

I pledge...

my **head** to clearer thinking,
my **heart** to greater loyalty,
my **hands** to larger service, and
my **health** to better living for
my **club**, my **community**,
my **country**, and my **world**.



A Parent's Guide...

Making the Best Better for Your Child



Making the Best Better in Tuscarawas County

A Parent's Guide... Making the Best Better for Your Child, originally written and developed by Patty House, OSU Extension, Clark County, 4-H Youth Development Extension Educator, 4400 Gateway Blvd., Suite 104, Springfield, OH 45502. 937-328-4607 house.18@osu.edu 1/2006.

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Ohio State University Extension

Tuscarawas County

4-H Program

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What Does My Child Need to Do in 4-H?

☛ For Club Meetings

- ☛ Attend 4-H club meetings/activities.
- ☛ Participate in community service, fundraising, leadership, and recreational activities.
- ☛ Come with a positive attitude, eager to “Learn by Doing” the 4-H Way through project work, demonstrations, & hands-on activities.
- ☛ Serve as a club officer, on a committee, or as a Junior Leader.
- ☛ Strive to excel in the four H’s...Head, Heart, Hands, and Health by supporting club goals and activities.
- ☛ Read and follow club constitution.



☛ For Projects

- ☛ Select one or more 4-H projects to complete from the 4-H Family Guide (www.ohio4h.org).
- ☛ Meet all project requirements and guidelines. Refer to the 4-H Project Requirement Guidelines in project book and any additional county guidelines.
- ☛ Attend required programs for project participation: Tag-Ins/Weigh-Ins/I.D. Days, Livestock Quality Assurance (QA), Horse Safety Programs, Interview Judging, etc.

Project Possession & Entry Requirement Dates:

Refer to Livestock Requirement Summary for dates and times. This chart is distributed at all QA’s and available on our web site. **All livestock projects (including horses, dogs, beef, swine, sheep, dairy, goats, rabbits, and poultry) need to be owned and in the possession and continual care of the 4-H member after the official deadlines!**



Livestock Auction Check. Paid by the Junior Fair committees for premium and received with animals or products sold through the Jr. Fair auctions. Checks will be distributed in late October once record books are completed and checked (dates and times will be posted on our web site).

PAS. Horse project members may choose to participate in Performance Against Standards (PAS) show(s) to qualify to participate in the State Fair Horse Show. A member may show in a maximum of four classes and must qualify in two classes to show at the State Fair. Members who qualify in more than two classes must select the two classes they intend to show in at the State Fair.

Project. The member selects a project to explore a topic or interest area through hands-on activities, sequential learning experiences, goal setting, and evaluation. 4-H members keep records and documentation of project experiences in a project book.

Interview Judging. This is the evaluation of a member’s project knowledge through an interview with an adult judge, review of project book records, and exhibit of project item and/or educational display. Evaluation of livestock, horse, and dog projects are through participating in hands-on skill stations that allow the member to apply knowledge/skill to real world situations.

Project Requirements. These outline possession dates, deadlines, project judging/skill-a-thon guidelines, resources, fair rules, interview judging dates, county and beyond county opportunities, and much more. Requirements are located in project books with additional county guidelines.

State Fair Selection & Alternates. Member(s) selected to represent the county at the Ohio State Fair for a given miscellaneous, clothing, or food and nutrition project or project area. Counties may select one member per project or State Fair class to participate.

Tag-In, Weigh-In, I.D. Day. Date required to tag-in, weigh-in, and/or identify your project animal for Junior Fair participation.

Volunteer or Club Advisor. Dedicated, enthusiastic, caring adults who have completed a selection, screening, and orientation process by OSU Extension. The current Ohio 4-H Volunteer Selection process includes a written application, reference checks, BCI background check (fingerprinting – fee required), interview with Extension professional, and volunteer orientation.

Youth Food Animal Quality Assurance (QA). Annual program required by the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) for members exhibiting market and lactating project animals. Members can meet this requirement by attending a QA program focusing on the 10 Good Production Practices. Extension educators in cooperation with local agriculture societies determine county QA delivery and completion requirements within the state’s minimum standards.

What Is The 4-H Lingo?

Achievement Awards. 4-H members, ages 14-18 as of January 1, may apply for one of twenty State Achievement Project Awards as well as the opportunity to serve on State Junior Fair Board and/or attend a variety of State and National Conferences.

Camp. Members enjoy outdoor fun and adventure while learning and making new friends at 4-H Camp. Camping opportunities are available for Cloverbuds, members, and teens with some focused in a particular project area.

Horse Educational Program: 4-H'ers enrolled in horse project(s)

Cloverbud Camp: four-hour camp at Fairgrounds; other multi-county opportunities are available

4-H Camp (just completing grades 3-8): approximately 4 days at Camp Piedmont

Cloverbuds. 4-H members age 5 and in Kindergarten through 2nd grade or until they reach the age and grade requirements for 4-H project membership. Cloverbuds may not enroll in competitive 4-H projects.

DUNF – Drug Use Notification Form. This form indicates your project animal has met all drug withdrawal periods at time of exhibition. ODA requires this form for exhibition of market beef, market hogs, market lambs, market goats, turkeys, meat chickens, meat rabbits, dairy goats, and dairy cows. One per animal/pen.

Fair Premium Check. Paid by the Agricultural Society for completed projects based on Interview Judging score and fair exhibition (4-H'er will receive this from their club advisor).

Family Guide. Resource listing all the 4-H projects including a brief project description, age guidelines, skill level, and State Fair eligibility.

Style Review. Clothing project members model outfit sewn and/or purchased through their clothing project experience. Outfit must include garment(s) sewn and/or purchased and selected accessories for a Total Look Outfit. Participation at the Style Review is a requirement for State Fair Clothing participation.

Horse Safety Program. 4-H horse project members and their parent/guardian must complete this program before being eligible to participate in the 4-H Horse Program. Member and his/her parent/guardian must annually sign the Permission to Participate in Ohio 4-H Activities Form and file with the Extension office.

Junior Leaders (Older Youth). Teens may serve as Junior Leaders within a club as officers and peer mentors and at the county level as members of Jr. Fair Board, Food & Fashion Board, Advisory Committees, Camp Counselors, and others.

☛ For Interview Judging

- ☛ Attend Interview Judging to complete project at the county level and be eligible for county and state fair participation.
- ☛ Bring up-to-date and/or complete project/record book.
- ☛ Be prepared for a one-on-one interview with an adult to answer questions about your 4-H project experience.
- ☛ Be patient while waiting for your turn to be judged. Review your project book, bring a book to read, or plan to be there with a friend to spend some time talking about your 4-H experiences.
- ☛ **Animal Projects:** Be prepared to participate in four to five hands-on skill stations. Use your project book, resource handbooks, skill-a-thon kits, Horse Safety Kits, and attend project clinics and workshops to prepare. Complete record book to date and bring to judging.
- ☛ **Miscellaneous Projects:** Bring item made, created, produced, grown, designed, and/or educational display. Refer to county guidelines for each project's Interview Judging requirements.

☛ For Fair

- ☛ Complete a livestock Fair Entry Form (located in the annual county fair book) by the August deadline. Check with your club advisor as to when all other projects should be turned in for fair booth display.
 - **All Junior Fair exhibitors must exhibit a project** at the Tuscarawas County Fair to be eligible to receive an admission wristband. In addition, a member must have completed all requirements set forth by their club's constitution and have attended Interview Judging. *4-H and FFA advisors have the right to refuse a pass to members who have not completed these requirements.*
- ☛ Purchase your fair admission pass at the Agricultural Society office (on the fairgrounds) for other family members who are not in 4-H.
- ☛ Help with the Clover Café, a full service food stand operated by volunteers. This is the major fundraiser of the 4-H Committee.
- ☛ Bring 4-H projects by required exhibition times to the fair.
- ☛ Care for animal projects throughout fair week. Keep stalls and animals clean, fed, watered, and presentable to the public at all times.
- ☛ Show good sportsmanship before, during, and after the fair.
- ☛ Follow all guidelines and rules as described in the annual fair book.

What Dates Do I Put on My Family's Calendar?



All of the Tuscarawas 4-H Program dates can be found on your club's 4-H Calendar or on-line. *Examples: 4-H Olympics, 4-H Camp 4-H Interview Judging dates, deadlines, fair.*

- ☛ **4-H Enrollment Deadline by 4:30 p.m. on April 15.** Your child must be enrolled with a club and project(s) by this date to be eligible for full county 4-H opportunities, including County Fair and State Fair participation.
- ☛ **Project Possession/Tagging/Weigh-In.** Refer to Livestock Requirement Summary.
- ☛ **Project Judging (mid-July).** Dates are listed on the county project guideline sheet. Times are assigned by club; check with your advisor and come at your club's assigned time.
- ☛ **4-H Olympics.** Fun event for member participation! Opening Ceremony kicks-off the events at 6:30 p.m. in the Tuscarawas County Fairgrounds Grandstands. Events are conducted throughout the midway. Light dinner will be served from 5-6 in the Clover Café for everyone attending.
- ☛ **Health & Safety Speaking Contest (June).** Individual speeches and team skits compete to move on to regional contest.
- ☛ **Demonstration Contest (July).** Individual and team demonstrations compete to move on to the State Fair.
- ☛ **Style Review.** Held the evening of Clothing Judging. This is required to advance to State Fair.
- ☛ **Livestock Fair Entry Forms (August).** Due to the Extension office by designated date to be eligible to exhibit at the county fair.
- ☛ **Tuscarawas County Fair.** Always the third full week of September.

What Does My Child's 4-H Club Expect From Me?

1. **Help your child attend** club meetings, activities, and events. Notify the club advisor if your child can't attend a meeting/activity.
2. Familiarize yourself with your club's **constitution and requirements.**
3. Help with the **club and/or county fundraising events** (such as the Clover Café before/during/after fair week) and pay your child's county activity fee and/or club dues.
4. **Transport your child** to all club meetings and activities.
5. **Attend special events** planned by the 4-H club.
6. **Guide your child's project work**, encouraging him/her to keep up-to-date records and complete project. **Don't do their work!**
7. **Read 4-H mailings**, Family Guide, project selection materials, and requirement information, fair book, and other information with your child.
8. **Encourage your child to participate** in Interview Judging (members must attend Interview Judging to complete the 4-H year), clinics/workshops, 4-H camp(s), public speaking opportunities, Jr. Fair events, and much more.
9. **Assist with 4-H club activities** in your areas of interest and expertise. Teach a project skill, help with a community service project, plan a field trip, assist with fundraising, etc.
10. **Help out the club.** Host a meeting, provide refreshments, sponsor an award.
11. **Support the club and advisors** by exhibiting a positive attitude, good sportsmanship, respect, and cooperation towards your child's personal and club 4-H goals.
12. **Have your child write thank you notes** for trophies or awards they received.

What Should I Expect From My 4-H Club and Advisors?

1. **Notice of 4-H club meetings** and/or a printed schedule of club meetings for the year.
2. Information provided at **one of the first meetings**:
 - 4-H Family Guide
 - 4-H Club Program, Calendar of Activities
 - Project Selection & Requirement Guide
3. Information provided **at all meetings**:
 - Review of the 4-H Calendar, 4-H Newsletter or recent mailings from the Extension office
 - Reminders of upcoming deadlines, requirements, etc.
 - What's coming up in the club and how my child and I can get involved?
4. Help in **selecting, ordering, and receiving project books** for my child.
5. **Learning experiences** for my child: project work, demonstrations, practice skill-a-thons and/or Interview Judging, livestock QA, and/or horse safety programs, field trips/tours, etc.
6. Opportunity for my child to **give back to the community** through service projects: volunteering at community events, picking up trash, etc.
7. Opportunity for my child to **build leadership skills** through serving as a club officer, on a committee, leading the American or 4-H pledges, participating in a business meeting, etc.
8. Opportunity for my child to have **FUN with friends** (new and old) through recreational, social, educational, and/or competitive activities.
9. A **welcoming and safe place** for my child and me to learn and grow through the 4-H program and work together to "Make the Best Better."

4-H Camps

- ☼ 4-H Camp is for members who have completed grades 3-8. Camp is held at 4-H Camp Piedmont (end of June, first of July).
- ☼ Horse Educational Program, to be announced.
- ☼ Cloverbud Camp (age 5 and in Kindergarten through 2nd grade or until they reach the age and grade requirements for 4-H project membership). A day-camp activity held at the Tuscarawas County Fairgrounds. Other multi-county opportunities are available.



4-H Awards

- ☼ State achievement and scholarship – (January deadline)
- ☼ Honor Club
- ☼ 4-H Interview Award
- ☼ 4-H county scholarship

What Will 4-H Cost?

- ☼ **Club Fees** – Some clubs may charge a per member and/or family fee based on their club's activities. The amount is based on what the club covers with the fee. Club fees may be used towards refreshments, project book cost, fair pass, club t-shirt, supplemental insurance, etc. Please ask your club advisor about their club fee structure.
- ☼ **Project Books** – Most project books cost \$6. Some projects require an additional Resource Handbook (price varies) that is purchased once by the family and used for all the projects within an area by all members in the family. Check with your 4-H advisor for project book costs or look at the 4-H Family Guide which lists all the available projects and the cost of the project book. **Project books should be ordered through your club.** Tax is required on all publications.
- ☼ **Project Items** – Every project has some cost beyond the 4-H book. For some projects, this may be supplies and materials that you already have at home. For other projects, your child will be required to invest in an animal and supplies for its care, specialized equipment and/or other items. Please keep this in mind when selecting projects with your child.
- ☼ **Fair** – If members plan to participate in fair, they will have some additional costs associated with their 4-H experience. **Fair Passes** – See the annual fair book for pass and admission prices. 4-H'ers will receive admission wrist band.

Who Can Answer Questions?

Club Advisors

Start with your local club advisor(s) first. Make sure you have a phone number and/or e-mail address to communicate with them.

Extension Staff

Call 330-339-2337 or e-mail at any time if you need any assistance, especially with project questions!

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Where Do I Go For Information?

OSU Extension - Tuscarawas County

419 16th Street SW, New Philadelphia, OH 44663

Phone 330-339-2337 Fax 330-339-7442

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday

On the web at: <http://tuscarawas.osu.edu>

Like us on Facebook: [facebook.com/OSUETuscarawas](https://www.facebook.com/OSUETuscarawas)
[facebook.com/OlderYouthTuscarawas](https://www.facebook.com/OlderYouthTuscarawas) (*message a request to be added to the Advisors and Parents Group*)

- Return 4-H event entries or registrations and make payments
- Information on purchasing 4-H merchandise
- Register for 4-H camps
- Reserve and pick up 4-H resources
- Access all forms, requirements, information
- Pick up fair books and information

Jr. Fair Office

Located on the fairgrounds (open during fair only)

Phone: 330-343-9383 (fair week only)

- Jr. Fair questions can be addressed there

Ohio 4-H Web on the web at: www.ohio4h.org

- Visit for the latest information about Ohio 4-H programs, events, activities, policies, etc.

Ohio State Fair on the web at: www.ohiostatefair.com

- Fair book and all livestock entry forms available online
- Jr. Fair entries need to be signed by an Extension professional and submitted by deadline
- Fair schedule for all Ohio State Fair events
- Fair results from 4-H and Open Class shows

Tuscarawas County Agricultural Society (county fairgrounds)

259 S. Tuscarawas Avenue, Dover, OH 44622

Phone 330-343-0524 Fax 330-602-9076

On the web at: www.tusccountyfairgrounds.com

- Make Open Class fair entry
- Purchase and pick up Open Class fair passes
- Check on Open Class fair premium check