A close up of a sign

Description automatically generated

# Memo to Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo 4-H Communities

**To:**  4-H Community Club Leaders, Project Leaders and 4-H Families

**From:** 4-H YDP Staff of Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo County

**Date**: July 5, 2019

## **Dear 4-H Membership,**

## With both the upcoming Santa Barbara County Fair and CA Mid-State Fair, we know that this may be a stressful and busy time for many families involved with 4-H. We wanted to share some expectations at fair that will lead to a successful time and a Positive Youth Development experience for all our club members.

Here are some helpful reminders to ensure a good experience is had by all.

**Positive Youth Development**

Positive Youth Development programs engage youth within their communities, schools, organizations, peer groups, and families in a manner that is productive and constructive; recognizes, utilizes, and enhances youth's strengths; and promotes positive outcomes for young people by providing opportunities, fostering positive relationships and furnishing the support needed to build on their leadership strengths.

## **4-H’s unique hands-on approach gives kids the opportunity to learn by doing and build life skills and features:**

•Positive and sustained relationships between youth and adults   
•Activities that build important life skills   
•Opportunities for youth to use these skills as participants and leaders in valued community activities

**Code of Conduct**

The 4-H Policy Handbook has all the rights as a 4-H member and the rules that we all must follow. The most important rules for members are the “Code of Conduct”. When members follow the Code of Conduct, it helps keep 4-H safe and fun for everyone. For a review of the Code of Conduct for youth members visit [here](http://4h.ucanr.edu/files/172639.pdf), for adult volunteers, parents and guardians visit [here](http://4h.ucanr.edu/files/16404.pdf). En español: visite [aquí](https://ucanr.edu/sites/UC4-H/files/187888.pdf) para el código de conducta para padres, tutores o adultos participantes de 4-H y para miembros juveniles visite [acqui](https://ucanr.edu/sites/UC4-H/files/187885.pdf).

**Treatment of Animals/ Biosecurity**

Animal science projects are a classic hallmark of the 4-H program and thousands of young people enroll in these 4-H projects annually. 4-H youth who chose to participate in animal science projects take on the responsibility for proper care and treatment of their animals.

4-H expects that all animals will be cared for and treated in a responsible manner. 4-H supports management practices for the proper care and treatment animals as developed through research and industry-tested practices.  
4-H provides educational opportunities for youth to learn and practice biosecurity measures to reduce the risks of disease transmission. 4-H encourages fairs, shows, and exhibitions to provide hand washing facilities, manage the human-animal interactive experience, and inform visitors about safe conduct with animals.

The **Santa Barbara County Fair** at the Santa Maria Fairgrounds sent out a press release encouraging everyone to use the provided hand washing stations and to use proper hand washing techniques, especially for vulnerable populations such as children and seniors. You can visit the Santa Barbara County Fair website at [www.santamariafairpark.com](http://www.santamariafairpark.com) for more information.

The **CA Mid-State Fair** at the Paso Robles Event Center has listed multiple resources, as well as, training on Biosecurity Training and Protocols listed on their website [here](https://www.midstatefair.com/fair/livestock-info.php). The Biosecurity Training and Protocols shared by the CA Mid-State Fair is to educate their exhibitors about the correct practices to ensure the health and wellbeing of their animal projects while entering, exiting and housing their project, before and after, the California Mid-State Fair. It is their intent to educate all parties at the fair regarding good animal husbandry practices that will help keep the animals, exhibitors, parents, leaders, advisors and fairgoers healthy. They further encourage exhibitors to adopt these practices at the location where projects are housed prior to, and after, the fair. For more information about the CA Mid-State Fair visit [www.midstatefair.com](http://www.midstatefair.com).

As a requirement for entry at the **California State Fair**, all animal exhibitors at the State Fair are required to participate in a Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) certification program, which is a national multi-species quality assurance program for youth ages 8 to 21. This online annual education and certification program promotes food safety, animal well-being and character awareness. The YQCA program is owned and managed by Youth for the Quality Care of Animal nonprofit. More information can be found at [www.yqca.org](http://www.yqca.org). For more information about the California State Fair visit [www.castatefair.org](http://www.castatefair.org).

**Incident Reports / Insurance**

In the event of an incident, accident or near miss involving UC ANR 4-H members and volunteers, or property there is an incident report and insurance available.

An incident report form is to be used for either severe or minor incidents, property damage, theft, or other losses, including motor vehicle accidents. This form is kept confidential and only used by UC officials or agents acting on behalf of the University. If you have any questions about this form, contact Risk Services at 530-750-1263.

UC ANR/ 4-H YDP has worked with The Hartford Insurance Company to provide accident insurance coverage to protect UC ANR 4-H members and volunteer leaders when taking part in or attending an approved, regularly supervised activity. This policy also covers 4-H youth members and one-time participants in 4-H activities or programs. They are also covered while traveling to, or from, a unit activity, and while traveling directly between home and a group meeting place for a scheduled activity. More information about the insurance policies and the forms to submit a claim can be found [here](https://ucanr.edu/sites/risk/Insurance/Hartford_Volunteer_Insurance/). The claim form is available at <http://www.ca4h.org/files/80575.pdf>.

**Questions?**

Contact Ana Torres, Community Education Specialist at 805-781-5941 or email her at [amltorres@ucanr.edu](mailto:amltorres@ucanr.edu). You can also contact the 4-H Office at 805-781-5943.