
Basic 4-H Information

The purpose of the Boundary County 4-H program is positive youth development. All program participants making decisions or carrying out actions on behalf of the 4-H program are mindful of this goal at all times. Educational programs provide – through youth and volunteer development – knowledge transfer, life skill development, and attitudes for positive development. Please take the time to read the 4-H Youth Development Policies and Procedures. This publication serves as the official source of procedures for the University of Idaho 4-H Youth Development program and is available at <http://www.4h.uidaho.edu> or you can obtain a hard copy at the Extension Office. Please note that Boundary County has additional county policies. Please feel free to call the Extension Office at 267-3235 or visit us on the web at <http://extension.ag.uidaho.edu/boundary> if you have questions about the 4-H program.

How it works

Traditional 4-H Clubs and programs are for youth ages 8 to 18 and still in high school (age as of January 1st of the current 4-H year). Cloverbuds is our non-competitive program for youth ages 5-7.

Leaders

The success of 4-H programs relies on volunteer adult leaders, who are willing to help young people learn new skills and achieve their goals. Please let the 4-H program coordinator, Erika Thiel, know if you are interested in becoming a volunteer leader. All leaders must fill out an application that includes screening and supply at least two references, to ensure the safety and welfare of the members. New leaders are required to complete three hours of training. Returning leaders are required to complete two hours of training. There are several trainings held throughout the panhandle to help you fulfill this requirement.

Organizational Clubs

There are several 4-H Clubs in Boundary County and each organizational club encompasses a geographical area. Volunteer adult leaders organize the Clubs, but the 4-H members serve as Club Officers and assist with running the meetings. Organizational clubs do a variety of work throughout the community and fundraising. Typically, organizational clubs hold monthly meetings. Members are required to attend 50% of these meetings.

Projects & Project Requirements

The projects offered in 4-H depends if there is a leader available to lead the project. If you are interested in a project area that is not listed on the 4-H project list or would like to lead a project please contact the Extension Office. When selecting project/projects please keep in mind that organizational clubs typically have 6 meetings per year (one per month) and you will have project meetings. It varies per project on the number of project meetings held and when project meetings start – not all meetings will be held in the winter. Idaho requirements for completion of project work are: attend the majority of scheduled regular organizational club (50%) and project meetings (75%), give a demonstration, exhibit project work and record book in a public place, complete project record book and/or additional materials, and all animals must fit and show. These rules apply to each project a member enrolls in. Members who do not meet these requirements will not be able to complete the project and exhibit at the fair.

The County Fair

The culmination of the 4-H year happens at the Boundary County Fair. Exhibiting a project or a livestock animal at the fair is an exciting and rewarding experience for young people. 4-H members receive blue, red or white ribbons and monetary compensation for their completed projects. Projects are considered complete if displayed at a public place. Ribbons and premiums are only awarded to projects at the fair.

Clover Talk

Clover Talk is the 4-H section of the Extension Connections Newsletter. The newsletter is mailed on a bi-monthly basis to all families in the county and contains a 4-H calendar and important information about up-coming events. It is **very important to read this newsletter!** Prior publications are archived on the website.

Website

If you have access to the internet please familiarize yourself with our website at <http://extension.ag.uidaho.edu/boundary> as it has updated information that you can access anytime. If you have resources you would like to see added to the website do not hesitate to let the Extension Office know.