

MIAMI COUNTY 4-H NEWS UPDATE

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 21, 2021

CURRENT VOLUNTEERS

Policy 1.50 training, an annual state requirement for Ohio 4-H volunteers, will be held virtually and must be completed by our club enrollment deadline, **March 26**. Click [here](#) for instructions. Please forward your course certificate of completion to Demetria at woods.372@osu.edu.

Miami County 4-H Volunteer Updates will be conducted virtually. Please register at least 48 hours prior to the session at <https://go.osu.edu/MCupdates>. Approximately 24 hours before the session, you will receive a Zoom link to connect to the program.

- **6:00 P.M., Thursday, March 4, 2021**

MEETING GUIDELINES UPDATE

Has your club resumed in-person meetings? In-person meetings are acceptable as long as they are educational in basis. Please follow the state guidelines when planning your club meeting. These guidelines include, but are not limited to:

- Hosting virtual meetings and events is preferred.
- If activities are critical/essential and are in-person, they must be focused on education.
- Groups cannot be larger than 50 people, including adults, youth, presenters, etc.
 - This directive is dependent on local health department advisories.
 - The group size may need to be reduced to 10 (or other amount), based on the directives from your local health department.
- Face masks are required.
 - This includes inside AND outside at all times.
 - Program participants age five and older, and parent/guardians must wear a mask.
 - The exception is shooting sports where safety is a concern when on the line. Refer to the section on additional shooting sports guidance.
 - Medical conditions or disability exceptions are also permitted.
- Potlucks and buffets are not permitted.

Before hosting an in-person club meeting, please take a few minutes to review the complete guidelines: <http://go.osu.edu/21meetingguidelinesfebruary>.

ENROLL TODAY

Ohio 4-H has upgraded software – which means we have a new 4-H database. Videos and tip sheets have been posted to aid new and returning families with enrollment. Please click [here](#) for more information. The Miami County 4-H Club enrollment deadline is **March 26, 2021**.

FIRST-YEAR 4-H HORSE PROJECT MEMBER REQUIREMENT

EquiSTEP is a horse safety, handling and management program. All first-year Miami County 4-H Horse Project members **must complete the EquiSTEP On-Line Course by April 1, 2021**. Click [here](#) to register for this program.

**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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SCHOLARSHIPS

[2021 Miami SWCD/Larry Studebaker Scholarship](#) - Deadline March 12

[Miami County Agricultural Leadership Application](#) - Deadline April 1

[Miami County Farm Bureau Scholarship](#) – Deadline April 1

[A. B. Graham Memorial Center Scholarship](#) – Deadline April 16

OHIO 4-H VIRTUAL HORSE COMMUNICATIONS CONTEST

Are you interested in demonstrating your public speaking or media skills? 4-H Horse Project members can work as a team or choose to participate as an individual in the 2021 Horse Communications Contest. The Contest will be held virtually this year on March 13. Click [here](#) to learn more about the contest. Registration is due by **March 1, 2021**.

NATIONAL 4-H BEEKEEPING ESSAY COMPETITION

Write a short essay (750-1000 words) on “Threats to Bee Colonies and Methods to Defend Against the Threats”. One winner from Ohio will be selected to advance to the national competition. Additional information can be found [here](#). Please submit your essay to woods.372@osu.edu **before March 12**. Miami County’s winning essay will then be forwarded to the State 4-H Office to compete for the honor of representing Ohio 4-H in the contest.

PHOTOGRAPHY CHALLENGE

Minnesota 4-H Photography is excited to offer a photo challenge to Midwest youth in grades K-13. Explore the world in TONES with a black and white photography challenge! We encourage you to play with shadows, look at texture, and layer dark and light tones to create stunning black and white photographs. The submission deadline is **March 15, 2021**. More information and rules for the challenge can be found [here](#).

OHIO 4-H EQUITY MONTH

February is Ohio 4-H Equity Month. Throughout the month there will be virtual opportunities for youth and volunteers to explore diversity, equity, and inclusion topics. For more information, visit <https://go.osu.edu/4hequity>:

- **Weekly Challenge** - Seek out a virtual challenge that will encourage members to explore a new resource, start a conversation, or another “at-home” challenge to enhance their learning about diverse topics!
- **Where is it in Ohio?** - Each week a location that is representative of the week’s topic will be highlighted on Friday through a video interview.
- **Suggested Reading** - A selection of age-appropriate books for children, early teens, and young adults has been chosen for each of the Equity Month topics.

Take care, stay safe, and just breathe.

