



Welcome to Waller County 4-H!



The Most Frequently Asked Questions By New Members

What is 4-H Connect? <https://texas.4honline.com/>

- The official Texas 4-H Program database for 4-H members and volunteers
- How the county, district and state keep track of your information, so make sure your information is always up to date! (e.g. changing school or clubs)

How do I know when my club meetings are held?

- Check out the Waller County Club List on our website: <https://waller.agrilife.org/4-h/>
 - We encourage new members to call/email their club manager and let them know you want to join their club.
- Club managers should send reminders before each club meeting.
 - If not, call/email your manager or co-manager and ask.

Can I join more than one club?

- YES! You can choose a “primary” club and one or more “secondary” clubs. Your secondary club could be an activity club, such as “Waller Co. 4-H Sharp Shooters”.
 - Secondary clubs can also be joined until you find the right club for you.

What are “projects”?

- 4-H projects are categories a member chooses to learn more about throughout the 4-H year. Members are required to participate in at least one project a year, but can select more based on their interests.
- The following chart shows all the projects you can choose. The possibilities are endless!

Beef Cattle	International Travel	Safety
Careers & Workforce Prep	Leadership	Science, Engineering & Technology
Citizenship	Meat Science	Sheep
Community Service	Natural Resources	Shooting Sports
Consumer Education	Outdoor Education & Living Skills	Small & Companion Animals
Dairy Cattle	Photography & Video	Sportfishing
Dog Care & Training	Plants & Gardening	Swine
Entomology	Poultry	Theater & Performance Arts
Fashion & Interior Design	Public Speaking	Veterinary Science
Food & Nutrition	Rabbits	Water Conservation & Education
Forestry	Range Science	Wildlife & Fisheries
Goats	Robotics	Youth Entrepreneurship
Horses	Rocketry & Aerospace	





How do I know about upcoming events, contests and deadlines?

- **4-H Newsletters** are sent each month and contain very important information about upcoming contests, events, deadlines, scholarship opportunities, practice times, and other important information, so be sure to read them EVERY month!
 - 4-H Newsletters are emailed to all 4-H members, posted on our website, our Facebook page, and 4-H Connect. Paper copies are also available at the Extension Office.
- You can also find events, forms and other important information on our **website**.
 - <https://waller.agrilife.org/>
- We also have a **Facebook** page. Flyers, deadlines and other information is posted daily. Please “like” & “follow” our page-“Waller County Extension Office”.



What information can I find in the Waller County 4-H Family Handbook?

- 4-H Calendar, general information, projects, activities, camps, summer fun, awards, scholarships, ambassador program information, 4-H recordbook information, officer duties and more. The Family Handbook can be found on our website and is emailed to families around October.
 - A handbook cover contest is open to all 4-H members each summer. The winner’s artwork will be featured on the new Family Handbook for the new 4-H year.

What are eligibility forms? When do I need to fill one out?

- Eligibility forms are needed to make sure 4-H members are academically eligible to participate in events. Just like school sports, we go by the “no pass, no play” rule in 4-H. This is a State 4-H rule and everyone must follow it.
- Eligibility forms are needed EVERY time you are going to an event throughout the school year (even if the event is on a Saturday or Sunday). Forms must be emailed or brought to the Extension Office at least 1 week before the event. The Extension Office has to have time to check with the schools to make sure students are eligible.

How do I register for a contest/event on 4-H Connect?

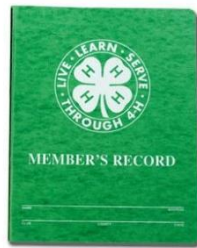
1. Log in to 4-H Connect. <https://texas.4honline.com/>
2. On the “Member List” page, look at the last box “Register A Member In An Event...”
3. Select a member.
4. Select the event you want to register for.
5. Click “Register”.
6. Fill out the online form and pay.
7. Go through steps 4-6 for each child attending.





What is a 4-H recordbook?

- A 4-H recordbook consists of information that a 4-H member records over the course of a 4-H year that documents his/her goals, knowledge and skills gained, leadership experiences, awards earned, and service in his/her community. Those experiences are recorded into forms, narratives, pictures and a story written by the 4-H member. The information is printed, bound in a cover, and is typically submitted for evaluation. Three different formats for recordbooks have been developed for junior, intermediate, and senior age divisions. Members may download forms either in Word or fillable PDF formats, or any combination to develop a complete set of records.
- 4-H recordbook judging at the county level starts in May. 4-H Recordbooks placing 1st at county, advance to district. 1st place senior 4-H recordbooks at district advance to state judging.
- To be eligible for county 4-H scholarships, you must complete at least 2 senior 4-H recordbooks.



What are 4-H project forms and Star Awards?

- 4-H project forms are a quick one page questionnaire we ask members to fill out on their project(s) which can lead to a great start on a 4-H recordbook.
- 4-H Star awards are handed out to members each year at the 4-H banquet to recognize their efforts from the previous 4-H year. The following are the award categories:
 - Green Star: Clover Kids
 - Rookie Star: First year 4-H member (any age)
 - Bronze Star: Juniors (grades 3-5th)
 - Silver Star: Intermediates (grades 6-8th)
 - Danforth "I Dare You" Award: Seniors (grades 9-12th)
 - Gold Star: Seniors (grades 9-12th)
- You can apply for the 4-H Star Awards in early summer. Look for deadlines and guidelines posted in the 4-H newsletter and online. Each award may only be received once (and must be received in order). You can skip an award, but may not go back.





What is ALPA?

- Adult Leaders and Parents Association (ALPA) helps promote Waller County 4-H through fundraising, managing budgets and awarding scholarships to 4-H Clubs and members. The purpose of ALPA is to develop and support volunteer leaders to serve the needs of 4-H members.
- Meetings are held at 6:00pm the 3rd Monday in Jan., Mar., May, July, Sept. and Nov.
- ALPA hosts a 4-H BBQ fundraiser each spring which provides scholarships and awards to our youth. There is a live and silent auction and of course a BBQ meal!
- Certain events and contests can be reimbursed by ALPA. If you would like a list of which events can be reimbursed, please ask the Extension Office for the ALPA Bylaws.
- Parents are welcome and encouraged to join and attend ALPA meetings!

When does the new 4-H Year Start?

- September 1.
 - Early registration: Aug. 15-Oct. 31 (\$20 fee)
 - After Oct. 31 (\$25 fee)

Do I need to re-enroll into 4-H each year?

- YES! All 4-H members must re-enroll each year on 4-H Connect. Please use the same profile each year.
- If you have questions about your profile, please call the Extension Office.

Still have questions about 4-H?

- You can find detailed information about the above topics on our website. If you still have questions, please ask your club manager or call the Extension Office.

Waller County Extension Office

846 6th St.

Hempstead, TX 77445

(979) 826-7651

Monday-Friday 8:00am -5:00pm

*Closed 12:00-1:00pm

Waller County: <https://waller.agrilife.org/>

District 9: <https://d94-h.tamu.edu/>

Texas 4-H: <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/>

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