



4-H'ers Present Water Testing Results and Win Auburn Scholarships

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Michelle Cole (Auburn University), Bryce Phillips, Perry Summerford and Camilla Summerford.

The Auburn University Center for Forest Sustainability (CFS) along with collaborating departments created the 'Auburn University Stream Team' (AUST), a group of faculty and experts interested in high [school student](#) outreach. Six high school teams comprising 11 youth and sponsors, were selected to attend a water symposium and chemistry/bacteriological certification workshop at Auburn University in July 2014. The focus of the year-long program has been to introduce youth to water resource careers and also include them in meaningful student experiences at Auburn University.

Houston County 4-H was selected as one of the six teams. Houston County team members representing a 4-H multi-state endeavor, include Perry Summerford (Houston County 4-H), Bryce Phillips (Cook County, GA 4-H) and Camilla Summerford (Seminole County, GA 4-H). Since August 2014, the team has performed multiple tests at Cooper Creek (Eastgate Park) and also Cowarts Creek (Prevatt Road). The youth made a community presentation on March 23, 2015 at the Houston County Extension Office in Dothan. On hand for the presentation was Michelle Cole, Outreach Director for the Auburn University Center for Environmental Studies at the Urban-Rural Interface. Part of the AUST program included a chance for each youth of the best judged team presentation to be awarded with a \$500 college [scholarship](#). At the conclusion of the presentation, and unbeknownst to the team members, Ms. Cole announced the Houston County 4-H team as the winner of the project and presented each youth with a plaque and a \$500 college scholarship to Auburn University.

Among supporters attending the presentation were numerous youth, area volunteers, and county and regional Alabama Cooperative Extension System agents and staff. Special guests included Houston County Commissioner Doug Siquefield, Dothan Utilities Civil Engineer Lindsay McDonald, UGA 4-H [Program](#) Development Coordinator Southwest, Melinda Miller, UGA Seminole County 4-H Agent Cindy Meadows, UGA Lowndes County 4-H Associate Lynn Hall, and UGA Cook County 4-H Program Assistant Lynette Hamilton.

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