

Clover Creations

Huron County 4-H Newsletter

January/February 2024

Dear 4-H Families,

As we step into a brand new year, I am filled with excitement, hope, and positive energy. Happy New Year!

In the spirit of the 4-H Pledge, let us reflect on its timeless principles and consider how they can guide us in the coming year:

I Pledge my Head to clearer thinking, In 2024, let's approach challenges with open minds, seeking knowledge, and embracing the opportunity to learn and grow. Clear thinking lays the foundation for wise decisions and innovative solutions.

My Heart to greater loyalty, May our hearts be open to compassion, empathy, and a commitment to others. In 4-H, loyalty extends beyond allegiance to a club or organization; it's about fostering connections, supporting one another, and building a community where everyone feels valued and included.

My Hands to larger service, The essence of 4-H lies in service to others. Let's use our hands not only for personal growth but to reach out and make a positive impact in our communities.

My Health to better living, A healthy lifestyle encompasses more than just physical well-being. Let's prioritize our mental, emotional, and social health.

For my Club, my Community, my Country, and my World. These words hold profound meaning. Our actions, no matter how small, have ripple effects that extend far beyond ourselves.

In 2024, let the 4-H Pledge be our guide. Here's to a year filled with 4-H!

Sincerely,

Haley Palmer
Extension Educator
4-H Youth Development

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

January.

- 5-6 OFMA Junior Fair Conference
- 9 CARTEENS, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- 10 Camp Counselor Training, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- 11 Senior Fair Board, fairgrounds, 7:30 p.m.
- 15 Market Beef Bred, Born & Raised Forms Due
- 15 State Fair Jr. Market Beef DNA Packets Due
- 15 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Office Closed
- 16 4-H Committee, 5:30 p.m.
- 17 Annual Volunteer Training, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- 26 State Achievement Awards Due
- 26 ENROLLMENT PACKETS READY
- 29 Camp Counselor Training, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- 30 Annual Volunteer Training, 9:30-11:30 a.m.
- 31 Horse Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 31 Club Financial Summary's Due
- 31 Club Tax Exempt Forms Due

February

- 1 Senior Fair Board, fairgrounds, 7:30 p.m.
- 9 Ohio 4-H Conference Registration Due
- 12 Annual Volunteer Training, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- 13 CARTEENS, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- 15 Fingerprint Rescreening Deadline
- 15 Ohio 4-H Scholarship Deadline
- 15 Junior Fair Board
- 17 Annual Volunteer Training, 9:30-11:30 a.m.
- 17 New Volunteer Orientation, 11:30 a.m.
- 19 President's Day, Building Closed
- 20 Camp Counselor Training, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- 24-25 Making Extreme Counselors Workshop

Failure to read and understand provided information is not an acceptable reason for unmet deadlines or requirements. Please ask clarifying questions.



Approval Process for New 4-H Volunteers

All new 4-H volunteers must complete the approval process before beginning their volunteer service. 4-H volunteers include club advisors, Junior Fair superintendents and others who might have “care, custody or control” of 4-H members.

Huron County 4-H will accept new volunteers from November 1, 2023 – April 1, 2024. **New volunteers must have everything completed by April 1.** After April 1, 2024, the prospective volunteer will have to wait until November 1, 2024, to apply and go through the process. This process includes

1. New Volunteer Application
2. Review References on Application
3. Interview with 4-H Educator
4. Fingerprint Background Check
5. Attend New Volunteer Training
6. Attend Annual Volunteer Training
7. Receiving denial or approval letter

To start the new volunteer process please fill out a new volunteer application:

<https://go.osu.edu/huroncountynewvolunteerapplication>

Annual Volunteer Training Requirements

Returning Volunteers must complete one of the below 2 hour sessions of annual training. These two hours include a 30 minute competency. Volunteers may choose the competency that fits their volunteer needs. Cloverbud volunteer training is offered as a competency. Training also includes 30 minutes of Youth Activity and Program Policy (formerly known as Policy 1.50) and 1 hour of county updates. There will no longer be an Advisor’s Conference or updates given at Officer’s Training.

New Volunteer Applicants must complete one of the 2 hour sessions of annual training plus 1 hour of New Volunteer Orientation.

Please RSVP at: go.osu.edu/huronvolunteertraining

**We are limiting trainings to 40 attendees so don't delay in your response!*

*Once a training date is filled it will disappear from the survey.**

Wednesday, January 17th 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Club Finances, Youth Activity and Program Policy Training, and County Updates (Mary Jude)
Huron County Administration Building, Basement Meeting Room

Tuesday, January 30th 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Club Finances, Youth Activity and Program Policy Training, and County Updates (Haley Palmer)
Huron County Administration Building, Basement Meeting Room

Monday, February 12th 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Fair Entry, Youth Activity and Program Policy Training, and County Updates (Haley Palmer)
Huron County Administration Building, Basement Meeting Room

Saturday, February 17th 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Member Recruitment and Retention or Cloverbuds (*offered as a breakout room during the competency portion*), Youth Activity and Program Policy Training, and County Updates (Mary Jude & Haley Palmer)

New Volunteer Orientation 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Huron County Administration Building, Basement Meeting Room

Tuesday, March 12th 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Fair Entry or Cloverbuds (*offered as a breakout room during the competency portion*), Youth Activity and Program Policy Training, and County Updates (Mary Jude & Haley Palmer)

New Volunteer Orientation 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Huron County Administration Building, 2nd Floor Meeting Room, **cannot guarantee elevator will be in operation**

Thursday, March 21st 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Member Recruitment and Retention, Youth Activity and Program Policy Training, and County Updates (Mary Jude)
Huron County Administration Building, Basement Meeting Room

All Volunteer Training Must be completed or you will be removed as a Huron County 4-H Volunteer for the 2024 year and will have to reapply and get a new background check to return.

New Cloverbud Advisors Need Special Training

All new Cloverbud advisors must attend a training program. The program is designed to prepare advisors to work with kindergarten through 2nd grade members using the Cloverbud curriculum or similar materials in a non-competitive, activity-based environment.

PLEASE NOTE: New 4-H advisors planning to work with Cloverbuds must complete the new volunteer approval process as well as participate in a Cloverbud advisors training program. Current advisors planning to switch to Cloverbuds must attend a Cloverbud training program, but do not need to repeat the approval process.

Cloverbud advisor training programs are held as a break out session during the competency portion of two of the annual volunteer trainings (February 17 or March 12).



Volunteer Rescreening Cost to be Paid by OSU

Part of OSU Youth Activities and Programs Policy, requires all 4-H volunteers to be rescreened (BCI fingerprint background check) every four years. All current volunteers should have been fingerprinted for 2020, 2021, 2022 or 2023. Those who need to be fingerprinted by February 15, 2024, for the 2024 4-H year must turn in their receipt to be reimbursed.

New 4-H volunteers must have a BCI fingerprint background check as part of the volunteer screening process. They may have their fingerprints taken at any time during the selection process. New volunteers are also eligible for reimbursement. A simple reimbursement form must be signed and turned in with the receipt.

The BCI background check is mandatory. No one may remain a 4-H volunteer who does not complete a required background check. Again, you must notify the Extension Office when you complete your BCI.

Start (re)Enrolling on 4-H Online!

All 4-H volunteers and 4-H members must (re)enroll in 4-H Online. You may start to enroll at <http://v2.4honline.com>.

The sooner, the better. Returning members and volunteers, log in with your family email. If you forget your log in information, please call the extension office. **DO NOT CREATE A NEW PROFILE**, as this messes up our system. New volunteers and members will need to create a new profile.

Ohio 4-H Family Guide

Ohio 4-H Family Guides are being mailed in January to all returning 4-H Family. New families can get their family guides when the advisor's pick up their enrollment packet. In the meantime the electronic family guide can be accessed here: https://ohio4h.org/sites/ohio4h/files/imce/books_resources/Curriculum/Family-Guide-24-2023-1228.pdf

Yearly Club Financial Summary & Tax Exempt Forms

Advisors have received an email with instructions and a Yearly Financial Summary form in the mail. This form details beginning (January 1, 2023) and ending (December 31, 2023) balances, as well as income and expenses of the club for 2023. It may be completed in hard copy and submitted to the Extension Office, or it may be completed online. Income and expenses may be grouped into categories, like "dues", "book fees", "cheese sale", etc. Advisors also received a copy of the Club Tax Exempt Form to fill out. Both items are Due January 31. Failure to return the items on time will result in the club being turned off on 4-H Online.

Clubs trying for Honor Club who turned in their books may pick them up at the Extension Office.

Note to Clubs that Own Club Equipment

If your 4-H club owns equipment, you need to fill out the Club Equipment Inventory form. Club equipment does not include your flag set and gavel, but almost anything else your club owns. Submit the form with your club's yearly financial summary report. The equipment inventory establishes a record of what the club owns. This could be invaluable in a dispute over who actually owns club equipment. All advisors should sign the form.

Link to access form:

<https://huron.osu.edu/sites/huron/files/imce/EquipmentInventory.pdf>

Club Enrollment Procedure for 2024

All 4-H clubs must complete the annual club enrollment process. Items that will be required for 2024:

- Financial Summary Report for 2023– Jan 31
- Tax Exempt Form – Jan 31
- Equipment Inventory – Jan 31
- Club Charter Checklist – May 1
- Planned Program of Work – May 1

Failure to submit the required documents will result in the 4-H Club being turned off on 4-H Online. Club 990 E-postcards will be filed by the Extension Office to meet the IRS annual reporting requirement.

Project Books available in Extension Office

Advisors do not need to order project books online this year. Please avoid ordering books as they do not have our county project book inserts inside of them. All books are available for purchase at the extension office.

All clubs must also have a tax exempt form on file with the Extension Office, which was sent out with the clubs financial summary form. Due to tax exempt purposes, books must be purchased in bulk by the club using the bulk order form.

Download the Huron County 4-H App!

To stay up to date on Huron County 4-H, consider downloading the Huron County 4-H App! The app features a 4-H Calendar, Newsletters, Push Notifications for reminders, and more!

Follow the link below to download on the App Store or Google Play:

https://grandstandsites.com/gs/index.php?c=Huron_County_4-H

Ohio 4-H Conference on Saturday, March 9

The Ohio 4-H Conference will take place at the Columbus Convention Center



Ohio 4-H Conference
Bringing Volunteers and Teens Together

on Saturday, March 9. This event is designed to bring together 4-H volunteers and teens from across the State of Ohio. There will be nearly 150 sessions from which to choose. The cost is



\$40. Carpools will be arranged. Registration deadline is February 9.

4-H Leader's Recognition Banquet on March 4

The Huron County 4-H Leader's Recognition Banquet will be held on Monday, March 4 at 6:00 p.m. The 4-H Committee sponsors the banquet each year in recognition of the efforts of our 4-H advisors, Junior Fair Superintendents, and other special friends of 4-H.

Volunteers completing 1, 5, 10, 15, etc. years of service receive special recognition. The youth members of the 4-H Committee have the privilege of presenting the program.

All 4-H advisors and other volunteers are invited as guests of the 4-H Committee. Spouses and other guests must pay the meal fee. An invitation will be sent in early February. Mark the date and plan to attend. This is an enjoyable evening, don't miss it!

Club Secretary & Treasurer Book Audits

All 4-H clubs are typically "audited" at least every four years by a committee created by the Extension Office. The audit looks at the secretary's and treasurer's books to confirm that the club is following proper procedures.

The following items should be checked yearly by the club in a self-audit:

- An accurate treasurer's report is given at every meeting and recorded in the secretary's minutes.
- All club expenditures are approved in the minutes with a motion, second and 2/3 passing vote prior to the money being spent.
- All fund raisers are approved by the club and recorded in the minutes with a motion, second and passing vote prior to beginning the project.
- A summary of all fund raisers is recorded in the minutes at the conclusion of the activity.
- The treasurer's book and secretary's minutes have matching information.

Ohio 4-H Membership & Age Requirements

Ohio 4-H membership is based on a child's age AND grade as of January 1 of the current calendar year. Eligibility for Cloverbud participation begins when a child is age 5 and enrolled in kindergarten. Eligibility for participation in 4-H projects and competitive events begins when a child is age 8 and third grade. Any youth age 9 or above is eligible for project membership, regardless of grade level. Membership requires enrollment in an authorized 4-H club under the direction of an approved adult volunteer. A youth's 4-H eligibility ends December 31 the year they turn 19. Joining 4-H is a privilege and a responsibility for individuals and is subject to the Ohio 4-H Code of Conduct and applicable policies of The Ohio State University. There is no flexibility in these state rules.

Please note that in Huron County, FFA members who are still in high school are allowed to exhibit at the fair through FFA, even if they were 19 on January 1.

Buckeye Leadership Workshop on April 3-7

Buckeye Leadership Workshop (BLW) is a recreational leadership workshop held April 3-7 at Recreation Unlimited (about 30 miles north of Columbus). The cost is \$390. Participants must be in high school or older, adults welcome! Partial scholarships are available. Go to www.buckeyeleadership.com for more information.

Project Book "Loanables" for 2024



Packets of all 4-H project books for clubs to use at meetings when members are deciding in which projects to enroll. Call the Extension Office to reserve the Loanables. The books are in packets based on project areas. Clubs may borrow all or some of the packets. Having the actual project books to look at, along with a Fair Requirements Letter helps members and parents make more informed project choices and increases the chance of a successful project experience.

We have several new publications for 2024!:

- Uniform Rules for 4-H Horse Shows
- Gymkhana
- Roping
- Dog Resource Handbook
- Assistance Animals in Action
- Rabbit Resource Handbook
- Relationships 101

Enrollment Packets Ready on January 26

Advisors may begin picking up club enrollment packets on Friday, January 26. Clubs planning to reorganize prior to that date may pick up the 2024 Family Guide to 4-H to give to new members at any time. Returning members will receive their family guide directly mailed to them from Ohio 4-H.

The packet will include a content list. Please read through the list and distribute the materials in the packet as described. *It is especially important that members have access to fair requirements letters in all project areas they are considering!*

Club enrollment deadlines are as follows:

- April 15 – Honor Club Enrollment Deadline. Clubs trying for Honor Club status in 2024 must have the majority of their enrollments turned in by April 15.
- May 1 – Final Enrollment Deadline. This is the final date to enroll members or change projects. No exceptions.

4-H Project Central is a Tool for 4-H Members

Check out Project Central: projectcentral.ohio4h.org.

Project Central allows one to search for projects and resources by title, skill level or topic area. It also has a Project Survey section for members and volunteers to rate projects.



Encourage members and parents to use this tool to evaluate last year's projects and to help them decide in which projects to enroll in 2024.

4-H Membership Across County Lines Policy

Youth are expected to affiliate with the 4-H program in their county of residence.

- 4-H membership in two counties simultaneously is not permitted.
- In situations where the county of residence does not have a 4-H program, youth may not join 4-H in another county.

Youth must join 4-H in their county of residence unless they receive special permission to join in another county. A form is available from the Extension Office or on our website for potential members who live in a neighboring county. The member (parent) fills out the form and turns it in at the Huron County Extension Office. Haley and the 4-H Educator from the county of residence discuss the reasons given and decide if the request is acceptable and if it should be granted. Decisions are based on what is best for the child. A member may NEVER belong to 4-H in more than one county. Check county of residence of new members.

The Ohio 4-H Membership Across County Lines policy contains specific rules:

- Request forms must be submitted no later than 30 days prior to the enrollment deadline in the county of request. (This means that requests for membership in Huron County must be received in the Extension Office by April 1!)
- Requests cannot be granted because:
 - The parents/guardians of the child participated in 4-H in the requested county.
 - The camp or county fair schedule in the requested county better fits the youth's school schedule or the family's vacation plans.
 - If animal projects are involved, the animal is housed on someone else's property in the other county. If this is the case, the 4-H member is encouraged to select an entirely different project. 4-H membership is based on the residence of the child, not the residence of the animal. (This could be an issue for horses)
- Common situations or conditions which are acceptable:
 - The school district the child attends is located across two counties. The child's school friends may therefore be members in a county other than where the child resides.
 - The county of residence does not offer the specific program being sought, such as shooting sports.
 - The parents of a child are legally separated or no longer married to each other and live in two different counties. A request for membership in the county in which the 4-H project work will be completed is reasonable. Parents may be asked to provide court documentation which verifies custody agreements.

- Approved requests remain in effect for the duration of a member's 4-H years of eligibility.

Huron County 4-H Club & Member Rules

1. All 4-H members (Cloverbud and regular) must meet the state 4-H membership grade & age rules.
2. Every 4-H club must have at least 5 members from at least 3 different families.
3. Every club must have at least one adult volunteer advisor who has completed the selection process. Clubs which accept Cloverbuds must have an approved advisor who has completed Cloverbud advisor training.
4. All 4-H members must enroll in at least one project.
5. There is a \$8.00 per project enrollment fee. The enrollment fee includes one project book, up to \$8.00 in value. Members in the second year of a two-year project may use the same book but must pay \$8.00 to enroll in the project again this year.
6. Each club will conduct at least 8 meetings. Members must attend at least 6 meetings for completion and fair eligibility.
7. Each club should conduct a minimum of one community service project.
8. Every member, Cloverbuds included, should give a demonstration based on their club work.
9. An individual may be enrolled in both 4-H and FFA, but must take different livestock, crops, and floriculture projects in each organization. Market animals and breeding animals of the same species count as different projects. Feeder calves and market beef count as the same project because they are both market cattle. Market beef cattle and dairy beef cattle also count as the same project.
10. All clubs must complete a Yearly Financial Summary by January 31 and annual Charter Checklist (included in club enrollment packets). Clubs must also have an EIN and have adopted the state constitution template. 990e-postcards are due to IRS by May 15th, however they will be filed in the clubs' behalf, so this requirement will be met for all clubs.



Videos to Help Volunteers Teach in the Club

4-H members should be running club meetings, not advisors. A set of videos is available for advisors to use in preparing members for Conducting a Meeting (parliamentary procedure), Giving Demonstrations, and Participating in a Project Interview. Each video contains a "poor" and "good example. Discussion guides are also included. The videos were made by real 4-H members, including Kris Simpson (4-H advisor and Macie Wilhelm (former 4-H member and Ohio 4-H Ambassador) in the project interviewing video. All resources are posted online and available at <http://go.osu.edu/4HVideosforclubs>.

Ohio 4-H Week Celebrated March 3-9

Consider planning a club activity during Ohio 4-H Week. See if your members can come up with some creative ways to highlight 4-H in your community or at school. Believe it or not, not everyone in Huron County knows about or appreciates



4-H. We need to keep 4-H in the public eye!

Secretary and Treasurer Report Reminders

- An advisor should be designated to work with the secretary and/or treasurer throughout the year.
- There needs to be a treasurer's report included in the minutes for every meeting. It should follow this format:
 - Beginning Balance (previous ending balance)
 - Income (include source/amount/purpose)
 - Expenses (include vendor/amount/purpose)
 - Ending Balance
- It should be possible to recreate the treasurer's records from the secretary's minutes.
- All expenditures of club funds must be approved by a 2/3 vote. This must be a countable vote and the actual count must be recorded in the minutes.
- A summary report from all club fundraisers must be included in the minutes.
- All club business, including fundraisers and community service, needs to be in the minutes with a motion, second and passing vote.
- Use the Record of Club Finances in the Treasurer's Handbook as a running total of club finances throughout the year. Totaling the income and expense columns at the end of the year provides a double check for the club's yearly financial summary.
- Each club needs to conduct an internal audit of treasury records before the new officers take over. A report from the Audit Committee should be included in the minutes of the first meeting.

4-H License Plates Available in Ohio

The Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) is offering a specialty license plate dedicated to Ohio 4-H Youth Development. A portion of the annual plate fees collected from 4-H specialty plates is given directly to Ohio 4-H and is earmarked for 4-H programming.




Older Youth State Award Applications Due January 26

Older 4-H members who interested in applying for State Achievement Awards, State Junior Fair Board, etc. must submit their completed applications by January 26



Ohio 4-H Scholarship application must be completed online by February 15. For more information: <https://ohio4h.org/awardsandscholarships>

Shop 4-H Affiliate Program to Benefit Ohio 4-H

SHOP  National 4-H Council has initiated a Shop 4-H Affiliate Program. The Ohio 4-H Foundation will receive a 5% commission when customers make a purchase within 30 days of using the Ohio referral link. If making a purchase through Shop 4-H (formerly the 4-H Mall), please log in through www.ohio4h.org or www.huron.osu.edu.



Ohio 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Certification





Huron County currently does not have a shooting sports program. In order to offer shooting sports projects, we need certified instructors and a certified location to host the program. A Shooting Sports Instructor certification workshop will be held at Camp

Ohio in February. Interested adults may be certified in one discipline during the workshop: Archery, Crossbow, Shotgun, Rifle, Living History, Pistol, or Hunting & Wildlife. All participants must be approved 4-H volunteers. Anyone interested in becoming a Certified 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor who is not already an approved volunteer must contact Haley at the Extension Office immediately. Contact the Extension Office for more information.

An additional 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Workshop will be held at Canter's Cave 4-H Camp in the spring.

4-H and JOANN Fabrics Reward Card

JOANN   JOANN Fabrics has partnered with the National 4-H Council. Current members, parents and volunteers can sign up for the JOANN 4-H Rewards Card and receive 15% off total in-store and online purchases. JOANN will give a minimum of 2.5% of every eligible transaction to support 4-H. Find the details at <http://www.joann.com/4-h/>.

Reminder: Clothing construction project members must fill out a Consumer Shopping Sheet for each project with details about their patterns and fabrics. Members planning to purchase patterns and/or fabrics should request a Consumer Shopping Sheet from the Extension Office or our website, www.huron.osu.edu under 4-H Youth Development.

Approved Changes for 4-H and the Jr. Fair in 2024

Below is a list of changes from the Senior Fair Board meeting in November. More details and explanation will be coming in the requirements letters.

Family & Consumer Science

- Remove Caitlyn Corrigan as superintendent
- Add – Livy Cunningham, Kris Simpson, Jamie White as superintendents
- Raising premiums for junior fair still projects to \$5 - \$4 - \$3 - \$2

Dog:

- Remove Mikki and Kevin Casto as superintendents
- Add Vivian Barnett as superintendent

Livestock Judging:

- Add Lauren Ott as official superintendent

Horses:

- Add Walk-Trot Keyhole - All ages to class 152

Miscellaneous Outdoor:

- Add Linda Zimmerman as superintendent

Floriculture:

- Remove Leann Palm as superintendent

- Class 17 changes:
 - 13. Zinnia dwarf (3 blooms, same variety, same color, **under 2” diameter**, disbudded, foliage attached)
 - 14. Zinnia medium (3 blooms, same variety, same color, **2-3” diameter**, disbudded, foliage attached)
 - 15. Zinnia giant (3 blooms, same variety, same color, **over 3” diameter**, disbudded, foliage attached)
 - 16. Zinnia dwarf (3 blooms, same variety, 3 different colors, **under 2” diameter**, disbudded, foliage attached)
 - 17. Zinnia medium (3 blooms, same variety, 3 different colors, **2-3” diameter**, disbudded, foliage attached)
 - 18. Zinnia giant (3 blooms, same variety, 3 different colors, **over 3” diameter**, disbudded, foliage attached)

Goat:

- Move dairy market goats into the meat goat show
- Thursday and Saturday goat shows to be all on Thursday
- Dairy meat goats only - Change rule to encourage dehorning but don't mandate it

Beef:

- In the beef show order, combine 10. Beef Feeder Steers and 11. Beef Feeder Heifer and combine 16. Beef Steer and 17. Beef Heifer, so that they show together instead of separate classes based on sex
- Change the wording to clarify: Dairy beef percentage rule, 100% combination of any of the following: Holstein, Red and White Holstein, Brown Swiss, or Jersey.
- Mimic state fair's fitting rule

School Art:

- Add a booth for Celeryville school
- Remove art categories (ex: 1. Animals- Acrylic, 2. Animals- Oil).

All Species:

- Thank you notes are required for all sales (add on sale, back to the farm sale, & premium sale)

December Market Beef Weigh-in and Tagging

The annual Junior Fair Market Beef Weigh-in and tagging was held on Saturday, December 2 at the fairgrounds. Fifty-seven head were tagged, compared to 49 tagged last year. Thirty-three beef steers (35 for 2023), 3 beef heifers (2 for 2023), and twenty-one dairy beef steers (12 for 2023).

All market beef which will be shown at the 2024 Huron County Jr. Fair must have been tagged on December 2 or submitted Identification to 4HOnline. Exhibitors with beef steers or heifers that are eligible for the Bred, Born and Raised in Huron County division must turn in a qualification form by January 15.

Market Beef Bred, Born & Raised (BBR) Forms

Market Beef BBR forms were distributed at weigh-in and tagging on December 2. The forms are due in the Extension Office by January 15. The form must be signed by the breeder. Submitting the form by the deadline allows the steer or heifer to be shown in the BBR division at the fair. However, the exhibitor has the option of showing in the commercial division. All forms will be confirmed by the Huron County Cattlemen's Association, who conducts the program. Rules for the Bred, Born & Raised program may be viewed at www.huroncountycattlemen.com.

Market Beef State Fair DNA Kits Due by January 15

All market cattle that might be exhibited in the Ohio State Fair Junior Market Beef show must have an EID tag. DNA sample and information kit must be turned in to the State Fair Livestock Office by January 15. Ohio State Fair entries are due by June 21.

Barrow Carcass Applications Due May 1

Experienced hog exhibitors (at least 1 year showing hogs) are invited to apply for the 2024 Huron County Junior Fair Barrow Carcass program. The deadline for applications is May 1.

Livestock Ownership & Identification Requirements

The date for livestock ownership is May 15 for all species except meat chickens which must be hatched and in the exhibitor's possession by July 8 at the latest.

All feeder calves (beef, dairy, and dairy cross) must be brought to the fairgrounds on May 18 from 8:00 – 11:00 a.m. Market hogs, market kids (meat-type and dairy) market lambs, and dairy cattle, must have identification submitted by May 15 to 4-H Online. Market rabbits must be tattooed on Wednesday, July 17, 2024, from 7:00-7:30 p.m.

Ohio 4-H Teen Hall of Fame Award Winner

Huron County 4-H is proud to announce our 2024 Teen Awards winner. Madilyn Lawson will be inducted into the Ohio 4-H Teen Hall of Fame! We are so proud of Madi's accomplishments and are excited to honor her at the upcoming Ohio 4-H Conference on March 9.

Backyard Poultry Certificate Course

NEW! Backyard Poultry Certification Course. This course is perfect for urban residents who needed this to be able to legally keep poultry in their city or for those interested thanks to the uptick in Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza. It contains 6 modules as a self-paced course to learn about husbandry, nutrition, biosecurity, egg production, and disease prevention in backyard poultry. Go to the link below to access the course which costs \$25 It can also be accessed at go.osu.edu/chicken

<https://cfaesosu.catalog.instructure.com/courses/backyard-poultry-certificate-course>



Ohio State Fair Dog Show Moved to June

The OSF Dog Show will be June 17-19. (it's not a typo... the show is in June). It will be in the Voinovich. The Agility Trial is July 24th in Taft Coliseum. (the first day of the fair). The entry deadline for dog exhibitors will be earlier than the rest of state fair competitors, planning on a late May deadline.

Columbus Blue Jackets & Ohio 4-H

What: A fun, family night for 4-H at the Columbus Blue Jackets (CBJ vs Buffalo Sabres). A portion of tickets sold will go to the Ohio 4-H program. This year we will have a pre-game meeting space in the arena (with appetizers) and an opportunity to take a post-game group picture on the ice. More details will be shared with those who purchase tickets.

Who: This event will be marketed to all Ohio 4-H families (all 4-H professionals, donors/supporters, alumni, volunteers, members, and families).

When: Friday, February 23 at 7pm.

Where: Nationwide Arena in Columbus, OH.

How: www.bluejackets.com/4-H

Cost: \$44.65

Why/Purpose of the Event:

Raise money for Ohio 4-H. A portion of the ticket sales (purchased on the website) will come back to Ohio 4-H.

Provide a unique event for 4-H alumni and current 4-H families.

2024 4-H/FFA Hockey Night on Friday, February 16th.

Ohio State is thrilled to be hosting our annual FFA Game again this season and this year the invitation is being extended to Ohio 4-H. We also are excited to announce a continued partnership with The Ohio State University, College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences to provide academic programming prior to the game.

Tickets will be \$11 per person at the group rate. The earlier you purchase the better! If purchasing tickets, please contact Isaiah Eichler at eichler.40@osu.edu or by phone at, 614.247.9182.

Mike Rowe Work Ethic Certification Virtual Training

Open to all Ohio high school youth.

Dates: Every Monday and Wednesday from April 22 - May 8

Time: 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Must be able to attend all sessions.

[Click here to register.](#)

Registration is due April 12. Limited to 20 participants.

Learn more at <http://go.osu.edu/mrwworkethic>

4-H Volunteer Impact Study – You May Be Contacted

What you do makes a difference! We are excited to share that our state will be participating in the 4-H Volunteer Impact Study of volunteers in the North Central Region.

This survey is being conducted as a part of 12 state effort to document the impact of volunteering.

It will focus on three areas:

- the personal benefits of your volunteer experience;
- the impact you have on the organization by volunteering; and how your volunteer efforts contribute to your community in which you live and work.

A random sample of volunteers of 1000 volunteers from each state will be surveyed. This study will be conducted through an electronic survey. If you are selected you will receive an email to let you know you have been selected to participate. You may be picked!!! If you are, please respond. We want to hear from you and learn from your volunteer experiences. Your comments will be used to quantify the personal, organizational, and public impacts of volunteers involved with 4-H Youth Development Programs in our twelve-state region. Your impact is great, and we want to hear from you!

Firelands Electric – 2024 Youth Tour to D.C.

Each year, Firelands Electric Cooperative sponsors up to two high school sophomores or juniors on an all-expenses-paid trip to Gettysburg and Washington, D.C., as part of the annual Youth Tour. Firelands, in cooperation with Ohio's Electric Cooperatives and the National Rural Electric Cooperatives Association (NRECA), offers this unique opportunity to students who live in a home receiving their electricity from the cooperative. Selected delegates will travel to our nation's capital with students and chaperones from co-ops throughout the state of Ohio. Once in the nation's capital, they will be joined by students from across the country. Participants have the opportunity to meet congressional and government leaders, visit historical sites, and make lifelong friends. To view a video from the 2023 trip, including interviews with some of Ohio's attendees, visit <https://youtu.be/r0-tF43Gwoo?si=UDfPlbiDq7msiUaS>.

Applications for the 2024 Youth Tour, which is scheduled for June 15-21, 2024, are now open. Sophomores and juniors who reside in a home receiving its power from Firelands Electric are eligible to apply. (To see a map of our territory, visit www.firelandsec.com/service-territory.)

Additional information and a downloadable application are available on Firelands Electric website at www.firelandsec.com/youth-tour-experience.

All Youth Tour applications must be received in the Firelands Electric Cooperative office by 4 p.m. on January 19, 2024.



Ohio 4-H SparkEXPO

This exciting new opportunity allows youth to explore a variety of career and educational opportunities in sessions at Ohio State's College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences. Attendees will get the chance to develop valuable skills, make new friends, and fuel individual growth! They'll even get to experience The Ohio State University Campus, too. Open to all Ohio youth.

WHEN: June 12-15, 2024

WHERE: Nationwide & Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center, 2201 Fred Taylor Drive, Columbus, OH 43210 on the OSU Columbus campus

COST: Thanks to generous financial support from the Ohio 4-H Foundation and others, the registration fee is \$75.

Registration is not available quite yet, but I do want to ask for your help! **If you are interested in this experience please contact Haley by January 9.**

Learn more: <http://go.osu.edu/4Hsparkexpo>.

BUCKEYENEXT

BuckeyeNext provides a clearly defined pathways of 4-H community club, project-specific, events and programs available for Ohio young people. Built like a game, the program is fun, engaging, and impactful. It gives youth a way to easily identify the opportunities available through Ohio 4-H, organized their categories of participation, and track their cumulative progress in real-time. Youth can learn more about the app at <http://go.osu.edu/buckeyenext>

You can also opt-in for an account by completing the following form: <https://go.osu.edu/buckeyenextoptin>

YOUScience

YouScience helps our students chart their path from 'I don't know' to post-secondary pursuits and career confidence and success. By completing a series of fun and engaging 'brain-games,' students learn where their natural strengths are and how they can leverage their strengths in post-secondary pursuits and beyond. YouScience combines decades of rigorous scientific research and cutting-edge matching algorithms to uniquely identify the intersection of your students' strengths, passions, and future opportunities. Learn more: <https://go.osu.edu/4hyouscience>

Youth can request access at <https://go.osu.edu/youscienceoptin>.





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