



February 14, 2013

INFORMATION ON THE

**Fifty-Fourth Annual Florida  
State Land Judging Contest  
Friday, March 22, 2013**

OUR HOST:

**LEVY SOIL AND WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**Two Items of Great Importance! Read and follow links as appropriate:**

1. More than one team in each High School Division (4-H and FFA) may be certified forward to compete in the National Land Judging Contest! Read carefully the [Policy Statement](#) on this Web Site for details!
2. Newly clarified scorecard etiquette and grading rules are in effect! Carefully read the [Scorecard Grading Policy](#) section and study all the [Scorecard Examples](#) on this Web Site for details.

**And be aware that adult leaders are NOT to distribute scorecards to team members on the morning of the State Contest until Announcements and**

**Instructions are completed and teams are directed to begin moving to the field! The reason for strict enforcement of this requirement at the 2012 State Contest is that all contestants need to be attentive to the instructions they will receive concerning scorecard etiquette before they receive their cards and start filling in the card headers.**

**Web Page:**

Web Page for Pre-Registration, Policy Statement, and Other Information:  
<http://landjudging.org>.

**Where to meet:**

USDA Service Center  
625 N. Hathaway Ave.  
Bronson, FL 32621

Please see [Location in Google Maps](#) for USDA Service Center location.

**What will be provided:**

Lunch provided by the Levy Soil and Water Conservation District.

**Please note:** Each team will be responsible for transportation to the land judging field site.

**When:**

**Friday, March 22, 2013. Sign-in: 8:00-9:00 A.M.**

**Pre-Registration:**

Pre-registration is *required* for all 4-H and FFA High School teams and for all 4-H and FFA Middle School teams. **Pre-registration is due by 5:00 PM Eastern time on Friday, March 15th.** Pre-registration is to be done by sending your team's registration information as an email to [gmeans@ufl.edu](mailto:gmeans@ufl.edu).

**Noon Meal Arrangements:**

Levy Soil and Water Conservation District will provide lunch to **participants (four per team; one High School 4-H team and one High School FFA team per county, plus one Middle School 4-H team and one Middle School FFA team per county – see Policy Statement and Pre-Registration Information on this Web Site), coaches, contest officials, contest helpers, and sponsors.** Any others will be served only after these have been served.

**Lodging:**

There are several hotels at Exit 384 (the I-75 and Hwy 24, Archer Road intersection) in Gainesville. This is about a 25 minute drive (20 miles) to the USDA Service Center in Bronson.

### **Land Judging Policies:**

The current [Policy Statement, Revised June 2006](#), will be followed. Note that the policy statement allows for only one High School 4-H team and one High School FFA team plus one Middle School 4-H team and one Middle School FFA team per county. All teams and all participants must meet the eligibility criteria indicated in the Policy Statement. See the [Policy Statement, Revised June 2006](#) for details.

**Please note: (1) No 4-H or FFA member who has been on a state winning (first place) team, who has been to the National Contest, or who has substituted on a team that went to the National Contest, will be eligible for competition in future land judging contests in Florida *in either Division (4-H or FFA)*; and (2) Additional team members – beyond the four members allowed per team – will *not* be allowed in the pits and will not be given “practice” scorecards. This event is only for those teams and team members who have earned the right to participate in the State Contest as per the Policy Statement.**

**Note also: State winning 4-H and FFA high school teams will be eligible to compete in the National Land & Range Judging Contest held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, each year during the month of April or May. One *or more* of the high scoring 4-H county and FFA chapter teams in the state contest will be certified as eligible to represent the state in the National Contest, in accordance with the guidelines given in the [Policy Statement, Revised June 2006](#). Certification forms must be filled in by the coaches of teams eligible to go to National and sent to the Florida 4-H State Office or the Florida FFA Association State Office, as appropriate, within seven days following the State Contest.**

### **Contest Format and Scorecard Return Policy:**

Contestants will judge four sites (three land judging pits and one homesite evaluation pit). Scorecards will *not* be returned to coaches or contestants after the contest.

### **Scorecards:**

Scorecards will be machine-graded at this contest. The machine-gradable cards are reformatted slightly from traditional scorecards (that may have been used in some local contests) in order to allow machine grading, but the information asked for is unchanged. The questions asked, the judging criteria, and the scoring - including penalties - are just as they always have been. Examples of the machine-gradable cards may be found at and printed from the [Training Material](#) and [Scorecard Examples](#) links on this Web Site.

### **Scorecard Grading Policy:**

**New and more stringent scorecard etiquette rules have been put in place by the State Land Judging Committee. Again, see the [Scorecard Grading Policy](#) and [Scorecard Examples](#)! (And be aware that adult leaders are NOT to distribute scorecards to team members on the morning of the State Contest until Announcements and Instructions are completed and teams are directed to begin moving to the field!)**

**Local Contact for Additional Information:**

**Darlene Smith**, Levy SWCD Office Admin. 352-486-2672 x  
3, [darlene.smith@fl.nacdnet.net](mailto:darlene.smith@fl.nacdnet.net)

**Chakesha Martin**, Levy/Dixie/Gilchrist District Conservationist 352-486-2672 x 3  
[Chakesha.martin@fl.usda.gov](mailto:Chakesha.martin@fl.usda.gov)

**Aaron Lane**, Levy SWCD Chairman 352-490-5263 [alanefarms@yahoo.com](mailto:alanefarms@yahoo.com)

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