have about the 4-H program. This handbook is designed as a reference tool for you throughout the 4-H year. Please refer to the 4-H newsletter as you set your goals for participation in 4-H events and contests.

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

Sincerely,

**Matt Pfeifer**  
CEA 4-H  
Brazos County

**Ashleigh Sugg**  
Program Assistant  
4-H & Youth Development

**Chadd Caperton**  
CEA Ag/NR  
Brazos County

**Flora Williams**  
CEA FCH  
Brazos County

## **Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service- Brazos County**

4153 County Park Court  
Bryan, Texas 77802  
Tel. 979-823-0129  
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# About 4-H



## **Adult Leaders Association**

All 4-H parents and leaders are encouraged to become part of the Adult Leaders Association! This association is composed of volunteer 4-H leaders who meet and work together to support the 4-H youth of Brazos County. The Adult Leaders Association works in conjunction with the County 4-H Council to plan and coordinate county-wide 4-H activities. The Adult Leaders Association works to financially assist the 4-H youth through fund raising projects. The Association is also useful as a meeting forum in which leaders may exchange ideas.

President..... Stacy Schneider  
Vice President..... Kristi Smith  
Secretary..... Stephanie Wendt  
Treasurer..... Lana Smith  
Delegates at Large..... Cathy Davis & Meaghan Anderson

## **4-H Council**

Members of the Brazos County 4-H Council plan and coordinate 4-H activities in the county. The Brazos County 4-H Council also promotes district and state level 4-H activities. County Council is comprised of 4-H members from each of the various 4-H clubs in the county. Clubs are encouraged to have two council delegates who will attend the County 4-H Council meetings. Typically, a 4-H member is elected into the position of council delegate and represents his or her club at the County 4-H Council meetings. The Brazos 4-H Council serves as a communication channel. Council delegates represent their club and relay information and ideas from their club to council. The council delegates also relay information from the council to their club to keep the members up to date on county-wide activities and events.

## **4-H Council, Club Manager, and Adult Leader Association Meetings**

**\*\*Meetings begin at 6:00p.m. at the Brazos County Extension Office\*\***

**August 15** - Club Managers, Adult Leaders & OPEN County Council Meeting

**September 19** - County Council Officer Meeting - OFFICERS ONLY

**October 17** - Club Managers, Adult Leaders & OPEN County Council Meeting

**November 21** - County Council Officer Meeting - OFFICERS ONLY

**December 19** - County Council Winter Social (Recreation event for 4-H youth)

**January 16** - Club Managers, Adult Leaders & OPEN County Council Meeting

**March 26** - County Council Officer Meeting - OFFICERS ONLY

**April 16** - Club Managers, Adult Leaders & OPEN County Council Meeting (Council Officer Elections)

**May 21** - Club Managers, Adult Leaders & OPEN County Council Meeting



# About 4-H



## 2023-2024 Brazos County 4-H Council



**Kyler Wendt**  
Chairman



**Lily Bolen**  
Treasurer



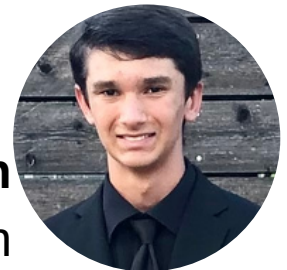
**Riley Stokes**  
1st Vice Chairman



**Olivia Davis**  
Reporter



**Makenna Johnson**  
2nd Vice Chairman



**Zach Smith**  
Parliamentarian



**Camryn Skaggs**  
3rd Vice Chairman



**Sam Aguirre**  
Historian



**Cooper Smith**  
District Delegate



**Drew Catlin**  
Health & Safety Officer



**Caitlin Smith**  
Secretary

# About 4-H

## Motto

"To Make the Best Better"

## Pledge

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.



## White

symbolizes purity

## Green

symbolizes  
nature's most  
common color and  
represents life,  
springtime and  
youth.

## Emblem

The 4-H emblem is the four-leaf clover with the letter "H" on each leaf, standing for **head, heart, hands, and health**. The 4-H Clover and name are protected under 18U.S.C 707. Permission is required to duplicated it.

# About 4-H



## 4-H Year

September 1 to August 31

## Age of 4-H Members

Youth may participate in the 4-H year from September 1st of 3rd Grade through August 31st following completion of 12th Grade, with these age restrictions:

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

## Texas 4-H Age Categories for project activity purposes are:

|                     |                          |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Clover Kids</b>  | Grades K, 1, and 2       |
| <b>Junior</b>       | Grades 3, 4, and 5       |
| <b>Intermediate</b> | Grades 6, 7, and 8       |
| <b>Senior</b>       | Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 |

## Ten easy steps to getting the most out of 4-H:

- Step 1: Youth Complete Online Enrollment
- Step 2: Parents Complete Online Enrollment
- Step 3: Get Involved
- Step 4: Start a Project
- Step 5: Complete a Project
- Step 6: Participate in Activities
- Step 7: Keep Records
- Step 8: Share Information
- Step 9: Help Others
- Step 10: Promote 4-H

## Step 1 & 2: Enrollment



**Link to 4-H Online:** <https://v2.4honline.com/#!/user/sign-in>

**Link to helpful tips:** <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/4honline/>

**Link to Brazos County Facebook:**  
<https://www.facebook.com/brazos4h/>

# Brazos County Clubs



## **Step 3: Get Involved - Join a Club!**

Brazos County has **19 clubs** to choose from. Consider scheduling, interests, & location when choosing a club for your family. You can join any club & participate in any project, even if the project isn't the club's focus.

## **Community Clubs:**

### **4Humble Hearts**

**Club Manager & Contact:** Kimberley Traylor- cloverkidsrule@gmail.com

**Club Description:** 4Humble Hearts' 4H Club strives to cultivate well-rounded individuals who not only excel in their chosen interests but also contribute positively to their communities. We're committed to empowering youth through diverse programs that encompass youth entrepreneurship, food & nutrition, horticulture, gardening, fashion, equestrian activities, companion animal care (with a focus on dogs), archery, goats, public speaking, leadership, theater/drama, veterinary science, and workforce/career preparation. Community service projects have included Brazos Valley Food Bank, Barn Buddies, and kennel care.

**Meetings:** 3rd Thursday of the month, Clover Kids start at 6:00 PM, location TBD

### **Castlegate**

**Club Manager & Contact :** Rebecca Hapes- rhapes@gmail.com

**Club Description:** Castlegate 4-H Club members have a variety of projects. Those projects include leadership, public speaking, food & nutrition, fashion & interior design, photography, robotics, and more. We welcome any interested youth who are interested in expanding their leadership experience and developing a variety of skills and knowledge.

**Meetings:** 2nd Sunday of the month at 2:00 PM at the Larry J. Ringer Library

### **Edge**

**Club Manager & Contact:** Erica Hamilton- ehamilton@icloud.com

**Club Manager & Contact:** Anne McKibben- aggie\_anne@hotmail.com

**Club Description:** The Edge 4-H Club is a community-centered club in northeast Brazos County. The purpose of this group is to build the next generation of leaders, promote citizenship and community, and support our youth in "Making the Best Better". Current project groups include poultry, sheep, public speaking, food & nutrition, and gardening & horticulture. Clover kids are welcome to participate in the Edge 4-H Club.

**Meetings:** 1st Tuesday of the month at 6:00 PM at the Edge Community Center



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## **Community Clubs:**

### **North Bryan New Birth**

**Club Manager & Contact:** Lynn Williams- [williams6children@gmail.com](mailto:williams6children@gmail.com)

**Club Description:** This is a club of many projects to offer kids in the community.

**Meetings:** 3rd Saturday of the month at 11:30 AM at North Bryan New Birth Baptist Church

### **Runtin' N Gruntin'**

**Club Manager & Contact:** Meghan Anderson- [meganneanderson@hotmail.com](mailto:meganneanderson@hotmail.com)

**Club Manager & Contact:** Angela Allensworth- [aallensworth@tamu.edu](mailto:aallensworth@tamu.edu)

**Club Description:** Runtin N Gruntin is a club with a variety of ages and projects. The majority of our kids are heavily involved in showing market, breeding and commercial animals. Many clubbers also participate in activities such as livestock judging, skillathons and public speaking.

**Meetings:** 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM at Producers COOP

### **Southwood 4-H**

**Club Manager & Contact:** Stephanie & Charles Wendt- [wmcwendt@hotmail.com](mailto:wmcwendt@hotmail.com)

**Club Manager & Contact:** Lana & Wes Smith- [lane.smith96@gmail.com](mailto:lane.smith96@gmail.com) and  
[wes.smith96@gmail.com](mailto:wes.smith96@gmail.com)

**Club Description:** Southwood 4-H Club explores the diverse range of projects available in 4-H as well as concentrating on such projects as food & nutrition, crafts, photography, animals (beef, swine, poultry, and sheep), clothing, dogs, entomology and horticulture. Service projects include involvement in the annual KBTX Food Drive. Relay for Life and nursing home visits.

**Meetings:** 2nd Monday of the month at 6:30 PM (Cover Kids start at 6:00 PM) at the Wellborn Community Center

# Brazos County Clubs



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## **Community Clubs:**

### **St. Joseph**

**Club Manager & Contact:** Angela Catlin- stjoseph4hclub@gmail.com

**Club Description:** St. Joseph 4-H is an all-inclusive club that welcomes members interested in livestock, food & nutrition, family & community health, leadership and citizenship, STEM, and natural resource projects and so much more!

**Meetings:** 2nd Monday of the month at 6:30 (Clover Kids start at 6:15) at St. Joseph Catholic Church Parish Activity Center

### **Wixon Valley**

**Club Manager & Contact:** Betsy Brown- betsybrown99@gmail.com

**Club Manager & Contact:** Joni Bailey- joni.bailey@bryanisd.org

**Club Description:** We are a community club - all-inclusive - not project-based. We usually have a program or some sort of recreation and support a community service project either at the club level or county level.

**Meetings:** 4th Monday of the month at 6:30 PM at Sam Rayburn Middle School

# Brazos County Clubs



## **Step 3: Get Involved - Join a Club!**

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## **Project Area Clubs:**

### **Archery Club**

**Club Manager & Contact:** Rebecca Dominy- b4h.archery@gmail.com

**Club Description:** The Archery Club promotes all aspects of archery as a sport. Club members partake in various community service projects. Club activities encourage good sportsmanship, leadership and citizenship.

**Practice:** Saturdays 8:30-11:30 AM at the Brazos County Archery Club

**Meetings:** 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM at Westminster Presbyterian Church

### **Brazos Robotics**

**Club Manager & Contact:** Carie Aguirre & Cindy Davis- brazosrobotics@gmail.com

**Club Description:** Our club is project based. We learn how to design, build, and program Lego based robots. We also prepare for robotics contests including, but are not limited to, the AgRobotics contests held at major stock shows throughout the state.

**Meetings:** 3rd Monday of the month at 7:00 at the Brazos County Extension Office

### **Bridle & Bit (Faith Riders)**

**Club Manager & Contact:** Lance Swigert- lance.swigert@gmail.com

**Club Description:** Faith Riders horse drill team. Brazos Faith Riders are a 4-H Equestrian Drill Team. We have over 12 kids from 4 counties that ride and participate in all levels of 4-H horse shows. You don't have to be an experienced rider, we will teach you. Contact us for more information.

**Meetings:** 1st Sunday of the month at 2:30 PM at Dick Freeman Arena

# Brazos County Clubs



## **Step 3: Get Involved - Join a Club!**

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## **Project Area Clubs:**

### **Equestrian Club**

**Club Manager & Contact:** Jamilyn Bolen- [jamilynbolen@hotmail.com](mailto:jamilynbolen@hotmail.com)

**Club Description:** Equestrian Club activities include holding an Open Horse Show, Horse Judging, Horse Quiz Bowl, riding sessions and a Horsemanship Clinic.

**Meetings:** 1st Tuesday of the month at 6:00 PM at A&M United Methodist Church

### **K-9 Club**

**Club Manager & Contact:** Kartina Fryar & Jada Pulliam- [brazoscountydogclub@gmail.com](mailto:brazoscountydogclub@gmail.com)

**Club Description:** The K9 4-H Dog Club promotes all aspects of dog training. Training ranges from obedience to agility and dog show training such as showmanship and conformation. Dog training sessions are held weekly and the club hosts a dog show annually.

**Meetings:** 1st Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM at Christ's Way Baptist Church

### **Sportsman's Club**

**Club Manager & Contact:** Lesa Feldhousen- [4hsportsmans@gmail.com](mailto:4hsportsmans@gmail.com)

**Club Description:** The Sportsman's Club emphasizes activities pertinent to skeet, trap and related shotgun shooting events as well as firearms, safety. The 4H Sportsman's Club also helps youth to promote good citizenship and build leadership skills. Annual activities include New Shooter's Classes, Brazos County Shoot, Can Food Drive for the Brazos Food Bank, and participation at the Texas State 4H Shooting Sports Games.

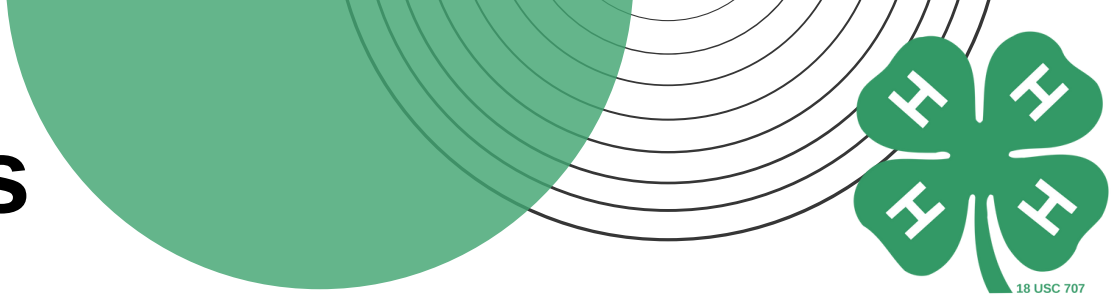
**Meetings:** 1st Sunday of the month at 3:30 PM at Boswell Porter Range

## **School Based Clubs:**

**Arrow Academy/SOS, BSIC, Harmony Science Academy, Still Creek, Men of Distinction**



# Projects



## **Step 4: Start a Project**

On the 4-H Connect Enrollment pages, 4-H members are asked to select projects of interest to them. When you start your 4-H experience, you may want to select one or two projects. The more years you are in 4-H, the more projects you can usually handle. 4-H projects can be conducted throughout the 4-H year (September 1 - August 31). Certain projects have special activities or contests, so you need to begin some projects at specific times during the year. After you select your projects, contact your Club Manager or County Extension office if you have any questions.

## **Step 5: Complete a Project**

After you have selected your project you are ready to start gaining information and having fun learning about your project. In 4-H, you are asked to do a minimum of six learning experiences to complete a project. Learning experiences will vary from project to project, such as meetings with other 4-H'ers and Leaders, going on tours, attending workshops, reading publications or surfing the Internet. Many 4-H'ers work on the project with their parents, grandparents or other family members while other 4-H'ers work on projects with a group of friends. Working through a project from start to finish helps a 4-H member gain skills in carrying out responsibilities, as well as setting and completing goals.

# Projects

## COUNTY 4-H AWARDS, RECORD BOOKS AND PINS



In addition to recognition at Brazos County 4-H Contests, 4-H members are also recognized for accomplishments at the annual Brazos County 4-H Achievement Banquet held in the summer. The entry deadline for these awards is in July. All awards applications can be found in the Brazos County Awards & Recognition Handbook, and briefly described here:

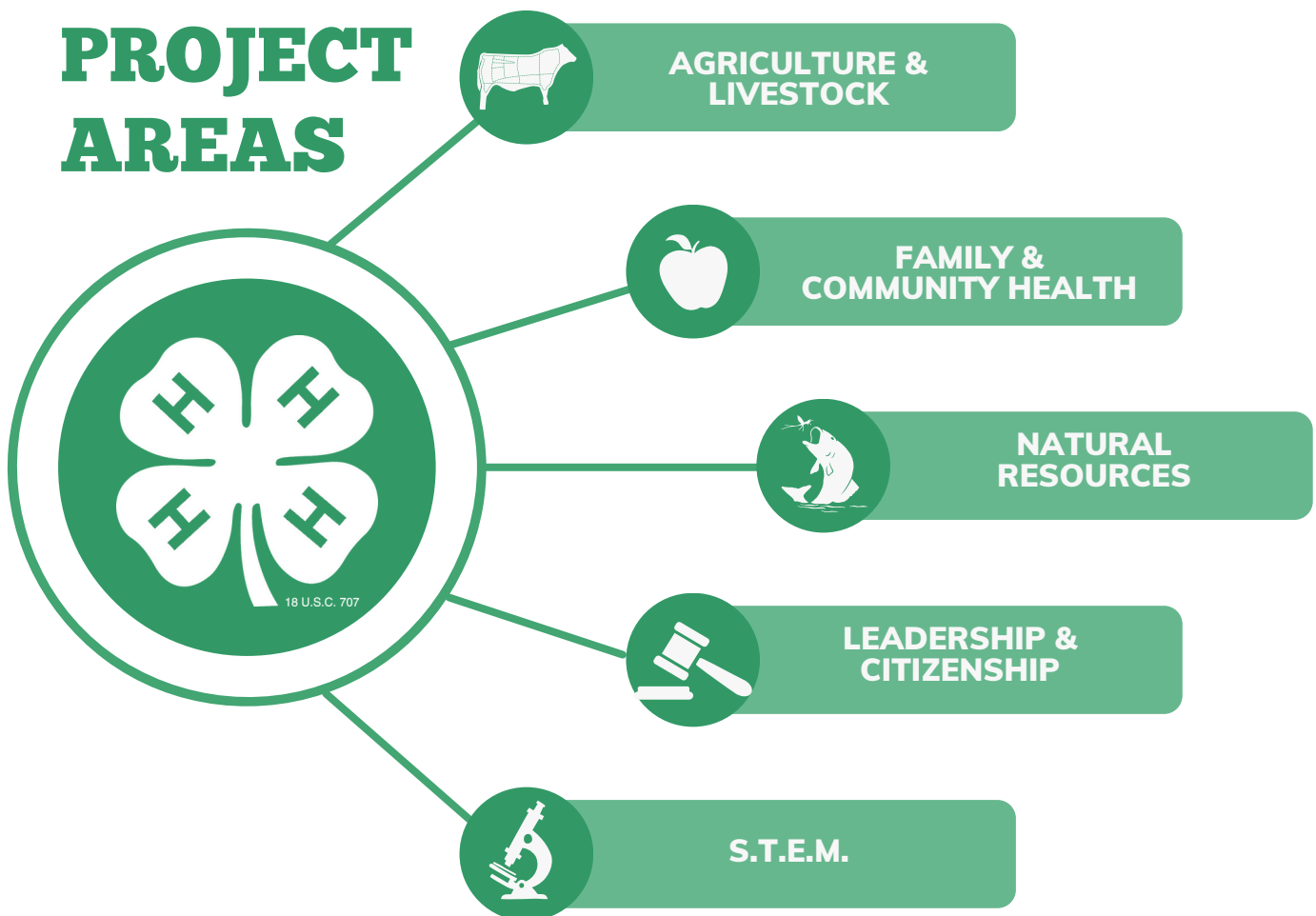
- 1) RECORD BOOK AWARDS** - Record Book awards are presented based on what 4-H'ers report in their 4-H Record Book. Committees judge or evaluate project work and achievement, leadership, personal growth and development by reading the record books.
- 2) 4-H YEAR PINS** - 4-H Completion Year Pins are awarded to every 4-H member in Brazos County who completes a 4-H project during the year and turns in a Record Book.
- 3) PROJECT COMPLETION PINS** - Project pins are awarded to members who complete a 4-H Record Book at the Junior, Intermediate, or Senior level.
- 4) ROOKIE AWARDS** - A 4-H member who has completed his or her first year of membership, regardless of age, is eligible for the Rookie Award.
- 5) 4-H HONOR ROLL** - Available to Junior members, ages 8 and in the third grade through 10 years old who meet the established criteria.
- 6) 4-H ALL STAR** - Available to Intermediate members, ages 11-13 who meet the established criteria.
- 7) 4-H LETTERMAN** - Available to Senior members, ages 14 and over who meet the established criteria.
- 8) DANFORTH I DARE YOU AWARD** - This award is offered as recognition of excellence in character, well-balanced personal development and demonstrated leadership. Brazos County will give two (2) awards to deserving Senior age 4-H Members.
- 9) GOLD STAR AWARD** - The Gold Star Award is the most sought-after 4-H award at the county level. It is awarded each year to four (4) or more outstanding Senior 4-H members in Brazos County based on their total 4-H career.
- 10) SILVER STAR AWARD** - The Silver Star Award is presented each year to four (4) or more outstanding 4-H Intermediate Members. An application form for the award must be completed and turned in with the record book.
- 11) BRONZE STAR AWARD** - The Bronze Star Award will be presented each year to four (4) outstanding 4-H Junior Members at the County Awards Banquet. An application form for the award must be completed and turned in with the record book.
- 12) SPECIAL COUNTY AWARDS** - The following awards are made available on a county-wide basis to encourage excellence in 4-H projects. A 4-H member is eligible for any award if the project is included in the 4-H Record Book, and a member may apply for all awards. Awards for Outstanding Achievement are awarded in the following project areas: Archery, Beef, Citizenship\*, Community Service\*, Dog, Fashion and Interior Design, Food and Nutrition, Horse, Horticulture, Leadership\*, Goat, Photography, Poultry, Public Speaking, Rabbit, Robotics, Sheep, Shooting Sports, Swine and Vet Science.

\*Denotes projects judged on overall 4-H performance, not necessarily limited to one project area.

# 4-H Projects & Programs

Texas 4-H is a youth development organization through the Texas AgriLife Extension Service and the Texas A&M University System. As the largest youth development program in the world, it focuses on giving young people (ages 5-18) the opportunity to become better leaders, friends, and members of the community through participation in activities that fit best with **their** interests.

## THE BIG 5 PROJECT AREAS



There are more than **43 different project opportunities** that are split between the "Big 5 Project Areas". Each of these projects vary in experiences, but all have the common goal of **positive youth development**.

# 4-H Projects & Programs



## Agriculture & Livestock

**Livestock Projects**- The livestock projects include beef cattle, swine, sheep, goats, poultry, & rabbits. They teach the fundamentals of the industry by allowing youth to explore the area of animal husbandry, livestock selection, health, and care, in addition to exhibiting the project at the local, county, state, and national shows.

Contact– Matt Pfeifer- [matthew.pfeifer@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:matthew.pfeifer@ag.tamu.edu)

**Dog Project**- The 4-H Dog project provides a safe environment for youth to interact with and learn about one of their closest friends, their dog. The project is designed to enhance the relationship a young person has with their dog and make their dog a happier better adjusted member of the family.

Contact– Kat Fryar & Jada Pulliam- [brazoscountydogclub@gmail.com](mailto:brazoscountydogclub@gmail.com)

**Equine** -The Horse Project is designed as a tool for 4-H members to learn about horse care and handling, and the equine industry in general, through hands-on activities designed to develop skills not only in horsemanship and equine handling, but also in leadership, communication, decision-making and personal management. This can include riding, judging, or showing.

Contact– Jamilyn Bolen – [jamilynbolen@hotmail.com](mailto:jamilynbolen@hotmail.com)

**Livestock Judging**-The evaluation of an animal's characteristics & making a comparison to other animals and the ideal standard of that particular class.

Contact– Nick Philipello– [jillphilipello@msn.com](mailto:jillphilipello@msn.com)

**Horticulture** The horticulture project is a hands-on project that incorporates community and volunteer service with learning about plant growth, environment horticulture and ecology, fruits and nuts, landscape design, soil and water, insects and diseases, vegetables and herbs, and life skills and career exploration.

Contact– Skip Richter- [robert.richter@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:robert.richter@ag.tamu.edu)

**For more information regarding other Agriculture & Livestock projects, contact [ashleigh.sugg@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:ashleigh.sugg@ag.tamu.edu)**



# 4-H Projects & Programs



## Family & Community Health

**Fashion & Interior Design** -The 4-H fashion and interior design project allows youth the opportunity learn basic sewing skills, learn the process for creating their own original designs, create beautiful quilts, learn to be a super shopper and develop a personal fashion style.

Contact– Flora Williams– [fewilliams@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:fewilliams@ag.tamu.edu)

**Consumer Decision Making**- The 4-H Consumer Education Project engages youth in the importance of making wise consumer decisions. Through educational experiences such as workshops to a retail store, to learn how to make good decisions about purchasing a variety of projects, to learning about “Consumer Savy” and the importance of becoming informed to be able to help make responsible consumer purchases of a variety of products for your family.

Contact– Flora Williams– [fewilliams@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:fewilliams@ag.tamu.edu)

**Food & Nutrition** The 4-H Foods & Nutrition Project engages youth in the importance of eating and living a healthy lifestyle. Through educational experiences, such as field trips to the grocery store to learn how to buy fresh vegetables and fruits and interactive workshops to learn how to build a healthy plate and the importance of eating a balanced meal, youth gain the necessary skills to make smart decisions for themselves, as well as helping their family.

Contact– Flora Williams– [fewilliams@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:fewilliams@ag.tamu.edu)

**Healthy Lifestyles**-Youth learn how to improve physical, intellectual, emotional and social health through participation in the health project. Specifically, youth learn about the importance of physical activity, proper hygiene, dental care, healthy snacking, vaccinations and sleep.

Contact– Flora Williams– [fewilliams@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:fewilliams@ag.tamu.edu)

For more information regarding other Family & Community Health projects, contact [ashleigh.sugg@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:ashleigh.sugg@ag.tamu.edu)

# 4-H Projects & Programs



## Natural Resources

**Shooting Sports-** The 4-H 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 where certified 4-H coaches are available to lead.

Contacts:

Archery– Rebecca Dominy - [b4h.archery@gmail.com](mailto:b4h.archery@gmail.com)

Shotgun— Lesa Feldhousen - [4hsportsmans@gmail.com](mailto:4hsportsmans@gmail.com)

## STEM

**Photography-**The 4-H Photography project offers opportunities for youth to explore the world through the lens of a camera. Photography is a great way to engage youth in communicating what the world looks like to them. Through the photography project, youth learn skills from the basic parts of a camera, careers in photography, and digital publishing and developing.

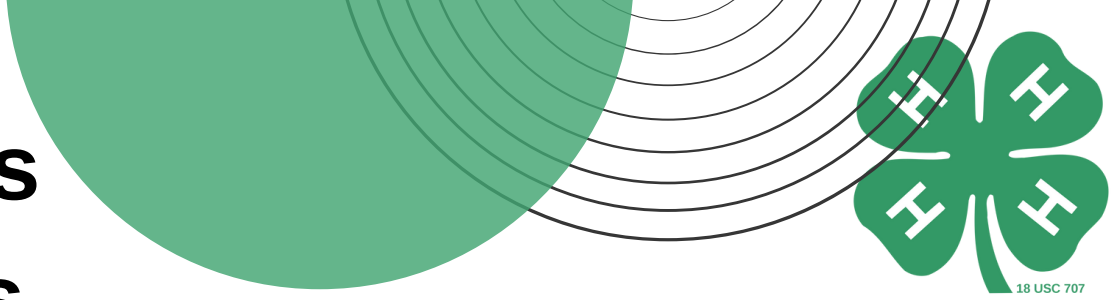
Contact– Matt Pfeifer- [matthew.pfeifer@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:matthew.pfeifer@ag.tamu.edu)

**Robotics-**The 4-H Robotics Curriculum is designed to meet the diverse requirements of 4-H clubs, after-school programs, individual youth and school enrichment activities. The curriculum was developed for all levels of expertise: from beginning to advanced.

Contact– Carie Aguirre & Cindy Davis - [brazoscountyrobotics@gmail.com](mailto:brazoscountyrobotics@gmail.com)

For more information regarding other Natural Resources or S.T.E.M. projects, contact [ashleigh.sugg@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:ashleigh.sugg@ag.tamu.edu)

# Activities & Events



## **Step 6: Participate in Activities**

Activities are contests or opportunities for 4-H members to demonstrate the skills and knowledge they have gained through their project work. Some of the activities allow a team of 4-H'ers to prepare a presentation, while other activities are for individual contest entry. Participating in 4-H activities helps the member gain public speaking skills and presentation skills that will help them throughout their life. Other activities available to 4-H'ers include a variety of camps and workshops conducted mainly in the summer.

### **Some of the major activities:**

|                    |                      |  |
|--------------------|----------------------|--|
| Fashion Shows      | Performing Arts      | Public Speaking/ Educational Presentations |
| Quiz Bowls         | Horse Shows          | Judging Contests                           |
| Food Shows         | Livestock Shows      | Shooting Sports Contests                   |
| Outdoor Activities | Photography Contests | Dog Shows                                  |
| Food Challenge     | Service Projects     |  |

### **Camps**

|                               |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| County Day Camp, June         | (all ages)        |
| Jr. Leadership Lab, Oct./Nov. | (11-13 year olds) |
| Leadership Lab, June          | (14-18 year olds) |

***You must register on 4-HOnline to participate in activities 4-H has to offer.***

1. When approved, you may log in to your account by clicking "I have a profile" and providing your email address and password.
2. On the "Member List" page, scroll to the bottom of the page and select a member from the "Register a member for an event" drop down menu. Select the event you are registering. Only events that a member is eligible for will be shown.
3. After you register, your county extension agent will review your registration and approve.

### **Eligibility Form**

**This is a required form for competitive events and both the form and the instructions related to the form are at the end of the handbook.**

Official form can be found at: <https://brazos.agrilife.org/publications/4h-publications/>

# Other



## **Step 7: Keep Records**

When you spend time working on a project, you need to record or take notes and pictures to track what you learn through your project. Brazos County 4-H'ers have the chance to complete a **Record Book** for recognition at the Annual 4-H Awards Banquet held in the fall and to be considered for 4-H awards.

4-H Record Books are a great way for 4-Hers to keep records of their progress on their project! In constructing a 4-H Record Book, members organize information about their participation and accomplishments in all 4-H projects and activities. Any project can be completed using a 4-H Record Book. Record books are judged at county, district, and state levels at the end of the year.

## **Step 8: Share Information**

As a 4-H member, you learn to share with others the information you gain through your project experience.

## **Step 9: Help Others**

The 4-H experience includes helping others. We call our 4-H helping, Community Service. This is something that you do for a non- 4-H audience without pay or compensation.

### **“One Day” Community Service Project Day**

One Day 4-H is a way for all 4-H members to take one day to say “thank you” to their communities, county, and state for all the support they have provided to 4-H members for more than 100 years.

One Day 4-H will occur on October 7th, 2023 in every county across Texas. Each 4-H member can recruit friends to help make their communities better through adopting a service project. These projects can be done as individuals or as an entire county 4-H Program. Regardless of the project that is chosen, it is one day to make a difference!

## **Step 10 - Promote 4-H**

4-H is the largest youth organization in the country because we are always inviting others to attend. Part of your 4-H experience will be to get others involved in the program. This could mean asking a friend to visit your club meeting, wearing a 4-H t-shirt in the community, or preparing a poster for National 4-H Week October 1st-7th, 2023.



# DECLARATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

4-H'ers should complete a separate form for each competitive event/activity in which they plan to participate. The original form should be returned to the county Extension office by the deadline established by the County Extension Office.

NOTE: Schools requiring a copy of this form should make their copy before returning it to the student.

## **Parent/Guardian Section**

1. Parent/Guardian will select the information being requested. It is either:

- Academic eligibility information only. (Used to verify academic eligibility only for 4-H competitive events/activities.), or
- Academic eligibility information and authorization to receive an excused absence from school. (Used to verify academic eligibility as well as receive authorization to receive an excused absence. This would be used for events held during school hours such as stock shows, state and national 4H contests and events, etc.)

2. Complete the date and name of activity. (Used to notify school officials of exact dates/times a student would be participating in a 4-H activity or representing 4-H at an event.)

3. Parent/Guardian signature is required. The signature of the parent/guardian confirms that this person is aware of the academic eligibility and excused absence requirements of the Texas Education Code.

## **County Extension Agent Section**

1. Extension Office will complete this section and certify the youth is a 4-H member and his/her participation in the event.

2. County Extension Agent (with adjunct faculty status) will sign the form.

## **School Principal/Designee Section**

1. Principal, or designee, will indicate the 4-H members eligibility status, options are:

- Academically eligible to participate
- Not academically eligible to participate

2. The principal or designee will indicate whether or not an excused absence will be granted.

3. Principal, or designee, will sign and date the form in order to be valid.

4-H family should follow instructions provided by the  
County Extension Office on returning form to the  
Extension Office by the given deadline.

**NOTE** -The Extension office will then need a copy for our documentation and the child will keep the original to be presented, if needed, to the event supervisor or the school. The copy may be sent any of the following ways:

Mailed to our office at: 4153 County Park Court, Bryan, TX 77802

Scanned and emailed to: [brazos-tx@tamu.edu](mailto:brazos-tx@tamu.edu)

Brought in and we will make the copy for you



## Texas 4-H Youth Development Program

# DECLARATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

This form is requested in accordance with the requirement of the Texas Education Code and in cooperation with the Texas Education Agency and local school board policies.

*Instructions: Complete one form per activity. 4-H member should return original form to the County Extension Office*

### PARENT/GUARDIAN SECTION

In accordance with 4-H policy, provided by our local Extension office, I respectfully request:

(CHECK ONE)

- ☐ Academic eligibility information only.
- ☐ Academic eligibility information and authorization to receive an excused absence from school.

Date of Activity: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Activity: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

### COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT SECTION

I hereby certify that \_\_\_\_\_ is a member of 4-H in \_\_\_Brazos\_\_\_ County and is scheduled to participate in this activity representing 4-H. He/she will be under the supervision of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service faculty or agency's designated volunteer leader.

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of County Extension Agent

### SCHOOL PRINCIPAL OR DESIGNEE

#### ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY (CHECK ONE)

- ☐ I do certify that the student is academically eligible to participate in the above mentioned activity.
- ☐ I do not certify the student because he/she is **NOT** academically eligible to participate in the above mentioned activity.

#### EXCUSED ABSENCE (CHECK ONE)

- ☐ An excused absence will be granted.
- ☐ An excused absence will **NOT** be granted.
- ☐ Does not apply.

#### EDUCATIONAL STATUS (CHECK ONE)

- ☐ Face-to-Face (on campus)
- ☐ Virtual Option
- ☐ Homeschooled

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Principal or Designee

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of School

# We are so excited to have you join Brazos County 4-H!

We are here to help you and your family as you start your new adventures in 4-H! Please feel free to stop by the office, call, or email us with any questions. We look forward to getting to know your family this year.

Sincerely,



Matt Pfeifer  
CEA 4-H  
Brazos County



Ashleigh Sugg  
Program Assistant 4-H &  
Youth Development



Flora Williams  
CEA FCH  
Brazos County



Chadd Caperton  
CEA Ag/NR  
Brazos County