



Information for the 2023-2024 Wetland Ambassadors Team

Objective:

To inspire youth to become leaders for wetland-related issues in their community by promoting wetlands literacy through immersive field study, mentorship, service learning, and public outreach activities.

Application Process:

1. Submit a COMPLETED online application by the deadline: **May 5, 2023**.
2. Participate in the Wetland Ambassadors Team Selection Process in June
 - a. The selection process will be conducted during 4-H University (*virtual interviews available on case-by-case basis*). It will comprise of you presenting a 60-second elevator pitch about a wetland-related topic (to be assigned to you beforehand), answering follow-up questions about your pitch, and a quick interview.

Ambassadors will be required to:

- Attend all of the Wetland Ambassadors Team's retreats: Summer (July 31-August 4, 2023) and Winter Retreat (January 13-15, 2024).
- Complete outreach training and actively participate in lessons, workshops, and other events offered throughout the program year.
- Complete at least 25 hours of continued learning, service, civic engagement, and outreach activities.
 - At least 6 outreach hours
 - At least 10 continued learning hours

- At least 4 civic engagement hours
- 5 additional hours of outreach (continued learning, civic engagement, and/or service).

- For each retreat, research and prepare a presentation or activity for a pre-assigned topic.
- Serve as a Wetland Ambassador for their parish, region, and state.
- Communicate regularly through phone, email, social media, and/or online website.
- Provide their own transportation to team events, when necessary.
- Be an active member of their 4-H club (if possible).
- Submit acceptance of position, read entire member packet, and pay \$250 membership dues by **July 14, 2023**.
 - Or pay membership dues in pre-scheduled installments (additional payment information will be available in member packet).

Ambassadors may be asked to:

- Organize and participate in regional activities and/or provide wetland outreach for area trainings, challenge camps, or other programs.
- Organize and/or participate in wetland service events.
- Assist with wetlands-related educational programs at 4-H University.
- Attend JLC to represent WAT, if necessary.
- Present at committee or board meetings for state agencies, coalitions, and/or commissions.

Annual Agenda:

Most of the Wetland Ambassadors activities will be conducted during the four retreats; as well as, by email, online website, and/or telephone. 4-H'ers will need to be responsible, dependable, and dedicated to their role as a Wetland Ambassador. Dates may be changed due to circumstances beyond control. Other activities may be planned throughout the year, but the activities listed below are definite. If a required event is not attended, that ambassador will be put on probation until they complete the required make-up tasks. An ambassador cannot miss two required events in a row. If they do, they will be dismissed from the team.

June 20, 2023	Wetland Ambassadors Team Interviews at 4-H University
July 31-August 4, 2023	Summer Retreat
January 13-15, 2024	WAT Winter Retreat

Additional in-person and virtual events, workshops, and learning opportunities will be offered throughout the program year. Ambassadors will be expected to attend some of these to work towards their required hours.

Questions about the Wetland Ambassadors Team can be sent to Catherine Fox at cfox@agcenter.lsu.edu.



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How to Apply for the 2023-2024 Wetland Ambassadors Team

The application for the Wetland Ambassadors Team is an online form. A paper version of the application has been provided as a reference. The online application can be found at this link:

https://lsu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bPdoji6dG6I2PBQ.

If you do not have access to internet service, please contact your 4-H agent for alternate submission instructions.

All parts of the application must be properly filled out to be considered. Please carefully read over the instructions for each section, so that your application will meet the requirements.

2023-2024 Application

(Paper version for reference only. **DO NOT** submit this version of the application. Use the link provided in the above section to access the online application.)

SECTION 1: Applicant's Information

Name _____ Parish _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ Applicant's Cell Phone (_____) _____

Gender _____ Current Age (as of June 1, 2022) _____ Date of Birth ____/____/____

2022 – 2023 Grade _____ Race _____ Ethnicity _____

Applicant's Email Address _____

Are you attending 4-H University? _____ Magellan Fishing Shirt Size _____

SECTION 2: Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Information

Parent's/Guardian's Name _____

Parent's/Guardian's Cell Phone (_____) _____

Parent's/Guardian's Email Address: _____



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SECTION 3: Recommendation/Reference Letters

Two (2) recommendation letters must be submitted for your application to be considered. Below are the requirements for your letters of recommendation.

- The letters CANNOT be from your 4-H agent or a family member. Examples of accepted individuals are a club leader, teacher, coach, employer, advisor, mentor, clergy, etc.
- The letter must include the contact information (phone number and email) of the individual who wrote it and must be signed by them too. Electronic signatures are acceptable.
- The letter must be a PDF document. *(No images or word documents will be accepted.)*

(Hint: Share the requirements for your letters of recommendations with the writers so they can accommodate those requirements.)

SECTION 4: Video Response

Create a video of you with your response to the prompt below. Upload the video as UNLISTED on YouTube and then provide the URL for the video in the indicated spot on the online application. The video must be 2-3 minutes long. Videos do not need to professional quality. Effort should be placed on the video's substance and creativity.

Prompt

Please answer the following questions: Describe your interests and goals for applying for the Wetland Ambassadors Team? Why do you feel you should be chosen to be a Wetland Ambassador?

SECTION 5: Written Responses

Please provide a written response to each of the prompts below. Please write between 50 – 400 words (or 215-3200 characters) for each response.

1. Summarize or list your experiences, activities, and projects in 4-H, school, and/or your community that relate to the Wetland Ambassadors Team.
2. It can be difficult to meet expectations for the Wetland Ambassadors Team, especially with managing school, extracurriculars, and other responsibilities. Explain how you would manage your responsibilities to continue meeting the expectations of a Wetland Ambassador throughout the year?
3. Why do you think the Wetland Ambassadors Team is an important opportunity and asset for Louisiana 4-H and its members?



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Please print this page, have all parties sign it, scan it, and upload it to Section 5 of the online application. PDF file format is preferred. If you don't have the ability to print and scan, electronic signatures from the appropriate parties are acceptable.



SECTION 5: Wetland Ambassadors Team Agreement

I have reviewed the objectives, expectations, and requirements of the Youth Wetlands Program's Wetland Ambassadors Team. I understand the responsibilities and I am committed to upholding them. I will represent the Wetland Ambassadors Team, the Louisiana 4-H Program, and the LSU AgCenter; and I will conduct myself in the highest standards expected of a Louisiana 4-H member. If my conduct does not meet these expectations, I understand that I may be dismissed from the Wetland Ambassadors Team.

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

I understand that my son/daughter wishes to serve as a Wetland Ambassador. I will support him/her in fulfilling the responsibilities of a Wetland Ambassador.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

I certify that the above named 4-H member is enrolled, active, and in good standing in our parish program. I support his/her application to be a Wetland Ambassador.

Parish 4-H Agent Signature _____ Date _____



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