

## New Family Guide to 4-H

### What Does My Child's 4-H Club Expect From Me?

1. Attend club meetings, activities and events with your child. Notify the club advisor if your child can't attend a meeting/activity.
2. Help with the club fundraising events and pay your child's club dues if applicable.
3. Attend special events planned by the 4-H club.
4. Encourage and guide your child's project work. Don't do their work.
5. Read the 4-H newsletter, emails, and other information with your child. Use the Ottawa County 4-H website for information: [ottawa.osu.edu](http://ottawa.osu.edu) or Facebook-**Ohio State- Ottawa County 4-H**
6. Encourage your child to participate in project judging, clinics/workshops, 4-H camp(s), older youth opportunities, Junior Fair events, and much more.
7. Encourage your child to keep up-to-date records & complete project.
8. Model a positive attitude, good sportsmanship, respect and cooperation.
9. Assist with 4-H club activities in your areas of interest and expertise. Teach a project skill, help with a community service project, plan a field trip, assist with fundraising, etc.
10. Help the club. Host a meeting, provide refreshments, sponsor an award.
11. Support the club by cooperating with club advisors and exhibiting a positive attitude towards your child's personal and club 4-H goals.

### What Should I Expect From My 4-H Club and Advisors?

1. Notice of 4-H club meetings and/or a printed schedule of club meetings for the year.
2. Information provided at one of the first meetings:
  - 4-H Family Guide
  - Meeting Dates, Upcoming important dates
  - Enrollment (Online) directions
3. Information provided at all meetings:
  - Review of the 4-H Calendar, 4-H Newsletter or Recent Mailings from the Extension Office
  - Reminders of Upcoming Deadlines, Requirements, etc.
4. Help in selecting & receiving Project Books for my child.
5. Hands-on learning experiences for my child... project work, demonstrations, etc.
6. Opportunity for my child to give back to the community through service projects... flower gardens at the fairgrounds, picking up trash, etc. Each club may do something different.





7. Opportunity for my child to build leadership skills through serving as a club officer, on a committee, leading the American or 4-H pledges, participating in a business meeting, etc.
8. Opportunity for my child to have FUN with friends (new and old) through recreational, social, educational and/or competitive activities.
9. A welcoming place for my child and I to learn and grow through the 4-H Program and work together to “Make the Best Better”.

## What Will 4-H Cost?

- ☑ **Club Fees/Dues** – Some clubs charge a per member fee based on their club’s activities. Club fees may be used towards refreshments, project book cost, fair pass, club t-shirt, etc. Ask your club advisor about their club fees/dues.
- ☑ **Project Books** – Most project books cost \$8.00. Some projects require an additional Resource Handbook (\$10.00 to \$21.00) that is purchased once by the family and used by all family members. Check with your 4-H advisor for current project book costs.
- ☑ **Project Items** – Every project has some costs beyond the 4-H project book. For some projects, this may be supplies and materials that you already have at home. For other projects, your child will be required to invest in an animal & supplies for its care, specialized equipment and/or other items. Please keep this in mind when selecting projects with your child.
- ☑ **Fair** – If members plan to participate in the fair, they will have some additional costs associated with their 4-H experience. 4-H members who complete their project do get a wristband for admission into the fair for the week.



## Who Can Answer Questions?

 **Club Advisors:** Start with your local club advisor(s) first. Make sure you have a phone number and/or e-mail address to communicate with them.

 **Extension Staff:** Call (419) 898-3631 or e-mail at any time.

<b>Molly Avers</b>	<b>Amy Michaels</b>	<b>Rhonda Mahaney</b>
<b>4-H Educator</b>	<b>Program Assistant</b>	<b>Office Associate</b>
<a href="mailto:Avers.15@osu.edu">Avers.15@osu.edu</a>	<a href="mailto:Michaels.97@osu.edu">Michaels.97@osu.edu</a>	<a href="mailto:Mahaney.23@osu.edu">Mahaney.23@osu.edu</a>

## Where Do I Go For Information?

-  **OSU Extension Office**, 240 W. Lake St. Oak Harbor, OH 43449  
**Phone:** (419) 898-3631 **Website:** [Ottawa.osu.edu](http://Ottawa.osu.edu) **Facebook:** Ohio State- Ottawa County 4-H  
**Hours** – Monday –Friday, 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM
-  **Ottawa County Fair Office**, 7870 W. State Rte. 163 Oak Harbor, OH 43449  
**Phone** – (419) 898- 1971 **Website:** [ottawacountyfair.org](http://ottawacountyfair.org)
  - Open Class/ Fair Activities Registration
  - Reserve a camping spot for the fair
  - Purchase and Pick Up Fair Passes