

Getting Started with Frederick County 4-H

4-H Colors: Green & White

4-H Emblem: 4 Leaf Clover

4-H Age Groups: Clover 5-7, Junior 8-10, Intermediate 11-13, and Seniors 14-18 ages are as of January 1st of the current calendar year.

<u>Principled in Youth Development:</u> 4-H offers hands on experiential learning for youth through classes, workshops, club meetings and competitive events. Our families exhibit good character and develop life skills. Every member (clover age through seniors) and parent/guardian must sign through the 4HOnline system the **Code of Conduct** to be an active 4-H member. If you do not have access to the internet please contact the 4-H Office.

<u>4-H Projects:</u> Each member selects an area of interest, called a 4-H project, they would like to learn about during the year. There are over 150 different projects to pick from in Maryland 4-H. Project areas include Animal, Environmental, and Human Sciences.

4-H Curriculum promotes positive youth development through experiential learning. We believe that kids retain more information -- and have more fun! -- when they are part of the learning process. All of our curriculum products contain this element of experiential learning. With over 350 books and educational kits in 60 different categories, there is sure to be something to excite and engage the youth with whom you work! All of the curriculum goes through a rigorous peer review process, ensuring the highest quality of all of our materials.
 http://www.4-hmall.org/Category/educationresources.aspx

<u>Animal Projects:</u> Some projects have specific enrollment and ownership requirements in the Maryland 4-H program. Ask your local club leader or the county 4-H team if you have questions or are interested in carrying an Animal Project.

 For all animal projects the Code of Animal Science Ethics section in the 4HOnline system needs to be updated each year with a current date, be signed and the boxes tick marked.

Record Keeping: 4-H is proud to teach record keeping as a life skill to our members. Each year 4-H members keep records of activities and events attended for 4-H and in their community. A training is offered annually to help new and old members learn how to compile their records in the 4-H Record Book.

- A Record Book cover can be acquired from the local 4-H county office.
- A **Record Book** is a requirement that needs to be completed by ALL Frederick County 4-H members each year, except for Clovers(ages 5-7) or first year members.
- Seniors(ages 14-18) may choose to complete a Resume instead of a Record Book.

- This is a year long record book of your projects.
- Talk to your club leader for deadlines and more information so you know what you need to work on throughout the year.
- Finished record books(reflecting the newly ended year) are submitted to the 4-H
 member's primary club leader for review in the beginning of the year; all books that the
 club leaders are sending on to county competition, are then hand delivered by the Club
 Leader to the Frederick County 4-H in early February for review and judging.
- A 4-H member may be nominated for an award at Achievement Night (April) based on the completeness and quality of the record book submitted to their leader.
- Any record book submitted with missing or incomplete sections will be returned to the H'er for revisions, and then returned to the primary club leader for approval.
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Maryland 4-H offers two great online resources to learn about opportunities in 4-H. <u>The Family Guide</u> and <u>Member Guide</u> publications are found under Family Resources in the Frederick County 4-H website.

Feel free to contact the Frederick County 4-H Office at: Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 4:30 pm Phone: 301-600-1589 Erin Kline, 4-H Administrative Assistant erkline@umd.edu