

NOTICE Jefferson County 4-H – COVID-19

Dear 4-H advisors, parents/guardians, colleagues, and friends:

Please continue to be patient as we all work through this crisis together. Your club advisors will keep you updated about current situations. Please ask your advisor questions, call our office with questions, or call the fair board with your questions. This will minimize misinformation. I encourage you to be careful to not fuel any rumors that may be circulating, and to go to the proper sources for all of your information.

Below are answers and resources related to our most asked questions:

When can I get my project books? What about enrollments and project changes?

All project books that have been ordered are distributed to advisors. If you need a project book please let your advisor know, and he/she, or you, can email McKee.652@osu.edu, and then shortly thereafter, place an order online at <https://extensionpubs.osu.edu/> to be delivered directly to your home. You will receive a coupon for ordering this way, by way of a cost reduction or shipping waiver. Please be aware of the 2020 project requirements before ordering. This information can be found on our county 4-H Facebook page under the files tab. It can also be accessed on our website. As far as enrollments and project changes, if this is needed it can be done via email by contacting McKee.652@osu.edu. The deadline is still May 1.

When can we have a club meeting?

All 4-H events are postponed/cancelled until May 15. Please hold virtual meetings until this time. This is an extension of the previous date. It has been set forth by the state 4-H office. Please note this date is subject to change based on the Ohio Governor's recommendations. Please check back for updates.

Will the Jefferson County Fair be cancelled? Should I purchase my animals? When and where can I pick up tags?

No one knows at this time what will happen in regard to Ohio Fairs. The Ohio State University Office Of Extension Jefferson County and the Jefferson County Fair Board's current sentiment is "the show will go on." Please keep in mind, however, that we are not the final authority on the matter, and this situation is ever-changing as we struggle with this pandemic. Youth and families need to make purchasing decisions based on their own personal situations. Please note:

- **Tag-in is now changed to 9-11 a.m., June 6. The Jefferson County Jr. Fair Board Committee agreed upon this date to coincide with all current bans/travel restrictions. Therefore, all previously set tag pick-up dates are currently cancelled. More information about tag pick-up will be released as it becomes available. (This will likely be held at the end of May.)**
- **Possession dates will NOT be changing for 2020.**

As always there is risk when purchasing a market animal, showing at the fair is never a guarantee, as animals become sick, lame, do not make weight, etc. This is all part of the learning experience. Agriculture is an essential industry, in the unlikely event that the Jr. Livestock show and sale at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds is unavailable, livestock sales around the state still will be in operation.

4-H Camp and other summer events:

To our knowledge events scheduled after May 15 are still viable, with the exception of horse camp. Horse camp will be a series of one-day clinics. The dates of the horse clinics are to be determined after the pandemic is over. Events that are still scheduled with no date change include: 4-H Camp, Skillathon, Contest Day, Project Judging Day, State camps, etc. It is likely that registration for these events could be handled differently than in the past so please watch for information in the next newsletter that will be available via the Facebook Page and website for download the first week of May.

How do I get my advisor/volunteer training done?

There is a new online advisor training being developed, and it should be available around April 1. As soon as it is finished, we will be providing on the Facebook page and website more information and a link for your convenience. There will be certificate that can be printed upon completion. It can be emailed to Allison.325@osu.edu upon completion.

What about skillathon?

Skillathon for most 4-Hers will be available online during the previously set dates of May 1 - June 30. The link will be on our Facebook page and website. The only exceptions to this are: horse skillathon, and in-person skillathon for Most Outstanding 4-Her and MOE participants. These will be held after the gathering ban is lifted. Right now, we are planning to have these in-person sessions at horse clinics, contest day and project judging day. They are only open to MOE, MO4-Her, and Horse project individuals. There will be no online horse skillathon.

What are we doing about Quality Assurance?

Quality Assurance is available online during April for \$9. After April, the cost is \$13. To access the site and learn more visit: <http://yqca.org>. Please send a copy of your completion certificate to Allison.325@osu.edu. Each youth in a family must complete the QA individually. This QA is accepted at all national shows. It was not developed locally. In addition, we anticipate at least 1 more face-to-face QA June 6, following livestock tag-in.

What about poultry and rabbit tag-in?

Poultry and rabbit tag in are the same as always, except that all rabbits must attend PET AND MARKET! This is to verify the breed and sex of rabbits to assure proper class placement.

Has anything changed with MOE and MO4HER?

No – applications must be received by May 29. Please read the March and May newsletter for more information. There will likely be a process to email these.

What should camp counselors be doing at this time?

Counselors should be working on a videos about camp. To register your idea email Allison.325@osu.edu.

Again, we apologize for the constant changes. We appreciate your patience.

Stay Safe My Friends,

Angie Allison

Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development
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