

# Welcome to Chippewa County

## 4-H



**UW**  
**Extension**  
University of Wisconsin-Extension

# First Year Member Handbook

# Welcome to Chippewa County 4-H!



We are glad you have decided to join 4-H. You will join other youth from your community to have fun, meet others, learn new things and make a difference. You are joining 4-H youth from across the county, state, nation, and world in one of the largest youth organizations.

The purpose of this booklet is to help you learn more about 4-H and how you can make the most out of being a 4-H member. It will provide you handy source for questions you may have and where to go to find out more about 4-H.

## **What You Can Expect From Being a 4-H Member:**

**Wisconsin** has adopted the **4-H Green Guarantee**.

### **4-H Clubs Guarantee Youth Opportunities To...**

- ... develop positive relationships with peers and adults
- ... be actively involved in their own learning
- ... contribute as active citizens through community service and leadership
- ... develop skills that will help them succeed
- ... recognize, understand and appreciate others
- ... have fun

### **This means as a 4-H member, you can expect to**

- Have fun
- Meet and work together with other kids from many different age groups
- Meet and work together with other adults
- Give back to your community
- Have opportunities to take leadership for activities, events and the club
- Decide the projects and things you want to learn about, set goals for your self and make a plan to reach those goals
- Be recognized for what you have learned or accomplished

So lets get started!

# Hi!

## Welcome to Chippewa County 4-H!



My Name: \_\_\_\_\_

4-H Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_

General Leader's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Leader's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Club Members who can help me during my 1st year: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## The 4-H Pledge

Otis Hall, state leader of Kansas was responsible for the original wording of the 4-H pledge. When the Executive Committee of the Land Grant College Association requested Dr. R.A. Peterson, President of Iowa State College, and Dr. A.C. True of the Federal Extension Service to write a pledge for 4-H, they submitted a pledge substantially as written by Hall. At the first National 4-H Club Camp in 1927, the 4-H pledge was officially adopted by the state 4-H leaders.

The pledge remained unchanged until 1973 when, in response to requests from a number of states (including a recommendation from 4-H members attending National 4-H Conference), the pledge was changed to include "my world." This change was officially approved in 1973 by the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy and now reads:

*I pledge...*

*...my head to clearer thinking*

*...my heart to greater loyalty*

*...my hands to larger service and*

*...my health to better living, for my club,  
my community, my country and my  
world.*



## The 4-H Motto

The 4-H motto, "To make the best better," was originally proposed by Miss Carrie Harrison, a botanist in the Bureau of Plant Industry. It was officially adopted by leaders who attended the first National 4-H Club Camp in 1927. It has remained the same throughout the years.

## The 4-H Colors

Green and White are the 4-H colors. The white is found as the background on the flag with a green clover with an H on each leaf.

## The 4-H Flag Salute

*"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."*



# 4-H Pledge

I pledge:

My Head to Clearer Thinking

**Head**



(right hand points to forehead).

My Heart to Greater Loyalty

**Heart**



(right hand over heart)

My Hands to Larger Service

**Hands**



(Arms slightly bent, palms up)

And my Health to Better Living for My Club,  
My Community, My Country and My World

**Health**



(Arms at sides)

# 4-H Autographs



Introduce yourself to each officer listed below. Ask them to tell you what they do as an officer and have them sign their name.

Club President: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Vice President: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Treasurer: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Reporter: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Leader(s): \_\_\_\_\_

## Other Autographs

Another 1st year member: \_\_\_\_\_

A person you've never met before: \_\_\_\_\_

Cloverbud/Exploring Leader or other adult leader(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Commonly Used Terms and Definitions

The 4-H program has many words that may be unfamiliar to a new 4-H member. Complete the matching exercise to see how many 4-H words you already know!

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| 1. UWEX                      | a. The start of the 4-H year during the fall.  |
| 2. Newsletter                | b. Members who are in 12th or 13th grade.  |
| 3. 4-H Year                  | c. University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension Service that is responsible for the administration of the 4-H program in Wisconsin.   |
| 4. 4-H Age                   | d. Completing all of the membership requirements for the 4-H club during the year.   |
| 5. Enrollment                | e. The regular email correspondence sent from the Extension Office. It is used to keep each family informed to the upcoming events.  |
| 6. Club Rules and Bylaws     | f. 4-H member and leader guides written by University specialists to help you learn more about your 4-H projects. Clubs will determine how to handle the costs of these materials. |
| 7. Record Book/Portfolio     | g. A task that is completed on-line by you at the beginning of each 4-H year. In this process you will select the projects you are going to take.                                  |
| 8. Project Literature        | h. An application you fill out for any 4-H trips you are interested in participating in.   |
| 9. Trip/Award Application    | i. The age you must be to enroll in 4-H. Cloverbuds are the youngest 4-H members.  |
| 10. Awards at the Club Level | j. Written rules or guidelines for the operation of your club.   |
| 11. 4-H Graduate             | k. A report of your 4-H accomplishments in projects or activities throughout the year.   |

Answer Key:

1. C   2. E   3. A   4. I   5. G   6. J   7. K   8. F   9. H   10. D   11. B

# County Fair

The county fair provides an opportunity for 4-H members to exhibit and display the projects they have worked on over the year. This is a major event where many people see what 4-H members can do.

The exhibits are evaluated by state certified judges. The process is designed to extend the learning the member has done on their project. The judges are more than willing to spend time with members providing valuable feedback on how to improve their project.

## Judging Systems

**Danish:** Traditional system whereby all exhibits of the same class are presented simultaneously to the judge. The judge evaluates each project by itself and is permitted to give a maximum of 25% blue, red, white, and pink ribbons within each group in the class of projects. Exhibitors do not need to be present for this type of judging.



**Face to Face (Conference):** This form of judging allows more flexibility in the part of the judge and the exhibitor. Exhibitors bring their projects to the judge at their convenience within the allotted time and talk to the judge about their project. The entire class does not need to be present at the same time. The judge then, based on all discussions, may award the ribbon and premium which he/she believes is appropriate without regard to percentages.

## Questions you might be asked:

- What kind of things did you do in your project this year?
- How did you make it...grow it...build it...paint it...?
- Where did you learn how to...?
- What did you like doing best?
- What are you going to do with your item?





# So Now That You Are a 4-H Member, What is Your Part?

Think about a group that you belong to. This could be at your school, the 4-H club, or other community group. Circle all of the items below that you think are important for everyone in the group to do.

**Listen to Others**

**Help Set Up the Room for Meetings or Activities**

**Share Your Ideas**

**Help Clean Up After Activities**

**Try to Do Your Best**

**Have Fun**

**Invite Others to Attend**

**Do What you Say You Will Do**

**Volunteer To Help**

**Bring Information Home to Your Parent/Guardian**

**Turn Reports in on Time**

**Teach or Demonstrate to Others a New Skill**

**Work Together**

**Try Something New**

Think about all of the items you have circled. Are you doing all of the things you have circled?

What can you do to be a better member in your 4-H club?

# Youth Leadership-Inventory

Circle the clovers that best fits your response. If you have questions, please contact your county 4-H Youth Development staff or your club leader.

I already do this

I plan to do this

I might do this

Teach others  
members  
in my club



Teach 4-H  
adult leaders  
in my club



Lead an  
activity in  
my club



Serve on a  
club committee



Be a club officer



Teach at a  
county project  
meeting



Be a camp  
counselor



Be an officer  
for a county  
program



Serve on the  
County Leader's  
Board



Participate in  
the county  
speaking  
contest



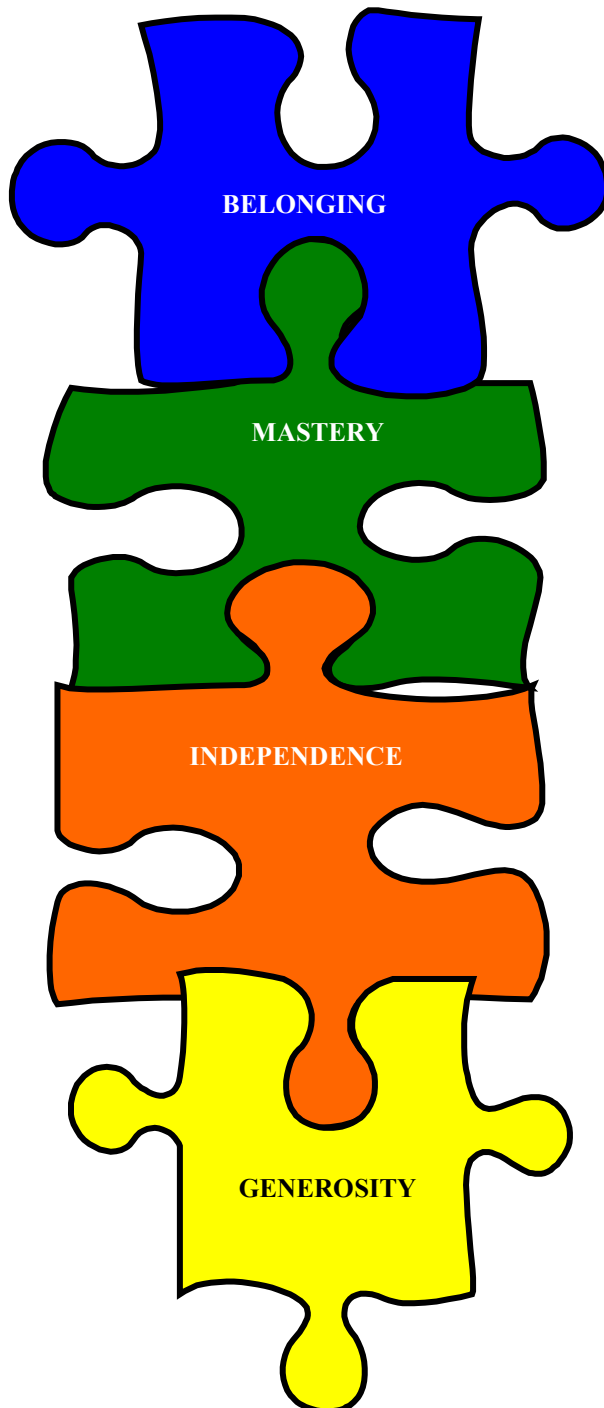
Lead an  
activity  
at the  
County Fair



# The Four Essential Elements of Positive Youth Development

## How Are You Connecting the Essential Elements for Your Development?

You are the key to your own growth and development as a person, family member and citizen. 4-H is there to help you in your journey. Check out the four essential elements and see where you are now and where you can go in your personal journey.



### **Belonging:**

- Do you have caring adults in your life that advise, guide and mentor you?
- Do you feel like you belong to a group and others are positive and encouraging?
- Do you feel safe from physical or emotional harm?

### **Mastery:**

- Are you learning new things and skills?
- Do you have opportunities to practice new skills?
- Are you able to find new resources and learn on your own?

### **Independence:**

- Are you able to make your own decisions?
- Do you set your goals and then work to reach them?
- Do you see many choices for yourself in the future?

### **Generosity:**

- Are you able to teach others?
- Are you giving back to members in your family, 4-H club, or community?

# Keeping Track of What You Have Done and Learned



All people, young and old, keep records of one thing or another. Think of the things that you must record—the meeting next week, doctor appointments, homework assignments, money you plan to save or spend. Record keeping is simply a way of remembering something for the future. As a 4-H member, you will need to keep track of what you have done and learned. 4-H record keeping prepares you for remembering for the future.

**Record books or Portfolios are tools for keeping 4-H records for you as a 4-H member. Those tools include the following information:**

- Identify your leadership and project goals and set priorities
- Establish good organizational and planning skills
- Develop responsibility in record keeping
- Learn if money is made or lost
- Explore careers and goals
- Learn to compare and evaluate success or failure
- Experience personal satisfaction and growth through completion of worthwhile task
- Tell a complete story of the projects you took leadership positions you held and activities you participated in.

**A record book or portfolio should contain the following sections:**

1. **Title Page:** This is a place to share information about you and your club.
2. **Activity Section:** This would include information that lists the activities you participated in and possibly pictures or newspaper clippings that show your participation.
3. **Project Section:** Include information for each project you are involved in. The project section would include the name of the project, specific project goals you have, activities and events you participated in and pictures or newspaper clippings that show your participation. You should also record specifics about your project including the money you invested, the steps you took to complete the project, outcomes from exhibiting the project and what you learned.

Check with your 4-H club leader and the 4-H Youth Development staff person for specific record book or portfolio requirements for your county.

# NOTES



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