

# Kent County 4-H Dog Project Guidelines

*(As amended 1/16/2011 by the Kent County Dog Committee)*

These guidelines have been developed to help ensure a safe and successful dog project for each 4H member. Each dog must continue to meet the guidelines to be used as a project dog. If the dog fails to meet the guidelines, the dog will be excused from the project. The dog may be evaluated at a later date to re-determine its status. The leaders of each dog club will determine if the dog meets the guidelines. Dogs that exhibit inappropriate behavior at fair must be reported to one of the Key leaders or the Dog Project Superintendent.

## Dog Guidelines

1. A dog must be free of communicable diseases, parasites and be up- to- date on vaccinations as required by the Kent County Dog Developmental Committee.
2. A dog must have socially acceptable behavior and not be a threat to the other 4H members, leaders, judges or members' dogs.

### Unacceptable behavior will include;

- a) Dogs that may bite either out of aggression, stress or fear.
  - b) Dogs that are severely dog aggressive.
  - c) Dogs that cannot be controlled by the 4H member.
3. Dogs must be physically fit and free from lameness. *(For chronic lameness due to arthritis or permanent injury, a veterinary certificate outlining the problem and the appropriateness of the dog to participate will be accepted.)*
  4. **Borrowed Dogs-** Borrowed dogs will be cared for and trained by the 4H member from May 1<sup>st</sup> through the Kent County Youth Fair. In households where the project dog is a family pet, the member will be in charge of the dog's routine care, including trips to the veterinarian, feeding, exercise and **all** training.
  5. **Explorers-** Explorer / Cloverbud level members may use any dog that has been declared by May 1<sup>st</sup> to show at fair. This dog may be another 4H member's declared dog and does not have to live with the explorer during the project time.
  6. A dog that has been trained and titled in obedience, rally or agility must be shown at a higher level.
  7. Female dogs in season can NOT be shown at the Kent County Youth Fair.