



# 4-H VOLUNTEER INFORMATION SERIES

N e b r a s k a 4 - H Y o u t h D e v e l o p m e n t

## Ideas for Community Service Projects

There are many community service projects waiting to be done. The key to a successful project is matching the project to the ages and skills of the youth and the resources available to use in completing the project. This list provides some ideas for possible community service projects.

### Adventure Programming

- Coordinate a community drive to collect used bicycles. Donate bikes to community agency that will give bikes to kids.
- Spiff-up and fix-up a community playground.
- Sponsor a community walk, run, or biking activity to encourage fitness.
- Check out walking, biking, and snowmobile trails and update signs and pick up trash.
- Work with a local senior center to coordinate activities such as games or dances.
- Adopt a grandparent.

### Animal Projects

- Organize a visiting pet program for nursing homes, elementary schools, senior centers etc.
- Volunteer at the local humane society.
- Donate dog/cat food to a local animal shelter.

### Clothing and Textiles

- Sponsor a coat drive and donate to a shelter.
- Make a quilt or blanket for a homeless shelter.
- Sponsor a mitten and scarf tree with items to be donated to a pre-school.

### Communications

- Create television and radio ads.

Aufdenkamp, B. Community service ideas. *Welcome to 4-H!!*. Basics for New 4-H Leaders. UNL Extension 4-H.

### Food, Nutrition and Fitness

- Volunteer at a homeless shelter or community food pantry.
- Sponsor a food drive for food pantry.
- Prepare holiday food baskets for shut-ins.
- Provide snacks for blood mobile.
- Sponsor a community holiday coffee.

### Plants, Soils and Gardening

- Work with a community agency to set up a community garden. Donate produce to people who don't have a garden.
- Help residents of a nursing home set up container gardens of vegetables or plants.
- Catalog plants or trees in park or wildlife area.
- Plant trees/flowers in park or other community area.

### Science and Technology

- Organize a recycling program.
- Plan a park clean-up day or community clean-up.
- Present a disaster preparedness program for schools and day cares in what to do in case of tornado or flood.

### Shooting Sports

- Present a program or display on firearm and bow safety.
- Volunteer to help with local hunter safety program.

Source: Diem, K. G. Revised 2001. *New Jersey 4-H leader Training Series- 10 Steps Toward Performing a Successful Community Service Project*. Rutgers Cooperative Extension.



Extension is a Division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln cooperating with the Counties and the United States Department of Agriculture.

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