**CITIZENSHIP**

**INCLUDE IT IN YOUR NEXT ( and every) CLUB OR PROJECT MEETING**

**“Make it a habit”**

**Citizenship can be, and usually is, a part of every 4-H Project, Club and activity in one form or another. Some ideas are listed below which will undoubtedly spark many more for your group. Work with your 4-H staff, club officers, parents, and youth to begin now.**

**CLUB**:

* + - Health and Safety Presentations, Speakers, Activities
		- Community service, Community Pride, flag presentations,
		- Simulations which teach awareness of difference and/or values.
		- Community awareness
		- International Night: Displays, costumes, food, slides, pictures – with each participant sharing their own positive cultural background.
		- Local issues: How to question and take a stand.
		- Model cooperation between projects, individuals, etc.
		- Research historical stores of local area.
		- Visit county museums and learn why city was established.
		- Learn about and share information for safe practice of insecticides, etc.
		- Study relationship of natural resources, wildlife and humans in local eco-systems.
		- Write letters to county, state and federal legislators voicing your opinion on local issues.
		- Identify educational problems and help propose solutions.
		- Mock Trial – Use nursery rhyme as themes.

**PROJECT** - Any of above activities, plus

* + - Every good project has both leadership opportunities and service to the community.
		- Relate your project to possible careers and college majors
		- Record keeping as a skill and the long-term benefits.

**COUNTY and STATE**:

* Many counties have county-wide citizenship groups which draw from all youth throughout the county.
* Leadership and Citizenship Conferences are available on regional and state level including State Leadership Conference, California Focus, and Washington Focus.
* Citizenship sessions could always be included at the sectional conferences and other leadership weekends.

**4-H CAMP** - This is a wonderful opportunity to stress:

* + - Flag respect – educate each day during opening/closing ceremonies. Explain the flag content and meaning, provide as model to others.
		- Environmental awareness – can be shared through actions workshops, posters, etc.
		- Self-esteem – train teen counselors about ages and stages and management tools so they can provide a positive atmosphere. Provide a book of activities which teen counselors can use with campers. (Define the values to be modeled)
		- Brainstorm other ideas with your camp staff based on the 5 areas of Citizenship.