

## 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, or 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 neatly or typed on one page of 8 ½" 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 ½" x 11".

Your description might include some of all of the following:

- \* how the project was selected
- \* the approximate cost of the project
- \* was the project an original idea
- \* is this an ongoing (year-to-year) project
- \* how was this project promoted
- \* if funds were raised, how was this done
- \* how many 4-H members were involved
- \* was 4-H clearly identified as the organizer
- \* how much time was involved
- \* other comments concerning the project
- \* what was learned from doing the project
- \* one sided picture page (8 ½" x 11")

Application Due **September 1<sup>st</sup>** to Madison County Extension office

217 Elm Street

or Emailed to Laura Dillion [Dillion.26@osu.edu](mailto:Dillion.26@osu.edu)

**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 fundraiser).
- 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.