Sustainable agriculture projects emphasize the need to feed a growing world population while still caring for the scarce resources necessary in agriculture. Sustainability has aspects of environmental sustainability, food safety, economics, and ethical or philosophical concerns. In this project, members may:

- Explore different perspectives in sustainable agriculture.
- Discover major challenges in the future of agriculture.
- Form their own opinions of agricultural methods.
- Learn how their decisions can affect the future of agriculture.

The activities above are ideas to inspire further project development. This is not a complete list.
Expand Your Experiences!

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

- Create a map of the major agricultural environments on Earth (grasslands for forage, Mediterranean climates for produce, fisheries, etc.).
- Design an ecosystem web for a small family farm showing how all the different components can work together to reduce waste.

Healthy Living

- Explore the health concerns associated with climate change.
- Find out if there are any differences between conventional style food and organically grown food for human health and environmental health, and if so, what they are.

Citizenship

- Share with your community what they can do to be more sustainable in their day to day life.
- Arrange to clean up a local natural area to preserve its ecosystem integrity.

Leadership

- Become a Jr. or Teen Leader.
- Encourage others to join the sustainable agriculture project.
- Make a presentation on one current event or topic in sustainability.

Connections & Events

Presentation Days – Share what you’ve learned with others through a sustainable agriculture related presentation.

Field Days – At these events, 4-H members may participate in a variety of contests related to their project area.

Contact your county 4-H office to determine additional opportunities available, such as a field day.

Curriculum

- National 4-H There’s No New Water: [http://www.4hmall.org/Product/water-conservation/theres-no-new-water/08420.aspx](http://www.4hmall.org/Product/water-conservation/theres-no-new-water/08420.aspx)

4-H Record Books give members an opportunity to record events and reflect on their experiences. For each project, members document their experiences, learning and development.

4-H Record Books also teach members record management skills and encourage them to set goals and develop a plan to meet those goals.

To access the 4-H Record Book online, visit [http://ucanr.edu/orb/](http://ucanr.edu/orb/)

Resources

- National Sustainable Agricultures Coalition: [sustainableagriculture.net/](http://sustainableagriculture.net/)
- Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education: [http://www.sare.org/](http://www.sare.org/)
- University of California Cooperative Extension Food for Thought: [http://ucanr.edu/sites/Grown_in_Marin/All_Resources/Resources_for_Educators/Curriculum/Resources/Photos_of_Marin_Agriculture/Food_for_Thought](http://ucanr.edu/sites/Grown_in_Marin/All_Resources/Resources_for_Educators/Curriculum/Resources/Photos_of_Marin_Agriculture/Food_for_Thought)

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