

**CODE OF CONDUCT
FOR RAVALLI COUNTY/MSU EXTENSION 4-H PROGRAMS/EVENTS**

Purpose

The purpose of the 4-H program is positive development of youth. We believe in creating a safe learning environment that encourages the four-fold development of a young person (i.e. Head, Heart, Hands and Health). We expect all persons involved in 4-H (youth members, parents, teen/adult volunteers) to practice behaviors that foster the total development of youth. Each 4-H member and associated individuals participating in 4-H activities must accept the responsibility of creating a positive image that reflects 4-H ideals. All 4-H participants should always strive to uphold the following standards: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring and Citizenship. In seeking uniformity in the conduct expected at 4-H programs/events, the following code of conduct has been developed to provide a clear understanding of expectations. Participants and parents/guardians **must sign this form in order to participate** and covers any 4-H camp related event from March 2017 to September 2017.

Code of Conduct

1. For the safety and wellness of all participants, a completed and signed 4-H Health History Report Form is required for participation at 4-H camp events. In addition, medications and medication forms must be turned in at the registration table upon arrival at 4-H Camp.
2. Participants should attend and be actively involved in all scheduled activities as part of 4-H camp (unless under supervision of a medical staff person.) Curfew is to be followed as specified in the schedule for overnight events. Failure to be at assigned locations may lead to dismissal from the 4-H camp event. Some areas are off-limits to participants (ex.: swimming pool; bodies of water such as lakes and rivers; challenge courses, etc.) unless under appropriate supervision of Extension Agent or other Adult Leadership.
3. Participants should remain at 4-H camp until the program/event is scheduled to end. Participants may not leave the 4-H camp property without prior permission from Extension Agent, Program Director, or other adult in charge of 4-H camp. Participants may only be picked up from 4-H camp by the person designated on the 4-H Health History Report Form. Identification may be requested at the time of pick-up.
4. Participants are expected to understand that this is a partnership with the Extension Agent and Camp Director(s). Although this is a partnership, all decisions must be approved by the Extension Agent and Adult Leadership.
5. Participants should respect the property of others and be responsible for their own actions. Deliberate destruction or removal of facilities or equipment is not permitted. Financial responsibility for any damages caused by deliberate destruction will be assumed by the participant and/or parents/guardians. The same applies to property and personal items of other participants.
6. Participants should treat all others and themselves with respect. Aggressive, abusive, vulgar, or violent language and behavior towards others (ex: fighting, threats, insults, cursing, discrimination, etc.) are not permitted.
7. Participants should respect the privacy of others. Girls' are not permitted in boys' lodging nor are boys permitted in girls' lodging rooms.
8. Participants are expected to dress appropriately based upon the guidelines established by the person in charge of 4-H camp.

Code of Conduct continued:

- 9. Possession, distribution, or use of fireworks, weapons, knives, or other items that can be used as a weapon are not permitted at 4-H camp, except under adult supervision in scheduled instructional activities. (ex. Shooting education class supervised by a certified instructor, campfire activities, etc.)

- 10. Possession, distribution, or use of alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, tobacco products, and unauthorized prescription drugs are not allowed at any 4-H sponsored program/event and must be reported to law enforcement. The Ravalli County/MSU 4-H program reserves the right to conduct a search of participant’s outer clothing, luggage, personal belongings, lodging rooms, and furniture being used by a participant(s) if there is a “reasonable suspicion” that the participant has drugs, alcohol, or weapons.

Consequences

Unacceptable behavior during 4-H camp (as defined within this Code of Conduct or through a review process by 4-H staff/volunteer) will result in consequences to the participant.

Consequences may include:

- 1. early release from this 4-H camp without refund,
- 2. restitution or repayment of damages,
- 3. denial of future participation in 4-H camp at the local, district, state and national levels for one or more years (as determined by the staff in charge of, or responsible for 4-H camp),
- 4. forfeiture of financial support for a future 4-H camp events, and

NOTE: Any conduct not specifically covered by this Code of Conduct, but deemed inappropriate by those responsible for 4-H camp will be viewed as a violation and appropriate action will be taken. If any infraction occurs, the person in charge of 4-H camp will provide appropriate communication to parents/guardians.

Signatures: Both signatures are required to participate

I have read and understand the above “Code of Conduct” for the Ravalli County 4-H camp and will abide by the expectations described in the Code-of Conduct. I understand that if I act inappropriately I will have to accept responsibility for my actions that my result in the consequences listed above. In addition, I agree to perform to the best of my ability in providing a meaningful and safe camp experience for the campers attending the camp in my capacity as a 4-H Camp Counselor or Group Leader. I understand that if I comply with the above expectations I will earn the opportunity to attend camp as a Counselor and the privilege of applying for a Counselor position for 4-H Camp 2018.

Participant Signature

Date

I have discussed and reviewed this Code of Conduct with my child. I understand that failure to abide by this code of Conduct may result in the consequences listed above which includes no refund. In the event that this code is violated, I agree to come to 4-H camp to pick up my child at the request of the adult in charge of 4-H camp. I acknowledge responsibility for any fees/charges that my result from said services.

Parent/Guardian’s Signature

Date