

Lake County 4-H
Emerald Star

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We are pleased to receive your request for and Emerald Star application. The Emerald Star is a rank apart and separate from the state star rank system (Bronze, Silver, Gold). The Emerald Star Project has been designed to give members a chance to plan and execute a goal from beginning to end. The Emerald Star is for members, in seventh grade or above, who have completed one year of Leadership Development Project. It is permissible to take more than one year to complete the Emerald Star Project. The Emerald Star will only be awarded when the project is finished in the current year.

The Emerald Star project's purpose is:

- ◆ Provide an opportunity for 4-H members to develop programs in their community or 4-H beyond the club level.
- ◆ Improving, creating and expanding community or 4-H programs.
- ◆ Providing an opportunity for involvement of a 4-H member without requiring a previous star rank.
- ◆ Helping individual 4-H members to grow and improve themselves in the areas of organization, leadership, and planning a project from beginning to end.

Your Plan: Your plan and goal can cover virtually anything. You may want to propose ideas for a new program or develop a new project, event, activity, or enhance an existing project with new supplements that you develop. To successfully execute your plan, be sure to consider your plan in terms of time, money, and energy involved. Especially consider school activities and the amount of time you have. Also consider whether or not the resources needed are available.

Your plan must adhere to the following three criteria:

1. Demonstrate leadership beyond the club level.
2. The project must be something new and fill some kind of need in the 4-H program or community.
3. Emerald Star applicant must interface with Lake County members/leaders, and can involve community resources in developing and completing the Emerald Star Project.

EMERALD STAR PROJECT STEPS

1. Submit Preliminary Plan for review by the Awards Committee – no later than 3 months prior to the activity.
2. A brief oral interview by the Volunteer Council may be scheduled soon after the Preliminary Plan is submitted.
3. Wait for notification of acceptance of Preliminary Plan from the Volunteer Council.
4. Submit Plan of Work to council – no later than 2 months prior to the activity
5. Wait for notification of acceptance of Plan of Work
6. Start Emerald Star Project
7. Submit Final Report to the Council in year you want to receive the award.

All three Plans and Reports are included with this packet, but please return each one in the order stated above. Emerald Star awards are given out at the County Achievement Ceremony. Final Reports must be submitted by July 31 to receive award for the current year.

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Lake County 4-H
Emerald Star Project
Preliminary Plan

Submit to the County 4-H Office 3 months prior to the activity

Name	Today's Date	Estimated Completion Date
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Address	Phone
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Club/Unit	Grade	Age	Years in 4-H (Inc. this year)
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Goal (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, Tangible) <i>My project.</i>

Benefits from achieving this goal (to yourself and others). <i>Reasons for my project.</i>

Estimated cost, time, effort.

Human and other resources needed.

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Lake County 4-H
Emerald Star Project
Plan of Work

Submit to the County 4-H Office – 2 months prior to activity

Name

Today's Date

Possible Obstacles	Possible Solutions

Specific Action Steps for Achieving Goal	Target Date
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	

Method of Tracking Progress

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Lake County 4-H
Emerald Star Project
FINAL REPORT
Submit to the County 4-H Office

If you wish to receive the Emerald Star at the Achievement Ceremony, you must submit your Final Report by July 31 of current year.

The final report may be submitted in any form as long as it contains the following:

1. Documentation of your completed project, including successes and failures, resources used, and any other items that document your project.
2. A statement of completion from a 4-H leader acquainted with your project.
3. Newspaper clippings, photographs, etc. (optional)

The final report may be written, audiotape, videotape, etc. Most forms of documentation can be used (be creative), but if the project is not documented clearly, you may have to redo it. Submit report to the Awards Committee.

Emerald Star Program examples:

- Increase visibility of 4-H: community display, newspaper articles, radio show, community event/parade participation.
- Organize a “new” project, show, field day, training day or contest.
- Improve or make a county slide/video show to promote 4-H or on an educational subject.
- Develop a “new” community service project: recycling, tree planting, community clean up day, adopt a group home etc.
- Organize a “new” club or group.

If you have questions, please call the County 4-H office at 263-6838