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## The New Jersey 4-H Shooting Sports Program

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The National 4-H Shooting Sports Program and Curriculum was developed, drafted and tested by the National 4-H Shooting Sports Committee over a period of years and has been offered to states since the mid 1980's. The curriculum is scrutinized continually and revisions made as appropriate. Writers of the curriculum included National Rifle Association Instructors and training counselors, hunter education instructors, National Bow Hunter Education Instructors, National Archery Association instructors, National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association Instructor, and Extension Specialists.

The program relies on National and State 4-H trained and certified instructors to conduct classes and programs in the various disciplines (Archery, Muzzle Loading, Hunting & Wildlife, Rifle, Shotgun, and Program Coordinators) using the National 4-H Shooting Sports Curriculum. Shooting Sports has the potential of being a high liability activity. Therefore, the program requires 4-H trained and certified instructors to adhere to the safety rules and regulations as dictated by the program to decrease the liability of such an educational experience.

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**The NJ4-H Shooting Sports Program consists of the following curriculums:**

**Archery  
Rifle  
Muzzle Loading  
Shotgun  
Living History  
Hunting  
Coordinator**

# RUTGERS

New Jersey Agricultural  
Experiment Station

Are you interested in being a  
volunteer?

To learn more about the New Jersey  
4-H Shooting Sports Program or to  
find out about a club near you,  
please contact the NJ 4-H Shooting  
Sports Coordinator.

James Tavares  
100 Struble Road  
Branchville, NJ 07826  
(973)948-3550 ext. 23

E-mail [tavares@njaes.rutgers.edu](mailto:tavares@njaes.rutgers.edu)

**Trainings and certification opportunities are available for adult  
volunteers.**



*Cooperating Agencies:* Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and County Boards of Chosen Freeholders. Rutgers Cooperative Extension, a unit of the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is an equal opportunity program provider and employer.

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**"LEARN BY DOING"**

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## New Jersey 4-H Shooting Sports



**An Action Packed  
Natural Resource  
Program  
for  
Youth and Adults**

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## Why 4-H Shooting Sports ?

In the wake of the terrible incidents of youth perpetrated violence , people may question the appropriateness of the 4-H shooting sports program.

The 4-H Youth Development Shooting Sports Program involves kids who have an **interest in firearms/guns/archery**, etc... and **welcomes** them into an **accepting, caring group**. The first thing they learn is **safety**. Next they learn **discipline**, followed by **respect** (respect for firearms as well as respect for people). They are not permitted to use the firearm until they prove they can handle those three prerequisites.

4-H Shooting Sports Members learn what it means to be a **good citizen**, to **help others**, and to **respect others**. They develop the skills necessary for success in the workplace as well as interpersonal relationships (**life skills**). 4-H Adult Volunteer Leaders are **positive role models** and **mentors** for kids. They **model and teach** the kids **character** while they teach the kids the **proper use of and respect for firearms and respect for other people**.

4-H Shooting sports programs offer youth who have an interest in shooting sports and firearms the develop into competent, caring and concerned citizens!

## What's 4-H All About?

4-H is the largest non-formal youth education program in the U.S. The clover, the 4-H symbol stands for: **Head, Heart, Hands and Health** and is the basis for the Pledge:

### I Pledge

My **Head** to clearer thinking

My **Heart** to greater loyalty

My **Hands** to larger service and

My **Health** to better living

For my Club, my Community, my County and my World.

4-H members learn by doing. Through volunteer leaders, young people learn life skills, develop citizenship and leadership abilities and explore careers. The 4-H motto: "**To Make the Best Better**" means that each person can always improve.

Volunteers are carefully screened before being trained in specific subjects and each develops skills for working with youth.

The **4-H Shooting Sports** program is open to all youth wherever they live and without regard to personal limitations.



Visit our Website : [www.nj4hshootingports.com](http://www.nj4hshootingports.com)

## YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

**Youth development is the primary goal of the 4-H Shooting Sports Program.** 4-H shooting sports provide an outstanding way of providing human growth and development in the life skills identified by the National 4-H Program.

We strive to teach safe and responsible use of firearms and archery equipment at home, on the shooting range, or in the field, including sound decision making, self discipline, and concentration.

## OUR GOALS

1. To enhance development of participant's self concept, character and personal growth through safe educational and socially acceptable involvement in shooting activities.
2. To strengthen families through lifelong recreational activities.
3. To develop leadership qualities in youth and adult participants.
4. To expand 4-H membership and involve additional 4-H adult volunteers.
5. To encourage understanding of natural resource concepts through participant's interest in shooting and hunting.
6. To expose participants to the broad array of vocation and lifelong vocational activities related to shooting sports.
7. To promote the highest standards of safety, sportsmanship, and ethical behavior.
8. To complement and enhance the impact of existing safety and hunter education programs.