



## Missouri 4-H Sportfishing

Project 725, 726, 727

Leader Certification

Missouri 4-H requires volunteers who wish to become leaders for sportfishing projects to complete a certification process specifically designed for 4-H Sportfishing. This 4-H Sportfishing leader certification process includes basic information & expectations, risk management, application for becoming a leader with a short quiz over materials, and a memorandum of agreement. Volunteers that complete this process will be approved to lead a 4-H Sportfishing program.

**Leader Expectations** - The volunteer leader must:

- Use the 4-H CCS Sportfishing curriculum (as listed in the Clover); supplemented with additional materials found on the 4-H website.
- Conduct at least 1 learning activity from each of the four (4) subject areas - in addition to taking the youth fishing.
  - Angling Skills
  - Tackle Craft
  - Aquatic Ecology
  - People & Fish
- Take kids fishing at least 2 times – the more the better (4-6 preferred)
- Follow Missouri 4-H Sportfishing risk management procedures

**To Qualify as a Sportfishing Volunteer**

1. Order the 4-H CCS Sportfishing curriculum (Fishing Curriculum Set of 4). These can be ordered from [www.shop4-H.org](http://www.shop4-H.org). Many extension offices also have these materials for leaders to borrow
2. Review the MO State Sportfishing Plan and curriculum resources
3. Complete the application, quiz, and sign the MOA. Return all to the state 4-H office
4. Approval granted by Sportfishing state program coordinator
5. Volunteer & local extension staff/office notified

**Risk Management**

4-H is responsible for providing a safe environment for youth that participate in 4-H programming. Volunteers must be concerned about the health and welfare of youth in their care. It is the responsibility of the 4-H Sportfishing leaders and volunteers to acquaint themselves with the Missouri 4-H Sportfishing Plan with included recommended risk management procedures/policies and to adhere to them.

**Content Areas**

The 4-H Sportfishing project covers subject matter not normally associated with previous 4-H fishing projects. In the past, fishing projects focused almost exclusively upon the skills and knowledge related to catching fish – angling skills. 4-H Sportfishing has broader educational goals and objectives beyond “catching a fish”. It is a youth development program that provides a comprehensive curriculum designed to develop life skills while providing information and motivation to youth and adult audiences interested in fishing and/or aquatic resource stewardship. 4-H Sport Fishing is composed of four knowledge and skill areas. Members are expected to participate in each of the four areas to meet the requirements of project completion. These knowledge/skill areas are:

- **Angling Skills** – basic skills of a successful fisherman
- **Tackle Craft** – assemble from kits, custom build, modify current equipment; and/or make artificial lures, plastic baits, jigs, spinner baits, etc; and/or develop and practice the art of fly tying
- **Aquatic Ecology** – healthy habitat for fish and other water life, stream quality, watershed management, identifying macro-invertebrates, and more.
- **People and Fish** – angling ethics, fisheries management, and folkways (human dimensions of fishing and fish resources)

The ultimate objective of the Sportfishing program is to “GO FISHING”, but **the educational objectives of the four content areas are an important part of this program**. The 4-H Sportfishing program must be more than fishing. The curriculum books and the leader notebook all follow these content areas.

## **Curriculum Notebook & Resource materials**

There are four pieces of official approved curriculum. These CCS curriculum pieces are to be the **primary resources** for the 4-H Sportfishing program. These are:

- Fishing Curriculum: Sportfishing Helper's Guide
  - Fishing Curriculum Level 1: Take the Bait
  - Fishing Curriculum Level 2: Reel in the Fun
  - Fishing Curriculum Level 3: Cast Into the Future
- Please take time to review all 4 pieces of literature.

A **secondary resource** – but an important one is the additional materials found on the MO 4-H Sportfishing website. These supplemental resources include: (1) Sportfishing Extra - a collection of tip sheets, project ideas, teaching aides, etc.; (2) Angling Skills; (3) Tackle Craft; (4) Aquatic Ecology; (5) People & Fish. These four sections are composed of additional information, activities, and lesson plans in each of the content areas (corresponds to blue curriculum books). Some may be found in the blue curriculum books – many will not. I encourage you to look through them and use them in your project meetings. There is a LOT OF INFORMATION in those pages. Additionally, check out the online curriculum resources from the Colorado 4-H – which hosts the national 4-H Sportfishing website: <http://www.4hfishing.org>. Several of the lesson plans have been re-formatted and included on the web site.

**Lastly, The Missouri Department of Conservation is a great partner to the Missouri 4-H Sportfishing Program!**

If wanting more instruction on the art of fishing with your club, MDC offers a free fishing program called Discover Nature Fishing (all lessons and what is taught is found in the DNF Instructors guide provided as a reference). Classes are free and can be arranged for just your 4-H club! Otherwise all children 7-15 must be accompanied by an adult at all times. Bait and equipment can be provided (for those that are interested but not yet ready to make a \$ commitment)

Other MDC Resources:

Get Started Fishing

<https://huntfish.mdc.mo.gov/fishing/get-started-fishing>

General Fishing Rules and Methods

<https://huntfish.mdc.mo.gov/fishing/regulations>

A Summary of Missouri Fishing Regulations -PDF

<https://huntfish.mdc.mo.gov/sites/default/files/downloads/2019FishingRegs.pdf>

Thank you for being a volunteer, your patience in completing this process, and caring about the youth of Missouri.

Good fishing!



## Procedure for 4-H Sportfishing Leader Approval

**Step 1:** Order the National 4-H CCS Sportfishing Curriculum (Fishing Curriculum Set of 4). These can be found on [www.shop4-H.org](http://www.shop4-H.org) . Many extension offices also have these materials for leaders to review.

**Step 2:** Review the MO State Sportfishing Plan

**Step 3:** Review curriculum resources.

**Step 4:** Complete the Leader application, Qualification quiz, and Memorandum of Agreement.

**Step 5:** Send application, quiz, and MOA to the state 4-H Center for Youth Development.

**Step 6:** Quiz will be graded (80% is passing)

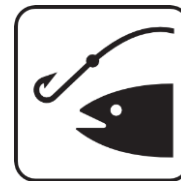
**Step 7:** A State 4-H representative will sign the Memorandum of Agreement and return a copy for your records.

**Step 8:** State will notify you and your local 4-H staff person with an official letter of approval.

### ATTACHMENTS/ENCLOSURES TO BE RETURNED:

- **Sportfishing Leader Application**
- **Sportfishing Leader Quiz**  
After receiving the curriculum, answer questions correctly and return to the state 4-H Center for Youth Development. Return along with the application and the MOA.
- **Memorandum of Agreement**  
Carefully read the memorandum.

# Missouri 4-H Sportfishing Leader Application



Name \_\_\_\_\_ County of 4H membership \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

ETHNICITY: \_\_\_\_ Hispanic \_\_\_\_ Non-Hispanic

RACE (circle all that apply) White Black Alaskan/Native American Asian Hawaiian/Pac Island

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Getting to Know You

### Fishing Experience

How many years of fishing experience? \_\_\_\_\_ Age when began fishing \_\_\_\_\_

What is the main kind of fishing you do? Describe: \_\_\_\_\_

Other kind of fishing you enjoy: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of fishing equipment used most often?

\_\_\_\_ spin-cast      \_\_\_\_ spinning

\_\_\_\_ bait-cast      \_\_\_\_ fly fishing

Do you routinely fish from a boat? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you own a fishing boat? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you travel out of state to fish? \_\_\_\_\_

Ever tournament fish? \_\_\_\_\_

What are some of the locations and species you have fished for? \_\_\_\_\_

What was your favorite or most memorable fishing experience? \_\_\_\_\_

**Return along with completed quiz and MOA**

**Return Options:**

**Email:** [4Hyouth@missouri.edu](mailto:4Hyouth@missouri.edu)

## Missouri 4-H Sportfishing Leader Quiz

After reviewing the State Sportfishing Plan and curriculum, complete the following quiz and return with application and signed MOA to [4Hyouth@missouri.edu](mailto:4Hyouth@missouri.edu).

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. What are the 4 educational content areas in the 4-H Sport Fishing program?  
(hint: the 4 chapters in the blue Sport Fishing manuals)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What are the mandated safety precautions that must be followed when fishing with 4-H members?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. T F A Waiver of Liability/Parental Permission form is required to be signed in 4HOnline before a 4-H member may participate in the Sportfishing project.

The Sport Fishing Helpers Guide has several activities that are excellent to use with youth in your fishing project. Answers to the following questions can be found in the Helper's Guide.

4. What kind of paint is used to paint jig heads?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. List the 5 worm rigs illustrated in the guide.

1 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_

5 \_\_\_\_\_

6. Which one of the activities in the Helpers Guide most closely fit the Aquatic Education category?

\_\_\_\_\_

7. What are the 7 questions to ask one's self that will help you determine if your action is ethical?  
(*General - Sportfishing Ethical Compass*)

Answers to the following questions can be found in one or more of the CCS Sport Fishing member manuals (Levels 1, 2, 3)

8. List 2 of the knots in the manuals that you can and have tied.

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9. *Level 1 – Take the Bait* – pg 16. Match the picture of the tackle with its correct name and description. Answer below.

Picture Name	Description (use the letter)
a.	_____
b.	_____
c.	_____
d.	_____
e.	_____
f.	_____
g.	_____
h.	_____
i.	_____
j.	_____
k.	_____
l.	_____
m.	_____

10. *Level 2 – Reel in the Fun* - According to the manual, what are the 3 most popular methods of cooking fish?

\_\_\_\_\_

11. *Level 2 – Reel in the Fun* - What 4 senses do fish possess?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

12. *Level 3 – Cast Into the Future* - What are some items that a fisherperson may want to include in a field journal? (list at least 5)

13. In the MDC *An Introduction to Fishing* – What are 5 different types of baits mentioned?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

14. In the *Sportfishing Extra* section of the resource notebook there are several fact sheets and activities of supplemental information. List 2 that you would most likely use in your local 4-H fishing program:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\*Remember to return with application and a signed Memorandum of Agreement

# MEMORANDUM of AGREEMENT

## Missouri 4-H Sportfishing Volunteer Leadership

***The volunteer leader agrees to:***

- *Complete all Missouri 4-H volunteer requirements including the annual screening and the Volunteer Orientation.*
- *Use the 4-H CCS Sportfishing curriculum and supplement with the Sportfishing Leaders supplemental resources*
- *Conduct at least 1 learning activity from each of the four (4) content areas - in addition to taking the youth fishing.*
  - *Angling Skills*
  - *Tackle Craft*
  - *Aquatic Ecology*
  - *People & Fish*
- *Take project members fishing at least 2 times during the program year (more preferred).*
- *Follow Missouri 4-H Sportfishing risk management procedures*

***If the volunteer fulfills his/her obligations as indicated above, then Missouri 4-H agrees to:***

- *Grant approval for volunteer to serve as 4-H Sportfishing project leader.*
- *Grant full volunteer privileges and benefits as extended to all 4-H volunteers by the Missouri 4-H Program and the University of Missouri, including liability insurance.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Volunteer name ( print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Volunteer signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature -Missouri 4-H State Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title



Please sign and return to: [4Hyouth@missouri.edu](mailto:4Hyouth@missouri.edu)

Photocopy of signed form will be returned to volunteer.