



Texas 4-H Conference Center
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Brownwood, TX 76801
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MEMORANDUM TO: County 4-H Coordinators

FROM: **B. Darlene Locke**
Extension Specialist, 4-H and Youth
Director, Texas 4-H Conference Center

R. Laci Chapman
Extension Assistant
Program Director, 4-H Conference Center

SUBJECT: **2010 Texas Teen Retreat -- Registration Information**
January 8-10, 2010
“Fasten Your Seat Belts... 4-H is FUN!”

Howdy! The Texas 4-H Conference Center is pleased to announce plans for the first event of 2010 -- The Texas Teen Retreat to be held **January 8-10, 2010** at the Texas 4-H Conference Center! This retreat will be an excellent opportunity for senior 4-H members ages 14-19 to learn numerous basic personal skills and leadership techniques. Our unique theme this year is “Fasten Your Seat Belts... 4-H is FUN!” a look at the new Recreation Handbook. Participants will see, learn, and get some practice leading recreation activities for any and all age groups! Teen Retreat participants will be equipped to return to their counties and lead activities with afterschool programs, 4-H clubs, Youth Boards, and more!

Workshop Objectives

The Texas Teen Retreat will focus on various aspects of leadership to enhance 4-H program involvement for senior age youth. The following objectives will be addressed:

1. Development of Leadership Styles and Skills
2. Exploring Creativity
3. Working with audiences of all ages
4. Team Dynamics
5. Communication Skills

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Schedule

The tentative schedule is enclosed and will be posted on the Texas 4-H Conference Center website. The address is: <http://texas4h-ctr.tamu.edu> Please check the website for more information on the schedule as the event approaches.

Registration Information

- Participants must be 14 years of age on or before August 31, 2009. Counties may register as many youth as they wish, provided an adequate number of chaperones accompany them.
- Registration will be conducted on 4-H Connect.
- **Registration fees will be \$120 per youth. Adult chaperone registration will be \$80.00 per person. Linens will not be provided!!!** Counties are responsible for certifying individual registrations on 4-H Connect and ensuring that the county provides an adequate number of adult chaperones per gender. Counties NOT supplying one adult per eight youth, per gender, will be assessed a fee of \$90 to defray the costs of hiring additional staff as chaperones. Counties may coordinate to “share” chaperones, provided the 1 adult:8 youth ratio is met. These “shared” arrangements can be noted in the 4-H Connect registration or by sending an email to the 4-H Conference Center.

Youth (age 14 to 19)	\$120.00
Adult Chaperones (housed in dorms)	\$80.00
Chaperone Fee (if County does NOT provide chaperone)	\$90.00

This fee will include two nights lodging, health care services, four meals, snacks and programming fees. Workshop costs will **not** be pro-rated for participants who may leave early or come in late. The program will begin on Friday night with sessions, so make every effort to be here by 8:00 p.m.! ***Remember that this is a 4-H event which is considered an extra-curricular activity! Youth may get out of school early to attend if eligible to do so!***

Chaperone Requirements

The 4-H Conference Center will strictly enforce the ratio for chaperones. Chaperones must be 21 years of age and a registered 4-H Volunteer. Adult chaperones must complete the on-line Child Protection Training Course (information available on website). The ratio of adults to youth is one chaperone for up to 8 youth of the same gender. If, for example, your county brings three males and four females, one male and one female chaperone must accompany them. Counties can go together to meet the chaperone requirements. Please make these arrangements with other counties in your District prior to sending in your registration and note this information on the 4-H Connect registration. If arrangements are not known at the time of registration on 4-H Connect, please send an email. **If other counties agree to chaperone youth, the ratio of 1 to 8 must still be maintained. If the county does not supply or designate a chaperone, the county will be billed \$90.00 per chaperone needed.**

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Medical Release/Code of Conduct Forms

The Release Forms are available on the 4-H Conference Center website at: <http://texas4h-ctr.tamu.edu>. Each youth and adult participant (including Extension Agents) must complete and submit these forms to the 4-H Conference Center upon arrival. Please print off and photocopy forms as needed. **Do not mail forms in advance!!!**

We are looking forward to working with counties to strengthen and enhance their Leadership program. See you in January! Please don't hesitate to call if you have any questions.

Dr. Chris Boleman
Texas 4-H Faculty

District Extension Administrators
Dr. Darrell Dromgoole

County Extension Directors

Odds & Ends

2010 Texas Teen Retreat January 8-10, 2010 Texas 4-H Conference Center

We are looking forward to seeing you in January as we kick off the new year with the Texas Teen Retreat! Below are items you will need to bring:

- ★ Casual Clothes
- ★ Toiletries, shower shoes, etc.
- ★ Linens (sheets, blanket, pillow, towels, etc.)
- ★ Completed Release Forms
- ★ Walking Shoes and a coat. . .the weather can get nasty!
- ★ Positive Attitude and Cooperative Spirit!

DO NOT BRING: In-line skates, ropes and roping dummies, weapons (including knives), etc. Items brought are subject to confiscation by the Texas 4-H Conference Center.

Participants are encouraged **NOT** to bring personal electronics such as cellular phones, beepers, portable stereos, walkman, MP3 players, computers, electronic games, etc. Misuse of personal electronics will subject them to confiscation by the Texas 4-H Conference Center. Participants assume all responsibility for items brought with them. The Texas 4-H Conference Center **will NOT** be responsible for items damaged, lost, or stolen while at Teen Retreat.

Please plan to arrive by 8:00 p.m. on Friday!

News Release

Texas Teen Retreat Slated for January 8-10, 2010

For 4-H'ers 14-19, this weekend retreat is a great opportunity to gain valuable leadership skills while building your 4-H network of friends from across the state! Texas Teen Retreat is scheduled for January 8-10, 2010 at the Texas 4-H Conference Center in Brownwood. It is designed to build leadership and life skills in youth to help them become productive leaders in their 4-H clubs. Our unique theme this year is "Fasten Your Seat Belts... 4-H is FUN!" a look at the new Recreation Handbook. Participants will see, learn, and get some practice leading recreation activities for any and all age groups! Teen Retreat participants will be equipped to return to their counties and lead activities with afterschool programs, 4-H clubs, Youth Boards, and more!

Come to Teen Retreat 2010 and be one of the first to learn about this exciting new resource and make plans to implement the program in your county!

Registration fee for Texas Teen Retreat is \$120.00 per youth & \$80.00 per Adult Chaperone. Registration will be conducted on 4-H Connect. For more information on Texas Teen Retreat, please contact the _____ County Extension Office at _____ (phone).