

Annual 4-H Awards

Annual awards were established to recognize the contributions and achievements of special individuals involved in the Cheshire County 4-H Program. Any club or individual may nominate candidates for any of these awards by submitting an informal letter of recommendation to the Extension Office by September 28. The letter should state how the nominee meets the criteria of the award. Cheshire 4-H Council members may add to the nominee list which will be reviewed by the Council at their meeting. Awards will only be given when qualified nominations are received.



Club of the Year

The club that is judged to have obtained the highest overall level of accomplishment during the 4-H year earns this award. To apply for this award clubs must submit the [Club Nomination Form](#) by September 28. The form is available from the 4-H Office. The winning club will be selected based upon their community service projects, their involvement in county activities, their 4-H promotion activities, and their participation in 4-H fund raising. In addition, the accomplishments of the club's individual members will be considered. This will include member participation in county, state, and national events, individual project records, and teen leadership within club and in county events. The award can be repeated. Normally, only one club will be recognized annually unless there are two equally outstanding clubs.

Bob Williams Award

This award was established in memory of Robert Williams, a long time Marlborough 4-H leader who specialized in building strong leadership skills in junior members. Two junior members (under age 14) will be recognized annually. Selection will be based upon evidence of the members with rounded experiences, with strong involvement in leadership and service as well as project accomplishments. Candidates should be involved beyond the club level in project and leadership and should have been involved behind the scenes at county events. In addition, members should be helping other members as well as achieving themselves.

Member of the Year

This award is to recognize a senior member who has attained a high level of achievement in all competency areas over the years they have been involved in the 4-H Program wherever they have lived. This outstanding member will show a balance of involvement, either in a wide variety of project areas or in one project area with involvement on all levels, county, state, and national. The member will have accepted some real responsibilities in both citizenship and leadership. The member will have made significant contributions to the program, giving back in some part what they themselves have gained. Normally, only one member will be recognized annually unless there are two equally outstanding members.

Family of the Year

The 4-H Program is strengthened when family members support the member in their 4-H activities and the program in its efforts to help the members develop competencies for the future. The Family Award is given to a member(s) and related adult(s) who have worked as a team to support the 4-H Program either in the foreground, providing leadership and direction for a project, activity or event, or in the background, helping make the efforts of others work effectively. Considered will be the total achievement over the years involved in 4-H, the level of participation and support of the program (county, state, regional, national), the major contributions over the past year, and the impact of the family's efforts.



4-H Lifetime Volunteer Achievement Award

This prestigious volunteer award is given to those individuals who make significant major contributions to 4-H over their lifetime. Those honored may have served 4-H in many capacities. Examples may include outstanding club leadership over the years, service on the 4-H Council, as an officer, on the Extension Advisory Council, coordinator of a county or state event, or a key leader. The candidate's overall role in furthering 4-H work and service to youth is of primary importance. All current and past volunteers of 4-H with greater than five years of service are eligible. This may only be received once by an individual.



Volunteer of the Year

This award is given to a volunteer who has demonstrated exceptional 4-H qualities and who have shown that they have had significant, positive impact on the lives of young people. This person will have had significant effects on 4-H on a club, county, state, or national level within the last year. The volunteer must be currently enrolled but there is no minimum number of years served. Normally, only one volunteer will be recognized annually unless there are two equally outstanding volunteers. An individual may receive this more than once.



4-H Spirit Awards

This award recognizes 4-H members with three or more years of membership who have experienced a wide variety of the opportunities 4-H has to offer. You may want to check out the form - you may have already accumulated enough points! 4-H Spirit award forms are available at the office and are due September 28.



Annual Horse Awards

There are six different awards: Horse Spirit Award, Beginner and Advanced Horseless, and Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced Horseman. These awards are given at the Awards Dinner to all who have successfully completed the necessary awards form. A reminder that the Horse Awards forms should be completed and sent to the Extension Office by September 28.

For more information on any of these awards call the 4-H office at 352-4550.

