



4-H Forestry Project



Step It Up!

Pass it on! Share what you learned in the project with others. Here are ideas to get you started!

Citizenship/ Leadership

- Present an idea for improving a forest or ecosystem.
- Help organize or participate in a forest or park clean-up with your club.
- Organize an event to get young kids excited about the forest and through hands on activities.

Communication

- Create an educational display on a forestry topic for a community event and/or state event.
- Teach others about the forest in local schools.
- Conduct a demonstration talk at the local, county, and/or state level on a forest topic.

Are you Into It?

In the 4-H forestry project you can learn about trees, forests, invasive species, etc.

In this project you will:

- Learn about the different types of forests, trees, forest products and how to keep forests healthy
- Investigate the different kinds of forests in Florida, wildlife and ecosystems
- Learn what foresters do and what other careers involve forestry
- Visit local and state parks and participate in their education programs
- Participate in a service learning project and help the environment

Here's what you can do all year!

Starting Out Basic

- Visit a public park or wildlife science center to learn more about forestry
- Help your club plan a trip to a local park or preserve
- Investigate life on the forest floor by visiting a local state park with your family or club
- Choose a specific tree to research and share what you learned with others
- Read about an invasive species affecting your area and share the story with your club

Learning More Intermediate

- Explore a forest habitat and identify the kinds of animals and plants that live there
- Learn about the forest industry and jobs available
- Learn more about organizations in Florida that are interested in the management of Florida's forests
- Explore service project ideas through the project guide *Give Forests a Hand*
- Research and produce an action plan to improve a forest or local park

Expanding Horizons Advanced

- Estimate the amount of lumber you could get from the trees in your yard, on your street, or local park
- Visit with county foresters to learn about forest restoration programs.
- Contact a local forester and ask what the most damaging forest insects and diseases are in your area. Find out what is being done to deal with these problems.
- Learn about prescribed fires vs. wildfires.

Healthy Living

- Investigate the different types of foods that contain tree products, create an educational display on the info, and present this at a community event.
- Get outside and enjoy nature by going to hiking trails with your club.

Science

- Conduct your own experiment on a forestry topic and share the results at a local science fair or other county/state event.
- Be a citizen-scientist and help a forester conduct his/her research.



Expand Your Experiences in Forest Science!

- Work with members of your club to prepare for and enter the 4-H State Forest Ecology Event. Study materials and guidelines available at florida4h.org
- Attend State Forest Ecology Clinic and participate in a number of hands-on learning activities. More information at florida4h.org
- Register for 4-H University to attend workshops, participate in community service events, hear keynotes, compete in contests, have fun, and meet other youth from across Florida who may share common interests. For more information go to florida4h.org
- Contact your local forester. Ask to tour their facilities and job shadow for a day.
- Investigate the kinds of careers that involve forestry and schedule a visit with those departments at the University of Florida.

Project Sharing Ideas

Apply what you have learned in the project by doing an illustrated talk or demonstration at the county, district, or state level. Here are a few ideas:

- Demonstrate how to plant a pine tree in Florida
- Talk about the different careers offered in the Forest Industry
- Create a display about the types of wildlife that live in Florida's Forests

Resources

4-H Project Resources

Project materials to assist youth in learning may be available through your county 4-H office or can be ordered directly from edis.ifas.ufl.edu.

- Forestry— Leaders Guide
- Kids in the Woods
- 4-H Forestry Project: Record Book
- Adopt a Tree
- Florida's Fabulous Forests
- Give Forests a Hand

Available through National 4-H. Go to www.4-hmall.org.

- Follow the Path
- Explore the Deep Woods
- Reach for the Canopy
- Forestry Helper's Guide

Connections and Events

Attending events and taking advantage of opportunities that expand your project learning will help you become the best you can be. Contact your county 4-H office.

Take part in:

- Local workshops and day camps
- 4-H County Events Day

Experience

- 4-H Summer Day and Residential Camps
- 4-H University

Attend these 4-H events:

- State Forest Ecology Clinic
- State Forest Ecology Contest

Check these and other statewide events out at florida4h.org

Record Keeping

Learning to take good records of what you do and what you spend for your project is a 4-H life skill.

The following record keeping forms can help you keep a record of your activities. These forms can be found at florida4h.org.

- Junior (ages 8-10)
- Intermediate (ages 11-13)
- Senior (ages 14-18)
- Financial Summary
- Member Portfolio (ages 8-13)

Available at EDIS

edis.ifas.ufl.edu

- 4-H Record Book: Forestry Project

Awards and Recognition

Florida's Recognition Program involves feedback through:

- Participation
- Setting Goals
- Meeting Standards
- Peer Competition
- Cooperation

Certificates, pins, ribbons, trophies, trips and/or scholarships are awarded based on quality of performance at the county, district, state and national levels.

To learn more about current recognition opportunities visit the Florida 4-H website at florida4h.org or contact your county 4-H agent.

Learn more at florida4h.org
or contact your local UF/IFAS Extension County Office

4-H
GROWING TOGETHER