

# CLUB MANAGER CONNECTION

DISTRICT 8 4-H CLUB MANAGER CONNECTION



## Join us!



**CLUB MANAGER**  
*Connection Series*

**JOIN US FOR A TIME OF CONNECTION, LEARNING, AND GROWING IN OUR ROLES AS CLUB MANAGERS**

ALL WORKSHOPS WILL BE HELD VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS AND WILL START AT 7:00PM.

**MARCH 26TH**-NAVIGATING THE ACTUAL MANAGEMENT OF THE CLUB  
**MAY 16TH**-PLANNING FOR NEXT YEAR  
**SEPTEMBER 12TH**-KEEPING KIDS ENGAGED + A LITTLE RISK MANAGEMENT  
**NOVEMBER 19TH**-WORKING WITH YOUR OFFICER TEAM & YOUR AGENT

 **District 8 4-H**  
*Making the best better*

*Megan R. Shaffer*

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**District 8 4-H**  
*Making the best better*





As spring rolls in with all its busyness, 4-H club managers have the tricky job of keeping kids excited about 4-H despite all the distractions. Spring means more than just warmer weather; it's also a time when kids are juggling school work, sports, and other hobbies. To keep 4-H on their radar, it's all about being flexible and making 4-H fit into their packed schedules. Think about hosting meetings at different times or even online, and picking projects that match what kids are into during spring. Letting the kids have a say in what the club does can also make a big difference. They'll be more pumped to stick with 4-H if they feel like they're part of running the show.

Plus, spring is perfect for getting outside and doing hands-on projects that everyone enjoys, like planting a garden or a cleanup project that helps the environment. Working together with schools or local sports teams to line up schedules can help too, so kids don't have to choose between activities. And don't forget to show off what your 4-H'ers are accomplishing! Sharing their success stories in the local paper or on social media not only makes them feel proud but also shows everyone how cool and rewarding 4-H can be. By keeping things flexible, fun, and in tune with the spring spirit, club managers can make sure 4-H stays on the list of things kids are excited about.

# Recognize your Volunteers

Recognizing volunteers is crucial for keeping your 4-H club thriving. Here are straightforward and effective ways for 4-H club managers to show appreciation:

- **Personalized Thank-You notes:** Send handwritten notes and small gifts (like 4-H branded items or local gift cards) to make volunteers feel truly appreciated.
- **Volunteer Appreciation Events:** Organize annual dinners, picnics, or recognition segments in meetings to publicly celebrate their contributions.
- **Awards and Certificates:** Hand out awards or certificates during events to formally recognize the hard work and dedication of volunteers.
- **Social Media Shout-Outs:** Feature volunteers on the club's social media or in local newspapers to highlight their efforts to the broader community.
- **Volunteer of the Month/Year:** Establish these awards to continuously motivate and recognize outstanding volunteer commitment.

Don't forget that National Volunteer Appreciation Week is April 21-27, 2024! What can you do to recognize those volunteers in your club?

THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING!

# What's in a project?

## WHAT IS....

4-H PROJECT INFO

### Fashion & Interior Design

Do you like to be creative in what you wear and the space around you? The 4-H Fashion and Interior Design program is perfect for you. In this project you can learn to design, construct and be a smart consumer when purchasing clothing and household items. Have fun creating environmentally friendly projects while exploring careers in the fashion and interior design industries. You can work on your own or with a group.

#### Skills Learned:

- Elements & Principles of design
- Sewing Skills
- Consumer Buying Skills
- Teamwork
- Creativity through creation-Fashion Storyboards & Home Decor

#### Project Learning Opportunities

- Learn through workshops
- Learn through project meetings
- Learn through tours
- Learn Fabric Science Labs
- Learn through the Fashion Show, Storyboard Contest, & Duds to Dazzle Contest
- Learn through Educational Presentations



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## WHAT IS....

4-H PROJECT INFO

### Consumer Education

Do you like to shop? Learn how to save money while shopping in the Consumer Decision Making project.

#### Skills Learned:

- Price Comparison
- How to test for product quality
- Money management skills
- Smart purchasing skills
- Decision Making

#### Project Learning Opportunities

- Learn through workshops
- Learn through project meetings
- Learn through tours of retailers
- Learn through the CDM Judging Contest

#### Contests:

Consumer Decision Making



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## WHAT IS....

4-H PROJECT INFO

### Judging Contest

Judging Contests provide a host of opportunities for students to put their skills to the test through evaluation of various items, livestock, etc. These contests are great real-world practice for evaluation of industry standards.

#### Skills Learned:

- Public Speaking
- Leadership Skills
- Self Confidence
- Teamwork
- Decision Making

#### Project Learning Opportunities

- Learn through workshops
- Learn through practices
- Learn through industry professionals
- Learn through contests

#### Judging Contests:

- Livestock
- Meats
- Soils
- Poultry
- Wool/Mohair
- Horse
- Photography
- Range & Plant ID
- Dairy Cattle



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## WHAT IS....

4-H PROJECT INFO

### Theater & Performance Arts

In theater and performance arts, 4-H members may participate in skits through acting, or showcase other talents such as vocal performance, play an instrument, dance, read poetry, conduct puppetry... and more! The best part of the program is the chance to have FUN and getting to share that excitement with others!

#### Skills Learned:

- Cooperation
- Leadership Skills
- Self Confidence
- Teamwork
- Grow socially & culturally

#### Project Learning Opportunities

- Learn through workshops
- Learn through project meetings
- Learn through guest speakers
- Learn through the Share-the-Fun contest (Roundup)

#### Share the Fun Categories:

- Celebrate 4-H
- Dramedy
- Vocal
- Choreographed Routine
- Solo/Band
- Poetry/Prose
- Musical/Instrumental



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# Be sure to check out these resources in our Club Manager Google Drive!

## REMINDERS & LINKS TO REMEMBER

- Did you know that we have a whole page dedicated to you on our District website? You can check it out here:
  - <https://agrilife.org/d84h/club-managers/>
- Need a new idea for a club meeting? Be sure to check out a few of the meeting ideas on the Texas 4-H Management page! Scroll to the bottom of the page to find 4 sets of meeting ideas for each month.
  - <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/management/>

