
Environmental Stewardship



District & State 4-H O-Rama
Junior & Senior 4-H'ers



This activity consists of an illustrated talk or method demonstration concerning some aspect of our environment and/or stewardship of our natural resources.

OBJECTIVES

Targeted Life Skills: communication, planning/organizing, wise use of resources, learning to learn, critical thinking, and responsible citizenship.

Participants will have an increased awareness of the importance of our natural resources and the need for environmental stewardship of these resources for the future health of our planet. 4-H members will learn how to manage natural resources such as forests, fish, wildlife, soil and water. 4-H'ers will be provided an opportunity to demonstrate what they have learned by teaching others and responding to questions about their topic.

The opportunity will be provided for professionals to share information about related college degree programs and careers in natural resources.

ELIGIBILITY

District 4-H O-Rama: Two junior and two senior members from each county may participate.

Arkansas 4-H O-Rama: The top seven (7) Senior 4-H'ers from each District O-Rama will be eligible.

ACTIVITY

The activity consists of an illustrated talk or method demonstration which shows that the participant has an understanding of some aspect of environmental stewardship. Examples are the conservation and management of a particular natural resource, or the interrelationships which exist among plants, animals and non-living factors, like soil, air and water, in a particular environment.

Juniors will be allowed two to five minutes.

Seniors will be allowed five to eight minutes.

NOTE: There is a 5 point penalty for being over or under the time limit. Penalty points will be deducted from the participant's overall score.

Participants are expected to use visual aids (e.g., posters, models, props, PowerPoint slides). Topics should pertain to Arkansas natural resources and species that are native to Arkansas.

Possible topics include, but are not limited to, the following:

- How to set up a compost bin for yard or animal waste.
- How to build and erect a bird house or bird feeder.
- How to landscape your yard using plants that attract birds.
- How to manage a pond for fish, frogs, birds, and other wildlife.
- How to manage habitat for a particular wildlife species, such as managing forests for deer.
- Recycling
- Forest insects and diseases
- Prevention and control of wildlife damage.
- How to manage a forest for improving its economic, social, and/or wildlife values.
- Human population growth and its impact on the environment.
- Water quality
- Water or energy conservation
- Watershed management

JUDGING

This activity will be judged on the standard "Score Sheet for Method Demonstrations and Illustrated Talks" FY4-H-633.

AWARDS

District 4-H O-Rama – One trophy to the senior winner and one trophy to the junior winner. Ribbons will be awarded to second-, third-, fourth-, and fifth-place senior and junior winners.

Arkansas 4-H O-Rama – One trophy for the senior winner. Ribbons will be awarded to the second-, third-, fourth-, and fifth-place winners.

Note: Participation in this activity should be reported in your 4-H record for county, state, and national awards under related areas such as conservation, environmental stewardship, forestry, or agricultural programs.

RESOURCE MATERIAL (Examples)

U of A Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service publications
U of A Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service Natural Resources site:
<http://www.arnatural.org/>
Natural Resources Conservation Service (www.nrcs.usda.gov)
Arkansas Game & Fish Commission (www.agfc.com)
Environmental Protection Agency (www.epa.gov)

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