

TEXAS 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

February 1, 2023

MEMORANDUM

TO: District 8 County Extension Agents

FROM: Donald W. Kelm
District Extension Administrator



Megan R. Shaffer
Extension Program Specialist
4-H Youth Development



SUBJECT: 2023 DISTRICT 8 4-H SURGE

4-H CONNECT REGISTRATION: 4-H Online will be open for registration from May 1-19, 2023
COUNTY APPROVALS: County Extension Agents must certify registrations by Tuesday, May 23, 2023

PAYMENT & COST: Cost will be \$250 per youth participant & \$200 per adult.

Counties will be responsible for their own transportation to and from Camp Buckner and meals while traveling.

DESIGNATION OF VOTING DELEGATES: Names of the voting delegate(s) from each county are to be marked by the County office on 4-H Online when certifying registrations. **Do not overlook this designation when certifying on 4-H Online!** Each county may designate three (3) youth to serve as voting delegates. District Officers may be one of these voting delegates but cannot vote in addition to the county's allotted voting delegates. Voting delegates must have at least three (3) years of membership, which may include the current year.

AGENT CHAPERONES: All agents are welcome to register and attend! No agents are officially being assigned to attend at this time. If you have youth attending from your county, an agent is encouraged to attend as a chaperone. If additional chaperones are needed after youth registration is closed, agents may be assigned to maintain the required male/female ratio.

All agents attending will serve as chaperones and will assist with workshops and other duties as needed during SURGE.

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CHAPERONE COST: Chaperones will need to register via 4-H Online and pay a \$200 registration fee. Agent scholarships may be available if county funds are not available. Please contact the District Office if you have any questions or concerns.

CHAPERONE SCREENING & TRAINING: **All chaperones attending SURGE must be screened and complete the required training.**

Employees of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service: Complete the Child Protection Training through TrainTraq prior to attending SURGE. Training is good for two years from the date of completion.

Volunteers: Have been screened and cleared through Youth Protection Standards. Complete the Child Protection Training through 4-H Online prior to attending SURGE. Training is good for two years from the date of completion.

It is the agents' responsibility to orient participants prior to the event concerning the enclosed guidelines to avoid any misunderstandings.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Megan Shaffer or the District Council advisors: Sidney Atchley, Thomas Boyle, Cassie Ferguson, or Justin Hale.

The objective of the SURGE is for delegates to bring back to the county what they have learned and train others in the county. Please recruit youth to attend that will come home and teach!

DISTRICT 8 4-H SURGE

Participant Information

- OBJECTIVE:** To prepare teen leaders from the 21 counties in District 8 for leadership roles. These roles might be at the county level, or county committees, or their clubs. The hope is that participants will take information back from SURGE and share it with members back in their counties. SURGE is set up to be enjoyable and fun, but there is work too. Many workshops are set up that will require concentration and serious participation. Speeches are delivered for officer elections. 4-H members in grades 8-12 (of the current 4-H year) are eligible to attend. We work and we play. Play time is set up with activities that build teamwork skills and camaraderie in the district.
- 4-H CONNECT REGISTRATION:** May 1-19, 2023 at midnight
<https://texas.4honline.com/>
- DATES & TIME:** Wednesday, June 21 through Friday, June 23, 2022
Arrive no earlier than 1:00 pm on Tuesday.
 Adjourn at 11:15 am on Thursday.
- LOCATION:** Camp Buckner
 3835 FM2342
 Burnet, TX 78611
[\(512\) 756-7540](tel:5127567540)
<https://www.buckner.org/camp-buckner>
- COST:** \$275 per participant
 This includes insurance, lodging, meals, and snacks beginning with supper on Tuesday and ending with breakfast on Friday. Counties will be responsible for their own transportation to and from Burnet and meals while traveling.
- WHO CAN ATTEND:** All District 8 4-H Council officers plus representatives from each county. All participants must have **completed the 8th grade** to attend SURGE.
- HEALTH & RELEASE FORMS:** Every participant, youth and adults, will need to complete a Health and Release form packet. Forms are included in this letter and will be able to be downloaded from 4-H Online.
- The completed, signed forms will need to be **scanned as a pdf and uploaded** to 4-H Online during the registration process. Please note: The forms require a copy of the participant's **insurance card**.*
- Each chaperone will be required to have one copy of these forms with them while traveling.**
- SERVICE PROJECT:** We will be collecting items for Camp Buckner and the families they serve. A full list of items will be sent out as we get closer to camp.

- WHAT TO BRING:**
- Pillow, light blanket, towels, wash cloths, personal items (*Most campers will be in the Chateau and linens are provided*)
 - Swimsuit (for any lake and pool activities at camp **must be appropriate and cover all body parts)
 - Water shoes or old tennis shoes for the lake (must have a strap/back)
 - Comfortable, casual clothes for workshops, dances
 - No flip flops or other backless sandals are allowed during the dance. They must be close-toed shoes.
 - Sturdy shoes for active games
 - A light jacket or sweater is also recommended, as the classrooms may be cool.
 - Sunscreen
 - Bug Spray

- WHAT NOT TO BRING:**
- Fireworks, ropes, roping dummies, water balloons, water guns, silly string, etc.
 - Expensive jewelry/accessories
 - Excessive food/drinks and gum
 - Bad attitude
 - Alcohol
 - Unnecessary electronics

- DRESS CODE:**
- Please remind 4-H members that the 4-H Dress Code will be in effect:
- Items not allowed: tops with spaghetti straps, halter type tops, shirts that reveal the midriff, excessively loose-fitting pants or jeans, short shorts or skirts, clothing advertising or referencing alcohol, drugs, violence or having sexual content.
 - Two-piece swimsuits are allowed but should adequately cover all body parts.
 - Campers will be given 1 warning about dress code violations and will then be provided an opportunity to change or have their parent retrieve them from camp.

PARENT HANDBOOK: Detailed information about dress code, behavior expectations, emergency contact information for parents, etc. can found in the Parent Handbook: *We will follow this dress code for our camp.*
<https://texas4hcenter.tamu.edu/services/youth-camps-and-retreats/parent-handbook/>

SCHEDULE: A tentative schedule is enclosed; however, it is subject to change. During your free time, the following recreational opportunities will be available: Zip Line water slide, volleyball, ping pong, softball, tennis, basketball, swimming and a variety of other games.

DANCE THEMES: The theme for the 2023 District 8 SURGE theme & dance themes will be announced no later than April 1, 2023. All costumes must be appropriate within dress code. If inappropriate, you will be asked to change clothes.

OFFICER ELECTIONS: One of the major events of SURGE will be the election of officers for the District 8 4-H Council. Refer to the standing rules for eligibility. **Council Officer Applications are due on 4-H Online by May 19, 2023.** Refer to the separate

officer election letter for further details. That information can be found on the District 8 4-H Council Officer page:
<http://d84-h.tamu.edu/district-4-h-council/>

DISTRICT 8 4-H SURGE

Tentative Schedule – June 21-23, 2022

Wednesday, June 21, 2022

2:00pm-2:45pm	Registration
3:00 pm – 3:15 pm	Officer Candidate Orientation Meeting
3:30 pm –5:00 pm	Welcome & Orientation
	Meet the Candidates through “Your Turn to Lead”
5:00 pm	Chaperone Meeting
5:00 pm-6:15 pm	Group Meetings & Chant Contest
6:30 pm – 7:45 pm	Dinner
7:45 pm – 8:45 pm	Team Challenges
9:00 pm – 11:00 pm	Dance
11:00 pm	Vespers
11:30 pm	In Rooms
12:00 Midnight	Lights Out

Thursday, June 22, 2022

7:30 am	Morning Jam & Breakfast
8:30 am	Overview of the Day & Dismiss to Workshops

Location:					
Led By:					
9:00 am-9:30 am	Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D	Group E
9:35 am-10:05 am	Group B	Group C	Group D	Group E	Group A
10:10 am-10:40 am	Group C	Group D	Group E	Group A	Group B
10:45 am-11:15 am	Group D	Group E	Group A	Group B	Group C
11:20 am-11:50 am	Group E	Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
11:50 am-12:05 pm	Agent Fashion Show			Boys Ranch	
12:05 pm-1:00 pm	Lunch			Cafeteria	

1:15 pm-2:45 pm	Candidate Speeches & Impromptu Questions	Boys Ranch
3:00 pm-5:00pm	Free Time!!!	

5:00 pm-6:30 pm	Team Challenge-Color Groups	Lake Area
6:30 pm-7:30 pm	Dinner	Cafeteria
7:45 pm-9:00 pm	Keynote Speaker	Boys Ranch
9:30 pm-11:00 pm	Dance	Boys Ranch
11:00 pm-11:15 pm	Vespers	
12:00 am	Back in Dorms & Lights Out	

Friday, June 23, 2021

7:15 am

8:15 am

10:30 am, 11:00 am

11:15 am

Morning Jam & Breakfast

Officer Elections & Installation

Camp Photo, Closing Session

Have a safe trip home!