

Greene County 4-H Important COVID-19 Updates

As of March 18, 2020, 2:45 p.m. (information is subject to change based on updates the 4-H program is receiving daily)

To our 4-H Families:

It has been a quite a couple of weeks with changes coming quickly. Thank you for your patience with your county 4-H staff, the state 4-H office and OSU Extension. I know you have many questions:

- When can we have club meetings?
- Will there be summer camp?
- Should we invest in projects?
- What about fair?

The answer is at this point, we just don't know. It is all changing rapidly. But what we do know for sure is that we're committed to doing our part to help prevent the spread of the corona virus. We also know that when we choose to act together, we can have incredible positive impacts.

The actions we've taken so far are in alignment with necessary precautions recommended by the World Health Organization, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Ohio Department of Health. These are in place to help keep us all from getting, or unintentionally spreading, this virus. This includes the temporary closing to the public of our county Extension office. We'll continue to be available via email and phone. Visit our website at greene.osu.edu or call 937-372-9971 to get ahold of our staff.

To help clarify, ALL 4-H events, programs, and activities scheduled between now and April 20 be held virtually, postponed, or cancelled.

We are also suspending 4-H project book distribution, effective as of close of business today through 3/31/2020. This means there will be no project book distribution at the local or state level until after March 31. We will continue to monitor the coronavirus situation and will re-evaluate project book distribution as we get closer to March 31 and share more information with you at that time.

- 3/18 New Member and Family Orientation- **CANCELLED**- Will not be rescheduled
- 3/23- BQA Beef Quality Assurance- **CANCELLED**- rescheduled for April 29 as of right now at 5:00 p.m.
- 3/26- PQA Pork Quality Assurance- **CANCELLED**- rescheduled for April 29 as of right now at 6:30 p.m.
- 3/26- Quality Assurance- **CANCELLED**- rescheduled for April 29 as of right now- attend either at 5:00 p.m. or 6:30 p.m.
- 3/30- Shooting Sports meeting- **CANCELLED**- in addition, ALL shoots/practices are **CANCELLED through at least April 20th**
- 3/31- CARTEENS- **CANCELLED**
- Deadline for 4-H clubs to inform our office of any roster changes will be extended to April 22. All project changes must be made by this date as well. County dues, ALL remaining paperwork is due this date.
- All Ohio 4-H Night Dayton Dragon tickets should be mailed directly to the Dayton Dragons. Do not drop off any registrations at our office. These need to be postmarked by March 27.
- Flower fundraiser paperwork is now due back to our office by April 21. A final list will be due to the greenhouse the next day, so this is a hard-due date, no exceptions will be made. As of right now, pick up date will remain the same.



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For our livestock project members and families, Ohio 4-H and the Ohio Department of Agriculture discussed some changes for this year that will help mitigate the effects the corona virus is having on holding in-person programming. 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.
- Youth livestock exhibitors (8-18) may take the online YQCA certification. **Please note that Greene County has NOT approved this option for 2020 as of right now. BQA and PQA are not allowed to be online either for youth exhibitors.**

In the coming days, we'll post updates on our social media pages (Facebook and Twitter) and website. We'll also include links to resources that you and your children can use. And we'll do what we can to keep you updated as we learn new information.

Ohio 4-H Club Advisor Resources Communicating Online with Your Club

This is a collection of information and resources you can use to connect with your club for the next few weeks. Please remember - all 4-H events, programs, and activities scheduled between now and April 20 should be held virtually, postponed, or cancelled.

Resources for Online Video Communication

Zoom is a video conferencing program used by Ohio State. A free version is available with a 40-minute time limit. Find it at <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us>

Google Hangouts is a free communication software for video conferencing and instant messaging for up to 10 people with unlimited minutes. A Gmail account is required. Find it at <https://hangouts.google.com>

Skype is a video conferencing program with a free version for groups up to 50. Find it at <https://www.skype.com/en/>

Facetime is for Apple devices only for up to 32 people. Find it at <https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT209022>

Facebook Video uses Facebook Messenger on both the phone app and computer, with unlimited participants and minutes. Find it at <https://www.facebook.com/>

Facebook Live allows real-time interaction with viewers to answer questions and get feedback. Join via a Facebook Group. Participants interact via "Comment" and cannot talk.

Social Media platforms including Facebook, Snapchat and Instagram, support video calling.

Resources for Online Instant Messaging and Reminders

GroupMe is a free app accessed through a social media account or by entering your mobile phone number. Group members receive text reminders. Find it at <https://groupme.com/en-US/>

Remind is a free app accessed by mobile phone number. Downloading the app is not required of participants. Group members receive texts for reminders. Find it at <https://www.remind.com/>

Task-Oriented Programs for Committee Work

Slack is a free collaboration program that divides work into channels, allows for video calls and instant messaging. It is available on laptop/desktop computers and mobile devices. Find it at: <https://slack.com/>

Trello is a free collaboration program available on laptop/desktop computers and any mobile device. Find it at <https://trello.com/en-US>

Google Drive can be used collaboratively by sharing files between members. A Gmail account is required. Find it at <https://www.google.com/drive/>

Rev. 3/17/20



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Ohio 4-H Club Advisor Resources Tips & Tricks for Meetings When You Can't Meet (in person...)

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- If you have a large club, hosting an online meeting will be a challenge. To make that more manageable, divide your club into smaller groups (project interest areas, ages, officer team, committees, randomly sorted into groups of 10-15) and then meet virtually.
- Create planning groups – fair booth ideas, service projects, fundraisers, future meeting themes.
- Become pen pals with a club in another town (visit another county's website to find a list of clubs: countyname.osu.edu – look for “4-H Youth Development”).
- Have fun! Host a Facebook Live session and line dance.
- Write letters to seniors in a local care facility or a note of encouragement to health care professionals or first responders.
- Visit Project Central at projectcentral.osu.edu. Rate your 2019 project and explore projects for this year.
- Can you think of a creative fundraiser? Is there a local restaurant where club members could sell online gift cards and get a percentage of the sale?
- Use your tech-savvy teens. Let them coordinate online meetings, upload information for members, record a project demo.
- Visit YouTube for line dances, camp songs, project demos and games.
- Find the “Healthy Living Activity Guide” at <https://4-h.org/about/inspire-kids-to-do/> with 30 hands-on activities.
- There are 60 kid-friendly activities in STEM, healthy living, crafting and more at <https://4-h.org/about/inspire-kids-to-do/activity-guide/>
- Here are two YouTube videos that walk NEW and RETURNING families through enrolling for 4-H on 4HOnline. (NOTE: Thanks to Hardin County Educator Amanda Raines for these videos. Hardin County is mentioned a few times, but the details work for everyone.)
 - <https://youtu.be/5NU0M9bYzoo> New Family Enrollment
 - <https://youtu.be/fEiXK1vfHvU> Returning Family Enrollment
- Hold practice interviews for project judging. It's okay to use last year's project or random questions just for the experience.
- Find more resources at go.osu.edu/4Hclubresources.

Rev. 3/17/20



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