



FEBRUARY 27, 2026

4-H Family News

Ingham County



YQCA

YOUTH FOR THE QUALITY CARE OF ANIMALS

CERTIFICATION TRAINING DATES FOR 2026

6:30pm - 7:30 pm

Hillard Building
Conference Room A
121 E. Maple Street, Mason, MI 48854

Cost: \$3.00

Thursday, March 26

Monday, April 20

Monday, May 4

Monday, June 15

Thursday, June 18

Register online at yqcaprogram.org



Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, or veteran status.



STILL LIFE WORKSHOP



JOIN MSU EXTENSION AND 4-H FOR A FUN FILLED DAY WITH STILL LIFE PROJECTS!

SESSIONS INCLUDE: CLOVERBUDS, RAG RUGS, DIAMOND PAINTING, WOODWORKING, CANDLE MAKING, FIRST AID AND SAFETY, PHOTOGRAPHY, SPRING/EASTER CARD MAKING, SHOOTING SPORTS, DISCOVER CHOCOLATE, AND MORE!

ENTRY FEE

\$5

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

9:00 AM - 02:30 PM

NORTH AURELIUS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
115 NORTH AURELIUS, MASON

SCAN THE QR CODE TO
REGISTER BY MARCH 9TH

or visit:
<https://shorturl.at/qBjBy>



See pages
10-14

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Contact Us:

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Ingham County 4-H

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/ingham/4-h/>

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/Ingham4Hyou>

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KIDS ACTIVITIES @QAS

Join us at the Quiet Adventures Symposium on February 28. Lead your own activity or work with Rachel to pick one from our 4-H curriculum.

FEBRUARY
28

MSU PAVILION



Contact Rachel
(517) 676-7300
ochylski@msu.edu



More Information
<https://quietadventures.org>

Michigan 4-H Youth Equine Communications Contest

Saturday, March 14, 2026



Interested in horses and love
talking about them? Join us!
All Equine related topics are
welcome!

- Public Speaking
- Individual Presentations
- Team Presentations

Registration is open now!

https://www.canr.msu.edu/horses_ponies/registration-information

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**Beyond
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MICHIGAN STATE
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State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Weekend Workshop & Quiz Bowl

Attend for the weekend or a single day!

Located at Wells Hall on MSU's Campus

\$25

Saturday, March 21st - Workshop

- Rabbit Showmanship
- Rabbit Breeding and Palpating
- Raising and Selecting Market Pens
- Nutrition and Care
- Cavy Showmanship
- Breed Identification

Lunch provided Saturday



\$5

Sunday, March 22nd - Quiz Bowl Competition

Scan the QR code to register!



<https://shorturl.at/JDthA>



Capitol Experience

COMING
SOON



MARCH 15-17TH, 2026



Cost \$365

Scholarships may be available
through your local 4-H office!



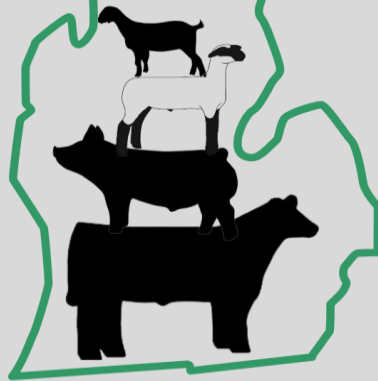
MICHIGAN STATE
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2026

Michigan 4-H Spring Livestock Workshop



March 7, 2026



MI 4-H DAIRY CONFERENCE

COWS ON CAMPUS

Session Topics Include:

- Tour of the new MSU Dairy Cattle Teaching & Research Center
- Tour of the MSU Meat Lab
- Nutrition Workshop
- Dairy Judging
- Dissections
- & More!

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

FEBRUARY 27TH-MARCH 1ST, 2026

OPEN TO ANY MI 4-H YOUTH AGES 12-19



Registration is now **OPEN!**

Beyond
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NEW at Ignite 2026: Animal Science!

Hands-on workshops. Become career-ready.



March 25 - 29, 2026 | Washington, D.C. | Washington Hilton

Michigan 4-H SPARK & SHARE SUMMIT

Bavarian Inn Lodge and Conference Center
Frankenmuth, MI

March 7, 2026
10:00am

\$75 per person
Includes Lunch

Session Topics:

- Ag in the Classroom
- Learn to Lincot
- Animal Nutrition Basics
- Garden Inspired Art
- Scratch Coding
- Big Dreams and Future Careers
- Running Livestock Shows
- Self Publishing
- Making Yarn on a Drop Spindle

...And More!

REGISTER NOW

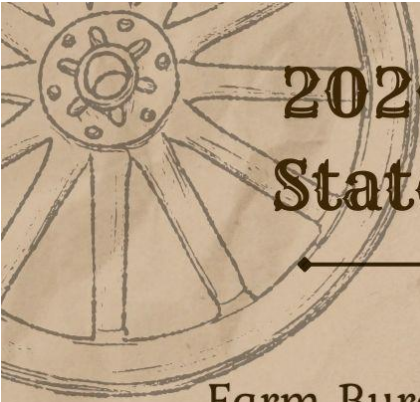
<https://events.anr.msu.edu/SparkShare2026/>

Registration closes February 9th.

Ask your County 4-H Program Coordinator about
availability of conference scholarships.

Join us for a day full of fun, exploring, learning, and sharing.



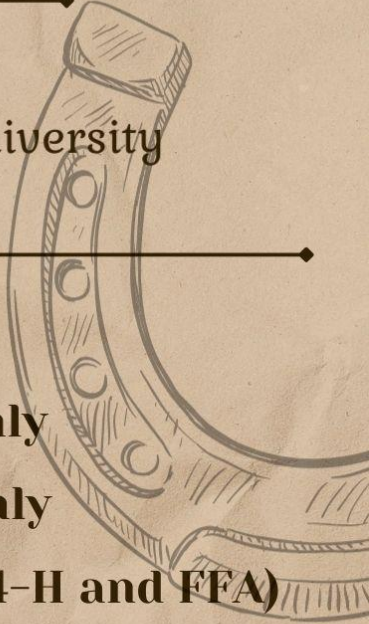


2026 Michigan 4-H and FFA State Horse Judging Contest

Saturday, April 11, 2026

Farm Bureau Pavilion at Michigan State University

Contest starts at 9:00 a.m.



New Class Schedule

Class #1: Performance - Place 4-H Only

Class #2: Performance - Place 4-H Only

Class #3: Performance - Place and Questions (4-H and FFA)

Class #4: Performance - Place and Reasons (All but Jr. Novice)

Class #5: Halter - Place and Questions (All but FFA)

Class #6: Halter - Place and Questions (ALL contestants)

Class #7: Halter - Place and Reasons (ALL contestants)

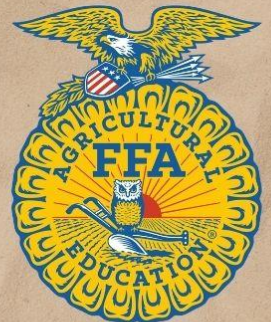
Class #8: Halter - Place for all (Reasons for Sr. Regular Only)



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Register now at:

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/MI4HHORSEJUDGING26/>

Questions? Email David at lindsa75@msu.edu

2026 Michigan 4-H State Hippology Contest

Sunday, April 12, 2026

Farm Bureau Pavilion at Michigan State University

Contest starts at 9:00 a.m.

Contest Schedule

8:00am: Check-In for Participants and Volunteers

9:00am: Orientation

9:30am: Judging Phase Begins

10am: Slide Test Phase

10:40am: Knowledge Test

11:10am: INSTRUCTIONS for next phase

11:20am: Begin Stations and Team Problem

3:00pm: Contest should conclude

Awards approximately 2 hours after contest concludes

Register now at:

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/MI4HHIPPOLOGY26/>

Questions? Email David at lindsa75@msu.edu



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**Beyond
Ready**

Make the Most of Your Livestock Project



Dates: April 21 -May 19, 2026

Time: Every Tuesday, 6:30-7:30 pm

Where: On Zoom

Register: <https://pears.io/events/msuext/4293/>

Youth ages 8-19 join us for this engaging webinar series to help you succeed at livestock auctions. From marketing and communication to record keeping, goal setting, and understanding break-even points, each session will provide strategies for success.

Attend one, attend all, the choice is yours!



Make the Most of your Market Animal Project Webinar Series

FREE on Zoom at 6:30pm ET



Goal- Getters

April 21

Talk the Talk

April 28

Marketing Mastery

May 5

Records to Riches

May 12

From Pitch to Payment

May 19

Registration Link: <https://pears.io/events/msuext/4293/>



Girls on outdoor Adventure for Leadership and Science



Are you interested in exploring and learning science in the outdoors?

Where:

Starting and ending at
Kellogg Biological Station
Hickory Corners, MI

When:

July 25th- August 8th, 2026

Cost:

FREE

Apply here:

galsmi.weebly.com
(or scan QR code)

Apply to GALS!

GALS is a **free** summer science program
for high school students to learn
science hands-on while overnight
camping and backpacking
through the Michigan wilderness.

Through this journey, you will learn
about the ecology, biology, and geology
of your surroundings while honing
leadership and scientific research skills.

GALS was created to increase opportunities for students who identify as female or gender nonconforming, students of color, students from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds, and other groups historically excluded in fields of science, technology, engineering, and math.

Applications are due March 2, 2026



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MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension 

2026 Ingham County 4-H Still Life Winter Workshop Sessions

1 Hour Long Sessions

9:00 – 10:00	
Trash to Treasures: Rag Rugs	Trash to Treasure as you learn how to make a rug from scrap material.
Candle Making (Repeats 10:00 – 11:00)	Ever wanted to make a custom candle that's totally unique to you? You'll get hands-on experience working with soy wax and the best way to let your candle cure for a great burn. Choose your favorite scent to create a high-quality candle you'll be proud to show off and enjoy!
First Aid and Safety	Are you ready to handle first aid and safety at home or while babysitting? Learn the importance of staying calm, how to bandage, guiding and protecting children in your care, how to use a fire extinguisher and lots more. You can be a confident first aider in everyday emergency situations! Yes you can!
Charcoal Drawing	Discover the expressive world of charcoal as you create your own unique design! Learn simple shading and blending techniques, then bring your ideas to life with bold, textured charcoal. No experience needed!
10:00 – 11:00	
What's All The Buzz? Michigan Pollinators & How To Help Them Thrive (Repeats 11:00 – 12:00 & 12:30 – 1:30)	- Let's have fun soaring with our Michigan pollinators in understanding the roles between plants and pollinators. - Focus will be specific to Michigan plants and pollinators. - Focus will include what food crops need pollinators. - We will learn how native plants support our very important pollinators and why they matter. You will create a bee habitat and a pollinator watering station to take home to support your own growing landscape.
Design and Create A Special	Unleash your inner designer and level up your wrist game in this hands-on jewelry workshop! Use colorful beads and expressive word beads to craft a set of

Word Bracelet (Repeats 11:00 – 12:00)	bracelets that are as unique as you are. Along the way, you'll learn double-stringing and the "invisible knot" technique to ensure your creations are durable for every adventure.
Candle Making (Repeats 9:00 – 10:00)	Ever wanted to make a custom candle that's totally unique to you? You'll get hands-on experience working with soy wax and the best way to let your candle cure for a great burn. Choose your favorite scent to create a high-quality candle you'll be proud to show off and enjoy!
Diamond Dot Keychains	Join us to learn the new art that is trending. You will complete a diamond painted butterfly key chain as you learn.
Beginning Archery (repeats 12:30 – 1:30) 11:00 – Noon	Would you like to learn to shoot a bow and arrow? Bullseye! This hands-on session is all about learning archery skills that are used in 4-H all the way up to the Olympics! You will get to experience different types of equipment and how to develop good shooting form while shooting at official competition sized targets. All equipment is supplied; the only requirement is that you must wear closed-toe shoes (no sandals, etc.).
Take Your Best Shot (Repeats 1:30 – 2:30)	Whether you are brand new to shooting sports or you have some experience at home, join us to learn more about the fundamentals of great target shooting. The techniques we will explore are used in 4-H, collegiate competitions, and even in the Olympics! In this hands-on session, we will focus on 10-meter air rifle and 5 meter BB gun events. We will also discuss the other shooting sports events available in Ingham County 4-H. All equipment will be supplied, just make sure that you are wearing closed-toe shoes (no sandals, etc.).
Design and Create A Special Word Bracelet (Repeats 10:00 – 11:00)	Unleash your inner designer and level up your wrist game in this hands-on jewelry workshop! Use colorful beads and expressive word beads to craft a set of bracelets that are as unique as you are. Along the way, you'll learn double-stringing and the "invisible knot" technique to ensure your creations are durable for every adventure.
What's All The Buzz? Michigan Pollinators & How To Help Them Thrive (Repeats 10:00 – 11:00 & 12:30 – 1:30)	• Let's have fun soaring with our Michigan pollinators in understanding the roles between plants and pollinators. • Focus will be specific to Michigan plants and pollinators. • Focus will include what food crops need pollinators. • We will learn how native plants support our very important pollinators and why they matter. You will create a bee habitat and a pollinator watering station to take home to support your own growing landscape.
Photography With Your Cell Phone (Repeats 12:30 – 1:30)	Bring your phone and jump into a hands-on photo session where you'll learn to capture fun shots of your pets, friends, and favorite places! You'll get to explore your camera's settings and try out composition tricks that make your pictures look great. Learn new skills and get creative with the camera you already have in your pocket! Cameras are also welcome.
Spring/Easter Card Making (Repeats 12:30 – 1:30)	Learn various techniques to create personalized, handmade spring or Easter cards using supplies like paper, stamps, inks, embellishments, and dies, covering basic card construction to more advanced layering and design elements.

12:30 –1:30	
Beginning Archery (repeats 10:00 – 11:00)	Would you like to learn to shoot a bow and arrow? Bullseye! This hands-on session is all about learning archery skills that are used in 4-H all the way up to the Olympics! You will get to experience different types of equipment and how to develop good shooting form while shooting at official competition sized targets. All equipment will be supplied, the only requirement is that you must wear closed-toe shoes (no sandals, etc.).
What's All The Buzz? Michigan Pollinators & How To Help Them Thrive (Repeats 10:00 –11:00 & 11:00 – 12:00)	Let's have fun soaring with our Michigan pollinators in understanding the roles between plants and pollinators. Focus will be specific to Michigan plants and pollinators. Focus will include what food crops need pollinators. We will learn how native plants support our very important pollinators and why they matter.? You will create a bee habitat and a pollinator watering station to take home to support your own growing landscape.
Photography With Your Cell Phone (Repeats 11:00 – 12:00) Plant Based Spa Products – An	Bring your phone and jump into a hands-on photo session where you'll learn to capture fun shots of your pets, friends, and favorite places! You'll get to explore your camera's settings and try out composition tricks that make your pictures look great. Learn new skills and get creative with the camera you already have in your pocket! Cameras are also welcome.
Entrepreneurial Project Spring/Easter Card Making (Repeats 11:00 – 12:00 1:30 –2:30 Cross Stich A	Have fun making homemade spa treatments. In this workshop we will learn to make botanical body scrubs, facial treatments, and bath fizzies. These are great treats for yourself or for gifts. You will take home all the products for a day at your own spa. Learn various techniques to create personalized, handmade spring or Easter cards using supplies like paper, stamps, inks, embellishments, and dies, covering basic card construction to more advanced layering and design elements.
Keychain or Coaster	
	Learn the basics of cross stitch as you create your own keychain or coaster.
Take Your Best Shot (repeats 11:00 – noon)	Whether you are brand new to shooting sports or you have some experience at home, join us to learn more about the fundamentals of great target shooting. The techniques we will explore are used in 4-H, collegiate competitions, and even in the Olympics! In this hands-on session, we will focus on 10-meter air rifle and 5 meter BB gun events. We will also discuss the other shooting sports events available in Ingham County 4-H. All equipment will be supplied, just make sure that you are wearing closed-toe shoes (no sandals, etc.).
Trash to Treasures: Turn A Book Into An Egg	Upcycle a book into a decorative egg.

Multiple Hour Sessions

Time(s) Offered	Title	Description
2 times offered 9:00 – 11:00 12:30 – 2:30	Woodworking	Make a cedar birdhouse as you assemble pre-cut parts while learning safety measures essential to woodworking. In this hands-on activity, you will learn the proper techniques in using a hand saw, hammer and nails, screws and a brad nailer, time permitting. Youth will work to complete a bird house to take home and possibly exhibit at the Fair. All supplies are provided.
9:00 – 11:00	Circuitry	In this fun, hands-on class, students will explore how electric circuitry works and how simple circuits are made. They will practice safe soldering with close guidance and learn how to connect components to make their own working projects. The class focuses on safety, teamwork, and problem-solving while encouraging curiosity and confidence. No experience is needed—just a willingness to learn, build, and have fun with electronics! There is an additional cost of \$25.00. During our workshop, children will move from
9:00 – Noon	Cloverbuds	station to station learning art, sewing, cooking, STEM skills and more. Children will also get a chance to prepare their own snack. Keep in mind we may get messy so wear clothes accordingly. A Delicious Lesson on Chocolate. In this session we
10:00 – 12:00	100@ Cocoa – This One Is Super Tasty	will learn more about this “Food of the Gods” We will learn about how Cacao is grown and how chocolate is made. We will taste chocolate from around the world and make some tasty chocolate treats.
12:30 – 2:30	Cross Stich Bookmarks	Create a bookmark using cross stich. Participants should have the ability to thread their own needles.
12:30 – 2:30	Native Americans	Stepback intimewith us to explorethe ingenious "ancient technologies" of flint knapping and traditional ceramics. You'll get hands-on with authentic examples of stone tools and discover the beautiful, diverse decorating techniques used by Native Americans across North America. After the demonstration, we'll keep things tactile and fun by crafting our own quick-and-easy pinch pots to take home!

Adult Specific Session

9:15 –10:00	Let's Take A Tour of The 4-H <u>Ingham County Fair Book</u>	Get your youth settled into their morning session and then head over to the Fair Book Preview at 9:15 AM! This is your chance to flip through the 2026 Fair Book, clarify any offerings, and get the inside scoop on important changes for the upcoming season. We'll review club opportunities and highlight both new and existing projects, giving you plenty of time to ask questions so you can feel confident helping your kids navigate their best fair year yet.
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**Beyond
Ready**



Michigan 4-H State Awards Program



A State 4-H Award is the highest honor bestowed on Michigan 4-H youth!

- **Recognition event: June 24, 2026**
MSU Campus (East Lansing) during
4-H Exploration Days
- **Applications accepted: March 1-April 1**
Submit application:
<https://events.anr.msu.edu/StateAwards26>
- **Start early!! Find Information and applications:** <https://tinyurl.com/46afjtc8>
- **Win cash prizes (\$100-500) & 4-H Exploration Days scholarships (\$50)**

This program provides members an opportunity to tell their 4-H story while learning valuable skills everyone needs as they enter adulthood. This hands-on experience not only recognizes outstanding achievements, but ensures youth are Beyond Ready for life!

- ☑ **Setting goals & persevering**
- ☑ **Completing an application**
- ☑ **Creating a resume**
- ☑ **Writing a cover letter**
- ☑ **Interviewing**
- ☑ **Networking**
- ☑ **Reflecting and communicating**
- ☑ **Being recognized & modeling sportsmanship**



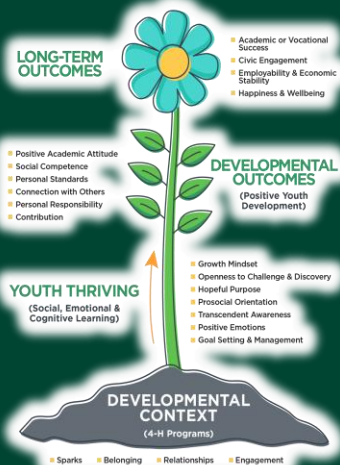
MSU EXTENSION





STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

4-H Thriving Model of Positive Youth Development



Building a sense of belonging in our 4-H program has been a long-standing tradition. What does this look like?

It may be a project leader, club leader, or event organizer welcoming you to each meeting or event. It may look like a "roll call" or "ice breaker" at the beginning of a meeting.

The initial welcome allows people to know that they have been seen in the room. So, the next time someone asks you a roll call question of "What's your favorite cheese?", know that there is a reason.

We want to get to know you. We want to hear your voice. We want the ability to start building relationships by finding likenesses among us.

Contact your local 4-H staff for more information.
#BeyondReady

February 10: 4-H Wild Spartans

Online

In this month's session, take a walk through the woods on the wild side with "Walking a Path of Conservation." Ask questions through a live Q&A. This free virtual series is for youth ages 12-19.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-wild-spartans-february

February 11: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series: Building Belonging – Teambuilding Strategies for Stronger 4-H Experiences

Online

Teambuilding isn't just an activity—it's a pathway to deeper belonging and higher engagement in 4-H. This webinar will show volunteers how simple team-building practices can help youth feel included, communicate effectively, work together, and grow their leadership skills.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-building-belonging-teambuilding-strategies-for-stronger-4-h-experiences

February 11: Avoiding Money Mishaps

Online

This webinar will focus on how youth can protect themselves from fraud, scams, identity theft and predatory lending.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/avoiding-money-mishaps-feb11

February 11: 4-H Chef Tasty Dog Treats

Lenawee MSU Extension Demo Kitchen, Adrian

Youth ages 5-11 will prepare delicious treats to bake at home for your dog. Ages 5-7 need adult helper. Registration deadline is February 7.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-chef-tasty-dog-treats

February 19 –March 26: Online Guiding Principles for Highly Successful Parenting Webinar Series

Online

Guiding Principles is a FREE online course for parents of toddlers to teens to learn strategies for helping children, parents and families be successful.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/guiding-principles-for-highly-successful-parenting-webinar-series-february-2026

February 19: Ace the Interview: Skill Building and Practice for Teens

Washtenaw County MSU Extension Office, Ann Arbor

This free workshop will help youth (ages 12-19) confidently handle interview experiences with tips and hands-on practice. Any teen is welcome to attend! Registration deadline is February 17.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/ace-the-interview-skill-building-and-practice-for-teens





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS



Participate in the World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute

As millions across the globe deal with food insecurity, the World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute (WFP MIYI) offers young people an opportunity to be part of the solution. Held May 7 in East Lansing, or by participating from anywhere else using Zoom video/web conference technology, the event seeks to inspire and prepare the next generation of global leaders to end world hunger.

To participate, youth should be in grades 7-12 and register by the March 15 deadline. As part of the registration process, youth are required to prepare a three- to five-page research paper about a developing country and one of 22 key factors that affect food security. At the event, youth present and discuss their papers with other attendees and research and industry experts.

The top performing students at the WFP MIYI will be selected to attend the World Food Prize Global Youth Institute in Des Moines, Iowa, in October. For more information, visit <https://www.canr.msu.edu/wfpmiyi/>. Registration opens February 1 and closes March 15.

Tickets now available for Michigan 4-H Day at the Breslin

Join MSU Extension and Michigan 4-H on March 1 for the 20th celebration of Michigan 4-H Day at the Breslin! This fun family event will be held at the Jack Breslin Student Events Center as the MSU Women's Basketball team takes on the Ohio State Buckeyes!

Those interested in attending can purchase tickets at a price of \$7.50 plus fees. This is a discounted rate available to the Michigan 4-H and MSU Extension communities; complimentary tickets are no longer available due to the rising popularity of college sports. MSU Extension and Michigan 4-H youth, volunteers, partners, stakeholders, alumni, staff and their families are all encouraged to attend.

Tickets can be purchased through a two-step process. First, guests should register at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/4HBreslin2026/>. Within one week, registrants will receive a custom purchase link to the email provided in registration. Attendees must then use this custom link to purchase tickets for the event. Additional ticketing information is available on the registration website. Registration will close on February 17.

Tip-off for the game is scheduled for 12 p.m. Gates to the Breslin will open at 10:30 a.m., with a variety of pre-game activities hosted by MSU Extension professionals around the concourse. Participants are encouraged to show their pride and wear green and white 4-H or MSU Extension apparel. Families for whom cost is a barrier should contact their local 4-H program coordinator.



Show your 4-H pride wherever you go!

Did you know you can make a difference for 4-H every time you hit the road? By purchasing the Michigan 4-H specialty license plate, you're not only showing your 4-H spirit—you're helping fund programs that empower young people across the state. A portion of each plate sale and renewal benefits Michigan 4-H, supporting hands-on learning experiences that help Michigan youth become beyond ready for the future.

Whether you're a current member, alumni, volunteer, or simply a proud supporter, this is an easy way to give back and keep 4-H growing strong. Ordering is simple through the Michigan Secretary of State.



Drive your support forward—get your 4-H plate today and help create opportunities for the next generation of Michigan 4-H youth! Learn more at extension.msu.edu/4-HPlate.

2026 ADULTING 101



- FRAUD FIGHTERS - JANUARY 21 AT 6:30 PM
- INFORMED RENTER - FEBRUARY 19 AT 5:00 PM
- SLEEP WELLNESS - MARCH 4 AT 5:30 PM
- EAT SMART: HEALTHY MEALS ON A BUDGET - APRIL 13 AT 5:00 PM
- COOKING WITH CONFIDENCE - MAY 18 AT 6:30 PM
- AI AND YOU: SMART, SAFE & SAVVY - JUNE 11 AT 6:00 PM
- THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK - JULY 8 AT 6:00 PM
- ROADMAP TO A SMART USED CAR PURCHASE - AUGUST 12 AT 5:00 PM
- ARE YOU READY? - SEPTEMBER 23 AT 5:00 PM
- MENTAL HEALTH TOOLKIT - OCTOBER 7 AT 6:00 PM
- REALITIES OF ANIMAL CARE - NOVEMBER 12 AT 7:00 PM

*ALL TIMES LISTED ARE EASTERN STANDARD TIME



FREE ON ZOOM



Michigan 4-H Day at the Breslin

Tickets now available!

March 1, 2026

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MICHIGAN 4-H 2026 CASH COMPOSITION CONTEST

MICHIGAN YOUTH AGES 9-19 CAN WIN \$100 GIFT CARD BY ANSWERING AN ESSAY QUESTION ON SCAMS AND FRAUD PREVENTION

ESSAYS DUE MARCH 1, 2026

Extra Credit UNION



Join Us Online

WILD SPARTANS

SCIENCE * RESEARCH * CAREERS * CONSERVATION

"THE LAND HAS A STORY TO TELL- BUT ARE WE LISTENING?"

WITH ZACH WILSON

FOREST ECOLOGIST, GREAT LAKES INDIAN FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION

March 10 | 6:30 PM EST

Registration required:

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/WildSpartansSeriesFall2025Spring2026/>

Michigan 4-H Day with the Detroit Tigers



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April 12



reversible bucket hat with purchase

2026 Money Smart Mission GooseChase Game



Who: Michigan residents aged 13-19

What: Fun online missions to show your money smarts and learn about finances and entrepreneurship!

When: 4/1/26 - 4/21/26

How: Register online to access contest



MICHIGAN CREDIT UNION FOUNDATION



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CONTACT US:

For more information and to register, go to:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/volunteering/mi-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series>



For questions, please contact:

Christine Heverly

sisungch@msu.edu

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2026 Michigan 4-H Volunteer Winter/Spring Webinars

This webinar series will provide Michigan 4-H volunteers with a variety of learning opportunities to help them grow as a Michigan State University and Michigan 4-H volunteer.

All webinars take place at 12pm (noon) EST. Registration is required for each individual webinar- registration is free! Recordings will be posted on the website for later viewing.

Sessions include:

January 26, 2026: Beyond Ready Basics: Bringing the Vital Elements to Life in Your 4-H Club: Every great 4-H experience has a few powerful ingredients—and volunteers play the biggest role in making them happen. In this session, we'll explore the four Vital Elements that help youth thrive, discovering sparks, feeling a sense of belonging, building developmental relationships, and staying meaningfully engaged.

February 11, 2026: Building Belonging: Teambuilding Strategies for Stronger 4-H Experiences: Teambuilding isn't just an activity—it's a pathway to deeper belonging and higher engagement in 4-H. This webinar will show volunteers how simple team-building practices can help youth feel included, communicate effectively, work together, and grow their leadership skills.

March 25, 2026: From Sparks to Skills: Using AI Responsibly in 4-H: This webinar will help volunteers understand what AI is, how it impacts youth development, and how to use it responsibly within the 4-H program. We'll explore practical guidance from MSU Extension resources, discuss ethical considerations, and share tips for supporting youth as they navigate this evolving technology.

April 22, 2026: Let's Talk It Out: Handling Conflict with Ease: Conflict happens—even to the best volunteer groups. This laid-back session is all about learning how to handle tough conversations without the stress.

May 4, 2026: Supporting Youth Entrepreneurs: Your Role in 4-H Animal Projects: Learn how to support youth in making smart decisions that lead to financial and personal growth using activities from MSU Extension's curriculum *Youth Business Guide to Success*.



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2026 Calendar of Statewide Animal Science Events

4-H Animal Science Staff

Autumn Converse

4-H Livestock and Veterinary
Science Educator
conver20@msu.edu

David Lindsay

4-H Equine Educator
lindsa75@msu.edu

Kendra Van Order

4-H Dairy Educator
vanorde4@msu.edu

Jermo Reese

4-H Animal Science Program
Instructor
reesejer@msu.edu

Jacob Stieg

4-H Poultry Point of Contact
stieg@msu.edu

Kat VanDouser

4-H Dog Point of Contact
krollkat@msu.edu

Glen da Weiss

4-H Rabbit & Cavy Point of Contact
weissgle@msu.edu

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January 24	4-H State Rabbit Show
Feb. 27- March 1	4-H Dairy Conference
March 7	4-H Spring Livestock Workshop
March 14	4-H Horse Communications Contest
March 21-22	Norma Agnew 4-H Hairy Horse Show
March 21	4-H Rabbit and Cavy Workshop
March 22	4-H Rabbit and Cavy Quiz Bowl
April 11	4-H & FFA Horse Judging State Contest
April 12	4-H Hippology State Contest
May 13	4-H & FFA Meats Judging State Contest
June 16-17	Michigan Youth Livestock Judging Camp
June 27	4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl
July 1	4-H & FFA Livestock Judging State Contest
July 6-7 & 8-9	4-H Animal and Veterinary Science Camp
July 13-16	4-H Youth Dairy Days
August 13-16	4-H State Horse Show
September 19	4-H State Dog Show



Scan me for more
information about these
programs!

JOIN THE
MICHIGAN 4-H

TEENS AS TEACHERS

HEALTHY LIVING PROGRAM

The Michigan 4-H Teens as Teachers Healthy Living Program seeks teens who want to take an active role in promoting health, wellness, and leadership within their communities.

The program empowers teens to serve as peer educators and role models who help younger youth make informed, healthy choices while developing their own character, confidence, and leadership skills.

Through the Teens as Teachers program, teens will receive leadership and facilitation training that prepares them to lead 4-H Healthy Living programs focused on:

- Mental health and emotional wellness
- Physical fitness and healthy lifestyles
- Substance use prevention and positive decision-making

Teens will receive a variety of benefits through their participation in the program, including:

- A scholarship to attend [Michigan 4-H Exploration Days](#) on the campus of Michigan State University (valued at \$250)
- A \$100 stipend after teaching their first lessons
- An official "Teens as Teachers" Shirt
- Materials and supplies to use while teaching
- Increased leadership and careers skills that can be used on application for scholarships, higher education, and jobs

The Teens as Teachers program is open to all Michigan youth ages 13-19 (no previous experience with 4-H is needed) and there is no cost to participate, but space is limited.



SIGN UP >>

<https://bit.ly/4r8lbPp>



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HOW TO PARTICIPATE

1 SIGN UP!

To get started, teens must sign-up to participate by going to <https://bit.ly/4r8lbPp>. The deadline to sign-up is April 15, but sign-up will end early if our maximum registration is reached sooner.

2 GET TRAINED!

Program orientation and initial trainings will be done online during live, interactive Zoom sessions. All Teen Teachers will attend 4-H Exploration Days in East Lansing, MI for in-person training.

2026 Training Schedule

- **April 21 @ 6:30 - 8:00 pm (Zoom)**
 - Program Orientation for teens and parent(s)/guardian(s)
- **May 19 @ 6:30 - 7:30 pm (Zoom)**
 - Training Session #1
- **June 16 @ 6:30 - 7:30 pm (Zoom)**
 - Training Session #2
- **June 24-26 - (In-person)**
 - A Teens as Teachers training will be held as part of 4-H Exploration Days in East Lansing, MI. Lodging and meals will be provided for participants on the campus of Michigan State University.

3 GO TEACH!

Working with other teen teachers in their community, and with continued guidance and support from 4-H staff, Teen Teachers will plan and lead educational workshops focused on healthy living for peers and younger youth.

Teen Teachers will continue to meet at least once per month from July-December for additional training and support. Meetings will be via Zoom with options for in-person, local gatherings with other Teen Teachers and 4-H staff.



For more information contact:

Kea Norrell-Aitch
Extension Educator
Michigan State University Extension
kea@msu.edu

Brian Wibby
Extension Educator
Michigan State University Extension
wibby@msu.edu



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FISHING - WOODS - WATER 4-H WORKSHOPS

Make an Ice Fishing Jigging Rod
Fly Tying
Learn about wildlife - snakes and mussels

 FEBRUARY 4 & 10
2026  6:00-7:30PM

Thomas Township Nature Center




WORLD FOOD PRIZE

MICHIGAN YOUTH INSTITUTE

AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

May 7, 2026



Contact: Jan Brinn
brinn@msu.edu

4-H International Exchange Program

"Open your Home and Heart, become a host family today, and create memories that will never fade away!"



July 23-August 18

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension 

2026 4-H OUTDOOR EDUCATION Workshop

April 25-26, 2026
at Camp Newaygo



This workshop is sponsored with a grant from the Michigan 4-H Foundation

SPRING 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS INSTRUCTOR WORKSHOP

MICHIGAN SHOOTING SPORTS  LEARN BY DOING

May 2-3, 2026

 John A. Halter Shooting Sports Education Center
4390 Bankers Road
Hillsdale, MI

Offering all Disciplines:

- ✓ Archery
- ✓ Rifle
- ✓ Shotgun
- ✓ Pistol
- ✓ Muzzle Loader
- ✓ Hunting and Wildlife
- ✓ Coordinator

 REGISTER NOW !  Questions? Email 4H.ShootingSports@msu.edu

This workshop is sponsored with a grant from the Michigan 4-H Foundation