

DELAWARE 4-H VOLUNTEER EXPECTATIONS

This Volunteer Expectations Form is an agreement accepted by volunteers who commit to the 4-H program. These Expectations shall guide their behavior during their involvement in the Delaware 4-H Program. Just as it is a privilege for Cooperative Extension to work with individuals who volunteer their time and energies to our 4-H program, a volunteer's involvement in Delaware 4-H is a privilege and a responsibility, not a right.

The Delaware 4-H program provides quality educational programs accessible to all county youth. The primary purpose of these Expectations is to insure the safety and well being of all 4-H participants (i.e., members, their parents and families, volunteers, and professionals). Delaware 4-H volunteers are expected to function within the guidelines of The University of Delaware Cooperative Extension and the Delaware 4-H program. ***Delaware 4-H volunteers shall be individuals of personal integrity; the opportunity to work with youth is a privileged position of trust that should be held only by those who are willing to demonstrate behaviors that fulfill this trust.***

Delaware 4-H volunteers will:

- Uphold volunteerism as an effective way to meet the needs of youth and adults.
- Uphold an individual's right to dignity, self-development, and self-direction.
- Accept supervision and support from professional Extension staff while involved in the program.
- Accept the responsibility to represent this county 4-H program and the Delaware 4-H program with dignity and pride by being positive mentors for the youth with whom they work.
- Treat others in a courteous and respectful manner, exhibit good sportsmanship and demonstrate behaviors appropriate to a positive role model for all youth.
- Respect, adhere to, and enforce the rule, policies, and guidelines established by your county 4-H program, the Delaware 4-H program, and The University of Delaware Cooperative Extension and given to you at orientation and available at <http://ag.udel.edu/4h/>
- Not abuse any 4-H participant by physical or verbal means and will report such abuse, if observed, to the appropriate authorities.
- Obey all laws of locality, state, and nation, including those related to the use of illegal substances, or the use of firearms.
- Comply with equal opportunity and anti-discrimination laws.
- Perform duties in a responsible and timely manner as outlined in the 4-H volunteer job description, and handle fundraising and finances in an ethical manner.
- Report immediately any threats to the volunteer's emotional or physical well being to the county 4-H professional.
- Accept the responsibility to promote and support 4-H in order to develop an effective county, state, and national program.
- Operate machinery, vehicles, and other equipment in a responsible manner.
- Handle and treat animals humanely and teach 4-H youth to provide appropriate animal care.
- Not consume alcohol while responsible for youth in 4-H activities nor allow 4-H youth participants under your supervision to consume alcohol or illegal substances.

I have read and understand the Volunteer Expectations outlined above. I understand and agree that any action on my part that contradicts any portion of these expectations is grounds for the suspension and/or termination of my volunteer status with the Delaware 4-H Program.

Name (print)

Signature of 4-H Volunteer

Date

Signature of Extension Professional

Date