

Sarah Hamm

Executive Director

Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation





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

David W. Smith

Texas 4-H₂O Program Coordinator

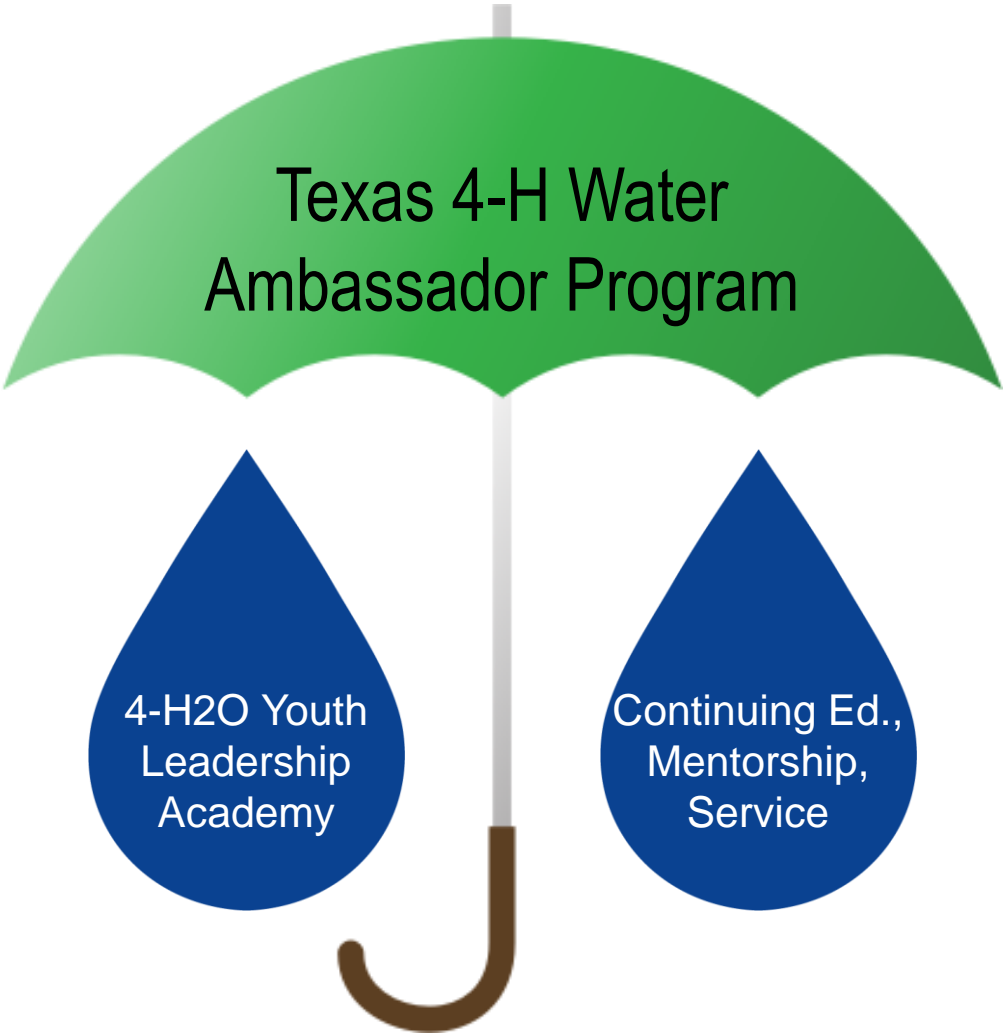
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Texas 4-H & Youth Development

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Texas 4-H Water Ambassador Program

4-H2O Youth
Leadership
Academy

Continuing Ed.,
Mentorship,
Service

Eligibility

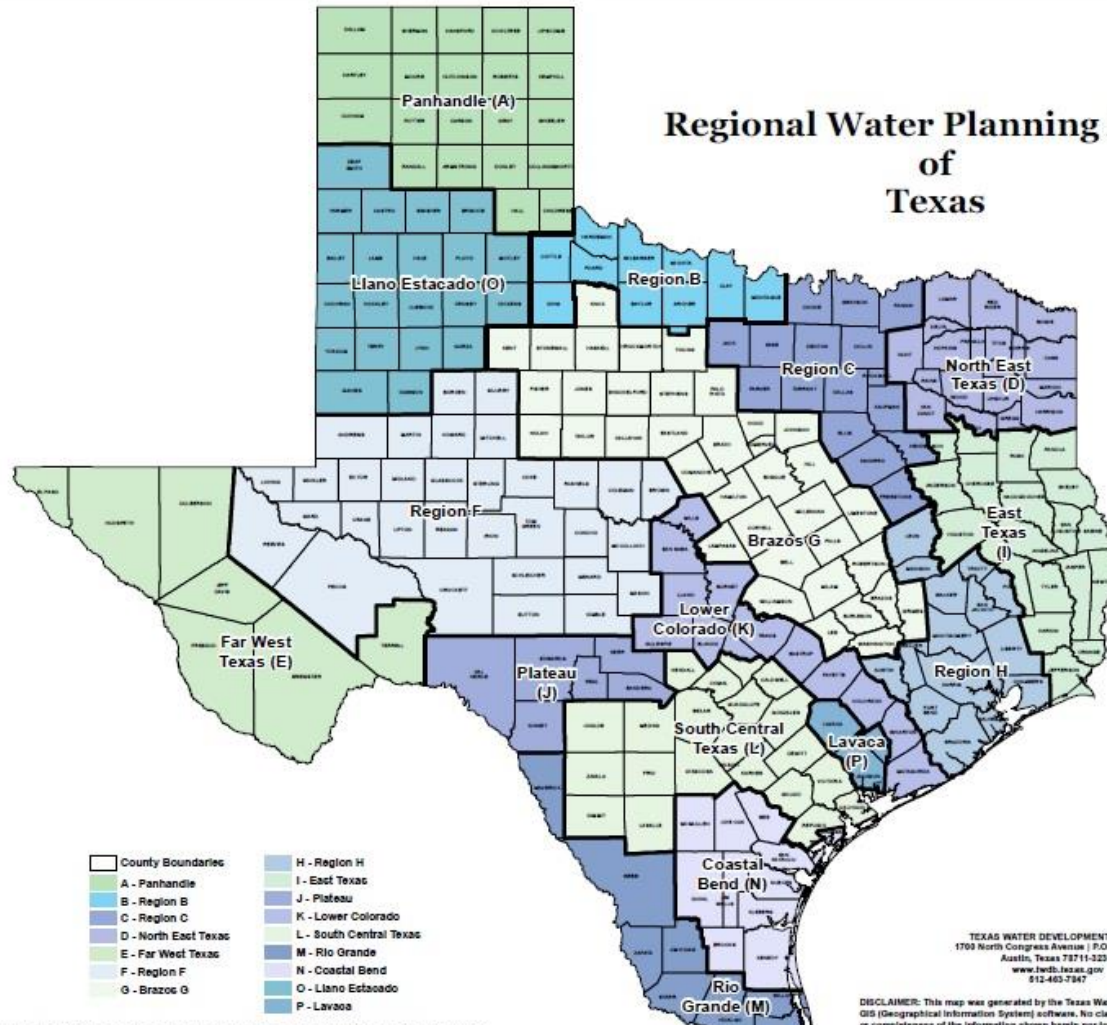
- 32 high school youth entering 9th, 10th, and 11th grade for upcoming school year
- Representing (2) from each of (16) Regional Water Planning Areas
- 4-H members and youth from broad and diverse backgrounds

Timeline

- Application & selection process
March - June
- 4-H2O Youth Leadership Academy
July/August
- (40) Hours service over next 12 months
- Tier 1-4 Ambassador opportunities



Regional Water Planning Areas of Texas



- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| County Boundaries | H - Region H |
| A - Panhandle | I - East Texas |
| B - Region B | J - Plateau |
| C - Region C | K - Lower Colorado |
| D - North East Texas | L - South Central Texas |
| E - Far West Texas | M - Rio Grande |
| F - Region F | N - Coastal Bend |
| G - Brazos G | O - Llano Estacado |
| | P - Lavaca |

In response to the drought of the 1950s and in recognition of the need to plan for the future, the legislature created the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) to develop water supplies and prepare plans to meet the state's future water needs. In 1997, the legislature established a new water planning process, based on a "bottom-up," consensus-driven approach. Coordinating this water planning process are 16 planning groups, one for each regional water planning area (see map). The planning groups, each made up of about 20 members, represent a variety of interests, including agriculture, industry, environment, public, municipalities, business, water districts, river authorities, water utilities, counties, and power generation.



TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD
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 512-463-7347

DISCLAIMER: This map was generated by the Texas Water Development Board using GIS (Geographical Information System) software. No claims are made to the accuracy or completeness of the information shown herein nor to its suitability for a particular use. The scale and location of all mapped data are approximate. Map date: JAN-2014

MISSION: The Texas Water Development Board's (TWDB) mission is to provide leadership, planning, financial assistance, information, and education for the conservation and responsible development of water for Texas.





A man who carries a cat by the tail learns something he can learn in no other way. – Mark Twain



4-H20 Youth Leadership Academy

- 10-day Texas tour
- Water law, policy, planning & management
- Water resources
- Diversity of water concerns
- Variety of stakeholder interests
- Applied research & technologies

“No two persons ever read the same book.”
 — Edmund Wilson





Who
What
When
Where
How

WHY?



Texas Water
Development Board



**TEXAS COMMISSION
ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**



 **Texas AWWA**
American Water Works Association







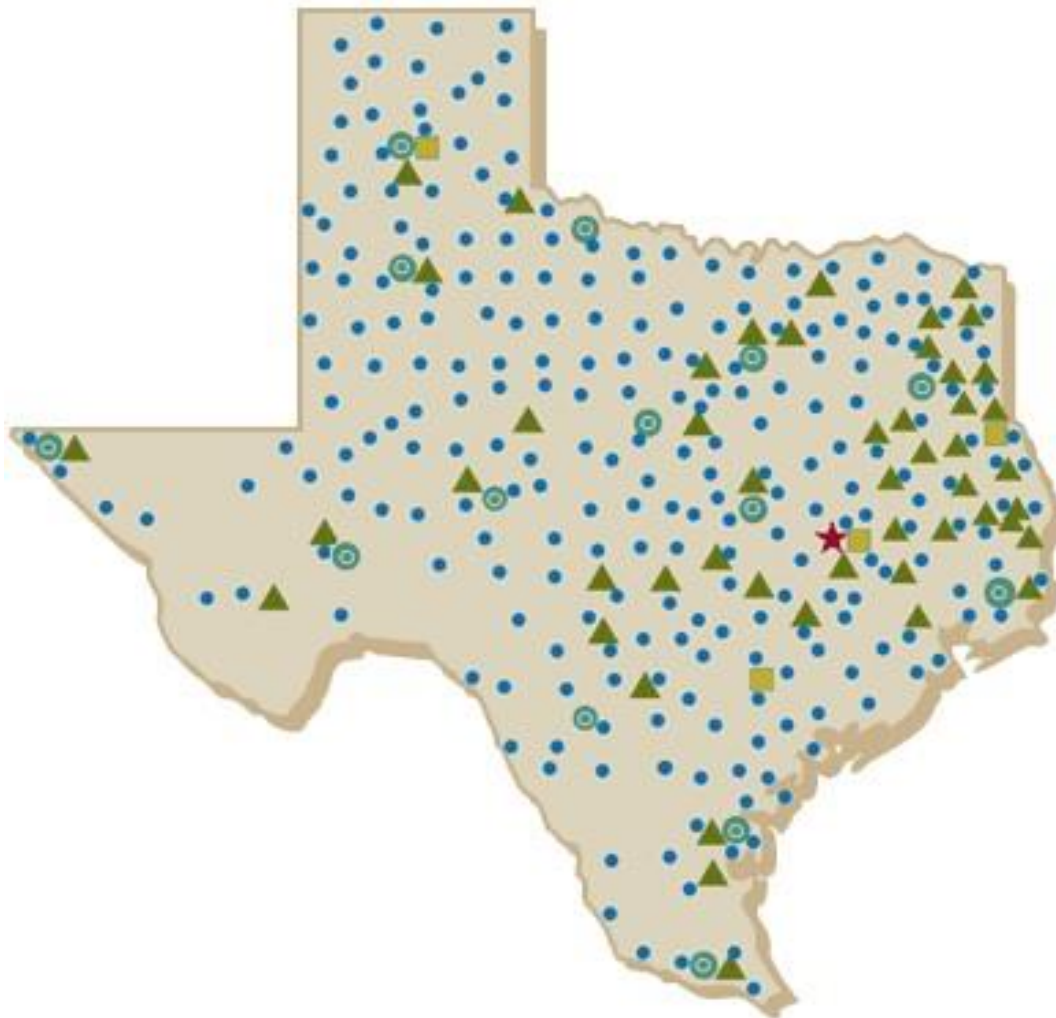












TEXAS A&M AGRI LIFE

- Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service County Offices
 - [County Offices Listing](#)
- ◎ Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Centers
 - [Centers Listing](#)
- Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory
- ▲ Texas A&M Forest Service
- ★ State Headquarters at Texas A&M University
 - [Office of the Vice Chancellor](#)
 - [College of Agriculture and Life Sciences](#)



Ambassador Requirements

- (40) hours annually
- Collaboration with:
 - Extension educators
 - GCDs, river authorities, water utilities
 - NGOs
 - Local schools
 - Industry trade associations

Service Opportunities

- 4-H Club presentations
- Classroom demonstrations
- Rotary club
- Water day camps
- County fair, science fair
- Master Gardeners, Master Naturalists
- Local advocacy groups



Continuing Education & Mentorship

- Peer-to-peer, academic, and industry mentoring
- On-line continuing education opportunities
- Recognition of education and service activities
- Leadership, critical-thinking, and decision-making skills development



Action Team

- Represent (16) Regional Water Planning Areas
- Provide program oversight
- Review and select among applicants
- Regional promotion
- Invest time through mentorship
- Share experience and expertise
- Connect ambassadors to education and service opportunities





Annual Budget Estimate

~\$3,000 per Ambassador

- Lodging
- Meals
- Transportation
- Kick-off social
- Recreation
- Educational resources & continuing education
- Ambassador ID & promotion

**Registration fee:
\$250 per youth**

**Funding for 4-H2O Program Coordinator covered by
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension**



POTENTIAL INVESTORS & PARTNERSHIPS

- Groundwater conservation districts
- River authorities
- Water utilities
- Engineering firms & law practices
- Agricultural commodity groups
- Non-Governmental Organizations
- Private foundations
- Environmental groups
- Water industry associations

