The Texas 4-H Water Ambassadors Program provides select high school age youth a unique opportunity to gain advanced knowledge and develop leadership skills related to the science, technology, engineering, and management of water in Texas.

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Eligibility

• 32 high school youth entering 9th, 10th, and 11th grade for upcoming school year
• Representing (2) from each of (16) Regional Water Planning Areas
• 4-H members and youth from broad and diverse backgrounds

Timeline

• Application & selection process March - June
• 4-H2O Youth Leadership Academy July/August
• (40) Hours service over next 12 months
• Tier 1-4 Ambassador opportunities
A man who carries a cat by the tail learns something he can learn in no other way. – Mark Twain
4-H20 Youth Leadership Academy

• 10-day Texas tour
• Water law, policy, planning & management
• Water resources
• Diversity of water concerns
• Variety of stakeholder interests
• Applied research & technologies

“No two persons ever read the same book.”
— Edmund Wilson
Ambassador Requirements

- (40) hours annually
- Collaboration with:
  - Extension educators
  - GCDs, river authorities, water utilities
  - NGOs
  - Local schools
  - Industry trade associations

Service Opportunities

- 4-H Club presentations
- Classroom demonstrations
- Rotary club
- Water day camps
- County fair, science fair
- Master Gardeners, Master Naturalists
- Local advocacy groups
Continuing Education & Mentorship

• Peer-to-peer, academic, and industry mentoring
• On-line continuing education opportunities
• Recognition of education and service activities
• Leadership, critical-thinking, and decision-making skills development
Action Team

- Represent (16) Regional Water Planning Areas
- Provide program oversight
- Review and select among applicants
- Regional promotion

- Invest time through mentorship
- Share experience and expertise
- Connect ambassadors to education and service opportunities
Annual Budget Estimate

~$3,000 per Ambassador

- Lodging
- Meals
- Transportation
- Kick-off social
- Recreation
- Educational resources & continuing education
- Ambassador ID & promotion

Registration fee:
~$250 per youth
POTENTIAL INVESTORS & PARTNERSHIPS

- Groundwater conservation districts
- River authorities
- Water utilities
- Engineering firms & law practices
- Agricultural commodity groups

- Non-Governmental Organizations
- Private foundations
- Environmental groups
- Water industry associations

THE MEADOWS CENTER FOR WATER AND THE ENVIRONMENT
TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Texas Agricultural Irrigation Association

4-H Texas & Youth Development
Sponsorship Levels

- Signature ($5,000 +)
- Legacy ($2,500 - $4,999)
- Advocate ($1,000 - $2,999)
- Stewardship ($500 - $999)

Funding for 4-H2O Program Coordinator covered by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
Sarah Hamm
Executive Director
Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation