

**MADISON COUNTY 4-H IMPORTANT COVID-19 UPDATE #4**

As of April 7, 2020

*(Information is subject to change based on updates the 4-H program is receiving daily.)***A message from the State 4-H Leader:**

Dear 4-H members, families, volunteers and supporters,

It is with a heavy heart that I share this news with you. Due to ongoing health concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the decision has been made to cancel all Ohio State University Extension in-person programming through July 6. This includes all 4-H programs, activities, and events. Additionally, we've made the very difficult decision to cancel all 4-H camps thru August 31. Although in-person programming is cancelled, we will continue to offer virtual 4-H experiences.

We know this is an incredible disappointment and recognize how much everyone looks forward to our cherished 4-H summer events. As 4-H professionals committed to providing positive youth development programming, we share your sense of loss.

Given available information, we anticipate the next few weeks and months will continue to be critical times for stemming the spread of the COVID-19 virus. It is our duty to keep ourselves and those we serve safe through the education we provide and the modeling of safety-conscious behaviors. We do not want to get to the other side of this pandemic and wish that we had done more to keep our future generation of leaders safe and healthy.

While we are making decisions regarding the youth events we organize and manage (such as camps and 4-H project judging), we are deferring to local decision-makers and Governor DeWine's administration on the events owned by others, such as county fairs. Our decision to cancel in-person 4-H activities and events through July 6 and summer camps, should not automatically imply that local county fairs are also canceled at this time. Please keep in mind that 4-H and our FFA colleagues support the education and development of youth, but the decision about whether fairs will occur is in the hands of others. This continues to be an evolving situation that will require some negotiation and monitoring depending on decisions. We will be ready should fairs move forward and to pivot if they are cancelled.

As we work through the impact of these decisions for 4-H activities and events in the weeks ahead, county OSU Extension 4-H professionals will share important updates and information with you as we develop and provide new online opportunities. We know the experiences will be different than we had hoped, yet we remain committed to working together to grow future generations of true leaders.

Yours in service to 4-H,  
Kirk Blair

**MADISON COUNTY SPECIFICS**

**\*To reiterate, all club meetings, fundraisers, community service, etc. should be held virtually, postponed, or canceled through at least July 6**

**The Madison County Extension Office will be CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.** We are still working remotely! Call our main line at 740-852-0975. You can also contact Frances directly at 740-956-5048 or [nicol.115@osu.edu](mailto:nicol.115@osu.edu).

**4-H Camp:** All county and state 4-H Camps, including our Madison County 4-H Camp and Cloverbud Day Camp, are **CANCELLED** for 2020. We will have opportunities for virtual camps available to our youth! Watch for details to come.

**Project books:**

- **Due to current events, we are extended the project change deadline to April 30!** If you want to take a new project or make changes, contact Frances at [nicol.115@osu.edu](mailto:nicol.115@osu.edu) or Arlene at [duffey.2@osu.edu](mailto:duffey.2@osu.edu) by April 30<sup>th</sup> to make a change. This is a great opportunity to check out a new project!
- Want to dig in to a 4-H project that's a good match for staying at home? **See our collection of Perfect Stay-at-Home Projects here:** [ohio4h.org/stayathomeprojects](http://ohio4h.org/stayathomeprojects). When a copy opens on your screen, you can save or print it from there. (For accessible formats of these publications, visit [cfaes.osu.edu/accessibility](http://cfaes.osu.edu/accessibility).)
- OSU Extension is working on getting projects available for purchase on [extensionpubs.osu.edu](http://extensionpubs.osu.edu) where you can use a coupon to get projects at the same cost as you would to buy them at our office. Watch for info to come soon! You can purchase them now, but they are at a higher cost.

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*Additional Madison County Specific Information:*

**For livestock quality assurance (QA) for the 2020 year only:** QA must still be completed before the opening day of exhibition, however the 45-day prior to the opening of the exhibition requirement will not be enforced.

- Youth livestock exhibitors (8-18) may take the online YQCA certification (contact our office for more information). Note that this option costs \$12 and is OPTIONAL (\$9 coupon available for month of April!)
- Test out options for ages 12-14 and 15-18 may be available by appointment only. Contact Frances at [nicol.115@osu.edu](mailto:nicol.115@osu.edu) if you are interested.
- **Livestock quality assurance dates:** ALL TBD NOW PENDING ODA, watch for more updates soon
  - **Thursday, June 11, 6:00-7:30pm** (Della Selsor Building, Madison County Fairgrounds)
  - **Sunday, June 14, 4:00-5:30pm** (Della Selsor Building, Madison County Fairgrounds)
  - **Tuesday, June 23, 6:00-7:30pm** (Della Selsor Building, Madison County Fairgrounds)

**Livestock Ownership deadlines:** As of now, the ODA still requires that all market livestock projects be in your possession 60 days before the exhibition starts (May 12 for Madison County) for market goats, sheep, and hogs.

- **\*Market broiler orders** are still due April 15 via the online order form with pick up on May 21<sup>st</sup> from 2-6pm. Find more information and the order form here: <https://u.osu.edu/madison4h/2020/03/16/market-broiler-orders-due-april-15/> (Pick up is May 21, 2-6pm)
- **\*Sheep and Goat Tag in** – To Be Determined, watch for more information to come mid-April
- **\*Swine Ear Notches and Photos** – To Be Determined, watch for more information to come mid-April

**Online demonstration contest!** Check our Facebook page for a post about the demonstration contest and post your video in the comments there, or email to [nicol.115@osu.edu](mailto:nicol.115@osu.edu) to be eligible to win a pizza party for your entire club this summer/fall! Once the videos are posted, people can vote for which they like best by clicking “like” on their favorite video! All video submissions must be posted by Noon on **Monday, April 13** and results will be tallied. Here is a resource for a good demonstration: <https://ohioline.osu.edu/factsheet/4h-46>.

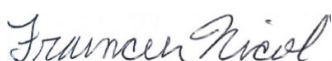
**MADISON COUNTY 4-H SCHEDULE UPDATES:**

- Heritage Show Ring Success Seminar and Quality Assurance– April 11 - CANCELLED
- CANCELLED: Pizza Kit Fundraiser Orders for 4-H Camp – *Please return any money you have collected*
- \*Poultry Broiler Orders due online and mailed payments by April 15<sup>th</sup> (*See info above for details*)
- \*Sheep and Goat Tag In/ Swine Ear Notch Forms: TBD – More information to come mid-April
- \*Junior Fair Board/Key Leader Meeting – May 6 – TBD
- Rabbit Showmanship Clinic – May 16 – TBD
- \*Broiler Poultry Pick Up – May 21 – Continue as planned
- 4-H Camp and Cloverbud Camp– June 4-8 – CANCELLED but will have virtual activities!
- Livestock QA – June 11, 14, and 23 – TBD pending ODA regulations
- \*Madison County Fair entries due June 15
- Demonstration Contest – June 18 – Watch for information on potential virtual contest
- \*Livestock Skillathons – June 27<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> – TBD
- Special Interest Project Judging – July 11 – Continue as planned
- \*Madison County Fair – July 12-18 – Continue as planned

*\*Please note – It is up to the Senior Fair Board, Ohio Department of Agriculture, and the Governor to make the determination for fair-related activities and committees.*

Please reach out to me if you have any questions. Thank you for your patience! Our office is still here to serve you. If you need anything, we are a call/email away! We are #InThisTogetherOhio!

Sincerely,



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4-H Youth Development  
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