

Dear Advisors:

From the staff here - best wishes for a happy holiday season and a prosperous new year. We are truly thankful for the time and energy you give to this program. Call if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Beth Miller

Elizabeth M. Miller

Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development

Auglaize County



cc 4-H Committee

Fair Dates

2023 Auglaize Co. Fair - July 30-August 5

2023 Ohio State Fair - July 26 - August 6

Quality Assurance 2023

Deadline to complete quality assurance is June 10 - that meets the law regarding 45 days before county fair. No exceptions can be granted.

Advisor Interest Sheet

Please complete and return your interest sheet by December 20, 2022. Please share your current contact information on this sheet in addition to updating the database. If your information changes, please update it throughout the year.

Changing Clubs

There are times that families choose to change from one 4-H club to another. If your family is in that situation, please understand that you are not automatically transferred as an advisor to the new club. You must contact that club's organizational advisor and offer your volunteer services. It is up to the new club if they accept more volunteers.

BCI Rescreening

If you are due to be rescreened with a BCI check - you should have received a letter this fall. If you did not receive a letter, then you are scheduled to do your BCI in a different year. Please follow the information in that letter and meet the deadline shared in the letter. BCI reports are sent directly to OSU HR and they approve you on the database, we are not a part of that process. ***You will need to re-enroll on the database prior to having your prints done.***

Re-enrollment/Standards of Behavior

You can re-enroll online at any time until April 15, 2023. You will be required to sign the standards of behavior and give photo permissions online. Volunteers failing to re-enroll online by April 15 will not be recognized as volunteers for 2023.



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Volunteer Training Requirements For 2023

A reminder that county volunteer and child protection trainings are both mandatory. Volunteers failing to be certified in these trainings cannot re-enroll as a volunteer. All training will be completed by April 15. Training dates for 2023 are: Jan. 31, Feb. 21, March 21 and March 30. All trainings will be at 7:00 p.m. at the fairgrounds. ***Every advisor must select 1 date to attend a training. Mark your calendars for a date that works for you! More information will be shared in the weeks to come. More information regarding child protection training will be included in that information.***

Club Financial Summaries & 990 Forms & Charter Applications

A reminder that club financial reports and inventories are due no later than January 31, 2023. An inventory must be included every year even if it is a copy from the previous year showing the inventory is the same. Treasury balances should reflect what clubs will spend in the year with a little extra for unplanned expenses; unless you are saving for a special purchase or event. Looking at your lowest balance throughout the year and seeing if there are extra funds should be a yearly practice.

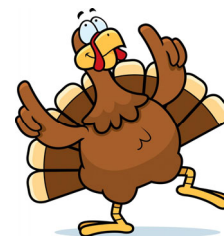
Club charters are due April 15, 2023. I will file your 990-N with the IRS by May 15, 2023. I know that some of you are receiving letters from the IRS about noncompliance. I assure you that all club 990-N filings were submitted prior to May 15, 2021. That being said, not all filings were accepted based on some coding issues that occurred when the IRS took over the management of the 990-N. Clubs across the state are receiving these notifications and the state 4-H office is working on these issues. If you receive a notification of an issue please get a copy of the information to Beth.

New Advisor Application Deadline

All new volunteer applicants are required to complete the application and screening process before they can be added to your club roster. If you have new advisors, their names must appear on your club's roster by April 15th, which means they should submit their applications to me by February 15 if possible. New volunteers will also complete an interview, new volunteer orientation, mandatory and child protection trainings. Any applications submitted after April 15 will be held until the next "volunteer year" which begins November 1, 2023.

4-H Online 2.0

We will be sending information to all advisors and families to begin re-enrolling for 2023.



4-H Family Guide to 4-H

Thanks to a partnership between Ohio 4-H, Extension Publications and Kroger, a Family Guide will be mailed to all 4-H members and volunteers. It will be mailed directly to your homes. The Ohio Family Guide to 4-H is also available on-line at <http://www.ohio4h.org/familyguide/index.html>.

Age Policy Reminder

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 he or she turns 19. Joining Ohio 4 H is a privilege and responsibility for individuals and is subject to the Ohio 4-H Code of Conduct and applicable policies of The Ohio State University.

2023 4-H Calendars

The 4-H year calendar will be available online soon.

Membership Across County Lines

New members, living outside of the county, must complete an Across County Lines application. Application deadline is April 15, but members should file early enough to meet their home county enrollment deadline if the application is denied. Membership in two counties is not permitted. These forms are reviewed by the educators in both counties. While the policy has not changed, there are more detailed guidelines for implementation that will be followed. This policy is about 4-H membership not fair participation. See the updated information at <https://ohio4h.org/sites/ohio4h/files/imce/volunteers/Across%20County%20Lines%20Policy%20and%20Request%20Form%20Nov%202018.pdf>

Officer Books

You have the option of printing your officer books from the Ohio 4-H website or receiving copies from our office.

Project Books

Families will be allowed to order books directly from OSU again if they would like. Clubs may also order books through the office as in the past. Please communicate these options to your families and develop a club plan for book orders. A reminder that the cost of books has been increased.

2023 Project Requirements

Project requirements can be accessed electronically when ready. Printed copies will be available on a limited basis per request.

Program Deadlines

Be sure to check your 4-H calendars and note when important deadlines fall. Plan now to meet these deadlines!

We try not to change dates from year to year, therefore some deadlines fall on weekends. When a deadline falls on a day when the office is closed, information must be postmarked by the due date or delivered to the office by 4:30 p.m. of the first working day after the deadline. Please understand that we appreciate our volunteers and know that 4-H is only one aspect of your busy lives. Please also understand that we simply do not have the staff time to request the same information 3 or 4 times. We will try to work with you in emergency situations, but don't assume that late information will automatically be accepted without penalty.

Outstanding Advisor, Friend of 4-H and Outstanding 4-H'er Awards

The committee is accepting nominations for the Outstanding Advisor, Friend of 4-H and Outstanding 4-H'er Awards. Award recipients will be selected from all eligible nominees. Please encourage your outstanding teens to apply for the Outstanding 4-H'er award. Applicants must be at least 16 years old as of January 1, 2023 and have been a 4-H member at least 6 years (including current year). An advisor recommendation is required. Applications for all three awards are due January 5, 2023 and can be found at:

<https://auglaize.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/forms-and-applications>



V.I.P. News

Camper & Counselor Ages

Teens must be **15** as of January 1, 2023 to apply to be counselors and counselors-in-training. Camp is open to 4-H members age 8 and in the third grade through 15 (as of January 1). Youth 16 and older must be selected as counselors-in-training or counselors to attend camp. Camp dates are June 13-17, 2023. Please note the counselor application deadline is January 3, 2023.

Teen Awards

There are many 4-H opportunities for teens. Please encourage all eligible and interested members to apply. Sometimes, teens need encouragement to apply, a pat on the back that says "you can do this!" It may even take handing them the application and helping them complete it!



Cloverbud Clubs

A few reminders about cloverbud clubs: Cloverbud clubs are to teach lessons from the *current* Cloverbud curriculum which can be purchased from our office. There is also a cloverbud horse curriculum. Cloverbud lessons are designed to be active and group oriented. *“Group” implies that more than one child is to be enrolled in your cloverbud club.* Any club having cloverbuds must designate a minimum of one volunteer that specifically works with the cloverbuds. That is not to say other advisors don't jump in occasionally but you must have an approved cloverbud leader. It is recommended that you have 1 approved volunteer for every 6 -7 youth. Parent helpers are okay as long as an approved volunteer is always present.

Weather Cancellations

When cancellations are necessary, we will have an announcement on WCSM by 4:30 p.m. You can also call the office before 4:30 p.m. when in doubt. We also post cancellations on our web site and Facebook page. If we are planning to reschedule, we notify participants within the week of cancellation. I am very quick to cancel meetings that involve our youth when weather conditions are questionable. We may flip to a virtual format if the weather is a concern.