Clover Times

News from Putnam County 4-H

June 2026

Early Bird 4-H Camp Registration Closing Soon

Early bird registrations now until June 12: $225
From June 13 - July 1: $240
Non-4-H members - $260
Deadline for camp registrations at full cost is JULY 1st!
Late registration $260 *available after July 1 if space is available

The 4-H Camp registration survey is now open in Qualtrics and ready to be completed. All registrations for 2026 will be completed online through this survey. Spots are filling up fast!

Please note the following important details for this year:

- All registrations must be submitted online using the Qualtrics survey.
- Payments will not be collected online.
- Payment must be made in person at the office by cash or check or mailed.
- Checks should be made payable to *The Ohio State University*

You may access the registration survey using the link below:

https://go.osu.edu/2026campregistration

Additional required forms:
After you complete the registration survey, you will receive an email from "hoffman.1458@survey.osu.edu" with an invitation to complete the health and permissions form online**.** This is a "no-reply" email address used only to distribute the health form survey.

Please note that registration for 4-H Camp is **NOT** complete until:

1. The registration survey is completed
2. The health form survey is completed
3. Payment has been received

If you have any questions about the registration process or payment, please feel free to contact our office.

We look forward to having an exciting time of fun and learning activities with your camper!

Jr Fair Livestock Entry Forms

Remember that Jr. Fair Livestock entries are due June 1, 2026 and will be entered online using the FAIR ENTRY PROGRAM. Directions for Fair Entry is like previous years, but help videos can be found on our Youtube Page
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 $20 per week late fee will be assessed for any entries uploaded after the deadline.

Showmanship Sign Ups

For Showmanship this year, there are two ways to sign up. We will do traditional sign up on paper in the Jr. Fair office, but showmanship sign up ***closes the night before the show*** (when the Junior Fair office closes for evening). The second option was to sign up on Fair Entry when submitting livestock entries were being submitted. If you decide to sign up for showmanship after the livestock entry deadline, it will need be done at fair, the day before the show.

Day of show:
Once the sign up closes the night before the show, the show order will be randomized. We will ensure family members are in different heats, and not together. The list will be available on our website as soon as registration closes and classes are broken into heats.

Livestock Skillathon Judging –

Wednesday, June 10 from 8:30 AM - 2:20 PM at the PUTNAM COUNTY EVENT CENTER located at the fairgrounds.

PLEASE READ: 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.

https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8cPXuzcoLEKILEO

Make up skillathon is scheduled for June 17. Call the office for a time slot for makeup skillathon judging. Be sure to dress for an interview (show clothes is permitted).

Special Interest & Misc Project (Still Project) Judging

Putnam County Event Center at the fairgrounds, June 16, 2025, 8:30AM – 3:00PM

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 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 17). 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.

Still Project State Fair Information

New for 2026: There will no longer be a State Fair Orientation meeting. Instead, members selected to attend the State Fair must visit the Extension office during the week of **July 20–24**, between **8:00 AM and 4:30 PM**. At that time, you will receive your State Fair information, tickets, and other materials. Selected State Fair participants will be notified by email after county judging and must notify the Extension Office of their decision to attend or not attend State Fair by **July 3 at 4:30 PM**.

4-H Council Scholarships & Awards

- Outstanding Woodworking – Due July 1
- Special Interest Sweepstakes – Due July 1

Advisor Information

FAIR BOOTHS: 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 27 from 8:00 PM to 10PM.

NOTE: An advisor from each club is responsible for placing the club's ribbons in your booth by the start of the Fair. A packet containing your club's ribbons will be provided by 1:00 p.m. on the scheduled setup day.

4-H Endowment Auction Items Needed

The Putnam County 4-H Council is hosting their annual Silent Auction during the Putnam County Fair, and we invite our clubs, volunteers, and local organizations to be part of this exciting event! Each Putnam County 4-H Club is encouraged to donate one or two items to help make the auction a success. As a helpful guideline, the 4-H Council suggests item values of approximately $1–$2 per club member. For example, a club with 50 members might donate an item valued between $50–$100. Items can be dropped off at the Extension Office by Wednesday June 17, 2026—and earlier donations are always appreciated! The more items we receive, the more exciting the auction will be for everyone. Proceeds from the silent auction directly support Putnam County 4-H youth by helping reduce project book costs and providing valuable scholarships. Be sure to stop by the Silent Auction during the fair. Place a bid, support local 4-H youth—and you just might walk away with some fantastic items.

Thank you for supporting the Putnam County 4-H Youth Program—we couldn't do it without you!

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 at the following events; Still Project Judging, Tuesday June 16th, Booth Set Up/Make Up Judging Wednesday June 17th, and Sunday, June 21st at the Junior Fair Office.

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.

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 23, 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 2026 Style Review on Tuesday, June 23 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!

New in 2026 4-H Award Recognition: All 4-Hers are invited to attend our revamped recognition ceremony of our program as we present first place winners, 1st, 5th and last year members will also be recognized. Any 4-Her that will be receiving one of these awards will be welcomed on stage during the program.

Barn Games: Wednesday, June 24 - 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 24 - 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.

Putnam County Fair Book

Please be sure to review the 2026 Putnam County Fair Book and take time to read through the Junior Fair section. Putnam County Fair Book Link HERE

Fair Notes

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 ALL MARKET ANIMALS AND LACTATING DAIRY. FEEDERS started in 2025. 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.

Weigh-In Schedule for Sunday June 21

All Animals to be in by 1PM (except Rabbits/Poultry by 12PM).
Rabbits/Poultry: 8AM-12:00 PM, animal will be weighed at arrival. (Rabbit/Poultry Barn)
Swine: 2:00 PM (North and South Swine Barn)
Lamb/Goat: 2:00 PM (Lamb/Goat Barn)
Feeders: 3:30 PM (Dairy Feeders/Cross Bred Feeders weigh in the South Swine Barn & Beef Feeders weigh in the North Swine Barn)
Steers: 3:30 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 Jr. Fair 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 "A" to "Z" 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 on load in day.

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

2025 Buyers List for Thank You's

Exhibitors who sold in the premium auction last year were provided with a thank you list, please call or email our office if you are unable to locate the list and we will provide a new one to you.

Dairy/Beef/Crossbred Feeder Calf Auction

All feeder calves (exhibitors) which are base bid 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 auctioned individually this year. **The sale will take place at the Entertainment Tent starting at 7PM on Wednesday, June 24**. The feeders will be organized by class, gender and weights and then base bids will be given on each. These animals must go to the fair with the highest base bidder receiving the calves.

Fair Board Notes

New/Updated for 2026

- Livestock must be brought following the Junior Fair Schedule. No animals, tack or bedding to be on the fairgrounds prior to Thursday before the fair including around the barns and tie-outs. Any tack, bedding or stakes will be removed from the area if in place prior to the Thursday before the fair unless prior approval from committee chair(s) is granted. The only exception is tack and bedding brought in for Equine.
- **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, champion animals can be brought to ring, and pictures with buyers and champion animals will still be provided.
    - New in 2026, Bred & Fed winners will no longer be able to switch their selling animals in the Jr Fair Sale. They will still be recognized in the sale program if they are already participating in the Jr. Fair Sale
- **Market Swine** New updated rule for 2026. Exhibitors may bring up to 4 market hogs and 4 breeding hogs as long as they are taking the corresponding projects.
- **Livestock Project/Grade Premium Money**
    - Livestock Project/Grade premiums ($3 for every entry) will be available for pick up at the fair during scheduled times. Any livestock project/grade premiums not picked up will be forfeited and made as a donation to the livestock account.
        - **Non-Livestock project/grade premiums will be sent after fair**

- **Junior Fair Animal release** – market swine sold through the premium sale will be loaded for market on Friday evening of the fair. All other breeding, and market animals not selling will be released per schedule of Sunday @ 4AM

- **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.
- **Barn Fans:**
  In the Dairy Barn, Swine Barns, and Goat & Sheep Barn; fans are supplied and will blow north
  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.
- **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 of throughout fair week. This includes continual washing, feeding, watering and stall cleaning. If an exhibitor receives one notice for a dirty pen, they must clean pen 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 only to park on sale day and must be removed following the sale.
- No parking is permitted along south/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.

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.

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION, PUTNAM COUNTY

Extension Staff

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

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

Putnam County
1206 E Second St
Ottawa, OH 45875

CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information, visit cfaesdiversity.osu.edu. For an accessible format of this publication, visit cfaes.osu.edu/accessibility.