

Ashtabula County 4-H

Winter 2024 Newsletter
01.03.2024

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Use the [blue hyperlinks](#) throughout this document to access information online.



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Office Hours
M-Th 8:30-4:30
Closed Daily Noon-1:00 p.m.
Friday by appointment

Please forward this newsletter to anyone that may be interested.



Happy New Year from all of us at OSU Extension! We're excited to kick off 2024 and are looking forward to another great year. Now is a great time to take a look at the [4-H projects](#) that may interest you. Be sure to also take time to check out the important updates and new information in this newsletter.

Please reach out with any questions via phone at 440-576-9008 or email hoyt.88@osu.edu
Best wishes.

Jenna C Hoyt, Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development

2024 OHIO 4-H TEEN & VOLUNTEER CONFERENCE

The 2024 Ohio 4-H Teen & Volunteer Conference will be in-person Saturday, March 9 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. This is a great opportunity for teens and volunteers to learn from others and join in on workshops and opportunities! Transportation will be arranged based on interest. The registration fee is \$40.00 and is due to the Extension Office before Friday, February 9th. Session descriptions and registration information can be found [online](#).



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ASHTABULA COUNTY
ashtabula.osu.edu

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4-H Program Updates

4-H Enrollment Reminders

No changes for 2024! ALL FAMILIES MUST SELF-ENROLL BY MARCH 15.

Enrollment is NOW OPEN via the 4-HOnline system.

Learn how to enroll or re-enroll by [clicking here](#).

The current County 4-H Activity fee is \$25 per member (\$50 maximum per family with 1st year members and Cloverbuds free) to enroll in Ashtabula County 4-H. This fee is to be collected by the Club and turned in to the Extension Office by the Organizational Volunteer by April 1 with a final roster. This fee is used to off-set programming costs as well as support the hiring of a Summer Student Assistant and support volunteer and youth training programs and requirements.

- Anyone wishing to join after March 15 may take a project but will not be allowed to compete in county or state shows, contests, or events or participate in Junior Fair. Members may participate in club meetings and activities, community service events, and county clinics.
 - Projects may not be changed or added after April 1.
- Those wishing to enroll in a county 4-H program outside of their County of Residence must have cross-county approval no later than March 1.
- Members may only enroll in dual clubs when taking different projects in both clubs. FFA youth may also enroll in 4-H taking different projects. 4-H activity fees are only paid once in the primary club.



**4-H Enrollment Deadline:
March 15!**

Resources for 4-H Youth & Families:

Check out our website at www.ashtabula.osu.edu !

Find enrollment forms, newsletters, project and fair information, and so much more on your phone, tablet or computer!

Check your email for updated species and project information and virtual educational clinics

Ohio 4-H	https://ohio4h.org/
Ohio 4-H Volunteer Resources	https://ohio4h.org/volunteers
Volunteer Handbook: Revised!	https://ohio4h.org/volunteerhandbook
Officer Resources	https://ohio4h.org/officerresources
Cloverbud Resources	https://ohio4h.org/cloverbudresources
Ohio 4-H Animal Sciences	https://ohio4h.org/animalsciences/
Ohio 4-H Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/ohio4h/
Ashtabula Co. 4-H Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/AshtabulaCounty4H/

**** Websites may not display properly on all devices. ****

Can't find what you're looking for? Email hoylet.88@osu.edu or howard.577@osu.edu

4-H Program & Project Updates

Ohio 4-H Membership Eligibility and Enrollment

Ohio 4-H membership is based on a child's age AND grade as of January 1 of the current calendar year. Eligibility for Cloverbud participation begins when a child is age 5 and enrolled in kindergarten. Eligibility for participation in 4-H projects and competitive events begins when a child is age 8 and in third grade.

Any youth age 9 or above is eligible for project membership, regardless of grade level. Membership requires enrollment in an authorized Ohio 4-H club or group under the direction of an OSU Extension professional or an approved adult volunteer. A youth's 4-H eligibility ends December 31 the year they turn 19.

Members can join 4-H anytime but must join by the county's enrollment deadline to be eligible for the full range of 4-H opportunities, including participation in county and state fairs. Accommodations can be made for youth with disabilities through our Winning 4-H Plan. Visit ohio4h.org/about/join-4-h to make an accommodation request.

2024 PROJECT CHANGES

New

186 Gymkhana
187 Roping
210 Assistance Animals in Action 356
Relationships 101

Revised or Replaced

179R Uniform Rules for 4-H Horse Shows
201R Dog Resource Handbook**
(**new book required for all members)
228R Rabbit Resource Handbook

Discontinued

185 Equine Reproduction and Genetics
352 Keeping Fit
486 Dashboard Dining
529 Wired for Power, Level 3
530 Entering Electronics, Level 4



What projects can you take in 4-H? We're glad you asked!

Whether you are new to 4-H or just want to try something new, check out the [Ohio 4-H Family Guide](#) and the [flip-book version](#) or visit projectcentral.ohio4h.org to browse the over 200 topics and projects. It's an easy way to take a closer look at a book, find out what others have to say and share your experience.

As a result of increased costs associated with their production and distribution, particularly for printing, the base price of project books has been raised to \$8. Just like before, some multi-year project books cost more. The prices of other materials, such as resource handbooks, have increased slightly too.

Club Volunteers are asked to order member Project Books in a group order prior to collecting money from families by emailing the [volunteer Order](#) form to howard.577@osu.edu.

4-H Project News



Discover more about 4-H
February 21 6-8 p.m. at the Ashtabula Co.
Fairgrounds 4-H Expo Building!



Not sure where to start with your project??

[Click here](#) to view important deadlines, reminders, 4-H Project Guidelines & Expectations.
Updated Project Guidelines will be available by February 1.

Project Assistance funding Requests – due March 1

Apply for up to \$500.00 to assist with the cost of 4-H Project work.

Open to any youth in good-standing with Ashtabula County 4-H.

Funds will be reimbursed upon completion of the project.

Funds may be used for fabric, project supplies, project books or animals.

[Click here to view details and the request form.](#)

So you have chosen to take a General Project.... Now what?

All General/Miscellaneous, Sewing and Nutrition Projects will be evaluated on Saturday, July 13 at the Fairgrounds 8:30 a.m.-Noon.

- The Style Revue will be held the same evening in the Expo Building at 7:00 p.m.
- General Projects will be left for display from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in the Expo Building and may be picked up following the Style Revue at 8:00 p.m. or July 16 from 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Interested in being a 4-H Camp Counselor?

Youth ages 15-18 are invited to join us June 16-22 at Camp Whitewood. Training will begin in February. Contact Abbey at

averill.10@osu.edu for information and [click here to apply online](#)
by **January 15.**



4-H Animal Project Reminders

Quality Assurance Programs

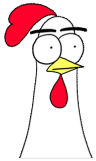
In accordance with Ohio Revised Code, Section 901-19-36 of Ohio's Livestock Tampering and Exhibition Rules, all junior fair exhibitors enrolled in a food animal project (*steer, feeder, market rabbit, market poultry, egg production, lamb, market or dairy goat, cheese, dairy cow*) are required to complete mandatory quality assurance training in order to participate with their food animal project at the county's junior fair. This program teaches youth how to use best practices that support the production of quality and safe animal products.

Quality Assurance will be held at the Fairgrounds. This training must be complete by June 1 for all youth with a Market or Lactating Dairy Animal entering the food chain. Those who have passed their 12th birthday by January 1, may test out of the annual requirement for up to 3 years. Those who have passed their 15th birthday by January 1, may test out of QA for the remaining years of participation.

[Click here](#) for more information about testing out, online opportunities and in-person sessions.

Quality Assurance will take place for Ashtabula County Youth in-person at the Fairgrounds in Jefferson May 16 at 6:30 p.m. and April 20 (time and place to be determined).

Check out the [2024 Project Guidelines](#) for more information about project expectations and guidelines for obtaining your project animal.



Ohio 4-H EQUISTEP Horse Safety & Ethics Training

All horse members must complete the Ohio 4-H EQUISTEP Horse Safety & Ethics Training annually by May 1.

Completion of this program is required for all equine youth before participating in 4-H Horse Activities (i.e. – riding).

Self-enroll via ScarletCANVAS by visiting horse.osu.edu. Each participant must have a unique email address to enroll. Be sure to complete the survey at the conclusion of the course to ensure a copy of the completion certificate is sent to the County 4-H Office.

If you have questions about meeting the requirement of this course, please email hoyt.88@osu.edu. If you have specific content questions about the course, contact Kimberly Cole at cole.436@osu.edu. For technical assistance with the ScarletCanvas platform, including logging in and password concerns, please contact CFAES Online Outreach team at faes-onlineoutreach@osu.edu.

Upcoming 4-H Events & Activities

Visit go.osu.edu/ashco4-hinfo

2024 Annual 4-H Volunteer Update

Saturday, January 27 at 9:30 a.m.

@ OSU Extension and via Zoom

ALL CLUBS MUST HAVE at least one volunteer in attendance.

[Click here](#) to RSVP to attend in person.

Important program updates and fun resources will be shared and the Required Child Abuse Reporter training covered.

[Click here](#) to register to attend via Zoom. This session will also be recorded.

SAVE THE DATE

Ashtabula Co. 4-H Camp:

June 16-22, 2024

www.4hcampwhitewood.com

4-H Cloverbud Camp:

June 21, 2024 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. @ Camp Whitewood

Cloverbud Adventure Day:

July 17, 2024 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. @ Ashtabula Co. Fairgrounds

Super Saturday :: Animal Project Skillathons, General Projects, Sewing & Nutrition Project Evaluation & Style Revue:

July 13, 2024 @ Ashtabula Co. Fairgrounds

Ashtabula County Fair:

August 6-11, 2024

Stay up to date with County and State 4-H events and programs by visiting the 4-H Calendar online. Events and programs, along with details and other supporting materials are frequently posted and updated. Calendars may also be printed, and events exported to your personal calendar.

[Click here and bookmark the page!](#)

Market Animal Committee Reverse Raffle

Saturday, January 13, 2024

Please [click here](#) for information.

Saddle Horse Boosters Reverse Raffle

Saturday, February 10, 2024

Please contact any Equine Committee member for tickets

Proceeds from these events are used for educational events and capital improvements.

4-H Club Paperwork

Ohio 4-H Annual Club & Committee Financial Summary Reports due by January 31

- The Financial Summary form and more information is available by [clicking here](#).
- Clubs that have items valued at \$50 or more must also submit the [inventory form](#). Shooting sports clubs need to include serial numbers of firearms.
- Volunteers completing the form can group income and expenses together in like line items. Examples may include dues, book fees, bake sale, etc. but each fundraiser should be listed separately so that those funds can be tracked if needed.
- Additionally, clubs may carry over funds and ideally would carry over enough funds to operate for the coming year should a fund raiser fail. However, clubs/affiliates should not carry over large amounts of funds (more than they would budget for a year's expenses) unless they are working on a multi-year purchase that they have identified. Examples may include club shirts or educational trip every other year, saving to sponsor a junior fair improvement project, saving for a large purchase such as agility equipment, etc.
- This information must be submitted by **January 31** in order to remain a club for 2024.

UPDATED Ohio 4-H Club Charter Check-list, Constitution & By-laws due by March 1

All Ashtabula County 4-H Clubs must submit a [charter check-list](#) annually in order to remain a club for the upcoming year and be permitted to use the 4-H Name and Emblem according to the 4-H National Headquarter guidelines.

Charter criteria includes:

- a. ALL adult volunteers are approved through the Ohio 4-H NEW Volunteer Selection Process prior to **MARCH 1**.
 - All approved volunteers must enroll online via <https://v2.4honline.com> by March 1.
 - In accordance with Ohio State University's Activities & Programs with Minor Participants Policy, all OSU Extension Volunteers must complete training ANNUALLY in order to remain an active volunteer. ALL Ashtabula County 4-H Volunteers must complete this training by **MARCH 1** in-person or online.
 - b. At least 5 youth members from 3 different families are enrolled (by MARCH 15) via 4-Honline.
 - c. A current [constitution](#) approved by Ohio 4-H is on file. All CLUBS MUST submit an updated Constitution and By-laws for 2024 by March 1.
 - d. Elected youth club officers under the guidance of volunteers.
 - e. A club name approved by the Ashtabula County Extension Office.
 - f. Maintaining the club EIN number and remaining in good standing with the IRS. THE OFFICE WILL BE FILING AGAIN ON BEHALF OF CLUBS AND AFFILIATES with approved Tax Exemption Authorization.
- All forms can be found at: <http://go.osu.edu/AshCo4-HInfo> under Volunteer & Club Forms.
 - Please be sure to have an updated copy of the Charter Checklist, Constitution and By-laws signed and turned in to the office by **March 1**.
Please email your documents to howard.577@osu.edu or drop them at the Office.

Club Meeting Agenda #1

Family Meeting Kick-Off

4-H is grounded in the belief that kids learn best by doing. Meetings and educational events are youth led, interactive and fun! 4-H promotes life skills through hundreds of project areas, community service, leadership and citizenship activities.

4-H PLEDGE

I pledge my **HEAD** to clearer thinking,
my **HEART** to greater loyalty,
my **HANDS** to larger service,
and my **HEALTH** to better living,
for my club, my community,
my country, and my world.



Hosting a family meeting at the beginning of a 4-H program year offers a time for clubs to begin building positive relationships through activities and by communicating important information. Working together, volunteers, members and families can create positive youth development experiences that help youth develop to their fullest potential.

Sample Agenda

Activities led by previous year officers

- Welcome (*Club Volunteers*)
 - Introductions
 - 4-H Fundamentals
 - Topics could include: "Learn by Doing" philosophy, common lingo, 4-H Pledge, where to find important dates/information, youth opportunities, etc.*
- Previous Year in Review –
 - Revisiting last year's activities to set goals for this year (see Club Meeting Agenda #7 for more information)*
- Icebreaker
- Review Club Bylaws/Expectations & Project Requirements
- How to Enroll in 4-H
- Club Goal Setting
- Team Building Activity
- Snacks
- Adjourn the Meeting

Club Meeting Agenda #2 provides suggestions for icebreakers and team building activities.

Resources

- [Ohio 4-H Volunteer Handbook](#)
- [For Cloverbud Leaders](#)
- [Resources for Virtual 4-H Club Activities](#)

