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Strawberry Riders and Etc. - Providing and Planting Flowers at the Fairgrounds



*Want to make a difference in your community?* Through its pledge of "hands to larger service," 4-H has historically given back to the community by encouraging young people and adults to volunteer. In 4-H, service is commonly defined as the voluntary action of an individual or a group of individuals without pay. Service to the community –through food drives, raking the yard of an elderly neighbor, adopt-a-highway programs, teens teaching younger youth, teens mentoring children, or youth determining community needs and helping solve community problems –helps young people learn caring, leadership and citizenship.

*Why is it important for all of us to be involved in service?* Our U.S. society is based on the idea that we are all responsible for the well-being of our community, country and world. Even before the founding of our country, the willingness to serve was evident in the hearts of many.

*What youth gain from community service learning?* By giving back to their communities, young people can:

Learn the value of helping others.

Develop leadership, communication, organizational skills and a sense of empowerment.

Learn how important the connection is between subject matter and life in the community.

Learn how to cooperate with one another and work as a team with diverse groups of people including adults, peers and others with different backgrounds and experiences.

Succeed in an area different from academics, athletics or popularity.

Build self-esteem from the positive results of their service.

Develop problem-solving and decisionmaking skills by applying their knowledge to real-world situations.

Develop a sense of being responsible for their community and a sense that citizenship requires them to actively participate in their community.

Receive recognition for their efforts and possibly college scholarships.

Experience the world of work.



To Join 4-H, or to become an adult volunteer, contact the OSU Extension Service -Grant County office at (541)575-1911, 530 E. Main Street, Ste. 10, John Day, OR 97845 or shanna.northway@oregonstate.edu

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