



Service Projects to Do at Home

The Maryland 4-H State Council's Service Committee has compiled this list of service projects to do while in quarantine. The list includes both crafty hands-on activities as well as some general acts of kindness you can do during this time. Be sure to follow [CDC](#) safe practices and social distancing guidelines while completing projects.

Send pictures of your service project with a little write up to the Maryland 4-H State Council at maryland4hstatecouncil@gmail.com. You may be contacted for permission to post on our social media platforms.

Follow the Maryland 4-H State Council on social media!

Facebook: @Maryland4HStateCouncil

Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat: @MD4HCouncil

Service Project Suggestions and Directions

Take supplies to people in need

If you can spare any supplies, share them with someone in need who can't get to the store or is at higher risk of getting sick. You can also go shopping for that person and bring them the supplies.

Some good supplies to share are:

- Toiletries (unopened shower products, toilet paper, paper towels, etc.)
- Food supplies (especially canned and boxed food that are sealed and easy to prepare items.)

Picking up trash while outside getting exercise

The Maryland 4-H State Council Public Issue for 2020 is *Know your Local Impact*, focusing on environmental concerns in your county. One over-arching environmental concern regardless of where you live in Maryland is litter which can contaminate the Chesapeake Bay and other water ways. An easy project is to pick up trash and debris while out on walks. Bring a trash bag and gloves. Please be sure to discard the trash you collect properly.

“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the serve to others.”

-Mahatma Gandhi



Service Projects to Do at Home

Send a Positivity Card

A good and very easy service project to do is making cards for others who may need a positive thought from someone else. Consider sending to someone that is ill or in self isolation, or essential workers such as health care providers, postal carriers, trash/recycling collectors, public servants, etc. This can really boost their spirits and yours! You can check out the State Council [positivity cards](#) designed by the 2019 Maryland 4-H State Council. Create your own design or use a greeting card you have around the house.

Materials you will need are:

- Paper
- Drawing utensils (pencil, marker, crayon, etc.)
- Decorations as needed (stickers, sparkles, glitter, etc.)
- Envelope
- Stamps

Be sure the message you write inside is positive, individualized and genuine.

Electronic options

Consider sending an electronic greeting card, personal recorded video message or calling someone to chat. Staying connected over the phone, text, email or social media may bring a smile to someone's face and improve their day!

Make a finger knitted scarf to give to someone in need

This was a 2019 State Council Service Project. Dozens of scarves were knitted at Maryland 4-H Congress and throughout the year. All have been donated to homeless shelters in the counties of many of the State Council members.

Directions on how to finger knit are available at the website below:

<https://www.stitchpiecenpurl.com/finger-knit-scarf.htm>

Materials you will need are:

- Yarn
- Scissors

“We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future.”

-Franklin D. Roosevelt



Service Projects to Do at Home

Make and/or share a homemade game or toy

Why not take advantage of all this time at home and use it to connect with family? To make it a service activity, share it with other families to play. Be creative or use one of the suggestions below:

- Family board game idea: <https://pin.it/1LIut4r>
- Tic Tac Toe idea: <https://pin.it/62XQMfJ>
- Pinwheel: [2017 Planning and Outreach activity](#)
- Straw rocket: [2017 Planning and Outreach Activity](#)
- 4-H Trivia Teller: [2018 Planning and Outreach activity](#)

Make a homemade dog toy and donate it to a local animal shelter

This was a 2019-2020 State Council Service Project. Dozens of braided fleece toys were made at Maryland 4-H Congress and throughout the year. All have been donated to animal shelters in the counties of many of the State Council members.

Directions: Cut three equal length pieces of fabric (12" or longer). Knot the three pieces together on one end. Braid the three pieces together leaving enough material to knot at the opposite end.

Materials you will need are:

- fabric (fleece, denim from old jeans, something more durable than cotton or linen)
- scissors



“Be of service. Whether you make yourself available to a friend or co-worker, or you make time every month to do volunteer work, there is nothing that harvests more of a feeling of empowerment than being of service to someone in need.”

-Gillian Anderson



Service Projects to Do at Home

Make a homemade mask

Directions on how to sew masks at home are viewable on YouTube through the link below:

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=VgHrnS6n4iA>

Materials you need are:

- Cotton fabric
- Light weight fusible interfacing
- 1/4 thin elastic
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Paper
- Basic sewing supplies (sewing machine, thread, and needles)



Directions for no sew masks are viewable on YouTube through the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PI1GxNjAjlw>

Materials you need are:

- bandana, towel or t-shirt
- rubber bands



“As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands: one for helping yourself, the other for helping others.”

-Audrey Hepburn



Service Projects to Do at Home

Be sure to check the CDC recommendations and guidelines.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/disinfecting-your-home.html>

Make homemade hand sanitizer

Directions for making homemade hand sanitizer are available on Pinterest through the links below:

<https://pin.it/2SiQRRE>

<https://pin.it/Z2emRUA>

Materials you need are:

- Rubbing alcohol
- Aloe Vera gel
- Essential oils (lavender, tea tree oil, rosemary, cloves)

Make an all-natural homemade disinfectant spray

Directions for making all natural disinfectant spray are available on Pinterest through the links below:

<https://pin.it/2IjfdL9>

Materials you will need are:

- Isopropyl alcohol
- Hydrogen peroxide
- Tea tree essential oil
- Lemon essential oil
- Lavender essential oil
- Eucalyptus essential oil

“How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.”

-Anne Frank



Service Projects to Do at Home

Make all-natural disinfectant wipes

Directions for making all natural disinfectant wipes are available on Pinterest through the links below:

<https://pin.it/4THF4q2>

<https://pin.it/7kAn95B>

Materials you will need are:

- Isopropyl alcohol
- Hydrogen peroxide
- Lemon essential oil
- Clove essential oil
- Cinnamon essential oil
- Eucalyptus essential oil
- Rosemary essential oil
- Something to use for the wipes

(paper towels, dinner napkins,
fabric cloths, thinner towels)

Materials you will need are:

Warm water
Liquid soap
Rubbing alcohol
Something to use for the wipes
(paper towels, dinner napkins,
fabric cloths, thinner towels)

Make a no-sew pet bed

Directions for making a new sew pet bed are available through the link below:

<https://www.instructables.com/id/No-Sew-Pet-Bed/>

Materials you will need are:

- fleece
- scissors
- poly fil (optional)



Developed by the 2020 Maryland 4-H State Council Service Committee

<http://extension.umd.edu/4-h/4-h-program-areas/maryland-4-h-state-council>

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