



# Texas 4-H Sportfishing Project

## Project Description

The Sportfishing Project is an educational experience involving basic fishing skills, fish identification and information, laws and ethics, and aquatic ecology and science, teaching youth a lifetime skill and recreational pastime. Projects can cover any type of fishing, targeting any fish in any water, salt or fresh. Boating and paddling skills can be spin off projects.

.....

In the sportfishing project, youth will learn basic fishing skills, fish and aquatic life identification, aquatic ecology, fishing laws and ethics, angler education, tackle crafting, fish habitat management and more!

### Basic

The entry level participation in the sportfishing project, for 4-H members of any age, would include:

- Learning how to cast and practicing casting
- Learning about different reel types
- Learning about different bait types
- Fish Identification
- Learning skills about basic aquatic ecology
- Learning local fishing laws and ethics

### Intermediate

After participating in the project for a while, youth may progress their knowledge and skills to:

- Tackle crafting
- Seining
- Microorganism identification

### Advanced

By the time a 4-H member has reached the senior level, they may further expand their experience in the project with:

- Fly Fishing
- Fish habitat management

# TAKE SPORTFISHING FURTHER

## *Project Learning Opportunities:*

- Adults interested in leading or helping with the project in their county should attend a Sportfishing Project Leader Training. Training dates are released throughout the year.
- Texas 4-H Outdoor Challenge
- Texas 4-H Roundup Wildlife Challenge.
- Family Fishing Weekends
- Natural Resources Photography Contest
- Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center Fish Art Contest

## *Resources:*

- Backyard Bass Activity
- Skill of Observation Activity
- Sportfishing Dryland Tournament Activity
- Sportfishing Fish Halves Activity
- Texas State Parks Youth Group Annual Pass
- Fish Study Guide
- Fish Halves Activity
- Water Projects Explore Guide
- Water Projects - Water Filtration and Electro-coagulation Explore Guide

## *Did you know?*

4-H is a club for kids and teens to develop life skills and make friends. Youth can join 4-H in all 254 counties. Everybody ages 8-18 and in 3rd-12th grades can join 4-H. Kids in Kindergarten to 2nd grades can join as Clover Kids. There are 43 different project areas in five project categories: Agriculture & Livestock, Family & Community Health, Leadership & Citizenship, Natural Resources, and STEM.

## *Want to get started?*

First...Contact your County Extension Agent!

- Contact information can be found at [texas4-h.tamu.edu](http://texas4-h.tamu.edu) > contacts information at the bottom of the page > county offices

**Explore more at [texas4-h.tamu.edu](http://texas4-h.tamu.edu)**