

As valuable as it is, the camping experience comes at a cost. Where youth, in 1939, could participate in a four-day camp for the fee of \$1.50, the cost of a six-day camp is now \$500. This cost per person is the result of inflation, risk management, and increased staffing and infrastructure costs. Even so, at \$500 per camper, the North Carolina 4-H camping experience is 50-200% less than other youth camps in the state. In 2021, to increase access to our camps, the 4-H Camping System provided 136 camper scholarships for those youth who could not afford to participate. It is expected there will be camper scholarships available again for summer 2022.

Mitchell County 4-H will attend Betsy-Jeff Penn 4-H Center next summer. This camp offers great opportunities for youth ages 8-14 as well as Leader in Training (LIT) to help older campers (ages 15-17) develop leadership skills. Some 4-H camp activities include: horseback riding, swimming, archery, rock wall climbing, high ropes and more! Reserve a camp spot today or help fund a spot for a deserving youth!

For more information, please contact Eve Kindley at emkindle@ncsu.edu or call 828.688.4811. Also, check out Betsy-Jeff Penn 4-H Center at bjpenn4h.org to learn more about facilities and programs.