

## **Club Organizations**

All 4-H clubs are subject to policy as outlined in the Arkansas 4-H Policy Handbook. To be considered a Community 4-H Club in Perry County, a group must:

- a. Have in attendance at their organizational meeting a county Extension agent or 4-H program assistant.
- b. Have a minimum of one adult leader who meets criteria as set out in the policy handbook.
- c. Work under the direction of the county Extension agents and/or program assistant.
- d. Have members who participate in at least one county activity annually.
- e. Procedure for organizing and disbanding 4-H clubs – any person desiring information about 4-H club work in their area should contact the Perry County Extension Office. When a club is disbanded, monies left in the treasury will automatically go to the Perry County 4-H Foundation.

## **Process of Becoming a Certified Volunteer Leader**

Adults wishing to become volunteers are subject to the following procedure:

1. Complete and return to the county Extension office the 4-H Volunteer Application Form, EDS-643 and the Authorization for Release of Confidential Information, CES-164 and all other forms required. **References will be checked, so it is very important that you complete the entire form.**
2. Read the Cooperative Extension Service Youth Protection Program and acknowledge in writing (FY4H701) having received and read appropriate policies and procedures.

After all references and information receive favorable results, the adult will be notified (by letter) by the Extension office that she or he is a duly enrolled 4-H leader in Perry County.

## **Volunteers' Relationships with Youth**

Volunteers are encouraged to avoid, where possible, being alone with a single youth, including sharing sleeping quarters with non-related youth. It is prohibited at state activities.

Volunteers are encouraged not to socialize with program participants under the age of 18 outside of Extension program activities according to state regulations.

Volunteers will not, under any circumstances, discipline program participants by use of physical punishment, or by failing to provide the necessities of care, such as food, water and shelter.

Volunteers should be alert to the physical and emotional state of all program participants. They should be alert for indicators of child abuse and report suspected abuse according to prescribed procedures.