

OUTDOOR CHALLENGE INFORMATION



- When:** June 27 – 29, 2014
- Where:** Collin County Adventure Camp; Anna, TX ([Google map](#))
- Registration:** [4-H Connect](#)
Opens May 1 – May 31, 2014
- Contest Fee:** \$30/per contestant
- Lodging & Meals:** \$100/person – two nights + 5 meals
- Lodging is available and encouraged for contestants and non-contestants
 - Dorm lodging is for Friday and Saturday night
 - 3 meals on Saturday and 2 on Sunday
 - Non-contestants must register on 4-H Connect in order to select and pay for lodging and meals

Counties/teams must provide their own chaperones in accordance with Texas 4-H Youth Protection guidelines. The Outdoor Challenge committee is not responsible for providing chaperones. The committee is also not responsible for supervising contestants except during scheduled events.

General Rules

The 4-H Outdoor Challenge is a contest. Contestants will need to come prepared to compete in each of the events listed below. The contest schedule is very tight; therefore, there will not be time for instruction or training at any of the events.

Due to the large number of events and the growth in participation, it is important for everyone to be flexible and patient as we proceed through the contest. There may be gaps in time between events, so it is recommended to utilize the time to relax, study, hydrate, and/or prepare for the next event.

The contest consists of 10 events that each team will compete in and potentially earn points for their team. A team consists of exactly 2 members (no more, no less) within the same age division and gender class (see Target Audience section below), and will compete in the 10 events listed below. Throughout both days of competition, the team will rotate from one event to the next with an official contest group leader. The lowest scoring event will be dropped from each team's Outdoor Challenge total. Total team score will consist of the sum of the highest nine event scores. If a team chooses not to participate in an event, the team will receive a score of zero for that event.

Throughout the duration of the Outdoor Challenge, all contestants must wear closed-toed shoes (no flip-flops or sandals) except during swimming. All contestants are expected to be at their designated event at his/her scheduled time. In the event the contestant(s) are absent at the specified time, the team will forfeit the event and receive a zero (0) score. Adults and non-contestants are not permitted to directly assist team members nor be located in the immediate contest area at the time of competition. Non-competitors are certainly encouraged to spectate, photograph and even cheer on their contestants. All competitors must abide by rules and instructions provided by contest officials. Any competitor deliberately acting in an unsafe manner or exhibiting unsportsmanlike behavior, will be asked to leave the immediate event area, which may result in the forfeiture of the event and/or contest. The decisions of all contest officials are final and may not be protested. Contest officials reserve the right to interpret guidelines and make contest judgement decisions as needed, and will be done so in as fair a process as possible.

Target Audience

- Youth 4-H members 8-18 years old as of September 1, 2013
- Three age divisions for this event are:
 - Juniors = 8, 9, or 10 (as of September 1, 2013)
 - Intermediates = 11, 12, or 13 (as of September 1, 2013)
 - Seniors = 14 -18 (as of September 1, 2013); must not have turned 19 by that date
- A team member is allowed to move up an age division in order to complete a team; however, a member may not move down to a younger age division.
- Each age division will be divided into three gender classes:
 - both male
 - both female
 - coed (1 male, 1 female)

Knowledge/Skills Gained

By participating in the Texas 4-H Outdoor Challenge, youth will improve skills in the following:

- Shooting Sports (rifle, shotgun, and archery)
- Swimming
- Canoeing/Kayaking
- Camping/Outdoor Living Skills
- Orienteering
- Identification of Wildlife and Natural Resources
- Outdoor Safety
- Fishing
- First Aid
- Natural Resource Career Knowledge/Skills
- Teamwork
- Decision-making



Event Descriptions

Rifle (possible 20 team points)

- Both members of the team will compete to shoot .22 caliber light rifles in the standing position. Distance to target is approximately 20-50 feet. Any factory available and safe rifle chambered for the .22 rimfire long rifle, long, or short cartridge is allowed, with the following exceptions:
 - No heavy weight or sleeved barrels allowed, including bull barrels.
 - No thumb hole stocks or pistol grip stocks allowed. No target rifles.
 - No magnified or illuminated (laser) sights will be allowed.
- Ten (10) shots per shooter. A ten (10) minute time limit will be set for each relay.
- Points of 0, -1, ½, or 1 will be awarded per shot based upon target kill zones.
 - 0 = miss, -1 = wounding shot (any location on body outside of the designated kill zone), ½ = large kill zone, 1 = small kill zone
 - Regardless of negative points awarded (due to a wounding shot), an individual's lowest possible total score will be no less than zero (0).
- Single shot loading is required. Shooters must be able to safely load their rifle for single shot while in the firing position. No semi-automatic rifles with tube magazines allowed.
- No shooting accessories (scopes, special clothing, slings, etc.) will be allowed.
- Teams must supply own rifle(s), eye protection, and ear protection (coaches and spectators must also provide their own eye and ear protection).
- Ammunition will be provided and must be used during the contest. Ten cartridges will be provided per person.
- Refer to Firearm Safety Rules within this document and follow all rules. Failure to comply could lead to team disqualification.

Shotgun (possible 20 team points)

- Both members of the team will compete in this clay target event
- Ten (10) shots per shooter.
- Regardless of firearm action type, single shot loading is required. Shooters must be able to safely load the shotgun for single shot.
- A broken target is worth one (1) point each.
- Ammunition will be provided and must be used during the contest.
- Teams must supply their own 12 or 20 gauge shotgun(s), eye protection, and ear protection for each shooter. (coaches and spectators must also provide and wear their own eye and ear protection)
- No part of the shooter's body should ever rest against or be covered by the muzzle.
- Refer to Firearm Safety Rules within this document and follow all rules. Failure to comply could lead to team disqualification.

Archery (possible 20 team points)

- Both members of the team will compete in this event, which will consist of 3-D wildlife targets.
- Teams must supply their own bows and arrows (practice points only). Recurves, compounds, and long bows may be used. There are no restrictions on bow types or accessories. Release aids, including mechanical, are allowed. Arrows can be held in a body quiver, bow quiver, or placed in a ground quiver when on the shooting line.
- Each team member will shoot ten (10) arrows for score.
- Points of 0, -1, ½, or 1 will be awarded per shot based upon target kill zones.
 - 0 = miss, -1 = wounding shot (any location on body outside of the designated kill zone), ½ = large kill zone, 1 = small kill zone

- Regardless of negative points awarded (due to a wounding shot), an individual's lowest possible total score will be no less than zero (0).
- Shooting distance is approximately 25 feet for all ages.
- Teams must supply their own eye protection. Eye protection is optional for this event but recommended.
- Refer to Firearm Safety Rules within this document and follow all rules. Failure to comply could lead to team disqualification.

Canoeing or Kayaking (possible 20 team points)

- Both members of the team will compete in this event, which will consist of a timed race of a course approximately 1/8 to 1/4 of a mile in length.
- Teams will be required to begin on foot from a starting line, launch two-person canoe or kayak, traverse course, and return to finish line
- Teams will be awarded points based upon team placing
- All boats must stay on designated course and not touch or interfere in any way with another boat. Any team not following this rule will be subject to disqualification from this event.
- Personal flotation device (PFD) must be worn properly from start to finish
- Canoes/Kayaks, paddles, and PFDs will be provided
- Canoeing Resources:
 - Carrying: [YouTube Video](#)
 - Launching: [YouTube Video](#)
 - Paddling: [YouTube Video 1](#); [YouTube Video 2](#)
- Kayaking Resources:
 - Launching: [YouTube Video](#)
 - Paddling: [YouTube Video 1](#); [YouTube Video 2](#); [YouTube Video 3](#)
 - Turning: [YouTube Video](#)

Fishing (possible 20 team points)

- Both members of the team will compete to catch, measure, and release as many fish possible within the given time frame using a rod and line.
- No netting of fish, or catching by hand is allowed; however a net or hand may be used to assist with landing a fish that is caught using a rod.
- 1 rod per member is allowed.
- The team rank will be calculated by the sum total inches of fish caught. Total team points will be awarded according to team rank.
- Measurements will be made by a contest official at a designated location.
- A fish must be measured immediately after being caught so that the fish can be released in a reasonable time for survival. Rule applies to the team when sharing a canoe.
- Fish cannot be kept in any form or fashion to be measured as a group (for example, no stringers, baskets, buckets, etc.)
- If the team is fishing from a canoe, a PFD must be worn at all times.
- If fishing from a canoe, it must not interfere or impede those teams fishing from the dock or bank.
- An audible warning will be given prior to time expiring.
- Teams must supply their own fishing equipment, tackle, and bait of their choosing.
- The creek-fed pond is approximately 5 acres in size and contains various types of vegetation. It was previously stocked with largemouth bass, sunfish species, and channel catfish.

Outdoor ID (possible 20 team points)

- Both members of the team will compete individually in this event, which will consist of a written exam to identify various items found in the outdoors (see below for the complete study list). Test items may be in the form of photos, whole mounts, tracks, calls, and various body parts (wings, feet, antlers, etc.)
- Scoring will be based upon the number of correct/incorrect answers.
- Juniors will only be required to identify species; Intermediates and Seniors are required to identify species and answer one follow-up question about each particular specie

Knot Tying (possible 20 team points)

- Both members of the team will compete in this event which will test the team members' knowledge, uses, and abilities of tying four of the following knots: bowline, taut-line hitch, square knot, clove hitch, timber hitch, sheet bend, half hitch, Palomar, and improved clinch. Teams will be given one (1) minute per knot.
- Scoring will be based on the team's ability to correctly tie the knots, which will be worth 5 points each.
- Resource: [What Knot Website](#)
- Resource: [Animated Knots Website](#)

Gear Judging (possible 20 team points)

- Both members will compete individually in this event, which will test each member's individual knowledge of making sound decisions when purchasing outdoor gear.
- Each member will judge two (2) classes, which will be selected from the following three categories: tents, camp stoves, and sleeping bags (study guides: link)
- Products will be numbered 1 to 4, and contestants must rank the products accordingly.
- Total score for each class will be determined by using a Hormel scoring system and divided by 10. For a further understanding of this type of judging event, please see the Texas 4-H Consumer Decision Making Guide.

Biologist Skills (possible 20 team points)

- Both members of the team will compete in performing skills or answering questions. Points will be awarded for correct skills performed or answers given.
- This event will consist of one or more of the following:
 - **Fish Measuring** – given a fish and tape measure, correctly measure the length of a fish. (Bonus: Identify the fish and determine if it is a one you can keep based on a given lake's limits using TPWD's Outdoor Annual) Study Link: http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/regulations/fish_hunt/fish/measure.phtml
 - **Antler Scoring** – given a skull mount, string/flexible cable, and tape measure, correctly measure specified parts of the antlers. Study Link: <http://www.dnr.sc.gov/wildlife/deer/scoring.html>
 - **Deer Aging (on the hoof)** – given a photo or sets of photos, correctly determine the age of a deer. Study Link: <http://extension.missouri.edu/explorepdf/agguides/wildlife/g09485.pdf>
 - **Tracks ID** - given an animal track, correctly identify the animal. Study Link: http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/publications/pwdpubs/media/pwd_If_k0700_0001.pdf
 - **Park Symbols** - correctly label park symbols. Study Link: http://www.nps.gov/hfc/carto/symbols/map_symbols.pdf (Map pictographs only; located on the left side of the document)

Outdoor First Aid (possible 20 team points)

- Both members of the team will compete in this event which will test their knowledge of first aid.
- Teams will be required to demonstrate and explain up to eight (8) first aid techniques.
- Score will be based on the team's ability to correctly demonstrate and explain the proper usage of the first aid challenge at hand.

- Tasks will include both demonstrations and scenarios
- Resources- American Red Cross [Wilderness and Remote First Aid Guide](#)
- American Red Cross First Aid Guide - https://www.naz.edu/campus-safety/documents/CPR-AED-First%20Aid-Participants_Manual.pdf

Required Supplies per Team

- .22 light rifle for one or both team members (ammo provided)
- 12 or 20 gauge shotgun for one or both team members (ammo provided)
- bow
- eye and ear protection for both team members
- fishing gear
- closed-toed shoes (no sandals or flip-flops) and appropriate clothing
- Pencils and clipboards for both team members
- Refillable water bottle

Suggested Supply List

- Sunscreen
- Insect repellent
- Lawn chairs for spectators
- Swimsuit for recreational swimming
- Snacks for times between meals

Supplies for staying at the CCAC

- bedding and pillow
- toiletries
- towel and washcloth
- clothing suitable for the outdoors in June

Optional Resources

“Outdoor Living Skills Program Manual” (find on Amazon or acabookstore.org)

“Outdoor Living Skills Instructors Manual” (find on Amazon or acabookstore.org)



Texas 4-H Outdoor Challenge

2014 Tentative Schedule

(times are estimated and subject to change)

Friday, June 27

- 7:00 pm Check-in Begins
Rifle, Shotgun, and Bow Check-in
- 8:30 pm Mandatory orientation

Saturday, June 28

- 7:30 am Breakfast (for paid contestants and guests)
- 8:30 Events Begin
- 12:00 pm Lunch (for paid contestants and guests)
- 1:00 Continue Events
- 6:00 Supper (for paid contestants and guests)
- 7:00 Continue Events
- 8:00 Free Swim (for fun) – swimming pool

Sun., June 29

- 7:30 Breakfast (for paid contestants and guests)
- 8:30 Continue Events
- 12:00 pm Lunch
- 1:30 Awards
- Depart

4-H Outdoor Challenge

Firearm Safety Rules

- Handle all firearms safely while at the Outdoor Challenge, whether on the range or off while in preparation. Maintain safe muzzle control at all times. Typically, the safe muzzle direction when not on the firing line is pointing the muzzle up. Consider others who are near. All participants must know how to safely and efficiently operate all aspects of the firearm they will be using, including single loading rifles and shotgun.
- Firearms should arrive on the event grounds unloaded and remain unloaded until the command to load is given on the firing lines.
- All ammunition for this event will be provided by the event management with the exception of arrows. No ammunition should be taken to the range by the shooter, even in the firearm case.
- Arrows should be equipped with practice points only. No hunting broad heads of any type are allowed at the event, even in the bow case.
- A mandatory Firearm Check-in will be set up at the beginning of the event. All firearms, including bows, that will be used in the event must be checked in.
- Firearms, including bows, should remain in the vehicle until Firearm Check-in. Firearms are not allowed in any building of the event grounds.
- All firearms must enter and exit the range unloaded and cased. Cases can be hard sided or soft. There will be no racks for any firearms including bows.
- All rifle and shotgun cases should have the muzzle direction of the enclosed firearm marked on the outside of the case. The exception to this is a case containing a break down firearm that is carried in pieces. Marking the muzzle end of a case insures a safe muzzle direction (down range) before the case is opened and the firearm is handled. In the situation where two firearms are cased in one case, both muzzles should point in the same direction if possible. Consult the Range Safety Officer (RSO) if this is a problem. Marking the case can be accomplished using tape, markers, paint, or any other means that will remain in place for the duration of the event.
- All firearms must remain cased on the range until shooters are told by range officials to uncage.
- Cased firearms brought onto the range will be placed in a designated safe location out of the way until a shooter is called to the firing line by the range officials.
- Rifles must have an Open Bolt Indicator (OBI) in the chamber while cased and must remain in place until told to load on the firing lines. OBI's can be made with a 10" length of bright colored weedeater line and bright duct tape to add a flag. OBI's assist the RSO in determining quickly that a rifle has no ammunition in the chamber and that the chamber is open.
- Shotguns must have actions open when possible while in the case and when carried on the range.
- All rifles and shotguns must be carried using two hands with the muzzle pointing up. Shotguns may not be carried on the shoulder at any time nor should any part of the body ever rest against or be covered by the muzzle.
- Eye and ear protection must be worn on the range at all times during shooting by shooters and spectators.
- Closed toed shoes are required on all shooting ranges by shooters and spectators.
- Spectators may be limited on the range at the discretion of the range officials.
- Spectators and coaches must remain in a designated area and will not be allowed on the firing lines without permission by the RSO.
- If a problem arises that requires assistance while on the firing line, a shooter should maintain safe muzzle direction and raise a hand to catch the attention of the RSO who will assist. A coach will be called to the firing line by the RSO if necessary.
- Follow all range commands. The RSO will review the range commands prior to each line shooting.
- Failure to follow these rules could lead to disqualification from the current event or from the Outdoor Challenge. One team member's disqualification affects the team.



Outdoor ID Study List

Links to fact sheets for studying each species is listed below the specie name.

AMPHIBIANS

Barton Springs Salamander

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/bartonspringssalamander/>

San Marcos Salamander

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/sanmarcossalamander/>

BIRDS

American Peregrine Falcon

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/amperegrine/>

American Kestrel

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/kestrel/>

Black-capped Vireo

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/bcv/>

Golden-cheeked Warbler

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/gcw/>

Eastern Bluebird

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/easternbluebird/>

<http://xtbba.tamu.edu/species-accounts/eastern-bluebird/> (Image)

FISH

Bluegill

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/bgl/>

Channel Catfish

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/ccf/>

Flathead Catfish

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/catfish/>

Guadalupe Bass

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/gdb/>

Longear Sunfish

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/longearsunfish/>

PLANTS

Bald Cypress

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/baldcypress/>

http://www.clemson.edu/extension/natural_resources/landowner/youth_environ_education/images/taxodium_distichum.html (Image)

Sweetgum

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/sweetgum/>

http://www.clemson.edu/extension/natural_resources/landowner/youth_environ_education/images/liquidambar_styraciflua.html (Image)

INVERTEBRATES

Blue Crab

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/bluecrab/>

Fiddler Crab

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/fiddler/>

<http://txmarspecies.tamug.edu/invertdetails.cfm?scinameID=Uca%20rapax> (Image)

Gulf Stone Crab

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/stonecrab/>

MAMMALS

Bobcat

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/bobcat/>

Common Raccoon

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/raccoon/>

http://web.extension.illinois.edu/wildlife/directory_show.cfm?species=raccoon (Image)

Coyote

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/coyote/>

Nine-banded Armadillo

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/dillo/>

Ringtail

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/rtail/>

REPTILES

Southern Copperhead

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/southerncopperhead/>

<http://ntrc.tamuk.edu/specieshtm/accontortrix.htm> (Image)

Timber Rattlesnake

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/timberrattlesnake/>

<http://ntrc.tamuk.edu/specieshtm/chorridus.htm> (Image)

Western Cottonmouth

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/westerncottonmouth/>

<http://ntrc.tamuk.edu/specieshtm/apeleucostoma%20.htm> (Image)