

Weekly 4-H Word

February 8, 2021

PLEASE BE SURE TO READ THE ENTIRE NEWSLETTER. There is important information throughout.

Upcoming Deadlines:

February

Registration for 4-H Club Leadership Virtual Training
Registration for Ohio 4-H Virtual Conference

due February 11
due February 12

EXTENSION OFFICE AND 4-H ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS—new on January 19

We are back to limited office hours beginning today. As long as we are a red county, we are open by appointment only.

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From Ohio 4-H....

As we begin the new year, the Ohio 4-H Planning Guide for In-Person Meetings & Events has been updated to reflect current guidance from Ohio State University and health officials. Beginning SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 2021, the following is in effect:

- Hosting virtual meetings and events is preferred
- If activities are critical/essential and are in-person, they must be education-focused
- Group cannot be larger than 50 people, including adults, youth, presenters, etc.
 - This directive is dependent on local health department guidelines.
 - The group size may need to be reduced to 10 (or other amount), based on directives from your local health department.
- Face masks are required inside and outside at all times
- Potlucks and buffets are not permitted

Find details and updated guidelines at [Ohio 4-H Planning Guide for In-Person Meetings & Events](#)

As part of an academic institution, we follow science and model what the CDC, Ohio Department of Health and other experts stress is important in addressing this virus. All 4-H volunteers are expected to follow these guidelines regarding 4-H meetings and events. Volunteers who are not in compliance will receive a first warning. A second incident disregarding our effort to protect the health, safety and well-being of members, families and communities will result in immediate termination of volunteer status.

OSU Extension offices will be open based on the current Ohio Public Health Advisory System. If a county is purple or approaching purple, OSU Extension offices will be closed and employees will be working virtually. If a county is red, OSU Extension offices will be staffed by appointment only. You will need to call in advance to schedule a time to go to the office. Please note there may be additional guidelines from county health departments.

TAKE PART IN THE BUCKEYE BRIDGE RIDE—CLUB INCENTIVE FOR PARTICIPATION!

The Friends of Preble County 4H group is encouraging you to enjoy their annual Buckeye Bridge Ride! The activity will take place this year on Saturday, June 26th. You can find more information at <http://www.buckeyebridgeride.org> and click on registration. To encourage more 4Hers to participate in this activity, the FOPC4H group will be awarding **\$500 to the 4H club** with the most riders who sign up and ride in this year's event! You can have your club 4Hers, parents, alumni, and others count toward your number of participants by completing the registration in advance OR on the "day of" the event and marking the "I would like to ride for _____ 4H."

VIRTUAL OPPORTUNITIES

OHIO 4-H CONFERENCE

The Ohio 4-H Conference is held every year as a time for volunteers and teens to come together to share ideas and learn from each other. Typically it is an in person event in Columbus but this year it will be held virtually. This is the perfect opportunity for those who may have not wanted to make the trip to Columbus to participate. There are a variety of educational sessions that offer something for everyone!

Virtual sessions will start at 9:00 am on February 20 and 7:00 pm on February 23 & 25. The registration booklet with descriptions of sessions is posted at www.go.osu.edu/2021O4HC. There will be no charge for those attending this year's conference. Those wishing to attend the conference can register themselves. **Registration deadline is Friday, February 12 at 5:00 pm.**

4-H CLUB LEADERSHIP TRAINING

February 15 10:00 a.m. — noon

This multi county training is for members and volunteers. Officer duties and resources will be covered along with several other topics including parliamentary procedure, ZOOM tips and tricks, Virtual Activities and Meeting Preparation. Participants will take part in fun activities including a snack at the end of the training. This is another great opportunity to learn from other volunteers and members in other counties without having to travel. The training is designed not just for youth who are club officers but for anyone who wants to learn more about club leadership. **Register by February 11 at go.osu.edu/clubtraining**

PROJECT BOOKS

The 2021 Family Guide is posted on the Ohio 4-H website - <https://ohio4h.org/familyguide>. All of you will be receiving a Family Guide in the mail. At this time the best way to get project books is by ordering directly from Extension Publications as you did last summer. You will find information for doing that at <https://ohio4h.org/booksresources>. There are also a few Stay at Home Projects (including Cloverbud Activities) that can be downloaded for free.

4-H ENROLLMENT

4-H enrollment will continue to be done in 4honline but this year it will look a little different—Ohio 4-H is now using 4honline version 2. This new version is more user friendly and should work on phones and tablets. You can begin enrolling anytime. Use your same email and password to log in. **Make sure that it says v2 in the address bar and it will look different once you are logged in.** There are instructions in 4honline to follow and we have also posted a document on our website with instructions for both new and returning members.

NATIONAL BEEKEEPING SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY COMPETITION

What's the buzz? It's the National 4-H Beekeeping Essay Competition. Write a short essay (750-1000 words) on "Threats to Bee Colonies and Methods to Defend Against the Threats." One winner from Ohio will be selected to advance to the national competition. Submit Ohio entries by March 21 to jinks.osu.edu and find the requirements at <https://preservationofhoneybees.org/essays/2021-essays>

PREBLE COUNTY FAIR—CHANGES FOR 2021 as of 1.28.2021

Birth Dates for market swine, lambs and goats: The Senior Fair Board voted to eliminate the date of birth requirements for market swine, market lambs and market goats. Keep in mind, however, that weight requirements must still be met.

Family Animals: This is a change to the previous family animal rule. All animals that are tagged in will be considered “family animals”. Families will be asked to designate specific animals to specific exhibitors. The family then has the ability to assign an animal to a different child up until a specified deadline prior to the Fair (still tbd). DNA will still be collected. Family is still be defined as those living in the same household.

For example, the Johnson family has 3 children who are all showing market lambs. They are planning to tag in 12 market lambs at the spring weigh in. At tag-in, they will designate 4 lambs to each child. In late July, the family decides that one of the lambs tagged to child 1 is going to be shown by child 2. That family can make that change.

Swine

- Hair Clipping: Hair must be ¾” long and will be checked by an outside person at a station prior to entering the scales. No clipping on the Fairgrounds.
- 72-hour rule: In 2021, Hogs will come in on Friday with all other animals. They will still be loaded out on Thursday night.
- Exhibitors in the swine department will be able to tag and show 4 animals. Only 1 animal will be eligible for a premium bid at the sale with the rest receiving the packer bid.
- Market Gilts will show in own classes. For example, Yorkshire Market gilts or Crossbred Market Gilts. A Grand and Reserve Champion Market Barrow and a Grand and Reserve Champion Market Gilt will be selected. A final drive will be held to select the Grand and Reserve Champion Market Swine.
- Junior show will continue ractopamine free and terminal

Horse

- Dressage: Remove Western Dressage Basic Level Test 2; Add Western Dressage Basic Level Test 3
- Add rule: exhibitors showing in individual canter may also show in Classical Dressage Intro Test C (Clarifies that if they already show in individual canter then they can do Dressage Intro Test C)
- Add Ranch Horsemanship
- All western classes will be Horse/Pony (HP), including Western Showmanship, Horsemanship, Pleasure, and Ranch classes. All pony western classes will be removed.
- Add Ranch Showmanship 8-13 and 14-18
- Change the western showmanship into the following age breakdowns: 8-10, 11-14, 15-18.
- Hunter under saddle and English Equitation will be Horse/Pony (HP) removing the corresponding pony classes.
- Add obstacle course as an exhibition in the fair book. Proposed to schedule it the on Monday, not to start before 4:00 PM.
- Walk Trot Barrels: limit Walk Trot barrels to beginning Horse/rider combo (Defined as rider in their 1st or 2nd year of riding).
- Move Easy Gaited Western before ranch so easy gaited western has a break between western and versatility.
- All trail classes will be shown in show arena, not make up arena.

Rabbits

- Exhibitors may enter and show 2 meat pens. Only 1 meat pen will be eligible to sell at the sale for a premium bid. The other can receive the packer bid.

Goat

- Goats will show in divisions similar to sheep
- A Born and Raised Class will be added

FOR CLUB ADVISORS—

YEARLY FINANCIAL SUMMARY—due by January 31

Please be sure to turn in your yearly financial summary to the office **by January 31**. You can find the form at: <https://ohio4h.org/volunteers/volunteers/club-leaders/finances/clubaffiliate-yearly-financial-summary>. You can email the form to Nancy or I or slide it under the door at our office (the building itself is usually open during the day).

GRAB AND GO MEETING TOOL KIT

Start your 4-H year with seven ready-to-go club meeting agendas detailing a family kick-off, team building, officer elections, public speaking and more. Learn how to adapt in-person activities to a virtual setting and strategies for including Cloverbuds. Find it at go.osu.edu/clubmeetingtoolkit.

ADVISOR TRAINING

Required advisor trainings are starting this week. The dates and how to register were sent out by email a couple weeks ago. If you have not registered, please do so ASAP. **DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS, YOU MUST BE REGISTERED TO ATTEND A SESSION. THERE WILL BE NO WALK-INS.** A reminder that all advisors are required to attend a training.