



## Marion County Board of County Commissioners

Extension Service

2232 NE Jacksonville Road  
Ocala, FL 34470  
Phone: 352-671-8400  
Fax: 352-671-8420

### **MARION 4-H MEMBERS WIN AWARDS IN STATEWIDE ECOLOGY CONTEST**

Nine Marion County 4-H members proved their ecology expertise by competing at the State 4-H Ecology Contest at the University of Florida's experimental forest (Austin Carey Memorial Forest) on April 9, 2011. Participants competed by identifying native trees, plants, common forest insects, diseases, wildlife as well as demonstrating their knowledge of compass use, pacing and tree measurement.

The contest was the culmination of months of practice with 4-H volunteer Todd Dailey, who has been the Marion County Forestry Judging coach for more than six years. Dr. Martha Monroe and other staff from the UF School of Forestry and Resource Conservation facilitated the event.

Marion County 4-H members have consistently placed well in the annual statewide competition for the past 30 years, and this year was no exception.

2011 State 4-H Ecology Contest Marion County 4-H results:

- Junior team: Mary and Lydia Force, Rachel Ray and Wesley Johnson – First place
- Junior individual: Wesley Johnson – High individual
- Intermediate team: Luke and Sam Ray, Rachel Force and Nathan Wetherington – Third place
- Senior individual: Mark Force – Second place

For more information about joining 4-H or the Forestry Judging Team contact the local Marion County 4-H office at 671-8413.



*"Meeting Needs by Exceeding Expectations"*