

October / 2023

CFAES

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

MORGAN COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER



Dear Volunteer,

The weather is cooler, and the fall foliage is beautiful which means the 4-H year is coming to a close soon. We want to thank each of you for making the 2023 4-H year successful. Please read through the newsletter and make note of the important deadlines and updates. Deadlines are important and established to meet program needs.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to call or stop by the office during business hours. You are encouraged to call ahead if you are planning to stop by the office. 4-H staff members are very active with programming and trainings this time of year.

Sincerely,

Sophia Whisman
Extension Educator,
4-H Youth Development

Pamela Montgomery
Extension Educator,
4-H Youth Development
Area 19 Leader

Dates to remember:

- Older Youth Applications due November 20th
- New Volunteer Applications due January 31st
- Financial Reports due January 31st
- Mandatory Volunteer training February 19th
- Ohio 4-H Conference March 9th
- 4-H Enrollment Deadline April 1st



Reminder: Project book prices increased in 2023 and the minimum cost of a project book is now \$8.00 if purchased through the Extension Office. The online cost for books is much higher.



Morgan County 4-H Blog

Visit the blog at <https://u.osu.edu/4hmorgancounty/> This is where you will find all the updates and deadlines for Morgan County's 4-H program. Be sure to subscribe so that you can receive the new information as soon as it is available.



New Volunteer Applications

If you know any co-worker, parent, or friend that is hardworking, caring, and a strong leader, consider sharing with them how they could become an Ohio 4-H volunteer for Morgan County. There are a new volunteer packets available to pick up in the office or there is an online form posted on our website under How to Join. If you are a club leader, maybe you need an extra person to help with club management. It is important every adult that is helping care for youth members and Cloverbuds is a certified Ohio 4-H volunteer. ***All new volunteer applications are due by 4:30pm on Wednesday, January 31st, 2024.***

Mark Your Calendars!

The **Ohio 4-H Conference** will be held on **Saturday, March 9, 2024**, at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. Join your peers for a day of educational seminars, a luncheon, silent auction, vendors and more! Get to know others in 4-H throughout the state! Packets that include registration information and costs will be available soon!



Older Youth Applications

Any youth member, *who is 14-years-old as of January 1, 2024*, is eligible for older youth leadership opportunities. These opportunities include Junior Fair Board, Junior Leaders, 4-H Advisory Committee, and CARTEENS as well as state youth leadership roles and state trips. Applications will be mailed out in a letter to all eligible youth, but it is also available on our website as an online form. These leadership opportunities allow youth to build the skills they need to succeed in their future careers or while continuing their education. ***All older youth applications are due by 4:30pm on Monday, November 20, 2023.***



4-H Riding Therapy-Update

The program will start earlier in 2024 due to extreme heat the last 2 years and the number of missed sessions. The program starts May 23rd. Due to the change, training for the new 4-H Riding Therapy volunteers and the annual updates need to be earlier also. Mark your calendars with these important dates. If you know of anyone who wants to be a 4-H volunteer for 4-H Riding Therapy, share these dates. Perhaps you want to expand your role as a volunteer in 2024. If you do let us know and we can get you an additional job description and you will be asked to attend part of the Annual 4-H Riding Therapy updates on April 16th.



- 2/29/2024- Deadline to submit an application to be a new 4-H Riding Therapy volunteer
- 3/4/2024- 9:00-11:30 am-interviews for new 4-H Riding Therapy volunteers
- 3/4/2024-1:00-2:30 pm- New 4-H Riding Therapy volunteer training
- 3/11/2024- 5:00-6:00 pm-interviews for new 4-H Riding Therapy volunteers
- 3/11/2024-6:30-8:30 pm-New 4-H Riding Therapy volunteer training
- 4/16/2024-5:30-7:30 pm-Annual 4-H Riding Therapy training/update for all returning volunteers (includes Child Abuse & Neglect training) for 4-H Riding Therapy volunteers
- 4/30/2023- Deadline to complete Child Abuse & Neglect training online if the training on April 16 is missed

Older Youth in Training (OYIT), Camp Counselor in Training (CIT), and Camp Counselor Programs

4-H members that are eligible for the above listed programs will receive a postcard with a link to the application. All ***camp counselor, CIT, & OYIT applications are due by 4:30pm on Monday, November 20, 2023.*** The link and information on the programs will also be posted on the 4-H blog and the individual Facebook pages for the group. Below is a brief review of each of the programs.

Older Youth in Training (OYIT) is a program for 4-H members 13 years old as of January 1st. It is a year to learn more about all the older youth programs that become available once 4-H members are 14 years old in 4-H years. In addition, they help plan Cloverbud Day Camp and the program is **REQUIRED** to be a CIT when they turn 14 years old in 4-H years.

Counselors in Training (CITs) participate in the camp counselor trainings and workdays. They work along with camp counselors to plan camp and provide leadership during camp. **ONLY** 14-year-old 4-H members who completed OYIT program the previous year are eligible.

Camp Counselors attend trainings and workdays to learn skills to help them prepare for a leadership role at camp. They develop the camp theme and help plan the camp schedule and activities. The camp counselor program is open to any 4-H member 15 years old as of January 1st.



Mandatory Volunteer Training

Beginning in 2022, *on an annual basis*, to remain active and in good standing for the upcoming 4-H year, **all Ohio 4-H volunteers MUST** participate in trainings covering one topic from the volunteer competencies as well as the Activities and Programs with Minors (formally Policy 1.50) training. **Volunteer training dates are scheduled for February 19th from 1:00-3:00 or 6:00-8:00 pm.** All 4-H volunteers must attend one volunteer update.



Financial Reports

The report is **due January 31, 2024**, and remember to submit the December 2022 or January 2023 bank statement **AND** the December 2023 bank statements if your club has a checking or savings account. **You have two options to complete the report:**

- **Option 1:** Complete the paper copy enclosed and mail or drop it off at the office with your bank statements. **DO NOT** fax or scan/email due to the sensitive information on the form.
- **Option 2:** Complete the form online through a secure site and bring the bank statements to the office by the January 31, 2024, deadline. Go to: ohio4h.org; click Volunteers, then click Club Volunteers, then click Finances, and under that section you will see "Ohio 4-H Annual Financial Summary" and follow the instructions to complete and submit online.



Winter Meeting Cancellation Policy It is that time of the year again where we start to see beautiful landscapes covered in snow. The policy in place states that if there is no school there will be no meetings or meetings will be transitioned to Zoom to avoid falling behind. This is for youth involved in older youth opportunities. Exceptions are for adult only meetings. In those cases, please call ahead to check on the status for the meeting.



4-H Online Enrollments

Returning volunteers will need to complete their re-enrollment using their 4honline accounts by April 1st, 2024. New volunteers will turn in a completed application, but the office staff will set up their 4honline accounts. Returning 4-H families will need to complete their re-enrollment using their 4honline accounts by April 1st, 2024. **Paper enrollment forms will not be available this year.**



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

OSU Extension, Morgan County
155 E Main Street, Suite 320
PO Box 179
McConnelsville, OH 43756

Phone: 740-962-4854
Fax: 740-962-6508
morgan@osu.edu

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