



Ocean County 4-H

4-H is America's largest youth development organization—empowering nearly six million young people with the skills to lead for a lifetime. 4-H is based on a positive youth development (PYD) approach, recognizing that all youth have interests, abilities, and strengths. Research shows that participation in high quality 4-H programs increases thriving in youth, and thriving youth achieve important developmental outcomes.

New Jersey 4-H is a part of the land-grant institution, Rutgers University, specifically Rutgers Cooperative Extension. Extension offices are found in every NJ County!

<https://ocean.njaes.rutgers.edu/>

Ways we reach the community:

4-H Clubs:

- There are several 4-H clubs and short-term clubs and programs being offered for Ocean County 4-H members in areas of Agriculture, Animal Care, Equine Science, STEM, Shooting Sports, Sewing, and much more. Clubs are led by adult volunteers who have completed the 4-H appointment process. New clubs can be started at any time of year and can be held anywhere in Ocean County.

<https://ocean.njaes.rutgers.edu/4h/>

Outreach Programs:

- Let 4-H serve in your school or organization! A list of programs can be found on the next page. Contact Amelia Minervini, 4-H Program Coordinator, for more details.

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Ocean County 4-H Outreach Programs

Programs are held yearly except for July. One month's notice is requested.

The price covers the presenter and materials. Checks can be written out to "Ocean County 4-H Association"

Topic	Description
Starting a 4-H Club For professionals <i>Free</i>	Are you interested in creating a 4-H short-term or long-term club at your school or organization? In this program, you will learn about the positive ways 4-H can be incorporated into your school/organization and what resources will be available to you; including 4-H curriculum, program training, and more!
Animal Adaptions For grades K – 12 <i>\$5 per participant</i>	Learn about nature's awesome ways of keeping animals surviving. How did dinosaurs stay warm in the winter? How do animals stay warm today? We will use a vegetable shortening activity to find out!
So you found an orphaned or injured wild animal, what to do next. For grades K – 12 and adults <i>\$5 per participant</i>	<i>The most requested presentation, with over 35 talks given!</i> Learn how to identify if a wild animal is in distress, who to call, and how to care for that animal until you can bring it to a Wildlife Rehabilitation Facility. Participants will make & take a heating pad, which they can use to keep an animal warm in the future.
Microscopic Life For grades 2 – 12 <i>\$5 per participant</i>	Discover a whole new world under the lens. This program will discuss the basics of microorganisms, how a microscope works, and careers in these topics. We will use both a 2023 Digital Microscope and a 1930s Compound Microscope to compare image quality. Participants are encouraged to bring an item with them that can be viewed under the lens. They will also complete a small make & take.
Worm Art For grades K – 12 and adults <i>\$8 per participant</i>	* Our newest and highly requested program! * Participants will learn about the importance of soil and why we need to care about soil health. We will then dive into the animals that live in soil, including worms, and their roles. Our hands-on activity will be learning how to make soil-friendly paint using natural ingredients, and then painting with live wax worms. No animals are harmed in this program.
Build a Terrarium -OR- Make a Pollinator House For grades 5 – 12 and adults <i>\$10 per participant</i>	* Our most requested programs with over 40 completed! * Make your own terrarium and take it home! Participants will learn about the latest technologies for the future of feeding humans on planet Earth and in space. -OR- Make a pollinator house and take it home to place in your yard! Participants will learn about the importance of pollinators for planet Earth.
Are You Ready for a Small Animal Pet? For grades 3 – 12 and adults <i>\$30 flat rate</i>	This program will teach you about the different types of small animal pets available and which species would be best for your family. We will cover cost, behavior, health, and more. Meet a live chinchilla and rabbit at the conclusion of this presentation!
Custom Program	With lots of 4-H curriculum available, if you do not see a topic of interest on this list, 4-H staff can work with you to customize a program that fits your needs!