

4-H Member Code of Conduct (Ages 5 to 17)

MEMBER INFORMATION

Name: _____
First Middle Last

Date of Birth: ____/____/____ Age: _____
MM DD YYYY

Club Name: _____ Email: _____

4-H MEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT

1. The purpose of the WVU Extension 4-H Program is to provide positive youth development. We believe in creating a safe learning environment that encourages four-fold youth development (i.e., Head, Heart, Hands and Health). All 4-H members participating in or attending club, county, regional, state and national programs, activities, events, shows and contests sponsored by the WVU Extension or representing 4-H at non-4-H events are required to conduct themselves according to the current West Virginia 4-H Member Code of Conduct and future modifications or amendments to the West Virginia 4-H Member Code of Conduct.
2. I am aware that my actions and decisions affect me and others. I acknowledge that I have been given a copy of the West Virginia 4-H Member Code of Conduct and I agree to stay up to date on any changes to this code of conduct and other relevant policies, procedures, or rules. I agree to conduct myself in accordance with the West Virginia 4-H Member Code of Conduct at all times. I understand that my failure to do so may result in the loss of privileges during 4-H programs, including involvement in future 4-H events or programs. My signature below demonstrates my agreement to abide by the West Virginia 4-H Member Code of Conduct, as well as any code of conduct established for a specific 4-H event or program I attend.

Signature of 4-H Member Date

I have read, reviewed and discussed the current West Virginia 4-H Member Code of Conduct with my child. I understand that my child will be expected to conduct himself/herself in accordance with the current West Virginia 4-H Member Code of Conduct and any future modifications or amendments at all times, and that failure to do so may result in the consequences stated in paragraph 2 above. I also understand that coordinators of 4-H programs, such as camps, overnight events and livestock shows, often establish specific expectations, guidelines and consequences, and should my child choose to participate in these events, he/she will be expected to review the rules and expectations for each event and follow them accordingly. I also acknowledge as a parent or legal guardian that I, or any adult representing my child at a WVU 4-H or Extension event, will conduct ourselves in accordance with the current West Virginia 4-H Member Code of Conduct and all other relevant policies, procedures, or rules.

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian Date

Print Name of Parent or Legal Guardian Email

**4-H members ages 18 to 21 must complete the
WEST VIRGINIA 4-H VOLUNTEER AND YOUNG ADULT 4-H MEMBERS (AGES 18 TO 21)
CODE OF CONDUCT AGREEMENT**
rebrand.ly/4H-volunteer-code-of-conduct-agreement

Return to your local WVU Extension office. Contact the state office at 304-293-2694 or 4hyouthdev@mail.wvu.edu if you have any questions or would like further information. Thank You!

WVU is an EEO/Affirmative Action Employer. Underrepresented class members are encouraged to apply. This includes: minorities, females, individuals with disabilities and veterans.

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, WVU is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, and reprisal of retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Reasonable accommodations will be made to provide this content in alternate formats upon request. Contact the WVU Extension Office of Communications at 304-293-4222. For all other ADA requests, contact Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at diversity@mail.wvu.edu.



West Virginia 4-H Member Code of Conduct

While attending 4-H activities and events, I will:

- Obey all rules established by the local, state and national 4-H program, event/program facilities, and all local, state and federal laws. If there are events where I may bring friends, family, or other individuals I agree that they will also follow the code of conduct.
- Conduct myself in a courteous manner with others, refraining from the use of profanity or language that is disrespectful and making sure my conduct and participation in 4-H projects, programs, exhibits and other 4-H or WVU Extension youth-sponsored activities is above all honest, courteous and fair.
- Conduct myself with good sportsmanship. I understand that a judge's decision is final. I will comply with directions of WVU Extension officials acting in the performance of their duties.
- Respect the authority of adult volunteers, youth leaders, WVU Extension staff and others in leadership roles.
- Refrain from possession, transport or use of firearms, bows and arrows, knives and other implements of harm except within the context of an approved shooting sport, archery or similar educational programs.
- Refrain from the use, transport or possession of alcohol, drugs or tobacco (including vaping products). I will not offer alcohol, tobacco products or illegal substances to other youths. If I encounter anyone using these substances, I will leave their presence immediately and report the incident to adult leaders or program staff.
- Not tamper nor use without permission or otherwise harm clothing, belongings or other personal property of participants, staff or volunteers. I will be courteous to other individuals and their property.
- Respectfully use the facilities, equipment and grounds made available by the West Virginia 4-H or WVU Extension youth program.
- Remain in the appropriate assigned program areas at all times and dress appropriately for each event.
- I will not abuse any other 4-H or youth participant or volunteer by physical or verbal means. I will engage in respectful behavior toward my peers, being careful to avoid harassment, hazing, pranking and initiations that invoke humiliation, embarrassment, or targeting individuals or that may cause physical or mental harm to another. If I encounter anyone engaging in any of these activities, I will leave their presence immediately and report the incident to adult leaders or program staff.
- Make an effort to include all my 4-H and youth peers in activities. I will promote a spirit of inclusion and welcome individuals from all backgrounds.
- Respect local, state and national 4-H and WVU Extension program social media rules and guidelines, and refrain from creating, possessing or transferring any images that are illegal or disrespectful toward others or the 4-H or WVU Extension youth program. In addition, where appropriate, I will ask permission before I take or transfer images of those participating in 4-H or WVU Extension activities. I will communicate (oral, written and electronic) in an honest, respectful manner in all situations involving the 4-H or WVU Extension youth program.
- I will treat all animals with respect. I will provide appropriate care. My animal's appearance or its performance shall not be altered, except using generally accepted fitting and animal husbandry practices.

Sanctions for misconduct relative to this 4-H and WVU Extension Member Code of Conduct can be requested from your local WVU Extension office or online at <https://extension.wvu.edu/youth-family/4h/forms>.