

4-H Camp Palmer



What do you see when you look at this picture?

I would guess some people see excitement and competition. Some people see the best game to play at free time. Some people, especially our beloved camp nurses, see future band aids for scraped knuckles.

For your reference, this is a snapshot of a GaGa Ball session from 4-H Camp Palmer this spring.

When I look at this picture, I see kids at camp.

After a long and quiet 2020 with no campers at 4-H Camp Palmer, this spring brought a return of campers.

A return of songs in the air. A return of laughter at the campfire . A return of kids at camp.

As I write this, we are in the midst of our summer 4-H camping season. This newsletter will focus more on what happened this spring at 4-H Camp Palmer. The decision to allow overnight camping was not announced until April 19th. Even with this news, the plan and regulations changed often. Which means our Outdoor Education groups mostly stuck to a day-camp model; schedules for camps were made and altered several times; and various forms of PPE were secured for all scenarios.

All of the adjustments were worth it because it meant we had kids at camp again.

Thanks to all our donors, volunteers, and supporters for getting 4-H Camp Palmer back in the position to continue making moments matter.

written by Kristy Helberg



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4-H Camp Palmer

Outdoor Education

Something really special happened this Spring at 4-H Camp Palmer. In the midst of uncertainty and with a few extra regulations, schools journeyed to camp for Outdoor Education. This did not happen in 2020. Teachers, administrators, and camp directors worked extra hard to keep this important experience in the lives of their students. Here is the really special part: Evergreen, Napoleon, and Patrick Henry ALL made sure to include the grade that missed out on camp the year before. These are our three biggest school groups in May, and all the Camp Directors had the same idea. They could not let a grade level miss out on Outdoor Education at Camp Palmer! Evergreen had a two-day day camp for their 6th graders and then the 7th graders. Napoleon planned a four-day day camp for the 6th graders followed by the 7th graders. Patrick Henry brought their 8th graders first for a two-day day camp and then had the 7th graders for a two-day day camp.

Outdoor Education is a great benchmark for students. They learn lessons and make memories that last throughout their school career and beyond. We are grateful for the campers who got to experience 4-H Camp Palmer this Spring. St. John Lutheran School in Defiance also made up a missed trip. Swanton's 4th grade class spent a day learning with us.



Snapshots of Outdoor Education at 4-H Camp Palmer in 2021



4-H Camp Palmer

Volunteers Making a Difference

4-H Camp Palmer would like to highlight two 4-H Clubs who completed projects here this Spring. These clubs funded the materials and provided the labor to improve their 4-H Camp. Read the details below:



INCREDIBLE CLOVERS - Fulton County

One of Camp's Wishlist Wednesday items was for more sand for the sandbox. The Incredible Clovers responded with an incredible amount of sand! They made sure the box was ready for the season, and campers have loved it!

LAKE HARVESTERS—Wood County

This group applied for a community service grant. When they found out they were awarded the money, they knew their camp community would benefit. Lake Harvesters purchased mulch and spent an evening at camp spreading it along the trails near the girls cabins. The transformation was amazing—as was this club's work ethic and generosity!



If your 4-H Club, or any community group, is looking for a project, or able to help—please contact Kristy at 4-H Camp Palmer: helberg.4@osu.edu

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Wishlist Wednesday

We asked—and you responded. This winter and spring, 4-H Camp Palmer appealed to our people and asked for some help in supplies to get camp ready again for campers. We received funds to purchase two sanitation sprayers. We also received program supplies that have been put right into rotation: life jackets, arrows, and turtle food. Your donations are appreciated and necessary for camp's operations.

As we sit at the half-way point in 2021, we have identified three major areas of need. See the details below and contact camp if you can meet those needs and make a difference today!

1. Luggage Carts

Our luggage carts have a lot of miles on them—especially from all those trips ALL the WAY over to the boys side. We are in need of 6-8 more for our fleet. Here is a style that has worked best:

<https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/product/groundwork-1-000-lb-capacity-heavy-duty-steel-utility-cart>

2. Wood Chipper

Work continues to remove our invasive plants and also develop new nature trails. A wood chipper will help to dispose of the plants while creating mulch for the trails.

<https://www.chippersdirect.com/Power-King-PK0915-Chipper-Shredder/p83313.html#:~:text=1%20of%2010,PK0915>

3. Program Supplies

You can browse through the list, choose a need we have identified, pay, and have the item(s) shipped right to Camp. Please include your name, so we can identify the kindness.

Here is the link: <https://smile.amazon.com/hz/charitylist/ls/9CJVAHRIHWX3>

You can contribute funds for any of the above projects via our website:

camppalmer.org/give

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Ribbon Cutting

The ribbon was officially cut on 4-H Camp Palmer's water treatment building, completed in 2019. A celebration was held this spring to recognize the donors for this camp improvement project. Pictured at the event are Kelly Coble, Marilyn Sachs, Elliot Lawrence, and Michael Schweinsberg.



Timeline Project

The next panel in 4-H Camp Palmer's timeline was installed at the covered bridge. Thanks to Teresa Johnson and Defiance County 4-H for funding this project. It was a busy decade! What will the next ten years include at 4-H Camp Palmer?

Contact Us

This quarterly newsletter is one of our ways to connect with you: our donors, our volunteers, our supporters. Look for the next installment in the fall. If you have any questions or comments, please reach out:

Bill Goodson
Executive Director
goodson.34@osu.edu

Kristy Helberg
Program Specialist
helberg.4@osu.edu