4-H Clubs

Purpose

The 4-H club is one of the major methods of involving youth in the 4-H program. The club setting serves as the hub of activity, which generates enthusiasm for participation in 4-H activities outside of the local club. Boys and girls who join a 4-H club **do not** have to pay a membership fee, and a uniform is not required!

The 4-H club meeting is an important learning experience. Participation in planning and carrying out the club's program will help the members:

- Learn to make decisions
- Develop skills in group discussions
- Try new ideas and methods
- Develop citizenship and leadership skills
- Acquire new knowledge and skills
- Develop self-confidence
- Develop self-esteem
- Gain a sense of group pride (team work)
- Form a cooperative attitude
- Refer to 4-H fact sheet 4HCC5 – "Life Skills Through 4-H"

Types

Organized Community/Project Clubs – A continuing group with elected officers, volunteer leaders and planned programs throughout the 4-H year. 4-H members may enroll in several different projects or one project area. Club may be organized on a county-wide, school, or community level. School clubs meet during school hours. Clubs that meet on school grounds before or after school hours are considered as community clubs.
4-H Overnight Camping Programs – Any overnight learning experiences for youth conducted and directed by Extension and housed in resident, primitive, or travel camping.
4-H Special Interest/Short Term Programs – Include subject matter training programs directed by Extension on a one-time or short series of meetings.
4-H School Enrichment Programs – Project materials offered by agents, program assistants or volunteers, which serve as a supplement to the regular school curriculum.
School-Aged Child Care Education Programs – Educational program offered to youth outside of school hours, but are usually in a school or community center and incorporate 4-H curricula.
4-H Individual Study – Reserved for those 4-H members who are not attached to any particular 4-H club or group.
4-H Instructional Television Series – This is an organized instructional program that is delivered via broadcast or closed circuit television.