



Sixth–Eighth Grade, & Friends Newsletter

Welcome 2024-2025 School Year!

Gwinnett 4-H Connection

Head Heart Hands Health | Gwinnett County 4-H Council | 750 S. Perry St., Suite 400 | Lawrenceville, GA 30046 | 678.377.4010

UPCOMING EVENTS

Middle School 4-H Council August 13.
New Council meeting night is **Tuesday**
First or second **Tuesday** of most months.
Rhodes Jordan Community Center
6:30PM-8:00PM

Allow for your travel time.

Meeting dates:

August 13 September 10 October 8
November 12 December 10 January 14
February 11 March 11 April 1

Thursday Awards Program May 8

Everyone in all grades must complete an Enrollment Form to participate:

[New Member Enrollment](#)
[Returning Member Enrollment](#)

Forestry Judging Sign-up until August 5
Practice Tues Aug 6,20,27 & Monday Aug. 12 to avoid council. Mock is final practice. Area Competition Sept 3 Conyers, GA 4-H State Competition for 9-12 graders, Saturday, Sept 28 Location TBA

Consumer Judging Sign Up until Sept 24
Practice Tuesdays Oct 1, 15, 22, 29 & Monday Oct 7, to avoid council. Mock Competition final practice before. Area Competition: November 4 in Gainesville. Top two 9-12 grade teams at Area Competition move on to State

Poultry Judging Sign Up until Feb 25
Practice Tuesdays Mar 4, 18, 25, council weeks Monday March 10, 31 (no spring break practice) April -Area Competition TBA

DPA Sign Up now for our Poster Speaking Contest. 4-6th graders compete Saturday, 02-08-2025. 7-12 graders compete at Rock Eagle an entire weekend, 02-28 to 03-02-25

JOIN 4-H Today!



www.ugaextension.org/gwinnett

Contact:

barbara.larson@gwinnettcountry.com

Welcome to Gwinnett County 4-H!

4-H events and programs are offered with the understanding that you have a “challenge by choice” opportunity. (This is targeted for middle school students.)

Opportunities for Council Members

What	Who	When	2023 Cost
Rock Eagle Camp (There are other camps)	4-6th Grade (see below) For 6-8; 7-8, and 9-12	TBA June-July 2025	\$450 (Last Year, summer 2024)
6th Grade DPA Poster Speaking Contest	4-6th Grade compete separately the same day	Saturday, February 8, 2025	Club covers cost*
7th & 8th Grade NW DPA Present at Rock Eagle 3 day 2 night event	7th-8th Grade compete separately during the weekend	February 28 to March 2, 2025	Club covers cost*
Junior Conference	6-8th Grade	November 9-10, 2024 at Rock Eagle	Expect about \$100.00
Junior Rally	6-8th Grade	April 26-27, 2025 at Wahsega	Expect about \$100.00
2025 Rewards Trip	5-8th Grade Requirements are grade level specific	TBA, hoping to return to Camp Mikale in Toccoa May 3-4, 2025	\$25 with completed requirements

* Our 4-H club will cover the base cost of attending these events. DPA projects must be staff approved. 6th graders work on presentations only. 7th and 8th graders also do a one year resume we call a “portfolio”. See requirements detailed for the Rewards Trip on page 2, or complete all 4 squares in the chart to the right.

6th graders and higher grades NEED TO QUALIFY AS CAMP READY ANNUALLY
6th grade camper qualifications are reached by completing any one square and by following Gwinnett

Attend 4 meetings: _____ _____	Train and Compete on a 4-H Judging Team. __ Forestry __ Consumer __ Poultry __ Wildlife
Compete at District Project Achievement. Winter date ; _____ My Topic : _____	Any 4 other 4-H Activities: _____ _____

Meeting & Event Behavior Guidelines. 6th grade campers can mix and match Meetings & Activities to total one square with dates on four lines in these two boxes. Older (7th-12th grade) campers need to do their Feb 28-Mar 2, 2025 DPA. Want to earn the Rewards Trip? Complete all 4 squares.

Bring It In—Service Options

Pop Tabs

Keep saving aluminum pop tabs. We turn in the pop tabs annually in November at the Junior Conference. The large number of tabs that Georgia 4-H collects will make an impressive contribution to the Ronald McDonald House Charities. Each Gwinnett 4-H participant in the 6th–12th grades will be credited \$.10 per ounce, which is awarded in voucher form applicable toward future 4-H events and activity fees in May of 2025.

Old Eye Glasses

4-H'ers are collecting used eye glasses that will be donated to the Georgia Lions Lighthouse for the Blind. Please bring your donations to the next Council meeting.

www.ugaextension.org/gwinnett

Join 4-H Today!

Contact:

barbara.larson@gwinnettcountry.com

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Active Middle School 4-H Members and 2025 Rewards Trip Requirements

Complete the five steps outlined below:

- 1) DPA: <https://georgia4h.org/programs/project-achievement/> **All project areas need to be approved before work begins.**
- 2) Follow 2024- 2025 Gwinnett Meeting and Event Behavior Guidelines - **see page 3** These guidelines will be enforced.
- 3) Attend at least four monthly Council Meetings (ten opportunities).
- 4) Participate on one Judging Team (four are available - see dates below).
- 5) Select any four other 4-H activities:
 - Work 4-H Farm Friends Educational Exhibit at the Gwinnett County Fair.
 - Participate in an additional Judging Team activity.
 - Attend a District Event or Conference (Junior Conference and Rally are options)
 - Participate in 4-H sponsored community service activity outside the Council.
 - Serve as a Leader providing a hands on craft or activity in the first 15 minutes of our new multilevel Council meeting now on Tuesday nights.
 - Serve as a local 4-H Middle School Grade Board Member. This is a four month commitment from either October—January or February—May. You must attend and serve at a minimum of three out of the four meetings to count for points.
 - Participate in Horse Club.
 - Recruit a new member to attend four or more council meetings and join 4-H.

Judging Teams coached by Barb Larson: Forestry, Consumer, and Poultry

Costs for registration and dinner at competitions are covered by our 4-H club. You must attend trainings and competition to receive a judging team credit. Judging teams have four/five practices and a Mock Competition before traveling to Area Competition during weekday afternoons. This does require checking out early from school in order to make the registration and start time.

Ms. Rachel Munro coaches a Wildlife Judging Team practice in April, with competition late April on a Saturday.

Click the links on page one, in green left hand menu for more info on each Judging Team with its Training information.

Team	Training Time	Area Competition Date
Forestry	June, and August 2024	September 3, 2024
Consumer	October 2024	November 4, 2024
Poultry	March 2025	Late April or Early May 2025

Gwinnett Meeting and Event Behavior Guidelines

These are the 4-H Gwinnett Meeting and Event Behavior Guidelines that you will be expected to follow.

Behavior not accepted at 4-H meetings and events:

- ✘ Usage of curse words
- ✘ Discussions of inappropriate topics: if it is not appropriate to say in front of your grandparents, it is not appropriate for 4-H
- ✘ Interruptions by talking throughout a meeting or event
- ✘ Use of cell phones during a meeting or event
- ✘ Breach of **Code of Conduct** rules



4-H'ers will receive a 'strike' for each behavioral issue according to the following policy:

- 4-H'ers may have no more than three strikes against them in order to attend the Rewards Trip.
- If a 4-H'er has more than three strikes, they will not be invited on the trip. If behavior strikes are issued during a rewards trip, parents will be called to pick up their child early from the trip.
- The strike system will run from the day after the Rewards Trip to the next year's Rewards Trip for Seniors (for example: August 1, 2024 – approx. July 31, 2025).
- Strikes may be redeemed (see below).

To redeem behavior strikes, the 4-H'er must exhibit exemplary behavior in any of these areas:

- ✪ Sharing at a project club
- ✪ Helping at providing and leading activity or craft at Council
- ✪ Helping at with younger member level programming
- ✪ Assisting as a teen leader on a younger level field trip
- ✪ Helping as a teen leader at Cloverleaf DPA
- ✪ Office assistance to 4-H Staff (for preparation of events)