

What is a 4-H Service-Learning Project?

What is Community Service?

Community service is volunteer work 4-H youth do in their communities. Examples may include participating in a food drive, picking up trash along a roadway, or singing at a nursing home. Community service involves 4-H members sharing their time or resources with others in the community.

What is Community Service-Learning?

Community service-learning takes community service to a new level, applying what is being learned in 4-H, school, and/or afterschool programs in service to the community. Service-learning occurs when youth are involved in selecting and planning the project, setting goals for their learning, conducting the project, and reflecting on their service. What youth learn from the experience is equally as important as the service youth perform. Through reflection, youth connect their experiences with real-life situations and learn how to be knowledgeable citizens who can actively contribute to their community.

What is a 4-H Service-Learning Project?

A 4-H service-learning project is a "hands-on" experience that involves youth using their knowledge, skills, critical thinking and wise judgment to address a real need or opportunity in their community! This "learning by doing" approach involves youth in interacting directly with the project's audience, leading to more relatable and meaningful experiences. With guidance from one or more 4-H volunteer leader, 4-H members identify a need or opportunity, select and plan a project, set goals for their learning, take action to implement the project, reflect on how serving changed them and others, communicate their results, and celebrate their accomplishments!



(Source: Enhance Your Youth Program with Service-Learning, 4-H/Army Youth Development Project)