2019 SC 4-H Small Garden Project – Group

Who: groups of 2 or more youth ages 5-18 (families, 4-H clubs, scout troops, etc.) as of January 1, 2019

What: prepare, plant, maintain, and harvest a small garden and complete contest record book

When: April 11 - July 31, 2019

Why: learn what it takes to grow the food we eat

How: call your local 4-H Agent for more information about the contest or visit the project website: www.clemson.edu/extension/4h/project_areas/natural_resources/small_garden/index.html

Registration: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc_ADwaoOW164jWzfJ-C7ivSAdlA-yNgdujZ8rTpkJn-pz_w/viewform?usp=sf_link

Registration and Rules:

- All participants in this project must be current SC 4-H members for the 2018-19 club year.
- For a registration fee of $10, each group will receive a record book, at least 2 seed packets, and project newsletters.
- Groups will be required to prepare, plant, maintain, harvest, and utilize a garden plot of no less than 50 sq. ft. If the group does not have space for a 50 sq. ft. garden every effort will be made by the 4-H Agent to provide space.
- Groups must plant the 2 seed varieties they are given (one pollinator and one edible). In addition, they must plant at least 2 other edible crops of their choice. If spacing allows, you may plant more than 4 types of crops.
- Seeds/seedlings must be in the ground no later than May 31.

Record Book:

- One group record book is to be completed by the youth in the group throughout the course of the project and turned in to the Extension Office no later than July 31. Record books are age appropriate. Groups with only Cloverbuds (ages 5-8) will receive a Cloverbud Group Record Book. Groups with at least one Junior or Senior (ages 9-19) participant will receive a Junior/Senior Group Record Book. Ages are determined as of January 1, 2019.

Judging:

- Groups will be divided into two categories prior to judging: Cloverbuds 5-8, Juniors/Senior 9-18. Cloverbuds will be given participation ribbons/certificates upon completion of the project. Junior/Senior Group Record Books will be judged on the county level. One group winner in each county
will be sent to the regional level for record book competition. One group winner on the regional level will be sent to the state level for competition. The top Junior/Senior Record Book will receive an award. Awards are sponsored by the SC Master Gardener Program. Only projects scoring 165/220 (75%) or higher are eligible to move on to Regional and State level judging.

- Groups should expect at least one site visit from judges. Participants are encouraged to be on site for this visit. Dates of these site visits will be coordinated by your local Agent.
- The actual garden plot and the record book will both be taken into consideration upon judging on the county level, which will be done by qualified Extension Agents and/or gardeners. Only material included in/with the record books, along with attached score sheets from the local level, will be judged on the regional and state levels.
- State winners from 2018 (Junior, Senior, and Group) are not eligible to compete for prizes in the same age division for 2 consecutive years. (For example, if you participated as a Junior in a group project that won the state level in 2018, you would have to register as an individual to be eligible to compete or have aged up to compete in the senior-level division.)

**Project Garden Timeline:**
- April 11 Deadline to register for the project
- May 31 Deadline to plant project garden
- June and July Garden Site Visits and Judging
- July 31 Record books due to County office
- County winners will be announced no later than mid-August
- Regional and State winners will be announced no later than the end of September

**Resources:**
- Clemson Home and Garden Information Center: http://www.clemson.edu/extension/hgic/
- County Clemson Extension Office: http://www.clemson.edu/extension/county/

Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to people of all ages, regardless of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital or family status and is an equal opportunity employer. Should you require special accommodations due to a disability, please notify our office prior to the event.