

PREPARE FOR THE FAIR!

2019 NEW JERSEY STATE FAIR®/SUSSEX COUNTY FARM & HORSE SHOW

Deadlines

**Monday,
July 1**

Entry Forms, Record Books, & and Fair Pass Request Forms Due at 4-H Office by 4:30 pm

IMPORTANT FAIR DATES

Date	Event	Time
Saturday, July 20	Shotwell Building Set up (Volunteers Needed)	9-3pm
Saturday, July 27	Rabbit Clubs Power Washing and Cage setups	9 am
Sunday, July 28	Drop off projects (Forestry & Conservation, Child Care, Home Furnishings, Arts & Crafts, Art, Ceramics, Needlecraft, Photography, Construction, Hobbies & Collections, Woodcraft, Canine & Feline Studies) at Shotwell Bldg.	3-5 pm
Tuesday, July 30	Club booth set up and Project Specific Drop off (Shooting Sports, Club Banner/Sign, Clothing) at Shotwell Bldg.	3-9 pm
Wednesday, July 31	Club booth set up and Project Specific Drop off (Shooting Sports, Club Banner/Sign, Clothing) at Shotwell Bldg. Registered clubs Hodgepodge Market Drop off at the Shotwell Bldg.	3-9 pm 5-8 pm
Thursday, August 1	Rabbit & Small Animal Check-in & Drop off	7-9 pm
Friday, August 2	2019 NJSF/SCFHS Begins!	10 am
	Rabbit & Small Animal Check-in & Drop off	8am-9:30am
	Drop off Fruits, Vegetables, Flowers & Herbs at Shotwell Bldg.	9-11 am
	Opening Ceremonies in Ag. Arena (parade at 6:00)	6:30 pm
Saturday, August 3	Shotwell Spotlight 4-H Open House	11 am-2 pm
Tuesday August 6	Market Animal Social and Auction	5-9 pm
Wednesday, August 7	4-H Food Judging (entries should arrive between 9:30am-12pm)	10-2 pm
	Cloverbud Carnival (in Ag Pavilion)	6-8 pm
Thursday, August 8	Lois Chamming Best of the Best Awards	7:45 pm
	Round Robin Showmanship (Ag Arena)	8-10 pm
Sunday August 11	Premium and Ribbon Pick Up, Project Pick Up, Club Booth Breakdown.	5-7 pm

2019 NEW JERSEY STATE FAIR®/ SUSSEX COUNTY FARM & HORSE SHOW

The 2019 Fair will open at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, August 2 and continue until 5:00 p.m. Sunday, August 11.

PROJECT RECORD BOOKS

To be eligible for fair passes all project record books are to be submitted to the 4-H Office by July 1. If your project is not complete, (your project is competing at the fair or you have competitions after the fair) your record book should still be up-to-date and submitted with a Fair Review Label.

For those whose project record books will still be a “work in progress” by 7/1

An up-to-date record book should include:

- **Start of Year Goals**-completed and signed,
- **Activities/Events**—up-to-date including club meetings, competitions attended, participation in public presentations and club meetings
- **Financial Records** (up-to-date; totals are not required)
- **Fair Review Signatures*** (signatures by the member, parent and club leader required)
*adhesive labels are available upon request from the 4-H Office.

All books should be completed with all appropriate signatures. Any books turned in without the proper signatures (i.e. start of year goals and end of the year or fair review) will not be accepted.

After the Fair, complete record books are to be re-submitted for year-end evaluation. A completed record book should include the above sections completed, as well as:

- ∞ *Looking Back* (reflections on the year’s accomplishments),
- ∞ *Thinking Ahead* (goals for the coming year),
- ∞ *Financial Records* totals for all areas including the net project cost table,
- ∞ *4-H Story* and All end-of-year signatures.

Record Books with Fair Review labels should be returned to the 4-H Office no later than October 1.

FAIR PASSES

Fair passes are provided to 4-H members through their respective club in recognition of their participation in the 4-H program and service to the Fair. It is important that we are able to show the contributions Sussex County 4-H makes towards the success of the New Jersey State Fair®/Sussex County Farm and Horse Show. Parent/Guardians are eligible for up to 2 “parent” passes per family at the cost of \$15 per pass for those with members who are eligible.

4-H Regular Members:

- Enrolled in 4-H by 1/1/19
- 4-H Member in Good Standing to include 70% attendance or better and other criteria as established by your club.
- Up-to-date project record book submitted to the Sussex 4-H Office (completed or with fair review signatures sticker) no later than 7/1/19.
- Club or county level public presentation as required by individual clubs.
- Submit a complete Livestock and/or Shotwell exhibit entry form.

Cloverbud Members

- Enrolled in 4-H by 1/1/19
- 4-H Member in Good Standing to include 70% attendance or better and other criteria as established by your club.
- Record book—*as required by a club*
- Club or county level public presentation —*as required by a club*
- Submit a complete Livestock and/or Shotwell exhibit entry form.

Receiving a fair pass is not just an invitation to attend the Fair; 4-H members are expected to help out. On the registration, form there is an area for the member to indicate their participation.

- 4-H members with livestock are expected to work with their club in preparing for shows, caring for their animals and answering questions from the public about their animals during the time they are at the Fair. Consider displaying educational posters, giving tours or sponsoring a story hour for your club’s project area. Entry Forms for Livestock Clubs can be found at www.sussex4h.org.
- All members may exhibit their projects (such as arts, crafts, photography) in the Shotwell Building (under the guidelines in the 2019 Exhibit Catalogue). If you have items on display as your only entries in the fair, it is highly encouraged you to assist in staffing the Shotwell building. The Shotwell Entry form and the 2019 Exhibit Catalogue can both be found at www.sussex4h.org.
- Act as a 4-H Ambassador in the Shotwell Building. Be available to answer questions about 4-H and the exhibits and crafts displayed. You can sign up online here: [Shotwell Building Sign-up](#)
- All members of age (12 and up) are encouraged to work a shift at the Ag Division Food Booth. One or many clubs take a shift together. Contact Allison McDermott, Call or text (973) 477-7383 or email allym24fan@hotmail.com to volunteer for a shift. You may also stop in during set-up and throughout the week to see what shifts are still available.
- Meet and greet the public dressed as Clover the 4-H Mascot.

There are many other opportunities to volunteer during the Fair. If a member did not qualify for a Fair pass, they may receive day passes to volunteer at the Fair. See section on Volunteering at the Fair.

**BE SURE TO SIGN AND CARE FOR YOUR FAIR PASS!
YOU WILL NOT BE ISSUED A REPLACEMENT IF LOST OR DAMAGED.**

4-H Exhibit Catalog

The 2019 4-H Exhibit Catalog, Shotwell Exhibit Entry form, and Livestock entry forms are available for download from the Sussex 4-H Website (www.sussex4h.org). *If you are unable to do so, please contact the 4-H office to request a hard copy.*

You may have entries in multiple departments. For example, livestock members are encouraged to submit artwork (paintings, photographs, pastels, etc.) and/or crafts (models, collections, albums, etc), in addition to showing their animal(s). Information for entering exhibits in the Shotwell Building is included in the 2019 Exhibit Catalogue.

Please be aware that there have been changes and additions to the following departments in the past few years, so be sure to double check section and class # before filling out any Entry Form:

- **Department 8: Food & Nutrition-** There have been additions added to the Beginner and Intermediate Sections. Salads were removed from the Advanced section. Also, those not in the Foods and Nutrition project may only enter a maximum of 3 entries.
- **Department 13: Needlecraft-** Many changes made to this department last year, specifically Section A-Knitting and Section B-Crocheting. Please read the catalog carefully before entering your project.
- **Department 14: Home Furnishings-** Class 13 had become Seasonal Door/Wall Decor
- **Department 15: Creative Arts-** Now has a section for **Jewelry**. Please be sure to review so that your entry is classed in the correct section and class.
- **Department 16: Art is now Fine Arts.** Many changes made. Some classes removed and some added. Be sure to review before entering an item into this department.
- **Department 17: Ceramics-** Complete change to this department so read the catalog carefully before entering your project. These changes are consistent with how pieces are entered/judged in other shows.
- **Department 18: Photography-** Cell Phone class has been removed and Black & White /Sepia has been added. **All photos MUST list on back what type of Camera was used or will be disqualified** (ie-Apple iPhone 8, Google Pixel 2, Nikon D850, Kodak Pixpro AZ252).
- **Department 28: Small Animals-** now includes intermediate classes for both rabbits and covies.

Please be sure to follow the entry rules carefully to ensure your project is properly entered. Entries that are not properly entered may be subject to disqualification. YOU (member/parent) are responsible for properly entering your project (or reviewing your child's entry form). Club leaders should be able to assist you. If the maximum number of projects entered for a class or department is exceeded, project(s) may also be disqualified.

If you have any questions on what Department, Section or Class a project in the Shotwell Building should be entered under, check with the 4-H Office. Emailing a picture of the entry would be the quickest way to have questions answered.

SHOTWELL BUILDING

Volunteers are needed to assist in setting up the Shotwell Building. We will be dusting off and putting together displays and booths as we set the floor plan for the fair. **Help is needed on Saturday, July 20 between 9 am to 3 pm**, if interested please call Tanya Patrie at (973) 948-3040 x4 or you may [sign up online](#).

The following is the schedule of when entries should be dropped off/checked into the Shotwell Building:

Exhibit Drop-Off Schedule		
Date	Department	Time
Sunday, July 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Forestry & Conservation• Child Care• Home Furnishings Arts & Crafts• Art Ceramics• Needlecraft• Photography• Construction• Hobbies & Collections• Woodcraft Engineering	3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, July 30 Wednesday, July 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Club Booth Display• Clothing• Shooting Sports	3:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
Friday, August 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vegetables• Herbs, Flowers, Fruits	9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
Wednesday, August 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Foods & Nutrition• Baked Goods• Food Preservation	9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (with judging Beginning at 10 a.m.)

Be sure to review the [2019 Exhibit Catalog](#) when filling out the sections and classes on your [Shotwell entry form](#) as there have been many changes and additions made to the catalog both, last year and this year, specifically: Arts & Crafts, Ceramics, Photography, Forestry & Conservation, Fine Arts, and the Needlecraft departments. Also, we will be strictly enforcing that no entry may be the result of a school project/assignment. Entries to be found as such will be disqualified. [A guide to filling out the Shotwell Entry form can be found here.](#)

'Notecard(s)' for your exhibit(s) are also welcome. These index cards should be placed with your Shotwell Building entries on display. They answer questions such as; What I learned while making this project; What inspired me to make/do this project; etc.. These cards help the Judges understand the motivation behind each project and understand the work that went into each entry and award accordingly.

CLUB BOOTH THEME

The theme for the 4-H club booth displays for the 2019 NJ State Fair/Sussex County Farm & Horse Show is...

“Wow - 4-H Does THAT!”

Unbelievably, there are still many people who do not know what 4-H is or what we do. Let's show those who pass through the 4-H building all the fun and exciting activities and/or events that you, our 4-Hers clubs & members, have participated in this project year and how many unique 4-H clubs we have in Sussex County. Please remember that booths should be a collaborative effort by club members.

To promote conservation and keep 4-H green, please reuse or use recycled materials in your design. Creative interpretation of the theme and use of 'green' materials will be among the criteria used by judges

You will need to complete the [Club booth registration form](#) to register for the fair and reserve your booth. Forms are due by Monday, July 1, 2019, to the 4-H office.

4-H INFORMATION TABLE IN THE SHOTWELL BUILDING

We are asking every club, specifically those with entries and displays in the Shotwell building to sign-up for a two-hour shift at the information table in the Shotwell 4-H Building. Shifts are simple and painless. We just ask you to be a 4-H Ambassador by distributing information and promoting 4-H. You can talk about your 4-H experiences, and help children and adults sign up to receive information about registering as a 4-H member or becoming an adult volunteer.

Day passes can be issued to those who would like to volunteer for a two or four-hour shift, but do not already have a fair pass.

You may [sign up for a shift online](#) or by calling the 4-H Office at 973-948-3040.

SUSSEX COUNTY 4-H ANIMAL SHELTER SUPPLY DRIVE

Sussex County 4-H will be collecting pet supplies during the fair to be distributed to area animal shelters and rescues. We will be collecting items in the Shotwell Building throughout the fair.

The following is a suggested list of items being collected:

- Dog/Puppy Food (dry and canned)
- Dog Treats/Bones
- Dog Bowls
- Collars-all sizes
- Leashes
- Dog Beds
- Dog Toys
- Crates (wire or plastic)
- Puppy Play Pens (aka X pens)
- Flea Medications (spray or monthly)
- Cat/Kitten Food (dry & canned)
- Cat Treats
- Cat Bowls
- Cat Litter
- Litter Boxes/Litter Scoops
- Cat Toys
- Cat Carriers
- Cat Beds
- Cleaning Products (bleach, Pinesol, etc.)
- Paper Towels
- Garbage Bags
- Plastic Gloves (medium and large)

PICK-UP OF EXHIBIT ITEMS

Starting at 5:00 p.m. Sunday, August 11, club booths and large exhibits may begin to be taken down.

Individual exhibited item pick up will not begin until 5:30 p.m. Sunday, August 11. At that time, we allow a few exhibitors at a time to pick up their items in an orderly fashion.

Any items left after 7:00 pm on Sunday, August 11 will be discarded unless prior pick up arrangements have been made with the 4-H Staff.

Please be patient and understanding. We understand you would like to just go home and be done with the fair for another year, but so do those who are helping with break down and clean-up of the Shotwell Building. If you would like to volunteer to help please sign up at <https://signup.com/go/tarLaAr> or let Dave or Tanya know.

VOLUNTEERING AT THE FAIR

Community service and volunteering to help are part of 4-H. We encourage all to volunteer whenever/wherever possible at the fair. The success of the NJSF®/SCFHS has been built on the contributions of hundreds of local volunteers over the years (including 4-H members, parents, and leaders).

4-H AMBASSADOR/INFORMATION TABLE REPRESENTATIVE

DESCRIPTION: Act as an Ambassador for 4-H in the Shotwell Building. Be available to share information and answer questions about 4-H. In addition, share knowledge about the items and exhibits displayed. Shifts are 2 hours.

**You must be 14 years of age or bring along an adult to help*

DATE: Throughout the Fair (8/2-8/11)

CONTACT: Tanya Patrie (patrie@njaes.rutgers.edu) or Dave Foord (foord@rce.rutgers.edu)

Or sign up online at: [4-H Ambassador/Information table sign up](#)

AG DIVISION FOOD BOOTH—COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITY AT THE FAIR LIVESTOCK PAVILION FOOD BOOTH

DESCRIPTION: Help with food prep, serving and other activities related to managing the Food Booth for the Agricultural Division of the Fair. Profits from the food booth are used to support animal project activities at the fair. This is also a great opportunity to meet 4-H members from other clubs, as well as, gaining work experience. Shifts are 2-4 hours.

**You must be 12 years of age or older to volunteer behind the counter (liability concerns). Younger members can help clear and clean tables*

DATE: Throughout the Fair (8/2-8/11)

CONTACT: Allison McDermott, Call or text (973) 477-7383 or email allym24fan@hotmail.com.

CLOVERBUD CARNIVAL

DESCRIPTION: Help adults and older 4-H members with various jobs and tasks related to the carnival held in the Board of Ag. BBQ Pavilion for Cloverbud age 4-H members (K-3rd grade).

Regular 4-H members are encouraged to volunteer; younger members will need a parent to assist setting up, helping during the Carnival and breaking it down will take approximately 2 hours. They are also looking for leaders and volunteers with new and innovated ideas for games, and as always, donations of prizes.

DATE: Wednesday, August 7th, 6:00-8:00 pm (Set-Up at 5:30)

CONTACT: Cathy Lawrick (RMRS1958@YAHOO.COM) (973) 459-1058

CLOVER, THE 4-H ROVER!

DESCRIPTION: Dress up as the lovable, animated 4-H mascot **Clover, the 4-H Rover**. Walk around the Fair, greet, shake hands, and pose with fairgoers young and old.

**Must be 15 years of age or older*

DATE: Throughout the Fair (8/2-8/11)

CONTACT: Tanya Patrie (patrie@njaes.rutgers.edu) or Dave Foord (foord@rce.rutgers.edu)

You can also sign up here: [Clover Online sign-up](#)

50/50 Sales

DESCRIPTION: Assist the Sussex County 4-H Advisory Council in the Sale of 50/50 tickets. Proceeds from the sale support 4-H programming, as well as, 4-H fair premiums and ribbons.

**Must be 18 years of age or older*

DATE: Throughout the Fair (8/2-8/11)

CONTACT: Tanya Patrie (patrie@njaes.rutgers.edu) or Dave Foord (foord@rce.rutgers.edu)

4-H SPONSORED/RELATED ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED FOR THE FAIR

The following fun and/or educational 4-H events that are scheduled to take place during fair week. Many are open to the public, but some are for specific 4-H Members. For more information, to help with these activities, or to become a member of the committee responsible for an activity please contact Dave or Tanya at the 4-H office, (973) 948-3040.

AG Division Opening Day Parade

4-H Clubs are invited to march in the AG division opening day parade on August 2 that will begin at 6 pm. The lineup will be at 5:30 pm in the outdoor entertainment area. The Fair Official Opening ceremonies will be directly following in Ag Livestock arena.

If interested in participating contact Joan Smith (jbsmith11@embarqmail.com).

Shotwell Spotlight 4-H Open House

Saturday (8/3) 11am-2pm Shotwell Building

Do you wonder just how some of the projects on display are made? Want more information about what the fishing club does? Or just want to explore what else Sussex County 4-H has to offer? Join us on Saturday, August 3 for our 3rd Shotwell Spotlight from 12 pm- 2 pm in the Shotwell Building. We will be featuring project areas that exhibit in the Shotwell Building through demonstrations, make & take projects, activities, and displays.

New this year our 4-H Sewing clubs will also be sponsoring a fashion show of the projects their 4-H members crafted during the project year.

If you would like to present or your club would participate with their own information table or activity please contact: Tanya Patrie (patrie@njaes.rutgers.edu). Space is limited.

4-H Market Animal Sale

Tuesday (8/6) 7 pm, Livestock Arena

4-H members learn to raise, show and sell their livestock. This is the culmination of a 4-H member's daily commitment in feeding, housing and care of their project animal, whether a steer, lamb, pig, goat, or rabbit.

If 4-H members successfully raise a market animal that receives a blue ribbon, they earn the privilege to sell their animal at the live auction as a means for learning the business of agriculture. The goal is for 4-H youth to gain an understanding of the financial side of raising livestock.

Cloverbud Carnival

Wednesday (8/7) 6-8pm Ag. BBQ Pavilion

Includes FREE, fun activities for Cloverbud-aged children (K-3rd Grade) and their families. The children receive tickets for participating in the activities and redeem these tickets for inexpensive prizes. Clubs are welcome to set up their own stations or facilitate others.

Please contact Cathy Lawrick at (973) 827-7059 or RMRS1958@YAHOO.COM if you would like to help with or donate prizes to this year's 4-H Cloverbud Carnival.

Farm Follies – Wednesday (8/7) 7-9pm Livestock Arena

The Ag Division is sponsoring a fun family event with a variety of games for all to try. Some examples are egg and spoon races for the kids and frying pan toss for the ladies.

Lois Chammings' Best of the Best Awards

Thursday (8/8), 7:45 pm, Livestock Arena

The Chammings Award is given in recognition of outstanding skill and mastery in projects exhibited in the 4-H Shotwell Building during the Fair. One could say it is the top prize for those outside of the livestock project areas. Top honors are given out in the following areas: Plants/Horticulture, Fine Arts/Photography, Sewing/Construction, Crafts/Hobbies, and Foods.

4-H Round Robin

Thursday (8/8), 8-10pm, Livestock Arena

4-H members who win the Senior or Junior showmanship honors in one of the following shows: 4-H Alpaca, Beef Cattle, Dairy Cattle, Dairy Goat, Meat Goat, Horse, Poultry, Sheep, Small Animals, and Swine are automatically entered to participate in the Showmanship activity. Participants will receive a quick lesson on showing each animal and then are required to demonstrate what they have learned. The quickest Senior and Junior learners with the best skills will receive a \$50 check.

A time proven strategy for success is to travel barn to barn and learn how to show different animals from fellow 4-H'ers! Animal representatives will be available in their species barn on Thursday from 5:30 to 7:30 demonstrate showing their species and answer any questions.

THE 4-H HODGEPODGE MARKET

The Hodgepodge market will be back this year! All clubs are invited to take advantage of this opportunity to raise funds during the Fair to support their club's activities throughout the year.

The Market features a variety of crafts and handmade items made by 4-H members. All proceeds from the market directly support the local 4-H clubs participating. Located on the Warren's Way (agricultural) side of the Shotwell Building.

Hours are: Weekday 12-8pm, Weekend 10am-8pm with the exception of the last Sunday closing is at 4 pm.

The following is required of those who participate:

- Each club/participant will be required to sign up and staff the Market for 4 two hour shifts during the 10 days of the fair. At least 2 club representatives, one being an adult, must be present at the market booth to handle customer service and sales during their required turn. If this is not fulfilled, the club will not receive their proceeds.
- All items must be individually wrapped or packaged (if applicable) and priced. All items for sale are to be listed and emailed to Mrs. Connelly when registering for space at the market.

Your clubs merchandise can be purchased for resale or items made by your club members. But, the best-selling items the last few years were crafted by 4-H members!

If your club is interested in participating in the 2019 Hodgepodge Market or if you have any question you can contact Lisa Connelly at outofhermindcreations@gmail.com or 973-262-1076.

2019 4-H SHOWS AND EVENTS *SCHEDULE (TENTATIVE*)*

Friday, August 2, 2019	4-H Vegetable, Flowers & Herb Show (Shotwell Bldg.)	9:00am-11:00am
	4-H Beef Obstacle Course	4:00pm-6:00pm
	Ag. Division Opening Fair Parade	5:30 pm Line-up6:00 pm Start
	4-H Horse Show	Time TBD
Saturday, August 3, 2019	Shotwell Spotlight 4-H Open House	12:00am-3:00pm
	4-H Rabbit Clubs' Bake Sale (outside Shotwell Bldg.)	1:00pm-6:00pm
Sunday, August 4, 2019	4-H Swine Show (in Barn 4)	4:00pm
	4-H Rabbit & Small Animal Show	6:00pm-10:00pm
Monday, August 5, 2019 Poultry Day	4-H Dairy Goat Show	9:00am-5:00pm
	4-H Market Lamb Show	11:00am
	4-H Cat Show (Shotwell Bldg.)	1:00pm-4:00pm
	4-H Market Goat Show	1:00pm-5:00pm
	4-H Swine Show (in Barn 4)	4:00pm
	4-H Beef Show	5:30pm-9:00pm
Tuesday, August 6, 2019 Small Animal Day	4-H Cow Kids Showmanship	10:00am-12:00pm
	4-H Market Animal Social followed by Auction/Sale	5:00pm-10:00pm
Wednesday, August 7, 2019	4-H Junior Dairy Show	9:00am-5:00pm
	4-H Foods Judging (Shotwell Bldg.) -followed by a bake	10:00am-2:00pm
	4-H Cloverbud Carnival (in Ag. BBQ Pavilion)	6:00pm-8:00pm
	Farm Follies -sponsored by the Ag. Division	7:00pm-9:00pm
Thursday, August 8, 2019 Cow Day	4-H Sheep Breed Show	1:00pm-6:00pm
	4-H Dogs & Paws & Dinosaur Club awards (Shotwell Building)	6:00pm-7:00om
	Summer Blossom Open Garden	6:30pm-8:00pm
	Lois Chamings 4-H Best of the Best Awards (Ag Arena)	7:45 pm
	4-H Round Robin Contest	8:00pm-10:00pm
Friday, August 9, 2019 Sheep Day	4-H Goat Costume Class	5:00 pm-5:30pm
	4-H Rabbit & Small Animal Costume Contest	5:30-7:00pm
	4-H Poultry Costume Contest	5:30-7:00pm
	4-H Sheep Obstacle Course & Cloverbud Costume Parade	8:00pm
Saturday, August 10, 2019 Pig Day	Agriculture Expo (in Barn 1)	Open to close
	Rabbit Clubs' Potluck Dinner	TBD
	4-H Seeing Eye Demonstration	6:00pm-7:00pm
Sunday, August 11, 2019 Alpaca Day	Agriculture Expo (in Barn 1)	Open to Close

*Scheduling of all events in the Ag Arena is subject to change at the discretion of the Agricultural Division of the NJSF/SCF&HS.

4-H CODE OF CONDUCT

The 4-H Code of Conduct appears on permission forms and registration forms for the fair. It represents a standard of behavior for 4-H members and their parents. By signing, parents and members agree to behave in accordance with the “Code”. It is also digitally signed when enrolling/re-enrolling in 4-H Online at the beginning of the project year.

As with so many documents we sign, the Code may be overlooked or believed to be understood. Please review the 4-H Code of Conduct and remember to follow it.

For most, its requirements don't seem stringent or unreasonable. It asks all members of the 4-H community (parents, leaders, and members) to practice consideration for others, good sportsmanship, and honesty. None of these should be difficult to observe, they should come naturally.

Everyone should remember that at the fair you represent not just your club but also the *whole* 4-H program. How leaders, parents, and members behave reflects on all of 4-H. This is not just *in the ring* or during competition but everywhere. People generally have a very positive impression of the 4-H program. They read, hear and may have even seen 4-H clubs doing community service or marching in a parade. They come to the fair each year expecting to see 4-H'ers demonstrate their skill, expertise, and poise. The positive behavior demonstrated by 4-H'ers is part of the reason people return to the fair year after year.

Moreover, while good behavior reinforces people's impression of 4-H, it takes only one bad incident to embarrass the whole program. Unfortunately, people generalize so when they see bad behavior by one person, they associate it with the whole group.

Participating in the fair is not just about *you*. It should be a celebration of what your entire club has achieved. Take time to recognize what others have done whether they're new members just starting out or long-time members demonstrating skills they've learned over their years in 4-H. During the fair check out what other clubs have done. We have a big program in Sussex County. See what 4-H means to others.