



Illinois *Leader*

Publication for Illinois 4-H Leaders

June-July 2008

Thanks for your Support!



April and May have been trying times for University of Illinois Extension and the 4-H Youth Development Program. Thanks to the leaders, parents, and youth who have written letters, sent faxes, made phone calls, and visited with legislators on behalf of Extension and 4-H. It is important to continue to share the success stories of 4-H members and clubs and to report the impact of the wide range of Extension programs not only with state government officials but also with county government and local funders and stakeholders. Take time to invite those individuals to local and county Extension events and to thank them for their support! Continue to work with your local Extension staff to raise the public's awareness of the total Extension program and of its benefits to residents of each county in Illinois!

4-H Overnight Chaperone Orientation

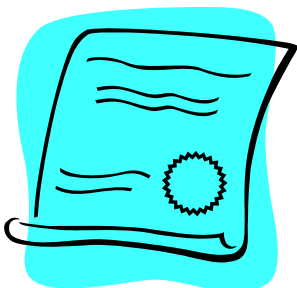


With summer upon us, there are many opportunities at the club, county, regional, state, and national level to be involved with young people in overnight events. Any adult who chaperones a 4-H overnight event needs to complete the **4-H Overnight Chaperone Orientation** in addition to being screened as a 4-H volunteer. The web site is located at <http://web.extension.uiuc.edu/4hchaperone>.

The purpose of the web site is to provide training for individuals who will be responsible for the health and safety of 4-H participants at overnight events and activities. Having adult chaperones complete this training will provide reassurance to parents for their children's well being. It will also clearly outline the expectations for volunteers who serve in the overnight chaperone role.

The orientation includes seven sections: overview and screening process, adult behavior expectations, youth development, youth behavior expectations, risk management, health and safety, and personal information. Chaperones will be asked to complete three short quizzes and then will be able to print out a certificate of completion. The State 4-H Office and the local Extension office are notified when persons complete the training. Adults only need to complete the training once during their tenure as a 4-H volunteer. For more information, contact your local Extension office or Sheri Seibold at sseibold@uiuc.edu.

Risk Management and Insurance Reminders



Don't forget to be sure you are implementing risk management strategies as you plan summer events and activities. Clubs should have a risk management plan written and shared with participating youth and adults for special activities such as club tours, field trips, judging events, etc. An excellent resource for 4-H volunteers on risk management is the *Helping You Help Youth* fact sheet: **Avoiding a Can of Worms: Risk Management for 4-H Clubs/Groups** which can be downloaded at <http://www.4-h.uiuc.edu/opps/L90501m.pdf>.

If your club or county does not participate in the full year accident/medical insurance program, as leaders you may want to consider purchasing special activities accident/medical insurance from American Income Life for your events. Information is available at <http://www.americanincomelife.com/> or from your local Extension Office.

4-H Conference Judging



Summer brings county fairs and 4-H shows. For most projects, 4-H members are often involved in conference judging. Conference judging is a learning experience that allows youth to learn what they did well, and how they could improve in the future. An exhibit does not measure all that they have learned, but is an example of what they have done.

Especially for new and younger members, 4-H leaders may want to use a series of **Conference Judging** factsheets to help members prepare for the experience. The fact sheets are found at <http://www.4-h.uiuc.edu/staff/fieldstaff.html#fair> under Conference Judging. There are fact sheets for members, leaders and parents, fair superintendents, and judges. In addition, older members may serve as resources/role models at local club achievement programs or club tours.

2008 NCRVF



The **2008 North Central Region Volunteer Forum** will be held in Columbus, Ohio, **November 6-8, 2008**, at the Ramada Plaza Hotel. The theme of the forum is “*REV UP – Realize, Energize, Visualize Unlimited Potential.*” The forum will feature speakers, seminars, educational tours, entertainment, and networking. Information on the program, lodging, and registration is available on-line at www.4-h.uiuc.edu/events/08ncrvf.html. Cost is \$210 for early bird registration. The leader forum is open to all 4-H volunteers from the 12 Midwest states.

2008 Passport to the World Camp



The excitement is growing as the world makes final preparation for this years summer Olympics! 4-Hers (ages 12-14) interested in sports and recreational activities in various countries will want to add this action packed camping opportunity to their summer schedule. Members will experience and learn the importance of *Japanese Radio Exercise, Capoeira, Bocce Ball, Croquet, Tai Chi* and *Mara-Giri* just to name a few. Space is limited to 75 participants with reservations being accepted on a first come first serve basis. Additional information is available by contacting Bill Million (wmillion@uiuc.edu). The **2008 Passport to the World Camp** is being sponsored by University of Illinois Extension 4-H Youth Development and International Studies Department. Tentative program schedule and registration materials are located at: <http://www.4-h.uiuc.edu/opps/camping.html>.

Youth Leaders Needed for State Positions



Illinois State 4-H
Youth Leadership Team

Calling our teen leaders in Illinois! Help us recruit new youth leaders for our statewide 4-H leadership positions. We know our older 4-H members have the skills to help us do what needs to be done – we just don't know where to find them. As adult leaders in the 4-H program, **YOU DO!** So help us out by personally asking your older 4-H members to apply for these opportunities!

- ★ **Illinois State 4-H Youth Leadership Team** – 4-H members or recent alumni who will be 16-19 years old by September 1, 2008. Information, brochure & application can be found at: <http://www.4-h.uiuc.edu/opps/stateylt.html>. **Applications due June 18 or August 1** for interviews.
- ★ **Illinois Farm Bureau Youth Education Committee 4-H Representative** – 4-H members interested in agriculture, ages 16-18. Information and application can be found at: http://www.4-h.uiuc.edu/opps/ifb_youth.html. **Applications due June 15** or until suitable representatives are identified.
- ★ **2009 Illini Summer Academy Planning Committee** – Open to youth who will be freshman to juniors in high school during fall, 2008. Information and application will be sent to 2008 ISA attendees or will be available from local Extension offices this summer. **Applications due August 1.**

The Illinois Leader is your publication. Submit story ideas and comments to:
Illinois Leader, Sheri Seibold,
1902 Fox Drive, Suite A,
Champaign, IL 61820
(217) 333-0910
www.4-h.uiuc.edu

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