

## MARYLAND 4-H DISCIPLINARY POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Maryland 4-H expects youth participating in programs to behave in an acceptable manner in accordance with Maryland 4-H Behavioral Expectations.

Participants who engage in conduct, including the following behaviors, which may jeopardize the health or safety of participants or the integrity of 4-H will be dismissed immediately from the meeting, activity, event, or other program (for example: reminder of the fair, camp, judging trip). Parent or guardian will be responsible for picking up a child if dismissed.

- Possession, use, or distribution of alcohol and/or illegal drugs.
- Possession or use of weapons or dangerous materials.
- Possession or use of tobacco products.
- Misuse of prescription or nonprescription drugs.
- Sexual activity.
- Cheating or misrepresenting project work.
- Unauthorized absence from program site.
- Physical, verbal, emotional, or mental abuse of another person.
- Theft, destruction, or abuse of property.

Following the program, the Extension educator in charge may take additional disciplinary action for unacceptable conduct. In such cases.

- The 4-H participant and his/her parent or guardian will be notified in writing of the deviation from Maryland 4-H Behavioral Expectations.
- The 4-H youth participant will have an opportunity to be heard prior to the imposition of sanctions. A parent or guardian will be permitted to be present at such time.
- The Extension educator in charge may convene a review board to investigate the charges and to hear the 4-H member.
- Sanctions, up to and including suspension from one or more 4-h meetings, activities, events, and other programs for a period of up to 12 months, will be imposed based on the nature of misconduct.
- The 4-H youth participant and his/her parent or guardian will be notified of the sanction in writing. Sanctions may be appealed in writing to the State 4-H Leader within seven (7) days after receiving notice of the sanction. The decision of the State 4-H Leader will be final.

I HAVE READ THE **MARYLAND 4-H BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS** AND THE **MARYLAND 4-H DISCIPLINARY POLICY & PROCEDURES**. AM AWARE THAT MY ACTIONS AND DECISIONS AFFECT ME AND OTHERS AND MAY RESULT IN LOSS OF PRIVILEGES DURING 4-H EVENTS, AND FOR FUTURE EVENTS. I WILL ACCEPT THE APPROPRIATE AND LOGICAL CONSEQUENCES OF MY ACTIONS, AS DETERMINED BY MARYLAND 4-H.

**Member Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

“AS THE PARENT/GUARDIAN OF \_\_\_\_\_, I HAVE READ THE MARYLAND 4-H BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATION AND THE MARYLAND 4-H DISCIPLINARY POLICY & PROCEDURES AND WILL SUPPORT THE INDIVIDUAL IN CHARGE IN MAINTANING APPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR. I AGREE TO ACCEPT THE APPROPRIATE AND LOGICAL CONSEQUENCES OF MY CHILD’S ACTIONS, AS DETERMINED BY MARYLAND 4-H.

**Parent/Guardian Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

*Educating People To Help Themselves*

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