



January 2010

Dear Prospective 4-H Parent:

We are pleased you are interested in the Fremont County 4-H Program.

4-H PROJECT REQUIREMENTS AND OPTIONS:

WHO CAN JOIN: 4-H is open to all youth who will be ages 8 to 18. Youth must be at least 8 years of age on Jan. 1, 2010 to participate in the 4-H programs, including competitive activities/events.

WHAT IS 4-H? 4-H is an educational program designed to help youth learn by doing. Most projects are hands-on projects where a child learns a skill he or she can use the rest of their life.

COST: Cost of a "project" is variable. The Extension Office charges a fee for the project manuals and record books. These vary in price from \$1.00 to \$5.00 depending on the project.

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS: A child must attend a minimum number of meetings, complete the project manual and record book, give a demonstration and put together an exhibit.

MEETING REQUIREMENTS: There are four different kinds of clubs/meetings. Projects will be taught in one of the following manners:

Accelerated Projects: Some projects can be taught in this manner. The leader teaches the project in one full day. Six hours is the minimum time the child can spend and still complete the project. They still have to complete the requirements of the project, such as the manual, record book, demonstration and exhibit. A flat fee for day camps is charged. See attached sheet.

Project Club: Only one project is led in this type of club. The leader and the youth will set the dates, times and places for the meeting minimum. All requirements must be met. A \$10 fee (one time only) plus manual, record book and supplies are charged for this club.

Community Club: In this type of club, members can take one or more projects. Several projects may be led at the same club meeting. There may be more than one leader in this type of club. Again, regular project requirements must be met. A \$10 fee (one time only) plus manual, record book and supplies are charged for this club.

Animal Projects: Projects with live animals take more time and generally are more expensive. There are also ownership requirements that must be met. Youth taking a horse in 4-H are required to have ownership for 120 days before the fair (August) and required to pay a flat fee of \$14.00 including one record will be charged. 4-H members taking a beef project must have ownership of the animals for 150 days before the fair (August). Swine must be owned by the member for 100 days and sheep/goats for 70 days prior to the fair. Dogs also require a 120 day ownership. A flat fee of \$10.00 including one record book will be charged.

PARENT'S OBLIGATIONS: As a parent, you are obligated to get your child to and from the meetings, provide the materials the child needs to complete the requirements of the project and to be supportive of the 4-H leader. Attend the 4-H meetings, if possible. Find out what your child will be doing and if there is some way you can help. The 4-H experience is greatly enhanced when parents are involved.

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES: If you are interested in helping your child or any other children with a 4-H project, the Extension Office is willing to help you get started. We can give you the information and training on 4-H and explain the many opportunities it provides for youth and leaders. We can help you with almost any aspect of the 4-H project/program.

TO JOIN a 4-H GROUP: If your child is interested in joining 4-H please fill out the form attached to this letter, Return it to their teacher at school or you can bring it to the Extension Office. **DO NOT send any money at this time.** The cost of the project will be paid at the time the 4-Her picks up his or her project materials. If your child signs up to join 4-H and you do not hear from us by May 31, please call us at 624-3102. Sometimes forms are lost or misplaced and we do want to make sure any interested child has a chance to take a 4-H project.

QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS: Call us at 624-3102 or stop in at our office at 49 West 1st North. We are open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. We would love to visit with you about 4-H.

See you this summer, Dana Miller, 4-H Program Coordinator