Great Outdoors
4-H Project Newsletter

CANADA
4-H Nova Scotia

This Great Outdoors Project Newsletter contains information specific to the Great Outdoors Project. Please use it in conjunction with the General 4-H Information Bulletin, so that you are aware of Achievement Day completion requirements as well as general opportunities and information pertaining to all 4-H members. This Project Newsletter, as well as the General 4-H Information Bulletin, will be updated each year, if necessary, based on changes made at the 4-H Nova Scotia Leadership Forum.

Welcome to the 4-H Great Outdoors Project! This newsletter will give you an overview of The Great Outdoors project, answer some of your questions concerning expectations of the project, and provide you with project ideas and some resources. Project newsletters are an excellent reference to keep on hand to refer to throughout the year. Enjoy your year in the Great Outdoors project and when working on your project, remember to "Learn to do by Doing." If you have any questions, please contact your Regional Program Coordinator (RPC).

Great Outdoors Project Work Requirements

On Achievement Day, Great Outdoors members will be required to display three (3) projects, taking a maximum of two (2) from any one of the Great Outdoors Leaders' Manual units and having a maximum of two (2) entries in any one (1) section of the Great Outdoors class at an exhibition or 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial show. **Please note, all FIRST-YEAR members must complete a survival kit as one (1) of their three (3) required projects.** Each section shows examples of items that can be included. Members are not limited to these suggestions.

4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show Class & Sections:

Each county is eligible to send the top two (2) junior and top two (2) senior Great Outdoors project articles to the 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show. The sections are as follows:

Class 9: Great Outdoors

Section 1:	Reports - Write ups on hikes, animals, birds, camping trips, etc.
Section 2:	Posters - Photo stories, information on plants or animals, etc.
Section 3:	Specialty Item - Anything that will not fit in other sections
Section 4:	Utility Item - Walking sticks, bat/bird houses, etc.
Section 5:	Display - Posters which include additional items or any display
Section 6:	Collections - Leaves, plaster tracks, twigs, seeds, rocks, insects, etc.
Section 7:	Survival Kits - A Collection of items you have prepared to survive in the wilderness **(First-year members)**
Section 8:	Survival Kits – A Collection of items you have prepared to survive in the wilderness **(second year and above).** *Items added each year should be clearly marked on the list of items in the kit.*

Suggestion: *Reports should be a minimum of one (1) page in length (approx. 250 words) and should include diagrams and/or photos where possible.*

Note: *All reports, posters, or displays should include a bibliography for info taken from a source other than the 4-H member*

Leader Resources

Please ask your Regional Program Coordinator for Great Outdoors Project Leader's Manual, which includes information on the following:

Great Outdoors Leaders' Manual Units:

Unit 1:	Finding Your Way – Orienteering
Unit 2:	Lost in the Woods – Survival
Unit 3:	Wildlife and Forest Ecology
Unit 4:	Nature Detective-Id. of Trees, Plants & Rocks
Unit 5:	Camping
Unit 6:	A Walk on the Wild Side
Unit 7:	Our Feathered Friends
Unit 8:	Other Seasonal Activities
Unit 9:	Resource Based Industries
Unit 10:	GPS – for navigation and positioning

Survival Kits:

The survival kit should be small and light weight containing the following recommended items: space blanket, waterproof matches, whistle, knife, water sterilizing tablets, compass with mirror, string, large plastic bag, 3 meters trail tape, snack bars, bandages, sling (brightly coloured scarf), sterile absorbent pads.

It is also recommended that first year project members learn currently accepted survival tactics before they go on hikes.

Great Outdoors project members are asked to include a list of items in their kit. Survival kits must include a list of its contents.

Other useful items to consider for your Survival Kit (Recommended Items, not limited to):

Candle	Multi-tool or Swiss Army style knife
Coil of light weight rope	Needle and thread
Large garbage bags (preferably orange)	Rabbit snare wire
Cookware	Safety pins
LED flashlight	Sharp knife
Compass	Signal mirror
Lighter	Space blanket or poly-tarp
First aid kit	Solar or space blanket
Magnesium fire starter	Water purification pills
Fishing tackle	Whistle
Metal cup	Ziploc bag
Food (pkg. of soup, hard candy, bouillon cubes, chocolate, granola bars)	

Orienteering Competition

Open to all members enrolled in Great Outdoors project. Members are tasked with completing an orienteering course, while answering short questions along the route. This competition takes place at county level; the top junior and senior members can advance to 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show.

1. Metric measurements should be used in competition.
2. See the program at the county show or 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial show for the time and location of the competition.
3. Members must provide their own compass and notebook.
4. The senior competition will include a map with the magnetic declination provided.
5. Members will leave a designated area one at a time. Each member will be given a score card to complete on course.
6. When finished, the member's scorecard will be checked, and a score given. The Highest score wins.
7. A maximum time limit for the competition will be announced at the beginning of the competition depending upon the determined course. Exceeding the maximum time limit will result in disqualification.
8. Prizes will be awarded to the top junior and senior.