

GUIDELINES FOR CHAPERONES

(COUNTY AND STATE FAIR)

The opportunity afforded children at the Oneida County and State Fair is among the wonderful experiences that can enhance the development of youth. Unfortunately we live in a world where we must be ever mindful of the youth's health and safety. As we approach the **COUNTY and STATE FAIR it must be emphasized that PARENTS/GUARDIANS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR CHAPERONING THEIR CHILDREN.** If parents/guardians feel it is necessary for their children to be on the grounds after an educational event has been completed and/or overnight at the fairgrounds, **CHAPERONING RESPONSIBILITY MUST BE ARRANGED. ANY ADULT DESIGNATED TO BE A CHAPERONE MUST HAVE A CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK COMPLETED. (Authorization for Background check can be found on the website at cceeoneida.com). ANY ADULT DESIGNATED TO BE A CHAPERONE MUST COMPLETE THE AUTHORIZATION FORM AND MAIL IT OR BRING IT TO THE 4-H OFFICE BY JULY 10TH.** An adult must be identified and **A CHAPERONE DESIGNATION FORM MUST BE SENT TO THE 4-H OFFICE WITH BACKGROUND CHECK AUTHORIZATION FORM, IF NECESSARY!** Chaperones must be provided with a completed and signed consent to medical treatment form for each 4-Her they are chaperoning. If youth do not have a chaperone identified, they **WILL NOT** be allowed to stay overnight for safety reasons. The 4-H Youth Development Program Committee has taken this position to help protect our youth, assist our 4-H leaders and encourage greater involvement of parents/guardians for a safe and pleasant experience for all.

- 1) Chaperones must provide 24-hour supervision on the premises for their charges. The exception would be made when arrangements have been made for another chaperone to assume responsibility for a specific period of time. This would mean when an adult is in charge, he/she should be available for the youth assigned to his/her care. If it is necessary to designate another chaperone, the youth must know to whom he/she should report and whom to contact in the event of an emergency.
- 2) Chaperones must have means of contacting parents/guardians at all times while chaperoning youth. (i.e.: phone numbers)
- 3) Chaperones must require a properly completed AUTHORIZATION OF CONSENT TO MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR A MINOR CHILD for each 4-H member.
- 4) Chaperones must have the authority to make decisions which reflect on the health and safety of the individual and the group. This would include disciplining, making recommendations for calling parents/guardians or to take youth home, and deciding appropriate time to leave events. (e.g. bad weather, driving conditions, etc.)
- 5) Chaperones should accept responsibility for no more than five to six 4-H members. It is recommended by the 4-H office that adults use caution and maintain responsible leadership by having at least two adults in the immediate area of those being supervised.
- 6) Chaperones must be at least 21 years of age.
- 7) The use of tobacco in all forms is limited to designated areas only.
- 8) While supervising 4-H members, chaperones need to refrain from the consumption of alcohol. There will be no consumption of alcohol during a 4-H activity or in 4-H designated areas.
- 9) Chaperones must act in a mature manner recognizing they are role models for 4-H members.
- 10) Chaperones should maximize the educational value of events for youth.
- 11) Chaperones must be good drivers if driving is expected.
- 12) Chaperones will exercise mature judgment and action to assure health and safety of participants.
- 13) Chaperones must be available for those youth for whom they are in charge.

I understand that failure to abide by any of these rules will result in immediate suspension of my chaperone privileges. The parent/guardian will be contacted immediately to arrange for an alternative chaperone.

Signature of Chaperone

Date

Chaperone For: (list all youth you will be in charge of on above line)