

4-H Youth Development – Club Meeting Guidance

Facts about the SARS-CoV-2 Virus that Causes COVID-19:

- The virus is transmitted person to person through respiratory droplets, which is why 6-foot physical distancing is so important.
- There is no evidence that the virus can be transmitted by food.
- It can persist on surfaces for between 24-72 hours which is why sanitation of commonly touched surfaces is important.
- Risks of infection from touching surfaces can be significantly reduced by avoiding touching the face, frequent handwashing, or use of hand sanitizers.
- Cloth face coverings reduce spreading of the virus by those who may be infected but are not showing symptoms and should be used in addition to physical distance and hand hygiene.

This is a living document and will be updated as we move through the COVID-19 Mitigation process.

1. 4-H staff will be responsible for sharing best practices with volunteers who will be allowed to hold educational 4-H club meetings to ensure that proper procedures are being followed.
2. There should be no more than 50 people at a meeting, event or program (includes total of leaders, members, parents, speakers, etc.)
3. Social distancing procedures include the following Best Practices:
 - Face masks are expected to be worn at all 4-H in-person meetings and events.
 - Maintaining 6-foot distances between participants without touching of any kind
 - Only single serve, commercially prepared, food and drink should be provided.
 - Participants are welcome to bring their own water or snacks that are (clearly labeled with their name).
 - Hold meetings outdoors whenever possible, or at any public facility. **Meetings should not take place in private homes.**
 - Hand sanitizer should be available at all times.
 - The meeting time should be limited to no more than 1.5 hours.
4. There will be youth and families who are not comfortable meeting in person at this time. It is critical that these decisions are respected and that there is no pressure applied, or opportunities withheld, due to a decision not to participate.
5. Attendance should be taken for accountability and documentation of meeting size.
 - a. Including who was there
 - b. Where the event or meeting was held (specifics: outside on the lawn, in the barn...)
 - c. How long the event lasted
6. Clubs will include in their meeting notice to members the following questions, indicating if you answer 'yes' to any of the following please do not come to the meeting or event.

Questions:

Please answer the following questions, if you answer yes to any please do not attend an in-person meeting or event:

1. Have you returned from travel to a "high covid-19 infection rate state" as defined by NYS DOH, in the past 14 days?
2. Have you knowingly been in close or proximate contact in the past 14 days with anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or who has or had symptoms of COVID-19?
Yes No
3. Have you tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 14 days?
Yes No
4. Have you experienced any symptoms of COVID-19 in the past 14 days?
Yes No

According to the CDC guidance on “Symptoms of Coronavirus,” people with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported, ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms of COVID-19 include, but are not limited to:

Cough

Fever

Sore throat

Shortness of breath

Chills

New loss of taste or smell

Difficulty breathing

Muscle pain