

## 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:

**Riverhead Police Department**  
**YOUTH COURT**  
210 Howell Avenue  
Riverhead, NY 11901

Phone: 631-727-4500 x273  
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TOWN OF RIVERHEAD  
YOUTH COURT

# FOR YOUTH



# BY YOUTH

**Riverhead Youth Court**  
210 Howell Avenue  
Riverhead, NY 11901

631-727-4500 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 9th—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.

## Participating Schools . . .

- \* Riverhead High School
- \* Shoreham Wading River High School

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

- \* Laura Jens-Smith - Riverhead Town Supervisor
- \* Hon. Allen Smith - Riverhead Town Justice
- \* Hon. Lori Hulse - Riverhead Town Justice
- \* Lane M. Bubka - Legal Council
- \* Kimberly Shalvey - Legal Council
- \* Det. Evelyn Hobson - Riverhead Police Dept.
- \* Lt. Richard Boden - Riverhead Police Dept.
- \* Chief David Hegermiller - Riverhead Police Dept.
- \* Suffolk County Probation Department

