



### 4-H Thrive!

Positive Youth Development

#### Developing Competence

Adults create environments where youth can develop competence in their chosen project area.

#### Building Confidence

Youth build confidence as they learn to think for themselves, build mastery, and are recognized for their efforts.

#### Nurturing Caring

Adults nurture a caring environment where mutual trust between youth and adults is established. Caring relationships with adults are key to resilient youth.

#### Finding Connection

Youth build solid connections which are critical to their well-being.

#### Forming Character

Create a community where youth play an active role in developing their character.

#### Determining Contribution

Youth actively contribute to their clubs and communities.

4-H foresters learn skills that can lead to several careers. Below are examples of fun 4-H projects that can improve employment opportunities.

- Identifying trees, forest insects, and forest diseases.
- Collecting tree seeds to grow seedlings
- Planting seedlings for timber or to beautify communities.
- Searching for champion trees.
- Measuring standing trees to estimate forest product volumes.
- Creating visual presentations, exhibits, and record books.
- Competing in forestry judging contests at the district, state, and national level.

### Starting Out Beginner

Clover bud 4-H foresters can:

- Participate in county forestry club projects.
- Create visual presentations relating to tree identification, insects, diseases, or forestry careers for Project Achievement Days.

### Learning More Intermediate

Junior 4-H foresters can:

- Participate in county forestry club projects.
- Create visual presentations relating to tree identification, insects, diseases, or forestry careers.
- Compete in forestry judging contests that include tree identification (20 trees), tree measurement (3 trees), and forestry knowledge (20 questions).

### Exploring Depth Advanced

Senior 4-H foresters can:

- Participate in county forestry club projects.
- Create visual presentations relating to tree identification, insects, diseases, or forestry careers.
- Compete in forestry judging contests that include tree identification (50 trees), tree measurement (10 trees), forestry knowledge (50 questions), insect and disease identification (10 of each).



# Expand your experiences!



4-H foresters have experiences that enhance skills related to science, technology, engineering, art, and math (STEAM). Youth also improve teamwork skills, meet new friends, and can earn recognition and awards at the state and national levels.

## Resources

MSU Extension 4-H Forestry publications:

- 4-H Competition Handbook P1991
- Welcome to 4-H Forestry P1205
- 4-H Forestry Project No.1: Tree Planting P1203
- 4-H Forestry Project No.2: Big Tree Contest P1228
- 4-H Forestry Project No. 6: Collecting & Identifying Tree Seeds P1422
- 4-H Forestry Project No.7: Measuring Standing Sawtimber P1473
- 4-H Forestry Project No. 8: Identifying Forest Insects and Diseases P1687
- 4-H Forestry Making a Tree Scale Stick P1686
- Know Your Trees P146
- Forestry Terms for Mississippi Landowners P1250

- National 4-H Forestry Invitational training materials  
<https://4hforestryinvitational.org/training>

### Connections & Events

Clover buds and Junior 4-H foresters:

- County Forestry Club meetings.
- Project Achievement Days.

Sr. 4-H foresters:

- County Forestry Club meetings.
- Mississippi 4-H Club Congress
- National 4-H Forestry invitational at Jackson's Mill 4-H Center in Weston West Virginia (First place teams at the state level).

### Curriculum

4-H Competition Handbook:  
<http://extension.msstate.edu/publications/4-h-forestry-competition-handbook>

### 4-H Record Book

The 4-H Record Book is an opportunity for youth to document yearly forestry project activities, achievements, and reflections.

Typically, a Forestry record book will be submitted under Forestry and Wood Science.