

OREGON STATE 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM CODE OF CONDUCT revised 2010

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.

Douglas County 4-H/FFA Youth Exhibitor Code of Practice

As a youth participant at the Douglas County Fair, Lamb Show or other 4-H & FFA activities:

- I believe my participation in the youth program should demonstrate my own ability, knowledge and skill, and my own investment of time in my project I am exhibiting. I will do my own work and accept only advice and support from adults. While I may assist or receive assistance from other 4-H and FFA members in good standing in the Douglas County programs, I will be responsible for doing my own work.
- I will read and understand the rules and regulations found in the Douglas County Premium Book. I ask that my parents and supervisor/leader of my project not break any rules or make exception(s) on my behalf. I wish for my project to be an example of how to accept what life has to offer, good and bad, and how to live with the outcome.
- I will not use abusive, questionable or unethical techniques in the construction, preparation, presentation or handling of my project. I will not resort to fraudulent, deceptive or illegal practices when preparing my project for exhibition. I will also not allow my parents, advisor, supervisor/leader or any other adult or minor to employ such practices to my project.
- I realize I am responsible for:
 - The proper care and treatment of my project.
 - The presentation of my exhibit at the fair
 - The production of wholesome food, fiber, clothing and textiles
 - And the development of sound moral character in myself and others
- I am proud of the Official FFA Jacket and/or 4-H emblem and do not allow or participate in activities that serve to discredit it or the chapter or club it represents. I am confident in my own abilities in the show ring and do not need nor will I tolerate coaching from the sideline. I will quickly follow the instructions of the officials and do my best to make the show better for everyone.
- I understand that I have an important role in educating the public about animal agriculture. I take this responsibility to the FFA, 4-H and my industry seriously. I understand that when I, my parents, my advisor/leader or any other adult or minor connected with my project break the rules, I must live by the decision of the fair management.

I have read and agree to the above Code of Conduct and Code of Practice. 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 4-H events (in and out of county/state) may result in the member being sent home at the expense of the parent or guardian.

Date _____
Member Signature

Date _____
Parent/Guardian Signature

4-H LEADERS ONLY:

I understand the above named individual will participate with our 4-H club. I have also read the Code of Practice on this form and will try my best to serve as an example to all youth.

Date _____
4-H Leader Signature