



# Welcome to 4-H

Georgia Cooperative Extension, Columbia County and the 4-H Staff would like to introduce you, the parents and family of a new 5th grader, to the “World of 4-H.” 4-H has been around for more than 100 years. Our goal has always been to develop leaders. Each 4-H program provides activities to meet the needs of youth in this county. In Columbia County, we concentrate on service, leadership and citizenship. The 4 H’s stand for Head, Heart, Health, and Hands for the 4 areas that we strive to develop in our wonderful youth in Columbia County!

### *What is 4-H?*

4-H is the world’s largest youth organization consisting of youth in the 5<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades. It teaches service, leadership, and citizenship, as well as providing students with hands-on educational experiences inside and outside of the classroom. 4-H provides opportunities to grow character as well as opportunities for citizenship and leadership experiences to prepare them for life. Students in the fifth & sixth grade are called Cloverleaf 4-H’ers, seventh & eighth grade students are called Junior 4-H’ers, and students in high school are all called Senior 4-H’ers. 4-H County Council members consist of students from all high schools.

### *And it is FREE to join*

The Columbia County Cooperative Extension and 4-H is your University of Georgia connection. There is no fee to join and there are no uniforms. 4-H Friends activity books and officer pamphlets are given to the students. A small fee may be charged for replacement materials. Other 4-H activities and special interest clubs (such as project achievement, camp, ice skate and fun nights, archery, clay pigeon target shooting, rabbit, junior beekeepers, the robotics team, and horse clubs) have fees to cover training and expenses.

### *Leadership & Citizenship*

Will your 4-H’er be selected or elected as a 4-H officer? This year, your fifth grader will be part of a 4-H club! Each fifth grade class organizes their own club, selects a unique club name, and elects officers to represent their club for the year. Officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Reporter and Parliamentarian) will attend a training workshop on October 11, 2011 which introduces them to their responsibilities and duties as an officer. Following the workshop there will be an installation of officer’s ceremony. Committees are formed and each class member will have some responsibility to making the club a success.

### *Club Meetings*

Columbia County 4-H programs use the Georgia Performance Standards when planning programs for the classroom. Going back a hundred years 4-H believes in its slogan, “Learn by Doing”. This year curriculum will include: Wash Your Paws: War on Germs, Water Conservation, Genetics: Inherited Traits, Healthy Lifestyles, Creative Writing, Public Speaking and Presentation Skills. Meetings are conducted using parliamentary procedure, so 4-H’ers develop an understanding for, and participate in, leadership. Community service projects are held in and out of the classroom, expanding the mind of each student into new areas, at home, at school, in the community and the world.

### *Monthly 4-H Newsletters & Activity Fliers (win prizes)*

Each month, your 4-H’er will receive a newsletter featuring past highlights and coming events. Be sure to review the newsletter each month, sign, clip and return to school for monthly prize drawings. This is important to keep your child aware of all the things that he or she can get involved in!

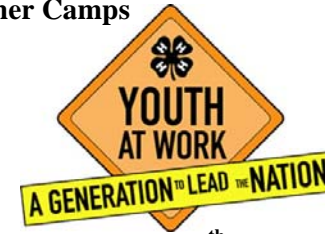
### *Educational Competitions*

**How can your child earn an overnight trip to Rock Eagle for only \$20.00 and begin qualifying for 4-H scholarships?** They begin by participating in Project Achievement. This is a presentation competition in an area of interest to the 4-H’er. Again 4-H is “Learning by Doing”. Be on the lookout, your Project Achievement flier will have the details. In November, we will have a meeting to go over all the details and provide you with all the tricks to preparing a winning presentation. Your 4-H’er will also have the opportunity to be on the Horse Judging, Poultry Judging or Forestry Judging Team.

### *Extracurricular Activities*

There will be many activities throughout the year for your 4-H’er to have experiences outside of the classroom. These include, but are not limited to:

- University of Georgia 4-H Day Football Game, Basketball Game & Gymnastics Meet
  - 4-H Cloverleaf, Junior and Senior Summer Camps
  - Cloverleaf Ice Skate Night
  - Cloverleaf Holiday Fun Night & Dance
  - Thumpers Rabbit Club
  - 4-H Bow & Arrow, Archery Club
  - Jr. Beekeeper’s Club
  - Robotics Team
  - 4-H S.A.F.E., Clay Pigeon Target Shooting Club Team (7<sup>th</sup> grade & up)
  - River of Words, Art & Poetry Contest
  - Milk Make Contest
  - Community Service projects for Salvation Army and Ronald McDonald House
  - And Much, Much More
- \* Pending availability for staffing due to state and county budget cuts



### *Volunteers Needed*

**Volunteers are needed to help deliver school programs, 4-H Room Moms, Overnight Activities: Project Achievement & Cloverleaf Camp, supervise the Fun Night & Dance, and many other things. For more information, see enclosed volunteer sign up application. It is only through our volunteers and their support that we can serve the youth in Columbia County! Thank you to all our 4-H Volunteers!**

# BE A 4-H VOLUNTEER