

## The 4-H Pledge

I pledge  
My Head to clearer thinking,  
My Heart to greater loyalty,  
My Hands to larger service, and  
My Health to better living for  
My Club, My Community,  
My Country, and My World

The Columbia County 4-H office is located on the lower level of the Savannah Rapids Pavilion.

Don't hesitate to call with any questions or concerns, 706.868.3413.

Dear Parents,

The University of Georgia Cooperative Extension & Columbia County 4-H are proud to be a part of your child 5th grade education. Working with the Columbia County Board of Education, we provide programs that compliment school curriculum and follow the Georgia Performance Standards.

**“Why do I need to Know this?”** Since the 4-H program in Georgia follows school curriculum, each student will automatically be a member in the fifth grade. Each fifth grade class organizes their club, club name, and selects officers and committees for the year. Selected officers must attend one required training session to learn parliamentary procedure, introduce them to their responsibilities, and duties to their class.

As a parent of a 5th grader, The University of Georgia Cooperative Extension, Columbia County 4-H & the 4-h staff would like to introduce you to all 4-H has to offer. 4-H is the world's largest youth organization involving youth in the 5th-12th grades. 4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills. Columbia County 4-h is excited to offer these opportunities to your child this coming year!

Sincerely,

Shirley Williamson  
Extension Agent, 4-H  
Columbia County

## Welcome to 4-H

Georgia Cooperative Extension Columbia County and 4-H Staff would like to introduce you, the parents and family of a new fifth grader, to 4-H. 4-H has been around for more than 100 years. Our goal has always been to develop leaders. You may remember the 4-H of yesterday as horses, hens, hogs, and heifers. We are much more; you will just have to "see it to believe it".

### What is 4-H?

4-H is the world's largest youth organization consisting of youth in the 5th-12th grades. It teaches service, leadership, and citizenship, as well as providing students with hands-on educational experiences inside and outside of the classroom. Students in the fifth & sixth grade are Cloverleaf 4-H'ers, seventh & eighth grade students are Junior 4-H'ers, and 4-H County Council members consist of students from all high schools.

### And it is Free to Join

The Columbia County 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 ice skate night and fun nights, archery, shotgun, rabbit, 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, you 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 of the year. Officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Reporter and Parliamentarian) will attend a training workshop in September 2007, which introduces them to their responsibilities and duties as an officer. Following the workshop there will be an installation of the 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 Sowing the seeds of Character, 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, the community and the world.

## Monthly Newsletters & Activity Fliers ( win prizes)

Each month you 4-H'er will receive a newsletter featuring past highlights and coming events. Be sure to review the newsletter each month and complete the form saying you have read the newsletter and return to your child's teacher for a monthly prize drawing.

### Educational Competitions

**How can my child earn an overnight trip to Rock Eagle for only \$10.00 and begin qualifying for 4-H scholarships?** By Participating in Project Achievement. This is a presentation competition in a 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. You 4-H'er will also have the opportunity to be on the Cotton Consumer Judging, Poultry Judging or Forestry Judging Team.

### Extracurricular Activities

There are 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
- 4-H Trailblazers Horse Club
- Thumpers Rabbit Club
- 4-H Bow and Arrow, Archery Club
- 4-H S.A.F.E team, Shotgun Team (7th grade and Up)
- Adventure Club (7th grade and Up)
- Columbia County Fair, Youth Exhibits
- River of Words, Art and Poetry Contest
- Cooking Contest
- Community Service Projects for Salvation Army and Ronald McDonald House
- And Much, Much More

### Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to help deliver school programs, supervise Fun Night & Dance, take in and set up exhibits at the fair. For more information see enclosed volunteer sign up application.

