

Email via 4HOnline sent May 22, 2020

Hello Tuscarawas County 4-H,

Many of you have seen the news that the Ohio Exposition Commission voted yesterday morning to cancel the 2020 Ohio State Fair. Our 4-H community is saddened by the news, but certainly understand and support the OSF commission in their decision. They are putting the safety of Ohioans foremost in their decision making. Please know this decision was not made lightly. These are the kind of decisions that keep leaders up at night. Unfortunately, I don't have any more information on what everything is going to look like for a state level 4-H project judging/showcase at this moment. My colleague from Fairfield County put it very well, "before everyone has comments to make...just remember, it was not an easy decision for those that had to make that tough call. As it relates to your own fairs - be patient, understanding, and respectful to those making the decisions in your communities. Think, before you speak, in person, on social media, in conversation with others. We are doing what we can to make something possible for the kids and each county may be handling that differently. Be supportive and kind."

The Tuscarawas County Agricultural Society also posted this message on their Facebook page yesterday: "Our hope and intention is to have the 170th Annual Tuscarawas County Fair September 21-27, 2020. We are monitoring the CDC guidelines and working closely with the Tuscarawas County Health Department. We are committed to providing the best experience we can in an environment that puts the health and safety of our community first.

Like many of you, we have had to adapt and plan for various situations over the past two months and will continue to adapt as needed. We aim to provide a fun-filled, family-friendly event where our 4-H and FFA members can showcase their hard work and dedication.

We understand this is a financially challenging time for individuals and businesses who normally support the fair, therefore several fundraisers are planned to support the operation of the Tuscarawas County Fair Grounds. Watch for details on our Facebook page or at www.tuscountyfairgrounds.com. Fair grounds and Clover Cafe rentals are now open with some alterations to our normal plans. Contact the fair board office for details, 330-365-7153. We ask for your patience and support as we work to put together a plan that makes sense for our community. In the meantime, we encourage you to support local businesses."



No In-Person Meeting Reminder

I just wanted to remind everyone that due to COVID-19 and the continuance of university closures – including Extension offices, all (in-person) programming planned until July 6 has been canceled. This includes county 4-H club meetings. **NO CLUBS ARE TO BE MEETING IN PERSON BEFORE JULY 6.** I received word this week that a couple clubs were planning to meet in person during the coming weeks – **this is not permitted.** Many clubs are utilizing the Zoom platform for their meetings. We understand this temporary situation is not ideal. However, since Extension is under the university – which includes all county 4-H clubs - we must adhere to the rules set in place by the university. If you need assistance with Zoom – questions or how to set a meeting for your club – please contact me (heckel.13@osu.edu) or Michelle (moon.317@osu.edu). Thank you for your understanding and adherence to this decision.

Virtual Quality Assurance:

An email was sent out last Friday regarding the additional virtual QA sessions that have been set up. There are still open spots. You only need to complete Quality Assurance one time per year. At least one parent/guardian needs to sit in on the training with their youth exhibitor. Please use this link to register:

https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9Y2dcC3R7CbSgxD

- Please only sign up for ONE session per family. Do not sign up multiple times in order to attend more than one breakout session. There will be an open question time at the end of the session
- Please do not sign up for multiple dates if at all possible. Only exception is conflicting work schedules with older siblings.
- You only need to complete QA training once a year. If you participated in the February "in-person" class or completed YQCA, you do not need to attend a virtual session.

We have been receiving some questions regarding which Livestock/Animal Projects need to have Livestock Quality Assurance.

Just as a Reminder:

The ONLY projects that do NOT need to take a Quality Assurance class are:

1. Pet Rabbit Project
2. Dog Projects
3. If you are taking an Equine Project - you are required to complete the Horse Safety and Ethics Training through the EquiSTEP program this year. This must be completed by May 29. If you have not done so the link to register is:
https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bDQZfFHzmpHwVb
4. All other Livestock projects must complete Quality Assurance whether they are market or breeding projects.

“Keep the Lights on” 4-H Camp Piedmont Buckeye Funder Campaign:

At 4-H Camp Piedmont, a hike to Copperhead Rock is a highlight for youth. On Piedmont Lake, campers can try kayaking and stand up paddle boards. The shooting range provides an opportunity to learn how to safely handle and respect firearms and archery equipment. The pool, games, talent shows, campfires and many camp traditions provide classic 4-H camp memories. Close to 2,000 youth from Belmont, Carroll, Guernsey, Harrison, Jefferson, Monroe, Noble and Tuscarawas counties camp here each year, and Camp Piedmont also hosts one of the statewide shooting sports camps. Schools, churches, and adult organizations also use the camp facilities. For more than 70 years, 4-H youth have spent the best week of summer at 4-H Camp Piedmont.

As a result of the coronavirus and restrictions that have been put in place, Ohio 4-H has made the very difficult decision to suspend 4-H camps this summer. While we are saddened by this news, we fully support the decision to keep our youth safe because the health of our campers, staff and volunteers are our highest priority. However, with this decision comes the difficult situation of keeping the camp running while our yearly income has been reduced by 75 percent. Now more than ever, Camp Piedmont needs your help until we can welcome our youth back to camp. It is important to know that the ability to continue operations is hanging in the balance. The loss of income that we will face during this time is hitting our camp hard. To keep camp fees down, Camp Piedmont runs on a very strict and tight budget with little room to withstand the substantial loss we are expecting this year.

Please give today and invest in 4-H Camp Piedmont to help grow true leaders for tomorrow. Each and every donation takes us one step closer to our \$25,000 goal. We launched this campaign earlier this week and have reached nearly \$2,400. We have 27 days left to reach our goal. You can donate here:

<https://buckeyefunder.osu.edu/project/20979?fbclid=IwAR0jJesVtGFQ1mr52n2H4fjTfNc-0dB8rpBw-XN7fA7ktDYBxT3gYtasVHA>

Cloverbud Resources:

Cloverbud parents and volunteers will want to check out this brand new list of resources from the Ohio 4-H Cloverbud Team: <https://ohio4h.org/families/cloverbuds/learn-about-ohio-cloverbuds?fbclid=IwAR1NufaZJdRcY6WnO8V-yMXTO-BbYjxn0DD44s434ltpa9HJt1xOGW1vFgY>

Final Day to Pick up Hog Tags:

The fourth and final pick-up date for hog tags will be Wednesday, May 27 at the fairgrounds right inside the Tuscarawas Avenue gate. Market Livestock Committee

members will be there to pass out tags from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

Please remember that hogs MUST be tagged and pictures of the hog with the tags in its ears must be submitted on the hog registration form to the Extension Office, no later than Monday, June 15 at 4:00 p.m. These forms will be available at tag distribution but can also be found here: <https://tuscarawas.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/4-h-livestock/large-livestock-projects>

*Reminder that we are not collecting DNA on hogs this year and are instead, using a two-tag system. A county tag and EID tag (which will take the place of the DNA process).

Market Goat/Sheep Reminder

For 2020, Tuscarawas County will not hold a county-wide tag-in process for market goats and market sheep. Instead, a Registration form with pictures of the animal(s) head and scrapie tag in the ear will serve as proof of possession. The scrapie tag must be placed in the ear and visible in the pictures.

Complete the Project Registration Form for each animal, including back-up animals. Fill out the form completely and include color photos of each animal. One picture is to show the scrapie tag number in the animal's ear and the second photo needs to be a headshot of the animal. Pictures need to be 2"x3" (wallet size). Forms and instructions can be found here: <https://tuscarawas.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/guidelines-4-h-projects>

Rabbit Reminder:

For ALL breeding rabbits, tattooed or not, please utilize the Project Registration form found on the guidelines page: <https://tuscarawas.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/guidelines-4-h-projects>

Market does will not need to be checked in either. If you are enrolled in the market rabbit project, you should have received an email a couple weeks ago regarding changes for this project. If you have questions, you can contact Tammie Gordon.

Poultry Letters

I will be sending out information directly to youth enrolled in market turkey very soon regarding pick-up dates/times/cost. As I mentioned in last week's update email, we are looking at pickup around June 17 at Heritage Country Store beginning at 6:00 p.m. Specific information regarding pick-up for market ducks and broilers will be sent to those exhibitors in the coming weeks. We are looking at pick-ups for both of those to be end of July/early August.

We continue to look at various options for county 4-H project judging and Skillathons for 2020. Again, I ask your patience as we work on our plan and we will announce details once we have a plan put into place. We want to be thoughtful with our actions and provide enough opportunities that meet the needs of our 4-H community. In the meantime, have a relaxing Memorial Day weekend with your family!

In 4-H Spirit,
Kiersten