CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

as it may relate to State 4-H Public Presentations

While the State 4-H Presentations contest is not until June, we would like to take this opportunity to update you regarding the COVID-19 outbreak, commonly referred to as “Coronavirus,” to let you know of the steps Rutgers/RCE 4-H have taken and offer some solutions to reduce your potential health risk in the event the virus continues to spread in the coming months.

We know that people are concerned about the virus, as well they should be. This is a significant public health matter that must be taken seriously. Rutgers University has been carefully monitoring official reports and updated health agency guidance regarding the COVID-19 coronavirus. We will continue to keep you informed about the university’s activities to address this health crisis, and specifically how that might affect this year’s State 4-H Public Presentations contest.

In an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19, Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE) is canceling all events involving more than 15 people through at least April 3rd. This includes 4-H events, 4-H programs and 4-H club meetings.

At this time, there is no need to cancel meetings or events taking place after April 3rd, such as this one. There are no cases of COVID-19 at Rutgers, and there are no restrictions on public gatherings. However, the logistics of our event are subject to change as more information pertaining to the virus becomes available.

If you are worried about becoming ill, and would prefer to not put yourself at risk, the Virtual Division is an excellent way to still participate without exposure. While we still intend to hold our in-person contest, we will continue to monitor the situation and recommendations closely. If conditions worsen, presentations may be moved entirely onto the Virtual Division platform in order to ensure maximum safety of our participants. If this occurs, all participants will be contacted and given a chance to upload their virtual presentation accordingly.

Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and County Boards of Chosen Freeholders. Rutgers Cooperative Extension, a unit of the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is an equal opportunity program provider and employer.