

**PREBLE COUNTY 4-H UPADTE***as of March 18, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.*

(Information subject to change based on updates that we are regularly receiving from Ohio 4-H and OSU Extension)

**PLEASE READ EVERYTHING****ALL OHIO EXTENSION OFFICES ARE CLOSING**

Our office will be closing as of 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 18, 2020 until further notice

Governor DeWine recently issued a state of emergency and implemented a variety of strategies to reduce the spread of the disease. In order to do our part in reducing risk to our employees or clientele, we have implemented a teleworking plan. OSU Extension offices will be closed to the public until further notice. While our offices will be physically closed, we are committed to continuing to conduct our work as fully as possible. In recent years, we've invested in the technology needed to facilitate effective teleworking. We will utilize all our teleworking capabilities to continue serving our clientele and communities. You should continue to feel free to call, email, etc. with any OSU Extension staff member as you normally would.

OSU Extension is deeply committed to the health and well-being of its staff and doing our part to help slow the spread of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

**“OFFICE” HOURS**

We are maintaining our regular business hours of M-F from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The difference is that we will be not working at the office. If you need to contact us, please do it during these regular business hours.

**HOW TO REACH US**

With the transition to teleworking, how we communicate will change only slightly. At this time, e-mail is truly the easiest method of communication. We will be forwarding our office phone to Nancy so you can continue to use that number. Please continue to contact Nancy with 4honline questions and other general questions. Christy can be reached with specific questions at the number below.

Nancy Tilton, Office Associate: 937-456-8174 [tilton.47@osu.edu](mailto:tilton.47@osu.edu)  
Christy Millhouse, 4-H Educator: 937-419-4242 [millhouse.10@osu.edu](mailto:millhouse.10@osu.edu)

We will be communicating via e-mail and Facebook. If you have not liked our Facebook page, now might be a good time to do that. We will also continue updating our website.

**4-H BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS**

We were notified today that project book distribution is suspended through March 31. That date will be reevaluated closer to the time and we will provide you with updates as we receive them.



## 4-H ENROLLMENT

With individual families able to complete enrollment online, our enrollment date will stay April 1, 2020

On our website at <https://preble.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/how-join-4-h> you will find a link to 4honline as well as a tutorial. Both links are under the heading: Where do I sign up. Remember that 4honline does not like cell phones and if you are having issues enrolling using your phone, that is probably why.

We are asking advisors to help facilitate this process as usual. Please remember to keep confirming your members.

Ultimately, we want to be sure that everyone is able to get enrolled and we know that in these unusual circumstances that might be more challenging. Please contact us if you are having trouble getting enrolled.

If you do not have access to the internet, we now have public internet that does not require a password. We tested our public internet and it seems to be working from our parking lot. As long as our county building (not our office) remains open, you should be able to access the internet inside the building as well. Look for WiFi@OSU.

## 4-H CLUB MEETINGS

(including fundraisers, service projects, social events, etc.)

- All 4-H meetings are **cancelled** or **held virtually** from March 12 until April 20.
- The 6 meeting per club requirement is through December 31, 2020 so clubs should be able to meet this requirement.

### **For Club Advisors...**

There is a space on the Ohio 4-H website for information advisors can use over the next few weeks. Find it at [go.osu.edu/4Hadvisorinfo](http://go.osu.edu/4Hadvisorinfo).

Two of the resources are one-pagers to help with your club:

- *Communicating Online with your Club*
- *Tips & Tricks for Meetings When You Can't Meet (in person...)*

## QUALITY ASSURANCE AND OTHER FAIR RELATED ITEMS

### Quality Assurance

- Our in person QA dates are not scheduled until May and are not affected by the current requirements to cancel events. For now, we will keep those dates on the calendar with updates in the future, as needed.
- QA Test Out: The test out scheduled for April is cancelled at this time. If we are able to re-schedule, we will.
- 45 Day Requirement: For livestock quality assurance (QA) for the 2020 year only--QA must still be completed before the opening day of exhibition, however the 45-day prior to the opening of the exhibition requirement will not be enforced.

### Other Items

- The lamb and goat weigh in and swine paperwork date are scheduled for May 3. At this time, that date has not changed.
- Fair entries are due on June 12. At this time, that date has not changed.
- Livestock possession dates have not changed
- Livestock auctions are currently still taking place, although in a modified form. This article from the Ohio Farm Bureau provides more information: <https://ofbf.org/2020/03/16/coronavirus-measures-at-livestock-auctions/>

## **PREBLE COUNTY 4-H SCHEDULE CHANGES**

*Below are updates on meetings and activities scheduled for April. We are looking at virtual options for the meetings so look for information about those options.*

- Mandatory Horse Exhibitors Meeting AND Horse Safety, April 6 — postponed to a later date that will be announced
- Preble County CARTEENS class, April 7— cancelled
- New Advisor Training, April 9 — cancelled in person but will be held virtually (information will be sent at a later date)
- Preble County 4-H Advisory Committee, April 13—will work with committee
- Preble County Horse Advisors' Meeting, April 14—to be determined
- 4-H Day with the Dayton Dragons, April 25—unsure of status