

# Clark County 4-H Project Guide -- Working Together To Make The Best Better

## Important Dates to Remember for Clark County 4-H

October 1	4-H Excursion Application due
November 1	4-H Re-enrollments due (mailing labels/emails are created for newsletters and reports)  4-H Awards Banquet is held in the fall (be sure to check the Cloverleaf for date)
March 1	4-H Scholarship* applications due 4-H Key Award applications due
April 1	New member enrollments due (last date to enroll and be able to exhibit at the fair) Project additions / corrections due New members can still enroll after this date
May 1 - July 1	Fair entries completed online through FairEntry
September 15	Record books due Forms can be found at: <a href="https://clark.uwex.edu/record-book-forms/">https://clark.uwex.edu/record-book-forms/</a>

# Enrollment Requirements

- 4-H **grade** is determined as of **October 1**.
- 4-H **age** is determined as of **January 1**.

## Cloverbuds

### **Kindergarten—2nd grade**

Cloverbuds are limited to Cloverbud projects.

## Explorers

### **3rd—4th graders**

Explorers can enroll in Explorer projects as well as other projects but they must have completed 2nd grade and be at least 8 years of age to enroll in animal projects other than what is listed under the Exploring category in the fairbook.

- Members in 4th grade to post high school (must be 19 or younger as of December 31) can select from a variety of projects.
- Youth who are home schooled can participate in 4-H in their declared grade.

### **A grade must be listed.**

- Enrollment is completed on-line (refer to “ENROLLING IN 4HONLINE AS A NEW FAMILY”)
- New members can enroll anytime. But if they want to participate in the Clark County Fair and summer activities they must be enrolled by **APRIL 1**.
- **APRIL 1** is the deadline for project additions.
- **New Adult Leaders/Volunteers** must complete the Volunteers In Preparation Training prior to being an active 4-H club leader.
- **Cost**—there are no county dues to join 4-H. Local 4-H clubs may charge dues. Check with the club for details.

## **GRADE REQUIREMENTS**

**4-H members must be in 5 year old Kindergarten through age 19 as of December 31st to participate in 4-H.**

### **4-H State Requirements**

Wisconsin has two statements about 4-H membership, intended to provide consistency to the way young people identify themselves with counties and how they are selected for out-of-county competitive events.

*For policy purposes, 4-H membership is defined as having an individual enrollment form on file/entered in the computer membership database at the county Extension Office.*

Policies are effective as of October 1, 1996.

#### **Membership Policy #1**

*“Youth may not hold 4-H membership in more than one county/state at the same time.”* This simply requires that they only hold 4-H membership in a single county at any given time.

#### **Membership Policy #2**

*“Youth must qualify for participation in district, state or national 4-H competitions through their county of membership.”* Members must be selected as representatives of only their county of membership, regardless of the location of the qualifying experience.

- ♦ 4-H clover protected under 18 U.S.C. 707
- ♦ Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the UW-Extension Office (715-743-5121). Requests for reasonable accommodations for disabilities or limitations should be made prior to the date of the program or activity for which it is needed. Please do so as early as possible prior to the program or activity so that proper arrangements can be made. Requests are kept confidential.
- ♦ The University of Wisconsin Extension provides affirmative action and equal opportunity in education, programming and employment for all qualified persons regardless of race, color, gender/sex, creed, disability, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, sexual orientation, pregnancy, or parental, arrest or conviction record or veteran status.
- ♦ La Universidad de Wisconsin-Extensión proporciona acción afirmativa e igualdad de oportunidades en educación, programas y empleo, para todas las personas calificadas, sin tener en cuenta raza, color, sexo, credo, discapacidad, religión, nacionalidad de origen, ascendencia, edad, orientación sexual, gravidez o paternidad, historial de detención o condena o estado de veterano de guerra.

## 4-H Families— Your 4-H'er Needs Your Presence, Support, and Help

Families are an important partner in the 4-H experience. As a partner, you are part of an exciting new adventure with your child. Your help and support on this adventure can mean the difference between an experience that is just fun and one that has lifelong meaning.

4-H can help your child develop knowledge and skills as well as leadership and citizenship potential. The goal of 4-H is to help each youth develop his or her own potential to the fullest.

4-H can be a tool to help you and your child work together. You can encourage a positive experience through:

- Helping your child select projects based on his or her interests, abilities, and maturity.
- Encouraging record keeping by providing a place for 4-H club materials and records at home.
- Reading the project material your 4-H'er will receive.
- Helping your child think about what he or she wants to learn and how to go about it.
- Being supportive and give encouragement when problems or disappointments arise.
- Reading the 4-H newsletter (CloverLeaf) and taking note of what applies to your 4-H'er.

4-H involves your child with other 4-H'ers and adults. 4-H **canNOT** exist without volunteer leaders. It is very important that parents support and assist the leaders. Please share yourself with them by volunteering. Groups and programs must meet the needs of different youth. 4-H experiences are as unique as each member. You can assist volunteer leaders by encouraging and supporting your 4-H'er in attending club meetings. Volunteer to help the club by hosting meetings, helping at club meetings, and assisting with activities. This is called active engagement or active involvement in the 4-H program.

**Did You Know** 4-H is the youth development part of University of Wisconsin-Extension. So, when you participate in 4-H you are a part of the UW-System.

### 4-H Pledge

"I pledge my head to clearer thinking, my heart to greater loyalty, my hands to larger service, my health to better living for my club, my community, my country, and my world."

The four "H's" represent the four points of the pledge: clearer thinking (head), greater loyalty (heart), larger service (hands), and better living (health).

4-H is open to anyone regardless of race, color, creed, sex, national origin, disability, ancestry, sexual orientation, pregnancy, marital, or parental status. How old do you need to be to join 4-H? In Clark County you are eligible when you enter 5K. You can be a part of the 4-H program by belonging to a local club or be a part of a special interest group/project (e.g. shooting sports, rabbits).

Besides 4-H projects you can get involved in 4-H events and activities throughout the year, at club, county, state, national, and international programs. In Clark County we host a drama & Music Festival, clothing and foods revue, animal judging contests, camps, county and state fairs, community service, tours, sports, exchanges, speeches, and demonstrations. Check the monthly 4-H newsletter—*The CloverLeaf*—to see what is happening in the 4-H program (also available on our website at: <http://clark.uwex.edu/>).

In its early years 4-H was a program just for farm kids. Today 4-H is for everyone. Boys and girls in town can enjoy 4-H as much as youth in the country. Over half of 4-H participants now live in larger cities, over one fourth live in towns and rural areas, and less than one fourth live on farms. This year 4-H will reach about 250,000 Wisconsin youth from all 72 counties.

## Choosing Your 4-H Project—How to Decide?

Welcome to the Clark County 4-H program! The educational backbone of the 4-H program is the 4-H projects youth can choose to learn about.

In selecting projects think about:



- An interest you would like to explore
- A hobby you would like to learn more about
- A topic of interest shared by you and your family
- Something that is fun for you

Remember to select projects on topics for which you can get help from your:



- Parents / guardian
- Grandparents
- Friends
- Other 4-H members

We suggest that you work with your parent/guardian and a 4-H leader or older 4-H member to select your 4-H projects. Let's say you want to learn how to use a new computer program, raise a calf, build a Lego structure, or plant a garden. When you learn those skills you are also learning life skills like:



- How to make decisions
- How to organize yourself, your time, your money
- How to keep accurate records
- How to work with and get along with others

Projects are just one part of the 4-H experience. You also take part in club meetings, where you learn:



- How to be a group member
- How to speak in front of a group
- How to work together on club projects

4-H is full of fun times to work and play with others, including community service projects, club trips, activities, workshops, and camp.

All these skills help you as you go through school and beyond. For many 4-H'ers an interest they had in certain 4-H projects led to future careers.

Let's start by choosing your 4-H project(s) and see where 4-H takes you!



# HOW TO SELECT 4-H PROJECTS

## What is a project?

4-H members sign up for a project area. Some of the most popular project areas are visual arts, dairy, and photography. Throughout the year, the goal is for youth to participate in a series of learning experiences. These experiences are designed to help youth learn more about that topic area. One way to know how much the youth learned is by making an item and having it judged at the Clark County Fair in August.

## 4-H members

First, make a list of the things you like to do or want to learn more about. Share your list with your parents, leaders, and friends. They may recognize some special things you are good at that you do not realize you do well. Compare your list with the projects described in this guide. Ask yourself if you have the equipment, money, and time to do the projects that sound interesting. Also consider if there is leader support for a project. You may also want to check with your club if there is leader support. If there is no leader support, you will be responsible for your own learning experience.

## 4-H Leaders

If you are a 4-H adult or youth leader be sure to select your project with "Ldr" in 4HOnline to denote leader. You can also contact the UW-Extension Office (715-743-5121) for other literature (if available).

## Livestock Projects

There are pre-fair weigh-ins and educational requirements. Please watch the 4-H newsletter (The CloverLeaf) for dates, times, and locations.

## Horse Projects

To exhibit a horse/pony at the Clark County Fair exhibitors must obtain 5 educational credits by fair entry day (refer Horse and Pony Project Handbook for clarification).

## Dog Projects

To exhibit a dog at the Clark County Fair exhibitor members must attend 10 obedience / showmanship classes (refer to Dog Project Handbook).

## Ages for Exhibiting Animals at the Fair (State Policy)

Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development Policy for Program Safety Regulation states: ***"To exhibit animals at any public event as a 4-H member, youth must be entering 3rd grade and be 8 years of age or higher during current 4-H year" (runs September 1—August 30).***

This policy is for the safety of the 4-H member and the public at the public exhibition. The developmental ability and maturity level of the exhibitor, and the unpredictable behavior of animals should be considered prior to involving a 4-H member in the exhibition of animals.



## Parents / Guardians: Are You Ready To Be A 4-H Leader?

You only need a desire to help youth—previous 4-H experience is not necessary. Many volunteers help by leading 4-H projects for a local year-round club or short-term 4-H group. But there are many other ways for you to get involved.

For example—you could lead a workshop, a one-time program where you share your knowledge with people. 4-H groups need chaperones for trips. If you like to travel or guide tours, 4-H can match you with a group that needs help. At the county level you can help plan and conduct events, recruit other volunteers, develop and evaluate 4-H programs, or promote 4-H in general. The possibilities are endless.

If you're a parent, 4-H is a great opportunity to get involved in your child's development as a 4-H leader and as a home helper. The hours that your child is involved in 4-H working in group settings are important. You can multiply this involvement as a 4-H home helper by helping your child go further and have fun doing 4-H things at home. Many 4-H projects and activities are natural family activities.

### **Organizational Leader** (4-H Club Leader)

Takes responsibility for local club/group. Communicates to club membership and works with club volunteers and members. They are the communication link to Extension Office and 4-H Youth Development Agent.

### **Co-Organizational Leader** (4-H Co-Leader)

Works with club organizational leader in managing local club.

### **Club Activity Leader**

Works with youth in a variety of activities (volleyball, softball, music, drama, etc.)

### **Youth Leadership (Adult Leader)**

Works with youth to promote 4-H and Leadership Development.

**The following are a list of project areas listed in the Clark County Fair Book. Please call 715-743-5121 if you would like more information on leader descriptions for the following areas:**

Department 1—Dairy

Department 2—Beef / Dairy Beef

Department 3—Swine

Department 4—Sheep

Department 5—Goats

Department 6—Horse/Horseless Horse

Department 7—Poultry

Department 8—Rabbits

Department 9—Dogs

Department 10—Veterinary Science

Department 11 - Alpacas / Llamas

Department 13—Cats

Department 14—Plant / Soil Science

Department 15—Flowers & Houseplants

Department 16—Natural Sciences

Department 17—Cloverbud/Exploring

Department 18—Cultural Arts

Department 20—Photography

Department 21—Computer Science

Department 22—Woodworking

Department 23—Electricity

Department 24—Mechanical Projects

Department 25—Foods and Nutrition

Department 26—Clothing

Department 27—Knitting and Crocheting

Department 28—Home Environment

Department 29—Child Development

Department 31—Communications

Department 33—Self Determined

Department 34—Health and Citizenship

## Clark County Fair Exhibits and 4-H Online Projects

If you want to exhibit this at the fair . . .

You have to sign up for this project . . . .

4H Club Secretary or Treasurer Books .....	Department 33 .....	Youth Leadership
4H Promotions / Scrapbooks .....	Department 33 .....	Youth Leadership
Archery and/or Rifles .....	Department 16 .....	Shooting Sports
Baskets .....	Department 28 .....	Home Environment/Furnishings
Beadwork, Stained Glass, etc. ....	Department 18 .....	Art - Any Other
Beef - Breeding and/or Market .....	Department 2 .....	Beef
Bees and Birds .....	Department 16 .....	Birds/Bees
Bicycles (posters / displays, etc.) .....	Department 24 .....	Tractors/Snowmobiles/Bikes
Book Reviews / Posters (etc.) .....	Department 31 .....	Creative Writing
Caged Birds (parakeet, etc.) .....	Department 10 .....	Cage Birds
Cake Decorating .....	Department 25 .....	Cake Decorating
Camping / Hiking / Conservation .....	Department 16 .....	Conservation
Candy Making (caramels, fudge, etc.) .....	Department 25 .....	Candy Making
Cats .....	Department 13 .....	Cats
Cavies (hamsters, gerbils, etc.) .....	Department 10 .....	Cavies
Ceramics / Pottery .....	Department 18 .....	Ceramics/Plastercraft
Child Development (growth charts, etc.) .....	Department 29 .....	Child Development
Cloverbud (K - 2nd grade) .....	Department 17 .....	Cloverbud
Community Service Projects .....	Department 34 .....	Health & Citizenship
Computer Projects (calendars, cards, etc.) .....	Department 21 .....	Computers
Counted Cross Stitch Items (pictures/towels, etc.) ....	Department 28 .....	Creative/Cross Stitchery
Crocheting (slippers, garments, scarves, etc.) .....	Department 27 .....	Knitting & Crocheting
Crops (field crops, etc.) .....	Department 14 .....	Fruits & Vegetables
Dairy .....	Department 1 .....	Dairy
Dogs (obedience) .....	Department 9 .....	Dogs
Drawing (charcoal, pencil, ink, etc.) .....	Department 18 .....	Drawing & Painting
Electrical Projects (circuit boards, buzzers, etc.) .....	Department 23 .....	Electricity
Embroidered Items .....	Department 28 .....	Home Environment/Furnishings
Engines (spark plugs, etc.) .....	Department 24 .....	Mechanical Sciences
Explorer (3rd - 4th grade) .....	Department 17 .....	Explorer
Fair Garden (live and artificial) .....	Department 15 .....	Flowers & Houseplants
Family Story (original) .....	Department 31 .....	Communications
Family Trees / Family History .....	Department 34 .....	History & Heritage
Farm Displays .....	Department 24 .....	Mechanical Sciences
Fishing / Angler Education .....	Department 16 .....	Fishing
Flowers (perennials, biennials, plants, etc.) .....	Department 15 .....	Flowers/Houseplants
Food - educational displays / posters .....	Department 25 .....	Foods & Nutrition
Food Items (cakes, breads, brownies, etc.) .....	Department 25 .....	Foods & Nutrition
Food Preservation (vegetables, fruit, meat, etc.) .....	Department 25 .....	Food Preservation
Forestry (posters / displays) .....	Department 16 .....	Forestry
Fruits (apples, grapes, blueberries, herbs, etc.) .....	Department 14 .....	Fruits & Vegetables
Goats - Breeding and/or Meat .....	Department 5 .....	Goats
Health / Safety (display / poster, etc.) .....	Department 34 .....	Health & Citizenship
Home Accessories (candles, pictures, etc.) .....	Department 28 .....	Home Environment/Furnishings
Home Decorations (wall hangings, etc.) .....	Department 28 .....	Home Environment/Furnishings
Home Grounds (landscaping) .....	Department 15 .....	Flowers/Houseplants
Homemade Soap .....	Department 28 .....	Home Environment/Furnishings
Horse / Horseless Horse .....	Department 6 .....	Horses

Insects (spiders, etc.).....	Department 16 .....	Insects
Knitting (slippers, garments, etc.) .....	Department 27 .....	Knitting & Crocheting
Landscaping / Home Ground Designs.....	Department 15 .....	Landscaping
Latch Hook projects .....	Department 28 .....	Home Environment/Furnishings
Leather Craft (belt, collar, etc.) .....	Department 18 .....	Leathercraft
Legos .....	Department 24 .....	Mechanical Sciences
Macramé Items .....	Department 28 .....	Home Environment/Furnishings
Maple Syrup .....	Department 16 .....	Maple Syrup
Models, Rockets (kits or original).....	Department 24 .....	Mechanical Sciences
Music / Drama .....	Department 18 .....	Music / Theater Arts
Painting (pictures).....	Department 18 .....	Drawing & Painting
Pets / Special Interest Animals (not dogs or cats).....	Department 10 .....	Small Pets/Special Interest Animals
Photography (includes enlargements).....	Department 20 .....	Photography
Plant Crafts (corsages, fairy garden, etc.).....	Department 15 .....	Flowers/Houseplants
Plastic Canvas Items .....	Department 28 .....	Home Environment/Furnishings
Poultry - Breeding and/or Market.....	Department 7 .....	Poultry
Print Making (gift tags, cards, etc.) .....	Department 18 .....	Printing Making
Quilting (blankets, table runners, etc.).....	Department 28 .....	Quilting
Rabbits - Breeding and/or Market.....	Department 8 .....	Rabbits
Recycling .....	Department 16 .....	Recycling
Robotics (tankbot programs, etc.).....	Department 24 .....	Mechanical Sciences
Rubber Stamping (cards, tags, etc.).....	Department 18 .....	Rubber Stamping
Scale Models (farm landscape, etc.) .....	Department 24 .....	Scale Models / Legos
Scrapbooking .....	Department 28 .....	Scrapbooking
Sewing - Clothing (dresses, pants, etc.).....	Department 26 .....	Clothing
Sewing - Quilting / Non-Clothing.....	Department 28 .....	Quilting and/or Creative Cross Stitchery
Sheep - Breeding and/or Market.....	Department 4 .....	Sheep
Small Engines (2 and 4 cycle) .....	Department 24 .....	Small Engines
Snowmobiles (posters / displays, etc.) .....	Department 24 .....	Tractors/Snowmobiles/Bikes
Stepping Stones.....	Department 18 .....	Art - Any Other Craft
Swine - Market and Show .....	Department 3 .....	Swine
Tractors (displays / restorations, etc.).....	Department 24 .....	Mechanical Sciences
Vegetables (peppers, onions, potatoes, etc.).....	Department 14 .....	Fruits & Vegetables
Veterinary Science (animal posters/displays).....	Department 10 .....	Veterinary Science
Weather (rain gauge, weather vane, etc.) .....	Department 16 .....	Weather
Wildlife (posters / displays) .....	Department 16 .....	Wildlife
Wildflowers (displays / projects, etc.).....	Department 16 .....	Wild Flowers
Wooden Projects (games, furniture, etc.) .....	Department 22 .....	Woodworking
Wreath / Swags.....	Department 28 .....	Home Environment/Furnishings

**And remember - you can always contact your club leader or the  
Extension Office if you have questions about  
exhibits (what you show at the fair)  
and projects (what you sign up for at the beginning of the 4-H year)**



**Youth Must Be Entering 3rd Grade Or Age 8 And Older To Enroll in a Livestock Project Or Other Large Animal Project.  
YOUTH MUST FOLLOW ALL HEALTH GUIDELINES ESTABLISHED BY THE WI DEPT OF AGRICULTURE FOR ALL ANIMAL SCIENCE PROJECTS.**

**MARKET SALE REQUIREMENTS FOR:**

**Beef / Dairy Beef**  
**Sheep**  
**Swine**  
**Rabbit**  
**Poultry**

**Pre-fair weigh-in for Livestock Sale**  
**3 educational sessions required for**  
**Market Sale**  
**(refer to Livestock Show and Sale Rules)**

**Department J1**  
**Dairy**

**Department J2**  
**Beef**

**Department J3**  
**Swine**

**Department J4**  
**Sheep**

**Department J5**  
**Goats**

**Department J6**  
**Horses**

- Requires attendance at 5 educational sessions (refer to Horse/Pony Project Handbook)
- Coggins test required

Horse	Draft Horse
Equitation	Horseless Horse*

\*You do not need to own an animal for this project

**Department J7**

**Poultry**

- Pullorum testing is required
- Refer to DATCP health regulations published in the front of the fairbook.

Poultry	Waterfowl
Turkeys	Bantams
Pigeons	Game Birds (Quail, Pheasants)

**Department J8**

**Rabbit**

- Rabbits must be tattooed prior to the fair

**Department J9**

**Dog**

- Requires attendance at 10 educational sessions (refer to Dog Project Handbook)
- Vaccinations required

**Department J10**

**Veterinary Science**

Dairy Education & Promotion	Animal Physiology
Animal Diseases & Treatment	Small Animals
Animal Care & Housing	Caged Birds
Cavies	Special Interest Animals

**Department J11**

**Alpacas / Llamas**

**Department J13**

**Cats**

- Vaccinations required

**Department J14**

**Plant & Soil Science**

Field Crops	Vegetables
Fruits	Plate of Vegetables

**Department J15**

**Flowers and Houseplants**

Perennial/Biennial	Annuals
Houseplants	Landscaping
Plant Crafts	

**Department J16**

**Natural Sciences**

- Bees
- Conservation
- Backpacking
- Angler Education
- Forestry
- Archery
- Insects
- Wildlife
- Wildflowers
- Birds
- Camping
- Hiking
- Aquaculture
- Maple Syrup
- Rifles / Firearms
- Recycle for Reuse
- Weather

**Department J17**

**Cloverbuds (K to 2nd grade)**

**Department J17**

**Exploring (3rd & 4th grade)**

**Department J18**

**Cultural Arts**

- Leathercraft
- Drawing
- Rubber Stamping
- Any Other Craft
- Plastercraft
- Music
- Painting
- Print Making
- Stenciling
- Free Form Pottery
- Ceramics
- Drama

**Department J20**

**Photography**

- Photography 1—3
- Special Effects
- Enlargements

**Department J21**

**Computers**

**Department J22**

**Woodworking**

**Department J23**

**Electricity**

**Department J24**

**Mechanical Projects**

- Aerospace
- Robotics
- Engines
- Bicycles
- Scale Models
- Small Engines
- Snowmobiles
- Tractors

**Department J25**

**Foods & Nutrition**

- Six Easy Bites
- You're The Chef
- Modified Recipes
- Gingerbread House
- Food Preservation
- Tasty Tidbits
- Foodworks
- Cake Decorating
- Candy Making

**Department J26**

**Clothing**

**Department J27**

**Knitting and Crocheting**

**Department J28**

**Home Environment**

- Exploring Your Home
- Where I Live
- Scrapbooking
- Living with Others
- Creative Stitchery

**Department J29**

**Child Development**

- Learning and Sharing
- Caring for Children

**Department J31**

**Communications**

**Department J33**

**Youth Leadership**

- Self-Determined
- 4-H Promotion
- Youth Leadership

**Department J34**

**Health and Citizenship**

- History and Heritage
- Citizenship



# Project Leader - How Do I Become One Of Those?

## **Potential Project Leaders Attributes**

- Positive view of young people
- Appreciation for creative energy
- Interest, knowledge, or skill in a specific project
- Patience with “other people’s” children, adolescents, and emerging adults

## **Project Areas**

- Check your County fair book (fair books are modified on a 3-year rotation)
- Talk to your club leader
- Connect with the Clark County 4-H Team

## **Develop/Enhance a Project Area**

- Find out if youth are interested in the topic and *other adult leaders*
- Talk with the 4-H Agent about viability
- Create a curriculum for the project area



## **Project Leader Expectations**

- Use experiential learning model AKA “hands on”
- Identify learning outcome(s) for the project meetings
- Hold regular project meetings (consistent date, time, and location) minimum of 3 maximum of 6 project meetings a year
- Promote project meetings in the Clover Leaf and through electronic media
- Secure project list of participants from 4HOnline (UW-Extension staff will assist)

## **Need Extra Hands???**

If you are leading beginning level project meetings, ask older members in the project to help you. This is an excellent leadership experience for them! Parents are another quality source of help. Don't hesitate to ask parents to stay for the meeting and be partially involved in their child's project work.



## **Get the WORD out...**

Prior to enrollment or re-enrollment ask for time on your club's meeting agenda to let them know you are a project leader. Identify the opportunities youth can participate in if they enroll. Select a series of meeting dates, times and location to hold project meetings. If few or no one in your club has selected this project consider opening up your services to area clubs or the county. Talk to your club organizational leader or the 4-H Youth Development agent about generating interest among youth and adults in the county.

## **Preparation for the First Meeting**

You may want to establish a 4-H resource box where you keep project materials, additional resources, and supplies you will be using. Take time to become familiar with your project literature. Talk with previous leaders if some are available regarding activities the members enjoyed. Identify one or two learning objectives you want the participants to walk away with from the first two or three meetings.

An example of a learning outcome:

1. Individuals will identify 3 tree types by viewing the bark and leaves from the tree?
2. Individuals will identify 2 reasons for using fine ground barley grain to feed pigs?

### **Initial Project Meeting**

At the initial project meeting get a sense of who is present and their level of interest in this project. The project literature has recommendations and suggestions of activities. Sample questions include the following:

1. Share your name and club you are from?
  2. What do you hope to gain from participating in this program?"
- Review the safety practices that members will need to follow.
  - Consider the type of safety issues your particular project involves.
  - Request and secure necessary safety items such as ear protection, eye protection and head protection.
  - Talk about how the project meeting supplies will be paid for. There is a wide variety of means of covering cost of project meetings.
    - A. Each member pays for their share of the expenses or provides a portion of the supplies.
    - B. The club agrees to cover expenses using funds from their treasury. Approval in advance is needed for this.
    - C. Members and leaders can solicit donations/supplies from area businesses.
    - D. Sometimes funds from sources outside your club may be available to cover your project meeting costs.
  - Identifying future meetings is a challenge. As the project leader you can select the meeting dates or request participants or parents to bring along their electronic or paper calendars of family events.
  - Do not be surprised if members cannot make every meeting
  - Select what works the best for you and then allow some flexibility in the schedule
  - Typically project meetings are held at project leader homes, schools, or community buildings. *For more information on facility adaptability and liability concerns contact your 4-H Youth Development Agent.*
  - Encourage parents to participate in project meetings.

### **Future Project Meetings**

Use the experiential learning (hands on activities) to plan your project meeting. Your UW-Extension office has resource guides for a variety of topics to provide suggestions for outlining future project meetings. Recommendations include:

#### **Do**

- ◆ Plan an activity to focus the project member's energy during the meeting.
- ◆ Work on the project for that meeting.

#### **Reflect**

- Review the process completed.
- Discuss what worked and didn't work.
- Exchange suggestions on any problems that arose and how they were solved.
- Assist members in documenting their project work for inclusion in their record books/portfolios.

#### **Apply**

Ask the project member the following questions:

- ⇒ What else have you seen that is similar to this?
- ⇒ How can you apply what you learned today?

### **Project Work and the County Fair**

County fair entries typically are the projects conducted and completed at project meetings. The fair is an opportunity for a youth to reflect on the skills learned through participation and in completion of the project. Help members to celebrate their accomplishments regardless of the color of ribbon each project received at the fair. If fair judging is face to face this is an opportunity for the youth to explain why they did what they did and to discuss what they learned through participating in the project.

## **RESOURCES**

### **4-H Project Literature**

Contact your local 4-H Extension Agent to identify project literature relating to your topic. Typically resources have three to four levels dependent upon the age of the youths you are working with.

### **Extension Media Collection**

Additional resources can be obtained from the Cooperative Extension Media Collection. They have videos, skillathons, displays and resource packages available to support a variety of projects. There is a user fee per item you or your club will be responsible for. You can view their catalog at their website [www.uwex.edu/ces/media/](http://www.uwex.edu/ces/media/)

### **Wisconsin 4-H Website**

Wisconsin 4-H is continually adding more information and activities to the website. Visit this site at [www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/projects/](http://www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/projects/)

### **Fall Forum**

Review each issue of your counties newsletter to learn about training sessions for project leaders offered by your county, district or at statewide events. You can also exchange ideas with other leaders at statewide events such as Area Animal Science Days and Youth Plant Science Day.

### **Field Trips**

Youth always enjoy the opportunity to see how things are done and how they work. Consider taking your project group on a field trip or tour of a local business or company to enhance their project experience. An example would be taking your dairy members to a cheese factory or your foods group to a local bakery.

### **Local Experts**

Bring in a local "expert" to share their ideas and experiences with your group. One example would be asking a Master Gardener to share information on choosing perennial or trimming shrubs at one of your project meetings.

### **Missouri 4-H Web Site**

Missouri 4-H has developed a web site to help volunteers working with youth learn more about their role. Visit their web site at: <http://dldc-courses.ext.missouri.edu/umc/4h-volunteers/>.

## **LEADERS**

Families, individuals, and organizations trust the Extension Office to provide quality leadership and care for those who are involved in Extension-sponsored programs. The opportunity to work as a volunteer with Extension is a privileged position that should be held only by those who are willing to demonstrate behaviors that fulfill this trust.

1. All Extension volunteers are required to complete the UW-Extension Youth Protection program. This includes:  
A background check for arrest and conviction records.
2. Participation in a volunteer orientation program.
3. Signing the Volunteer Behavior Expectations form. The primary purpose of this process is to ensure the safety and well-being of all participants (i.e., youth, adults, salaried and volunteer staff).

Extension volunteers are expected to abide by the following behavior standards established by UW-Extension and to conduct themselves as positive role models for program participants. All UW-Extension volunteers are ultimately accountable to UW-Extension for their UW-Extension related activities.

## **As a 4-H volunteer leader you will:**

- ◇ Cooperate with and support Extension staff to jointly further the mission of the UW-Extension.
- ◇ Accept supervision and guidance from Extension staff or designated management volunteers.
- ◇ Conduct myself in a manner that is in the best interest of program participants and Extension and will not use the volunteer position or title for purposes of private or personal gain.
- ◇ Use appropriate University research based resources/information.
- ◇ Make all reasonable efforts to ensure that programs are accessible to all individuals regardless of race, color, sex, creed, disability, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, sexual orientation, pregnancy, marital or parental status.
- ◇ Abide by all local, state and federal laws and Extension and U.S.D.A. rules, policies and guidelines.
- ◇ Conduct myself with courteous manners and language, exhibiting good sportsmanship, serving as a positive role model, treating others with respect, and demonstrating reasonable conflict resolution skills.
- ◇ Not consume or be under the influence of alcohol or illegal substances while in the role of a Extension volunteer, nor allow youth participants under my supervision to do so.
- ◇ When transporting youth or adults, operate motor vehicles and other equipment in a safe and reliable manner and only with a valid operator's license and the legally required insurance. I will comply with all motor vehicle-related state regulations and laws.
- ◇ Treat animals in a humane manner and teach program participants to provide appropriate animal care and management.
- ◇ Report suspected verbal, sexual, physical abuse and neglect of youth to local authorities.
- ◇ Not conceal carry firearms and/or weapons while acting in a volunteer role. I understand that if I am a 4-H Youth Development shooting sports volunteer, I am expected to openly carry/transport 4-H shooting sports equipment in designated areas.
- ◇ Immediately notify my county UW-Extension Educator/Agent of any changes with my status (e.g. contact information, criminal arrest, charge or conviction history, driving privileges, etc.)

**Extension—Clark County**  
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**4-H Youth Development Educator  
currently vacant**