



4-H Youth Development Program Offerings

Cornell Cooperative Extension | Schoharie and Otsego Counties



Head • Heart • Hands • Health

Dear 4-H Members, Family and Volunteers,

Welcome to the new 4-H program year! Cornell Cooperative Extension of Schoharie and Otsego County are proud to present this year's edition of Program Offerings. It will provide you with information regarding the numerous opportunities available at county and state level. We encourage you to consider taking part in any event that interests or intrigues you.

To our parents and volunteers, we all thank you for all the time, talents and energy that you share with members and clubs at all levels! It is profoundly true that we could NOT do it without you! 4-H is definitely a family affair. It is through your interest in youth activities that the entire program grows! Please remember that the staff at the Schoharie and Otsego Offices are here to help you with questions, comments, challenges and successes, big or small. Email, call or visit any of the offices, we will be delighted to see you.

In 4-H Service,

Catherine, Teresa



<https://www.facebook.com/schohariecounty4H/>

<https://www.facebook.com/otsegocounty4H/>



Key Websites

[www.http://cceschoharie-otsego.org/](http://cceschoharie-otsego.org/)

www.4-H.org

www.4h.cce.cornell.edu

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4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

What's it all about?

It's about

- **Empowering Youth and Adults**
4-H creates opportunities for youth and adults to develop skill, practical knowledge and wisdom through observing, doing and living through experiences; Empowered youth make decisions to improve their lives. Empowered adults and volunteers make a sustainable program.
- **Building Life Skills**
4-H help builds the skills and abilities that must be developed in order for youth and adults to reach their full potential.
- **Through Experiential Learning**
Experiential learning, or learning by doing, is the most effective way of helping children learn; it actively engages learners, encourages them to think and reason things out for themselves, makes them work harder, and ultimately, helps them learn more.

Thanks to Brenda Carpenter, CCE Tompkins County, for sharing this with us.



FAQ's - Frequently Asked Questions

What is 4-H?

A national organization that provides experiences for youth 5-19 years old, 4-H focuses on developing youth as individuals and responsible, productive citizens. 4-H involves youth in community-based clubs, school enrichment programs and both group and individual projects to develop the individual's four "H's" - Head, Heart, Hands and Health.

What do the "H's" stand for?

The 4-H emblem, a four-leaf clover with the Letter "H" on each leaflet, stands for the equal training of the Head - used to think, to plan, to reason; the Heart - to be kind, to be true, to be sympathetic; the Hands - to be useful, to be helpful, to be skillful; and Health - to resist disease, to enjoy life and to make for efficiency.

Who can be active in a 4-H club?

Youth 5-19 years old can be club members. Adults are needed as volunteers. 4-H Alumni are always welcome as event judges, board members and in other volunteer positions. Parents can take an active role by being 4-H project leaders or helping in other ways.

How do I join 4-H?

In Otsego County, call 607/547-2536 or in Schoharie County 518/234-4303. A 4-H extension educator will tell you which club is closest to you and how to reach the club leader for meeting times and locations.

Why should I join 4-H?

Join 4-H to make friends, have fun and learn to do things. Interested in rocketry, pets and small animals, forestry, sewing, or anything else? In 4-H, you can focus on individual interests while still being part of a team.

How do I start a 4-H club?

We would be glad to help you start a 4-H club. If you have five or six friends who are interested and an adult willing to serve as a volunteer leader, we can work with you to make your club a success.

How often does 4-H meet?

Some clubs meet once a week while others meet once a month. Some groups meet to learn about one project for several hours at a time. Depending on your schedule, needs and interests, 4-H has something for you.

What else happens in 4-H?

In addition to club meetings, countywide, districtwide and statewide events are held. Once you become a member you will receive a 4-H Program Offerings which contains event dates as well as a 4-H newsletters "The Power of Youth" in Otsego County and "The Chronicle" in Schoharie County which provides additional information through the program year.

Is there a cost for 4-H?

Although there is no membership fee for 4-H, clubs may have dues or for supply fees for projects. Please make sure your registration form is received by your local office by January 1st to avoid paying a fee if you are a returning member. Late registration can prohibit your exhibiting in either fair. You are expected to pay for the cost of your projects whether it's building a lamp, baking bread or raising an animal. Many events do not have fees; however, there are charges for camps, conferences, workshops or seminars and similar programs. 4-H members participate in fund raising activities to provide support for their projects.

Questions about 4-H?

Contact either office in Schoharie or Otsego County.
Thank You to the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension 4-H for this fact sheet.

4-H PLEDGE

I pledge my HEAD to clearer thinking,
my HEART to greater loyalty,
my HANDS to larger service,
and my HEALTH to better living,
for my club, my community,
my country, and my world.



4-H MOTTO

“To make the Best Better”

Did you know The text 'Did you know' is followed by a cluster of four colorful speech bubbles (orange, pink, blue, and green) arranged in a diamond shape. Each speech bubble contains a white question mark.

The National 4-H Conference began in 1927 to recognize 4-H'ers from each state who had shown outstanding ability and fitness.

In 1911, the four-leaf clover emblem was created as the official 4-H emblem to replace the previously used three-leaf clover. The four-leaf clover emblem was patented in 1924.

4-H Annual Events

September	Labor Day, CCE Offices closed Farmers' Museum Autumn Harvest Festival Year-End Completion Sheets, 4-H Financial Reports (L-18) due to 4-H Office
October	First Day of New 4-H Year- Club and Individual Member Enrollment forms due to ensure continued communication and insurance coverage National 4-H Week-(First week of October) 4-H National Youth Science Day Columbus Day, CCE Offices Closed Annual NY State 4-H Agribusiness Career Conference, SUNY Cobleskill Insectapalooza, Cornell University, 9-3pm
November	4-H Livestock Auction Orientation Officer and Leader Training Veterans Day, CCE Offices Closed Achievement Night (Schoharie) Thanksgiving Day, CCE Offices Closed
December	Candlelight Evening at the Farmers' Museum Christmas Day, CCE Offices Closed
January	Public Presentation Training New Year's Day Observed, CCE Offices Closed Martin Luther King, Jr Birthday, CCE Offices Closed Leaders' Lunch, Brooks BBQ, Oneonta, (3 rd Saturday)
February	Public Presentations (Otsego & Schoharie) Presidents' Day, CCE Offices Closed

March

- Public Presentations (Otsego)
- March Dog Madness, Cornell University
- Regional 4-H Horse Bowl & Hippology
- Regional 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl
- Dairy Discovery Workshop, Cornell University

April

- NYS 4-H Horse Quiz Bowl
- NYS 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl
- State Teen Action Rep. Retreat (STARR), NYS Fairgrounds, Syracuse
- Cornell Vet School Open House
- Tractor Safety Certification Course (Schoharie)

May

- Animal Crackers at Cornell
- 4-H Calf Sale (Otsego)
- Capital Days, Albany, NY
- Memorial Day, CCE Offices Closed

June

- 4-H Horse certificates & large animal non-ownership certificates due to 4-H Office
- STEM Camp
- Career Exploration at Cornell University
- State 4-H Public Presentation

July

- Camp Shankitunk, Delaware County, Opens
- Independence Day, CCE Offices Closed
- Farmers' Museum Junior Livestock Show, Iroquois Farm, Cooperstown

August

- Otsego County Fair, Morris
- Schoharie County Sunshine Fair, Cobleskill
- NYS Fair, Syracuse



4-H Program Delivery in Schoharie and Otsego Counties

Offering a strong program is the goal of the Schoharie and Otsego Counties 4-H programs. The needs of each specific community will be address based on the volunteer involvement available and may be impacted by school district enrollment and regional 4-H districts.

4-H Programming Categories

There are 3 different categories for Otsego and Schoharie Counties. All offerings are dependent on interest level and volunteer availability.

- ❖ **Combined:** both counties participate at the same time and in the same pace
 - Officer Training, Discover 4-H
- ❖ **Similar:** same program or project is offered in both counties but may be held at different times and curricula may be slightly different. It will be noted if the event is open to either or both county membership.
 - Clinics, Bowls, Vet Science, Vegetable Marketing
- ❖ **Unique:** an event hosted by a specific county. Participation can be limited by school district enrollment, or regional 4-H districts. Similar programs can be developed in the other county
 - Robotics, Legislative Intern Program

4-H Contributing Educational Events

These events are offered to enrich the 4-H experience and compliment club activities.

Events marked as follows:

- ◇ are eligible toward the Outstanding 4-H Club Award
- △ are eligible toward the Outstanding 4-H Member Award
- # are appropriate for 4-H Cloverbuds

Further information regarding these recognitions is included in this booklet.

A certificate of participation is award to each 4-H participant. Please check your county newsletter for more information regarding dates, times and locations.

Any events that are open to **either Schoharie County or Otsego County** participants will be noted.

National 4-H Week- First week in October. All clubs are encouraged to promote the work of 4-H through activities in your community.

△ **4-H Team Competitions-** Horse and Dairy Quiz Bowls in Schoharie County and Dairy Quiz in Otsego County only. These events help members learn more about either species. Participants are tested by using electronic buzzers in a game. Winning teams can then compete at the regional or state level.

#△ **4-H Club Officer Training-** All club members are encouraged to attend this training to learn how to conduct an interesting and efficient 4-H Club meeting. New 4-H officers will receive specialized training for their specific role. Parents and volunteers are welcome to attend. Returning officers are not required to attend this training.

#△ **4-H Horse Camp-** Held in Otsego County but open to both counties. Hands on clinic with horses, it is held the last weekend in May and first weekend in June (not Memorial Day).

4-H Earn-An-Animal- Developed to help youth start a 4-H animal project, members are encouraged to apply for the following animals: beef calves, dairy calves, kids, lamb, chicks, piglets and rabbits. Applications are due in January and the recipients will be notified in April. These opportunities are subject to sponsorship and the recipient may be required to make a financial contribution toward the animal's purchase.

△ **4-H Dairy Judging-** For both counties. Learn to identify the ideal dairy cow. Those who are interested may compete for a spot on either counties 4-H Dairy Judging Team. To be on the team, participants must attend three judging competitions and three practices. Two teams from the Junior and Senior Divisions may attend the State Fair competition. Top senior individuals may also have an opportunity to judge at the national level.

△ **4-H Dairy Challenge-** For Otsego County and is to develop members' knowledge of the dairy industry and included product and equipment identification, feeds and feeding, farm safety and linear trait evaluation during the year. Members are divided into novice, junior and senior levels to test knowledge. Qualifying members may pursue state and national competition.

◇# **4-H Public Presentations-** For both counties, helps youth (ages 5-19) to develop skills and confidence in organizing, preparing and presenting a demonstration, speech or dramatic interpretation. A 4-H Project serves as a subject of the presentation. Events begin at the county level with county events with presentation before a team of evaluators and audience of peers. Selected 4-H members may go to a regional or state events.

△◇# **4-H Camp Shankitunk-** Located near Delhi, Delaware County, members have an opportunity to make friends, swim in the pool, enjoy programs etc. Campers live in units with other campers their own age and a counselor. Campers have required tasks and can register between 2-4 pm on Sunday and depart after the Friday Evening Parents Program at 5pm. Information is mailed in the spring.

△◇# **Schoharie and Otsego County Fairs-** These two fairs provide an opportunity to display project work and demonstrate skills learned through project work. Exhibits show personal growth accomplishment, social interaction, responsibility, and encourage 4-H teamwork. Each family is provided Fair information for appropriate classes.

Δ# Farmers' Museum Harvest Festival- Celebrate Fall and our horticultural heritage at the 1840s Living History Museum in Cooperstown. All 4-H members are invited to participate. Champion animals from the Junior Livestock Show will be on exhibit.

New York State Fair- Syracuse. Open to the members in both counties. Participation has the objectives:

- To help youth learn standards of quality project work
 - To promote an understanding of the 4-H Program by the public through a showcase of youth in action and in exhibition of their project work
 - To provide an additional opportunity for recognition of 4-H youth
- To promote an understanding of the 4-H Program by the public through the showcase of youth in action as well as exhibits of their project work
- To provide teens with experiences for social interaction, development and leadership
 - Teens can apply to be on the State Fair Teen Team

Examples of Regional and State 4-H Trips

There are several educational opportunities available to 4-H members to have new experiences, explore career possibilities and make new friends. 4-H Offices will accept applications for trips at any time but payment is due by the registration deadline. All events are first come, first served and may have fees. Dates for the trips and their deadlines, please refer to your county newsletter.

4-H Agri-Business Career Conference- Sponsored by 4-H, Suny Cobleskill and the NYS Farm Bureau This event is held at SUNY Cobleskill. The conference is open to all youth ages 14 and over who wish to become more aware of opportunities with agriculture and also academic requirements for professional positions available in the various agri-business. It will feature mini-tours to farms and operations in the Cobleskill area as well as seminars, guest speakers and guided tours of the SUNY Cobleskill agriculture facilities. Participants stay at an area hotel.

4-H Capital Days- Albany, NY. Occurring in May, 4-H Capital Days gives youth an opportunity to meet and interact with legislators and tell their 4-H story, create an awareness of career opportunities in New York State government, better understand state government, and network with delegates from other counties. Two delegates, are at least sophomores, are chosen by their county 4-H program. 4-H Capital Days is a NYS 4-H Educator sponsored event.

4-H Dairy Discovery Workshop- Ithaca, NY. Dairy Discovery is a hands-on workshop held annually at Cornell University in late March. It is a state-wide program for youth ages 14-19 years old. Each year the youth spend the 1½ days (Friday afternoon until Saturday late afternoon) here on campus learning about dairy careers and rotating through a series of hands-on stations which focus on a specific aspect of the dairy field each year. The focus of the Dairy Discovery workshops changes each year but includes the following areas: Dairy Herd Health and Management, Calf and Heifer Production Management, Quality Milk and Milk Production, Whole Farm Management Planning, and Maximizing the Feed Management Program. It is limited to the first 60 students to enroll.

4-H STARR- Syracuse Fair Grounds. The State Teen Action Representative Retreat (STARR) is a three-day, fun-filled event where 4-H teens participate in a variety of workshops and activities meant to challenge, excite and further develop life skills. The event is planned by teens and adults serving on the youth/adult STARR planning committee. STARR is open to all NYS 4-H Teens.

4-H Animal Crackers, Ithaca, NY. The annual Animal Crackers program, held at Cornell University, provides New York youth with fun, hands-on, science-oriented learning experiences on Animal Science topics. This workshop is for 4-H members interested in learning more about their favorite livestock, companion or pet animal species; emphasis on different species groupings and activities varies annually. Participants will learn about different aspects of animal care, interact and exchange information with faculty, staff, students, professional producers, industry experts, and more, utilizing the unique facilities of Cornell University. Hands-on workshops are planned for each species group.

4-H Career Explorations, Ithaca, NY. Career Explorations is a three-day event for youth on the Cornell University campus in late June/early July. The purpose of this program is to provide youth with exposure to academic fields and career exploration, to develop leadership skills, to provide hands-on experience in a college setting and to introduce you to Cornell University. The event is made up of two grade specific tracts: "University U" for youth entering grades 8 - 9 and "Focus for Teens" for youth entering grades 10-12.



Training Opportunities for Volunteers and Leaders

Throughout the year, trainings are held for adult and teen leaders, parents, school personnel or anyone planning to teach a subject to 4-H youth. These occasions are an excellent way to network with fellow volunteers, share ideas and successful techniques and to keep abreast of the latest information. Pre-Registration may be required and 5 participants is required to conduct a training.

Otsego County

4-H Issue Committee-Milford Central School. Held at 7pm, four times a year, this committee is comprised of volunteers from the current subcommittees: Auction, Consumer Science, Dairy Science, Dog Science, Horse Science and Livestock/Small Animal Science. Members assist Otsego County Staff in identifying program priorities, logistics and events. New volunteers to serve on this committee and the various sub-committees are always welcome. Please contact the 4-H Office in Cooperstown for more information. The 4-H Leader Training requirement for Outstanding 4-H Club Award can be met with membership on this committee and attendance at two of the four regular meetings.

4-H Public Presentation Workshop- watch the "Power of Youth" for time, date and location. Training is available for those who will be evaluating the members' presentation.

Quick Tips for the Otsego County Fair- watch the “Power of Youth” for time, date and location Designed for leaders and parents to learn more about 4-H Youth Development and involvement at the Fair. Questions about the fair, entries and the Fair book will be answered.

Volunteer Recognition and Training- Watch the “Power of Youth” for additional opportunities.

Reorganizational Meeting- Watch the “Power of Youth” for information for the August event.

Schoharie County

4-H Public Presentation Workshop- Watch the “Schoharie County 4-H Newsletter” for time, date and location. Training for evaluators of member public presentations.

Reorganizational Meeting- August, CCE Office, Cobleskill.

Leader Meetings: location, watch the “Schoharie County 4-H Newsletter”. Meetings held to update leaders on policies, introduce new club leaders and upcoming events.

4-H Club Information

A 4-H Club is an informal and educational youth opportunity. It serves to provide a way to encourage youth development including: decision making, interest in lifelong learning, teamwork, citizenship, leadership and time management.

How do you get a 4-H Club started?

- You need at least five young people 5 to 19 years old and two adult leaders who are willing to help. A 4-H Educator is available to assist you with everything you need to get started and there will be a mandatory meeting. Volunteer leaders must fill out a Volunteer Application with a subsequent reference and background check. New clubs enrolling before June 1 will be credited with current year while after June 1 enrollment credit will be for the following year.

When can I join 4-H?

- You can join 4-H at any time of the year, however, clubs of any size are usually formed in the fall of the year.

How big should a club be?

- This depends on the age of the members, where they meet and the leadership available. The average club in Otsego and Schoharie Counties usually has five to ten members and two or three leaders. All new clubs are encouraged to start small and increase in size when the club leaders feel comfortable.

What about officers?

• 4-H clubs may have officers. The 4-H Office provides helpful materials for presidents, vice-presidents, secretaries, treasurers, news reporters, recreation leaders, and historians. It is a good idea to wait until the second or third meeting to elect officers, when members have gotten to know one another. The club format is an excellent vehicle for leadership development!

How much does it cost?

The 4-H Office does not charge any fees. If a club wants money for activities, it usually charges dues or conducts a fundraising activity. Club fundraisers must be approved by the 4-H Office. Dues may not be used to keep someone from joining 4-H.

Is there more to the club experience?

• Yes! Opportunities abound for 4-H'ers to expand their experiences through countywide programs. These programs provide higher levels of learning and achievement along with forums for youth to share what has been learned. The programs also offer opportunities to meet youth throughout the county, the region, the state and the nation!

What types of clubs are there?

- Community Clubs: Caring adult leaders make use of 4-H curricula, resources and training to provide informal hands on experiential learning opportunities for youth.
- Cloverbud Clubs: Are special groups for members 5-8 years. Specific curricula and projects have been designed to meet the developmental needs of our youngest members.
- Special Interest Clubs: Have a common interest and focus, such as horses, public speaking, livestock, or dairy.
- School Based Clubs: Teachers make use of 4-H curriculum, resources and training in diverse subject areas that allow students to practice hands on experiential learning. These curricula support many of the educational standards required in classroom instruction. They provide an arena for teachers to use both formal and informal learning styles.

We had a great time! How do we renew our membership?

A representative from each club must come to the reorganizational meeting in the late summer to receive the packet of all the required information.

To receive maximum benefit from the program and ensure continuous insurance coverage and receipt of the 4-H newsletters, all re-enrollment forms are due to the 4-H no later than 4:30pm on October 1st.

It's important that a secretary report be submitted to your 4-H Office by the 5th of each month and members maintain an Annual 4-H Member Portfolio. Project record books are optional.

How do we get a charter?

Your club must meet the following criteria: membership of five or more, have a 4-H Club Organizational Leader (Project and Activity Leaders are encouraged.) and plan, adopt and submit a program for the year to the CCE office.

What are the Membership Policies?

- To participate in all activities, including Junior Livestock Show or the County Fair, a first time member must be enrolled by May 31st.
- Returning Members, either in a club or individual, must have reenrollment submitted by December 31st. After that date, showing at the county fair or Junior Livestock Show is prohibited.
- If you are not re-enrolled by October 1, you're not covered by 4-H Insurance and should not attend any 4-H events.
- Re-enrollments received by December 31st are subject to a \$5.00 late fee for each member. This is in addition to ineligibility to show at the County Fair, Junior Livestock Show and 4-H Year End Completion.
- Ages for Members must be 5-19 years of age to participate in 4-H programs: Cloverbuds are 5-7, 8-19 are regular 4-H members.

- **Residency**

Youth can participate in 4-H programs in one county only, generally the county of residency. This is not applicable to events specifically open to both counties' members.

- **What is independent membership?**

They are members who have no affiliation to a 4-H Club and enroll annually. This membership is only open to youth 8 years of age and older and reside in Otsego or Schoharie Counties. They work on projects on their own and at their own pace under guidance of a volunteer that is recognized by CCE. This may be a parent, grandparent, neighbor etc. To be formally recognized by the CCE, the volunteer must complete an enrollment form. Independent members are encouraged to support county fundraisers.

- **How do I sign up to volunteer with a 4-H Club?**

Contact the 4-H Office and they will be happy to help you!

Club Leader: Enrollment Form, two references forms must be submitted and a back ground check is done

Activity Leader: Enrollment Form and background check are required

Casual Leader: (for example: a volunteer that helps evaluate with public presentations) there is no required documentation

4-H Recognition

Exceptional efforts are recognized by CCE. Examples, with the criteria include:

- **4-H Certificate of Completion**
 - Complete one 4-H project. A project includes at least 5 activities with a minimum of 6 hours invested in the total project
 - Present at an area 4-H Public Presentation event or exhibit a 4-H project at the county fair
 - Submit an Annual 4-H Member Portfolio to the 4-H Office by 9/30
 - The 4-H Club Organizational Leader or in the case of Individual Members, the parent/guardian must submit 4-H Year End Completion Sheets per member by 9/30

- **Cloverbud 4-H Certificate of Completion**
 - Attend at least 6 4-H Meetings
 - Complete at least three Cloverbud 4-H activities
 - Present at an area 4-H Public Presentation event or enter a Cloverbud 4-H exhibit at the County Fair.
 - The Club Organizational Leader must submit Cloverbud 4-H Year End Completion Sheets to the 4-H Office by 9/30

- **Outstanding 4-H Member**
 - Complete a year's worth of work from 2 projects. Complete at least five activities per project
 - Participate in a community service project
 - Present at an area 4-H Public Presentation event
 - Exhibit 4-H project work at County Fair
 - Submit a 4-H Portfolio book to the 4-H office by September 30.
 - Participate in at least two 4-H county, regional, or state contributing educational event.
 - The 4-H Club Organization Leader, or in the case of individual 4-H members the parent/guardian, must submit 4-H Year End Completion sheets to the 4-H office by October 1.

- **Outstanding 4-H Club Officer**
 - Attend Officer Training, required for all new officers, optional for returning officers
 - Exhibit your Officer Book at the County Fair
 - President/Vice President- a notebook with agendas for your monthly business meetings
 - Secretary- 4-H Club Secretary's Book, along with monthly reports submitted by the 5th of each month for the preceding month.

- Treasurer- 4-H Club Treasurer's Book, along with 4-H Club Financial Statement submitted to 4-H Office by October 1 of the current 4-H Year.
 - News Reporter- 4-H Club News Reporter Book, along with minimum of three 4-H Club article to the newspaper. A copy of the original can be used in the News Reporter book if not used by the newspaper
 - Recreation Leader Book- A notebook of activities you prepared and executed, along with a review of them, for each meeting.
 - Other Club Officers- A notebook or written article reflecting your role as an officer in your 4-H Club, including job description and frequency. Suggestions for self-improvement and for the office are encouraged.
- **4-H Club Annual Seal of Achievement-** a seal is placed on the Club's Charter for those clubs who have:
 - 4-H Club enrollment and programs submitted to 4-H office within one month after the new club's organization of by 10/1 for reorganizing clubs.
 - 4-H Year End Completion Sheets for members and the Club by September 30th
 - 4-H Club Secretary Reports or Cloverbud 4-H Leader reports are postmarked/received by email by the 5th of the next month.
 - A majority of 4-H Club members complete a year's worth of work on a project. If none are recommended complete at least five projects activities (3 for Cloverbuds).
 - A majority of 4-H Club Members present at a 4-H Public Presentation Event or exhibit a 4-H project work at the County Fair.
- **Outstanding 4-H Club-** to receive this award, a club must complete the Annual Seal of Achievement, one or more 4-H Leaders must participate in at least one 4-H Training and a majority of the clubs' members must participate in at least of three of the following:
 - Promotion during National 4-H Week
 - 4-H Exhibit at the County Fair
 - 4-H Community Service- these are listed on monthly Club Secretary Report
 - Participate in a county wide fundraiser
 - Participate in an area 4-H Officer Training
 - Receive Outstanding 4-H Club Officer

Schoharie & Otsego Counties 4-H Awards Information

Leader Recommendation for Individual 4-H Awards

Due October 1st

Youth must submit this form completed by their 4-H club leader when applying for 4-H Individual Awards. Please submit with the current year Annual 4-H Member Portfolio and the required amount of project records.

Club Name _____

Leader Name _____

Leader Phone/Email _____

Name of Award Applicant _____

Years in 4-H _____

Please circle the award being applied for:

Heart of 4-H (Level 1)

Above and Beyond (Level 2)

Making the Best Better (Level 3)

Larger Service (Level 4)

And My World (Level 5)

Supporting comments:

Leader Signature _____

Individual 4-H Awards



General Criteria for ALL Individual awards

Members are annually eligible for ONE (1) Individual award. Each award level may be achieved one time. You must submit a completed Leader Recommendation for Individual 4-H Awards application and all supporting documentation on or before OCTOBER 1st.

General criteria for all Individual 4-H Awards.

1. Must be 8-19
2. Must have exhibited at County Fair, BOTH a completed Annual 4-H Member Portfolio AND individual Project Records
3. Must Submit a Leader Recommendation and completed Portfolio to the 4-H office on or before October 1st.

Heart of 4-H
(Level 1)

To receive this award, member must:

1. Complete 3 projects from at least 2 different project areas (cumulative).
2. Enter at least 2 exhibits at County Fair (in addition to Annual 4-H Member Portfolio AND individual Project Records).
3. Complete a minimum of 4 hours of Community Service.
4. Participate in COUNTY level 4-H Public Presentations.

Above and Beyond
(Level 2)

To receive this award, member must:

1. Complete 5 projects from at least 3 different project areas (cumulative).
2. Enter at least 4 exhibits at County Fair (in addition to Annual 4-H Member Portfolio AND individual Project Records).
3. Complete a minimum of 6 hours of Community Service.
4. Participate in COUNTY level 4-H Public Presentations.
5. Spend at least 2 hours on marketing 4-H (i.e.: parades, booths, window displays, newspaper articles).

Making the Best Better
(Level 3)

To receive this award, member must:

1. Complete 10 or more projects from 5 or more project areas (cumulative).
2. Enter at least 8 exhibits at County Fair (in addition to Annual 4-H Member Portfolio AND individual Project Records).
3. Complete a minimum of 10 hours of Community Service.
4. Participate in COUNTY level 4-H Public Presentations.
5. Spend at least 4 hours on marketing 4-H (i.e.: parades, booths, window displays, newspaper articles).
6. Participate in a District or State level event (State Fair, Career Ex, and Bowls).

Larger Service
(Level 4)

To receive this award, member must:

1. Complete 15 or more projects from 6 different project areas (cumulative).
2. Enter at least 12 exhibits at County Fair (in addition to Annual 4-H Member Portfolio AND individual Project Records).
3. Complete a minimum of 15 hours of Community Service.
4. Participate in COUNTY level 4-H Public Presentations.
5. Spend at least 4 hours on marketing 4-H (i.e.: parades, booths, window displays, newspaper articles).
6. Participate in 3 District or State level events (Presentations, State Fair, Career Ex, and Bowls).

And My World
(Level 5)

To receive this award, member must:

1. Complete 25 or more projects from 7 or more project areas (cumulative).
2. Enter at least 25 exhibits at County Fair (in addition to Annual 4-H Member Portfolio AND individual Project Records).
3. Complete a minimum of 25 hours of Community Service.
4. Participate in COUNTY level 4-H Public Presentations.
5. Spend at least 6 hours on marketing 4-H (i.e.: parades, booths, window displays, newspaper articles).
6. Participate in 4 District or State level events (Presentations, State Fair, Career Ex, and Bowls).

Fundraising in 4-H

Fund raising is way to help your club raise needed money for a program activity. Keep in mind the following ideas:

- Too much fund raising is not good, it gives a bad impression that your club is always looking to sell something and may ultimately limit success.
- A current fund raising permission form is in the current 4-H Club Organizational Packet or on the CCE Schoharie and Otsego County website

Understanding 4-H Evaluation System- the Danish System

To appraise projects of any 4-H member, evaluators use the Danish System. Youth are evaluated to gain appreciation of excellence and quality of workmanship and to inspire them to improvement. It also encourages youth to think critically and objectively about their work and themselves. This is the most common method to evaluate projects. It does not compare work of one youth to another. Rather, the evaluation is made against a standard based on a youth's level of experience or age. If it meets high standards, it receives an excellent rating and a blue ribbon. A red ribbon signifies very good work and a white ribbon is for worthy work that could be improved.

Who are the evaluators?

Evaluators hare people who wish to help 4-H members learn and grow. Not all evaluators have the same training or background. The process is never perfect as evaluators can only assess what they can see.

Are Cloverbuds evaluated the same way?

Yes, these members are evaluated in the same way. They do not compete against one another for their projects. They are recognized with a special 4-H Cloverbud ribbon.

What 4-H Recordkeeping is needed?

Recordkeeping is a skill that is encouraged to members nationally as it teaches goal setting skills and gives an opportunity to reflect on experiences and to set new objectives. Another benefit is that it can help in application for future scholarship applications.

- ✓ **Activity Sheet-** This form summarize completed activities and allows reflection on what was learned. It also helps with completion of the Annual 4-H Member Portfolio and Project Records.
- ✓ **Annual 4-H Member Portfolio and Annual Cloverbud Member Portfolio-** These are a summary of a member's yearly experience. It is submitted to the 4-H Office by October 1st to receive the year end completion award on Achievement Night. Both portfolios can be submitted as a fair entry.

- ✓ **Project Record-** This is measurement tool for members to use to see their own progress on projects. It is an integral part of the project and is required for project completion. Some Project Records include their own record sheet and generic forms are acceptable in the absence of a specific project record. This can also be submitted as a fair entry.
- ✓ **4-H Achievement Book (Yearly or 4-H Career)** - This book is to organize 4-H accomplishments of a member throughout the year and it can be submitted as fair entry. It is a 3 ring binder with divider tabs for Activity Sheets, Project Records and the Annual 4-H Member or Cloverbud Member Portfolio. It may include photos and award if the member does not have a scrapbook.
- ✓ **4-H Scrapbook-** These books contain photos, news articles, programs, awards and other items relevant to 4-H activities.