

# Why Should Jr. Highs and Teenagers Belong to Farm Bureau Youth?

## Purpose

- Educate both rural and urban youth about the importance of Ohio Farm Bureau, its core values, programs and structure.
- Provide youth an opportunity to be involved and committed to our organization now as well as effective active and involved members, leaders and employees in the future.
- Build confidence, self-esteem, and cooperation skills by emphasizing teamwork, affirmation, and hands-on experiences in a positive, fun atmosphere.



## Unique Aspects of Ohio Farm Bureau Youth

- Promotes self esteem and learning based on *teamwork and cooperation* rather than *competition*
- Teaches young people about Ohio Farm Bureau specifically
- Free to anyone – no dues
- Educates young people about the entire OFBF policy development process
- Introduces youth directly to the advisory councils, F.B. Board, Annual Meetings and delegate meetings
- Conducts workshops on the cooperative business way and how Ohio Farm Bureau has been instrumental in forming many cooperatives
- Promotes Nationwide Insurance and unique safety programs to encourage youth to be responsible, safety-minded citizens
- Sponsors leadership conferences with workshops that address specific youth concerns not commonly available in other venues (affirmation of others, conflict resolution, family dynamics, etiquette)
- As youth are involved, non-member parents join the organization and also become involved



## Life and Leadership Skills in a Positive, Encouraging Environment

- Develops leadership through fun activities. Everyone has a chance to be a leader.
- Emphasizes participation...a learn-by-doing experience in a non-competitive atmosphere.
- Gives opportunity for each person to participate at all levels...county, region, state.
- Flexible program is planned by the group to meet needs of group. Not regimented.

- Relaxed atmosphere...does not emphasize achievement of an individual skill ...no individual competition.
- Provides opportunity for social adjustment and learning the social skills so necessary to everyday life.
- Teaches youth to work together...develops cooperative-type behavior.
- Provides opportunity to meet many nice young people from other areas of the county and state who have similar interests.
- Youth gain experience in group problem solving and learn to appreciate group activities.
- Youth learn to be responsible persons.
- Provides opportunity to discuss topics which are of concern to young people. Youth learn to think with others.
- Offers opportunity for personal growth through a wide variety of activities & experiences...opens new doors of opportunity.
- Youth learn group discipline.
- Develops personal qualities. Personal happiness is experienced through mutual joy.
- Builds good character.
- Develops an understanding of Farm Bureau, cooperatives and the legislative procedure.
- Creates fellowship and lasting friendships.
- Offers year-round activities.
- Gives experience in a community organization.

