



NEW YORK STATE 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

New York State 4-H Dog Policy

nys4-h.org

This policy applies to all youth and adults who participate in any CCE 4-H program with a dog, bring their dog with them to any 4-H/CCE program or activity, or participate in a 4-H sponsored dog obedience class.

1. All dogs are the responsibility of the owner, and the owner is fully and completely responsible for their own actions and the actions of the dog.
2. All dogs must be registered through the 4H/CCE Registration process.
3. Participants must have proof of an updated rabies vaccination for any dog that will be present at a 4-H program.
4. CCE is prohibited from sponsoring rabies clinics or any other type of animal immunization clinic.
5. Dogs should only be permitted on CCE premises or allowed access to CCE activities in the following circumstances:
 - a. The dog is a seeing eye guide dog supporting a visually impaired employee, volunteer, or program participant
 - b. The dog is under the care of an enrolled 4-H club member participating in a 4-H dog club or activity
 - c. The dog is under the supervision of a person who is participating in a 4-H dog obedience program taught by an approved instructor
6. Dogs with impairments such as blindness or deafness are allowed to participate in CCE 4-H programs. Dogs that are lame or have other health challenges may participate if the handler brings a statement from a veterinarian stating that use as a 4-H project dog will not be harmful to the animal.
7. 4-H leaders, superintendents and instructors have the authority to dismiss or place restrictions on dogs from any activity when they exhibit aggressive, dangerous, or other problematic behaviors, and/or are not being properly controlled by the owner or handler of the dog. When this occurs, the leaders and superintendents must inform the 4-H staff leadership of their decision and work with CCE to develop an appropriate remediation plan. The safety of youth and adult participants, and other dogs, takes precedence in these situations. Every effort should be made to see that the 4-H participant is not excluded from the activity.
8. Dogs that are being utilized in an educational exhibit or demonstration, such as a fire prevention or safety display, must not be accessible to the public, unless they are under the control of the 4-H member who owns the dog.
9. CCE Prohibits the use of Wolves, Wolf Hybrids, or Animals with a bite history, or Animals found to be dangerous under the provisions of the Agriculture and Markets Law Section 123. [Agriculture and Markets Law Section 123](#).



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CCE Dog/Animal Release of Liability and Indemnification Agreement

I acknowledge that I or my child have voluntarily brought a dog or other animal (collectively, "animal(s)") to a Cornell Cooperative Extension ("CCE") event and/or activity and/or property.

I agree to pick up after my animal(s) and dispose of all waste in appropriate containers.

I or my child agree to maintain control of the animal(s) by an adequate leash at all times while present. The length of the leash must be no longer than that which is reasonably necessary to prevent the animal from chasing, attacking, or coming into uninvited contact with any person, animal or vehicle.

I understand that being physically present with my animal(s) necessarily involves risks of injury to me, my child, to other people, to my animal(s), and to other animals, as well as risks of harm to the personal property of others. I understand all of these risks are entirely my responsibility. I expressly and voluntarily assume all such risks, loss, damages, or injury that may be sustained to persons, animals, or property in connection with or relating in any way to me or my child's presence on CCE property with my animal(s).

By signing this release of liability, I hereby fully and forever release and discharge CCE, its affiliates, agents, volunteers, officers, directors, employees, successors and assigns from any claims, demands, damages, rights of action or causes of action present or future, whether the same be known or unknown, anticipated, or unanticipated, resulting from arising out of my presence on CCE property with my animal(s). I fully and forever release and discharge CCE, its affiliates, agents, volunteers, officers, directors, employees, successors and assigns from any and all negligent acts and omissions in connection with or in any way relating to my presence on CCE property with my animal(s).

By signing this agreement, I also agree to indemnify and hold harmless CCE, its affiliates, agents, volunteers, officers, directors, employees, successors and assigns (the "Indemnified Parties") from any claims, demands, damages, costs including attorney's fees, rights of action or causes of action present or future, whether the same be known or unknown, anticipated or unanticipated, whether grounded in tort, contract, strict liability or otherwise, brought against any or all of the Indemnified Parties as a result of my presence on CCE property with my animal(s).

This is a release of liability. Do not sign if you do not understand or do not agree with its terms.

Any owner/handler participating in CCE programs and/or entering the property must sign this form.

I have carefully read this release of liability, as well as the NYS 4-H Dog Policy, and understand and fully agree with its contents.

Owner's/Handler's Name (printed): _____

Owner's/Handler's Signature: _____

Date: _____



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**Animal Registration
Form**

Male / Female (circle one) Animal's Name_____

Animal's Breed / Description_____

Owner's Name_____

Address_____

Telephone number_____ **Email** _____

Is this dog from a shelter? Yes _____ **No** _____

If Yes, list the rescue organization and shelter: _____

Do you know this dog's history? Yes **No**

Has this dog ever bitten a person? Yes **No**

**Do you, or the owner of the dog have insurance coverage? (Homeowner, Renter,
or Farm Owner Insurance) Yes** **No**

CCE Reserves the right to see proof of insurance and dog licensure.



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