

4-H CLUB STANDARDS **Androscoggin & Sagadahoc Counties**

To be an officially recognized 4-H Club, receive a 4-H Charter and subsequent annual gold seals of achievement, your club must meet the following conditions:

- * Have at least four members and one or more certified enrolled adult leaders to advise the club.
- * Enroll the club with the Extension Office after getting organized, then annually for renewing members, preferably during the month of October but no later than December 31. New members and leaders may enroll at any time.
- * By the end of November, submit to the Extension Office a "Plan of Work" with specific educational goals and objectives for the year.
- * Elect members as officers to lead the club's activities; (see the "4-H Officers Handbook").
- * Hold at least eight club meetings/activities during the 4-H year, October 1 – September 30.
- * Send to the Extension Office a copy of the "Secretary's Report" of each meeting or activity on forms provided by the Extension Office. These will be summarized in the monthly 4-H Newsletter.
- * During the year conduct: a.) a community service program, b.) a family-participation activity and c.) a health and/or safety program, and describe these in your Secretary's Reports.
- * Engage in a public promotional activity to increase awareness of 4-H in your community and describe it in your Secretary's Reports. It's good to plan this for National 4-H Week, which is always the first full week of October.
- * Participate in the hall exhibits at a County Fair.
- * To help build a strong county 4-H Program, Clubs are always encouraged to have representation at all regular county 4-H Leaders' Association meetings. Clubs **MUST** have leader representation at a minimum of TWO county Leaders' Association meetings annually.

To remain in good standing and be eligible to participate in County Activities and receive a County Award, members must:

- * Be enrolled by April 1.
- * Participate in positive, contributing ways in at least 75% of club meetings.
- * Complete a "Project Record" of each project undertaken on forms provided by the Extension Office.
- * Do a demonstration as part of their group learning experience, at a club meeting, county event, or County Fair.
- * Participate in a County Fair by entering one or more of the following: a Hall Exhibit, Animal Event, or 4-H Demonstration.
- * The number of projects each 4-H'r works on during the year depends on the type of project and the maturity of the 4-H'r. Leaders should use good judgment in challenging members to broaden their horizons while encouraging them to succeed in activities that build Life Skills and prepare them for the 21st century. Leaders should make sure that each project is a legitimate 4-H Project as described in our "4-H Project Record Guidelines". **Every member must complete at least one project, including the Project Record.** If it is a large animal project, one project may be enough. But members may be encouraged to do more than one less-involved project.