

Michigan 4-H Code of Conduct- Youth

Participation in Michigan 4-H programs is subject to the observance of the program rules. Any participant who knowingly violates this Code of Conduct is subject to discipline, up to and including removal from the activity he or she is participating in (at his or her own expense) or the entire county 4-H program. Determination of disciplinary action shall be done with input from the volunteers and staff overseeing the program or activity. Final decisions about discipline will be made by the MSU Extension staff.

Michigan 4-H members will:

- Show respect for, and cooperate with, fellow members, volunteers and staff.
- Follow 4-H policies and procedures when participating in any 4-H sponsored event.
- Under no circumstances, commit or threaten violence toward any individual, group or the program.
- Under no circumstances, possess, sell or consume alcohol or possess, sell or use controlled substances at an MSU Extension 4-H youth activity or event.
- Under no circumstances, attend or participate in an MSU Extension 4-H youth activity or event under the influence of alcohol and/or controlled substances including tobacco, electronic cigarettes, etc.
- Under no circumstances, bring dangerous or unauthorized materials (such as explosives, weapons or similar items) to an MSU Extension 4-H youth activity or event.
- Abstain from harassment or bullying of another participant, volunteer or staff member (either in face to face interactions, through social media or other communication venues), particularly when the behavior is disrespectful or regards a person's gender, race, age, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, disability or appearance.
- Not cheat or falsely represent efforts related to 4-H project activities.

I have read and I understand the Michigan 4-H Youth Code of Conduct. I agree to abide by the rules stated above. I understand I may be removed as a participant from the activity or program, if I fail to follow these rules.

Adult Code of Conduct

As an MSU Extension volunteer, I promise that I will:

- Accept responsibility to represent Michigan 4-H and MSU Extension programs with dignity and pride by being a positive role model.
- Respect, adhere to, and enforce the rules, policies and guidelines established by local, state and national 4-H and MSU Extension programs, and be courteous and respectful in dealings with other program participants and MSU staff.
- Abstain from, and not tolerate physical or verbal abuse of others through direct interactions or through use of social media or other communication venues.
- Comply with equal opportunity and anti-discrimination laws.
- Avoid criminal activities.
- Under no circumstances, possess, sell or consume alcohol or possess, sell or use controlled substances at an MSU Extension activity or event.

- Refrain from the use of tobacco, tobacco products, electronic cigarettes, etc. while serving in a volunteer capacity at 4-H activities.
- Not possess firearms on my person at an MSU Extension event or activity and keep personal firearms in a secure location when hosting an MSU Extension event or activity on my property. The exception to this policy is when certified 4-H Shooting Sports program volunteers are utilizing discipline specific firearms (BB, air pellet, .22, shotgun, muzzleloader and air pistol) for educational, demonstration and competition uses only and must comply with the policies and practices of the Michigan 4-H Shooting Sports program. This exception only applies during the period that the firearms are in use for 4-H Shooting Sports educational, demonstration and competition purposes, and does not allow 4-H Shooting Sports volunteers to possess firearms for other purposes. For more information on the MSU firearms policy please see the information provided in the MSU Extension Administrative Handbook.
- Under no circumstances, attend or participate in an MSU Extension activity or event under the influence of alcohol and/or other controlled substances.
- Operate machinery, vehicles and other equipment in a responsible manner.
- Report a violation of the Code of Conduct of which I am aware to a MSU Extension staff member or the person in charge of the program.

It is expected that all Michigan State University Extension volunteers comply with the Code of Conduct. Failure to comply with any component of the code or participation in other inappropriate conduct as determined by MSU Extension representatives may lead to dismissal as a volunteer from the MSU Extension program.