



May 8, 2020

Dear Snohomish County 4-H Community,

We received some tough news about fair last week that caused a variety of emotional responses, but as feedback started rolling in, we were encouraged by the overwhelmingly constructive and empathetic response. We are so appreciative of our 4-H community’s willingness to make the best of an unfortunate situation. And we also want to say, we are not surprised! We invite you to join us in taking a moment to pause and appreciate our 4-H members and volunteers. We appreciate their dedication, passion, enthusiasm, and character. We appreciate their sacrifice, empathy, encouragement, and fortitude. We are proud to serve and be a part of such an amazing community. Thank you!

A few points from this week:

We have been providing a weekly challenge. If you have not yet participated, now may be the best time to start! This week features a brainstorming challenge to cooperatively consider a fantastic modified fair experience. **What are your ideas for Fair?** How could a class or exhibit or experience be modified in a way that will:

- keep our members, volunteers, families, community, and animals safe
- allow members to participate in the most meaningful way possible
- leverage technology to provide virtual options

Discuss your ideas with your family, 4-H member friends, and your 4-H leadership. Brainstorming is a fun way to approach an idea from many different angles. As you talk together, try to keep these things in mind:

- Generate as many ideas as you can! The more ideas, the better!
- Try not to judge ideas, just come up with them! Be willing to think outside the box and entertain all ideas - even “silly” ones. You may find an idea that sounded “crazy” at first develops into a great plan!
- Consider challenges or barriers as opportunities to be creative! Discuss ways to overcome, rather than give up.
- Consider advantages of a hybrid virtual/physical Fair. How can we improve and promote those advantages?
- Fair provides an annual social outlet. How can we meet that need safely?

You can find the weekly challenge, along with submission instructions here: [Stay Home, Stay Healthy Resources](#)

As promised, a livestock update was emailed to all families with members enrolled in livestock projects this past week. If you did not receive an email, please let Kristi know at snoco.4h@wsu.edu and she will get the information to you.

Please join us each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for our new and improved Snohomish County 4-H Afternoon Teatime (bring your own tea!). These fun social hours will be between 3:30pm and 6:30pm. Come to brainstorm, ask questions, or just socialize. We look forward to seeing you! Find the link on our [Stay Home, Stay Healthy Resources page](#).

We recognize that uncertainty about remaining fairs may be causing some anxiety. While we aren't sure of what will happen beyond our own fair, rest assured that we will always support our members and provide opportunities wherever and whenever it is safe and appropriate for us to do so.

Thank you, again, for your overwhelmingly positive response to such difficult news this past week.

We will get through this together!

Your Snohomish County 4-H Team

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HEAD

HEART

HANDS

HEALTH