



Natchitoches Parish 4-H Youth Development

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Natchitoches, LA 71457

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4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills.

Dates & Deadlines



DECEMBER

4	DUE: Fashion Camp Registration	4-H Office 4:30 p.m.
5	4-H Office Closes at 12:00 p.m.	Christmas Festival Weekend
6	Cloverbuds	4-H Office 6:00 p.m.
13	BB Gun Practice	Natchitoches Wood 3:30 p.m.
14	Rifle/Shotgun Practice	Shooting Range 2:00 p.m.
15	Junior Leaders	Arts Center 6:30 p.m.
19	DUE: 4-H Foundation Junior Award of Excellence & Key Club Applications	4-H Office 4:30 p.m.
19	DUE: Survivor Camp Registration	4-H Office 4:30 p.m.
24–Jan 1	4-H Office Closed	Christmas Holiday and New Years

JANUARY

8	Cloverbuds Meeting	4-H Office 6:00 p.m.
9-11	Survivor Camp	
16	DUE: Challenge Camp Registration	4-H Office 4:30 p.m.
19	4-H Office Closed	MLK Holiday
19	Junior Leader Meeting/ Scavenger Hunt	4-H Office 12:00 p.m.
26	DUE: Honey Bee Essay	4-H Office 4:30 p.m.
26	DUE: LA Coop Tour/DC Trip Essay	4-H Office 4:30 p.m.

GET FIRED UP ABOUT OUTDOOR COOKING!

Outdoor cookery can be lots of fun. You can use charcoal and gas grills, cast iron pots, fire pits and foil packs of food, buddy burners, camp stoves, and camping can cookery. You can cook hot dogs and hamburgers, hobo packs with ground meat and vegetables, desserts and many other things when using heat energy. When cooking outside, no matter what method you use, you need to follow some basic fire safety tips:



1. Clear area of all debris/avoid area with overhanging branches.
2. Have a bucket of water, shovel, and a fire extinguisher nearby and ready to put out a fire.
3. Never build a fire near tents or other flammable items.
4. Never use flammable fluids to start a fire.
5. Never leave fire unattended.
6. Build a fire only as you need and surround with rocks.
7. Make sure to completely extinguish fire by scattering ashes or embers, sprinkle with water, stir with a stick, drench charred logs and repeat these steps until everything is cold.
8. Keep gas canisters upright at all times.
9. Do not operate a gas stove or store fuel containers around another heat source such as a campfire.

Fill in the blank with the correct word.

- ◆ Wash your hands before and _____ handling food.
- ◆ Keep _____ foods separate from other foods.
- ◆ Pack foods in a _____ state whenever possible.
- ◆ Never bring _____ or _____ products without a cold source to keep them safe.
- ◆ Left over food is only safe if the cooler still has _____ left in it.
- ◆ Before you start a fire clear area of all debris and avoid areas with _____.
- ◆ Never build a fire near _____.
- ◆ Never leave a fire _____.
- ◆ Keep gas canisters _____ at all times.
- ◆ Make sure to completely _____ fire by scattering ashes or embers and sprinkling with water.

Word Bank

Tents After Ice Overhanging Branches Extinguish Upright
Unattended Raw Meat Poultry Frozen

The Natchitoches Parish 4-H Office wishes you and your family a happy, healthy and safe Christmas and New Year!





4-H Foundation Junior Award of Excellence

Applications DUE December 19

The Louisiana 4-H Foundation Award of Excellence is an award designed to recognize the achievements of junior 4-H members (14 and under by January 1 of the current year) for their project work, leadership and community service. A member must fill out an application each year to be eligible for the award. Parish 4-H agents are responsible for distributing, scoring, and sum-mitting applications to the 4-H State Office based on a percentage of the 4-H enrollment in their parish. Applicants must score at least 100 points to be eligible for consideration and be under 14 years of age on January 1 of the current year. This award is a gold-finished medallion and certificate. A club member may win the award only one time. Two youth from Natchitoches Parish will be selected to win this award. The basic requirements are as follows:

1. Must be under 14 years of age by January 1 of the club year application is made.
2. Must have at least two years of 4-H club work, including award year.
3. Must score at least 100 points on the application and scorecard.

For a copy of the application, contact Mrs. Gwen Fontenot at the 4-H Office!



DON'T MISS OUT ON COMPETING TO WIN AN ALL EXPENSE PAID FREE TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D.C.!

The Association of Louisiana Electric Cooperatives will sponsor four students from 4-H to attend the Youth Tour trip with 24 other winners from the LA Electric Cooperatives around the state. 4-H members must complete an application form and write an essay. Applicants must be 16 years old and older (including 12 graders) to be eligible to participate. If select-ed for the Washington, D.C. trip, the student must also attend the Louisiana Electric

Cooperative Youth Leadership Summit on March 23-25, 2015 in Baton Rouge. The trip to Washington, D.C. is June 12-19, 2015. For a copy of the application and more information, contact Mrs. Gwen Fontenot at the 4-H Office. A promotional video can be found on the ALEC's website: www.alec.coop. **Applications due January 26th to the local 4-H Office.**

HONEY BEE ESSAY CONTEST

Sponsored by the LA Beekeeping Association, 4-H members have a chance to put their writing and re-search skills to great use. Cash prizes and plaques to three top winners. 1st Place: \$100; 2nd Place: \$75 and 3rd Place: \$50. The first place winner will compete for the National Contest at a chance to win \$750! This year's topic is "Planting for Bees from Backyards and Up." **For official contest guidelines and rules please contact Mrs. Gwen Fontenot at the 4-H Office. Essays are due to the 4-H Office by January 26th at 4:30 p.m. ONLY ELECTRONIC COPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED. Email gfontenot@agcenter.lsu.edu.**



PRACTICE DATES

DECEMBER 13: BB GUN PRACTICE

@ Natchitoches Wood on Hwy 1 South (near Lateral Lane) Coach is Kris Bernard (318) 663-1821
Begins at 3:30 p.m.

DECEMBER 14: RIFLE/SHOTGUN PRACTICE

@ Natchitoches Shooting Range (Grand Ecore)
Coach is Donny Moon (318) 794-2288
Begins at 2:00 p.m.



Camping Corner

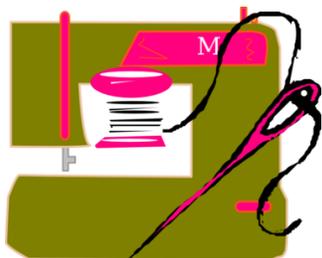


CAMP	WHO CAN GO	WHEN	COST	REGISTRATION DEADLINE	CAMP LOCATION	NUMBER ALLOTTED
4-H Fashion Camp	10-13 year olds	January 24-25	\$70	EXTENDED: December 4 at 4:30 p.m.	Camp Grant Walker	2 Campers
Survivor Camp	7th-12th Graders	January 9-11	\$40	December 19 at 4:30 p.m.	Caney Lake	12 Campers
Challenge Camp	7th-8th Graders	February 19-21	\$65	January 16 at 4 :30 p.m.	Camp Grant Walker	Unlimited

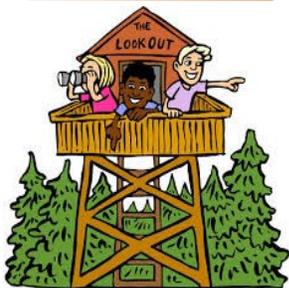
For more information or to register contact your 4-H Agent or 4-H Club Leader!

Please keep in mind that overnight, chaperone trained adult volunteers are needed to help take youth to camps! If we do not have enough adult volunteers youth will not be able to attend. Would like to volunteer? Need training? Contact Mrs. Gwen at 357-2224 or email at gfontenot@agcenter.lsu.edu!

4-H Fashion Camp



The weekend camp planned and produced by the State 4-H Fashion Board, is filled with fun projects to learn basic sewing skills. This year's theme is "I partied with the State 4-H Fashion Board." The board chose this theme to reflect their personal excitement about fashion and the attitude that the campers will adopt as they travel through the experiences at camp. A few of the educational activities planned include: a sewing caddy, an easy scarf tie vest, a living doll, a drawstring backpack, lip balm, a donut pillow, a pillow runner and a community service project. Space is limited to two campers per parish.

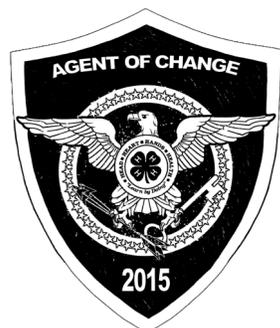


Survivor Camp

Outdoor cooking, fishing, canoeing, wildlife habitat, hunting safety...Sound like fun? This three day camp is designed for those who love a great outdoor experience. You will come home with a better understanding of our state's natural resources which you can further utilize to help protect our environment in the years to come.

Challenge Camp

This is the perfect opportunity to sharpen your leadership skills, communication, and team building skills. TEAM Challenge Camp is a unique camping experience for 7th-8th graders that provides lots of activities and exhilarating games that include outdoor challenges, personal development sessions, self-concept workshops and goal setting sessions. Parishes in the Northwest Region participate in this camp....so you will definitely make some new friends that live nearby as well!



Progressive Ag Safety Day Reaches Over 120 Local Fourth Graders



Fourth graders from Marthaville, Goldonna and LP Vaughn attended the Progressive Agriculture & Natchitoches Parish Farm Bureau Safety Day on November 21 hosted by the LSU AgCenter/4-H Office. Youth received three hours of hands on instruction from local experts in the areas of: tractor safety, hand washing and germ prevention, ATV safety, fire safety, and hunting/boating safety. Many thanks to the LA Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Natchitoches Parish Fire Department, US Forest Service-Kisatchie District, and the local Kubota dealership for providing staff and resources to help make the event successful. The mission of the Progressive Ag Foundation is to provide education and training to make farm, ranch and rural life safer and healthier for children and their communities.



Have something newsworthy? Did your club participate in special project? Send your news to gfontenot@agcenter.lsu.edu. If sending pictures, please identify everyone in the photo!

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