Clover Times

News from Putnam County 4-H

May 2025

Early Bird 4-H Camp Registration Open Now!

Early bird registrations now until June 13: $220
From June 14 - July 1: $235
Non-4-H members - $250
Deadline for camp registrations at full cost is JULY 1st!
July 2- July 7th, late registration $250 *Due to the high number of campers, no registrations will be accepted after July 7th

4-H Camp Scholarships

Camp Scholarships are being offered by Putnam County 4-H Council. Click 4-H Camp Scholarship Application to download form. Camp Scholarships are due May 15 to the Extension Office.

4-H Senior Spotlights

Parents, if you have a 2025 senior who is in 4-H, we are highlighting them through our OSU Extension Facebook page and High School Senior display in the Junior Fair Building during fair. Please send email to downing.310@osu.edu for more information.

Junior Fair King and Queen

Applications for the Putnam County Junior Fair King, Queen and Court are due May 16, 2025. Click HERE for application. Remember to complete a reference form.

4-H Junior Achievement Scholarships

Are you a 4-H member between 12-16 years of age? Consider applying for a $50 Junior Achievement Award. Application found HERE

Health & Safety Speeches and Demonstrations

If your child is interested in doing a health or safety speech or demonstration, there will be no county judging this year. The 4-Her will be sent directly to state for judging. If interested, please call the office at 419-523- 6294.

Special Interest & Misc Project Judging

Putnam County Event Center at the fairgrounds, June 17, 2025, 8:30AM – 2:30PM

All Special Interest/Home Ec and Misc projects will be judged individually by experienced judges. Times are scheduled by clubs within each project area so be sure to check for all your times when schedule is released. When arriving at, please report to the Registration Table. There you will be given a Judging Sheet, location of the judge, and complete instructions.

If you have a conflict with the Judging (because of vacation, camp, school, or church obligations) please call the Extension Office at 419-523-6294 to schedule make-up judging option (June 18). Remember if you complete your project through make-up judging or advisor judging you are ineligible for a county placing. All projects are to be completed prior to the fair start date.

Advisor Information

FAIR BOOTHS: Attached is the map for booth assignments for clubs. The booth assignments are based on booth size established last year. Please remember that this space is for clothing, food, health, woodworking, and other miscellaneous projects only. Premiums will be paid for only one item per class project. Booth set-up times are listed in the Junior Fair schedule. Cloverbud projects may also be displayed in your booth.

Please remember when planning and setting up your booth the goals of the fair booth: To provide education to the viewers, to promote 4-H and the work done by members, and to offer a neat, attractive display. All exhibits should be arranged to be within the eight feet of exhibit area from the back wall. Remember to bring well marked tools and tables for your use when setting up booths. All projects must be on display the entire time the fair is in progress.

Exhibits can be taken down starting Saturday, June 29 from 8:00 PM to 10PM.

NOTE: An advisor from each club will need to come to the Jr. Fair Building on Sunday, June 18th between 11AM – Noon to put up placing ribbons in your club booth if they have not been completed prior. A packet with your clubs' ribbons will be provided. Ribbons will not be put up unless an advisor is present to do it.

4-H Endowment Auction Items Needed

A silent auction is being sponsored by the Putnam County 4-H Council during the county fair. Items for the silent auction can be donated by clubs, volunteers and area organizations. The high bidder for each item will be contacted and arrangements will be made to exchange payment for items.
Each 4-H Club in Putnam County is asked to donate one or two items for the auction. As a general guideline, the 4-H Council is asking that the value of the item be equal to a dollar or two per member. For example, if your club has 50 members, the value of the item should be around $50.00-$100. Items should be dropped off at the Extension Office no later than June 18, 2025. The earlier the better! The more items the better!

Please show your support for the Putnam County 4-H Youth Program, visit the silent auction, have fun bidding and possibly win some great items.

Youth Quality Assurance

Please read carefully. All feeder calves are required to attend in 2025.

As a youth livestock exhibitor taking one of the following— all feeder calves, market lambs, market goats, market beef, lactating dairy, market poultry, market rabbits, and swine-- you will be required to complete a Youth Quality Assurance (YQA) Program in 2025. This requirement is mandated by the Ohio Department of Agriculture. The Putnam County Ag Society has asked OSU Extension, Putnam County to coordinate this educational effort. If FFA and 4-H members do not complete YQA this year, they will not be eligible to show and sell their project at the Putnam County Fair.

Last day to complete Putnam YQA will be May 9, 2025. YQA must be completed 45 days prior to fair. Note: The BQA/PQA online courses do not meet the Ohio Youth Food Animal QA certification requirement. QA calendar year (October 1st – September 31st).

Please review your options below and select one.

OPTION 1: Web based Online Training Option
Any Putnam County youth exhibitor (8-18) may take the online YQCA certification. YQCA Link
Approximate cost is $12 per child and a completion certificate must be submitted to our office for each youth. Certificates have individual completion numbers so one certificate cannot be used for all youth in the same family.

OPTION 2: Youth can attend other county/regional YQCA trainings but must ensure their attendance is sent to the Putnam County Extension Office from the hosting event. Call our office for other dates and locations in NW Ohio.

Horse Exhibitors

The 2025 EquiSTEP program is now up and running! Please remember that all Putnam County 4-H Horse project members must complete the online training by no later than **May 9th** in order to show in county and state 4-H equine shows. Full instructions can be found HERE Please remember that each member must log in with a unique email address. You cannot use the same email address for multiple youth completing EquiSTEP.

SPECIAL NOTE: Those members competing in Horse Bowl, hippology, etc. must complete the training at least one week prior to the state contest for which they are entered.

Complete the EquiSTEP program here: https://go.osu.edu/EquiSTEP2025

The certificate will be emailed to the participant's email address. You will need to forward to our county's 4-H email address FAES-PutnamExtension@osu.edu Please be sure to select our county (Putnam) when completing this process. Deadline for completion is May 9, 2025.

Horse PAS Information

Area 1 & 7 PAS Show Registration is OPEN now! Link to register:

2025 Putnam County PAS Horse Show

Deadline for registration is May 15, 2025

PAS patterns were recently released and are found in the PAS Info Packet.

Poultry Show

We are monitoring the decrease of the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in our neighboring counties of Auglaize and Mercer. The Junior Fair is currently planning on a normal poultry schedule/show. We will continue to monitor the situation and follow any future ODA guidelines. If there would be any changes, everyone will be notified.

Rabbit Tattooing

All breeding and market rabbits must be tattooed on **Saturday, May 31 from 8 to 11 am** in the show arena at the fairgrounds. Please plan to arrive no later than 10 am. If you have one or more breeding rabbits that were tattooed in a previous year, those do not need to come.
Please note: ***THERE WILL NOT BE A MAKE-UP DAY FOR RABBIT TATTOOING***. If you are unable to bring your rabbits on May 31, please find another 4-H'er, neighbor, family member, friend, etc. to bring them for you. If you miss rabbit tattooing, your rabbits can come to the fair but will not be eligible for competition and will show in the over/under class.

DUNF Requirement

The Putnam County Senior Fair Board and the Ohio Department of Agriculture has made it mandatory that exhibitors fill out a Drug Use Notification Form (DUNF) for DAIRY/BEEF/CROSSBRED FEEDERS, MARKET GOATS, MARKET SHEEP, MARKET HOGS, LACTATING DAIRY, MARKET RABBITS, POULTRY PENS, and MARKET BEEF. The DUNF will need to be completed online per ODA requirements. The DUNF online link will be distributed at skillathon judging and needs to be completed prior to start of the fair. If the DUNF's are not completed, you will not be able to show at the Putnam County Fair. No late forms will be accepted.
Please prioritize this requirement and deadline. If you have any questions, feel free to call the Extension office at 419-523-6294.

Jr Fair Livestock Entry Forms

Remember that Jr. Fair Livestock entries are due June 6, 2025 and will be entered online this year using the FAIR ENTRY PROGRAM. Directions for Fair Entry will be shared soon through your 4-H email.
All 4-Her's wanting to exhibit livestock at the fair MUST complete a Jr. Fair online entry.

*NOTICE: All late fair entries will be considered ineligible for awards and will exhibit for a grade only!! Late market entries can still participate in the premium sale. A $10 per week late fee will be assessed for any entries uploaded after the deadline.

Weigh-In Schedule for Sunday June 22

All Animals to be in by 3PM (except Rabbits/Poultry by 12PM).
Rabbits/Poultry: 8AM-12:00 PM, animal will be weighed at arrival. (Rabbit/Poultry Barn)
Swine: 4:00 PM (North and South Swine Barn)
Lamb/Goat: 4:00 PM (Lamb/Goat Barn)
Feeders: 5:30 PM (Dairy Feeders/Cross Bred Feeders weigh in the South Swine Barn & Beef Feeders weigh in the North Swine Barn)
Steers: 6:30 PM following Beef Feeders (North Swine Barn)

Are you selling market animals to Junior Fair or bringing them home?

To help Junior Fair officials prepare for the livestock sale and provide accurate numbers to our livestock buyers for base bids, exhibitors must declare if their market project animal will be going to market through the fair or taken home at weigh in time on Sunday of load in. Exhibitors will also need to indicate if they are participating in the livestock auction (premium sale). If animals are taken home, exhibitors cannot participate in the premium sale. No private purchases of animals at premium sale (cannot mark animals for 'fair' or 'home' at sale). Exception – families can make changes if they have multiple market entries and if their entries in the market projects win as champions/bred and fed champions. In these cases, families can change sale trips/pull non champion animals by visiting the junior fair office within an hour after the show and completing a request form. If this form is not submitted, exhibitor's market livestock will be required to sell (either through the ring or at market value).

Reminder: All junior fair market Champions/Res Champions must sell to fair.

Junior Fair Premium Sale

One trip: Each exhibitor gets one trip through the sale.

The sale will go in order of last name starting with "Z" to "A" this year.

No animals will be brought through the sale arena (except Grand and Reserve). All sale animals will be sold by premium only.

All Grand and Reserve Grand Champion Market animals must be sold through the sale and be slaughtered.

To cover advertising, ribbons and supplies for the show and sale, a deduction of 4 1/2 % of gross sales on beef, swine, lambs, poultry, rabbits, goats and dairy will be made.

The Single Fryer rabbits will not go through the livestock sale. All single fryers will be sold to fair and loaded on market truck (if buyer agrees to take them). If you plan to take your single fryer home, you will need to designate that at the scale.

NOTE: Exhibitors must attend sale or have a designated stand in - no shows will not sell!

DAIRY/BEEF FEEDER CALF MARKET SALE: All feeder calves (exhibitors) which are selling will go through the sale arena as "fair" animals. Thus, each feeder calf will have a base bid prior to exhibitor entering the sale arena. Base bid animals will be sold individually by weight. These animals must go to the fair with the high base bidder receiving the calves.

Livestock Skillathon Judging – New Location

Held on Thursday, June 12 from 8:30 AM - 2:20 PM at the PUTNAM COUNTY EVENT CENTER located at the fairgrounds.

PLEASE READ: 4-H Skillathon participants will be required to register for a time slot online. This will help us maintain attendees in the building as this judging event is large. Only youth will be permitted beyond registration tables. There is limited waiting areas for parents.

All 4-H members enrolled in a livestock projects will need to participate in a livestock skillathon judging. Members are responsible to bring their completed, up-to-date project and record book with them to judging. All members need to participate in the skillathon judging process to exhibit at the county fair. Members will need to sign up for a time slot. The link for sign up will be released on May 15 and emailed through 4-H Online. Make up skillathon is scheduled for June 18. Call the office for a time slot for makeup skillathon judging.

NOTE: If you are taking a dairy feeders, crossbred feeders, or dairy steers please sign up for dairy skillathon time slot. If you are taking a beef feeder or beef steer/breeding/heifer please sign up for a beef skillathon time slot.

Fair Board Notes

- **Livestock Premium Sale Trips** – exhibitors will be awarded one trip through sale regardless of the number of champions. If an exhibitor has multiple champions, the sale auctioneer will acknowledge this, championvanimals can be brought to ring, and pictures with buyers and champion animals will still be provided.
- **Feeder Calf Auction in 2025:** A note that Junior Fair feeder calves will be sold individually, as opposed to grouping them in the base bid sale for 2025. Feeders will be sold by weight, starting with champions, then we will move to crossbred feeders, then dairy feeders, selling in the same way. Invoices for buyers will be generated Thursday after the sale and bills can be paid at the Junior Fair office until load out time on Sunday. No calves will be released without a paid receipt. The Junior Fair office will need to time to develop invoices, so no payments for calves will be accepted the evening of the feeder calf sale. Location for the feeder calf auction will be the entertainment tent, and buyers will receive a fair pass for gate entry.
- **Market Swine** sold through the premium sale will be loaded for market on Friday evening of the fair. All other breeding and market hogs will be released by decision of Junior Fair Committee, but no earlier than Saturday at midnight.
- **Junior Fair Animal release** - No earlier than midnight of last night, but to be determined by barn superintendents and Junior fair livestock committee at time of fair (after load outs).
- **Manure Bins at fair** – the senior fair board wants to remind everyone that only manure is to be placed in the manure bins provided on the fairgrounds. No trash. When placing manure in bins, do not dump it at entrance of bin.

- **Campers and power cords** – all cords providing power to campers must be rated at 30 amps and not spliced. If an extension is needed to reach power supply, they must be connected via plug only.
- **Per Putnam County Sheriff's Department**: All campers must be registered to someone over theage of 18 and this individual will be held liable and responsible for all activities at the site.
- **Fair Sale Premiums** – exhibitors sale premiums will be deducted if projects are not taken care ofthroughout fair week. This includes continual washing, feeding, watering and stall cleaning. If an exhibitor receives one sign for a dirty pen, they must clean pen as within 12 hours. If the same exhibitor receives another "clean pen sign"; they will forfeit sale premium money.
- There will be no parking permitted on the grounds or around campers. The only exceptions include staff parking, handicap parking and fair judge parking. The infield of the track will be opened for buyers to park on sale days.
- No parking is permitted alongsouth/north swine barns during Sunday's animal load in day. Weigh-ins are throughout the day and Sr.Fair Board needs those lanes open.
- There will be limited requests to move vehicles that are illegally parked. They will be towed more often without announcement. Please follow all parking guidelines and traffic patterns.
- Each feeder calf in dairy barn must have a neck tie along with a halter.

Barn Fans

Dairy Barn Fans – if exhibitors are bringing fans for their livestock in the dairy barn, ALL fans will be required to face south.
Swine Barn Fans—North barn fans blow north; South barn fans blow south.
Rabbit / Poultry Barn Fans – fans are provided by committee. No personal fans permitted.
Fans – under the guidelines of the Fire Marshall there will be no fans used in the barns that are considered "indoor fans" (box fans). All fans must have ground plugs. Surge protectors need to be plugged directly into outlet without use of extension cords.

Late arrival/early release of animals at fair

Any Putnam County Junior Fair nonmarket animal requesting late arrival or early release due to another show, must provide proof of entry to that show. This documentation and request must be provided to the Senior Fair Board Livestock Committee and Horse Committee (if applicable) and be preapproved to arrive late or leave early. Requests will be considered if it does not conflict with the animal showing in the Putnam County Junior Fair show.

Junior Fair Show Schedule

Please be sure to review the 2025 Putnam County Fair Book and take time to read through the Junior Fair section.

Fair Activities

Be sure to check out the non-livestock shows at the fair this year!
Cloverbud Recognition: All cloverbuds are welcome to attend! Cloverbuds will get recognized for their hard work during the 4-H year. This program is on Tuesday June 24, and starts at 11AM, so please arrive a little bit early in the entertainment tent.

Style Review: All clothing projects are invited to participate in the 2025 Style Review on Tuesday, June 24 at 7:00 PM. If interested, the 4-Her will need to fill out a Clothing Narration Card about their project to get announced at the style review. The member will be able to model their clothing they made. This is not mandatory; however, the results of clothing projects will get announced that night. So, all participants are encouraged to attend and participate!

Barn Games: Wednesday, June 25 - 8:00 PM; This is a fun-filled time for all Jr. Fair exhibitors, other youth and adults to get together and have fun with various games and activities in the Main Show Arena. Planned by the Jr. Fair Board, activities are held for all age groups from toddlers up to adults. Come and join the fun! No entry or registration is needed.

Decorated Animal Contest: This event is scheduled for Wednesday, June 25 - 7:00 PM; Decorate your animal and yourself and enjoy the fun at the annual Decorated Animal Contest. These activities will be split into small animals (rabbits, poultry, chickens, goats) and large animals (sheep, cattle, horses and pigs). Each Jr. Fair Exhibitor will be judged on their originality and creativity. Registration is required. Forms are available on-line. Prizes will be awarded. This event is sponsored by Ag Credit. A short narration card is to be completed prior to the event.

Wristbands for Fair

Jr. Fair exhibitors will be admitted into the fairgrounds free of charge. However, 4-H'ers must have a Jr. Fair Wrist Bands to show their involvement with the program. All 4-H/FFA members who exhibit at the fair can pick-up their wrist bands on any project judging day or Sunday, June 22.

Please note: Bands must be securely attached, secure enough not to be removed or slid over wrist and worn upon entry to fairgrounds. Bands will be issued to individuals, signed for, and cannot be picked up as a pack for club members.

* Lost or broken wristband passes can be replaced, but there may be a charge to get a new one if old one is not traded in.

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION, PUTNAM COUNTY

Extension Staff

Jason Hedrick - Educator, 4-H Youth Development
hedrick.10@osu.edu

Beth Scheckelhoff - Educator, Ag & Natural Resources
scheckelhoff.11@osu.edu

Anna Downing - Program Coordinator
downing.310@osu.edu

Nicole Hoffman - Office Associate
hoffman.1458@osu.edu

Office Information

Address: 1206 E Second St
Ottawa, OH 45875

Phone: (419) 523-6294

Office Hours:
Monday – Friday, 8:00am – 4:30pm

Putnam County Websites

Office Website: putnam.osu.edu

Facebook: OSU Extension Putnam County

4-H Website: 4honline.com

Fair Entries: Fairentry.com

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Putnam County
1206 E Second St
Ottawa, OH 45875

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