

12/4/2020

Dear 4-H members, families, and volunteers,

We come to you today to give you our latest COVID-19 update. I would like to follow up with what was released today in regards to the state press release that should have reached all of you. It is also included with this letter below.

Message from the State Administration:

To Our 4-H Families:

As you know, COVID-19 is on the rise in Ohio and because 4-H'ers pledge their health to better living, we must do our part to not contribute to its spread. Ohio 4-H is a part of a land-grant academic institution; we follow science and model what the [CDC](#), [Ohio Department of Health](#) and [other experts](#) stress is important in addressing this virus. As a result, in an effort to keep our 4-H families, volunteers, and communities safe, effective December 7, 2020, **all 4-H meetings and events are to be canceled, postponed, or held virtually until January 15, 2021.**

All 4-H volunteers are expected to follow these guidelines regarding 4-H meetings and events. Volunteers who are not in compliance and hold in-person 4-H events and activities will receive a first warning. A second incident disregarding our effort to protect the health, safety and well-being of members, families and communities will result in immediate termination of volunteer status.

The [Ohio Public Health Advisory System](#) indicates the status of counties based on a color-coded system. If a county is purple or approaching purple, OSU Extension offices will be closed and employees will be working virtually. If a county is red, OSU Extension offices will be staffed by appointment only. You will need to call in advance to schedule a time to go to the office. Please note there may be additional guidelines from county health departments.

We are incredibly proud of the efforts of our 4-H youth and volunteers who remain committed to making the best better and look forward to the time when we can safely meet together.

Yours in service to 4-H,  
Kirk Bloir  
State 4-H Leader  
Assistant Director, OSU Extension

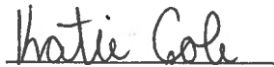


The Seneca County OSU Extension office will continue to be open for appointment only during this time. We will be open for appointment only on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. The Seneca County OSU Extension office will remain closed on Wednesdays and Fridays until further notice. Staff will remain limited during our appointment only hours of operation. Katie Cole, 4-H Youth Development Educator will be in the office on Mondays. Hallie Williams, Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator will be in the office on Tuesdays. Erin Mancuso, Office Associate will be in the office on Thursdays. Be assured that even on the days any of us are not in the office or the days the office is closed, we continue to telework from home. We can still be reached via e-mail or by leaving a voicemail when you call the office at 419-447-9722. Emails are [cole.537@osu.edu](mailto:cole.537@osu.edu), [Williams.6386@osu.edu](mailto:Williams.6386@osu.edu), and [Mancuso.48@osu.edu](mailto:Mancuso.48@osu.edu) respectfully. We will continue to send information to you via e-mail, social media (Facebook), our website ([www.seneca.osu.edu](http://www.seneca.osu.edu)) and the Seneca County 4-H app. You will also find the guidelines, a tip sheet and resources at [ohio4h.org/families/stay-connected](http://ohio4h.org/families/stay-connected). When possible, we encourage OSU Extension programs, meetings, and events to meet virtually.

We want you to take precautionary measures to keep yourself and everyone else safe to ensure that we can come back together face to face sooner rather than later. We appreciate all that you do for our 4-H program as well as your patience and understanding as we are still facing uncertainty.

If you have specific questions or concerns, please reach out to us.

Stay healthy,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Katie Cole". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Katie Cole  
Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development