

Geauga County 4-H



News & Notes

November 2020

In-Person Meeting Guidelines – Effective as of September 1, 2020

- Virtual is still the preferred method to conduct meetings.
- If activities are critical/essential and are in-person, they must be education-focused.
- Group cannot be larger than 50 people, including adults, youth, presenters, etc.
 - This directive is dependent on local health department guidelines.
 - The group size may need to be reduced to 10 (or other amount), based on the directives of your local health department.
- Face masks are required.
 - This includes inside AND outside at all times.
 - Program participants and parent/guardians ages five and older must wear a mask.
 - The exception is shooting sports where safety is a concern when on the line. Refer to the full guidance document online for additional shooting sports guidance (link below).
 - Medical conditions or disability exceptions are also permitted.
- Potlucks and buffets are not permitted

Any time your county is designated a Level 4 Public Health Emergency (color-coded purple) by the Ohio Department of Health, all in-person 4-H club meetings and events must be held virtually or postponed until the designation changes to Level 3 or below.

Ohio's Public Health Advisory System updates are at <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/publichealth-advisory-system/>

All other guidance we provided July 22 is still in effect. That information, along with these new updates, is at <https://ohio4h.org/families/stay-connected>.

ADVISOR AREA

2021 Packet Pick Up & Virtual Update

January 28, 2021

Due to COVID and the ongoing restrictions associated with large in person gatherings, our Annual Update and Conference will not take place as regularly scheduled.

Clubs can pick up their club packets at the Extension Office on

Tuesday, January 26th 9:00am – 4:30pm

Wednesday January 27th 9:00am – 4:30pm and 4:30pm-6:30pm

Virtual Annual Update: Thursday, January 28th at 6:30pm

- One volunteer from each club should attend.
- Please register for this virtual training update at: [2021 Annual Update Registration](#)

***Clubs may submit their 2020 Financial Summaries when they pick up their club packet**

https://geauga.osu.edu/sites/geauga/files/imce/Program_Pages/4H/financial%20summary.pdf

2021 Potential 4-H Volunteers

Anyone interested in becoming a 4-H volunteer for the 2021 year must complete the entire screening process (application, references, BCI, and interview) by **March 31, 2021**. Volunteer applications are available to download and print at www.geauga.osu.edu.

Volunteer interviews will be conducted on Friday, December 11th, Monday, February 15th and Thursday, March 18th. All potential volunteers must schedule an interview time. Interviews will be virtual via the Zoom platform until further notice.

Virtual Volunteer Recognition

Geauga 4-H would like to virtually showcase and recognize our outstanding volunteers since we are not able to do so at the annual recognition ceremony. Similar to our Senior Recognition, we will be featuring volunteer bio's on the Geauga County 4-H Facebook page. If you would like to participate, please complete the following questionnaire, and upload your photo. To complete the Volunteer Recognition bio, visit [Geauga 4-H Volunteer Recognition](#)

Advisory Committee Membership

Our 4-H Advisory Committee is seeking new membership in the project areas of Goats and Miscellaneous Projects. The committee meetings the first Monday of the month October – May. If you are interested, please contact the Extension Office.

CLUB NEWS

Virtual 4-H Promotion Challenge

Virtual 4-H Club promotion. We are looking for a short video submission (think 30 second commercial, 1 minute max) giving a brief overview of your club: what projects, how often you meet and where, any community service/education events, and anything else that makes your club unique. Videos can include members, volunteers, project samples, etc. and will be posted on the 4-H Facebook site, OSUE website, and linked to a digital flyer to be distributed throughout the county. Limit one video submission per club. Deadline to submit videos is November 13th. See flyer for more details.

Project Book Orders

If clubs/youth can place orders through the Extension Office or can order directly from the website. Only orders purchased through the Extension Office with a club check are tax exempt. Personal orders will be charged tax.

To order online, visit: <https://ohio4h.org/booksresources> (Coupon for free shipping on orders over \$20)

For an order form to submit to the Geauga Extension Office, visit:

https://geauga.osu.edu/sites/geauga/files/imce/Program_Pages/4H/2021%20Summary%20of%20Changes.pdf

Family Guide Distribution

The Ohio 4-H Office will be sending each Geauga 4-H Family a Family Guide Packet directly by mail around mid-January. One packet per family. The Extension Office will have a limited supply of Family Guides for new families. Clubs should notify the office of how many new families they anticipate, and we will include the additional family guides with the Annual Update club packets.

Family Guides are available for print and digital viewing at: <https://ohio4h.org/familyguide>

Distribution of 4-H Information

Effective January 1, 2021, all Geauga 4-H mass correspondences including newsletters, event flyers, etc. will be sent from our 4-H Online System, using the emails families and volunteers entered during their enrollment. This transition will be occurring over the next few months, communications will be sent through 4-H Online and directly from the Extension Office. Please check your email spam/junk files. The correspondences will come from oh-geauga@4honline.com. Families will also directly receive newsletters and other information through 4-H Online as well.

4-H MEMBERS

Camp Counselor Applications

Camp Counselor Applications will be due December 31st. Applications are available in "click and print", online, and can be mailed upon request. Youth (4-H or not), age 15 or older by June 1, 2021, are eligible to apply. The 2021 Geauga-Trumbull Camp is scheduled for June 13-18, 2021 at Camp Whitewood. <https://geauga.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/geauga-county-4-h-camp>

Submission of References:

Applicants should provide their reference with this link: [Gauga Trumbull 4-H Counselor Reference Form](#)

Volunteers: If you would like to recommend a youth (4-H member or not), who you think would make a great counselor, please send Alisha their contact information.

2021 Quality Assurance Update

Gauga County will attempt to offer an in-person QA training on Saturday, May 1st. We will also be offering QA Zoom trainings like were offered earlier this year. Virtual QA dates will be announced early in 2021. Members can elect to do the YQCA online training for 2021 if they wish to pay a fee. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

JUNIOR FAIR INFORMATION

From Jan Jackam, Jr. Fair Coordinator

Thank you to all the exhibitors, parents, advisors, and volunteers who participated in the 2020 Geauga County Junior Fair. It wasn't the same as a regular fair, but it was a memorable one.

Beef tagging will be on **Saturday, December 5, 2020 from 8 until 10 on the fairgrounds**. Your market projects should be neutered prior to tagging.

Junior Fair Board is working on the rule changes for next year. Once they are approved, I will get them out to the advisors to pass on to their exhibitors.

Departments that are open for adult coordinators are Dog, Dairy Goat, and Poultry. If anyone is interested in applying for any of these positions, please complete an application and turn it into the Secretary's office by December 1.

DATES TO REMEMBER

November

11 Veterans Day – Extension Office Closed
13 Club Promotional Videos due
26-27 Happy Thanksgiving – Extension Office Closed

December

5 Steer Tagging
11 Virtual Volunteer Interview Day
24-25 Happy Holidays – Extension Office Closed
31 2021 Camp Counselor Applications due

January

1 Happy New Year – Extension Office Closed
28 Virtual Annual Update (must pre-register)
31 2019 Club Financial Summary due

The following 2021 dates are tentative in-person events. Please note, they are subject to change at anytime and may be moved to a virtual format due to COVID.

February 15 – Camp Counselor Interviews
May 1 – Quality Assurance Training
July 17 – Project Judging (Animal & Miscellaneous)

We gratefully acknowledge the continued help and financial support of our Geauga County Commissioners:
Jim Dvorak, Tim Lennon, and Ralph Spidalieri.

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Keith L. Smith, Associate Vice President for Agricultural Administration; Associate Dean, College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences; Director, Ohio State University Extension; and Gist Chair in Extension Education and Leadership. TDD/TTY - 1-800-750-0750.