

MADISON COUNTY 4-H COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

What is a community service project?

A community service project is an activity that involves ALL 4-H club members in organizing and implementing an event that benefits others rather than just the club or club treasury. The more a club does for the community, the better. Cash donations are okay, but not ranked as high as getting involved in a project that requires member participation.

- Good example: a club donates clothing to a needy family, adopts an elderly person to provide for over a period of time, organizes a community event to benefit the awareness of cancer, autism, heart disease, etc.
• Bad example: a club holds a car wash to earn money for the club's swimming party (this is seen as self-serving and not a benefit to the community)

How do you apply?

Community service projects that are completed between January 1st and December 31st of the current year will be considered for the Service Award. A full description of ALL the club's community service projects are to be written nearly or typed on one page of 8 1/2" x 11" (front and back).

Please indicate the size of your club by including the number of advisors and members. Be sure to include the club's name in the upper right hand corner of your application (paper). Try NOT to use your club's name throughout the description of your community service projects. You may include a ONE page, ONE sided, picture page of no larger than 8 1/2" x 11".

Your description might include some of all of the following:

- * how the project was selected
* was the project an original idea
* how was this project promoted
* how many 4-H members were involved
* how much time was involved
* what was learned from doing the project
* the approximate cost of the project
* is this an ongoing (year-to-year) project
* if funds were raised, how was this done
* was 4-H clearly identified as the organizer
* other comments concerning the project
* one sided picture page (8 1/2" x 11")

Scoring procedures:

25% Originality 25% Community benefit
50% organization and involvement of club members

*all applications will be scored by a private individual that has knowledge and concern for the communities of Madison County. The club's identity will be kept confidential.

Award and Recognition:

1st place - \$50.00 2nd place - \$40.00 3rd place - \$30.00
Plus - 3 Honorable Mentions to be award and presented- \$10.00 each



SUGGESTIONS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

- Serve shut-ins (sweep porches, wash windows, clean yards, shop for groceries, etc.)
- Clean local church or community center
- Make favors for hospital or rest home
- Make and send cards to patients in hospital
- Collect for Cancer Drive, Heart fund, or other (social fund raiser)
- Improve community parks and playgrounds.
- Plant flowers around flag poles at schools, parks, fairgrounds, etc.
- Plant trees or shrubs in an area designated by a city or county official or senior fair board member
- Help clean up and maintain the fairgrounds (i.e. youth arena) and other areas
- Volunteer one day a month for organized play – games, etc. with kids at community parks
- Donate to 4-H Camp Clifton
- Promote 4-H during 4-H weeks with various projects that heighten awareness of 4-H
- Sign up members for CROP walk, or Relay for Life, or a bike-a-thon
- Establish welcome signs at city or village limits
- Adopt a grandmother or grandfather to be visited each week and on special occasions, particularly those in nursing homes
- Submit recreation program proposals to your city recreation board
- Conduct a bicycle safety inspection and clinic at your 4-H club or in your community
- Be a big-brother/sister group to a child
- Make a bulletin board for a church, school, or community center to promote 4-H
- Pack holiday boxes for shut-ins
- Conduct a program at a retirement home
- Subscribe to magazines and deliver them to a nursing home, retirement home or hospital
- Donate/work at a 4-H sponsored event.
- Make care packages for our US troops

**Note: Any community service idea that involves the fairgrounds must first be approved by the Senior Fair Board.*

Revised: 1/16/14

