Ohio 4-H Conference and Recognition Luncheon – All 4-H volunteers are invited to attend this one-day workshop where they can choose from over 100 sessions designed to improve their skills. In addition, volunteers with multiples of five years of service to the 4-H program will be recognized at a special luncheon. At this luncheon, winners of the Meritorious Service, Innovator, Community Service, Recruitment and Leadership Development Awards and the Friend of 4-H Award will be recognized. This conference is held each year in March and award applications are due December 1st of the current year.

Outstanding 4-H Alumni Award – This award is presented to an individual, or individuals, who was a 4-H member and has made significant contributions to the 4-H program here in Hancock County. Awards are presented at the 4-H Volunteer Recognition Banquet in November.

Outstanding Service to 4-H Award – This award is presented to an individual, group of individuals, or business – which was not a 4-H member, but has made significant contributions to the 4-H program in Hancock County. The awards are presented at the 4-H Volunteer Recognition Banquet in November.

For more information – Please contact the Hancock County Office of Ohio State University Extension at 419-422-3851.

Special Reminders

No individual may be a 4-H member in two or more counties at the same time. Youth are expected to participate in the 4-H program of their county of residence. However, in situations where youth live out of the county, membership considerations will be given by the 4-H Educators in the county of residence and county of participation when a positive educational experience will result. An Across County Line Application Form must be on file for members residing outside of Hancock County. Resubmit if changes. Due prior to enrollment, March 15, 2020.

The secretary and treasurer books are the only officer books that must be completed and turned in at the 4-H Office by September 15th or the following Monday if the 15th falls on the weekend.

4-H members should take only those projects that can successfully be completed.

ANY PROJECT MADE FOR COMPLETION OR FOR A GRADE IN ANY OTHER ACTIVITY SUCH AS FFA, FCCLA, SCHOOL, OR SIMILAR ORGANIZATION CANNOT BE ENTERED AS A 4-H PROJECT AT THE COUNTY FAIR OR USED FOR ANY OTHER 4-H JUDGING.

ANY PROJECT MADE FOR COMPLETION OR FOR A GRADE IN 4-H CANNOT BE ENTERED AS A PROJECT IN FFA, FCCLA, SCHOOL, OPEN CLASS FAIR ENTRY OR SIMILAR ORGANIZATION. YOU MAY ENTER AN ADDITIONAL ITEM CONSTRUCTED, BUT NOT THE ONE TAKEN TO 4-H PROJECT INTERVIEWS TO BE JUDGED.

All online reenrollment must be completed and submitted by the member and confirmed by the advisor no later than April 1 regardless of when the date falls.

All enrollment forms must be turned in at the Extension Office BY THE 4-H ADVISOR no later than April 1 of the current year, or the following Monday when the 1st is on the weekend.

Projects may be dropped or added until June 1 with the exception of Shooting Sports. Shooting Sports projects must be registered by April 1.

No substitution of livestock may be made after June 1st. EXCEPTION: All steers must be selected & on feed by January 1st, and no changes can be made after this time. See Junior Fair rules for details.

All 4-H livestock projects (except dairy cattle, horses and llamas) must be owned and cared for by the 4-H member. If the member prefers, dairy animals, horses and llamas may be leased.

1. All 4-H livestock projects, including dairy animals, llamas and horses must be under the exclusive care of the member by June 1.
2. Meat rabbits must be in member’s possession by August 1.
3. For horse projects, a copy of the HORSE lease and HORSE IDENTIFICATION CARD must be on file at the Extension Office by June 1. All members taking a horse project must submit a liability waiver and sign the safety and ethics form prior to riding a horse/pony during a 4-H event.
4. Members enrolled in a llama project must have a LLAMA LEASE AGREEMENT on file at the Extension Office by June 1.
5. All members taking dog projects must have Vaccination and Participations forms on file at the Extension Office by June 1.
6. Members enrolled in a dairy project must have a DAIRY LEASE AGREEMENT on file at the Extension Office by June 1.

ALL 4-H projects need to be the work of the individual 4-H member. Help from parents, advisors, and other interested adults is encouraged as long as it is of an educational nature. The final exhibit MUST be the work of the member.

4-H work may add to existing work such as a science fair project, but it cannot be a duplication.

Any complete or incomplete project information for members MUST BE TURNED IN BY AUGUST 1 of the current year to the Extension Office.

To receive a Junior Fair Premium:

- Your project must be judged & grade submitted to 4-H office by August 1st.
- You must have an exhibit for each project you have taken at the county fair.
Livestock project completion requires:
1. Livestock evaluation includes: Project Interview and Book Review.
2. Dress code is the same as your show dress: ie, A member with a hog project would wear jeans, boots and a button up shirt. If you show multiple species, wardrobe changes are not required.
3. Skillathon station topics and sample scoresheet will be available at the first QA.
4. Specifics are listed in the judging booklet, available June 1.

4-H Buddies

Pairing youth with special needs to 4-H Mentors, giving both lifetime experiences that neither would have without the other. Buddies are youth with special needs ages 9-18 as of January 1 of the current year. Mentors are current 4-H members ages 13-18 as of January 1 of the current year.

Buddies create a three project wish list. Experienced Mentors complete a training to prepare them to assist a Buddy. The members will have taken the project they are assisting with at least one year prior to meeting their Buddy. Buddies are paired with a Mentor of their choice, or through a matching system. The pair meet a minimum of three times before completion of the project.

Buddy members do not need to join a 4-H club but can if they would like. If a Buddy would like to participate without a Mentor, they MUST enroll in a 4-H club.

Buddy members need to complete and return to the Extension Office a Buddy Application and a Winning 4-H Plan Request Form. These may be obtained from the Extension Office or [http://hancock.osu.edu](http://hancock.osu.edu).

Mentor 4-H members must complete and return to the Extension Office a Mentor Application found at the Extension Office or the website, [http://hancock.osu.edu](http://hancock.osu.edu). Mentors must also complete a training class and have at least one-year experience with the project they are assisting.

Please contact Conner for more information.

Winning 4-H Plan

If your child needs any accommodation to enjoy their 4-H experience, please contact Cassie by April 1 to begin the process.

Some Ways to Get Involved in Hancock County 4-H

For more information on these activities, check our website, like us on Facebook, or call the Extension Office.

Junior Leadership Club

Teambuilding, learning to save the world, cooking class, interview skills, dressing for success, and wilderness survival were just a few of the topics the Hancock County Junior Leaders explored last year. Junior Leaders learn about service through different community service projects, working 4-H events, and serving as ambassadors of 4-H throughout the county. If this sounds like fun to you, join the group! JL meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Extension Office. You do not need to currently be in 4-H to join; just be at least 14 years old.

Cloverbuds Opportunities

County Cloverbuds meet the first Thursday of February, April, October, and December from 6:15 until 7:15 pm. Cloverbuds have fun while learning about cultures and other fun topics.

A special Day Camp just for Cloverbuds is June 11 at the Hancock County Agricultural Service Center at 7868 County Road 140, Findlay, Ohio. Adventure waits at this day of discovery, friends, and fun.

Cloverbud graduation celebrates the youth completing their Cloverbud experience and moving on to project 4-H. This program is held the Sunday of the fair. A Cloverbud party open to all Cloverbuds and their families will be held after graduation. Other special activities will also be held during the fair for Cloverbuds this year. Look for details in upcoming family newsletters.

Hancock County 4-H Shooting Sports Program

Join us at the Extension Office February 11 or 19 at 6:00 pm to learn about the shooting sports program! Youth, ages 9 to 18, may participate in the Shooting Sports program. Members must belong to a 4-H Club and sign up for the project in that club to participate. Shooting Sports 4-Hers learn about safety, marksmanship, history, and teamwork. Hancock County has trained volunteers in the following disciplines: archery, rifle, shotgun, muzzle loader, pistol, living history, and hunting & wildlife. Members wishing to take a Shooting Sports project must also join the Hancock County Shooting Sports program and work with a 4-H certified instructor. First year shooting sports members are required to take the Safe Use of Guns project and workshop prior to Shooting Sports, second year members...