

PROGRESS REPORT

Project Name

Texas 4-H Water Ambassadors

Date

April 3, 2019

*This progress report is delivered per the terms of the Research and Demonstration Project Grant Funding Agreement, executed July 19, 2018 and funded August 10, 2018, between High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1 and David Smith, TX A&M AgriLife Extension and Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation. **Grant award is \$4,000.00.***

Background

The Texas 4-H Water Ambassadors Program provides a select group of high school age youth an opportunity to gain advanced knowledge and practice leadership skills involving science, technology, engineering, and management of water in Texas. Through training and mentorship, water ambassadors advocate for water by educating other youth, performing service projects, and collaborating with local water industry and education professionals to conduct outreach efforts related to water resources, water conservation, and water quality. By connecting with water professionals, water ambassadors gain exposure and recognition as youth leaders, learn about internship opportunities, and explore pathways to the diverse career opportunities in the water industry. The aim of the Texas 4-H Water Ambassador Program is to build capacity among youth leaders from diverse backgrounds and from rural and urban regions, both non- and traditional 4-H members, who possess the initiative, maturity, and leadership ability to promote water education in their communities and beyond. The Texas 4-H Water Ambassadors Program is industry-supported via in-kind donations and sponsorships. **This grant will support a planned trip to the Lubbock/High Plains region as part of the 2019 summer Tier I 4-H2O Leadership Academy.**

Progress

Objective 1 – Summer 4-H2O Leadership Academy

- Promotion for the 2019-2020 class of 4-H Water Ambassadors began mid-February through social media and direct correspondence with County Extension Agents and 4-H members throughout Texas. On-line applications opened March 15, 2019 and close May 15, 2019.
- To date, (42) high school youth representing (37) Texas counties currently serve as 4-H Water Ambassadors. Expectations are to add another (30) youth to the Program in spring 2019.

- Three were selected in 2018 from within the High Plains Water District service region. These include:
 - Kaden “Ty” Cornelius (Junior) – Crosby County
 - Tyann Phillips (Freshman) – Floyd County
 - Luke Unterkircher (Sophomore) – Swisher County
- Two more individuals selected reside within Groundwater Management Area 2:
 - Riley Calk (Junior) – Gaines/Yoakum County
 - Macy Downs (Sophomore) – Yoakum County
- The Tier I 4-H2O Youth Leadership Academy (for first year ambassadors) is scheduled for July 13-20, 2019. (See tentative agenda at end of report.) The Academy is an 8-day tour of various locations throughout Texas aimed at exposing youth to a wide perspective of water issues with an emphasis on the diversity of water resources and management strategies among various regions.

A stop is planned for Lubbock on Thursday July 18, 2019 to visit:

- High Plains Water District
- Samuel Jackson, Inc.
- Helm Research Center

Objective 2 – Ambassador Service Requirement

- As 4-H Water Ambassadors, youth are required to complete a minimum of (40) hours of education and service in their communities. To date, water ambassadors have completed approximately 1,570 hours of service and have reached more than 27,000 youth and adults with water education.
- As the 4-H Water Ambassador Program has gained exposure and recognition within Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, the number of county extension agent requests for water ambassador assistance has also increased. There is also an increasing number of water industry partners who are offering educational and exhibit opportunities.
- To date, the total value of 4-H Water Ambassador service exceeds \$38,000 in volunteer service.

Objective 3 – Leadership, Mentorship, and Continuing Education

- As 4-H Water Ambassadors, youth gain advanced knowledge and a broad awareness of water issues in Texas including surface and groundwater law, water management strategies, water policy, water treatment, water conservation approaches, and water's impact on local, regional, and state economies. Their affiliation with Texas 4-H and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service provides an opportunity to educate peers and adults on a range of water issues. They are recognized as leaders in water education among their peers and are available to teach others in 4-H clubs and schools about the importance of water.
- Water ambassadors engage with local water experts and educators in their communities including groundwater conservation districts. Over the past year, current water ambassadors have met with and delivered numerous presentations at groundwater district meetings, soil and water conservation boards, and regional water planning groups.
- During their tenure as water ambassador, periodic assignments are given to expand their breadth of knowledge of water in Texas. By completing assignments, water ambassadors can earn service hours and stay current on water issues.

Conservation Impacts to the District

Three water ambassadors currently serve as 4-H Water Ambassadors within the HPWD service area. Two more water ambassadors originate from Yoakum County, within GMA 2. Over the past nine months, these water ambassadors have delivered presentations and been engaged activities in local communities and beyond: Examples include:

- South Plains Association Meeting
- EQIP Local Working Group Meeting
- HPWD Domestic Water Well Workshop
- Floyd County Ag Day
- Texas Alliance of Water Conservation Field Day
- South Plains Water Conservation District Board Meeting
- Sandy Land Underground Water District Board Meeting
- Llano Estacado Underground Water Conservation District Board Meeting
- Town Talk Radio Interview
- Texas Ground Water Association Annual Meeting
- 4-H Water Ambassador Retreat
- Voluntary and required continuing education assignments

Budget

The \$4,000 grant awarded in 2018 will be used to help cover expenses for the 4-H2O Leadership Academy July 13 – 20, 2019. The anticipated total budget for the Academy is approximately \$32,000. Day 6 of the Academy will be at various location in the Lubbock area. Following is the anticipated budget (\$4,000) which covers expenses for our trip to Lubbock. Actual expenditures will be included in the final project report.

- Motor-coach transportation: \$1,200 (\$1,200/day)
- Lodging: \$1,800 (\$100/night/room for 18 rooms)
- Meals/snacks: \$1,000 (\$30/day for 36 individuals)

END REPORT



2019 Tier I 4-H2O Youth Leadership Academy

Itinerary - Always subject to change☺

Saturday July 13, 2019

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Check-in and room assignments. Hardin House, 2206 Rio Grande Street Austin, TX 78705
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Travel to welcome reception. Double Tree Austin NW Arboretum (8901 Business Park Drive).
5:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Welcome reception and dinner
8:00 pm – 8:30 pm	Travel to Hardin House
8:30 pm – 9:30 pm	Ambassador orientation
9:30 pm – 10:30 pm	Free Time
10:30 pm	In Rooms

Sunday July 14, 2019

7:00 am – 8:00 am	Breakfast at Hardin House
8:00 am – 8:45 am	Travel to Meadows Center for Water and the Environment , San Marcos.
8:45 am – noon	Texas Stream Team Certification Course .
Noon – 1:00 pm	Lunch – McAlister's Delivery to Meadows Center
1:00 pm – 2:30 pm	Texas Stream Team Certification Course
2:30 pm – 3:30 pm	Spring Lake Glass Bottom Boat Tour .
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	Travel to San Antonio Water System – 4-H2Oaks Desalination Center
4:30 pm – 6:00 pm	Tour SAWS 4-H2Oaks Desalination Center .
6:00 pm – 6:30 pm	Travel to Dinner
6:30 pm – 8:00 pm	Dinner (TBD)
8:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Travel back to Hardin House
9:00 pm – 9:30 pm	Daily Wrap-up
9:30 pm – 10:30 pm	Free Time
10:30 pm	In Rooms

Monday July 15, 2019

7:00 am – 8:00 am	Hardin House
8:00 am – 8:15 am	Travel to Lloyd-Gosselink Attorneys at Law. 816 Congress Ave., Suite 1900, Austin, Texas 78701 . Breakfast provided by Lloyd-Gosselink.
8:15 am – 10:15 am	Groundwater & Surface Water Law
10:15 am – 10:45 am	Travel to Texas Water Development Board Headquarters. 1700 North Congress Ave., Austin, Texas 78711 .
10:45 am – 12:30 am	TWDB
12:30 pm – 1:30 pm	Lunch – Pick up order at Chick-fil-A, 2901 I-35N Service Rd, Bldg 14, (512) 990-2424)
1:30 pm – 2:00 pm	Travel to Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Headquarters. 12100 Park 35 Circle, Austin, TX 78753 .
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	TCEQ Presentations: Surface water rights, water quality standards, water quality assessment and wastewater permitting, Take Care of Texas initiative.
4:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Travel to Barton Springs
4:30 pm – 6:30 pm	Swim at Barton Springs
6:30 pm – 7:00 pm	Travel back to Hardin House
7:30 pm – 8:30 pm	Dinner at Hardin House
8:30 pm – 9:00 pm	Daily Wrap-up
9:00 pm – 10:30 pm	Free Time
10:30 pm	In Rooms

Tuesday July 16, 2019

7:00 am – 8:00 am	Breakfast at Hardin House
8:00 am – 9:30 am	Travel to Lake Buchanan
9:30 am – noon	Tour Lake Buchanan Dam
Noon – 1:00 pm	Lunch at Bills Burgers
1:00 pm – 3:30 pm	Visit with Central Texas Groundwater Conservation District; well monitoring
3:30 pm – 4:00 pm	Travel to Inks Lake State Park
4:00 pm – 5:30 pm	Tour Inks Lake Dam National Hatchery
5:30 pm – 7:00 pm	Ink Lake State Park
7:00 pm – 7:30 pm	Travel to Dinner
7:30 pm – 9:00 pm	Dinner (TBD)
9:00 pm – 9:15 pm	Travel to hotel
9:15 pm – 9:30 pm	Hotel check-in

10:30 pm In Rooms

Wednesday July 17, 2019

7:00 am – 8:00 am Breakfast at Hotel

8:00 am – 10:00 am Travel to [Menard](#)

10:00 am – noon Tour of Spanish Aqueduct System & Fort McKavett. Caroline Runge & GMA 7 Representatives.

Noon – 1:30 pm Lunch – Lazy Ladle Café Delivered to Fort McKavett. Travel to [Caverns of Sonora, 1711 PR 4468, Sonora, Texas 76950](#).

1:30 pm – 4:00 pm Tour Caverns of Sonora

4:00 pm – 6:30 pm Travel to Big Spring.

6:30 pm – 7:30 pm Dinner at Taco Villa, (1501 S. Gregg St., Big Spring (432) 263-3511)

7:30 pm – 8:30 pm Travel to Lubbock

8:30 pm – 8:45 pm Check-in & room assignments

8:45 pm – 10:00 pm Free time

10:00 pm In Rooms

Thursday July 18, 2019

8:00 am – 8:15 am Travel to [High Plains Underground Water Conservation District 1, 2930 Ave. Q Lubbock, TX 79411](#).

8:15 am – 10:15 am High Plains Water District Presentations

10:15 am – 10:30 am Travel to [Samuel Jackson, Inc.](#)

10:30 am – 1:00 pm Tour water harvesting/recycling system. Lunch – provided by Samuel Jackson, Inc.

1:00 pm – 3:30 pm Travel to Bushland Farm

3:30 pm – 6:00 pm Tour Bushland Farm

6:00 pm – 8:30 pm Dinner TBD

9:30 pm – 10:00 pm Lodging in Amarillo

10:00 pm In Rooms

Friday July 19, 2019

7:30 am – 8:30 am Breakfast at Hotel

8:30 am – 9:00 am Travel to Dumas

9:00 am – noon Visit with North Plains Groundwater Conservation District Presentations

noon – 1:30 pm Lunch (TBD)

1:30 pm – 6:30 pm	Travel to Wichita Falls
6:30 pm – 8:00 pm	Dinner in Wichita Falls (TBD)
8:00 pm – 8:30 pm	Travel to Henrietta
8:30 pm – 9:00 pm	Check into hotel
9:00 pm – 10:00 pm	Free time
10:00 pm	In Rooms

Saturday July 20, 2019

7:00 am – 7:30 am	Breakfast at Hotel
7:30 am – 10:00 am	Travel to John Bunker Sands Wetland Center - Seagoville
10:00 am – 12:30 pm	Wetland Ecology Class – JBS Wetland Center
12:30 pm – 1:30 pm	Lunch (TBD)
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Travel to Waco. Water Ambassador Pick-up Point 2. Best Buy parking lot - 4627 S Jack Kultgen Expressway
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Travel to Austin
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Pick-up at Crown Plaza Austin, 6121 North IH 35 parking lot.

If you need any type of accommodation to participate in this program or have questions about the physical access provided, please contact David W. Smith, Extension Program Specialist, at (979) 862-1989 by at least 2 weeks prior to the start of the 4-H2O Youth Leadership Academy.



The Texas 4-H Water provides high school youth an opportunity to gain advanced knowledge and develop leadership skills related to the science, technology, engineering, and management of water in Texas.

David Smith
Extension Program Specialist II – BAEN/4-H
4-H2O Program Coordinator
TAMU Main Campus, College Station



Texas 4-H Water Ambassador Program

4-H2O Youth Leadership Academy

Continuing Ed., Mentorship, Service

Tier I – 1st Year

Tier II – 2nd Year

Tier III – 3rd Year

Tier IV – 4th Year

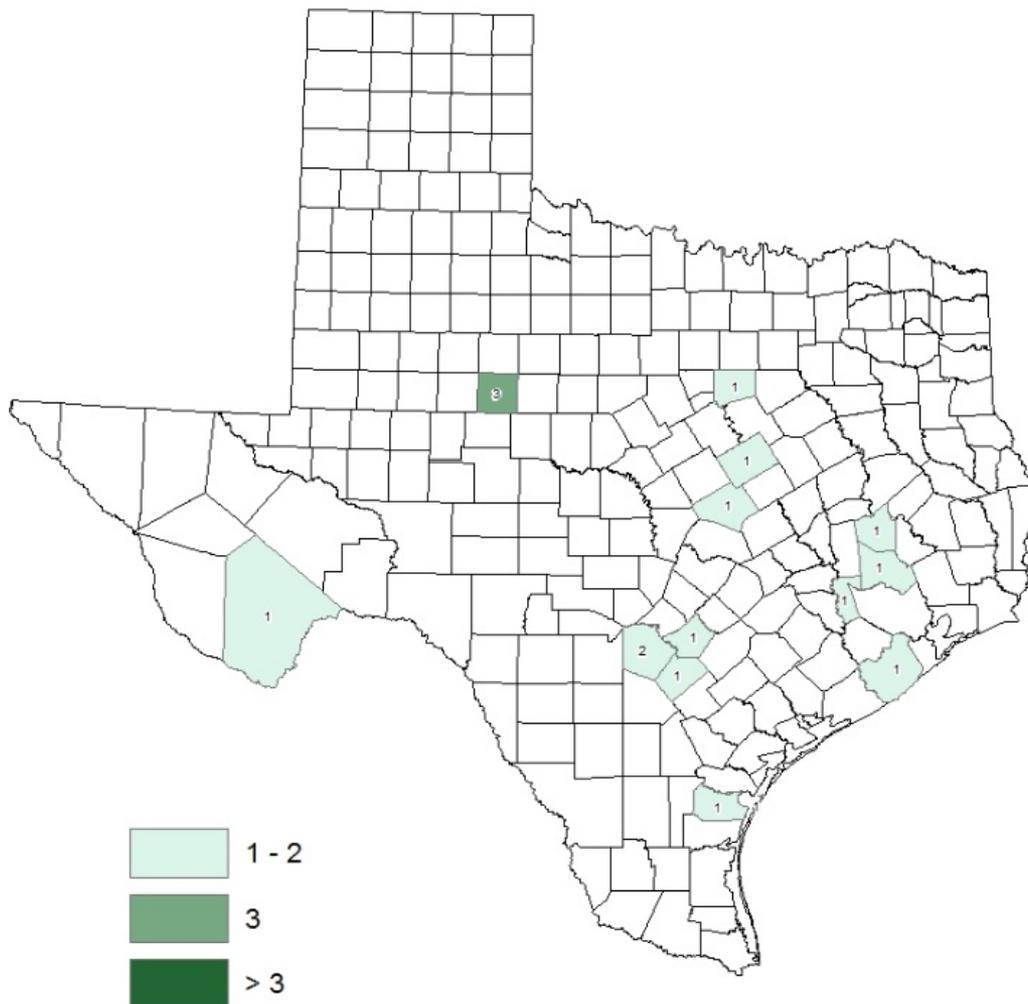
WE ARE HERE



Class of 2017



2017



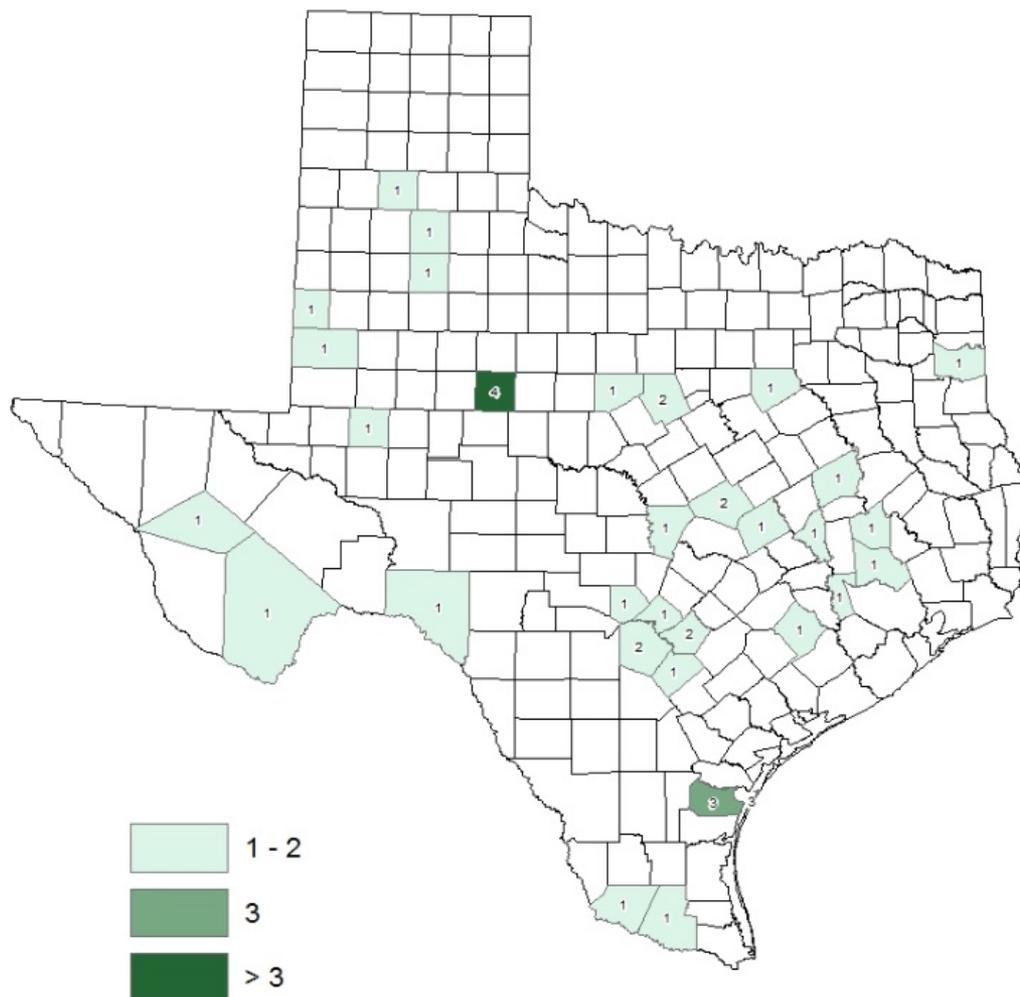
Class of 2017



Class of 2018



2018



Tier I 4-H2O Leadership Academy

Central, Southwest & High Plains







Tier II 4-H2O Leadership Academy

East & Gulf Coast





Education/Service Activities

1,500 service hours

27,000 contacts











Thanks to our 2018 Sponsors!

Bluebonnet GCD ♦ Brazos River Authority ♦ Central Texas GCD ♦ Clearwater UWCD
Coke County UWCD ♦ Colorado County GCD ♦ Crockett County GCD ♦ Evergreen UWCD
Glasscock GCD ♦ Hickory UWCD No. 1 ♦ High Plains Water District ♦ Hill Country UWCD
Irion County WCD ♦ Kimble County GCD ♦ Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C.
Lone Star GCD ♦ Menard County UWD ♦ Middle Pecos GCD ♦ Middle Trinity GCD ♦ North Plains GCD
Permian Basin UWCD ♦ Plateau GCD ♦ Post Oak Savannah GCD ♦ Prairielands GCD ♦ Real-Edwards C&RD
Santa Rita UWCD ♦ Southern Ogallala Conservation & Outreach Program ♦ Sterling County UWCD
Sutton County UWCD ♦ The Meadows Foundation ♦ Uvalde County UWCD ♦ Wes-Tex GCD
Groundwater Management Area 7

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4-H TEXAS
& YOUTH
DEVELOPMENT





2019-2020 APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN!

The Texas 4-H Water Ambassadors Program provides high school age 4-H members and youth an opportunity to gain advanced knowledge and practice leadership skills related to the science, technology, engineering, and management of water.

Find more information and a link to the application at
<https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/water/>



Application Information

- Must be entering high school for 2019/2020 academic year
- Do not have to be a current 4-H member to apply; must join local club if selected
- Up to (30) youth will be selected
- \$250 participation fee for year
- Must participate in Tier I 4-H2O Leadership Academy (July 13-20, 2019)



Important Dates

- Application open March 15 – May 15
- Applicants notified June 1
- \$250 participation fee due June 10
- Tier I 4-H2O Leadership Academy July 13-20

<https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/water/>

Brochure & application instructions



David Smith
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4-H2O Program Coordinator
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@TX4HWaterAmbassador



@4H2O_Ambassador



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