March 13, 2020

RE: Coronavirus (COVID-19) update from Virginia 4-H

Dear Virginia 4-H Families,

On March 11, President Sands issued a message to the Virginia Tech community outlining several response measures and restrictions related to the Coronavirus (COVID-19). Since that time, Virginia Cooperative Extension has activated an emergency response team that is meeting frequently to assess the situation and to apply appropriate responses for VCE programming, including 4-H. Ensuring the health and wellbeing of our 4-H family is of highest priority.

In alignment with Governor Northam’s order to close all K-12 schools in Virginia, ALL 4-H programming will be suspended from Monday, March 16, through Friday, March 27, at a minimum. This measure is also consistent with the 4-H weather cancellation policy.

Should school divisions reopen prior to April 30, 2020 local unit 4-H programming will resume with the following restrictions remaining in place: All 4-H activities, regardless of size, at the area, regional, district, statewide, or out-of-state level will be postponed or cancelled. Additionally, all Virginia Cooperative Extension and Virginia 4-H participation at events or activities where more than 100 participants are expected to gather will be canceled or postponed. This also includes 4-H participation in events hosted by other organizations. These responses are subject to further change.

We will continue to provide you with updates as they become available and encourage you to visit our response page at https://ext.vt.edu/covid-19updates.html. Additional resources on how you and your family can best respond can be found on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Virginia Department of Health. Thank you for patience and understanding as we work together in the interest of “Making the Best Better.”

Sincerely,

Jeremy C. Johnson, M.Ed.
Assistant Director and State 4-H Leader