

TEXAS A&M  
**AGRILIFE**  
EXTENSION

# 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

## To Make the Best Better

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service's 4-H Youth Development program prepares youth to meet the challenges of childhood, adolescence and adulthood through a series of educational experiences that enhance life skills and develop social, emotional, physical, and cognitive competencies.

More than 57,000 Texas youth participate in 4-H community clubs in Texas. Over 407,000 youth are involved in 4-H through extracurricular opportunities, in after school programs or at neighborhood youth centers.

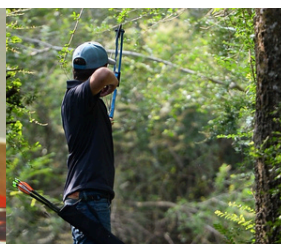
4-H allows youth a chance to pursue their own interests - from photography to computers, or building rockets to raising animals.

Youth who are involved in 4-H programs are presented with an unlimited number of possibilities. 4-H offers a variety of project areas that allow youth to further explore their interests, such as:



- **Animals**
- **Outdoor Education**
- **Science**
- **Engineering**
- **Leadership**
- **Healthy Living**
- **Recreation**
- **Creative Expression**

Youth can choose from 43 project areas and participate in a variety of educational activities - each project and activity sharpens their knowledge and skills on the subject.



## 250

offices serving every county in Texas



## 20.6M

annual direct teaching contacts



## 83,477

volunteers giving 3.19 million hours of service valued at \$101 million



## 407,000

youth reached through participation in 4-H activities



Texas A&M AgriLife Extension is an equal opportunity employer and program provider. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.



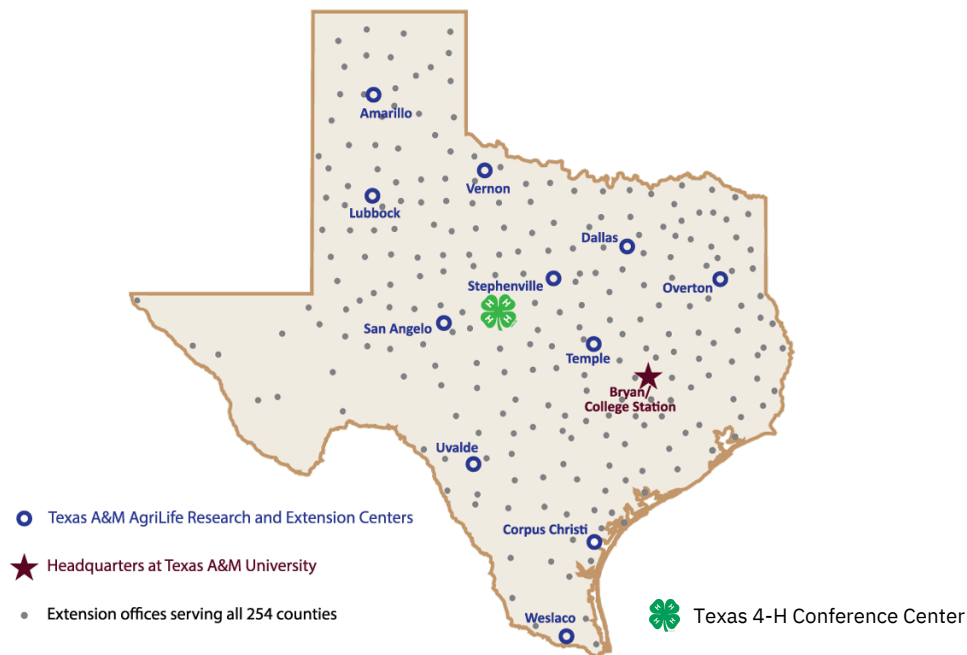
## Creating Leaders

Volunteer work is an important component of the 4-H program. 4-H members are required to get involved with volunteer projects that focus on protecting the environment, mentoring young children, and helping those who are less fortunate.

In a growing number of communities, youth who are motivated and ready to make changes in their communities are participating in the Healthy Texas' Youth Ambassador Program. These youth are trained at the regional level to become health experts that can motivate and inspire others to make changes in their lifestyles and improve their health. These youth also help local county extension agents with program efforts, projects, and more.

Through the Texas 4-H Livestock Ambassador Program, a new generation of knowledgeable, educated, and well-spoken youth have emerged to teach other youth and adults the skills of being good stewards, producers, and exhibitors of beef cattle, sheep, goats, and swine. These young people are serving as educators to younger youth and for adult volunteers, and have spoken about the importance of the animal industry to elected officials, industry leaders, and educators throughout Texas.

## Reaching Every County in Texas



## Serving Texans Where They Need Us

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service is a unique education agency that provides programs, tools, and resources on a local and statewide level that teach people how to improve agriculture and food production, advance health practices, protect the environment, strengthen the economy, and enrich youth.

Through a statewide network of professional educators, trained volunteers, and county offices, Extension addresses the diverse range of contemporary and emerging issues that affect local communities, and we provide educational programming that addresses the needs of Texans.

Visit AgriLife Extension's website for more information about specific programs and contact information for your local county AgriLife Extension office.

## Contact

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