

## **OHIO 4-H CODE OF CONDUCT**

4-H members, parents, and other adults participating in 4-H activities will:

1. Adhere to program rules, curfews, dress codes, policies, and rules of the facility being used.
2. Conduct themselves in a courteous, ethical, respectful manner, use appropriate language (including not using profanity), exhibit good sportsmanship, and provide positive role models.
3. Abstain from illegal behaviors, use of alcohol, illegal or illicit drugs, tobacco in any form, and/or any vaping products during 4-H events and activities.
4. Fully participate in scheduled activities.
5. Respect other's property and privacy rights.
6. Abstain from child abuse (physical and/or verbal) harassment, and actions that bully, ridicule, dominate, or display inappropriate behavior toward others.
7. Accept personal responsibility for behavior, destruction or theft of property including any financial damage.
8. Be responsible for any financial damage caused by inappropriate behavior.
9. Adhere to rules of safety.
10. Follow Ohio and county laws and regulations related to the care, handling, and possession of animals and living creatures.
11. Operate machinery, vehicles, and any other required equipment in a responsible manner in accordance with the directives of OSU Extension personnel and Ohio and county laws and regulations.
12. I will uphold and support the responsible and lawful use of social media. In so doing, I will not create or post social media content that is abusive, threatening, defamatory, obscene, harassing, or creates a hostile environment.
13. Follow the Ohio State University Standards of Behavior for Minor Participants Participating in Activities and Programs with Minor Participants.

As a program participant in OSU Extension, 4-H participants must practice good citizenship, leadership and self-control and not engage in discriminatory behavior, which includes harassment, discrimination, sexual misconduct, and retaliation.

This means you should not exclude anyone from participating in any program or activity, or discriminate against them because of their identity.

Identity includes: age, ancestry, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or protected veteran status.

A full definition of harassment and discrimination can be found in the Affirmative Action, Equal Employment Opportunity, and Non-Harassment/Discrimination policy.

Consequences for violating any part of this code of conduct may include, but are not limited to: removal from the 4-H program; removal from participation in the event in which the code of conduct has been violated (at the individual's expense); forfeiture of financial support; sanctions on or being banned from participating in future 4-H events; removal from leadership positions and/or offices held, etc. When warranted (e.g., violation of law) the situation may be turned over to the appropriate law enforcement authority.