

**UConn Extension 4-H  
Connecticut Environmental Action Day  
Project Goals**

**Mission:**

Connecticut Environmental Action Day (CEAD) is a one-day conference which seeks to inspire middle school students to take an active role in exploring and addressing environmental and natural resource issues.

**Program Philosophies:**

CEAD is developed around the 4-H model. We believe that students learn best if they are:

- Engaged in active, experiential learning during their time on campus, using 4-H curriculum.
- Given leadership responsibilities for the design and implementation of service-learning activities inspired by the content and processes learned at the conference.
- Challenged to ensure that all service-learning activities address the root causes of environmental and natural resource issues facing their community.

| GOALS  | OBJECTIVES  | OUTCOMES  | ASSESSMENT & EVALUATION METHOD  | ACTIVITIES   |
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| 1. To increase students' understanding of the environment and natural resources. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase students' understanding of natural resources and related systems using 4-H curriculum and activities.</li> <li>• Increase students' understanding of the basic inter-connection of natural systems.</li> <li>• Increase students' comprehension of how humans impact natural systems on an individual, local and global level.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Identify the natural resources that are being impacted directly in their community</li> <li>➤ Identify the systems or ecological connections that are being impacted directly in their community</li> <li>➤ Identify human behaviors that influence the environment</li> <li>➤ Describe how behaviors can be modified to improve the status of natural resources.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Activity Tree</li> <li>➤ Service-Learning or 4-H Project proposal</li> <li>➤ Service-Learning Project Summative Report</li> <li>➤ Student Survey (evaluation)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Student Workshops</li> <li>➤ Service-Learning or 4-H Project</li> </ul> |

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| <p>2. Foster students' capacity to become environmentally responsible citizens through individual and collective actions in their 4-H club and projects.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Familiarize students with the social systems regulating environmental change.</li> <li>• Help students consider the social components of an environmental initiative with their 4-H club peers.</li> <li>• Comprehend the issues present in their communities.</li> <li>• Take the principles and information learned during the conference and apply them towards developing solutions to identified community issues.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Summarize new knowledge from event workshops</li> <li>➤ Identify examples of social systems which regulate environmental change, and within their 4-H clubs.</li> <li>➤ Identify ways in which personal lifestyle choices impact the environment</li> <li>➤ Identify at least one personal action that they will take to reduce their impact on the environment</li> <li>➤ Predict which natural resources in local community are most at risk in the future.</li> </ul> | <p>Group process summary</p> <p>Service-Learning or 4-H Project Proposals</p> <p>Service-Learning or 4-H Project Summative Reports</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Experiential workshops</li> <li>➤ Group processing activities with their 4-H club</li> <li>➤ Service-learning training with their 4-H club</li> </ul> |
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| <p>3. To introduce students to the educational opportunities at the University of Connecticut and with the 4-H program</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4-H members will become aware of different academic programs available related to the environment and through the UConn 4-H program</li> <li>• 4-H members will have an interaction with faculty/experts in the field</li> <li>• 4-H members will interact with UConn students on the Storrs and regional campuses</li> <li>• 4-H members will have the opportunity for co-curricular experiences (in conjunction with UConn students)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ List UConn academic programs</li> <li>➤ Select co-curricular options that interest them</li> <li>➤ Participation in Resource Fair</li> </ul> | <p>CEAD Survey</p> | <p>Resource Fair</p> <p>Informational Packets about 4-H and UConn</p> <p>Service-Learning training sessions for their 4-H projects</p> |
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