Florida’s 4-H Forest Ecology Clinic

October 1, 2022
Why learn about forests?

- Half of Florida is forested
- We all need trees
- Important ecosystems
- Possible careers
- Hiking and camping
- Fun to learn about

- And compete in a contest!
4-H Forest Ecology Contest

- Austin Cary Memorial Forest, Gainesville
- April 15, 2023
- 5 stations for Juniors and Intermediates
  - Tree Identification
  - Insect and Disease Identification
  - Map and Compass
  - Forest Ecology
  - Wildlife
• 7 stations for **Seniors**
  – Tree Identification
  – Insect and Disease Identification
  – Map and Compass
  – Forest Management
  – Tree Measurement
  – Quiz Bowl

Info in packets and on website
Resources

• Website: https://programs.ifas.ufl.edu/florida-4-h-forest-ecology/

• Study Packet (on website)

• County Forester: https://www.fdacs.gov/Forest-Wildfire/Our-Forests/Florida-Forest-Service-Office-Locations/County-Foresters

• Local park or forest
  – State Parks
  – State Forests

• FFA teacher or students

• Faculty and students at SFFGS

• Each other!
For the Clinic:

- Introduction to tree ID, forest health, map, compass, and more
- Learning how to learn
- Mock contest to demonstrate process
- Ask Questions!!
  - Of station leaders and helpers
  - Of other coaches and parents
  - Of previous contest participants
- Information is on the website
For the Contest:

• You will be assigned to a group
• You will rotate through the stations and complete a quiz at each station.
• Seniors compete in a Quiz Bowl
• Judges score the quizzes
• Awards Ceremony!
• Nature Poetry Contest winners announced! (poems due March 1st)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chart of Stations</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Trees of Florida</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Forest Health</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Wildlife on the Forest Hike</strong></td>
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National Forestry Invitational

- West Virginia
- Summer
- Winning team from every state contest
- National competition
  [http://4hforestryinvitational.org/](http://4hforestryinvitational.org/)
Learning Maps: Many Kinds of Maps
Topological Maps

- Squiggly lines show the land surface
- Symbols
  - Buildings
  - Roads, trails
  - Lakes, rivers
- Colors
  - Forest
  - Water
  - Fields
  - Marsh
Two Hills

Contour lines join places of the same height – they are level.

Which hill is taller?
Stream in a valley, surrounded by hills
Reading the lines

- Look for elevation numbers
- Which was is up?
- What is the shape?
Hatch marks show a depression
- **Symbols** show railroads, roads, power lines, buildings.
- **Colors** show water, forest, urban areas.
Reading the Land

• This is a bay near a cliff. A river comes out of the valley. A church is on the shore.
Reading a Map
Get more information

http://education.usgs.gov/
Parts of a Compass

1. Ruler in Centimeters
2. Base Plate
3. Direction of Travel
4. Orienting Lines
5. Orienting Arrow
6. Liquid Capsule
7. Ruler in Inches
8. USGS Map Scale
9. Dial with Graduations
10. Magnetic Needle
11. Declination Scale
12. Lanyard
2023 Ecosystems
Juniors and Intermediates

Sand Pine Scrub and Pine Flatwoods

- Juniors: Ecosystems stories
- Intermediates: Ecosystems Descriptions

https://programs.ifas.ufl.edu/florida-4-h-forest-ecology/forest-ecology-contest/contest-stations/forest-ecosystems/

Identify the ecosystems below!
Learn more here!

https://programs.ifas.ufl.edu/florida-4-h-forest-ecology/forest-ecology-contest/