

Want to make a difference in your community?

PUTNAM COUNTY TEENS

Looking for something to do after-school?



Want to have fun & Make new friends?



Want to make a difference in your community?

Check out these

Leadership & Volunteer Opportunities for Teens

Brought to you by the Putnam County 4-H Youth Development Program

4-H Teen Action Group (TAG) {On-Going; bi-weekly meetings} is a group of youth & teens (ages 11-19) from throughout Putnam County who meet every other week. The meetings generally focus on leadership & team building activities, public speaking skills and career exploration. Guest speakers are also invited several times a year. Every year, the group takes part in a variety community service projects & field trips (such as to NBC Studios in NYC). Members of TAG have first preference to sign-up for regional and statewide Leadership Retreats and events (over).

The 4-H Puppeteer Players Troupe {On-going; bi-weekly rehearsals, monthly performances} are a group of local teens (ages 11 - 19) that are trained to work with professional Muppet style puppets. The group performs shows monthly for young children throughout Putnam County. The 4-H Puppeteer Players write scripts that teach a positive message to their younger audiences. Some issues they focus on are making new friends, bullying & being afraid of the dark. While this program benefits the audience of their shows, the members also gain a sense of mastery and accomplishment while learning while learning theater and stage management skills.

4-H Techno Teens Video Production Team {On-going; meet as needed based on current projects} provides Putnam youth (ages 12-19) with an opportunity to learn how to use professional digital-video and computer editing equipment, including working with Comcast's equipment. Members also learn theater production and interpersonal skills while producing, directing and editing a variety of short educational or promotional videos for community agencies & events. Currently, the group is producing a series of three safety videos through a collaborative project with the Putnam County Sheriff's Department.

The Putnam County Youth Forum {January through April; bi-weekly meetings}:

The event: is daylong event organized by & designed for Putnam County High School students. This event is co-sponsored by the Putnam County Youth Bureau and Cornell Cooperative Extension of Putnam County's 4-H Youth Development program, with support from all of the area High Schools. During the Forum, students attend various self-selected workshops facilitated by professionals. Workshops focus on issues such as Road Rage, How to Survive your First Year of College, Teen Addictions, Dealing with Stress & Time Management. **The Planning Committee:** contribute an active youth voice by helping to plan, organize, implement & evaluate the Youth Forum. The students who serve on the Planning Committee help identify both the topics of the workshops as well as the facilitators. The committee is made up of approximately 15 to 20 students from all Putnam area high schools and meets bi-weekly.

The Putnam County 4-H Fair {Annually; last full weekend of July} is a 3-day country style fair that includes a variety of educational activities and crafts, live entertainment, animal, horse and pet shows. Volunteers, ages 12+, are needed during the fair to sell refreshments (cotton candy, popcorn, hotdogs, ice cream), run games, help with arts & crafts, do face painting and assist with parking. Open to any youth ages 12+

For Information about these & other Cornell Cooperative Extension of Putnam County Programs Call 845-278-6738

Cornell Cooperative Extension provides equal program and employment opportunities.

Annual 4-H Teen Leadership Trips & Events

4-H Regional Teen Leadership Retreat: Youth 12 Years Old & Up

(Enrolled 4-H Members Only - Award Trip - Participants selected by 4-H Staff)

- Time: Fall
- Length: 2 Days & 2 Nights)
- Place: Somewhere in Southeastern NY

This retreat provides youth with an opportunity to learn team building and leadership skills with other youth and adults from the region. The theme of this retreat varies annually. All registration fees and transportation are provided by Putnam County 4-H.

4-H Capital Days: Teens 13 Years Old & Up

(Enrolled 4-H Members Only - Award Trip - Participants selected by 4-H Staff)

- Time: March
- Length: 2 Days & 1 to 2 Nights
- Place: Albany, NY

4-H Capital Days provides teens from across New York State with an opportunity to gain a better understanding of the "New York State Public Policy Process." Delegates have an opportunity to meet and interact with legislators as well as tour the Capitol Building. Delegates stay overnight in a hotel in Albany. All registration fees and transportation are provided by Putnam County 4-H.

4-H Statewide Teen Ambassadors Representatives Retreat (STARR): Teens 13 Years Old & Up

(Enrolled 4-H Members Only - Award Trip - Participants selected by 4-H Staff)

- Time: April
- Length: 3 days & 2 nights
- Place: NYS Fairgrounds, Syracuse, NY Provides teens across New York State an opportunity to develop leadership skills, work in partnership with adults, learn how to become an active force within their community and more importantly to have a great deal of fun. All registration fees and transportation are provided by Putnam County 4-H.

4-H Career Explorations: Teens in Grades 8-12

(Participation granted at the discretion of 4-H Staff)

- Time: June/July
- Length: 3 Days & 2 Nights
- Place: Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

Open on a first come, first serve basis. Participants pay for their registration. The goals of this are to provide teens with an opportunity to explore a variety of career choices and to experience college life. Youth in 8-9th Grades tours 6 different programs at Cornell. Youth in 10-12th take part in an intense program where participants spend 3 days with a specific department. Teens stay in college dorms and take part in recreational activities in the evening. Transportation is provided by 4-H.

New York State Fair Putnam County 4-H Booth: Youth 11 Years Old & Up

(Enrolled 4-H Members Only)

- Time: August
- Length: 4 days-2 weeks
- Place: NYS Fairgrounds, Syracuse, NY

Selected teens work at the New York State Fair and serve as representatives of 4-H and Putnam County. They will assist with a variety of tasks either in the Putnam County 4-H Booth or with the NYS 4-H Program in the 4-H Building. Tasks could include working in the Information Booth, Face Painting, Assisting with Judging, etc.