4-H RITE OF PASSAGE LEADER CERTIFICATION

4-H LEADER SKILLS Checklist
A myriad of skills are required to become a successful 4-H Rite of Passage Leader. Please rate yourself on the following checklist.

Complete confidence (5)
Feel competent (4)
Limited ability; further training needed (3)
Very limited skill, significant training needed (2)
I have no training in this area (1)

Knowledge and Skill Concerning the Elements of the 4-H Rite of Passage

_____ I have enacted my own rite of passage/vision fast to confirm my work as a guide. I am committed to doing my own quest annually or as regularly as possible.

_____ I have assisted one or more times with an experienced leader so that I feel confident in beginning or continuing my own leadership.

_____ I am familiar with the central elements of modern day wilderness rites of passage.

_____ I have a commitment to deepening my connection with Nature and assisting participants in doing the same.

_____ I am aware of and can manifest my own unique gifts in the world - specific core values, understandings and abilities that are uniquely mine to give-away.

Knowledge and Skill Facilitating Others in a 4-H Rite of Passage

_____ I am able to interview participants in order to help them clarify their intentions and also assess their ability to safely complete a wilderness Rite of Passage.

_____ I am familiar with the 4 shields /4 directions teaching and can pass these teachings on to participants (this can be from any tradition or teaching that serves the ceremony).

_____ I am experienced in the nature of council and can hold the circle throughout the ceremony.

_____ I have skills in deep listening and mirroring.

_____ I have an understanding of ritual and self-generated ceremony and can facilitate others in creating their own.

_____ I am able to use a range of creative modalities to enhance and enrich participants’ experience, e.g., journaling, dance, song, poetry, dreams.

_____ I am able to see the connection between the story brought back by the participant and the participant’s inner and outer life.
I am able to work with participants on all levels to assist and support emergence of new understandings of the self and the world, i.e. physically (safety), emotionally, mentally, and spiritually.

I am familiar with the concept of incorporation and how to orient the participant to that phase of the rites of passage process. I am aware of a variety of strategies that may be used to support participants during incorporation, e.g., email groups, 4H clubs, list servers and local “elders’ groups”.

**Basic Safety During the Rite of Passage**

At a minimum, I have current basic first aid and CPR and feel competent in basic safety procedures. In addition, I have certification in wilderness first aid (e.g., WFA, WFR, WEMT, MOFA) or equivalent experience and skills. I know where the nearest medical facilities are. I can make decisions regarding evacuations, rescues and treatment of injuries.

I can be counted on in a crisis.

I have the skills to insure that appropriate food is available for the wilderness phase of a rite of passage.

**Enthusiasm and Spirit of Service to Others**

I believe that every participant’s experience is valid and deserves to be honored.

I am genuinely interested in others.

**Teachable Spirit**

I am open to constructive feedback from my colleagues and participants.

I am able to ask for help and use it as necessary.

**4-H LEADER RESPONSIBILITIES Checklist**

**Logistics of the Rite of Passage**

Can oversee the running of the entire nature-based ceremony from beginning to end and be responsible for all details and final decisions made.

**4-H Paperwork and Contacting Outside Agencies Requirements**

Have in hand and can evaluate health information about each participant as well as emergency information for the participants.

Is familiar with and has filed all 4H paperwork, i.e., intent to camp form, risk management plan, club information, insurance form, staff and youth information forms

Can work with Land Management agencies for permits, etc.

Can access available resources, e.g. universities; federal, state and local land agencies, etc.
**Basecamp Selection and Maintenance**

_____ Reconnaissance. Can search for and find appropriate places to take the people.

_____ Familiar with all the necessary equipment, i.e. kitchen, camping, ceremonial, first aid kit, maps, etc. and how to use them, e.g. setting up a tarp

_____ Familiarity with minimum impact camping and appropriate wilderness ethics for each area used.

_____ Familiar with flora and fauna as well as topography of area.

_____ Know where the people are. Have maps of the area and know base camp location on the maps.

**Assessing Participants Readiness**

_____ Can meet/correspond/talk on phone with participants and evaluate their readiness to undertake this experience on all levels (i.e. physically, psychologically, mentally, and spiritually).

**Basic Emergency Information**

_____ Know location and contact information for local emergency facilities, e.g. hospital; sheriff; search and rescue; federal, state and local land agencies.

__________________________________________                         ________________  
Completed and Signed by Co-Leader     Date

__________________________________________                         ________________  
Reviewed and Signed by R.O.P. Training Guide    Date

Comments from R.O.P. Training Guide: