EXPLANATION OF THE MAJOR TRIPS

National 4-H Congress: Congress is the flagship event of the 4-H program. For over eighty years, youth have participated in this youth leadership development event. Youth get a quality, educational, and cross-cultural experience while meeting other youth from the United States and its territories. Congress is designed to address the needs and issues of youth while helping to develop capable, competent, and caring citizens. This trip takes place in late November, beginning the Friday after Thanksgiving in Atlanta, Georgia.

Each participant is responsible for $300 as part of their acceptance of the trip. They are also responsible for:

• Getting to and from BWI for the flights
• There are a couple of meals – like any food they might want while waiting for flights / fast food at the mall when they get to Atlanta that Friday evening / there is a STATE Meal – we pay for and then one other meal that they pay for – we have gone to Hard Rock Café as a group and they’ve also just done the Mall Eatery Court for that meal – Then any souvenirs

There is a CONGRESS Fundraiser for Habitat for Humanities – they suggest $20 contribution from each delegate – there are LOTS of ways this is handled without the delegate taking any money out of pocket – we suggest at the orientation that they approach their 4-H Club to see if they would like to contribute – or any other contact groups they might want to approach. Then the state group collects the money and presents it when they have the opening session.

Camp Miniwanca: Camp Miniwanca is a leadership development camp that offers a week-long program aimed at developing character, leadership skills, personal and group effectiveness, and nurturing balance within your life. This trip takes place in June in Shelby, Michigan. Youth interested in attending Miniwanca are required to apply for the “I Dare You Award.”

National 4-H Conference: At National 4-H Conference, teen delegates take the lead by serving on consulting groups to make recommendations for future directions for 4-H. Teens serve on one of the operations committees to help conduct the events and functions of the Conference. Activities include a visit to Capitol Hill and a meeting with your Senator or Representative. This trip takes place in late March or early April at the National 4-H Conference Center in Chevy Chase.

Virginia 4-H Congress: Virginia 4-H Congress mission is to provide competitive and non-competitive educational experiences to Virginia teens and the adults who work with them, helping them to develop life skills and leadership abilities to become contributing citizens in their communities. A commitment to serve as an at-large delegate to Maryland 4-H Teen Council for a year following the trip is encouraged. This trip takes place in June on the campus of Virginia Tech.

Youth is responsible for transportation to Virginia Tech for the Congress – and any spending money they might want for souvenirs there.

West Virginia Older 4-H Members Conference: West Virginia Older Members Conference mission is to develop leadership among older 4-H members by giving them an opportunity to participate in discussion of timely issues and problems, and teach new skills which can be used in their local clubs and communities. A commitment to serve as an at-large delegate to Maryland 4-H Teen Council for a year following the trip is encouraged. This trip takes place in mid-June, normally the third week of June at West Virginia University, Jackson’s Mill State 4-H Camp.
Mall Eatery Court for that meal: They’ve also just gone to the Mall Eatery Court for that meal.