

Arkansas 4-H Outlook

October 2009

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The Arkansas 4-H Outlook is a way to advise county Extension agents about youth and 4-H opportunities. The 4-H Outlook is sent electronically each month. The information is collected from county Extension agents, Extension specialists and national publications. The newsletter is e-mailed to all Extension employees, volunteers, and 4-H members. On the county level, agents are encouraged to forward this information to volunteers and to 4-H members without e-mail addresses. It is posted on the Extension web site: <http://www.kidsarus.org/go4it/newsletters/Outlook/default.asp>.

State Leader's "On the Desk"

Anne Sortor, PhD- Assistant Director –Family Consumer Sciences Interim Assistant Director 4-H Youth Development

Fall is quickly approaching, as well as the beginning of a new 4-H year. I hope that each of you are as excited as I am about the opportunities that we have to impact the lives of the young people we interact with in 75 Arkansas counties. As you know, 4-H is the flagship youth development program of the land grant system and our efforts have the potential to impact the lives of many Arkansas families and youth.

As we begin the start of our new 4-H year I hope that we all can make a commitment to the youth and families within Arkansas to develop and deliver educational programs that reach young people where they are (e.g., rural, suburban, urban). I am positive that we can attain that goal through focused programs in the area of science, engineering and technology, citizenship and healthy living.

What we know from research and common sense observation is that youth development **programs like 4-H** play a special and vital role in the lives of America's young people. According to The 4-H Study of Positive Youth Development, youth have the capacity to thrive when presented with the resources for healthy development found in families, schools, and communities, regardless of background, socioeconomic status, race, or gender (Source: Researchers at the Institute for Applied Research in Youth Development at Tufts University). Therefore, we have an awesome chance to make a significant difference through our programs and activities.

We live in turbulent times, and for that reason, we have a call to plot our strategy as to how to reach our youth with meaningful and well designed educational interventions. I, along with the 4-H staff, sincerely believe that 4-H Youth Development is the venue to change lives and increase life skills. Please let us know if and how we can be of assistance to you in the planning and execution of your programs.

P.S. Don't forget that October is 4-H Month in Arkansas, as deemed through a proclamation by Governor Mike Beebe.

4-H News

4-H Youth Learn and Lead Alternative Fuels

Willa Williams, 4-H STEM Instructor



For the second annual 4-H National Youth Science Day, the University of Wisconsin has designed "Biofuel Blast," the 4-H National Science Experiment which will introduce young people all around the nation to biofuels. Youth will become scientists for the day, discovering how ordinary household products can create alternative energy, and how that fuel can power many of the things we use each day.

The experiment offers several activities to showcase how cellulose and sugars in plants can be used to create ethanol. In one activity, for example, youth will combine corn syrup and yeast in a plastic container and cover the bottle's mouth with a balloon. They will watch as the yeast breaks down the natural sugars in the corn, which will release ethanol gas that will inflate the balloon.

Youth will also be engaged before, during and after the experiment via several popular communication mechanisms, including cell phone text messages, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and through the 4-H.org web site.

For more information about 4-H National Youth Science Day, contact Willa Williams, 4-H STEM Instructor or to download the experiment, visit www.4-H.org/NYSD.

Searcy County 4-H Day Camp

Pam Cannada - Program Assistant Youth & 4-H, Searcy County

Searcy County held a 4-H Day Camp August 4-7, 2009. It was a great success, with over 30 Searcy County youth in attendance for the four-day camp. Each day was started out with exercise



and songs. County kids learned all about BB gun safety, knot tying, leather crafting, archery, macro-invertebrates in the river, photography, animal tracks and habitat and much more. Meals prepared each day included campfire pizza, banana boats, edible campfire, and edible soil. This camp was made possible from the Arkansas Game & Fish monies returned to the county from fines and was made available by the Searcy County Quorum Court. Many volunteers helped make this great camp possible. Also, thanks to our 4-H teen leaders: Heath Y., Devin E., Molly

C., Autumn H., and Emily M. We look forward to being able to host another camp like this in the future.

4-H Wildlife Habitat Program 2009 Review & 2010 Schedule

Becky McPeake, WHEP Program Coordinator

Fall is here, and it's time to get back into 4-H WHEP (Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Program)! Following are dates and locations of WHEP events for your 2010 calendar:



- **Practice Session:** February 20 (Saturday), Arkansas State University - Beebe
- **State Contest:** April 23 (Friday), Booneville vicinity (Logan County)

The eco-region (habitat) for the next contest is **WETLANDS**. The winning senior team for 2010 will be eligible to represent Arkansas at the national invitational in New Mexico!

We have loaner boxes of (1) furs, (2) skulls, (3) plastic replicas of tracks and scat, Identiflyer® with bird and frog calls, (4) wildlife food samples, (5) ID books and other resources for checkout by a county Extension agent. Contact

Keri Jo Halpine (501-671-2329; khalpine@uaex.edu) to schedule pick-up and return times, and tell her which boxes you need. Remember there is a two-week turnaround for these materials. (Boxes were supplied by donations from Plum Creek and the Arkansas Chapter of The Wildlife Society.)

Congratulations to the following winners of the 2009 state contest:

	Junior			Senior		
Award	Name(s)	County		Name(s)	County	
Individual						
First Place	Ben Y.	Polk		Sarah K.	Pulaski	
Second Place	Michelle W.	White		Jennifer S. Daniel P.	Saline Logan	
Third Place	Joe M.	White		Christopher R.	Pulaski	
Fourth Place	Kaleb W.	Polk		Jake D.	Independence	
Fifth Place	Landon C. Bethany R.	Faulkner Perry		Olivia C.	Saline	
Team						
First Place	Isaac G., Joe M., Todd M., Craig D.	White		Sarah K., Kennedy B., Christopher R., Arielle N.	Pulaski	
Second Place	Calista R., Bethany R., Sallie B., Aimee A.	Perry		Olivia C., Jennifer S., Dustyn C.	Saline	
Third Place	Kilmeny C., Alana R., Matthew M., Landon C.	Faulkner		Alysia C., Elizabeth R., Taylor G.	Lawrence	
Fourth Place	Chase M., Hunter H., Dakota D., Kaleb W.	Polk		Jake D., Daniel P., Shawn W.	Independence, Logan, Polk	
Fifth Place	Jessica B., Mary L., Seth H., Savanna C.	Saline		Treylan S., Justus G., Savannah T.	Pope, Pulaski, White	

The Pulaski County Team did a great job representing Arkansas at the national invitational in Zwolle, La. in July. The team ranked 12 of 16 teams, which is average compared to past performance. But the team really excelled on the wildlife management plan, scoring 7th overall! We look forward to their participation in WHEP as helpers at the state contest and instructors at the practice session. And we appreciate the continued help from members of the 2008 and 2007 winning senior teams at WHEP events.

If you are new to WHEP or haven't participated in a while, plan to attend the practice session. Contact Becky McPeake (501-671-2285, Rmcpeake@uaex.edu) for more information and to sign up for e-mail announcements. The National and Arkansas 4-H Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Program is designed to teach youth about the fundamentals of wildlife management. Additional benefits come from developing leadership capabilities, critical thinking, decision making, teamwork, and meeting youth and wildlife professionals from across the state and nation.

We actively seek comments and suggestions for improving WHEP to increase educational benefits for 4-H'ers and adult coaches. And 2011 will be the **20th anniversary** of WHEP in Arkansas. We need your ideas about celebrating this milestone. Contact steering committee members (e.g., Kyle Cunningham, Joel Gill, Brian Haller, Catherine Phillips, Rex Roberg) or Becky McPeake (501-671-2285, Rmcpeake@uaex.edu).

Resources & Opportunities

County and State 4-H Honor Clubs **Brian Helms, Instructor, 4-H Youth Development**

As 4-H Clubs in your county complete the 4-H year and begin the 2009-2010 4-H year, now is an excellent time for 4-H Clubs to complete the required documentation for County and State 4-H Honor Club. These awards are based on judging each club against set standards of excellence rather than having clubs compete against one another. Any number of clubs within a given county may receive these awards. County and State Honor Club report forms are found in the 4-H Event Packets. State Honor Club rating forms must be submitted to the State 4-H Office for approval before recognition certificates can be granted.

National 4-H Conference Applications Extended **Priscella Thomas, 4-H Youth Development Associate**

The National 4-H Conference is the Secretary of Agriculture's *premier* youth development opportunity to engage youth in developing recommendations for the 4-H Youth Development Program.

The conference will be March 20-25, 2010 at the National 4-H Center in Washington D.C.

Eligibility Requirements:

Applicants must be at least 16 years of age by Jan. 1 of the current calendar year and not have had their 19th birthday by Jan. 1 of next year. Preference will be given to those youth who have one year of 4-H eligibility left.

Selection Process:

Each county may nominate one 4-H member. A committee will review the applications and make the selections. Interviews may be conducted to determine final selection. Up to five 4-H members will be selected to represent Arkansas. Consideration will be given to those youth who:

1. Have experience in local, county, area, and/or state developmental committees, advisory groups, councils, etc.
2. Are willing and able to work prior to Conference in collecting facts, ideas, etc., of local people regarding concerns of youth and possible action.
3. Have “time ahead” to make significant contributions in their communities within the next two years.
4. Are flexible as individuals to meet differing situations, having growth potential, and a curiosity about situations, people, and events.
5. Have an evident capacity to cope with ambiguity; concerned about issues involved and in deciding to solve the problems and get on with business.
6. Possess strong interpersonal skills.
7. Have good energy levels, capable of participating fully in an active and demanding program involving long hours.

Applications and Due Date:

4-H'ers are to complete Arkansas 4-H Activity Application for Leadership Roles (CES-657). Applications are due in state FY4-H office by **October 30**.

Additional Information:

Delegates travel by air to participate in this conference. The delegation departs from the Little Rock Airport and flies into National Airport in Washington, D.C.

Program Cost:

Most of the cost will be paid by Extension. The program cost per delegate is \$210.00.

If you have any questions, please contact Priscella Thomas at pthomas@uaex.edu.

**2010 Kansas City 4-H Global Conference
Mike Klumpp, Associate Professor, 4-H Youth Development**

The dates for the 2010 Kansas City 4-H Global Conference in Kansas City, Mo. are March 17-20, 2010. Applicants must be 15 years of age by Jan. 1, 2010. Because speakers, workshops, and tours vary from year-to-year, youth who have attended in the past may apply for the conference. However, preference will be given to those who have never attended. The cost for youth and adults is \$400. Two County Extension Agents and two adult volunteers will serve as chaperones. Please encourage 4-H volunteers to apply for this opportunity. Volunteers can apply for a \$100

scholarship if they are a Lifetime member of the Arkansas Adult Leaders' Association and have been a County 4-H Leader for at least two years. All applications are due in the state 4-H office Dec. 1, 2009. Please use form CES-655 (Youth) and form CES-656 (Adult), which is in the Events Packet. Immediately after applications are received, delegate selections will be made and those selected will be told how to sign up electronically for workshops and tours. For additional information refer to the information in the 4-H Events Packet.

Transportation will be by chartered bus departing from Jonesboro, Ark. Depending upon delegate selection, the bus will make stops at the state Extension office, Little Rock and various other locations en route to and from Kansas City. Delegates will be notified of final details once they are selected.

4-H Project Book Sale

Brian Helms, Instructor, 4-H Youth Development

The state 4-H office is pleased to announce the 4-H Project Book Sale. For a limited time, certain publications are marked down to 50 cents each plus shipping and handling. This is a savings of \$2.50 off of the regular price which is a savings of over 80 percent. We have a large number of each of these books that we would like to move off of the shelves so that new versions of the publications can be offered for sale. These are still great project books with great activities. These publications can be ordered through the CES Online publication ordering system.

Pub #	Name
BU6368	Sheep 2 - Shear Delight
BU6369	Sheep 3 - Leading the Flock
BU6370	Sheep Group Leaders Guide
BU6364	Poultry 2 - Testing Your Wings
BU6365	Poultry 3 - Flocking Together
BU6366	Poultry Helpers Guide
BU6352/BU8144	Beef 2 - On the Mooove
BU6070/BU8081	Rabbit 2 - A Jump Ahead
BU6071/BU8082	Rabbit 3 - Leaps and Bounds
BU8083	Rabbit Helpers Guide
BU6159	Swine 2 - Hamming It UP
BU6161	Swine Group Helpers Guide
BU6360	Pet 2 - Scurrying Ahead
BU6361	Pet 3 Scaling the Heights
BU6362	Pet Group Helpers Guide

Energy Kids Have New Place to Play and Learn
Anne Sortor, PhD- Assistant Director –Family Consumer Sciences Interim
Assistant Director 4-H Youth Development

Kick off the new school year with puzzles, games and fun! The Energy Information Administration (EIA) this week unveiled Energy Kids (<http://www.eia.doe.gov/kids>), its redesigned web site, featuring more than 100 pages of fun educational content for kids, parents and teachers. Both the site and its ever-popular host, Energy Ant, got a make over during summer vacation and are ready to get back-to-school.

Kids can learn about energy and challenge their brains with energy Sudoku, crossword puzzles, and word searches. Teachers can submit energy lesson plans, share their expertise and may be chosen as contributor of the month.

The site also features energy-related stories, hands-on activities and research articles for the classroom. “We’re making energy fun so young people develop an understanding of energy and its increasingly important role in our daily lives, economy, and environment,” said EIA Administrator Richard Newell. “Energy Kids can help them get started.”

Energy Kids includes information and activities about energy, organized in easy-to-use sections:

- * What is energy?
- * Sources of energy
- * Using and saving energy
- * History of energy
- * Games and activities
- * For teachers—be sure to sign up for Energy Kids updates via e-mail!
- * Energy calculators and glossary

The site also includes new features:

- * Interesting tidbits about energy in Did You Know? boxes
- * Submit a lesson plan where teachers can send lessons to post and share with others
- * Energy Sliders - fun and challenging puzzles for all age groups

To learn more about Energy Kids, visit <http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/kids>. For a high-resolution file of the Energy Ant© logo, contact Jonathan Cogan at 202-586-8800 or jcogan@eia.doe.gov.

Deadlines & Upcoming Events

October Calendar of Events

Due Dates:

- 1 Adult Master Volunteer re-certification
- 30 National 4-H Conference 2010 applications

Activity Dates:

- 9/30-10/4 Southern Region 4-H Volunteer Forum, Rock Eagle, Ga.
- 1 New 4-H year begins
- 4-10 National 4-H Week
- 9 Arkansas State Fair begins, Arkansas State Fairgrounds
- 10 Giant Pumpkin & Watermelon Weigh-in at the State Fair, Arkansas State Fairgrounds
- 17 4-H Day at the State Fair, Arkansas State Fairgrounds

November Calendar of Events

Due Dates

- 2 4-H Club AFFACT-662 due in state 4-H office for all clubs
- 2 Kansas City Conference 2010 applications

Activity Dates

- 13-14 State Technology Team meeting, TBA
- 22-23 Arkansas Envirothon, UCA, Conway
- Nov 26- Dec 1 National 4-H Congress, Atlanta, Ga.

The state 4-H newsletter, prepared from national and state sources, is edited and compiled by Priscella Thomas, 4-H Youth Development Associate. For more information about the news and opportunities found in the Arkansas 4-H Outlook, please contact Priscella Thomas at 501-671-2271 or pthomas@uaex.edu.

University of Arkansas, United States Department of Agriculture and County Governments Cooperating

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