

AgriLife Extension Cancels Regional 4-H Activities Until May 11

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COLLEGE STATION - In light of the uncertainty surrounding the current flu situation, the Texas AgriLife Extension Service is postponing all district and multi-district 4-H contests and events scheduled through May 11.

“Suspending these activities is a matter of doing our part to avoid the risk of spreading this flu,” said Dr. Ed Smith, AgriLife Extension director. “We are acting in concert with other state agencies, organizations, school districts and county health departments.”

Smith said the decision to cancel or postpone county-level 4-H events will be left to the discretion of each county AgriLife Extension office.

Concerning upcoming Extension programs for other large audiences, as well as 4-H events set for later dates, Smith said, the agency will make event-by-event announcements as soon as possible, as health concerns develop or subside.

AgriLife Extension’s 4-H faculty are making plans now to address the impacts stemming from this mandate, Smith said. For updates, monitor the 4-H Web site at <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/> .

“I regret disappointing our 4-H’ers, their families and 4-H volunteers, but this is a unique situation,” Smith said. “I feel it is in the best interest of our program participants to err on the side of caution in this instance. The cancellations will also allow 4-H members and their families to take personal precautions without the added worry of being disadvantaged in their 4-H competitions.”

For more flu-related health information, visit the Texas Department of State Health Services Web site at <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/swineflu/> .

AgriLife Extension provides additional emergency prevention and preparedness information at <http://texashelp.tamu.edu/> .

Find AgriLife Extension county listings at <http://agrilifeextension.tamu.edu/county> .

AgriLife Communications media contacts are Blair Fannin, Dave Mayes, Kathleen Phillips. All can be reached at 979-845-2211.

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