

# Montgomery County 4-H Handbook 2010-2011



[Alabama4H.com](http://Alabama4H.com)



## The Montgomery County 4-H Staff



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## What Is 4-H?

4-H is a learning by doing education program for boys and girls 9-19. It can involve “any kid...any time...anywhere” through one time events, camps, organized 4-H clubs (with officers and membership cards), or activities. Young people have an array of choices in their 4-H experience. Wherever energy, creativity, and involvement match the 4-H mission, values, and objectives that is 4-H!

4-H is the youth development and education program of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System. For more than 100 years, Alabama 4-H has helped young people develop into resourceful citizens and responsible leaders. To achieve the goal of helping youth become productive individuals, professional Extension staff enlist support from caring, concerned parents as well as volunteer and business leaders.

The purpose of 4-H is to foster skill development in young people. Youth are given opportunities to select from a variety of programs and projects. Individuality is valued, and each person is encouraged to discover his or her own skills, talents, and interests. 4-H helps young people learn to make decisions, think critically, build relationships, practice leadership, and develop a concern for their community and their world.



More Than You Ever  
**Imagined!**<sup>®</sup>

## **ALABAMA 4-H VISION**

Alabama 4-H is an innovative, responsive leader in developing youth to be productive citizens and leaders in a complex and dynamic society. Our vision is supported through the collaborative, committed efforts of Extension professionals, youth, and volunteers.

## **ALABAMA 4-H MISSION**

4-H is the youth development component of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System. 4-H helps young people from rural and urban areas explore their interests and expand their awareness of our world while providing opportunities to develop a greater sense of who they are and who they can become—as contributing citizens of our communities, our state, our nation, and our world. This mission is achieved through research based educational programs of Alabama A&M and Auburn Universities and an ongoing tradition of applied, hands-on/minds on experiences, which develop the heads, hearts, hands, and health of Alabama youth.

## **WHAT IS ALABAMA 4-H?**

4-H is a **community** of **young people**  
 **across America** who are learning  
**leadership, citizenship** and  
**life skills.**



# 4-H Pledge

I Pledge

My **Head** to clearer thinking

My **Heart** to greater loyalty

My **Hands** to larger service, and

My **Health** to better living

For my Club, my Community, my Country, and my World.

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## 4-H Emblem:

The National 4-H Club Emblem is the four-leaf clover. The clover is a symbol of Achievement and good luck.

## 4-H Club Colors

The national 4-H Club colors are **green** and white-  
White for purity  
and  
**Green** for growing things.

## 4-H Club Motto

**“To Make the Best Better”**



## What Can You Do in 4-H !

**Four-H** is the largest rural and urban youth organization in the world. When you join 4-H, you have taken a big step. As a 4-H member you will be learning by doing and become very busy. Here are the different ways you can be active in 4-H.

### **4-H Project Work**

In 4-H, projects are like hobbies. Projects are fun things to do to help you learn about different subjects you are interested in. We have over 50 different project areas, such as fish and wildlife, bicycle safety, child care, public speaking, animal care, sewing, nutrition, youth leadership, and community service just to name a few. While doing project work you will need to keep a record book of what you did. For example if you did an exhibit, or gave a demonstration or you may chose to write a story about your project.

### **4-H Competition**

4-Her's can also compete against each other in a variety of events on the local, county, regional, state and national level. You could win trophies, ribbons, certificates of recognition, money and trips.

### **4-H Workshops**

There are a variety of workshops held throughout the year on a variety of topics. Workshops on leadership, food and nutrition, showmanship, youth topics and holiday ideas.

### **4-H Community Service**

4-Her's will have the opportunity to participate in community service projects in their community. You will be able to help make your community become a better place to live, for yourself and your neighbors.

### **4-H Opportunities**

Through 4-H, you will have the opportunity to earn trips such as Regional Roundup, State 4-H Congress, 4-H Summer Camp, Natural Science Camp, Jr. Leadership Retreat, Sr. Mid-Winter Retreat, Citizenship Washington Focus. It is opportunities such as these that allow 4-Her's to learn new things and experience new places and make new friends.





Montgomery County  
4-H Calendar of County Events  
2010-2011

**September**

Organize clubs  
4-H Football Day

**October**

Alabama National Fair  
National 4-H Week  
Farm-City Festival  
Chicken Q Contest

**November**

Farm-City Essay and Poster  
Contest  
4-H Community Service  
Bread Workshop

**December**

Holiday Craft Workshop  
Holiday Parade

**January**

Learn to Sew Workshop  
4-H Hog Show

**February**

Teen Mid Winter Retreat  
4-H Demonstration Workshop  
4-H County Livestock Expo  
Piggy Bank Exhibit

**March**

Alabama Citizenship Focus  
4-H State Steer & Heifer Show

**April**

4-H County Events Day  
4-H Day at the Space and Rocket  
Center  
4-H Dairy Poster Contest

**May**

4-H Recognition

**June**

4-H Regional Roundup  
4-H Summer Camp

**July**

State 4-H Horse Show  
State Competitive Events Day

**August**

Jr. Leadership Conference

Contact:

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for information on these or any

4-H Activities in Montgomery Co.

Contact us:

334-270-4133



## Montgomery County 4-H Program

A **4-H Club** is an organization of boys and girls between the ages of 9-19. **Members** elect officers and conduct business meetings. Each club has a **local sponsor**, called a local leader. This person may be a teacher, parent or a person who is interested in volunteer work with young people. The **leader** is the key to a good club.

Local recognition is held during the club meeting. Those who win at the local level will be eligible to compete at the county level. Those winning county level will advance to the regional level. Then those who win there will advance to the state level. At this level the county agent will help those individuals with their project and prepare them for competition.



**4-H Motto: To Make The Best Better**



**You can make A Difference  
Become a 4-H Volunteer**



***Discover the world together...***

***be a 4-H volunteer !***

**Who:**

Adults of all ages who want to share their knowledge and talents with young people through a quality youth development program.

**What:**

Adults and youth spend time together, learning new skills, developing hidden talents, making new friends and having fun. Flexibility to fit your interests. Do you like bird watching, cooking, gardening, photography, or working with animals? There are many interesting projects and fun things to do as a part of 4-H. You'll enjoy working with young people, and learn right along with them! Imagine the satisfaction of watching a young person blossom. The goal of 4-H is to help young people develop as individuals and as responsible and productive citizens in their communities. Adult volunteers who spend time with 4-H members are key in this process. You can help form the foundation on which productive citizens are built. 4-H volunteer leaders have many opportunities to acquire training, learn new skills, attend conferences, and meet people.





### Suggested duties of 4-H Leaders

1. Have students complete enrollment form.
2. Assist with election of officers.
3. Assist 4-H members in planning for club meetings.
4. Remind officers to be prepared for meeting.
5. Remind members of upcoming contests
6. Assist 4-Her's in selecting projects.
7. Encourage 4-H members to attend 4-H events.
8. Encourage club winners to participate at next level.
9. Meet with 4-H members at all club meetings to assist officers.
10. Help secure local people to judge local events and contests.
11. Teacher/Leaders may be asked to serve on Advisory Board to Provide input from a teacher/educator's perspective.

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We are on Facebook  
Montgomery County 4-H/Facebook.com

or

on the web  
<http://www.aces.edu/counties/Montgomery/>

visit the 4-H site  
<http://www.aces.edu/fourh/>

Contact your local Extension Office to Volunteer:

Montgomery County Extension System Office  
Two East Office Center  
400 Eastern Blvd.  
Suite 107  
Montgomery, Alabama 36117  
334.270.4133



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