

**OREGON 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**  
**CODE OF CONDUCT** revised 9 -09

The mission of 4-H is to teach subject matter and life skills through a process that helps young people meet key developmental needs. To do this, 4-H must create an environment that is conducive to learning and growth. Consequently, 4-H requires that members adhere to certain standards of behavior and conduct as they participate in 4-H. The following are expected of all members.

Members must demonstrate a commitment to the vision, mission, and core values of the Oregon 4-H Youth Development Program. Actions not in the best interest of 4-H will not be tolerated.

Show respect and courtesy to other youth, adults, volunteers, and Extension faculty and staff.

Use language that is appropriate and respectful of others. No swearing is allowed.

No harassment, bullying or hazing, discriminatory language, roughhousing, or insubordination will be tolerated.

All members are expected to abide by Federal, state and local laws. They are also expected to abide by policies and guidelines of the Oregon State University, OSU Cooperative Extension Service, and the Oregon 4-H Youth Development Program.

Members are expected to know and follow rules established for specific events and are expected to attend all parts of a planned program. Members should inform those in charge if they are not feeling well or have a schedule conflict.

Participants in 4-H activities or events are not to leave the assigned program area (campsite, campus, cabins, or dormitories) at any time without written permission from the person in charge except when movement to another location is a part of the planned program.

Members must dress appropriately for the occasion. Many times, dress codes describe what is considered acceptable attire for a specific event or activity.

Members are expected to treat animals humanely and provide appropriate animal care.

Youth old enough to legally operate motor vehicles (including machines and equipment) may do so only with a valid operator's license, and the legally required insurance coverage. Members must have both authorization from the 4-H staff member in charge of the event and parental permission to drive to out-of-county events. Members must operate vehicles in a safe and responsible manner. All passengers must wear seat belts.

Members must show respect for the property and facilities used during an event or activity and will assume responsibility for any damage they cause.

During overnight activities, members are expected to observe hours designated to be in the rooms provided. Boys are not allowed in areas designated for "girls only" nor are girls allowed in areas designated for "boys only."

Members will not use tobacco, alcohol, drugs (except those directed by a doctor) or fireworks or remain in the immediate area where these are being used. Members may only handle firearms in secured, designated areas under the direct supervision of a trained 4-H Shooting Sports leader.

4-H events encourage interaction among peers, but not exclusively with another person. Kissing and other sexual displays of personal affection distract from the group and are not appropriate behavior.

I have read and agree to the above Code of Conduct. I understand that violations may result in loss of eligibility to participate in future 4-H Youth Development events and activities or loss of membership privileges. Violations while participating in out-of-county events may result in the member being sent home at the expense of the parent or guardian.

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Member Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature