

Dear New 4-H Family,

Welcome to Pickaway County 4-H! You are embarking on an experience that will be as rewarding as you make it. We are here to help you on your journey. Hopefully the information below will get you off to a great start!

About 4-H:

4-H is a part of OSU Extension. Our office is located at 110 Island Road. Although we are always here to assist you, 4-H members receive the majority of their information and support through their 4-H club and the 4-H volunteers or “advisors” who run their club.

Your advisors are here to help you!

Your advisor will have several items for you including an Ohio 4-H Family Guide that will list all of the 4-H projects available to our members and a club and/or county calendar with lots of dates for the current 4-H year. Be aware that much of the information regarding exhibiting animals and projects at the Pickaway County Fair is available in the Pickaway County Fair Book that is available at the fair office in early May.

What are the requirements?:

The 4-H club structure is based on family participation. At a minimum, 4-H members must attend 6 meetings, give a demonstration in their club, attend project judging and complete at least one 4-H project annually in order to “complete” their 4-H year. Pickaway County 4-H charges an annual enrollment fee of \$10. Many clubs have additional requirements, and you should find those included in your 4-H club’s constitution and by-laws. Be sure to mark the dates of meetings, community service activities, fun events and project judging on your family calendar. This will help you have a successful 4-H year!

What happens at a club meeting?:

4-H club meetings are run by 4-H youth officers that are elected annually. Club meetings are your chance to ask questions, receive updates and watch your child learn social and leadership skills. 4-H members work together to make decisions, complete community service activities, and learn life skills.



4-H is a **community**
of **young**
people
across **America**
who are learning
leadership,
citizenship and
life skills.

What does a project consist of?:

A “project” is chosen by the individual member to be the main focus of their learning for the 4-H year. Projects are chosen by looking through the 4-H Family Guide, which is updated annually. You will work on the project you choose throughout the 4-H year at meetings and on your own. We encourage new 4-H members to limit their project selection to one or two 4-H projects during their first year. Each year we encourage you to expand your interests and choose more difficult and diverse projects. To assist you in your selection, you are welcome to stop into the Extension Office to take a look at any of the project books and become more familiar with their contents. You can also search for or look up projects on Project Central at www.ohio4h.org/projectcentral

To be successful in your project:

- Start early, and work your way through your project book
- Attend meetings and project workouts/clinics
- Complete all required portions of your project on time
- Be ready for judging

Where do I find more information?:

Be sure to visit the OSU Extension Pickaway County website for newsletters, calendars, updates, 4-H camp information and opportunities available to our 4-H members and volunteers. The 4-H newsletter “News and Notes” is produced bi-monthly and distributed to our volunteers but is available for anyone to view. The website address is: www.pickaway.osu.edu.

In addition, our office is open Monday-Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. During this time of COVID, we are not physically in the office every day, but always available by phone and email.

We are happy to have you as 4-H members. Please contact us if we can be of any assistance to you!

Sincerely,

Joy E. Sharp
Extension Educator
4-H Youth Development

The 4-H Pledge:

*“I pledge my head to clearer thinking,
my heart to greater loyalty,
my hands to larger service,
my health to better living,
for my club, my community, my country and
my world.”*



The 4-H Motto:

“To make the best better.”