

Kentucky Senior Forestry Judging Contest

- Date: Tuesday, April 15, 2025
- Location: Raven Run Nature Sanctuary, 3885 Raven Run Way, Lexington, KY 40515 (Tenative)
- Contest Organizer: Laurie Thomas, Extension Forester

Contest Rules:

1. The Senior Forestry Judging Contest is open to youth who have enrolled in their county 4-H program and have not participated at the National 4-H Forestry Invitational previously. In addition, 4-Hers may not participate if they have taken classes or participated in official post-secondary (university, college, junior college, or technical school) competitive events of a similar nature in the same subject matter area. Neither can participants be a member of a post-secondary team undergoing training in preparation for an event. For example, a contestant who has competed in an official collegiate forestry contest, on or off campus, or taken college courses related to natural resources is ineligible to compete in this contest.
2. This contest is exclusively for Senior level 4-H members. Eligibility is determined by the member's age as of January 1st of the current 4-H program year. Senior 4-H members must be between 14 and 18 years old.
3. Youth may participate as part of a team or as an individual.
 - a. A team will consist of no less than three and no more than four official entrants who are Kentucky 4-H members during the current program year.
 - b. Team members must state which team they are a member of at the time of registration.
 - c. Teams can be made up of 4-H members from the same county or members from more than one county.
 - d. If there are not enough members to assemble a team, 4-Hers may enroll and compete as individuals.
4. No electronic devices or talking is allowed during the contest.
5. Anyone caught cheating will be disqualified.
6. The objective of the Senior Forestry Judging Contest is to demonstrate skills and knowledge in forestry. Categories at the contest may include: compass and pacing; tree measurement; tree identification; tree diseases; and/or topographic maps.
7. Participants are encouraged to use the following resources to study and prepare for the contest:
 - a. Kentucky 4-H Forestry Field Day Resources website <https://forestry.ca.uky.edu/4HForestry-FieldDays>
 - b. National 4-H Forestry Invitational Training Materials and References website <https://4hforestryinvitational.org/training>
8. The overall team score will be calculated by summing the team's three highest individual scores for each contest event.
9. Team Awards: First, second, and third place teams will be awarded.
10. Individual Awards: 1) Overall first, second, and third place will be awarded to individuals. Bonus questions answered correctly will be used to break ties for the total scoring of the top three individuals.; 2) All youth will receive a ribbon based on the Danish Ribbon System (Blue, Red, and White).
11. The first place team will be invited to represent Kentucky 4-H at the National 4-H Forestry Invitational held in Weston, West Virginia in July. If the first place team is unable to attend, the second place team in the Senior Division will be invited to represent Kentucky 4-H at the national contest.
 - a. Note: The team that represents Kentucky 4-H at the National 4-H Forestry Invitational Contest is responsible for all national contest expenses (including but not limited to registration fees, travel, lodging, and meals). Participants are encouraged to fundraise and/or obtain sponsors to help offset costs. In addition, the team must identify at least two adult volunteers (that are approved Kentucky 4-H volunteers in their county) to attend and chaperone at the national contest. (Note: the Kentucky 4-H Foundation may be able to help offset expenses using Area 2 Funds – additional information will be provided about this to the winning team.)

