

eClover: Darke County 4-H News

April 6, 2018

Dear Friend in 4-H,

Thank you to everyone for turning in your 4-H enrollment forms in a timely manner. We really appreciate everything you do to keep our 4-H program moving along!

Reminder: The first **Quality Assurance** session will be held (tomorrow!) Saturday, April 7, 10am, Youth Building, Fairgrounds. <https://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/2018-quality-assurance>
Dress for the weather. The Youth Building tends to be a little chilly this time of year.

1. For **4-H members enrolled in goat projects**: check out the Ohio 4-H Goat project resource page. <https://ohio4h.org/statewide-programs/animal-sciences/goat/goat-resources>
2. **At the end of this newsletter, check out the news release from our state vet, Dr. Tony Forshey, regarding 4-H projects and biosecurity.**
3. **What do future project books look like?** You decide! Answer this short survey to share your thoughts: <https://go.osu.edu/projectbooksurvey>
4. **Coffee Fundraiser Opportunity**: Ohio 4-H clubs have a new fundraising opportunity – COFFEE! Clubs can sell 12 oz. bags of either ground or whole bean coffee grown, in part, by 4-S members in Nicaragua (4-S is roughly 4-H translated into Spanish). Sip and support youth! Contact Dustin Homan, 4-H Program Manager, at: homan.64@osu.edu or 614.247.8305 if interested.
5. The **Dog Committee is raising funds** for a new barn on the fairgrounds. You can help by purchasing RADA cutlery - reasonably priced and good quality merchandise. 100% of the proceeds go to the new barn fund. <https://radafundraising.com/?rfsn=1140080.cfd6fc>
6. **Ohio Military Kids** has many exciting opportunities for kids of military families. Ohio Military Kids is a partnership between Ohio State Extension 4-H Youth Development and Family Readiness with Ohio National Guard. Through this partnership, Ohio Military Kids puts on events all around the state of Ohio. These events range from one day events, to overnights, to weekend camps, and week-long residential camps. If you are a part of a military family, please consider joining one of the many events. All active, reserve, and national guard families are welcome! <https://ohio4h.org/statewide-programs/operation-military-kids/upcoming-events>
7. **Ohio 4-H Skillathon Team**: Ohio 4-H is putting together a skillathon team to compete in the national contest in Louisville, KY. If you would like to know more about this opportunity, attend an information session: Sunday, April 15 or Sunday, April 22. Both sessions will be held from 2pm-4pm at the Ohio 4-H Center in Columbus. Skillathon content is related to beef, goat, sheep, and swine projects. For additional information contact Margo Long (long.1632@osu.edu) or Andrea Rees (rees.139@osu.edu)



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AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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8. **Darke County 4-H Committee Scholarship:** Attention 4-H members in high school graduating with the Class of '18: the Darke County 4-H Scholarship application is now available. Deadline to apply is May 31, 2018. <https://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/darke-county-4-h-committee-scholarship-0>
9. **Public Speaking Contest:** Rules and guidelines for the 2018 Public Speaking Contest have been posted. The contest is scheduled for Monday, June 4, 7pm, Extension Office. Registration deadline is May 18, 2018. <https://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/2018-darke-county-4-h-public-speaking-contest>
10. **2018 Project Completion Requirements:** Each 4-H project has specific guidelines as to what is required to complete the project. Each project also has display requirements for Project Presentation and Evaluation Day and State Fair competition. <https://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/2018-4-h-project-completion-requirements>
11. **Ohio State Fair Non-Livestock information:** to view the Ohio State Fair non-livestock judging schedule or to view the State 4-H Non-Livestock Guidebook visit the website: <https://ohio4h.org/nonlivestockguidebook>
12. **OSU Livestock Judging Camp:** June 4-6; \$250 camp fee. Deadline to register is May 1, 2018. Contact our office for a copy of the flyer.
13. **4-H Urban Immersion Project:** Teens ages 15-18 may apply for this 4 day service-learning experience. This trip is structured to build skills and abilities to prepare youth for success in a diverse workplace while building cultural understanding of those who are different. The cost of the experience is only \$150. Application deadline – August 3, 2018 <https://warren.osu.edu/news/2016-4-h-urban-immersion-dc>
14. **Ohio 4-H International Program opportunity:** Looking for some new fun and educational excitement this summer? How about hosting a boy or girl from Japan in your home for 3½ weeks? (July 23 – Aug. 17) The Ohio 4-H International Program is offering hosting opportunities to 75 families around the state, and Japanese youth on the other side of the world are anxiously waiting to learn who their new family might be! Host families should have their own child aged 10-15 who will serve as the main host sibling. Families will be matched with a Japanese youth of the same gender and approximate age. Special trips and activities are not required. The focus is on everyday family life. Host families provide lodging, meals, and any family activities. Medical insurance is provided. Youth bring money for personal spending (gifts, souvenirs, etc.) For more information, please visit www.ohio4h.org/youth/international or contact thalheimer.1@osu.edu
15. **IMPORTANT REMINDER: EVERY CHILD in 4-H is required to complete a project book** for every project they take on an annual basis. This has always been 4-H policy and any club not following this policy is in violation. Each club's enrollment packet for the year includes a project book order form – use it to order books for your club. Or, families may come to the Extension Office and purchase books individually.

16. **Darke County Youth Rabbit Raisers Spring Show:** April 15, 2018. Contact Holly Daugherty (hollyjboho@hotmail.com) for details.
17. **Rabbit & Cavy Youth Fun Show:** Saturday, May 12, Champaign County Fairgrounds. For a copy of the flyer, contact our office or visit their website: <https://champaign.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/4-h-animal-projects> Scroll down to the Cavy section and look for the 2018 Rabbit and Cavy Clinic Flyer.
18. **Poultry Resources:** 4-H members taking poultry projects will find a vast array of poultry resources available on our website: <https://ohio4h.org/poultryresources>
19. **Ohio 4-H Night with the Dayton Dragons:** Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 19 and join us at Fifth/Third Field.
https://darke.osu.edu/sites/darke/files/imce/Program_Pages/4H/2018%20Dayton%20Dragons.pdf
20. **Joann Fabrics Reward Card:** JOANN Fabrics has partnered with the National 4-H Council to bring more hands-on 4-H programs to youth. 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 programs. Find the details at <http://www.joann.com/4-h/>
21. **United Way:** You can designate your United Way pledge to be given to the Darke County 4-H program. Simply write "Darke County 4-H" on the donation form. Thank you for your support.

Best Wishes,

Rhonda Williams

Rhonda Williams
County Extension Director
Extension Educator
4-H Youth Development

Exhibitors should remember to practice 4-H Pledge this time of year

By: Dr. Tony Forshey, DVM
Chief, Division of Animal Health
State Veterinarian

If you ask most 4-H exhibitors, I bet they can recite the 4-H Pledge without hesitation. It's a great motto for young people to use in their daily lives. There's one part that's very important to public health leaders like myself, "and my health to better living..."

Healthy people and animals are my concern at the Ohio Department of Agriculture. Our Division of Animal Health works to safeguard the health of all animals in Ohio and the people with whom they come in contact. Animals can carry diseases like influenza, cryptosporidium and salmonella that can be transmitted to humans, but can also be easily prevented with proper biosecurity steps like proper hand washing. This time of year, this message is especially critical to 4-H exhibitors preparing for this summer's county and independent fairs. The next few weeks and months are when boys and girls across Ohio will choose the animals they take as 4-H projects. For many, this includes a visit to a farm to pick out their animal and then transporting it back to their home. This is an important time for 4-Hers to remember their pledge and practice simple, yet important, biosecurity measures.

Any and every time someone touches an animal, they should wash their hands. Exhibitors shouldn't wear barn shoes or clothes in their house. If a trip to check out a steer, or buy a pig includes a visit to another farm, wash clothes and shoes or wear disposable boots and coveralls. 4-H exhibitors should always have a relationship with a veterinarian and if their new project shows any signs of illness, contact that vet right away.

Ohio's county and independent fairs and the 4-H projects showcased there are a magnificent part of our state's agricultural heritage and future. The young people who dedicate months to raise an animal are the future of Ohio's largest industry, food and agriculture. I want all exhibitors to be able to practice what they say in the 4-H Pledge (and my health to better living) and urge 4-Hers young and old to remember biosecurity as they find their animals and start their journey this fair season.