

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS, VOLUNTEERS AND YOUTH WITHIN THE IDAHO 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Idaho families and youth trust the University of Idaho Extension system to provide educational programs in a safe environment for all participants. The opportunity to participate in and/or work with Extension's Idaho 4-H Youth Development program is a privilege and honor, not a right. Volunteers are to be positive role models. Youth and parents/guardians are expected to demonstrate appropriate behavior at all times. The following Code of Conduct has been established as the foundation for all individuals participating in University of Idaho Extension programs.

All Idaho 4-H Youth Development program participants are expected to:

- Work with youth, families, volunteers and Extension personnel in a cooperative, courteous, respectful manner demonstrating good sportsmanship and behaviors appropriate for a positive role model.
- Accept supervision from Extension personnel and cooperate with others; in addition, parents and youth will accept supervision from certified organizational and project leaders.
- Maintain open, honest communication with members, leaders, parents and Extension personnel.
- Uphold every individual's right to dignity, appropriate self-expression and individual development.
- Refrain from verbal or physical abuse of others and report such abuse, if observed. Any actions, such as conviction for child abuse or neglect, violent crimes, unethical behavior, substance abuse, verbal abuse, physical abuse, mismanagement of 4-H funds, or other serious offenses will not be tolerated.
- Respect, adhere to, and enforce the rules, policies and guidelines established at the county and state levels for the 4-H Youth Development program.
- Promote the spirit of inclusion and welcome participation of other individuals from all backgrounds. Comply with equal opportunity and anti-discrimination laws.
- Refrain from consuming alcoholic beverages, use of tobacco products and/or a controlled substance at 4-H events and activities. Being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs while in the presence of 4-H members at or during 4-H programs or activities is not acceptable.
- Inform Extension personnel of any incidents that may violate 4-H policies.
- Treat animals humanely and encourage all participants to provide appropriate and ethical animal care.
- Operate machinery, vehicles, and other equipment in a safe and responsible manner when working with youth and adults participating in 4-H/Youth Development programs.
- Ensure that 4-H participants are not required to purchase materials, equipment, animals or services from any specific places of business.
- Comply with all applicable laws of the city, county, and state of residence and/or location of 4-H activity.
- Handle all concerns regarding county/area 4-H program management internally within the University of Idaho Extension system.

Violating the Code of Conduct shall be grounds for action up to or including immediate removal from the 4-H activity/program and termination. Decisions regarding immediate removal, suspension or termination will be made by county Extension office personnel with subsequent notification of and consultation with the District Director and State 4-H Director. Volunteers who wish to appeal a decision may do so through the Appeal Process.

I have read, understand and agree to abide by this Code of Conduct.

Print Name

Signature

Date