

Gregg County 4-H 2019-2020 Family Handbook





WELCOME TO THE GREGG COUNTY 4-H PROGRAM!

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.

Gregg 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 Gregg County 4-H family!

Please read through your Gregg 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,

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About 4-H

Motto

“To Make the Best Better”

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 duplicate it.

Colors

The 4-H colors are green and white. Green symbolizes nature’s most common color and represents life, springtime and youth. White symbolizes purity.

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.



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 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)

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

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

Adult Leaders Committee

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

President..... Kim McGregor
Vice President..... Tim Newcombe
Secretary..... Susan Patterson

Treasurer.....Brandy Hunter
Delegates at Large.....

4-H Council/Youth Board

Members of the Gregg County 4-H Council plan and coordinate 4-H activities in the county. The Gregg 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. In most cases, the president of the 4-H club also serves as a delegate to the County 4-H Council. In addition to the club council delegates and presidents, membership to the council is open to all 4-H youth.

Gregg County 4-H Council/Youth Board serves as a communication channel. Council delegates represent their club and relay information and ideas from their club to the 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.

- Chairman.....
- First Vice Chairman.....
- Second Vice Chairman.....
- Third Vice Chairman.....
- Secretary.....
- Treasurer.....
- District Delegate.....
- Reporter.....
- Parliamentarian.....
- Historian.....
- Health & Safety Officer.....

4-H Youth Board, 4-H Members, Club Manager, and Adult Leaders Association Meetings

****Meetings begin @ 6 p.m.** @ Gregg County Extension Office/Auditorium**

- Monday Sept. 16**– 4-H Youth Board, 4-H Members, Club Manager, and Adult Leaders
- Monday Oct. 14** – 4-H Youth Board, 4-H Members, Club Manager, and Adult Leaders
- Monday Dec. 10** – 4-H Youth Board, 4-H Members, Club Manager, and Adult Leaders
- Monday Jan. 13** – 4-H Youth Board, 4-H Members, Club Manager, and Adult Leaders
- Monday Mar. 23** – 4-H Youth Board, 4-H Members, Club Manager, and Adult Leaders
- Monday Apr. 13** – 4-H Youth Board, 4-H Members, Club Manager, and Adult Leaders
- Monday May 4** – 4-H Youth Board, 4-H Members, Club Manager, and Adult Leaders
- Monday Aug. 17** – 4-H Youth Board, 4-H Members, Club Manager, and Adult Leaders

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 - Youth Complete Online Enrollment

Enrollment Time

On September 1st each year, all former, new 4-H members, and volunteer leaders must re-enroll for the current year. Enrollment stays current from September 1st through August 31st.

Participation Fee - each enrollment year (no fee for Clover Kids ages 5-7)

September 1st thru October 31st-----\$25 per child
After November 1st-----\$30 per child



Enrolling in 4-H

To enroll in a Texas 4-H club, you must register online using the 4-H Connect management system. You will need a computer, internet access, and Mozilla web browser.

New Members:

1. Open your Mozilla internet browser. If you do not have Mozilla, please download it free from www.mozilla.com.
2. Go to <https://texas.4honline.com>.
3. Click "I need to setup a profile."
4. Select your county from the drop-down menu.
5. Fill in the fields marked Email, Confirm Email, and Last Name and create a password you will remember.
6. Select "Family" on the Role drop down menu.
7. Click "Create Login."
8. Follow the on-screen prompts to register your family and all family members involved in a 4-H club as a member or volunteer (including adults). Fields marked in bold are required.
9. Register each member in all projects or groups they participate in or wish to join in the future.
10. If you are a youth, your registration will be submitted to your county extension office, where an agent will review your application. If you have to make any corrections, they will contact you by e-mail. Once complete and correct, the agent will approve your enrollment.

Tip: Do not hit your browser's "Back" button while within the 4-H Connect system!

Questions about 4-H Connect? Contact your Club Manager, County Extension Office at 979-823-0129, or visit the help page on the State 4-H website: http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/enroll/support/index_connecthelp.php.

Previous Members – Do Not Create a New Profile

Just click "Login to 4-H Connect. "

- 1) Click the "EDIT" button beside each youth/adult profile, review all information for correct data, select projects, activities, and leadership roles and click ENROLL FOR 2019-2020.
- 2) THEN, you will go through each screen of the person you are enrolling. Please check and be sure the information is complete and click continue each screen until you get to the last screen.
- 3) If you have reviewed everything and all is updated and correct, please click Submit Enrollment and then wait on our office to accept your enrollment.

Step 2 - Parents Complete Online Enrollment

Same as above, except as noted in #10.

10. If you are an adult volunteer, your registration will be sent to the Youth Protection Standards Office for screening if you have not been screened or are due for your three-year review. Once you are screened and approved, your registration will be returned to your county extension office, where an agent will review and accept your application.

Step 3 - Get Involved

As a Member or Leader, you need to get involved in your local club; attend monthly meetings, volunteer for committees, and stay informed of what is going on in your club. Learn what is going on throughout the County, District and State by reading the Gregg County 4-H Handbook, 4-H Newsletters, Gregg County 4-H Connection (our online bulletin board) and the 4-H and Youth Development pages on the Gregg County Extension website:

<http://gregg.agrilife.org/>



Join a Club!






The following are the 8 4-H Clubs in Gregg County and their Club Name, Club Manager(s), Project descriptions, meeting location, date and time:

CLUB MANAGER(S)	CLUB NAME & PROJECT DESCRIPTION	MEETING LOCATION, DATE & TIME
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Gregg County 4-H Shooting Sports Project Club: Archery & Shotgun

<p>Archery Johnny Patrick mkpatrick@ag.tamu.edu</p> <p>Shotgun/Rifle Curtis Shockley 903-315-7874 curtishockley@cablelynx.com</p> <p>Nicci Cox 903-262-9230 coxn@live.com</p> <p>Justin Waite 903-720-3472 justincorporated@msn.com</p>	<p>If you enjoy the outdoors and hunting, you'll love the Shooting Sports project!</p> <p>Archery promotes all aspects of archery as a sport. Club members partake in various community service projects. Club activities encourage good sportsmanship, leadership and citizenship.</p> <p>Shotgun - This project covers firearm safety and teaches responsible handling and use. Get ready because this project is hands on.</p>	<p>ARCHERY <u>Meets:</u> TBD <u>Location:</u> TBD <u>Time:</u> TBD <u>Website:</u> TBD <u>Facebook:</u> TBD</p> <p><u>Meetings:</u> Sept 23rd & 30th Oct 14th, 21st & 28th Nov 4th, 11th, & 18th</p> <p>Mar 30; April 6, 13, 20; May 4, 18, 25; June 1, 15, 22, 29; July 6, 13</p> <p>MAY 9TH Harvest Festival Shoot</p> <p><u>Location:</u> East Texas Rifle and Pistol Club 1045 FM 2011 Longview, TX 75603 <u>Time:</u> 6:30 pm</p>
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<u>Happy Hearts</u>		
<p>Leola Hughes: 903.753.1186</p>	<p>Focusing fashion, clothing and textile along with nutrition and photography! Club members are involved in a variety of fun activities!</p> 	<p><i><u>Meets:</u></i> 2nd Monday</p> <p><i><u>Location:</u></i> Mt. Calvary Baptist Church</p> <p><i><u>Time:</u></i> 6:30pm</p>
<u>Livestock Club</u>		
<p>Candace Stafford 903.522.3254</p>	 <p>Participation in livestock shows and dairy judging!</p>	<p><i><u>Meets:</u></i> 2nd Tuesday</p> <p><i><u>Location:</u></i> Gregg County Extension Auditorium</p> <p><i><u>Time:</u></i> 6pm</p>
<u>Shamrocks (Home School)</u>		
<p>Tim Newcombe: 903-806-2559 greggcountyshamrock4h@gmail.com</p> <p>Shotgun/Rifle Justin Waite 903-720-3472 justincorporated@msn.com</p>	<p>Archery, Robotics, Food & Nutrition, Photography, Gardening and many more projects</p> 	<p><i><u>Meets:</u></i> Tuesdays</p> <p><i><u>Location:</u></i> Gregg County Extension Auditorium</p> <p><i><u>Time:</u></i> 4:30 pm</p>
<u>Shiloh 4-H</u>		
<p>Iris Graves: 903.806.7858 Stella Allen: 903.746.7609</p>	<p>Focusing fashion, clothing and textile along with nutrition and photography! Club members are involved in a variety of fun activities!</p> 	<p><i><u>Meets:</u></i> TBD</p> <p><i><u>Location:</u></i> TBD</p> <p><i><u>Time:</u></i> 6pm</p>
<u>Bluebonnet (4-H Champion After-School Club) – University Academy</u>		
<p>Kim McGregor 903.241-6531 kimmcgregor79@gmail.com Johnae & Jovane Rossum jrossum1985@gmail.com jrossum1984@gmail.com</p>	 <p>Focuses on Robotics, Food and Nutrition, Fashion & Interior Design, Gardening, Aerospace</p>	<p><i><u>Meetings:</u></i> Wednesday</p> <p><i><u>Location:</u></i> University Academy (on site enrollment only)</p> <p><i><u>Time:</u></i> 3:30-5:00pm</p>

NED E. Williams STEAM-tastic (4-H Champion In-School Club)

<p>Melanie Hamilton, Principal mlhamilton@lisd.org</p>		<p>Public Speaking, Robotics, Food & Nutrition, and Take a Stand Against Bullying</p> <p><i>Project Meetings:</i> Mon.-Wed.</p> <p><i>Location:</i> Ned E. Williams Magnet STEAM Academy (On site enrollment only)</p> <p><i>Time:</i> In-School</p>
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Ware Elem 4-H Champion In-School Project Club

<p>Patricia Duck, Principal pduck@lisd.org</p> <p>Traci Neil, Asst. Principal tneil@lisd.org</p>	<p>Engages 3rd -5th graders in 4-H in-school Projects/Programs such as Food & Nutrition, Food Challenge, Poultry, and Yoga for kids.</p>	
		<p><i>Project Meetings:</i> Mon.-Wed.</p> <p><i>Location:</i> Ware Elementary (On site enrollment only)</p> <p><i>Time:</i> In-School</p>

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. For Texas 4-H Project List information, go to https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/Management_ProjectList_1819.pdf

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 4-H member gain skills in carrying out responsibilities, as well as setting and completing goals.

On the following pages, you will find a table that outlines some of the project areas in Gregg County 4-H. Use this information to look ahead for major deadlines and event timeframes. Then, refer to the 4-H Calendar found on the county website to find specific dates and project meetings.
<https://gregg.agrilife.org/4-h-forms/>

Other 4-H Projects and Programs

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- Johnny Patrick mkpatrick@ag.tamu.edu
Shotgun- Curtis Shockley, Justin Waite
curtiss shockley@cablelynx.com jstincorporated@msn.com

Horse Judging- the evaluation of a horse's characteristics & making a comparison to other animals and the ideal standard of that particular class
Contact-

Shaniqua Davis shaniqua.davis@ag.tamu.edu

Drill Team- To provide an opportunity for youth to develop drill team skills as well as leadership and teamwork skills; and to enhance the 4-H Horse Project while creating a positive environment for the youth to develop mentoring skills with other youth

Contact- Vacant

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:

Martha Grissom mrthgrissom@aol.com
Tom Babin tbabin7@att.net

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: Arvitta Scott arvitta.scott@ag.tamu.edu

Swine-The Swine project is the most popular large animal livestock project in Texas. The swine project teaches the fundamentals of the swine industry by allowing youth to explore the areas of animal husbandry, livestock selection, health, daily maintenance and care, in addition to exhibiting swine at local, county, state, and national swine shows.

Contract: Shannon Fell shannonfell@sbcglobal.net

Cattle- The beef project teaches the fundamentals of the beef cattle industry by allowing youth to explore the area of animal husbandry, livestock selection, health, and care, in addition to exhibiting beef cattle at the local, county, state, and national shows.

Contact: Shaniqua Davis shaniqua.davis@ag.tamu.edu

Rabbits- A rabbit project is a great way to get started with an animal science project. Rabbits do not require a lot of fancy or expensive housing or equipment, which makes them affordable animal projects to begin your animal science experience. The animal project will provide youth opportunities to learn and practice Communication, Decision Making, Leadership, Patience, and Responsibility.

Contact: Shaniqua Davis shaniqua.davis@ag.tamu.edu

Fashion & Interior Design-The 4-H clothing and textiles 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:

Tonya Waite tonyarwaite@gmail.com

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: Arvitta Scott arvitta.scott@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 Savvy" and the importance of becoming informed to be able to help make responsible consumer purchases of a variety of products for your family.

Contact- Arvitta Scott

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

Contact: Shaniqua Davis shaniqua.davis@ag.tamu.edu

Commercial Heifer- The commercial heifer program is designed to be educational and beneficial for the youth of Gregg County. It is held in conjunction with the Harvest Festival Livestock & Show in October. You will show a pen of 3 bred females, complete a record book, and an interview for the overall score for this project.

Contact- Shaniqua Davis shaniqua.davis@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- Vacant

Poultry-The poultry project teaches members poultry production and marketing by managing poultry projects. Project topics include broilers, capons, turkeys, egg production, and development from egg to chick.

Contact: Shaniqua Davis shaniqua.davis@ag.tamu.edu

Sheep & Goats-The Sheep & Goat project teaches youth to care for live animals while learning about animal health and nutrition, breeding, selection and marketing. In the 4-H sheep project individuals learn decision making, record keeping, responsibility, sportsmanship and leadership.

Contact: Shaniqua Davis shaniqua.davis@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: Mandy Patrick mkpatrick@ag.tamu.edu
Arvitta Scott arvitta.scott@ag.tamu.edu

Leaders 4 Life Youth leadership development designed to increase leadership skills of youth to prepare them for the future leadership opportunities in adulthood. Youth will be trained in leadership, parliamentary procedures, and service learning.

Contact:

Arvitta Scott arvitta.scott@ag.tamu.edu

Healthy Lifestyles-Youth also 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: Mandy Patrick & Arvitta Scott
mkpatrick@ag.tamu.edu & arvitta.scott@ag.tamu.edu

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 are a variety of camps and workshops conducted mainly in the summer.

Some of the major activities:

Fashion Shows	Horse Shows	Talks or Method
Quiz Bowls	Livestock Shows	Demonstrations
Food Shows	Photography Contests	Dog Shows
Outdoor Activities	Judging Contests	
Performing Arts	Shooting Sports Contests	

Camps

County Camp, July	(all ages)
YES Camp Nov.	(9-13-year old)
Jr. Leadership Lab, Oct./Nov.	(11-13-year old)
Spectra, July	(14-18-year old)
Leadership Lab, June	(14-18-year old)
Teen Retreat, January	(13-19-year old)

*****You must register on 4-H Connect to participate in some of the 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.

4-H CONTESTS

There are many 4-H contests which give members a chance to display their skills. Winners of most county 4-H contests advance to district and state contests. 4-H contest information is emailed to 4-H members from the county agent.

Following is a brief description of some of the annual contests. For dates of these contests watch out for emails from the county agent ahead of time!

4-H ROUNDUP (County, District, State)

The 4-H Roundup Contest provides 4-H members a chance to display their public speaking skills. 4-H members use the knowledge gained from 4-H projects and activities to prepare a presentation. Presentations are a very valuable educational tool in the 4-H program. Through presentations, 4-H'ers learn how to organize their thoughts and present their ideas. Below is a description of educational presentations.

Educational presentations are planned presentations by one to five 4-H members that teach information related to a project or activity. Simply, they are ways of “showing” and “telling” others how to make or do something and sharing useful information.

Through a method demonstration, you “show” others how to do something. You make something. There is a finished product. Through an illustrated talk, you talk about a particular subject; you are “telling” with the use of illustrations. Through the “speech” method you simply educate with words alone. Visual aids such as slides, posters, charts, pictures, etc. can be used in method demonstrations and illustrated talks. There is a 12-minute time limit for educational presentations.

4-H members may present method demonstrations and illustrated talks as an individual or as a team of up to five 4-H’ers.

Another 4-H Roundup category is ***PUBLIC SPEAKING***. In the public speaking category, an individual 4-H member presents a 5 to 7-minute speech. Props and visual aids may not be used.

SHARE-THE-FUN SKITS allow 4-H members to demonstrate their acting and showmanship talents.

There are six divisions of Share-the-Fun:

- “ Band - Group of 2 to 9 members
- “ Poetry/Prose- Individual or group. (Maximum group of nine).
- “ Vocal- Individual or group. (Maximum group of nine).
- “ Musical - Individual only
- “ Choreographed Routines- Individual or group. (Maximum group of nine).

4-H FOOD SHOW

The 4-H Food Show provides an opportunity for 4-H members to exhibit their skills in the food and nutrition project. There are four categories in which to compete: Main Dish, Fruits and Vegetables, Breads and Cereals, and Nutritious Snacks.

4-H FOOD CHALLENGE

Inspired by the popular television series *Iron Chef*, this fun contest and activity is for 4-H food & nutrition enthusiasts! For this contest, 4-H members compete on teams of 3-4 members. The teams use a group of ingredients, resource materials and some basic kitchen supplies to create their own dish, calculate cost per serving, evaluate nutritional value, and cover food safety practices in a brief presentation to judges.

4-H FASHION SHOW

The Fashion Show provides opportunities for 4-H members to exhibit their skills in modeling and presentation of themselves and their garments, good grooming and poise, fashion interpretation and understanding of style. 4-H members may choose clothing construction or comparison shopping. The four senior categories in each division include casual, dressy, formal, and specialty. Junior categories are announced before the Fashion show each year.

Leaders 4 Life

Leaders 4 Life is a competition that allows 4-H youth to demonstrate their knowledge of Parliamentary Procedure.

CONSUMER DECISION MAKING

In the Consumer Decision Making Contest, the 4-H member compares a class of consumer items to make the best choice. Items such as DVD players, digital cameras, and blue jeans are judged to determine the best value for the money. The consumer items are different each year. Through this contest, 4-H'ers learn to practice wise consumer skills.

NUTRITION QUIZ BOWL

This is a "trivia" contest that tests 4-H'ers knowledge about food and nutrition. 4-H'ers compete in teams of three or four.

PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

4-H'ers can submit photos for a district and state level 4-H photography contest. The State Level is only open to Senior 4-H members. Divisions for the state contest include the following: People, Animals, Still Life, Natural Landscape, Plant/Flora, Architectural Elements, Special Effects/Creative Effects, and Theme (themes vary from year to year). The classes for each of these divisions vary and may include color, color-digital or black & white. District contest categories vary from the state contest. Please check with the County Extension Office for details.

RECORD BOOKS

4-H Record books are a tool in learning record keeping skills. In the 4-H Record book, 4-H members record information about participation and accomplishments in all 4-H projects and activities. There are many categories in which to enter a 4-H record book; from clothing to consumer; from forestry to foods; from poultry to public speaking. Remember to take pictures during the year. Pictures are a part of the 4-H record book. Record book covers are available at the Extension office.

Gregg County 4-H Livestock Projects Important Dates

<u>LIVESTOCK</u>	<u>DEADLINE</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Rabbit	Validation/Harvest Festival	Sept
State Steer	Validation	June 25, 30
State Heifer	Validation	June 25, 30
State Fair Lamb and Goat	Validation	June 25, 30
Harvest Festival Lamb and Goat	Validation	Aug
Harvest Festival Swine Ear Notch	Validation	Aug
State Lamb & Goat	Validation	Oct 15
Fall Heifers	Validation	Oct 29

****NOTE:** Poultry: The date ordered is not the entry date. You must submit entries at the designated time to be able to show.

*****NOTE:** Rabbits: Make special note of the breeding dates for market rabbits or when they must be purchased.

Harvest Festival and Livestock Show/Concession Stand Fundraiser: October 23-26, 2019

The Harvest Festival and Livestock Show is an annual event in which 4-H members can exhibit and show steers, beef heifers, market lambs, market hogs, goats, rabbits, roasters, and broilers. There is also a Home Economics Contest as well as an Ag Mechanics Show. <http://www.harvestfestivallivestockshow.com/>

Gregg County Youth Livestock Expo: January 9-11, 2020

The Gregg County Youth Expo is proud to be hosting our annual livestock show. The livestock show is set for January 9-11, 2020 at the Sabine FFA School Farm in Liberty City, Texas. This event will showcase the hard work of student exhibitors as they show their agricultural projects. Entry form and fees are due in the Gregg County Extension Office on the Monday after Thanksgiving Holiday. For more information go to: www.greggcountyyouthexpo.com

COUNTY 4-H AWARDS, RECORD BOOKS AND PINS

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

- 1) RECORD BOOK AWARDS** - Record Book awards are presented based on what 4-Hers 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 Gregg 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) 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 Gregg County based on their total 4-H career. 4-H members must be at least 15 years of age and have completed at least 3 years in 4-H. In addition to other requirements, the 4-H'er must submit a record book in the year he or she applies for the award and must have completed projects in at least three project areas. 4-H members will apply for this award and be interviewed by a panel of judges. (Awarded only once in a member's 4-H career).

9) DANFORTH “I DARE YOU” AWARD- The “I Dare You” Award is offered as recognition of demonstrated qualities of constructive leadership. The idea of the award is to challenge or “dare” youth to achieve their highest potential. 4-H’ers ages 15-18 who have completed their freshman year in school are eligible for this award. At least 3 years participation in the 4-H program is also required. Club managers complete and submit applications for nominees to the County Extension Staff. To be eligible, 4-H members nominated must have submitted a record book the year he or she is nominated for the award. (Awarded only once in a member’s 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

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*, Clothing, Community Service*, Meat Goat, Field & Stream, Food & Nutrition, Horse, Horticulture, Leadership*, Photography, Poultry, Public Speaking, Rabbit, Range Management, Sheep, Shooting Sports, and Swine.

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

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 progress. Gregg 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-Her’s 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 project 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 12, 2019** 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! <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/events/oneday/>

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 or preparing a poster for National 4-H Week.



Eligibility Form

This is a required form for competitive events and both the form and the instructions related to the form are on the following pages.



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 public-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: _____ Name of Activity: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT SECTION

I hereby certify that _____ is a member of 4-H in
_____ **GREGG** _____ 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

(CHECK ONE)

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

(CHECK ONE)

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

_____ Date _____ Signature of Principal or Designee

_____ Name of School

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: 405 East Marshall Avenue Suite 101, Longview, TX 75601
Scanned and emailed to: vboykin@ag.tamu.edu
Fax to 903.237.2630
Bring in and we will make the copy for you

4-H TERMINOLOGY

4-H COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT-Oversees the County 4-H program.

ACTIVITY LEADER- Works closely with club manager. Responsible for one or more activities at the club level.

4-H AGE- 3RD GRADE THROUGH AGE 18. Your 4-H age is based on your age as of August 31st of the current 4-H year.

GRADE DIVISIONS

Junior: Grades 3, 4, and 5 (Exception: Age 8 as of August 31, 2019 and in the 3rd grade)

Intermediate: 6, 7, and 8

Senior: 9, 10, 11, and 12

(Based on August 31st of current 4-H year.)

4-H AMBASSADORS- Teen 4-H members who have been selected and trained to represent 4-H before civic and community groups to promote 4-H.

CLOVER KIDS- Youth ages 5 through 8 (Kindergarten through 2nd grade) who participate in the 4-H program. Not allowed to compete in County, District, State contest.

4-H CLUB- A group of boys and girls, third grade through age 18, who are advised by club managers and volunteer leaders. Each club elects their own officers to preside at club meetings.

CLUB MANAGER- Volunteer leader who provides guidance and management to a 4-H club. Serves as the contact person between the club and the County Extension Office.

CLUB MEETING- Where 4-H'ers meet, generally on a monthly basis, to handle the business of the club. Generally, one hour in length. Follows a four-part agenda including inspiration, business, program, and recreation.

CLUB OFFICERS- Elected by the club members each year. Have the responsibility of conducting 4-H club meetings. Working with club manager, they plan club meetings and give leadership to the club.

4-H COMMITTEE- Committees can serve many functions in a club. They give members extra involvement and leadership opportunities. Committee Chairmen give leadership to committees. (Example: recreation chairman, telephone committee chairman, refreshment chairman).

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT- An activity conducted by 4-H'ers for the benefit of the community. (Example: Collecting food or clothing for the needy, Christmas Caroling, Adopt-A-Highway roadside clean-ups).

DISTRICT 5- Gregg County is a part of District 5. We are considered the "East" district. There are 22 counties in District 5. (We are also a part of the "East Region" which includes District 4 and District 8 as well.)

ENROLLMENT- You officially become a 4-H member by choosing a 4-H club to join and enrolling in the 4-H program. Re-enrollment begins each September. Every 4-H member must re-enroll each year to continue membership in the 4-H program.

4-H LEADER- An adult volunteer who works with 4-H club members.

NATIONAL 4-H WEEK- Held the first full week of October. Provides the opportunity to increase public awareness and understanding of the 4-H program.

4-H PRAYER- "Help me, O Lord, to live so that the world may be a little better because Thou didst make me....Amen."

4-H PROJECT- An area of study in which 4-H members participate. The project consists of at least six hours of learning time. There are more than 40 projects to choose from.

PROJECT GROUP MEETINGS- Meeting where 4-H members learn about their specific project area. Coordinated by adult project leaders.

PROJECT LEADER- An adult volunteer who helps 4-H members learn through involvement in a specific 4-H project.

4-H SCHOLARSHIP- Scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$15,000 are available to graduating 4-H members who meet the criteria for application. The State Scholarship program is administered by the Texas 4-H Foundation.

STATE 4-H ROUNDUP- The State event in which qualifying senior 4-H members compete in various contests. Held on the campus of Texas A&M University each year in June.

TEEN LEADER- Teen members who accept leadership responsibilities in 4-H project meetings, workshops, trainings, or special activities.

TEXAS 4-H CONFERENCE CENTER- A camp facility owned and operated by the Texas 4-H Foundation at the shores of Lake Brownwood. Extension training programs and 4-H camps and retreats are conducted here year-round.

TEXAS 4-H CONGRESS- An educational event for 4-H members, ages 15 through 18. Held in Austin, Texas in even numbered years. Participants study and learn about state government by participating in a "mock Congress".

TEXAS 4-H COUNCIL- Consists of 4-H delegates from each of the 12 Extension districts. The Council plans and carries out many statewide events such as Texas 4-H Roundup and Texas 4-H Congress.

TEXAS 4-H OPPORTUNITIES HANDBOOK/TEXAS 4-H CLOVER - A handbook, outlining statewide 4-H contests, educational workshops, 4-H project objectives, and the 4-H recognition program. Includes information on 4-H Scholarships. Updated annually.

4-H YEAR - September 1st to August 31st of the following year.

NOTES: