



4-H Spotlight

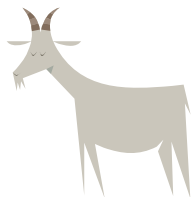
July/August 2011



The new 2011-2012 4-H year has begun! Be sure to check with your club manager when your first club meeting is. Remember that if we do not have a new member enrollment form for you each year, then you are not a member of Henderson County 4-H. You must re-enroll every year. Don't forget that this year there is a membership fee of \$20 per child. See inside letter for more information.

Courthouse Annex, 2nd floor
101 E. Tyler St.
Athens, TX 75751
Phone: 903-675-6130
Fax: 903-677-7222
<http://henderson-co.tamu.edu>

Major lamb and goat tag orders are due to the Extension office by Thursday, August 25th. Tags will be \$8 each and is due at the time you place your order. Major Breeding Sheep tag orders will also be due at this time and will cost \$4 each.



It's show time!

Record Book Workshop

Monday, August 15th

6:00 p.m.

Extension office

Get a jump on your record book. Find out what you need to be doing and saving throughout the year.

State Fair of Texas—Entries due to Extension office by Friday, August 19th. Entry forms, rules, and fees can be found at <http://www.bigtex.com/sft> or picked up from our office.

East Texas State Fair—Entries are due to the Extension office by Friday, August 26th. Entry forms, rules, and fees can be found online at <http://www.etstatefair.com> or picked up from our office.

Heart of Texas—Entries are due to the Extension office by Friday, September 9th. Entry forms, rules, and fees can be found online at <http://www.hotfair.com> or picked up from our office.

2011 Henderson County 4-H Awards Banquet

September 11th

Texas Fresh Water Fisheries Center

Come and celebrate the accomplishments of our youth. Lunch will be served beginning at 1 p.m. with the program beginning at 2 p.m. Tickets in advance are \$5 or at the door for \$7. Lunch will be provided by Danny's BBQ, and will include BBQ stuffed potatoes, salad, and dessert.

Quality Counts Verification Required for all 2012 Texas Major Livestock Shows

Starting in 2012, Quality Counts verification will be required for all youth exhibiting livestock (market and/or breeding) at major livestock shows in Texas (including the Ft. Worth Livestock Show, San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo, Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, Star of Texas Fair in Austin, San Angelo Livestock Show, Sandhills Stock Show in Odessa, State Fair of Texas in Dallas, and Heart O' Texas Fair in Waco). The verification process will require junior exhibitors to pass an online test that measures their knowledge on quality assurance and character education content items. **You will not be able to enter a major show without this verification.**

Starting in May, youth are able to go online to take the test and become verified. A verification number will need to be provided at the time of making an official entry into a Texas major livestock show. Thus, youth will need to have completed and passed the test before the major livestock show's entry deadline. A passing score has been determined to be 80%.

The Quality Counts website (<http://qualitycounts.tamu.edu/>) will serve as your portal to the online test.



August 27, 2011 vs the Los Angeles Angels

The discounted tickets are on sale now for first ever Texas 4-H "GREEN OUT" event to kick off the 2011-12 4-H year with Major League Baseball's club the Texas Rangers vs. Los Angeles Angels on August 27, 2011, at the Ballpark in Arlington. There is a Pre-Game Concert by MercyMe, presented by I Am Second. This will be a fun-filled day of family, friends, and fellowship for all to enjoy. Every ticket holder will receive a FREE one-of-a-kind GREEN OUT t-shirt sponsored by the [Texas Farm Bureau Insurance](#)

[Company](#) with the Rangers and 4-H logo (To receive your green out t-shirts, tickets must be purchased by August 12, 2010).

Every County and 4-H club has the opportunity to sell GREEN OUT tickets as a fundraiser for their County 4-H program. Prizes will be awarded for the member, club and county 4-H that sales the most tickets. The Texas Rangers organization has been gracious enough to not only give us a discounted ticket rate, but are giving \$3 back for every ticket purchased to the County 4-H program that sells tickets. The more tickets you sell, the more money you can make for your County 4-H! Check with you County 4-H Agent to get ticket order form or visit the Texas 4-H website at www.texas4hfoundation.org to download the information.



Dear Texas 4-H Families:

Thank you for being an integral part of the largest youth development program in Texas, and the largest 4-H Program in the world. Texas is proud to boast the largest 4-H membership enrollment, total 4-H participation, and the largest 4-H volunteer base in the United States.

In saying that, we are also compelled to tell you that this is indeed a challenging economic time for everyone. The Texas AgriLife Extension Service and 4-H are no different; however, we remain committed to ensuring a strong 4-H and Youth Development Program for our families.

To maintain the level of programming and opportunities in the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program, an annual participant fee is necessary for each 4-H member starting with the 2011-2012 4-H year on September 1, 2011. This participant fee of \$25, or \$20 if enrolled from September 1st to October 31st, will hopefully ensure that the Texas AgriLife Extension Service can continue to deliver the highest quality 4-H program in the world. A recent national research study shows:

- Members reporting better grades, higher level of academic competence, and an elevated engagement at school.
- Two times as many members likely to plan to go to college than non-members.
- Members that reveal significantly lower drug, alcohol and cigarette use than their peers.
- Members that are three times more likely to actively contribute to their communities when compared with youth that do not participate in 4-H.

Quite simply, we are convinced that this participation fee is an investment in the youth of Texas. The Texas AgriLife Extension Service is committed to the youth of Texas and it is critically important that each 4-H family knows we are dedicated to continuing to provide the best program worldwide. As we all go through a transition period, we ask each of you to partner with us in creating a positive environment for all our 4-H members.

Thanks for all you do and thanks for **MAKING THE BEST BETTER!**

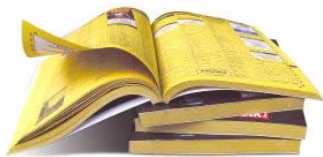
The Texas AgriLife Extension Service and the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program



4-H equipped me with the tools needed to build a successful future. It taught me how to be personable, work efficiently in teams, and how to be a kind leader. Most importantly the relationships that were built during my time in 4-H are priceless and I will treasure every memory made.
Former 4-H Member & Current Texas A&M University Student

**We teach life skills
We instill values
We build leaders
WE ARE TEXAS 4-H!**

Have old phone books you need to get rid of?
Don't throw them away, recycle them. Drop
off your old phone books at the
Extension office through September 30th.



East Texas Show Star Series
October 22-23, 2011
Nacogdoches, Texas

Cost: \$50 per youth before October 7th
\$30 per parent

2012 Texas 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest

Deadline: January 13, 2012

Cash prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

The topic for the 2012 essay contest is "The Results of Honey Bee Pollination in my Community." For complete rules and guidelines visit

http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/youth/beekeeping/index_youth_beekeeping.php

This clinic/show will be for beef, lamb, and goat projects. Topics include showmanship, daily management, and selection. Youth must participate in the clinics to enter the show. For more information visit <http://etsss.blogspot.com> . To register online visit <https://agrilifevents.tamu.edu/events/details.cfm?id=851>

Important Dates

August

8/10 State Record Book Judging

8/15 Record Book Workshop, 6 p.m. at Extension office

8/15 ALPA and Council meeting, 7 p.m. at Extension office

8/19 State Fair entries due to Extension office

8/26 East Texas State Fair entries due to Extension office

8/25 Major Lamb and Goat tag orders due to Extension office

September

9/9 Heart of Texas entries due to Extension office

9/11 Henderson County 4-H Awards Banquet

9/22 East Texas State Fair Begins

9/30 State Fair of Texas Begins