

Welcome to

**Yuma
County
4-H**



**A resource guide for new
and returning families**



4-H TERMS

4-H SLOGAN:

Learning by Doing

4-H Motto:

To make the Best Better.

4-H EMBLEM: A green four leaf clover with a letter “H” on each leaf. The four H’s stand for Head, Heart, Hands and Health.

4-H COLORS: Green and white with white representing purity and green representing growth.

4-H CLUB: a group of at least 5 youth from 3 families that meet regularly throughout the year and have adult support and family involvement.

CLOVER CONNECTION: The Yuma County 4-H Newsletter that is emailed to all 4-H families. The newsletter is published monthly.

4-H PROGRAM YEAR: October 1st through September 30th. Open enrollment year round BUT to exhibit projects at the Yuma County Fair, there is an October enrollment deadline.

What is 4-H?

The **4-H** program begins at the club level. Our 4-H members, parents and leaders meet monthly to have fun, learn new skills and work together in project groups, club activities and other events.

4-H belongs to the members, their families, and other interested adults who serve as volunteer leaders. Leadership is provided by the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension Service. The 4-H program is a joint effort between county government, University of Arizona and the United States Department of Agriculture.



4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship and life skills.

4-H is an informal educational program through which parents, other adults, and youth help young people develop confidence, social skills, decision making abilities, and subject matter knowledge in a variety of project areas.

4-H and the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension provides affirmative action and equal opportunity in education, programming and employment for all qualified persons regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or genetic information.

Why get Involved?

Through 4-H, members develop and practice important life skills. Members:

- Make decisions and solve problems.
- Build self confidence
- Accept responsibility
- Have a good time that makes learning fun
- Feel a sense of belonging by being a part of a 4-H club
- Develop mastery while learning and practicing skills in areas of interest.
- Become independent as they are given choices of what to do
- Have a spirit of generosity as 4-H clubs give back to their communities through service.

4-H Basics

4-H is for the whole family where youth and adults come together to learn new things, meet new friends and have fun. Parents/guardians are encouraged to participate and attend meetings with their children. Adults help by volunteering time and sharing talents. For example: driving members to activities, supporting project learning, chaperoning and being a positive role model.

Clubs 4-H clubs have five or more youth from three or more families who are supported by 4-H leaders. 4-H members, elected by their peers to officer roles, conduct monthly meetings.

Costs the Yuma County 4-H program charges a \$15 program fee for membership. Additionally, some 4-H clubs charge dues. Costs associated with project materials and supplies are the responsibility of the 4-H member.

Meetings Club meetings include: getting to know other members, youth making decisions about activities, planning and doing community service projects, sharing ideas, recreation and having fun.

COMMON MYTH:

You need to live on a farm or raise animals to enroll in 4-H.

You do NOT need to live on a farm or raise an animal to be in 4-H.

Members participate in projects such as arts & crafts, photography, shooting sports and so much more!

4-H Responsibilities

Member

- Attend club meetings - 70% attendance is required in order to participate in the fair
- Participate in club activities such as community service, project meetings & fundraisers
- Work on projects throughout the year
- Keep accurate records of 4-H project work
- Sell BBQ tickets and work at the BBQ as assigned by your community club
- Work a shift in the 4-H food booth at the fair
- Stay updated with what is happening in 4-H by reading the newsletter, following the Facebook page or Instagram page

Parents/Adult Mentors

- Help your children understand that character counts. Youth should strive for high standards of fairness, honesty, respect and trustworthiness.
- Attend club meetings with your children
- Serve as a volunteer and share talents
- See that your children meet their responsibilities and complete them
- Encourage your child to try new things.
- Read the Clover Connection and stay current with what is happening in Yuma County 4-H in addition to following the Facebook and Instagram pages.

Adult Leaders

- Club leaders provide support for a successful club experience
- Project leaders hold regular meetings to help members learn about specific projects
- Attend monthly committee meetings to get new ideas and work with other leaders
- Assist members to get involved in other 4-H events and activities
- Stay updated with what is happening in 4-H by reading the newsletter, following the Facebook page or Instagram page
- Encourage, encourage, encourage!

4-H Pledge

I pledge my head to clearer thinking,
my heart to greater loyalty,
my hands to larger service,
and my health to better living,
for my club,
my community,
my country and
my world.

County 4-H Program

The county 4-H program helps provide educational activities beyond 4-H clubs.

Activities

Youth can be a part of planning and teaching teams such as 4-H Summer Camp, Teen Council and Ambassadors.

4-H Age

Youth must have reached their 9th birthday and not be 19 years old prior to January 1st of the current year in order to participate.

CloverBuds

CloverBuds is the project that all members ages 5-8 will participate in. It is a non-competitive project where youth will focus on arts & crafts projects while still being able to exhibit their work.

Project Learning

Some projects have extended learning experiences and activities such as dog obedience, dairy goat, horse events and shooting sports.

Committee Meetings

These monthly meetings are a great way to meet other volunteers in the same project area you are interested in and get some new ideas. The committees meet the 1st Tuesday of every month at the 4-H Office. Current committees include Home Ec & General Project, Small Animal, Large Animal and Horse.

Fundraisers

While individual clubs may have their own fundraisers, Yuma County 4-H has 2 major fundraisers – the Yuma County 4-H BBQ held in January and then the Food Booth at the Yuma County Fair. These funds pay for clinics, workshops, provide educational scholarships, offsets camp expenses, etc.

4-H Beyond Club and County Level

4-H is a state and national program. As members mature in their 4-H experiences, state, national and international opportunities become available.

Record Books

All people, young and old, keep records of one thing or another. Record keeping is simply a way of remembering something for the future. As a 4-H member, you need to keep track of what you have learned and completed. Record books will help you:

- Identify your leadership and project goals and set priorities.
- Establish good organizational and planning skills.
- Develop responsibility in record keeping.
- Learn if money is made or lost.
- Explore careers and goals for the future.
- Learn to compare and evaluate success or failure.
- Experience personal satisfaction and growth through completion of worthwhile tasks.
- Tell a story of the projects you took, leadership positions you help and activities you participated in.
- Including photos will give you the visual of your year in review.

Things you should know

Community Club Name: _____

Community Club Leaders Name: _____

Project Leaders Name: _____



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Check us out on Facebook under Yuma County 4-H

or on Instagram @yumacounty4h