Clover Times

News from Putnam County 4-H

September 2026

Welcome Message from Anna Downing our new Putnam County 4-H Educator:

Hello 4-H Families!

If you have not heard already, in June, I was fortunate enough to step into the role of the Putnam County 4-H Educator. A little background about me, I grew up in Putnam County 4-H. Over the past 10 years, I have held multiple management roles in the program, with the most recent, serving as the 4-H Program Coordinator. My husband and I live in the area with our 3 young children. I'm excited to continue making a positive impact in this new role as I work with our 4-H members, families, volunteers, and communities. If you stop by the office, don't be afraid to say hi!

Looking forward to working with all of you,
Anna Downing

Thank You Camp Counselors & Junior Fair Board!

Behind every successful camp and county fair are young people who willingly step up, lend a hand, and go above and beyond to make a difference. From organizing activities and assisting younger campers to helping with fair events, cleaning up, and supporting staff wherever needed, these youth demonstrate leadership, responsibility, and a true spirit of service. Their dedication, positive attitudes, and willingness to give their time help create memorable experiences for everyone involved. We are incredibly grateful for the countless hours they contribute and for the example they set within our community. Thank you for your hard work, commitment, and enthusiasm in helping make camp and fair season such a success!

First Place Plaques

Congratulations to all of the 4-H members who placed first in their county project area and were awarded a plaque! We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the Putnam County 4-H Council for providing these plaques to our winners. It was a wonderful addition to recognize these outstanding exhibitors on stage during the fair this year.

If you would like to send a note of thanks to the 4-H Council for sponsoring the plaques, please feel free to do so. Thank-you notes can be mailed to: Putnam County 4-H Council 1206 E. Second St., Ottawa, OH 45875

Junior Fair Board & Camp Counselor Applications

Junior Fair Board and Camp Counselor applications are now being accepted for the 2027 year! The application deadline is **November 2**.

We encourage interested youth to join these outstanding groups of young leaders within the 4-H program. Participants will develop valuable life skills while building lifelong friendships.

How to Apply:

Interested 4-H members must:

- Complete an application.
- Ask a non-family member to complete references (one reference for Junior Fair Board and two references for Camp Counselor).
- Call the Extension Office to schedule an interview.

Interviews will be held on:

- Tuesday, November 3
- Thursday, November 5
- Friday, November 6

Applications are linked below and can also be found on our website. Youth may complete either a paper application or the online Qualtrics version. Junior Fair Board and Camp Counselor applications are separate, but only **one interview** is required if applying for both.

Important Information

Before your child completes an application, please discuss the time commitment and their availability.

Junior Fair Board

- Meets January through June
- Third Thursday of each month
- 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.
- Additional workdays and fair responsibilities in June

Camp Counselor

- Meets February through May
- Fourth Thursday of each month
- 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
- Additional training days in June and July
- Camp takes place in July

Please call our office if you have any questions.

Application Information:

https://putnam.osu.edu/news/camp-counselor-and-junior-fair-board-applications-are-now-available

Premium check pickup

All premium checks have been printed and signed. If you have been notified that your check is being held due to an outstanding buyer payment, we will contact you as soon as the buyer(s) have paid and your check is available for pickup.
These checks are for the premium funds received from the sale. Included with each check is a summary of the sale and any applicable deductions.
Please note: All deductions related to the sale have been deducted from the premium check.

Checks will be available for pickup at the Extension Office during the following times:

- **Wednesday, September 2:** 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- **Thursday, September 3:** 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- **Friday, September 4:** 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Any checks not picked up during these times, or without prior pickup arrangements, will be mailed. We encourage exhibitors to pick up their checks in person whenever possible to avoid potential mailing delays.

Fight the Hunger and Stock the Trailer

Thank you to everyone that participated in our Fight the Hunger and Stock the trailer campaign! A HUGE thank you to Hirzel Canning in Ottawa that donated a pallet of tomato products! O-G High Risers secured the donation which makes them our winner for our competition. Together we raised over 3,000 lbs of canned food that was donated back to the community!

STEAM on the Quad

STEAM on the Quad is a family-friendly event where kids in grades K-8 can do hands-on activities that will improve their knowledge and interest in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and humanities, and Math fields. STEAM on the Quad is a collaboration between Ohio State Lima and the 4-H programs of Putnam, Hardin, Allen, Hancock, Lucas, Auglaize and Logan counties. STEAM on the Quad 2026 will be back on **Sunday, September 27 from 1-4 p.m.** In case of inclement weather, STEAM on the Quad will be held in the Cook Hall Gymnasium.

Visit https://lima.osu.edu/k-12-outreach/steam-quad to register.

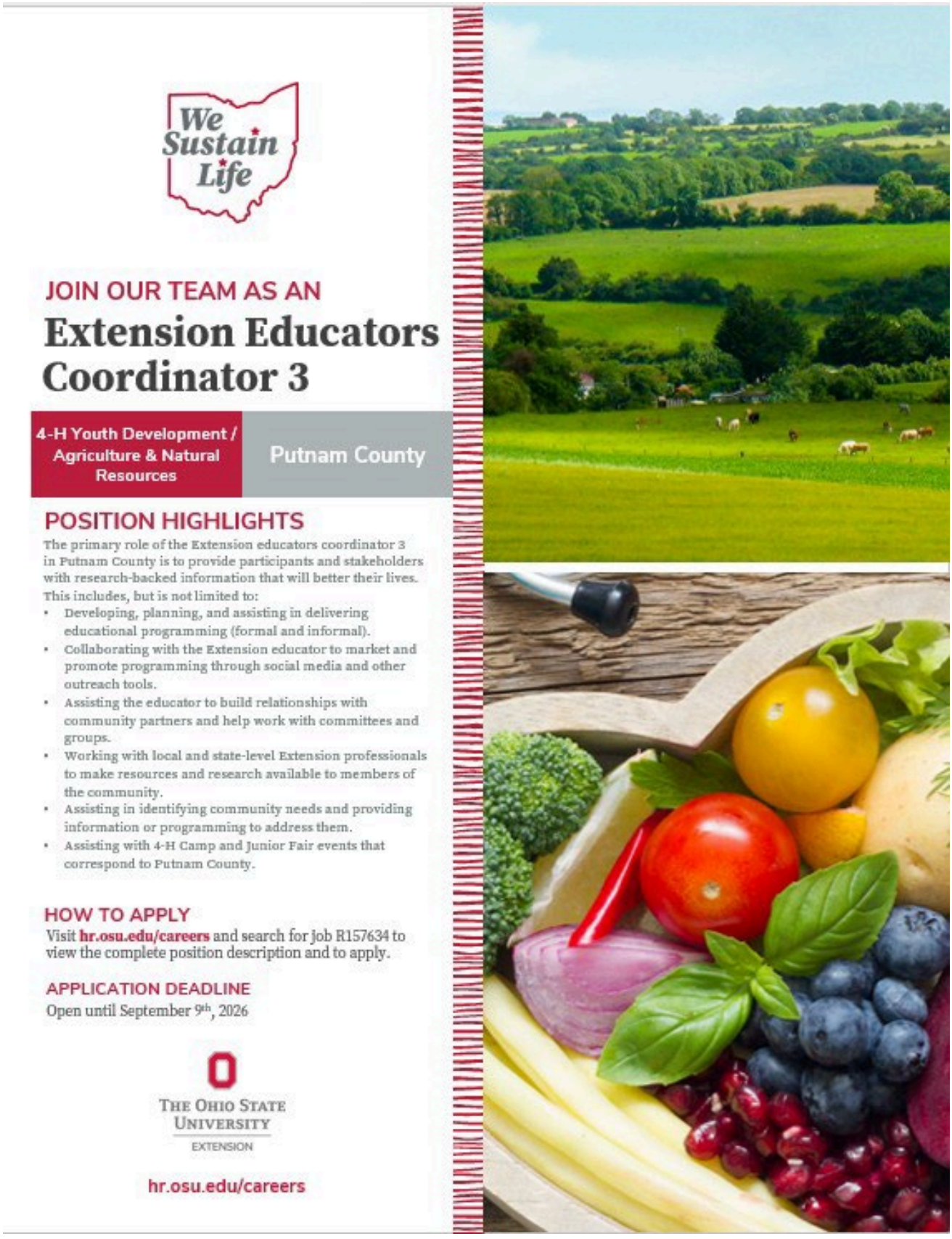
Farm Science Review 2026 Tickets Available Now!

Make plans to attend the Farm Science Review, September 22-24, 2026, at the Molly Caren Agricultural Center in London, Ohio. This premier agricultural event showcases the latest innovations in farming, technology, research, and education.

Advance Tickets: $10 each
Available through September 21, 2026 at the OSU Extension Putnam County Office
Gate Admission: $15 each

For more information, visit: https://fsr.osu.edu/

We’re Hiring! 4-H and ANR Program Assistant



Visit hr.osu.edu/careers and search for jobR157634 to view the complete position description and to apply. Application deadline is Wednesday, September 9, 2026.

Important Dates – These dates are TENTATIVE

Advisor Training – January 5, 2027

Youth Quality Assurance – March 30, 2027

Youth Quality Assurance – April 7, 2027

Skillathon – June 10, 2027

Still Project Judging – June 15, 2027

Make-Up Judging – June 16, 2027

Putnam County Fair – June 21- 26, 2027

4-H Camp Dates – July 13-17, 2027

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION, PUTNAM COUNTY

Extension Staff

Anna Downing - Educator, 4-H Youth Development
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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: v2.4honline.com

Fair Entries: Fairentry.com

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Putnam County
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