

## Objectives:

- To give 4-H members an appreciation of the soil and what it means to us
- To give 4-H members the opportunity to learn soil structure, power of erosion and proper land treatment
- To learn how land is classified according to its capabilities
- To learn to use each acre of agricultural land within its capabilities and the treatment of each acre in accordance with its needs for protection and improvement
- To give 4-H members leadership training

## Competition Guidelines:

1. The Junior Competition is for 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade youth. The Senior Competition is for 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade youth. A county may bring a maximum of 20 youth for each competition level to the state contest. Counties may have up to 3 teams per competition level. Teams must be designated prior to the contest. If a county has less than three contestants, they may participate as individuals.
2. Teams will judge 4 stations that include both North and South Georgia soils – either in pits or in trays. Youth may not touch soil in trays, but may manipulate the same soil provided for judging purposes. Contest officials will provide specific instructions for handling soils in pits.
3. Youth will have a maximum of 20 minutes at each of 4 stations.
4. Participants complete a 2 part scorecard based on soil classification and use.
5. While blank paper is allowed, notes and cell phones are prohibited.
6. The top 4 participants in each competition level will be named the winning team, with the top three scores counting.
7. Ties in team competition will be broken by the aggregate score of the top three team members for station 1, followed by station 2, 3, and 4, if needed.
8. Ties in individual competition will be broken based on the highest individual score for station 1, followed by stations 2, 3, and 4, if needed.

## Awards & Recognition:

- Each participant will receive an award pin.
- The top 3 Junior and Senior teams will receive a team plaque and member certificates.
- The high overall Junior and Senior individual will receive a plaque.
- The State Winning Senior Team of four members will be invited to participate in the National 4-H Land Judging Contest in Oklahoma City along with the team coach.
- The State Winning Senior Team and High Overall Senior Individual will be eligible for Master 4-H'er status and participate in the recognition of Special Events Winners at State 4-H Congress. The banquet meal and lodging expenses will be paid for the team and coach; however, travel costs are not covered.

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[Land Judging Home](http://georgia4h.org)

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