

2009 4-H Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Contest

Dates and Location: June 30-July 1 at the Auburn University School of Forestry & Wildlife Sciences

Registration Deadline: June 19. Please return the registration form (see below) and a check payable to ACES to 4-H Wildlife Judging Contest.

Fees: There will be a \$15.00 cost for all participants and coaches. One check for all of the 4-Hers and parents in the delegation should be included with the registration form. ACES personnel checks may be separate. Checks should be payable to ACES.

Contest Site: The Auburn University School of Forestry & Wildlife Sciences is located on Duncan Drive between Lem Morrison Dr. and Samford Ave.

Parking: Park on in the unpaved B Zone area on the hill on Lem Morrison Dr. across from the AU Medical Clinic. University Parking passes will not be needed. Do not park in the Medical Clinic parking lot. Follow the sidewalk east to Duncan Dr. and turn north. The School of Forestry & Wildlife Sciences is located half-way down the block on the left.

Contacts: Dr. Jim Armstrong at 334- 844-9233 for content questions
Dr. Emily Kling at 334-844-2226 for procedural questions

Eligibility: Participation in a 4-H event will be limited to those members who are actively participating in the 4-H program and have been a member for a 90 day minimum. All senior team members must have passed their 14th birthday on or before 12/31 of the preceding year, and must not have passed their 19th birthday on January 1 of the contest year. All junior team members must have passed their 9th birthday on or before 12/31 of the preceding year, and must not have passed their 14th birthday on January 1 of the contest year. Counties and clubs may bring as many individual competitors and teams as they want in each of the two (2) different divisions—as long as the teams are coached by different coaches at different locations at different times.

Team Selection: The four-member team for each county or club may or may not be designated prior to the state event. Coaches will have the choice of pre-determining who is on the official team from a club or a county OR letting scores determine who is on the official team. You must provide this information on the registration form that is due June 19.

If coaches choose to let the scores determine who is on the official team, they will be notified before the Written Management Plan event on July 1 who the official team members are. It is the coach's responsibility to tell ALL of their 4-Hers.

At the end of the first day, scores will be tabulated. For those teams that decide to have the scores determine the official team--The top four overall scoring individuals from each county or club will be determined, and these four individuals would comprise the "official team" for that county or club. The Written Management Plan team event will be

conducted the second day, with the top four scoring individuals from the previous day making up the "official team." Others can also participate in this event, but the county will have only one official team.

The "official team" will still have one drop score per event. A county or club can win only one placing (1st, 2nd, 3rd,) with their "official team." All others will receive individual awards.

The winning Senior team will represent Alabama at the National 4-H Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Contest on July 19-23 in Zwolle, LA.

Forms to Bring:

1. Coaches should turn in completed Youth & Adult Wildlife Evaluations and a completed Club Report Form at registration. Go to <http://www.aces.edu/fourh/programs/nree-new.php> (scroll down to "NREE Program Evaluations").

2. Each participant's parent or guardian must complete and sign an Alabama 4- H Youth and Parent Consent form <http://www.aces.edu/fourh/volunteers/index.php> (Scroll down to "Important Forms" and click on "Youth." Please note that parents are asked to keep a copy for their records.

3. Adult chaperones should bring all completed Codes of Conduct <http://www.aces.edu/fourh/volunteers/index.php> (scroll down to "Important Policies" and click on "Code of Conduct") and Youth Consent Forms when they come to the contest.

Contest Preparation: *Principles of Wildlife Management in Alabama* (YANR-197 and *Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Program Manual* should be used to prepare for the contest. Both can be found at <http://www.aces.edu/fourh/programs/nree-new.php>. If you have a question about the contest, call Dr. Jim Armstrong at (334) 844-9233.

Lodging: Each county should make their own hotel reservations. See list below.

Awards: Awards will be given to the top three individuals and teams in each division. First - 5th place ribbons will be given to individual winners in addition to prizes and plaques for the high three individual and team winners.

Code of Conduct: All participants will be expected to follow the 4-H Code of Conduct.

Dress Code: All participants will be expected to follow the 4-H Dress Code.

Program & Event Evaluation:

- Program Evaluation.
 - Impact data are becoming more and important. Please make sure that 4-Hers and coaches fill out the program evaluation forms (separate forms for youth and

adults) and turn them in at registration. Coaches should also complete and turn in Club Report Forms. These forms can be found at <http://www.aces.edu/fourh/programs/nree-new.php> Scroll down to NREE Evaluation Forms and click on Club Report Form, Youth Wildlife Evaluation and Adult Wildlife Evaluation.

- Event Evaluation.
 - We'll continue to evaluate the contest immediately before the awards ceremony.

Where to Find Coaches: It's not too late to form a team and begin practicing. Bringing new teams to the contest is a good way to see how the events are conducted. If your county has never been involved in the 4-H Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Contest because you couldn't find a coach, consider the following sources:

- Alabama Department of Conservation & Natural Resources. To find a wildlife biologist who could coach a wildlife team, go to <http://www.outdooralabama.com/hunting/contacts/wildlifsec.cfm> . If they can't coach a team, they might someone who can. District Biologist Joel Glover has helped coach the Coosa Co. 4-H wildlife team in the past.
- Alabama Wildlife Federation: 1-800-822-9453 or awf@alabamawildlife.org . Ask them to recommend someone in your area.

Motel Accommodations in Auburn (Area Code 334):

To find any of the following motels: From I-85, take Exit 51 (College St.).

*North of I-85 ** South of I-85

Auburn University Hotel*
241 South College St.
821-8200

Lexington Hotel*
1577 South College St.
821-7001

Comfort Inn*
2283 South College St.
821-6699

Econo Lodge*
2145 South College St.
826-8900

Hampton Inn**
2430 South College St.
821-4111

Heart of Auburn*
333 South College St.
887-3462

Holiday Inn Express
2013 South College St.
502-1090

University Inn*
129 North College St.
821-4632



2009 Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Contest

Tuesday, June 30

10:00 a.m. - Noon	Registration - Auburn University School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences Conference Hall Lobby (Room 1101- <i>north end of building on ground floor</i>) Motel Check-in (your choice)
Noon - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch on your own
1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Orientation – Conference Hall (Room 1101)
1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Wildlife Identification
2:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Interpretation of Aerial Photos
2:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Wildlife Foods
4:15 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.	Wildlife Management Practices (field exercises)

Wednesday, July 1

7:30 a.m. - 10:30a.m.	Written Management Plan - meet in Lem Morrison parking area
10:30 a.m. - Noon	Field Trip – Southeastern Raptor Center
Noon - 1:30 p.m.	Motel Check Out and Lunch on your own
1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Awards Assembly and team pictures – Conference Hall



2009 CLUB REPORT FORM

Club _____ County _____

Number of Volunteer Leaders: Male _____ Female _____

Number of 4-Hers: Male _____ Female _____

 Juniors _____ Seniors _____

Location of Meetings _____

Average Length of Each Meeting _____

Date of First Meeting _____

Date of Final Meeting before State Event _____

Highlights of this club's 2009 4-H year:

Please send this form and all program evaluation surveys to Dr. Emily Kling, ACES-210 Duncan Hall, Auburn University AL 36849-5620 before the state event OR bring them to the state event.