

4-H Camp Ohio Facilities Newsletter

Welcome to the 2020 4-H Camp Ohio Facilities Newsletter. We had a great year in 2019. Camp staff and volunteers completed a wide variety of general maintenance projects and improvement projects. 2020 should be another great year with

4-H Camp Ohio has great facilities. To be able to continue the good work camp does, it is necessary to seek volunteer help and financial resources beyond what the yearly camp budget can provide. The 4-H Camp Ohio board hopes our many friends and supporters will help in these efforts to keep 4-H Camp Ohio a great place to experience personal and educational growth for the thousands of youth who camp each year.

What's New at 4-H Camp Ohio

1. Flying Squirrel – This new adventure activity has been a popular addition to camp's programming. It provides a unique experience and builds teamwork amongst campers.
2. Painting – The exteriors of rec hall and one small boy's cabin were painted. The transformation was very impressive. The goal is to complete more of the buildings in 2020.
3. Staff Lounge and Bathrooms – A complete makeover of the two staff bathrooms and refurbishing of the staff lounge were completed in January. Both projects were completed by camp staff.
4. New Bull Pen and Canoe Livery Roof Both of these were badly needed projects. Both buildings are now safe from the weather.
5. New Doors on Cabins 17 & 18 – Ten new doors were installed. These doors will save on heating costs and make the buildings look much better.
6. Cow Palace Bathroom Makeover The bathroom will be updated this year.

Volunteer Opportunities

Our 4-H Camp Volunteer Corp became a reality in 2019. Six volunteers were added during the year. They assisted in a variety of projects including building fences, installing doors, repairing a roof and painting the interiors of cabins 17 and 18. Volunteers provided over 200 hours of labor to camp.

More volunteers are welcome. The following are some common questions that will help define what volunteers can do and how to get on the list.

1. **What Skill Levels of Volunteers are Needed?** Volunteers of all skill levels can help. Jobs range from those that require no specific skills to ones that require special training. Camp could use help cutting and splitting wood, with electrical improvements, plumbing projects, landscaping projects and many other general repairs.
2. **How Much Time Do I Need to Give?** Volunteers can give a few hours or come for an entire day. Camp staff

will work with volunteers to find jobs that fit into their schedule.

- 3. When Can I Volunteer?** There are volunteer opportunities year round. Spring and Fall are probably the peak times when help is needed. Help can be given on both weekdays and weekends. A Fall and Spring workday will be planned if enough volunteers come forward to make planning workdays worthwhile.
- 4. Do I Need to Bring Tools?** Those who volunteer to help with skilled labor projects will be asked to provide their own tools. Unskilled volunteers will be provided the tools/resources they need.
- 5. How Will Volunteers Know How They Can Help?** Those responsible for coordinating volunteer help will communicate directly with volunteers. A system will be put into place to make those on the volunteer list aware of opportunities to help and to schedule times to work.
- 6. How Do I Get My Name on the Volunteer List?** Those interested in getting on the list should send their information to Ken Lafontaine, Facility Committee Co-Chair. Email is the preferred contact method. Ken's contact email is;
klafontaine@twc.com

Send your email address to Ken and he will communicate with volunteers regarding volunteer opportunities.

7. Is Volunteer Work Tax Deductible?

Travel to and from 4-H Camp Ohio is a deductible expense for those filing the long form for their federal taxes. Labor is non-deductible for individuals. Businesses will need to check with their tax preparers regarding any deductibility of donations to camp.

- 8. Volunteers** – Thanks to John Fark, Craig Powell, Darlene Lafontaine, Kyle and Shelby Brammell for their volunteer service.

Monetary and In Kind Donations

Another way individuals and businesses can support camp is through in-kind and cash donations. Camp improvements and maintenance efforts requires a wide variety of material resources. Camp can be supported in the following ways.

1. Individuals and businesses donating supplies.
2. Businesses selling supplies to camp at a reduced cost.
3. Donations of used items that are in good useable condition.
4. Cash donations.

The plan is to create a list of businesses and individuals who are willing to be contacted when specific supplies are needed. As needs arise camp those on the list to see if they can provide type of materials that are needed. The committee will also work with County 4-H Educators to secure resources from their counties.

Current Needs;

1. Construction Screws
2. Various Sizes of Construction Lumber
3. Limestone for Driveways
4. Hauler for Limestone
5. Treated Lumber for Cabin Porches
6. New Benches

This is just a sample of the types of materials that could be donated or provided at a discount for projects planned for completion in 2020.

Names for the support list should be submitted to Ken Lafontaine, Facility Committee Co-chair at the same email address listed under the Volunteer Opportunities section.

Donations of money and materials may be tax deductible. Tax deductibility is directly tied to the manner in which federal tax returns are filed.

Future Projects

The Facility Committee has developed an extensive list of projects it would like to complete as time and money are available. Each year it identifies the most pressing needs and budgets funds for those high priority projects.

Projects are grouped into two categories.

Major Improvement Projects – Some projects will require camp to hire companies to complete the work. Other projects will be done by camp staff with the assistance of volunteers who have

experience and knowledge related to the project. Examples include;

1. Replace, Dining Hall and Pool Building Doors
2. Remodeling Cow Palace Restroom
3. Complete Remodel of Pool Restrooms
4. Painting Camp Building Exteriors
5. Porches for cabins 1, 2, 3 & 5.
6. Cabin 17 & 18 Electric Improvements
7. Build a new dock for the canoeing.

Volunteer Projects – These projects can be completed by volunteers who have basic skills. Camp staff will work with volunteers to match them to jobs on this list they feel comfortable helping complete. Examples include:

1. Replacing Broken Fence Posts
3. Small Landscaping Jobs
4. Installing New Materials on Ramp Surfaces
8. Painting Campbell Lodge Floor
9. Making Minor Improvements in Various Buildings
10. Helping With General Clean Up
11. Staining Split Rail Fence
12. Door Installation

Program Committee Needs List

The program committee develops a yearly wish list of needed items. The list can be found on the 4-H Camp Ohio website. Please consider donating items from this list.

<https://www.4hcampohio.org/2020-wish-list.html>