



4-H Junior Leaders  
DECEMBER

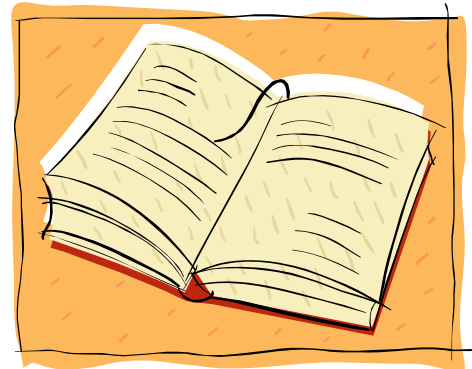
## Leadership Project Book Workshop:

*Are you the kind of person who will wait until the last minute to finish your leadership book?*

Well, now you won't have to! We are having our **Leadership Project Book Workshop on January 2nd**. It will be held at the 4-H Office & this day will be dedicated to finishing our project book.

From 10:00 to 1:00 we will be helping the 8th graders with their books. Pizza will be ordered and shared by everyone at Noon. So, then from 12:00 till 3:00, we will be focused on the 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders.

We strongly suggest that you participate! If you attend, you will finish your book that day.



This is a great way to finish your book early & get leadership service hours if you help lead the lessons!

## Work vs. Play! Rewards - the result of commitment!



Hey Jr. Leaders this is just a reminder to be sure and fulfill your

commitments to 4-H. Keep this in mind for the next event or meeting you plan on attending. Remember that if you sign up to

work, your commitment to work should be your first priority. You can hang out with friends and visit after your work is finished.

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### Important Facts & Dates:

- Junior Leader Meeting on Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>
- Project Book Workshop on Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Difference between work & play
- Membership Cards & Dues
- Service Learning Project

## Important:

Everyone needs to fill out their membership forms in order to be in the Junior Leader Club. Also, make sure that you have paid your membership dues. Membership dues for late-comers are now \$10.



Thanks, to everyone who helped construct the bat boxes. Hopefully, we'll attract bats to the area by improving their habitat and providing them a place to live.

Where do hope to install the Bat Boxes:

- Duson
- Milton
- Moore Park
- Thomas Park
- Bayou Wilderness RV Resort

## Acorns of Hope Trip Planned

**Mark your calendar for Saturday, January 17th.** Mr. Charles is working with Bob's Tree Service to plan a trip to Cameron parish to see if the trees and marsh grass we planted last year survived Hurricane Ike, and plant more trees! More details to come.

## Junior Leader Meeting:

Hey Junior Leaders! Our next meeting will take place at the 4-H office on December 18th at 6:00 p.m. Hope to see everyone there! Merry Christmas! Have a safe and happy holiday!



## Bat Box Service-Learning

We've learned lots about bats and mosquitoes through our bat box building project.

### BAT FACTS

There are **11 species of bats** in Louisiana.

Bats are **nocturnal**. A group of bats is called a **colony** and can be as large as 2 million bats. Bats use their **sense of smell** to locate one another and communicate through **echolocation** (high pitched chirps which bounce off objects). Baby bats are called **pups**. Benefits of bats include **eating mosquitoes** and other insects and **pollinating plants**. A single bat can eat 500-1000 mosquitoes in a single hour. Bats only bite humans in **self defense** and less **than 1% of bats carry rabies**. Bats love tight spaces. Our club constructed 5 "**Rocket Box**" bat houses. They will be installed in areas of the parish with the highest mosquito populations as recommended by **Mosquito Control**.

### MOSQUITO FACTS

Mosquitoes are considered a **pest insect** and are certainly a nuisance in Lafayette. **Mosquitoes eat plant nectar** and **only the female mosquito bites** as they need blood for egg production. These female mosquitoes can spread infectious disease such as **West Nile virus, Malaria, and Dengue**.

Be sure to protect yourself from mosquito bites by **wearing long sleeves & pants** and **avoid going outside during peak hours**, in the early morning and dusk. While outdoors, wear repellent **that contains DEET** for the best protection. Lemon oil of eucalyptus is a good homeopathic repellent.

The best solution to mosquito control is called **Integrated Pest Management** and involves multiple tactics (cultural, mechanical, biological, physical, legal) and the use of both chemical and non-chemical methods.

Mosquitoes **lay their eggs in water** and young mosquitoes spend the **larval stage in water** as aquatic creatures.

You can help reduce mosquito breeding grounds around your yard by **dumping water** that's accumulated in buckets, wheel barrows, cans, tarps over pools & boats, etc. **Gutters should be cleaned** to remove leaves and debris that could prevent water from draining. So, get out there and mosquito proof your yard!

