

eClover: Darke County 4-H News**December 14, 2018**

The holidays are here! Where did 2018 go?!? Take time to enjoy your family time during the upcoming weeks. Thank you for all you do for our 4-H youth in Darke County! Happy holidays!

As you shop for the holidays, remember that you can shop and also donate to the Darke County 4-H Program via Amazon Smiles. Here's the info: When you shop online at smile.amazon.com/ch/31-1056844, Amazon donates to Darke County 4-H Committee (listed as The Ohio State University). Thank you for your support!

1. **Mitten Tree:** Hands Across the Darke is sponsoring a mitten tree at the Ansonia United Methodist Church until the end of December. If you would like to donate mittens, gloves, or hats, feel free to drop them off at the Extension Office any time during the coming days. We will make sure they are added to the tree.
2. **Enrollment packets for 2019** are available to be picked up at your convenience. During 2019 we will be transitioning to online 4-H enrollment, but will still be using paper forms. Several clubs attended a training and have volunteered to pilot online enrollment during 2019 to help us identify glitches and ways to improve the process.
3. **Ohio 4-H Conference** registration is now available. The 4-H Committee will pay your \$40.00 registration fee. Registrations are due to us by February 8. The earlier you register, the more likely you are to get the sessions you want to attend. Some sessions fill up quickly. The conference is a great opportunity to network with volunteers from across the State of Ohio. Learn new ideas and have fun! Check it out! <https://ohio4h.org/events/ohio-4-h-conference>
4. **2019 Darke County 4-H Youth Development Calendar** has been posted to the web. Mark your calendars now so you don't miss out on the excitement! <https://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/2019-darke-county-4-h-youth-development-calendar>
5. **Volunteer/Club Updates:** ALL Darke County 4-H Volunteers must attend one of the upcoming update meetings in order to be approved to serve as a 4-H volunteer in 2019. These dates are available on the 2019 calendar. Spots are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. For now, contact our office to preregister (required). An alternative method to preregister may be coming soon.
6. **Ohio Corn & Wheat gives out \$12,000 in scholarships** annual to graduating Seniors and Collegiate level students interested in fields of study related to agriculture. Scholarship deadline December 31, 2018. Check it out. http://www.ohiocornandwheat.org/?fbclid=IwAR3BAh-s3AUVdi1u_sK99k6qEriBQVSVNZw5531vMrOMleHL_W40WjjPZQ4

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7. **Volunteer Fingerprint Rescreening:** Letters have gone out to volunteers who are scheduled to be fingerprinted for 2019. **You have until December 31, 2018 to complete the process.** Thank you to those who have already complied!
8. **Give the gift of 4-H Camp:** Looking for a gift for the 4-Her who has everything? Why not give them the gift of 4-H Camp?!? Check out the website for details: <https://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/2019-darke-county-4-h-camp> (scroll down to the last paragraph on the page)
9. **Darke County 4-H has a blog!** Check it out at <https://u.osu.edu/darke4h/> You can also subscribe to receive email updates once a week. Simply enter your email address in the *Subscribe by Email* block on the left hand side of the page.
10. **New officer books** will be posted to the website on February 1. If that's too late for your club, continue to use the current books that are available on the officer book website. <https://ohio4h.org/families/members/officer-resources>
11. **2019 Family Guides** are now available from our office. Or, you can view the Family Guide online: <https://ohio4h.org/familyguide>
12. **County Medal Forms** are now available. Completed applications are due to the Extension Office by 4:30pm on Friday, January 18, 2019. See the website for details. <https://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/darke-county-4-h-county-medal-application-0>
13. **Darke County 4-H Volunteer Application packet:** can be obtained in hard copy from our office or via the website: <https://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/2019-darke-county-4-h-volunteer-application-information> Completed applications are due to the Extension Office by February 15, 2019.

Have a safe and joyous holiday season!