

Swain County



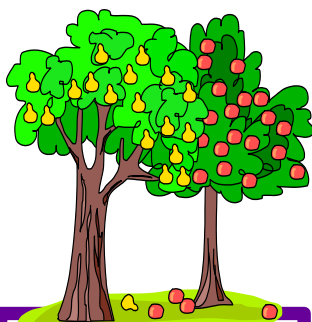
4-H News

February - April 2016

What's Your Story?

Swain County 4-H has had a great start to 2016! Our club life is growing, membership enrollment forms are rolling in and we have some exciting programs just around the corner.

4-H has been around a long time. The first club started in the early 1900's! How long have you been in 4-H? Maybe your mom or dad or even your grandmother or grandfather was a 4-Her. If you have 4-H alumni in your family, ask them to tell you their favorite 4-H story. If you write it down and turn it in to the Swain County Cooperative Extension, your family story may be highlighted in the next 4-H newsletter!



Apple Trees

Pear Trees

Peach Trees

Grape Vines

Blueberry Plants

Blackberry Plants

4-H FRUIT TREE & BERRY PLANT SALE

Now - March 4, 2016

The Swain County Cooperative Extension is now taking orders for 3-4 foot tall apple, pear, and peach trees along with 2 year old blueberry and grape varieties. Prices are \$13.00 for the apple, pear and peach trees and \$8.00 for the grapes, blueberries, and blackberries. All plant material will arrive bare-rooted.

Call 488-3848 OR go to: <https://swain.ces.ncsu.edu/spotlight/397304/> for more information. Orders and checks must be in our office by March 4, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. Plants will be ready for pick up tentatively around March 17-18th.

All money raised will be put into the Swain County 4-H Club Fund and will be used for future 4-H programming.

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4-H Club Meetings

West Swain 4-H Club

Regular Club Meetings

3rd Thursday of each month (August - May)

6:00 - 7:00 p.m. at the Swain County Extension Office

Leaders: Crystal Taylor & Melissa Vaughn

March	First Aid
April 21	Outdoor Photography
May TBA	Engineering

Backyard & Beyond 4-H Club

1st Thursday and last Saturday of each month

Meeting dates and times will vary depending on activity.

Call 488-3848 for more information.

Leader: Cali Snider

March 3	Freshwater Streams 4pm @ Deep Creek Picnic Area
March 5	Freshwater Streams
March 26	Trees
April 7	Trees - Arbor Day Program w/ Rob Hawk
April 30	TBA

4-H Tangled Tots

Swain County 4-H's youth clogging group

Join this fun energetic group of young people and learn some new clogging steps. Youth will also have the opportunity to participate in local clogging events and activities to show off their skills!



For youth ages: 5 – 18

Clogging Instructors: Kerry Plemmons & Dee Decker

Clogging is FREE and meets on Tuesdays at 5:00 pm in the SCC – Swain Center auditorium.

4-H Rain Catchers Club

Swain County 4-H has been given an opportunity to work with a recent NC State graduate to test and identify chemicals found in our rain. *This club has its maximum number of participants.*

Club members have been e-mailed a schedule for rain gauge testing, as well as, all instructions.

Interested in being part of 4-H?

Joining a club is a great way for youth to get started!! Call 488-3848 for more information on where to begin!

Day of Service Event

Rescheduled from January 18, 2016

March 7, 2016
1:00 pm - until
Bryson City Cemetery
For Swain County 4-Hers and Community Members

Swain County 4-H would like to serve our community by working with the Friends of the Bryson City Cemetery. We would love for all residents of Swain County, not just 4-Hers, to come and join us for this day of service. Cemetery clean up will begin at 1pm (picking up twigs, small branches and any litter in and near the Bryson City Cemetery).

The Friends of the Bryson City Cemetery formed in October 2015 as a means to engage the community in maintaining the cemetery while honoring the local heritage of those buried there. This cemetery houses political and community leaders that are important to the history of Swain County.

Once the work is done and weather permits, we will have a small bonfire with all of the twigs we have collected, hear some stories and historical events related to those that are buried there and roast some marshmallows. We hope you will join us!



4-H Presentations & Record Keeping

The 4-H Presentation Program and 4-H Record Keeping are some of 4-H's most beneficial and rewarding experiences. They are most often credited by 4-H alumni as having given them an edge above peers in both college and professional careers.

Presentations provide a unique opportunity to gain self-confidence before a group, learn to express ideas clearly, respond spontaneously to questions, and gain subject matter knowledge.

Record Keeping teaches a 4-Her how to set goals and make plans. How to self-evaluate the results of your goals setting. How to organize, communicate in writing, and summarize. It also teaches responsibility.



Presentation and Record Keeping Workshop will be held on April 13. Individual club presentation days are listed to the right. It is strongly encouraged that youth participate in this practice presentation experience. Club presenters will advance to County Presentation Day, which will be held May 27. Winners will then go on to District Activity Day on June 18.



Presentations & Record Book Workshop

April 13, 2016

Swain County Cooperative Extension

- ♦ Cloverbud Age (5-8): 3:45 pm - 5:00 pm
- ♦ Junior (ages 9-13) & Teen (ages 14-18): 5:00 pm - 6:45 pm

Tangled Tots Presentation Day

May 10, 2016 @ 5:45 pm

Rain Catchers Club Presentation Day

May 11, 2016 @ 5:30 pm

West Swain Club Presentation Day

May 12, 2016 @ 5:30 pm

Backyard & Beyond Club Presentation Day

May 13, 2016 @ 5:30 pm

County Presentation Day

May 27, 2016

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Swain County Cooperative Extension

District Activity Day

June 18, 2016

8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Western Carolina University



Extra, Extra, Read All About It

4-H is looking for a few good reporters! Do you have what it takes?

People in our community are interested in what we are doing, and we are looking for some responsible 4-Hers to help us share that information and keep everyone informed about club activities.

If you are an active member in a 4-H Club: 4-H Tangled Tots; West Swain 4-H Club; Backyard and Beyond 4-H Club; The 4-H Rain Catchers Club, and you want to collect and write interesting news stories about Club meetings to be shared in the Newspaper, on Radio Programs, or in Newsletters . . . then this is the job for you! We are

looking for one or two reporters per club, so make sure you apply!

Duties will include:

- Collecting and writing interesting news stories about 4-H clubs, explaining the: Who, What, Where, When, Why and How
- Work with your 4-H Agent to report on club member accomplishments
- Dress nicely for interviews
- Be a good example for other club members
- Meet deadlines

For consideration please submit a sample report on something that interests you to jrhill9@ncsu.edu, or bring it to the Swain County Cooperative Extension Office. **Deadline for entries are Monday, March 28th.**





National Volunteer Week

April 10-16, 2016

National Volunteer Week is about inspiring, recognizing and encouraging people to seek out

imaginative ways to engage in their communities. It's about demonstrating to the nation that by working together, we have the fortitude to meet our challenges and accomplish our goals.

Take the time to thank all the great volunteers in our community or become a volunteer yourself! To learn more about becoming a 4-H Volunteer, call 488-3848 or go to:

www.nc4h.org/volunteers.

Thank You

Swain County 4-H Club Leaders:

★ **Kerry Plemmons**

4-H Tangled Tots

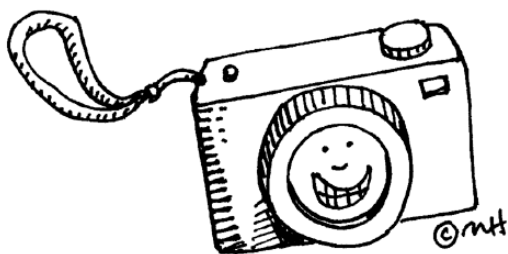
★ **Crystal Taylor**

West Swain 4-H Club

★ **Cali Snider**

Backyard & Beyond 4-H Club

NC 4-H Congress Photography Contest Entry Rules



The purpose of this exhibition is to provide a showcase of 4-H members' photographic accomplishments. The exhibit is unveiled at 4-H Congress in Raleigh, North Carolina each summer. The winning photos are then displayed at select meetings and events throughout the year until the next Congress.

- All entries must be submitted digitally or postmarked

NO LATER THAN May 27, 2016.

- Please submit digital entries to: ken_ellzey@ncsu.edu

- This exhibit is open to (and only to) all North Carolina 4-H members ages 9-19.
- All entry photos must have been taken by the 4-H'er submitting the entry during the contest year.
- Entrants must submit their photos within the division that applies (Junior/ages 9-12 OR Senior/ages 13-19).
- Each entrant may submit only one photo in each of the three categories ("4-H in Action", "Nature's Beauty", "Animals"). This means that each individual 4-H'er may have as many as three entries so long as they submit each entry in a different category.
- The same image may be entered in more than one category (if it applies to each category.)
- Photos may be in color OR black-and-white.
- Please, please send your entries at the highest image resolution possible so that we can display high-quality images.

E-mail Instructions:

- Please email all entries to ken_ellzey@ncsu.edu, using "NC 4-H Photo Contest 2016" as the subject line.
- You may attach as many as three contest entries per person to one email.
- Each email containing photos must also contain the following:

- ✓ Name of Photographer
- ✓ Home Address
- ✓ 4-H County
- ✓ Male/Female
- ✓ Age
- ✓ Parent's/Guardian's Name(s)
- ✓ 4-H Agent's Name (First and Last Name)
- ✓ Entry Division: Junior Division (Ages 9-12) OR Senior Division (Ages 13-19)
- ✓ Categories: 4-H in Action, Nature's Beauty, Animals
- ✓ Picture Name and Information: Please tell us any details about your image

For more information, go to:

www.cals.ncsu.edu/agcomm/4-HPhoto/index.html



ATTENTION:

WEST SWAIN 4-H CLUB MEMBERS

The theme for our club meeting on April 21 is Outdoor Photography. This would be a great opportunity to take some fabulous photos to enter in the NC 4-H Congress Photography Contest. So grab a camera or cell phone and let's start snapping!

NOTE: We don't want our younger 4-Hers to be left out . . . Swain County 4-H will award all Cloverbud age 4-Hers a certificate and a ribbon for photos they snap and submit to us.



West District 4-H 2016 Citizenship Challenge

For all West District 4-H Volunteers and Youth

One of the most frequently asked questions is about citizenship activities. Since we began emphasizing the difference between citizenship and community service activities several years ago, young people across the state have achieved some tremendous accomplishments which will serve them well throughout life. 4-H citizenship should involve government or governmental processes in some way. The following list includes many of the ways 4-H'ers are excelling in this area:

- Leading the Pledge to the American Flag (*Cloverbuds Only*)
- Touring a government building, institution, or monument
- Visiting with an elected official - city, county, state, or federal
- Attending a seminar or town meeting presented by an elected or appointed official
- Attending a public hearing
- Attending a city council meeting or county commissioner's meeting
- Attending a school board meeting
- Participating in a town hall meeting at 4-H Congress or elsewhere
- Observing a day in court
- Observing a day in the state or federal legislature
- Following the issues in a local, state, or federal election
- Encourage adults to vote in an election
- Helping with an election campaign - County Council, Local, State, or Federal, etc.

West District
4-H Volunteer Leaders
Spring Training

April 16, 2016

9:30 am - 3:00 pm

Mountain Horticultural
Crops Research &
Extension Center
Mills River, NC

This list should provide you with lots of options and perhaps some inspiration for doing excellent citizenship activities.

For a complete list, go to: <https://henderson.ces.ncsu.edu/2016/02/west-district-4-h-2016-citizenship-challenge/>

Here are the guidelines to participate in this years citizenship challenge:

- Participate in 1 or more citizenship activities. Citizenship is understanding your civic rights and responsibilities. Learning how to make a difference as a citizen in your community is an important part of your life as a 4-H'er.
- Keep pictures and make one or two scrapbook pages with pictures or other items representing this activity.
- Document the hours involved in the activity, the people you reached or those who were involved (example: veterans, government officials, etc.) and the number of volunteers or youth who participated.
- **Due Date: October 31, 2016**, to Denise Sherrill, Henderson County 4-H Agent, Email: Denise_Sherrill@ncsu.edu
- Winner to be announced at the West District 4-H Fall Celebration, November 5.

REMINDER: 4-H Enrollment Paperwork Due

Your 4-H enrollment is very important to us and we value your participation. At the beginning of each year, current 4-H members are ask to complete a new 4-H Enrollment Form, Medical Release Form, and Media Release Form. These forms provide us with updated information about your child's contact information, any changes from previous years, medical related notices, etc. If you haven't already done so, these forms can be picked up at the Swain County Cooperative Extension, we can mail/e-mail them to you, or you can download them at: www.nc4h.org/procedures-and-guidelines. Also, we can now notarize the Medical Release Form in our office.

Please take the time to fill out these important forms and return them to us as soon as possible. We look forward to working with you in the upcoming year.

Swain County Center
P.O. Box 2329
Bryson City, North Carolina 28713

Other Upcoming Events

Call for 488-3848 to learn more about these and other great 4-H opportunities!

4-H Family Camp at Millstone

April 1-3, 2016

Millstone 4-H Camp, Ellerbe, NC

Contact: Keith at hkrussel@ncsu.edu or (910) 652-5905

Spring Fling Livestock Show, Skillathon & Judging Contest

April 15-16, 2016

Mountain State Fairgrounds, Fletcher, NC

Contact: Brent Jennings at (919) 515-4467

Swain County 4-H Summer Program Extravaganza

Every summer Swain County 4-H offers exciting, educational, and fun activities for Swain County youth ages 5 to 18. Be on the look out for the announcement of our 2016 lineup, coming in May!

Swain County 4-H News

is a newsletter published to inform Swain County youth and parents on issues that may affect them, as well as, announce upcoming activities and programs of interest.

Jennifer Hill

Extension Agent

4-H Youth Development

Swain Cooperative Extension
PO Box 2329

60 Almond School Road
Bryson City, NC 28713

(828) 488-3848

<http://swain.ces.ncsu.edu/>



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