

## Greene County 4-H Important COVID-19 Updates

As of April 7, 2020, 5:00 p.m. (information is subject to change based on updates the 4-H program is receiving daily)

Dear 4-H members, families, volunteers and supporters,

It is with a heavy heart that I share this news with you. Due to ongoing health concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the decision has been made to cancel all Ohio State University Extension in-person programming through July 6. This includes all 4-H programs, activities, and events. Additionally, we've made the very difficult decision to cancel all 4-H camps thru August 31. Although in-person programming is cancelled, we will continue to offer virtual 4-H experiences.

We know this is an incredible disappointment and recognize how much everyone looks forward to our cherished 4-H summer events. As 4-H professionals committed to providing positive youth development programming, we share your sense of loss.

Given available information, we anticipate the next few weeks and months will continue to be critical times for stemming the spread of the COVID-19 virus. It is our duty to keep ourselves and those we serve safe through the education we provide and the modeling of safety-conscious behaviors. We do not want to get to the other side of this pandemic and wish that we had done more to keep our future generation of leaders safe and healthy.

While we are making decisions regarding the youth events we organize and manage (such as camps and 4-H project judging), we are deferring to local decision-makers and Governor DeWine's administration on the events owned by others, such as county fairs. Our decision to cancel in-person 4-H activities and events through July 6 and summer camps, should not automatically imply that local county fairs are also canceled at this time. Please keep in mind that 4-H and our FFA colleagues support the education and development of youth, but the decision about whether fairs will occur is in the hands of others. This continues to be an evolving situation that will require some negotiation and monitoring depending on decisions. We will be ready should fairs move forward and to pivot if they are cancelled.

As we work through the impact of these decisions for 4-H activities and events in the weeks ahead, county OSU Extension 4-H professionals will share important updates and information with you as we develop and provide new online opportunities. We know the experiences will be different than we had hoped, yet we remain committed to working together to grow future generations of true leaders.

Yours in service to 4-H,  
Kirk

**Kirk Blair, Ph.D.**

Assistant Director, 4-H Youth Development



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

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AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



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**ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE:****Greene County 4-H Events and Activities thru July 6 have been postponed, cancelled or offered virtually.**

- **ALL CLUB MEETINGS need to be CANCELLED.** This includes all social events, service projects, fundraising events, hands-on events like field trips, shoots, etc., and regular club meetings. This needs to be cancelled until at least July 6.
- **Club enrollment changes-** All changes to projects must be communicated with our office ([Zehring.5@osu.edu](mailto:Zehring.5@osu.edu), [carpenter.955@osu.edu](mailto:carpenter.955@osu.edu), [sandman-stover.1@osu.edu](mailto:sandman-stover.1@osu.edu), [supinger.5@osu.edu](mailto:supinger.5@osu.edu)) by April 24. Please email us even if there are no changes to projects needed.
- **Club dues-** For 2020 only, there will be no county dues turned into the office. This is new as of April 7. This includes the \$10 for project age members and the \$5 for Cloverbuds. For those clubs that have paid their dues to the office, they will be refunded once we return to the office.
- **4-H Project Books-** Want to dig in to a 4-H project that's a good match for staying at home? See our collection of [Perfect Stay-at-Home Projects](#). When a copy opens on your screen, you can save or print it from there. Stay at home and stay healthy, 4-H'ers! (For accessible formats of these publications, visit [cfaes.osu.edu/accessibility](http://cfaes.osu.edu/accessibility).) You can order directly but if you wait a few more days, we will have a coupon code available for you. When this is available, we will share this with you.
- **Project Judging-** We will have more information about this over the next few days/weeks.
- **Workshop Wednesday-** These are all cancelled for this year. I will see what virtual options we have to share information at a later date.
- **Meetings-** The updated county meeting requirement for this year is **FOUR** meetings. Each county 4-H member will need to work with club leaders to complete four meetings by **July 15**. Advisors are welcome to hold meetings virtually if they have the means and have important matters to discuss. Clubs can use Google Hangout or Zoom or any other platform to conduct these meetings.
- **Hog pictures\*-** All exhibitors will need to upload pictures by May 8. [www.go.osu.edu/greenecohog](http://www.go.osu.edu/greenecohog)
- **Tag-in/weigh-in in May\*-** These are cancelled. ALL EXHIBITORS WILL NEED TO UPLOAD PICTURES AT THE FOLLOWING LINKS BY MAY 8- Date subject to change:
  - **Market Sheep-** [www.go.osu.edu/greenecosheep](http://www.go.osu.edu/greenecosheep)
  - **Market Goat-** [www.go.osu.edu/greenecogoat](http://www.go.osu.edu/greenecogoat)
  - **Market Hog-** [www.go.osu.edu/greenecohog](http://www.go.osu.edu/greenecohog)

Livestock location form due by May 8- please complete at [www.go.osu.edu/greenelivestocklocation](http://www.go.osu.edu/greenelivestocklocation)

ALL 4-H livestock (horse, rabbit, etc.) & committee (4-H) meetings need to be held virtually through at least July 6. I will work with the committees to help do this.

4-H Advisory Committee has a Zoom meeting scheduled for April 15.

- More information about QA will be coming soon.

For the 2020 year only, QA must still be completed before the opening day of exhibition, however the 45-day requirement will not be enforced.

Additional information about the following events will be shared as it is available:

- Horse PAS
- Skill-a-thons
- Judging
- Shooting sports
- Fair
- Quality Assurance

**\*Additional dates on this are subject to change. We will continue to update as needed.**

As we move through this time of fluctuation in events, I will be offering details and updates as needed. Thank you for your understanding.

If you have any further questions, please contact Rebecca at [supinger.5@osu.edu](mailto:supinger.5@osu.edu) or 937-372-9971