

## REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Please read the information in this email completely. Some items need to be completed prior to opening the online registration form.

### COST

\$225 per person (including chaperones and coaches)

Food and lodging will be provided during the Invitational. Each team is responsible for transportation expenses, liability coverage, etc. to and from the National WHEP Contest.

\$25 per person for additional family members to attend **Banquet and Awards Ceremony** on Tuesday, July 30<sup>th</sup>. This purchase must be added to the team registration form.

### DEADLINE

- July 14, 2024 – Paperwork and payment due

### REGISTRATION

Online Registration is open and is due on or before **July 14<sup>th</sup>**. Registration will be limited to the first 96 coaches and youth. A state team consists of either 3 or 4 senior 4-H members or FFA contestants and 1 or 2 adult coaches/chaperones who are certified 4-H/FFA leaders from that state. Only one 4-H team per state and one FFA team per state may attend. Print the forms using your browser before you submit.

Use the following link to access **Registration** for each person attending, youth and adult. ([https://agrilife.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_bOuZEXXBWPAVFf8](https://agrilife.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bOuZEXXBWPAVFf8))

All contestants and chaperones/coaches on one team must be registered at the same time by one person. As one form is submitted per individual, the form will reset to enter another individual. When all are entered, close the browser to end the registration process.

**Payment** must be made to the Texas 4-H Foundation at the following

link: <https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/WebLink.aspx?name=E352991&id=110>

Incomplete forms and/or lack of payment by deadline may result in an individual or team being disqualified from the Invitational.

### ADULT SCREENING & CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING

Texas 4-H rules require all adult chaperones be screened/background checked and complete Child Protection Training prior to participating in a multiple day, overnight event. This screening process and training include those associated with being a 4-H or FFA volunteer or a County Extension Agent or FFA advisor. You will be required to upload proof of your screening and training with registration. If your state program or employer does not require you to complete Child Protection training then please use the Texas 4-H Child Protection Training online module required of all overnight chaperones. See the Instructions to Complete Texas Online Child Protection Course attached to this email.

## **FORMS TO COMPLETE, SIGN, AND UPLOAD ONTO REGISTRATION FORM**

The forms listed below will need to be completed, signed, and uploaded as noted for youth and adult chaperones/coaches. It is also recommended to make a hard copy to take to the Contest.

### Youth

- Texas 4-H & Wood Ranch Required Forms Packet; questions concerning these forms should be directed to the Texas 4-H Conference Center, 325/784-5482 (see attached form packet)

### Adults

- Texas 4-H & Wood Ranch Required Forms Packet; questions concerning these forms should be directed to the Texas 4-H Conference Center, 325/784-5482 (see attached form packet)
- Adult Screening Documentation (your state institution or 4-H program)
- Child Protection Training Documentation

## **SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS**

If you have any special needs or require special accommodation, please be sure to add that information to the registration form. Special needs include, but are not limited to, mobility, education, and dietary restrictions or requirements. Please list and describe any special needs as best you can. You will be contacted by the contest committee for any clarifications.

## **ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE**

Teams flying to the event have a few different options for nearby airports including Austin, TX (157 miles), or Dallas/Ft. Worth, TX (175 miles).

Registration and room check-in will start at 3:00 p.m. (CST). Specific information will be sent to the coordinating coach after registration. Plan on arriving between 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. (CST) on July 28<sup>th</sup>. Those arriving after 6:00 p.m. cannot be guaranteed supper on July 28<sup>th</sup>. Participants depart after breakfast on Wednesday, July 31.

## **LODGING**

Lodging July 28 to July 31<sup>st</sup> will be held at the [Texas 4-H Conference Center](#). Lodging will be arranged for up to 4 participants and 2 coaches or chaperones per team. Lodging will be cabins with bunk beds. The cabins are equipped with air-conditioning and a split bathroom. Lodging will be assigned by gender. Chaperones will be housed with their team members. Teams from multiple states will share cabins. **Participants and chaperones must bring their own bed linens, pillows, and towels.** Lodging for parents or chaperones other than the 2 registered will be the responsibility of individual attendees at local hotels or campgrounds.

## **OTHER ACCOMMODATIONS**

We cannot accommodate non-participants at this event. **Families and individuals other than the 2 coaches/chaperones are not allowed to participate in any of the Invitational events other than the Banquet and Awards Ceremony.** Any family members or others who wish to attend the banquet and awards ceremony on Tuesday July 30<sup>th</sup>, can purchase extra tickets (\$25 each). **This purchase must be added to the team registration form.**

## COACHES TOUR

The coaches' tour will take place on Tuesday, July 30<sup>th</sup>. Coaches/chaperones will spend the day visiting nearby attractions. All coaches/chaperones are required to participate in the tour to ensure that in the event of an emergency, coaches/chaperones can be located quickly.

## EDUCATIONAL DAY

The Education Day will be Monday, July 29<sup>th</sup>, and will involve learning from Texas wildlife researchers and managers. Free time will follow the educational program in the late afternoon, and will include several options for on-site activities. Swimming will be available.

## ITEMS TO TAKE

- Your state flag
- Share Fair items (foods, pins, stickers, mementos, unique items from your state, etc.)
- Field clothes and shoes/boots
  - ***(This is important! Shorts and open shoes will not be allowed on the educational day or the contest day. Long-sleeved shirts and leather footwear are strongly recommended. This is your responsibility. We will not wait for individuals to go back to their rooms to change clothes.)***
- Bed Linens and pillow
- Towels
- Clothing for the awards banquet will be informal (**no formal dress**)
- Swimsuit
- Sunscreen, sunglasses, hat
- Insect repellent
- Raincoat
- Clipboard and pencils
- Camera (optional)
- Binocular (optional)
- Medications
- Health forms

## RESPONSIBILITIES

Adult coaches and chaperones are responsible for the actions of their youth and are expected to supervise them at all times except during the contest on Tuesday, July 30<sup>th</sup>. Coaches/chaperones will need to have their team members at the appropriate places on time. Please be mindful about gender composition of your team and chaperones to balance housing and supervision. Chaperones are responsible for their state's youth health and well-being during this event. Information regarding local health care options will be provided if necessary.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Questions regarding location & local logistics: Larry Hysmith ([lhysmith@tamu.edu](mailto:lhysmith@tamu.edu)).  
We look forward to seeing you in Texas!