

## 4-H: Beyond the Community Club

### COUNTY OPPORTUNITIES

<http://darke.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development>

**County Medal Awards** are pins awarded to those members who successfully complete a County Medal Form and are chosen the winner of a particular category. All applications are judged, based on the applicant's level of involvement in 4-H, school and community activities. Forms may be obtained from the Extension Office. Forms are due the third Friday in January. A variety of project categories are available. Awards are presented during County Recognition & Kick Off each spring.

**Outstanding Officer Book Awards** are given to those officers (Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter and Historian) who submit outstanding record books. A score sheet unique to each book is used for judging. Awards are presented during County Recognition & Kick Off each spring.

**Premier 4-H Member Awards** are given to those 4-H members who complete the Premier 4-H Member application and meet the point criteria. Members are recognized at the Bronze, Silver, and Gold level of achievement. Applications are due the third Friday in January. Awards are presented during County Recognition & Kick Off each spring.

**County Recognition & Kick Off** is held each spring (typically the first Sunday in March) and is a celebration of outstanding 4-Hers from the previous year. Awards presented during the program include outstanding officers, Honor Club winners, Premier 4-H Members, I Dare You awards, trip winners and County Medal Winners.

**CARTEENS** is an educational program for juvenile traffic offenders, conducted in cooperation with the Juvenile Court and the Ohio State Highway Patrol. Teens, age 15 and over, conduct the program on the second Saturday of each month.

**4-H Camp Counselor** applications are due each year in mid-November. All youth, age 14 and over, are invited to apply to serve as teen counselors for 4-H camp. Potential counselors must complete 24 hours of counselor training prior to attending camp.



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**Darke County 4-H Committee** serves as the advisory committee for the Darke County 4-H program. Its membership consists of adult volunteers, youth volunteers, business and community representatives and a county commissioner. Meetings are held six times per year.

**4-H Camp** is held at Indian Hills 4-H Camp in Miami County (near Pleasant Hill). Darke County 4-H Camp will be held June 15-18, 2020. All youth, ages 8-14, are invited to attend. Camperships are available to quality applicants.

**4-H Communications Contest (formerly known as the 4-H Public Speaking and Demonstration Contest)** is scheduled for June 1, 2020, at the Extension Office. Participants have the opportunity to improve their public speaking skills and compete for the honor of representing Darke County at district and state competitions.

**Project Presentation Day** will be held July 10, 2020, at All Seasons Place, 5256 Sebring Warner Road, Greenville. All non-livestock projects are eligible to compete at county judging. State Fair representatives as well as County Rosette winners are selected. Awards will be presented the following Thursday at All Seasons Place.

## **JR. FAIR RELATED EVENTS**

<http://darkecountyjrfair.com/index.html>

The purpose of the Junior Fair is to allow 4-H members to showcase their projects and accomplishments for the year.

**Quality Assurance** is mandatory for all youth planning to exhibit market animals or lactating dairy or lactating goats in the Darke County Jr. Fair. QA is offered during the months of April and May. Check the annual 4-H Calendar for dates, times, and locations. Failure to complete QA by June 1, current year, will result in the exhibitor being ineligible to exhibit their animal at the fair. (This program is mandated via the Ohio Department of Agriculture.) A test-out option is also available for youth ages 12-14 or 15-18. Contact the Extension Office for information about the test-out option.

**Junior Fairboard** is open to youth over the age of 14. Junior Fairboard members are elected by their peers and serve two year terms. Members are responsible for planning and conducting all Junior Fair events and activities.

**Junior Fair King & Queen Pageant** is open to youth over the age of 16. The annual pageant is typically held in July at All Seasons Place, Greenville. The King, Queen and their court represent the Darke County Fair at other fairs, festivals, parades and events throughout the year. The queen represents the Darke County at the Ohio State Fair Queen Pageant the following year after her coronation.

**Livestock Skillathons** are conducted at a variety of times throughout June and July. Check the Jr. Fair website for details. Skillathon stations are based on information contained in the Livestock Learning Laboratories available for loan from the Extension Office.

**The Great Darke County Fair** begins the third Friday in August at the fairgrounds in Greenville. All 4-H members in good standing with their local club are encouraged to display their projects at the fair.

Participation in the fair is optional for each 4-H member. Those who choose to participate will receive premium money for each project exhibited.

## STATE OPPORTUNITIES

[www.ohio4h.org](http://www.ohio4h.org)

**Ohio Achievement Record (OAR)** is identical to County Medal forms, with the exception of the front page. Ohio Achievement Records are used to compete for State Achievement Awards and various trips and camps, as listed below. In order to attend any of the following three events, you must be selected as the trip recipient, based on your OAR.

- **Leadership Camp** is a once-in-a-lifetime, exciting, challenging, in-depth, learning by doing, leadership experience. Leadership campers plan, conduct and evaluate the program themselves. Opportunities include experiences focusing on daily leadership themes and options for campers in such areas as leadership skills, local and county programs, cultural heritage and citizenship, communications, careers and personal development.
- **Citizenship Washington Focus** includes a week of workshops and programs at the National 4-H Center, an actual visit with congressional representatives and senators, visits to historic sites, museums and monuments in downtown Washington, D.C. Members will travel with 4-Hers from across the state and have the opportunity to meet youth from across the nation.

**Scholarship Opportunities** are available to active 4-H members who are in their senior year of high school and submit an online Ohio 4-H Scholarship Form. Applicants from across the state compete for a wide variety of scholarships (some restrictions apply).

**Buckeye Leadership Workshop (BLW)** welcomes those interested in developing or improving recreational leadership skills.

**Carving New Ideas (CNI)** is a motivational and leadership weekend retreat sponsored by the Ohio State Collegiate 4-H Club. CNI is usually held in the fall. Activities include team building, leadership, community service and recreational workshops.

**State Teen Leadership Council** is the highest youth decision-making and advisement body in the state's 4-H program. Select teens from across the state work together to improve Ohio 4-H programming, administration, and relevance to youth in today's society through cooperation with State 4-H leaders, active support of new and innovative 4-H programming, and advocacy for 4-H and youth issues.

### **THE OHIO STATE FAIR**

<http://ohiostatefair.com/>

**The Ohio State Fair** will be held July 29-August 9, in Columbus, Ohio. Projects eligible to participate at the state fair are identified in the Family Guide to 4-H. Representatives for non-livestock projects are selected at Project Presentation Day in July. Livestock exhibitors may choose to participate at the state fair without "qualifying" during a county selection process. Livestock entries must be made by the exhibitor by the state fair deadline. The exception to this procedure is horses (state fair qualifying event in June.)