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

Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and County Boards of Chosen Freeholders. Rutgers Cooperative Extension, a unit of the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is an equal opportunity program provider and employer.



Morris County 4-H Awards Handbook



**A resource book for members, leaders
and families about award opportunities
in Morris County 4-H**

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Introduction to 4-H Awards

In 4-H Youth Development, we encourage and recognize youth for their achievements. This recognition takes many forms, from a pat on the back and saying "Good Job," to presenting a pin or ribbon for project achievement.

4-H is designed to address the needs of all children with a minimum focus on competition. For children who choose to participate in the optional, competitive aspect of the 4-H program, this booklet will serve as a handy guide. 4-H offers no competitive awards to children who are not yet in 4th grade. All Cloverbud 4-H members (grades K-3) who wish to enter events for which they are eligible will receive participation awards.

In Morris County, "County Awards" generally refer to recognitions presented at the County Awards Night in November. Included are awards for outstanding project work, leadership, and 4-H'er of the Year. These honors and their requirements are explained in the "County Awards" section of this booklet.

Additional forms of recognition and opportunities that are available through the Morris County 4-H Program are detailed in other sections of this booklet. The 4-H staff are available to answer any questions you have about the recognition process or particular awards.

4-H Alumni of the Year

This award is presented to a 4-H alumnus/alumna who has significantly contributed to the Morris County 4-H Program. This award is presented during Opening Ceremonies at the 4-H Fair. The recipient is selected by the Morris County 4-H staff with input from the Morris County 4-H Board.

Requirements:

- Currently active in the Morris County 4-H Program
- Former 4-H member, leader, and/or volunteer

Criteria:

- Serves as a positive role model for all 4-H youth, families, and volunteers
- Positively promotes the Morris County 4-H Program
- Contributes to the Morris County 4-H Program in ways that improve the program's growth, content, and experience for members

Please note: The recipient need not be an alumnus/alumna of the Morris County 4-H Program. Alumni from other counties, states, and countries may be considered for the award.

4-H Memorial Awards

Clara R. Farst Memorial Award

This memorial award honors Clara R. Farst, longtime Fair volunteer and leader for 12 years of the Nifty Heelers 4-H Seeing Eye Puppy Club. This award honors her memory by recognizing an individual whose behind the scenes actions and active involvement at the 4-H Fair best demonstrate Clara's own ability to do what was needed. This award is presented during Closing Ceremonies at the 4-H Fair. The recipient is selected by the Morris County 4-H staff with input from the Morris County 4-H Board.

Requirements:

- Currently active in the Morris County 4-H Program
- Active unfailing involvement with the 4-H Fair

Criteria:

- Involved in Fair set up, during the Fair, and clean up
- Fills job roles as needed to support the Fair's success
- Encouraging to others in their work

Rich and Beth Everett Memorial Award

This memorial award captures the spirit of Rich and Beth Everett, both long time 4-H volunteers who developed new and exciting ideas to improve the 4-H Fair each year and saw them to completion. This award is presented to an individual or group that has significantly contributed to the improvement of the 4-H Fair. This award is presented during Closing Ceremonies at the Fair. The recipient(s) is selected by the Morris County 4-H staff with input from the Morris County 4-H Board.

Requirements:

- Currently active in the Morris County 4-H Program
- Active unfailing involvement with the 4-H Fair

Criteria:

- Takes a leadership role in implementing new ideas that improve the 4-H Fair
- Inspires others to seek out new ways to highlight the Morris County 4-H Program

Member in Good Standing

The status of "member in good standing" is required for 4-H members interested in participating in state/national 4-H events. In addition, specific County Awards are only available to members who meet these standards. Members who have earned this title have completed the basic 4-H membership requirements including:

- Attend at least 70% of their 4-H club's meetings
- Delivered a public presentation at the club, county or state level
- Submitted a completed 4-H Project Record Book for each project area in which they have studied
- Participated in county 4-H events including but not limited to the Fair, Holiday Caroling, St. Patrick's Day Parade, and Science-sational Day

Morris County 4-H Awards

These awards fall into three categories: club member awards, project awards, and special county awards.

Club Member Awards

Available from the 4-H office to club leaders by request only. All pins are distributed by leaders at their club's business meeting.

- **Cloverbud Shooting Star**—Grades K-3. Awarded at County Awards Night to all Cloverbuds in attendance. Leaders may request additional pins for distribution at their club meetings.
- **4-H Member Year Pin**—Available to all members. Leaders may request a Year Pin reflecting the number of completed years in a club by a member.
- **100% Attendance**—Any member who has achieved 100% attendance in their club during the last 4-H year.
- **Teen Leader**—Any teen member (grades 8-13) who has served as a youth leader in their club, assisted the club's adult leaders, and/or completed additional training to support their club's work.

Project Awards

These award pins are given to members who have:

- Met the standards as a “member in good standing”.
- Completed all requirements of their specific project.
- Demonstrated excellent work in their project.
- Submitted a 4-H Project Record Book.

(For project areas lacking a specific 4-H Project Record Book, members must use the 4-H General Record Book to be eligible for awards.)

Special County Awards

There are several awards in this category. The requirements for each award can be found on the following pages.

- Clover Award
- Achievement Award
- Personal Development Award
- Best 4-H Project Record Book
- Best 4-H Story
- Best 4-H Scrapbook
- Club Secretary Award
- Club Treasurer’s Report Award
- Club Scrapbook Award
- Morris County 4-H Equestrian of the Year, Junior & Senior
- “I Dare You” Award
- 4-H’er of the Year Award

4-H Memorial Awards

These awards recognize 4-H members and volunteers who go above and beyond to improve the Morris County 4-H program.

Lance Corporal Andrew W. Lubrano 4-H Memorial Scholarship

In 1993, the first higher education scholarship was awarded in the Morris County 4-H Program. The fund for this scholarship was established in 1991 in memory of Morris County 4-Her Andrew Lubrano who died accidentally at age 20 in the Marine Corps. In order to be eligible, an applicant must be a 4-H member who currently is a high school senior and planning to go on to an accredited college, university, trade, or vocational school. Applications are available from the 4-H office or your 4-H leader and are due on March 15th.

Requirements:

- Current active enrollment in the Morris County 4-H Program
- Commitment to and involvement in the Morris County 4-H program during four years of high school
- A completed application and leader recommendation submitted to the scholarship committee by March 15th

Criteria:

Each of the following criteria shall have equal weight:

- The recipient exemplifies the qualities stated in the 4-H pledge.
- The recipient exhibits a willingness to accept leadership without necessarily holding an office in a club.
- The recipient demonstrates personal growth as a result of his/her experience.
- The recipient participates in individual, club, and county 4-H activities, exhibiting sportsmanship, cooperative spirit, and respect of others.

Please note: 4-H project completion and project record keeping are not required.

Special County Awards

4-H'er of the Year Award

Grades 10-12

Recognizes 4-Hers who have met the requirements below. No member will be awarded both an "I Dare You" award and 4-H'er of the Year in the same year. This award *will not* be given to the same member more than once.

Requirements:

- "Member in Good Standing" status
- Completed (at least) two projects, with appropriate record books submitted
- Recommendation from 4-H leader
- Completed at least two years in 4-H
- Completed the "4-H'er of the Year" award application
- Given a presentation at County Public Presentation night
- Participated in any four of the following:
 - * Completed another project (for a total of 3 or more)
 - * Attended a national 4-H trip
 - * Participated on a county-level committee
 - * Exhibited project work at the Fair
 - * Member of Teen Council
 - * Attended two county or club educational trips, workshops, or activities
 - * Participated in a state-level event or competition
 - * Demonstrated leadership on the county level

Criteria:

- Shows deep involvement and commitment to the 4-H program through local club, county, state, and national activities as well as demonstrating leadership and service especially through 4-H involvement.

Special County Awards

Clover Award

Grades 4-13

Clover Award recipients show involvement and dedication to the 4-H Program, truly enjoy 4-H and receive benefits from the program other than awards, and demonstrate personal growth as a result of their 4-H involvement. All those who meet requirements will receive the award.

Requirements:

Member participated in at least 3 of the following:

- Participated on a club or county level committee
- Participated in the 4-H Fair as an exhibitor or volunteer
- Participated in or planned a community service project on the club, county or state level (example: Holiday Caroling)
- Participated in a county or state level judging or bowl event for any project area (includes taking part in county team study sessions and tryouts)
- Attended at least one county or club educational trip, workshop or activity (example: 4-H promotional events, etc)
- Have given a public presentation or a demonstration at the county or state level
- Submitted a drawing and/or theme for yearbook cover contest, Holiday Card contest, or other such contest within the county
- Exemplifies "To Make The Best Better" in his or her club

Criteria:

- Clover Award recipients do **not** have meet the "Member in Good Standing" requirements.
- This award is designed for members not eligible for other awards.

Special County Awards

Achievement Award

Grades 4-8 and Grades 9-13

Recognizes exceptional progress in one or more project area.

Requirements:

- “Member in Good Standing” status
- Project Record Book for each project
- Recommendation from the 4-H leader stating either
 - * Outstanding progress of the member in one project year

OR

- * Great number of projects the member enrolled in and successfully completed this year

Criteria:

- Shows dramatic improvement for one year to the next
- Has gone above and beyond project material
- Is a role model in project area
- Demonstrates thorough record keeping in project area
- Accepts new challenges in project area

Personal Development Award

Grades 4-8 and Grades 9-13

Recognizes exceptional personal growth and development; seldom if ever awarded to the same member more than once in each grade category.

Requirements:

- “Member in Good Standing” status
- Submit record books for each of your 4-H projects
- Recommendation from the 4-H leader/other adult (non-relative) who has seen a positive impact on the member’s growth and development as a result of participation in 4-H

Criteria:

- Expression of a positive attitude and self-confidence
- Taking personal risks
- Positive interaction with others
- A positive presentation of self

Special County Awards

“I Dare You” Award

Grades 8-13

Awarded to the two most outstanding 4-H members “who have demonstrated qualities of constructive leadership and who have been well balanced on the four-square basis of healthy physical habits, an alert and ever growing mind, an outreach of friendship and constructive social relationships within the home and community and, above all, character as specified by the award’s originator, William Danforth.

No member will be awarded both an “I Dare You” award and 4-H’er of the Year in the same year. This award *will not* be given to the same member more than once.

Requirements:

- “Member in Good Standing” status
- Project Record Book for each project
- Recommendation from the 4-H leader
- Completion of the “I Dare You” award application

Criteria:

- Demonstrate qualities of constructive leadership and be well balanced on the four-square basis of:
- Healthy physical habits
- Alert and ever growing mind
- Outreach of friendship and constructive social relationship within the home and community
- Character

Special County Awards

Morris County 4-H Equestrian of the Year Award

Junior (grades 4-7) and Senior (grades 8-12)

The Morris County 4-H Equestrian of the Year will promote 4-H and the horse industry in Morris County. In addition, the senior winner is expected to represent Morris County at the New Jersey State 4-H Equestrian of the Year competition.

Note: Horse ownership is **not** required.

Requirements:

- “Member in Good Standing” status
- Submit a Resume form
- Complete a personal interview
- Take a written test on horsemanship and horse science (Applicants will be notified of his or her interview and test date.)
- Senior entrants must have given a state-level public presentation within the past three years.

Criteria:

- Horse experience and knowledge
- 4-H participation and awareness
- Presentation skills
- Appearance and poise
- Leadership skills

Special County Awards

Best Project Record Book Award

Grades 4-8 and Grades 9-13

This award is for outstanding project record keeping. Each project area and grade group will be judged separately and a Best Project Record Keeping Award will be given for each project area/grade group. Members can enter in as many project areas as they have projects. All eligible members will be considered automatically.

Requirements:

- “Member in Good Standing” status
- A score of “Excellent” for the project overall
- A score of 80% on the “Outstanding Work in Project Area” section of the project judging

Criteria:

Project Record Books are judged based on the following criteria:

- Neatness
- Spelling
- Grammar
- Content
- Completeness
- Accuracy

Best 4-H Story Award

Grades 4-8 and Grades 9-13

This award is based on the quality of the “4-H Story” that is part of the Project Record Book.

Requirements:

- All entries submitted for Awards judging will be automatically submitted for this award.

Criteria:

- Content
- Originality
- Completeness (follows story guidelines in record book)
- Grammar, spelling, and neatness (may be typed)

Special County Awards

Best Scrapbook Award

Grades 4-8 and Grades 9-13

Will be given for a 4-H scrapbook compiled and submitted by an individual 4-H member.

Requirements:

- “Member in Good Standing” status

Criteria: 4-H scrapbook **should** show:

- Growth and development of their project/activity in pictures
- News clippings (or copies) showing the member’s name or picture
- Ribbon and award certificates received
- Important 4-H correspondence
- 4-H Record Books from previous years
- Neatness - attractive presentation, handwriting neat and legible (type is equally acceptable)

Club Secretary Award

Grades 4-13

Recognizes the work of the club secretary in keeping minutes that record the activities of the club at meetings.

Requirements:

- The material enclosed reflects the results of the club secretary’s year-round recording of club activities in the form of minutes, which allow the club to keep track of its past votes, motions, and activities.
- Does **not** require “Member in Good Standing” status

Criteria:

- All items included refer to club activities for the 4-H year
- Chronological order
- Thoroughness
- Neatness
- Clear and simple descriptions are included when appropriate
- Signature(s) of club secretary(s) responsible for compiling
the Club Secretary Report

Special County Awards

Club Treasurer’s Report Award

Grades 4-13

Recognizes the financial records of the club for the 4-H year.

Requirements:

- This book must be compiled by a 4-H member or committee of members, with as little adult assistance as possible.

Criteria:

- All items included refer to club financial activities and transactions for the 4-H year just ending
- Chronological order
- Thoroughness
- Neatness
- Clear, simple descriptions are included where appropriate
- Accuracy
- Signature(s) of club treasurer(s) responsible for compiling the Club Treasurer’s Report

Club Scrapbook Award

Grades 4-13

Recognizes a record of club work over the past 4-H year, as reflected by news clippings, photographs, programs from club field trips, awards received by the club (not individual members), and other items appropriate for a scrapbook.

Requirements:

- Book must be compiled by a 4-H member or committee of members, not the leader or other adults

Criteria:

- All items included refer to club activities for the 4-H year
- Originality
- Chronological order
- Clear, simple descriptions are included where appropriate
- Attractive presentation. Handwriting neat and legible (typing is acceptable)
- Signature(s) of club member(s) responsible for compiling the Club Scrapbook