

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEMBERS

- *Hands-on experience with actual legal cases.*
- *Become a positive role model.*
- *To meet and interact with peers.*
- *To provide our community with an invaluable service.*
- *To earn scholarship money.*
- *References for college and/or job applications.*
- *Positive self-esteem.*

OPPORTUNITIES FOR OFFENDERS

- *An alternative to appearing in Family Court or Justice Court.*
- *A positive experience involving the justice system and peers.*
- *To participate as a juror on a future Youth Court case.*
- *To become a Youth Court member themselves after successful completion of their case.*

*Become part of a
winning team...*

TOWN OF RIVERHEAD YOUTH COURT

*A voluntary alternative
to the traditional
juvenile justice system
for youth offenders*



For further information contact:
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YOUTH COURT
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TOWN OF RIVERHEAD
YOUTH COURT

FOR YOUTH



BY YOUTH

Riverhead Youth Court
210 Howell Avenue
Riverhead, NY 11901

631-727-3200, x273

FOR YOUTH

Youth Court is...



A voluntary alternative to the traditional juvenile justice system for first time offenders who are under the age of 20 and who have committed a violation or a misdemeanor crime.

The offender is held accountable for the crime they have committed by appearing before a court of their peers for a trial and/or sentence hearing.

The sentence they receive is in the form of community service projects, specialized assignments such as a written / verbal apology, essay, educational classes, jail tour or counseling sessions. With the addition of two hours of Youth Court jury duty, their sentence is completed.

What advantages does Youth Court offer the offender . . .

The opportunity to be judged by one's peers is a positive alternative to Family Court or Justice Court and has a more meaningful effect on the offender.

Trial team roles

- * Judge
- * Prosecuting Attorney
- * Defense Attorney
- * Clerk—Bailiff
- * Jury Foreperson
- * Jurors



TOWN OF RIVERHEAD YOUTH COURT

What are the goals of Youth Court . . .

FOR THE OFFENDER:

The goal of Youth Court is to reduce repeat incidents of juvenile crime and to prevent delinquency through positive peer influence.

YOUTH COURT GIVES THE OFFENDER AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN FROM THEIR MISTAKES

As a positive alternative to appearing before Family Court or Justice Court, Youth Court strives to promote positive self-esteem, a desire for self improvement and a healthy attitude toward rules and authority.

FOR THE YOUTH COURT MEMBER:

Youth Court offers interested high school students a better understanding of the law and the workings of the Justice Court System through many hours of training by law enforcement professionals.

In addition, members are able to develop their public speaking skills, learn effective debate techniques and provide their peers and community with an invaluable service.



All participants of Youth Court are sworn to an

OATH OF CONFIDENTIALITY

BY YOUTH

Who can participate in Youth Court. . .

Youth Court members are volunteer students in grades 8th—12th who are trained to assume the roles of Judge, Prosecutor, Defense Attorney, Clerk-Bailiff, Jury Foreperson and Juror.

Upon completion of training, members are required to sign an Oath of Confidentiality and conduct sentence hearings in an actual courtroom setting.

Members are required to participate for a minimum of one (1) year.

Which schools are involved . . .

- * Riverhead High School
- * Riverhead Middle School (8th grade)
- * McGann—Mercy High School
- * Shoreham Wading River High School
- * Shoreham Wading River Middle School (8th grade)
- * St. Isidore's School (8th grade)
- * Little Flower (8th grade)

Youth Court would not be possible without the assistance of . . .

- * Sean Walter - Riverhead Town Supervisor
- * Hon. Richard Ehlers - Riverhead Town Justice
- * Hon. Allen Smith - Riverhead Town Justice
- * Mary Hartill, Esq.
- * Det. Evelyn Hobson - Riverhead Police Dept.
- * Lt. Robert Peeker, Riverhead Police Dept.
- * Chief David Hegermiller - Riverhead Police Dept.
- * Suffolk County Probation Department

