



*Boulder County Extension Office
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(303) 678-6238
www.coopext.colostate.edu/boulder/*



Dear Potential Volunteer 4-H Leader:

Thanks for your interest in being a volunteer 4-H leader in Boulder County. We've enclosed a volunteer 4-H leader application and an enrollment form for you. Please fill out all forms completely. The application will provide us with complete information on potential volunteer 4-H leaders, so that you can be placed in positions that compliment your personal strengths. This application also marks the beginning of a screening process. The screening process includes five parts: your application, **3** positive references who have known you for at least **two years (only 1 per household)**, your enrollment form, a **mandatory** background check, and a **mandatory** leader training. All first year leaders will be screened through the Colorado Courts data system. A negative report doesn't necessarily mean you can't be a leader. A follow-up interview may be necessary. Please check the Clover Gazette 4-H newsletter for training dates and times. The registration form/code of conduct, application, and references **MUST** be completed and turned into the Boulder County Extension Office by **May 1, 2008**, or at the last scheduled new leader orientation.

Boulder County 4-H has a screening process for first-year leaders. Former President Clinton signed a law into effect in December 1993, regarding volunteer organizations. By 1996, all youth development organizations were required to have in effect a policy for screening volunteers. So, starting October 1, 1996, all new Boulder County 4-H Leaders have been screened by an application process before they are accepted as a leader. As a youth development organization, we have a responsibility to provide a safe environment for our youth.

As per attachment in this package, Colorado State University Cooperative Extension in Boulder County and the Boulder County 4-H Youth Development Program ask potential volunteer 4-H leaders to submit a completed application with a minimum of three written references returned (four are included). **Please give these reference forms to the individuals (who have known at least two years) you would like to have complete them.** References may be mailed directly back to us. When we receive all of your paperwork, the application packet will be screened. We will send you a letter letting you know whether or not you have been accepted as a 4-H volunteer leader, as all who apply are not accepted. Volunteer leaders serve at the request of Colorado State University Extension. That request can be withdrawn for any reason, or no reason, at any time. All 4-H volunteer leaders must abide by the 4-H Code of Conduct.

Our volunteer 4-H leaders are a vital part of the 4-H "team" made up of 4-H Extension Agents, staff, leaders, parents and members. We are looking forward to working with you. Please call if you have questions or comments.

Sincerely,

DaNell Hennis
Extension Agent
4-H Youth Development

Nick J. Striegel
Extension Agent
4-H Youth Development and Livestock

Colorado State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Boulder County cooperating. Extension programs are available to all without discrimination.