



# Middle School and Friends Newsletter

November 2023 to January 2024

## 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 10  
Rhodes Jordan Prk Community Center  
Second Thursday of most months  
First Thursday Sept., Dec., and May  
6:30pm-8:00pm  
Meeting dates:

September 7	October 12	November 9
December 7	January 11	February 8
March 14	April 11	May 2

Groupme for Middle School Council w/  
Ms. Brittany

[https://groupme.com/join\\_group/97390657/EH4nQjvV](https://groupme.com/join_group/97390657/EH4nQjvV)

You must complete these  
Enrollment Forms  
to participate:

[New Member Enrollment](#)

[Returning Member Enrollment](#)

District Project Achievement details page 3  
sign up now for best project area availability  
call office  
678.377.4010

### Junior Conference November 11-12

At Rock Eagle Gwinnett will be represented by  
nine 6th-8th Graders  
Transportation full  
detail letter from Ms Brittany

DPA for 6th Page one and two  
Competition for 6th Feb. 10, 2024  
DPA for 7th and 8th page one & two  
Competition for 7th and 8th  
3 days 2 nights at Rock Eagle 4-H Center  
March 8th-10th, 2024

County covers registration, (lodging for  
7-12th Graders) and food cost for DPA  
with funds earned at the Gwinnett  
County Fair 4-H Farm Friends exhibit

[www.ugaextension.org/gwinnett](http://www.ugaextension.org/gwinnett)



### Project Achievement, DPA



District Project

Achievement (DPA) is an annual poster presentation contest featured as one of Georgia 4-H's core programs. Gwinnett 4-H holds participation in this contest as one of the key areas we offer in youth development.

It involves giving a presentation in front of a supportive audience about something you enjoy. For example, you may wish to talk about your

friends, hobbies, or careers. This is your chance to share your dream, in just six minutes, for 6th graders and ten minutes for 7th and 8th graders by communicating to others what excites you. Everyone is passionate about something.

If you have never spoken in front of a group, don't worry, it's not impossible. We can cut the project down to manageable bites and with some coaching you will harness the adrenaline rush that public speaking provides. This life skill is well worth the effort and you will be impressed by your results.

Presentations may be made in any one of the 56 project areas. Get more details using the digital path to the 4-H State information on DPA below.

Get your information right from the source at [www.georgia4h.org](http://www.georgia4h.org). Click on the square labeled **Programs**. Next, click on the square labeled **Project Achievement**. 6th Graders now click on the square **Cloverleaf Project Achievement**. Need a brief description of each? Click **Project Objectives**. 7th and 8th Graders Click on **Junior Project Achievement**. There is a great parent resource promotion and even sample videos of kids like you presenting at competition. Look around, this is a great resource. Gwinnett's 4th 5th and 6th grade 4-H members have the opportunity to compete Saturday, February 10, 2024 in Newton County. All 6th grade project areas need to be approved by [barbara.larson@gwinnettcounty.com](mailto:barbara.larson@gwinnettcounty.com) 7th and 8th by [Brittany.james@uga.edu](mailto:Brittany.james@uga.edu)

We are limited in the number we can place in each project area.

We can do this together and now is the best time to begin. .

**JOIN 4-H Today!**

Contact:  
barbara.larson@gwinnettcountry.com

The mission of Georgia 4-H is to assist youth in acquiring knowledge, developing life skills, and forming attitudes that will enable them to become self-directing, productive and contributing members of society. This mission is accomplished, through "hands on" learning experiences, focused on agricultural and environmental issues, agriculture awareness, leadership, communication skills, foods and nutrition, health, energy conservation, and citizenship.

Exploring and discovering, encouraging and challenging, that's what Georgia 4-H is all about. As a program of the University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Cooperative Extension System, 4-H is part of the nationwide Extension network.

Georgia 4-H, a partner in public education, is youth and adults learning, growing and working together to experience and accomplish the extraordinary.

4-H activities and programs are designed with kids in mind. It's a place for young people to interact with sharing adults. 4-H is made up of large groups of enthusiastic and motivated kids, in an environment which builds pleasant memories. It is an assembly of teenagers extending peer support rather than peer pressure in a forum to experience hands-on learning to produce a well-rounded person.

4-H'ers have the opportunity to learn by doing various 4-H projects. Each 4-H'er is encouraged to choose a project in the area of sports and recreation, sciences, human development, performing arts, public speaking, nutrition and health or leadership. 4-H'ers practice what they have learned through various activities such as: local, district, state and national project achievement competitions, judging team events, leadership development programs, community service activities and special interest clubs.

Outstanding members can receive recognition, awards and college assistance scholarships. With a goal of providing boys and girls opportunities for achievement and community involvement, 4-H is one of the most personally rewarding experiences a young person can have.



## 6th grade DPA Competition Saturday, February 10, 2024

**Newton County** Our county will cover cost of registration, transportation and lunch for this event. But your child must decide on a project area, choose a topic that falls in that project area. Please, let Ms Barb know if you intend to participate she needs to approve and reserve your space in that project area. Your child must prepare their demonstration and show it at council or to staff by January 11, 2024 to attend

## 7th & 8th grade DPA Competition Friday March 8th to Sunday March 10th at Rock Eagle 4-H Center

Our county will cover cost of registration, transportation, room and board for this event. But your child must decide on a project area, Prepare and submit the one year resume we call a portfolio by January 4, 2024. Choose a topic that falls in that project area. Please, let Ms Brittany know if you intend to participate she needs to approve and reserve your space in that project area. Your child must prepare their demonstration and show it before competition. Work shops have been set up for Nov 21, Dec 20, 2023 and January 2 and 3, 2024. Work shop Flyer page 4.

**4-H Day Trips 2024** Ink Service Work Wed, Jan 3rd, Trip Stem Night Thur Feb 1, Winter Break Water; Treatment Tour Thur, Feb 15 and Hike Frid, Feb 16 sign up for day trips starts at November council.

## 4-H Up-Dates on Judging Teams

**Forestry Area Competition September 5th, 2023 at Camp Westminster**



## Consumer Area Competition October 30th, 2023 at Johnson Park Conyers, GA



### What are 4-H Clubs?

4-H clubs are available at the community, project, or special interest group level. Community 4-H clubs have a planned program that runs throughout the year and focuses on a variety of self-chosen learning experiences and activities. Examples include photography, robotics, gardening, animal science, ecology, textiles, and cooking. 4-H community clubs typically meet in the evenings or on the weekend. Each county offers a variety of programs. Project 4-H clubs also provide planned programs that run throughout the year and focus on one project area. Project 4-H clubs typically meet in the evenings or on the weekend. 4-H special interest groups are short-term, focus on a specific learning experience and are not limited to members of 4-H clubs

### Bring It In - Service Options Aluminum Pop Tabs

Last chance for this year to save 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 2023.

### 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](http://www.ugaextension.org/gwinnett)

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College of Agriculture and Environmental  
Sciences  
An Equal Opportunity  
Affirmative Action Institution



**Poultry** The next Judging Team for 4th-12th grades is Poultry Judging; The big gap from Consumer to Poultry is for everyone to focus on District Project Achievement, (DPA). DPA is your chance to specialize in the project area of your choice. DPA is a competition format for you to share, show and tell style some thing you are into with a polite, supportive, small group. Do DPA and then give Poultry Judging a try. Full advertisement comes out in the February Newsletter. Sign-up chart is ready if you want to get your name down now call 678.377.4010 Practice Tuesday Nights 6:30pm – 8:00pm Starting March 5th through April 16 with no Practice April 2nd Spring Break Week for Gwinnett County Public Schools. Area Competition estimate time 2:00pm - 9:00pm, We have not chosen the date and location but the expected week is April 22th through 26th. Sign up by February 27, 2024. [Poultry Judging](#) click link for more information and pictures

## Camp for Middle School 4-H'ers

We have the dates. 6th Grade and up needs to be camp ready to apply so please be sure to do at least the minimum to be camp ready; attend 4 council meetings, or earn 4 activity points, or compete on one Judging Team, or compete at Project Achievement. You have options to achieve the camp ready status but they pass by as we move through the calendar year. **Requirements for grades 7 and 8 to attend camp include the DPA, the step of writing a one year resume we call a portfolio in 4-H is a required part of DPA for 7th through 12th graders.**

## Wilderness Challenge Camp 6th –8th June 17-21, 2024

Held at Wahsega 4-H Center in Dahlonega, GA (Must be minimum age 12 years old June 17, 2024)

## Rock Eagle for grades 4th-6th June 17-21, 2024

6th Graders are Blue Strings with advanced bonus programs. 4-H Center in Eatonton, GA

## No Marine Resource Camp 6th-8th this year

## Jr Camp at Burton 7th and 8th July 1-5, 2024

Held at Burton 4-H Center on Tybee Island, GA

## Gwinnett Summer Adventure Day Camps

**Forestry Judging Team June Training** Mon, June 3—Thurs, June 6

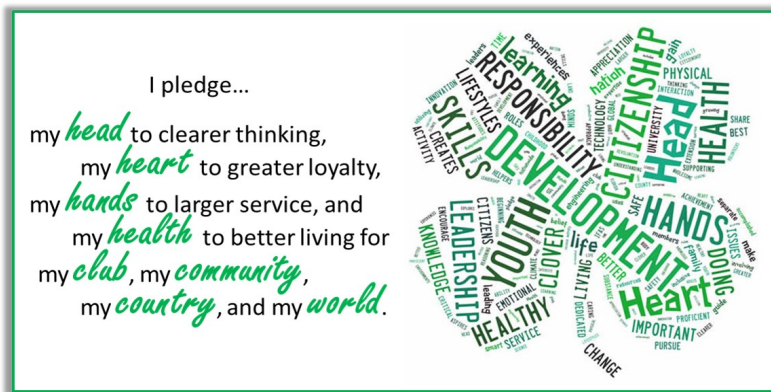
**Field & Stream outdoor adventure** Mon, June 10—Thurs, June 13

**Woods & Water outdoor adventure** Mon, June 24—Thurs, June 27

## Why do many Middle Schoolers do all four options, more than minimum one to be Camp ready?

Rewards Trip. Past years we have gone to mini camp at Wahsega, This overnight in early June featuring all the highlights of camp, tubing part of the Chestatee river and touring in Dahlonega. Our Middle School members need to earn all four; 1) four activity points, 2) one Judging Team participation, 3) DPA participation, and 4) attendance at any four meetings. Participant trip portion of this \$25.00 our county covers the remaining with funds raised at the 4-H Farm Friends, big red barn at the Gwinnett County Fair.

<https://secure.georgia4h.org/documents/MedicalForm.pdf>



## 4-H Project Achievement Portfolio Workday

**When:** Tuesday, November 21, 2023, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 20, 2023, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, January 2, 2024, 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, January 3, 2024, 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Where:** 750 S. Perry Street, Suite 400 Lawrenceville, GA 30046

**Cost:** \$10.00 per day to cover lunch. We will be leaving the office for service project & fun for part of the day.

**RSVP:** To reserve your spot, please send in the bottom of this form along with payment to Gwinnett County Extension/4-H at 750 S. Perry St, Suite 400, Lawrenceville, GA 30046. Payments must be received by **December 16, 2022.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Amount paid: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Project Area: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I will be attending \_\_\_\_\_

(list all dates you are planning to attend)