



4-H Youth Code of Conduct

4-H Youth participating in or attending local club, country, district, state, and national programs, activities, events, shows, and contests sponsored for youth by the Ohio State University Extension 4-H Youth Development Program are required to conduct themselves according to the 4-H Youth Code of Conduct that follows this introduction. The code operates in conjunction with the guidelines and regulations of the specific event, show, program, and/or activity.

4-H Youth Participation Expectations:

- * Participate fully in the program, activity and/or event.
- * Be responsible for your own behavior/conduct, uphold high standards for the group and accept the consequences for inappropriate behavior.
- * Support and abide by the group's designated advisor/leader.
- * Practice good citizenship, leadership and self-governance.
- * Follow the direction of staff.
- * Demonstrate positive sportsmanship and attitudes at all times that is becoming of a leader.
- * Show respect to others by being courteous and respectful.
- * Use appropriate language at all times.
- * Respect and adhere to the guidelines of the Ohio State University Extension Ohio 4-H Program, and Ohio State University Extension.

Behavior, Conduct or Activity Not Permitted:

- Ø Unsportsmanlike, unethical, immoral conduct
- Ø Improper language, i.e. profanity
- Ø Possession or consumption of alcohol
- Ø Possession or use of illegal drugs, including the use of tobacco
- Ø Possession or use of weapons, fireworks
- Ø Possession or use of harmful objects with the intent to harm or intimidate others
- Ø Unauthorized boys in girls', rooms - girls in boys' rooms, or lodging areas
- Ø Destruction of property; graffiti, etc.
- Ø Violation of established curfew
- Ø Disrespect for adults, other participants, volunteers, staff and/or those who are in a leadership position
- Ø Belittling others; putting others down and being disrespectful of individual differences
- Ø Aggressive, physical behavior; fighting
- Ø Taking property that belongs to others, stealing; borrowing/using others' property without permission of the owner
- Ø Other conduct determined to be inappropriate by the event chairman, designated Ohio State University Extension staff members, and/or adult volunteers.

Actions Taken When In Violation of Code of Conduct:

1. The adult chaperone and/or volunteer for the youth involved in the violation will be notified or made aware of the violation by the Extension Agent, 4-H Volunteer or Event Committee Chairperson in charge.
2. The parents will be notified of the incident and the actions taken by the Extension Agent, 4-H Volunteer or Event Committee Chairperson in charge. When necessary, arrangements will be made to remove the 4-H youth from the event.
3. The 4-H youth can/may be barred from participating in national, state, district, and/or county events for up to a year, as determined by the Extension Agent, in consultation with the 4-H Advisory Committee.
4. Should a violation occurs at a competitive event, 4-H youth may be disqualified from the event and/or be ineligible for accompanying awards. Decision will be made by the event chairman and designated event committee. Any action taken by the event committee will be submitted in writing to the Extension Agent within 14 days of the incident. The 4-H youth may be barred from participating/competing in subsequent events. Further actions will be determined in consultation with the 4-H Advisory Committee and appropriate individuals.
5. When warranted (i.e., violation of Ohio laws) the situation may be turned over to the proper law enforcement authorities.

Clark County Code of Conduct Agreement

I _____, as a member of _____ 4-H Club,
4-H Youth Member 4-H Club Name
have read the 4-H Youth Code of Conduct and agree to abide by it. I also accept the consequences for my actions, if I choose not to follow the code.

4-H Youth Signature

Date

I/we _____ have read the 4-H Youth Code of Conduct and support my youth's participation in the 4-H Program, activities, events, contests, shows, meetings, tours, camps, workshops, skillathons, and judging.

4-H Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

Date

4-H Club Volunteer Signature

Date