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**NEW INFORMATION ABOUT EXTENSION AND 4-H PROGRAMMING as of end of day on March 25...**

from State 4-H Leader Kirk Blair...

Ohio State University Extension 4-H Youth Development is committed to doing our part to help defeat the mass spread of the novel coronavirus.

- All 4-H activities, club meetings, events, and programs must be held virtually between now and **May 15**. Events that cannot be held virtually must be postponed or cancelled.
- We may need to extend the ban on in-person gatherings beyond May 15. The situation is dynamic and changes daily. We will continue to monitor conditions and will reevaluate as needed.
- 4-H club advisors are encouraged to explore the tip sheets and other information provided at [go.osu.edu/4Hadvisorinfo](http://go.osu.edu/4Hadvisorinfo). Two of the resources are one-pagers to share with club advisors and volunteers: "Communicating Online with your Club", and "Tips & Tricks for Meetings When You Can't Meet (in person)." We also have a couple of 4-H Online help sheets.
- We work closely with our senior fair board partners to offer junior fair exhibition opportunities to 4-H members. We understand concerns that some fairs may not be able to take place this year due to the global pandemic health emergency. Any decision to cancel a local fair, festival, parade or other large group gatherings will be made by those authorized to protect the health and wellbeing of all Ohioans.
- 4-H members and their families should consider a number of factors as they make their decisions to purchase 4-H market livestock projects. As with any agricultural enterprise, possible risks and rewards must be taken into account. For example, we encourage families to consider their overall available budget, space to care for livestock, availability of alternative markets, availability of local processing and family freezer space.
- OSU Extension and 4-H Youth Development are working together to support our 4-H members, families, volunteers and local partners, including senior fair boards, classroom teachers, and magistrates, as we navigate this health emergency.

**ODA LETTER**

A letter to County and Independent Fair Boards from Director Dorothy Pelanda has been circulating on Facebook this

weekend. The letter is posted on our website as well as a letter regarding our Fair.

## MAY TAGGING DAY—LAMBS, GOATS AND HOGS

The Senior Fair Board made the decision yesterday to cancel the May 3 weigh in/ tag in for lambs and goats. This applies to the collection of hog DNA and paperwork as well. Therefore, all sheep/goats/hog tags can be purchased at the Sr Fair Board office starting March 23rd. Use the walk up window to pick up tags. Tags need to be returned to Sr Fair Board office by close of business on May 4th. If you need help with tagging, please contact the office at 937-456-3748.

Please tag your animals as soon as possible and return paperwork and DNA to office to avoid large crowds of people doing that at the same time.

## 4-H ENROLLMENT

Please keep completing your enrollments in 4honline. Our enrollment date is **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 posted two video tutorials on our Facebook page as a helpful guide to completing enrollment. Thanks to my colleague, Amanda Raines, for creating and sharing these videos.

### **Advisors:**

- Please remember to complete your enrollments.
- Also, please keep confirming your members. Nancy will be watching and confirming members as well.



### **Members:**

- Please continue to enroll through 4honline. Remember that if you are a returning member—**DO NOT build a new profile**. Just log in to your current profile, check your information, sign where needed and update your projects. IF you have trouble logging in, contact Nancy. Do not build a new profile!
- **Questions regarding your enrollment, should be asked via email. Please do not post these questions on Facebook. Ideally, send questions to Nancy at [Tilton.47@osu.edu](mailto:Tilton.47@osu.edu) because she is the one who handles the 4honline enrollment. You can also email Christy at [millhouse.10@osu.edu](mailto:millhouse.10@osu.edu).**
- If you do not have access to the internet, we now have public internet at our office 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. We also saw where the fairgrounds has internet that you can access on the grounds and many restaurants have free WiFi that extends to the parking lot.
- Your profile will remain pending until your advisor and Nancy complete confirming it. You may receive an email with something to fix. If you do, please do that as soon as possible.
- Remember that once you submit you cannot go back and make changes to your profiles (like adding projects). If you find that you need to make changes after you click submit, please contact us via email so that we can help you make those changes.
- If you get a message that says the county is not taking enrollments at this time, this is a common error when using a cell phone to enroll. 4honline does not work well with cell phones typically.

## NEW ADVISORS

We are continuing to process new advisor applications. Reference are being sent and as those and background checks are completed, interviews will be scheduled. We will be doing interviews virtually as well as the new advisor training scheduled for April.

## 4-H BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

Project book distribution is suspended by Ohio 4-H through March 31. That date will be reevaluated closer to the time and we will provide you with updates as we receive them.

## 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. Currently our office phones are not forwarding but we are working on a fix for that. Please continue to contact Nancy with 4honline questions and other general questions. Christy can be reached with specific questions at the number below.

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|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Nancy Tilton, Office Associate:  | tilton.47@osu.edu                 |
| Christy Millhouse, 4-H Educator: | 937-419-4242 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.

## RESOURCES

Since project books are not available right now, we have been getting questions about resources that can be used to keep learning going (or start the learning process). We will share these resources as we find them hoping they might be helpful to others. If you are looking for something specific, please ask and we will see if we can help!

### BEEKEEPING

1. View the first few pages of our Ohio 4-H project book at <https://projectcentral.ohio4h.org/publications/beekeeping-project-and-record-book/>. You can see the requirements.
2. Explore the beekeeping resources at this site: <https://ohio4h.org/beekeeping>
3. The resources from Purdue that are linked from the page above are very good. Many of the things in this book are similar to what is in the Ohio 4-H Project book so you could use it for the recordkeeping etc. to get started and then transfer the information once you get your project book.

### RABBIT

1. The Ohio 4-H website has some great rabbit resources. You can find those here: <https://ohio4h.org/statewide-programs/animal-sciences/rabbit/rabbit-resources>
2. This website from Purdue has some worksheets that you could have your members complete. Scroll down to the bottom of the page. You could have the members complete them and then use a virtual method to talk about the answers. <https://extension.purdue.edu/article/1898>
3. Here is a pdf that has a lot of great information. [http://www.gov.pe.ca/photos/original/4h\\_rabbit\\_RG.pdf](http://www.gov.pe.ca/photos/original/4h_rabbit_RG.pdf)
4. Here is an activity sheet: <https://4h.tennessee.edu/Projects/activities/Rabbitbw-W061.pdf>
5. Here is a you tube video about caring for rabbits. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0y9owNC2wi8&feature=youtu.be>

### SHEEP

1. There are great sheep videos posted at: <https://ohio4h.org/sheepcare>