

Dear Putnam County 4-H members, families, volunteers and supporters:

Hello Everyone,

Please find below a few items of interest as we prepare for our 2024 4-H Year. Although things are not yet completely planned, we wanted to share a few key items.

DEADLINE COMING SOON!

Camp Counselors/JFB Applications – 4-H Camp Counselor and Junior Fair Board applications will be due November 1, 2023. Interviews for these positions will be November 13-15. Candidates MUST call the office for an interview time. Visit [Counselor Application](#) or [JFB Application](#) for materials.

Advisors: Please submit your candidate references by the Nov 1 deadline – thanks!

Candidates can also visit this QR code to complete the application online.



JFB Application



Camp Counselor Application

4-H Camp Dates – July 14-18, 2024

Putnam County Fair – June 24- 29, 2024

Attention Junior Fair Steer Exhibitors:

There will be no Steer Weigh-In for 2024. Instead, 2024 market beef/dairy steer exhibitors are required to pick up EID Tags from the Extension office. You can pick up tags from November 1, 2023 - January 1, 2024 in our office. Please complete an ID Form, take photos of tagged animal, and send photos along with the form back to the Extension office. Deadline for materials is January 5, 2024. All materials must be sent to hoffman.1458@osu.edu by deadline.

If your steer already has an EID Tag, simply complete the ID Form and submit pictures of your steer by the deadline. The form includes DETAILED instructions about what photos are needed and how to submit them to the office. ID Forms completed after January 5 will be assessed a \$10 late fee and could be ineligible for fair competition.

- Beef Breeding: if you are planning to bring beef breeding to the junior fair, you must enroll in the beef breeding 4-H project and enter the animal to 4-H Online by April 17th deadline and Fair Entry June 7.

4-H Family Guides – The 4-H Family Guides will be sent directly to your homes this year. The State 4-H Office will distribute them centrally. Our office will have copies for new families, so they are welcome to stop by the office to get a copy. We should have them sometime in November. The 4-H Family Guide can also be downloaded at: <https://ohio4h.org/familyguide>



Putnam County 4-H Advisor Kick-Off and 4-H Council Meeting– January 9th

We are requiring all advisors to attend the Kick-Off training or the make-up training. We will review 4-H materials at this time, review program changes, and coach everyone through the online enrollment process. The Advisor Kick-Off is scheduled for January 9, 2024 starting at 6PM at the Putnam County ESC Assembly Room. We will provide a light meal between 6-6:30PM and start our program at 6:30PM. Make up training (and new advisor training) is schedule for January 25th at 6PM at the Extension office.

4-H Enrollment – We will be conducting online 4-H enrollment in 2024. We will be releasing the link to enroll and provide easy to navigate instructions when enrollment time begins. 2024 Enrollment deadline is March 1.

4-H Project Books – Project books will be available at our Extension office, and we plan to distribute as we have in the past (through advisors once your enrollment is complete). They are provided to you at no additional cost beyond your club dues.

Lamb and Goat Identification Deadlines and Process

There will be no April Lamb and Goat Weigh-In for 2024. Instead, we will use the scrapie ID tag as the official fair ID. For 2024, market goat and market sheep exhibitors are required to complete an online ID process using our Fair Entry system. Photos of the Scrapie tagged animal will need to be submitted no later than April 17, 2024 through 4-H Online. DETAILED entry instructions are available online. We will not accept any photos that are emailed or dropped to the office. However, we are always willing to help you complete the online process.

- Sheep Exhibitors: Ewes can show in the breeding class or market class – but not both. If exhibitors want the choice of entering ewes in a market class or a breeding class, the exhibitor must first enroll in both 4-H projects. Secondly, the exhibitor must enter the ewe as a breeding project and a market project in April in 4-H Online. Lastly, the exhibitor must complete both skillathons, then decide by fair entry deadline which class (breeding or market) the animal will show in. Ewes must be scrapie tagged be eligible for the market class.

- Goat Exhibitors: Does can show in the breeding class or market class – but not both. If exhibitors want the choice of entering doe in a market class or a breeding class, the exhibitor must first enroll in both 4-H projects. Secondly, the exhibitor must enter the doe as a breeding project and a market project in April in 4-H Online. Lastly, the exhibitor must complete both skillathons, then decide by fair entry deadline which class (breeding or market) the animal will show in. Does must be scrapie tagged be eligible for the market class.

Feeder Calf Identification Deadline and Process

There will be no Feeder Calf Weigh-In for 2024. Instead, 2024 beef feeder/cross bred feeder/dairy feeder exhibitors are required to pick up EID Tags from the Extension Office between March 1 and April 15 and complete the online entry process using 4-H Online. You will need to take photos of the tagged animal and submit an online entry form by April 17, 2024. If your feeder already has an EID Tag, you may use this. DETAILED entry instructions are available online. We will not accept any photos that are emailed or dropped to the office. However, we are always willing to help you complete the online process.

Swine Identification Deadline and Process

All market Swine exhibitors are required to pick up EID Tags from the Extension Office between now and April 15, complete the online entry process using 4-H Online, take photos of the tagged animal, and

submit photos along with an online form. Due no later than April 17, 2024. DETAILED entry instructions are available online. We will not accept any photos that are emailed or dropped to the office. However, we are always willing to help you complete the online process.

- All pigs entering the junior fair will be expected to be ractopamine free. Our hog buyers will be requiring exhibitors to complete an affidavit upon entry to fair.
- Breeding Gilt Division is a junior fair class - Gilts can show in the breeding class or market class – but not both. If exhibitors want the choice of entering gilts in a market class or a breeding class, the exhibitor must first enroll in both 4-H projects. Secondly, the exhibitor must enter the gilt as a breeding project and a market project in April in 4-H Online. Lastly, the exhibitor must complete both skillathons, then decide by fair entry deadline which class (breeding or market) the animal will show in.

EID Tags and Cost (for all animals that get EID tagged) – The Senior Fair Board will provide EID tags free of charge up to the number of project animals you can enter into the junior fair. You still have the opportunity to ID twice as many at possession deadline, but you must cover the \$3 cost per tag beyond what the board will provide and must document all animals tagged by ID deadlines. Taggers will be available with a \$30 deposit. Deposits will be refunded if tagger is returned within two days of sign out.

Family Tagging

Market animals within the same project can be registered and tagged as family animals in 2024. Family is defined as immediate family members only. Youth must register all animals in their own 4-H online profile by possession deadline if they want the option to choose that animal by fair entry deadline.

Youth must declare which market animal they are bring to fair by the Junior Fair Livestock Entry deadline. Changes after the deadline will make the market project ineligible for competition/champion.

Example: Smith family has two children. Child 1 and Child 2 are both enrolled in the 4-H market swine project. The family can tag up to 6 hogs (no more than three per child) and register all animals in the child's own 4-H online profile by possession deadline if they want the option to choose that animal by fair entry deadline. The Smith family will have to choose which market swine animals go with which child by the junior fair entry deadline in June. Any swine tag changes or substitutions after the June deadline will make the project animal ineligible for competition/champion. The changed/substituted market project can still go through the premium sale and be sold to market.

Youth Quality Assurance Schedule and Options for 2024

As a youth livestock exhibitor taking one of the following-- 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 2024. 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, you will not be eligible to show and sell your project at the Putnam County Fair.

Last day to complete Putnam YQA will be May 10, 2024. Must have complete 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).

There are three ways to get the YQA training in 2024. Please review your options below and select one.

OPTION 1:

April 2 – 7:30PM at Kalida K of C Hall – no pre-registration required.

In Person Putnam Livestock Youth Quality Assurance. Parents may drop off and pick up.

April 11 – 7:30PM at Kalida K of C Hall – no pre-registration required.

In Person Putnam Livestock Youth Quality Assurance. Parents may drop off and pick up.

OPTION 2:

April 20 – 9AM Small Animal Clinic followed by small animal YQA 10AM-11AM at the fairgrounds – no pre-registration required. In Person Putnam Livestock Youth Quality Assurance. Parents may drop off and pick up.

OPTION 3: Web based Online Training Option

Any Putnam County youth exhibitor (8-18) may take the online YQCA certification. Web link will be released early 2024.

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.

Online Fair Entry 2024

We will continue with Fair Entry for our Junior Fair. In 2024, the Junior Fair Livestock entries will be entered online by exhibitors. The Livestock entry deadline will be June 7, 2024 by 5PM. We will share the process as we get into the 2024 4-H season. Fair Entry is a component of our 4-H Online data management system that we use to enroll 4-H members/volunteers. The usernames and passwords will be the same for both. Also, we will not be dependent on J Numbers to enroll livestock projects which will be less confusing.

2024 JUNIOR FAIR NOTES

1. Junior Fair Feeder Calf Crossbred Class – There will be a feeder calf crossbred class in the Junior Fair feeder calf show. The same weight requirements will apply, and these animals will be selling in their own lots. They will show after the dairy feeders and can participate in the dairy showmanship.
 - a. **Required Feeder Calf Classification Date**
Senior Fair Board will be requiring ALL FEEDER CALVES to be ‘officially’ classified as a beef feeder, dairy feeder or crossbred feeder on Saturday April 20, from 8AM -10AM at the Putnam County Fairgrounds. This is to ensure proper identification for fair show/sale. All feeders are to be on grounds by 10AM.
 - b. All feeders **MUST** be tagged prior to the Classification date. Tag and registrations are due April 17, 2024.
 - c. Each Junior Fair exhibitor is allowed a maximum of two feeder calves per class division but no more than four total feeder calves entered into junior fair.