



April 15, 2020

Adams County 4-H Family – another update for you...

Indiana 4-H sent out correspondence via 4HOnline on 4/15/2020 in regards to the unfortunate extension of our no face-to-face order through **June 30, 2020**. Please understand that each message I send gets a bit harder for multiple reasons and know that my heart is heavy and I am constantly thinking about each of you throughout this entire situation and continue to work on programming efforts and helping the community as we survive and thrive throughout COVID-19.

As always I will continue to be very honest and forthcoming in where we are in our plans and programming efforts. I will admit that there are some unknowns as you may guess; but know that I am here for you and your family always. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me to answer questions, for assistance in finding community resources or even as a mental health break and check-in.

Purdue Extension – Adams County Office Status

The Purdue Extension – Adams County office remains closed to the public until further notice. However all staff is working remotely and we are dedicated to meeting the needs of our clientele. We are committed to checking and responding to voicemails multiple times a day left at 260-724-5322, processing mail 1-2 times a week and are constantly checking email and corresponding to clientele that way. Staff is in the office during the week intermittent and have been able to process livestock information packets and get project supplies for 4-H families so please don't think we are not available to you. We continue to be here, so please if you need anything at all, contact me! We will continue to operate in this capacity until Governor Holcomb lifts his stay in-place orders.

Purdue Extension Events and Opportunities

Current restrictions on Extension events continue through **June 30**. No face-to-face Extension events may be held until July 1. I will be working with volunteers and will continue to share and encourage virtual opportunities that come our way for youth to participate in. Please take advantage of those as they come available and you are able to.



General 4-H Updates

Add or Drop Deadline Extended to June 1, 2020

I encourage youth to consider adding a project or two or even getting the paperwork requirements completed and out of the way during this time at home.

Please continue to email or call us 260-724-5322 if you wish to add or drop projects. All record sheets can be found online at extension.purdue.edu/Adams, once there click on "Youth" and "4-H County Projects".

Those projects which require a manual we will be able to get to you as we visit the office weekly and then definitely after we are able to return to the office.

Summer 4-H Camp and Trips

Those who have already submitted summer trip applications and 4-H Camp registrations, I will be in touch with you on how to process the return of your payments. Summer 4-H trips are truly one of my favorite events throughout the year; I am heartbroken for those of you who were looking forward to serving as Camp Counselors or planning to attend one of these great events.

However please know that:

- Indiana 4-H is working on virtual events for 4-H Academy, 4-H Band, 4-H Chorus, 4-H Round-Up and State 4-H Junior Leader Conference to youth at no cost.
- Northeast Indiana 4-H Camp Task Force is considering alternative 4-H Camp plans for this fall, please make sure to share that info with your young person.

County 4-H Fair Specific

No doubt that this announcement affects all Indiana 4-H members; it is especially alarming to nearly 20 Indiana counties that have to postponing or developing alternatives at this time. Indiana 4-H remains optimistic and continues to deliver the message of Jason Henderson, Director Purdue Extension: "Our goal is to have county fairs. We may have to postpone them, they may need to look different than they have in the past, but county fairs have always been, and will forever remain a celebration of education, agriculture, and community. At Purdue Extension and in 4-H, we take pride in our can-do attitude, our innovation, our resilience, and just old-fashioned grit. These are the values that will be on display at our county fairs in 2020."

While the Adams County 4-H Fair is scheduled for July 19-23, 2020; I am staying on top of this situation and will be gathering our local 4-H Council and Fair Board to discuss as we move forward. I am interested to learn more from the Indiana 4-H Staff next week as they discuss alternative fair options. Know that we are working on every available option and that each decision is not made without careful consideration for the health and safety of our 4-H Family including the Purdue Extension – Adams County Staff. Reminder official decisions on July events will be made by May 15

How Can You Help?

1. Stay home, let's help flatten the curve so that we can get back to normalcy and back to our previously scheduled events. We have some important things to do here this summer ☺ !
2. Be proactive about calling and emailing for info or if we can answer any questions you have.
3. Follow us on Social Media
 - a. While we will utilize email to get the important information out, you might find our social media reminders and last minute opportunities to be beneficial.
4. Visit our Website
 - a. Lot of great information online at xtension.purdue.edu/adams:
 - Adams County 4-H Updates
 - Summer Trip Information
 - Animal ID Requirements
 - 4-H Project Paperwork, etc.



Livestock Updates

Animal ID Deadline

The deadline for **animal species** to be identified in the 4HOnline system (or paper to the Extension Office for Rabbits) to be eligible for the Adams County 4-H Fair and the 4-H shows at the Indiana State Fair is now **June 1, 2020**. Adams County 4-H families.

Specific details for each livestock project have been mailed to all youth enrolled in those projects, please continue to follow the protocols outlined in those packets. Thank you to those that have already emailed me with your ear tag order (Goat, Sheep, Starter Calf and State Fair Bound Swine members).

Indiana State Fair Livestock Entry

In 2020, Indiana State Fair will be extending their initial deadline to **July 1, 2020** to help accommodate 4-H families. Please remember that all animals must be properly identified in 4HOnline by June 1 to be eligible for the Indiana State Fair 4-H shows.

- DNA needs to be collected on Beef, Goats(Registered Boer Females, Meat Goat Wethers, Commercial/Market Does), Sheep, Starter Calves and Swine intended to be exhibited at the Indiana State Fair. DNA envelopes and directions are available at the Extension Office; you can plan to pick those up once Governor Holcomb lifts his stay in-place orders or contact me at amyjohnson@purdue.edu and arrangements can be made to get these to you.

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals(YQCA)

As we continue to be flexible as we survive and thrive through COVID-19, there have been a few changes to YQCA requirements for Indiana 4-H livestock exhibitors. Reminder those youth who plan to exhibit Beef, Dairy, Goats, Sheep, Starter Calf, Swine, Poultry and Rabbits must be YQCA certified.

- **Livestock Youth Intending to Exhibit at the Indiana State Fair**
 - Complete online YQCA certification at yqca.org by July 1, 2020.
- **Livestock Youth Intending to Exhibit only at the Adams County 4-H Fair**
 - **Option 1 YQCA Certification**
Complete online YQCA certification at yqca.org by July 1, 2020. (\$12.00)
 - **Option 2 Animal Ethics Modules**
Complete Online Animal Ethics Modules found at:
<https://extension.purdue.edu/4h/Pages/Online-Animal-Ethics-Program.aspx>.
Members will need to complete four modules in addition to completing a short Qualtrics survey; the survey is what documents your completion so please don't miss this.

Qualtrics Survey can be found at:

https://purdue.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2aAOaEAK0BEGoRv

Wow, I know... a lot of information

As stated before, this will be a year of flexibility and patience; we are truly operating in situations that we don't have all the answers. We will work through all of this together and it is my hope that 4-H provides a sense of belonging for our youth involved in the Adams County 4-H Program. Please reach out to me if you have any questions, concerns or if I can even be of assistance to you.

Adams County 4-H Families are Resilient, Creative and Strong.... **4-H Strong!**

Amy Rumschlag

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Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development

