



## HOWARD COUNTY



### 4-H ACTIVITIES AND AWARDS

#### I. CONTESTS AND SHOWS FOR 4-H'ERS

- A. **Visual Presentations** - 4-H'ers can reinforce what they're learning in their projects by showing others. Visual presentations are encouraged to be given in any project area at the local club, or on the county and State levels. A county contest is usually held in March. Award winners have the opportunity to present their presentation at State Fair.
- B. **Public Speaking** - 4-H'ers can reinforce their projects and 4-H experiences by speaking about them. They also gain confidence in themselves by learning to speak before others. Public Speaking by 4-H'ers is encouraged at the local club level and in the community. The county contest is usually held in the Spring - Junior, Intermediate and Senior divisions. Division winners go on to Regional and State competition. The bulletin "4-H Presents . . ." can be a resource to 4-H'ers and leaders in public speaking.
- C. **Judging Activities and Contests** - Another method that can be used to help 4-H'ers learn more about their projects is that of having them judge a class of four items. Through judging, 4-H'ers utilize their project skills in making decisions about desirable quality standards. 4-H'ers can also gain further understanding of these standards. We encourage local clubs to use this method of teaching in their club programs.

Each year, judging practice and workshops in the areas of consumer, dairy, livestock, rabbit and horse are held county wide in order to help prepare the 4-H'ers for the county contests. Winners participate, as a team, at the State contest at the State Fair.

- D. **Record Book Program** - 4-H records help youth summarize their 4-H activities and project work on paper. They can then measure the progress they've made toward their goals. 4-H'ers use the Annual 4-H Club Member's Summary Record to show their progress in 4-H project work. Members' 14 and older submit a resume, also. The record book is an older 4-H'ers application for consideration in the State award programs. Record books are due in the county office for judging in February. Leaders must have reviewed the books for completeness and signed the appropriate form to be submitted with the book. Seniors selected to submit books to State competition will submit a resume and a creative piece and return them to the county 4-H office in late April. Awards given at County Achievement Night are based on record books. The 4-H year runs from January 1st to December 31<sup>st</sup>. Record book forms are located on the 4-H web site - [www.howard4-h.org](http://www.howard4-h.org)
- E. **4-H Exhibits** - 4-H'ers sharpen their skills through having the results of their 4-H project judged; they can grow from the suggestions for improvement they receive. They also gain confidence in themselves as they proudly see their project efforts displayed to the public.

These displays also promote the 4-H story. The following shows and fairs are available to 4-H'ers.

1. **Horse Shows** - provide a means of developing sportsmanship among youth. Many shows are held by local clubs and groups. Howard County 4-H Clubs sponsor a series of shows each spring and summer. These shows are planned and operated by 4-H volunteers and parents. There is also the State Horse Show, which is held at the State Fair. The "Maryland 4-H Horse and Pony Rule Book" governs the direction of the County and State horse shows.
2. **Fashion Revue** - usually held in April for 4-H'ers taking 4-H clothing projects. 4-H'ers receive construction, fit, and modeling judging in the morning. In the evening, they model again for the judges in a big fashion show. Family and friends are invited. The top participants in each of three age divisions are awarded various prizes. The top senior champions represent the county at the State Fashion Revue at the Maryland State Fair. The top 13 year old may model at the State Fashion Revue.
3. **Howard County Fair** - held the second week in August at the county fairgrounds in West Friendship, (exhibits in most 4-H project areas). Most of the county judging contests are held at the county fair, too. 4-H Club booths, banners, and floats are exhibited and judged. For further information, secure a fair catalog from the 4-H office in June. Entries are due early July.
4. **4-H Livestock Sale** - held each year during the Howard County Fair. Market animals from beef, sheep, goat, and swine departments, and the champion and reserve champion Capon, Broiler, Rabbit Meat Pens are auctioned for meat purposes to the highest bidder. Current commission charges are 3% of sale price for all beef animals and 4% for all other livestock. For further information, contact the Sale Committee or consult the fair catalog.
5. **Maryland State Fair** - held the last week in August at the State Fairgrounds in Timonium, Maryland. It's similar to the county fair in kinds of exhibits and events. Also featured is the State Fashion Revue, State judging contests, State demonstration contest, and the livestock sale. For further information, secure a State Fair Catalog in June from the 4-H office. Entries are due early July.
6. **Eastern National Livestock Show** - a national show held in late September at the State Fairgrounds in Timonium with classes for adults and youth. Classes are available for market lambs, steers, and swine as well as breeding classes. For further information, consult the E.N.L.S. catalog. Entries are due in late August or early September.
7. **Livestock Project Tours** - tours of members' homes to check the progress of their 4-H projects can be a useful learning tool for the local club. All 4-H members of the club go on the tour to each other's homes. Each club handles this differently. The county 4-H extension educator conducts inspection tours for 4-H'ers enrolled in livestock projects, as requested.

8. **Maryland 4-H Horse Jamboree** - held each summer for two days usually in July. Activities include judging, demonstrations, public speaking, seminars, and communications. Adult MCE chaperones are required.
9. **Wills Fair** - usually held the third Saturday in May at the Howard County fairgrounds. The show features exhibits by 4-H'ers with dairy, beef, goat, sheep, dog, poultry, rabbit, and small pet projects. Entries are due in April and are available on the 4-H web site - [www.howard4-H.org](http://www.howard4-H.org).

## II. CAMPS

- A. **Howard County 4-H Camp** - This camp is held each year, at the Western Maryland 4-H Center near Deep Creek Lake, Garrett County, (usually the third week of June). The camp features Indian lore (Council Fires); swimming, canoeing, volleyball, and other recreational group games; training in crafts, archery, and marksmanship; nature hikes; camp singing; etc. More information is included in the 4-H newsletter (Cloverleaf). Camp fills fast. Send reservation in as soon as received. 4-H'ers have first option to spaces and then camp is opened to the public.
- B. **Howard County 4-H Camp Counselor Training** - This training is for those older 4-H'ers [ages 13 and up as of January 1st], who wish to be camp counselors or tribe leaders at our county camp. It is usually held in early Spring.
- C. **State 4-H Conservation Camp** - Features a critical environmental ecology topic each year. For youth 14-19, it is normally held in June. This senior camp also features more daring recreation activities, such as white-water rafting, etc. Two scholarships are available each year to county youth.

## III. CONFERENCES AND TOURS

- A. **Citizenship Short Course** - This is a program sponsored by the National 4-H Foundation and held weekly throughout the summer at the National 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland. The Nation's Capitol is the classroom to be shared with 4-H'ers from at least four other States. Youth can learn what it really means to be a citizen of their community, their State, America, and the world. This program is designed for youth 14 and up.
- B. **National 4-H Conference** - Maryland sends five (5) delegates to this conference, held in April, at the National 4-H Center. Delegates explore the national government and discuss the role of the citizen in national affairs. Maryland delegates are selected through interviews held at the Maryland State Fair in August. Howard County can nominate one outstanding older 4-H'er to be interviewed at State level for this conference.
- C. **Other Out-of-State Camps and Conferences** - An interview winner may be selected to go to Camp Miniwanca, the West Virginia 4-H Older Youth camp, and National 4-H Conference.

- D. **National 4-H Youth Congress** - This week-long program is keyed to the interests of those 4-H delegates who have achieved high standards of excellence in their 4-H work and have been selected by their states to participate in activities on the basis of their outstanding 4-H records on a 4-H resume. Awards are based on a resume, and an interview.
- E. **Maryland 4-H Teen Focus** - This is a 3-day, residential conference held in June for Maryland 4-H senior members that includes special interest seminars and workshops, and recreational and leisure activities. Through the use of the University of Maryland system facilities or neighboring colleges, participants experience a taste of college life.

#### IV. SPECIAL 4-H PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES

- A. **National 4-H Week** - Usually the second week in October, this is especially the time when many 4-H promotional activities take place. Individual clubs are encouraged to display their promotional booths (from the fair), 4-H bulletin boards, give talks or initiate other activities at local schools, etc., to encourage other youth to join 4-H.

#### V. AWARDS

- A. **Farm Credit Award** - The Farm Credit Association makes an award to one boy and one girl (in the 4-H program, with three (3) years or less of membership, who have prepared the best record books for their length of 4-H participation. Two runners-up for both boys and girls may also receive a recognition. Awards presented at County Achievement Night.
- B. **4-H All Star Membership** - Outstanding 4-H members and adults who have displayed characteristics of service, leadership, and character in Howard County 4-H are invited to become members of the 4-H All Stars. These 4-H'ers have maintained high ideals and have obtained the "four-fold life" through unselfish service on the part of 4-H club members through individual and cooperative efforts. With **service** as their motto, they stand ready to lend aid to the 4-H club programs. Members selected are inducted in the summer at the State 4-H All Star Meeting.
- C. **Elsie Cavey Memorial Award** - Four awards for outstanding junior record keeping. Winners are selected from the junior record books submitted. The awards are sponsored by the Howard county 4-H All Stars and given in memory of former 4-H secretary, Mrs. Elsie Cavey.
- D. **George Bowman Memorial Award** - Four awards for outstanding senior record keeping. Winners are selected from the senior record books submitted. The awards are sponsored by the Howard county 4-H All Stars and given in memory of former 4-H leader, Mr. George Bowman.
- E. **Jenny Olson Memorial Award** - Two winners are selected based on 4-H record books in the horse project. A senior and a junior winner are selected. The awards are sponsored by the Howard County 4-H All Stars and given in memory of 4-H'er Jenny Olson.
- F. **Jennifer Turner Memorial Award** - Two winners are selected based on 4-H record

books in the sheep project. A senior and a junior winner are selected. The awards are sponsored by the Howard County 4-H All Stars and given in memory of 4-H'er Jennifer Turner.

- G. **National, State, and County Awards presented at Achievement Night** - Various businesses, community groups, 4-H clubs, and industries provide awards to outstanding youth in each of 34 subject-matter, 4-H project areas, plus the areas of achievement, citizenship, and leadership. Awards are made in eight additional subject-matter areas, by additional business and industrial donors. Awards are based on record books submitted to the 4-H office. Judging team members and their coaches are recognized with sponsored awards and certificates from the county 4-H office.
- H. **County Fair Awards** - Approximately 450 prizes are awarded by local county donors for the outstanding fair exhibits in various areas. These are in addition to the premium prize money won for placing in exhibit areas. Check the current year's Fair Catalog for the awards presented. Support of these donors is greatly appreciated. Thank-you notes are required.
- I. **The 4-H Club Recognition Plan** - 4-H clubs that achieve certain standards of accomplishment can be recognized. A club must apply by supplying the county 4-H office with certain data. As for "The 4-H Club Recognition Plan" (4-H 419). The club must first meet the requirements for charter (e.g., organized year-round, with at least six monthly meetings; a definite educational program; all club members (at least 5) must know the 4-H pledge, etc.). After being chartered, there are four recognition seals a club may receive, the requirements for each becoming more and more stringent. Requirements are in the areas of percentage of member re-enrollment, number of members giving demonstration, turning in record books, participating in judging contest, etc., community service projects, officers completing and submitting Secretary's and President's books, etc.
- J. **Outstanding 4-H Club Awards** - Plaques are presented to the outstanding 4-H clubs in the State. The award is based on the 4-H club's program for the year -- its initial plans, in Program Planning Book as well as what was actually accomplished, as described in the club's Secretary book. A club may not win the plaque two years in succession.
- K. **Maryland 4-H Diamond Clover Award** - Introduced in 2003, the award consists of six levels that each require a 4-H'er to plan and accomplish a broad range of age-appropriate tasks, acquiring valuable life skills as they progress. The tasks in each level are age appropriate and grow in quantity and difficulty as the 4-H member grows. The list of task have been created to enable any 4-H member, no matter how they are engaged in 4-H, to be successful. Participation is optional and is not designed to replace 4-H records or resumes. Information on the Diamond Clover Award can be accessed at [www.howard4-h.org](http://www.howard4-h.org).

## VI. RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

- A. **Achievement Night** - This county event, in which over 200 awards are presented to 4-H'ers is usually held in the fall. Most of the awards are based on the information a 4-H'er submits in his record book plus participation on judging teams, public speaking, visual presentations, and other project related events.

- B. **Leaders Recognition Program** - All volunteers are recognized at a special program sometime during the year. Service award pins and certificates are given to 4-H volunteers having served 1, 3, 5, 10, 15, etc. years of service. Service years are based on 4-H volunteer enrollment forms submitted annually to the 4-H Office.

## VII. COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS AND LOANS

Watch your 4-H newsletter throughout the year for information concerning deadlines for the scholarships listed:

- A. **Maryland 4-H Foundation Scholarships**  
J. O' Neal & Rosa Moxley Johnston Memorial Scholarship - \$1,000  
Howard Warfield Clark Sr. Memorial Scholarship - \$1,000  
Beatrice Streaker Pfefferkorn Memorial Scholarship - \$500  
Barbara Pue Streaker Memorial Scholarship - \$500  
W. Lawson King Memorial Scholarship - \$500  
Edwin D. & Susan C. Fry Memorial Scholarship - \$500  
William E. & Eileen M. Klingelhofer Memorial Scholarship - \$500  
Brenda Bourne Stair Memorial Scholarship - \$1,500

These scholarships are awarded to a current or former 4-H member's who are planning to enroll for the current year in an accredited college, university, or post-high school vocational program.

- B. **Howard County Bea Pfefferkorn Senior Record Keeping Award (\$100)** - is awarded to two current-year high school graduates having completed at least three years of 4-H club work and is a current 4-H member. Awarded at the Howard County 4-H Achievement Night.
- C. **Howard County Jenny Olson - Jennifer Turner Scholarships** - for higher education - Two -\$750 scholarships are awarded to current or former 4-H members. They are presented at Howard County Fair after application. Application's due July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- D. **Howard County Fair Association (\$1,500)** six \$1,500 scholarships - awarded to current or former 4-Her members to further their education in agriculture, home economics or a related field. Application due the last day of the Howard County Fair and awarded in October at the Annual Fair Meeting.
- E. **Student Loans - Blackhall Memorial 4-H Student Loan Fund** - is administered by the Maryland 4-H All Stars. These Loans are available to 4-H club members (or former members) with at least two years of active membership in 4-H when such members are enrolled in an institution of higher learning, including trade schools. The applicant must be enrolled in the institution before the loan will be granted. Call the 4-H office for further details.

## VIII. COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

- A. Each 4-H club is encouraged to provide at least one service to their community. Community conservation and/or beautification projects or projects to groups of disadvantaged people (such as nursing home patients, etc.) are encouraged. Report this

in the club program planning book and secretary's book.

## **IX. OTHER HOWARD COUNTY 4-H PROGRAMS AVAILABLE**

- A. **Babysitting Training Courses** - This 4-6 week course is offered periodically for youth 13 years and older. Training is provided in the area of parental expectations, sitter's responsibilities, child development, infant care, home safety and first aid.
- B. **Broiler Program** - The chicks are bought from the 4-H Office, once a year, and raised for eight weeks, with 4-H'ers keeping the appropriate records. Finished broilers are judged at the Howard County Fair.
- C. **Summer Enrichment Programs** - Weekly, two-hour programs for 6 - 12 year olds are conducted teaching good nutrition, featuring crafts, the making of simple snacks, and playing nutrition-educational games. The weekly programs run for about six weeks at approximately 18 or more sites around Howard County. The majority of the children are from low to moderate-income homes. Each year over one thousand children are involved.
- D. **Clover Clubs** - A club involving 5 - 7 year-old girls and boys. The Clovers will be involved with activities in curriculum project areas that prepare them with decision-making, responsibility, leadership skills -- and more.
- E. **Capon Program** - Started capons are bought through the 4-H office by 4-H'ers, and raised for a minimum of 12 weeks. Capons can be entered in the County Fair or State Fair. Orders are typically due in February and the birds arrive in May.

**"Maryland Cooperative Extension educates citizens to apply practical, research-based knowledge to critical issues facing individuals, families, communities, the State and our global partners."**

It is the policy of the University of Maryland, Agricultural Experiment Station and Maryland Cooperative Extension, that no person shall be subjected to discrimination on the grounds of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, age, marital or parental status, or disability.

Revised: September, 2006 -Sheryl L. Burdette, Extension Educator, 4-H