



4-H Clover Connection

Texas County <http://countyext.okstate.edu/texas>

November 2007

4-H Program Teaches Youth About Environment and Natural Resources

The Oklahoma 4-H program has long been known for teaching youth about livestock, crops and other agricultural-related topics.

However, environmental and natural resources project areas are gaining in popularity, said Kevin Allen, assistant professor and state Extension specialist for 4-H environmental and natural resource ecology and management at Oklahoma State University.

“Urban areas around the state continue to grow and it’s important for youth to understand that environmental and natural resources issues play an important role in Oklahoma,” Allen said. “These issues also are important for less populated areas of the state, too. Our youth will be voting soon and making decisions regarding environmental and natural resources issues. This is just one reason why it is so important that we provide Oklahoma’s youth with a good understanding of environmental issues.”

Through the 4-H program, youth have the opportunity to learn about the forest industry, range management, water quality issues and wildlife habitats.

Southeastern Oklahoma features a very large forestry industry. One forestry management practice is called clear cutting. Allen said it is important for youth to understand why this is a legitimate forestry practice.

“Prescribed burns are part of range management. This management method helps foster plant growth, but some people may not realize this,” he said. “We don’t want people to think that land is being randomly burned.”

Allen said prescribed burns have been used as a management method for more than 100 years. It’s just an important part of the 4-H program to help youth understand what is going on in the human envi-

ronmental interface.”

The 4-H program also offers club members activities in the forestry project.

Allen said he currently is working on developing a variety of new materials that will include activity worksheets.



This new educational material will include information on how to identify a variety of trees and leaves.

The Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Program, also known as WHEP, is a 4-H youth natural resources program dedicated to teaching wildlife and fisheries habitat management to club members.

“This is a great opportunity for youth to learn not only about animals, but management practices as well,” he said. “The goal of the program is to increase participants’ knowledge of wildlife food, water, cover and space.”

The state WHEP contest will take place in spring 2008 and the national event is slated July 2008 in Oklahoma.

Shooting sports is another activity in which youth can learn about hunting and wildlife. This is a natural match for those who are interested in WHEP.

“Our whole goal with youth and natural resources and environmental projects is to help them learn about their environment, as well as giving them a better understanding of what career opportunities are available. These careers are not just in rural areas, either. Believe it or not, there are urban forestry and wildlife careers available,” Allen said. “The department of natural resource ecology management at OSU is very dedicated to using an interdisciplinary approach to educating Oklahoma’s youth about natural resources and the environment.”

CWF--- The Trip of a Lifetime!!!

One senior 4-H member has the opportunity to attend CWF (Citizen Washington Focus) in 2008. The dates are June 12-22, 2008. If you are 15 years of age and up and would like to go--let us know. Cost will be over \$1,000.00. The County Federation repays ½ of cost after the 4-H member returns.



AXA Achievement Community Scholarship

The Program

The AXA Achievementssm Community Scholarship program offers \$2,000 college scholarships to high school seniors who have demonstrated outstanding achievement in their activities in school, the community or the workplace. The scholarships are sponsored by the AXA Foundation, the philanthropic arm of AXA Advisors, LLC.

Applicants must---

- be United States citizens or legal residents,
- be students who reside and attend high school in AXA branch areas,
- be current high school seniors who plan to enroll full-time in an accredited two-year or four-year college or university in the United States by fall 2008,
- be ambitious and motivated, as evidenced by **outstanding achievement** in school, community, or work activities, and
- be recommended by an unrelated adult who can attest to the student's achievement.

Awards

Up to 364 students, to be known as AXA Achievers, will be selected to receive a \$2,000.00 award. Up to twelve awards will be given per AXA Advisors branch office.

An AXA Achievementsm Community Scholarship must be used for education-related expenses for the 2008-2009 academic year. The scholarships are for the first year of undergraduate study only and are not renewable.

Eligible students are encouraged to apply for all

AXA-sponsored scholarships, but a student may receive only one AXA-sponsored scholarship. For more information about all AXA Achievementsm Scholarships, visit www.axa-achievement.com

Applications and required attachments, must be printed, mailed and postmarked to Scholarship America by **February 15, 2008**. Online transcripts and grade reports are not acceptable.



4-H COWBOY BASKETBALL GAME

On Saturday, December 22nd @ 2 p.m., 4-H members and families have the opportunity to watch the OSU Cowboys play Texas Arlington. Tickets are \$17 each, but they only have 200 ---so, first-come first-serve. T-shirts are available at a cost of \$11 to \$15 depending on size. Check out all the needed information on the Oklahoma 4-H website and get your orders into our office **NLT November 19th**.

4-H COWGIRL BASKETBALL GAME

Saturday, January 12, 2008 @ 6 p.m.
OSU Cowgirls vs OU Lady Sooners

\$20.00--includes a t-shirt, ticket, souvenir program and post-game signing party! If you wish to attend, let the Extension office know by November 21 and we'll order them or you can order them yourself --- deadline is December 9th. Call the office if you have questions.

4-H Volunteer Training

Thursday, December 13, 2007
6:00 p.m. at the OSU Extension office
Steve will present - ? (come find out!!!!)
BE HERE!!!

Ronald McDonald

Any club planning on participating must let Arleen know NLT November 21st, if you have not already done so.

OAKWOOD MALL DAY

Saturday, January 12, 2008
Oakwood Mall in Enid, OK

All clubs are challenged to put together a mini-float to show off your club. There will also be some volunteer training sessions/mini-volunteer conference at the same time and place. The day will also include a talent show. A style show will also be held in conjunction with mall day. Ask Arleen for more details!

TALKS CONTEST

Date: **Monday, December 10, 2007**
Place: Texas County OSU Extension office
Time: 6:30 p.m.

A talk on any subject or on a project you are enrolled in.
Juniors: 3 to 5 minutes in length
Seniors: 5 to 7 minutes in length

The County Officers **challenge** each club to have a minimum of 3 at the contest. Please let us know you are coming by December 5th.

COUNTY 4-H FOOD SHOW

Saturday, January 19, 2008

The committee will meet soon and details will be in Decembers newsletter.



SHARE THE FUN REPORT

According to comments, this year's **Share-The-Fun** was the best in several years with good participation from across the county and all seemed to enjoy it. We also had several **Goodwell Cloverbuds** and **junior/senior individual acts** who participated as well.
Keep up the FUN!!!!

And the winners & winnings were:

Champion Small Grp: **Hardesty 4-H Club** - \$15.00

Champion Lg Grp: **Goodwell 4-H** - \$15.00

Reserve Champion Lg Grp: **Guymon 4-H** - \$10.00

Champion Jr Lg Grp: **Goodwell 4-H** - \$15.00

All cash awards and trophies were furnished by Tri-County Electric, Cooperative. Please write a thank-you to them for their donations for the contest to let them know how much you appreciate their generosity!



Horse Project News

HOW FUZZY WAS HE? This is the name of the workshop to be held on December 1st from 9:30 - 3:30 at the Animal science Arena in Stillwater. The clinic is designed for youth wanting to tune-up their showmanship and horsemanship/equestrian skills.

The cost for the clinic is \$25 and is limited to the first 20 participants. All money will be refunded if the clinic is cancelled due to weather.

Youth are to bring their own horses to this clinic.

2008 State 4-H Horse Volunteer- Leader Conference is scheduled for January 19, 2008 from 9 am - 4 pm on the OSU Campus in Stillwater. The clinic is designed for volunteers, parents, support or resource individuals who want to know more about the horse project and/or want to improve their ability to teach and develop youth.

Enrollment is \$10 and can be paid on arrival at the conference meeting.

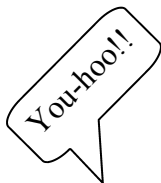
Texas County Jr Livestock Show Nominations Deadline Dates

Swine - Nov 30th

Sheep & Goats - Nov 30th

Steers - should already be done

Texas County Jr Livestock Show
Commercial Swine and Sheep Weigh-In
Tuesday, Nov 20th from 3 to 5 p.m.
at the Texas County Activity Center.



What a great picture and write-up in the weekend Guymon Daily Herald newspaper of the Guymon Cloverbuds with volunteer leader Sherry Lindley showing her rock collection she started as a child!

November is Native American Heritage Month

Proverbs & Wisdom

- Tell me and I'll forget. Show me, and I may not remember. Involve me, and I'll understand. - Tribe unknown
- When you were born, you cried and the world rejoiced. Live your life so that when you die, the world cries and you rejoice. - Cherokee
- We will be known forever by the tracks we leave. - Dakota
- Our first teacher is our own heart. - Cheyenne
- Everyone who is successful must have dreamed of something. - Maricopa
- He who would do great things should not attempt them all alone. - Seneca
- When we show our respect for other living things, they respond with respect for us. - Arapaho
- The weakness of the enemy makes our strength. - Cherokee
- If we wonder often, the gift of knowledge will come. - Arapaho
- It is better to have less thunder in the mouth and more lightning in the hand. - Apache
- Don't be afraid to cry. It will free your mind of sorrowful thoughts. - Hopi
- They are not dead who live in the hearts they leave behind. - Tuscarora
- Those who have one foot in the canoe, and one foot in the boat, are going to fall into the river. - Tuscarora
- You can't wake a person who is pretending to be asleep. - Navajo



Happy 100th, Oklahoma!

Arleen James, Texas County
OSU Extension Educator
FCS/4-H & CED

Steve Kraich, Texas County
OSU Extension Educator
Ag/4-H

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