



**OSU Extension
Mercer County Office**
4978 Mud Pike, Suite 1
Celina, OH 45822

Monday – Friday
8:30am – 4:00pm

419-586-2179

<https://mercercounty.osu.edu/>



<https://www.facebook.com/mcoho4h/>



<https://www.instagram.com/mercercounty4h/>

HOT TOPICS!

If you are a Jr. Fair Award sponsor – you should have received your 2024 Award & Sponsorship letter in the mail. Reach out to our office if you didn't receive yours or if you have questions.



FYF: For Your Fridge

February 2024 - Mercer County 4-H Newsletter

Dear 4-H Families -

New Year! New Location! New Staff! We are excited to start 2024 with changes to the Mercer County OSU Extension office.

As we previously announced, Jill Ellis, Office Associate, has retired. Vicki McGee has filled that position, and she is adapting quickly to her new role in our office.

We have officially moved to our new office at 4978 Mud Pike in Celina in the Mercer County Agriculture Center. We are right next door to the Mercer County DD Building at the corner of Mud Pike and Fleetfoot Road. Our business hours are Monday – Friday from 8:30am – 4:00 pm, or by appointment. We are looking forward to serving our 4-H families from our new location!

Beth



2024 4-H Enrollment – Now Open!

4-H online enrollment for members is open! **The direct link for enrollment is:**

<http://v2.4honline.com>

Information on how to enroll, helpful tips, videos and a step-by-step guide are available on our website:

<https://go.osu.edu/enrollmentinformation>.

Enrollment deadline is March 1, 2024. *Your club advisor may set an earlier date for your enrollment to be entered based on your club requirements.*

Once your enrollment has been approved, you will not be able to make any changes to your account – all project changes will need to be made by contacting Erica (bowers.360@osu.edu) by April 1, 2024 (Drop/Add Deadline)





Project Central

Ohio State University Extension

4-H Project Central & New Project Books

Have you selected your 4-H project for 2024 yet? Struggling for ideas? Check out Project Central for previews on all Ohio 4-H project books. It's a great tool - and you can also read what others have to say about projects too. <https://projectcentral.ohio4h.org/>

What's New in 2024?

Assistance Animals in Action

- Focuses on how animals, especially dogs, can "lend a paw" to help others
- Includes the human-animal bond, zooeyia, and the work of three types of assistance animals
- Covers how animals are trained and what they can do
- Intermediate level, state fair eligible

Relationships 101

- Covers types of relationships and their descriptions
- Highlights the differences between healthy and unhealthy relationships
- Describes how personal identity and values impact relationships
- Helps develop skills needed to form healthy relationships
- Intermediate level, state fair eligible

Gymkhana

- Covers everything a rider needs to know to excel in gymkhana events
- Includes the patterns of gymkhana, including barrel and flag races
- Requires access to a horse
- Requires use of 190R *Equine Record Book*
- Intermediate level

Roping

- Covers the history of roping, different types of ropes, and how ropes are made
- Features several types of roping events—ground roping, mounted competition, breakaway roping, goat tying, tie-down roping, and team roping
- For those participating in mounted competitions, requires use of 190R *Equine Record Book*
- All levels

OSU EXTENSION MERCER COUNTY



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Quality Assurance Requirement

What is QA? The QA program is intended to provide information and knowledge surrounding the quality and care of livestock for 4-H and FFA members. It is mandated by OSU and ODA is a Jr. Fair requirement.

Who needs to attend? All livestock members exhibiting a market animal (large and small) must attend a training or test out option if age eligible.

Quality Assurance Test Out Options:

Monday, March 18 - 6:00 PM
Tuesday, March 19 - 6:00 PM

Quality Assurance Training Options:

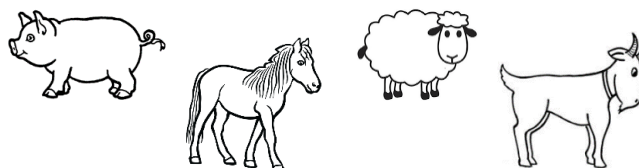
Monday, March 18 - 7:00 PM
Tuesday, March 19 - 7:00 PM
Wednesday, April 24 - 7:00 PM
Thursday, April 25 - 7:00 PM

More information regarding QA will be mailed and emailed to members after the March 1st deadline. Please be sure to mark these dates on your calendar in the meantime.

Livestock Identification Dates – Mark your Calendars!

Sheep and Goats – April 26th and 27th
Hogs – due May 31st
Horse – due May 1st (EquiStep & ID)

These exhibitors will receive information via mail and email after the March 1 enrollment deadline.



Outstanding Senior 4-H Member Scholarship

The Outstanding Senior 4-H Member Scholarship, sponsored by the Mercer County 4-H Committee, is now available. Applications are due **March 1, 2024.**

Visit our website for more details and to access the application -

<https://go.osu.edu/teengroups>



Dog Resource Books, Rabbit Resource Books and the Uniform Horse Rules Book have been updated for 2024! Returning families can continue to use the old editions – but new families will receive updated versions.

2024 Harbor Point 4-H Camp

Camp counselors and staff have already begun training and planning for the 2024 Harbor Point 4-H camps! Do you have it marked on your calendar?



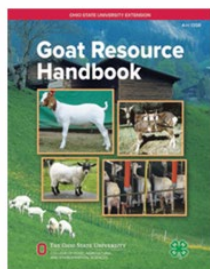
Cloverbud Day Camp – Wednesday, May 29

Week One Overnight Camp – Tuesday, June 4 to Friday, June 7

Week Two Overnight Camp – Monday, June 10 to Thursday, June 13

Registration information will be released in the spring via email and on our website.

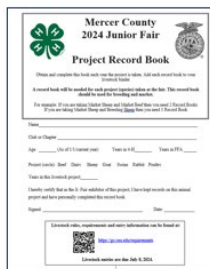
Livestock Resources and Record Books



One per Family



First Year Exhibitor



Year 2 & Beyond

New in 2024! Due to a change at the state level, livestock record books will be different this year for first year exhibitors.

First Year Livestock Exhibitors will receive a Project and Record book specific to their specie as shown in the middle picture above.

Returning Livestock Exhibitors will receive the insert pages to put in their green binder as in the past as shown in the third picture above. New this year – **returning Poultry Exhibitors** will also use Livestock Record Insert pages.

Dog and Horse Exhibitors will complete their respective specie Project and Record books each year. Insert pages/binders do not apply to these exhibitors regardless of year showing.

Resource Books are available for first year exhibitors/families as show in the first picture above. They can be passed down from sibling-to-sibling year to year.

FFA Jr. Fair Livestock Registration

Registration for FFA members who would like to show livestock in the 2024 Mercer County Jr. Fair is due **March 1st, 2024.** Registration can be completed at the link below:

https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2cyV8jQCOmaO5mu



FAST FACTS... MERCER COUNTY



4-H



Have you read over our FAST FACTS flyer?

There is a lot of helpful information for new and returning families in it!

<https://go.osu.edu/howtojoin4h>

