EASY STEPS FOR STARTING A 4-H CLUB
IN YOUR VERY OWN NEIGHBORHOOD

You Need:

1. A minimum of five (5) youth
   (6-7 years old as of January 1st are Clover Age)
   (8-18 years old as of January 1st are 4-H age)

2. At least one interested adult to help run the club (this could be you or talk a friend into the job.)

3. Some ideas for having fun and learning skills the youth will use throughout life.

Steps to Follow:

1. Talk the idea over with the kids. Talk about something simple they would like to learn about. Some ideas could be: caring for the family pet; starting a leaf collection; cooking snacks; or making a decoration for their room.

2. Call us at the Maryland Cooperative Extension Office. Let us know if you would like some help getting started. We will arrange a planning visit.

3. We will help you to:
   a. Identify other interested parents who could help;
   b. Advertise the club in local flyers, newspapers and school lunch menus;
   c. Plan an orientation session for prospective 4-Hers and parents;
   d. Figure out what an adult volunteer leader does (it is not hard – HONEST);
   e. Work with your new group to decide meeting dates and times (once a month is a good start);
   f. Plan a calendar for your first year’s program;
   g. Set goals for your first year and decide how to reach them;
   h. Celebrate your success as your eager 4-Hers have fun learning.

P.S. In addition, we support leaders and 4-Hers throughout the year by offering individual and group leader training and county-wide activities like public speaking, visual presentations, fairs and 4-H project training sessions.