



FEBRUARY 2025

4-H Family News

Eaton County



Upcoming Celebration and Awards Banquet

Our Volunteer Celebration and County Awards Ceremony is coming up this month! This Banquet will be a fun celebration of all the people that help make Eaton County 4-H great!

Volunteer Celebration and County Awards Ceremony

Saturday, February 22nd

First Baptist Church | 1110 Cochran Ave, Charlotte, MI 48813

Doors open at 5:30pm | Event begins at 6:00pm

Please note that everyone is invited! Gold level volunteers, youth that are being recognized, and children under the age of 7 will get their tickets for free. Tickets are \$5.00 everyone else and can be purchased at the MSU Extension office.

Please RSVP to the Extension Office by February 7th!

Upcoming Committee Meetings

4-H Council | March 3rd | 7 PM | PMR

Horse Development Committee Meeting | March 12th |

6:30 PM | PMR

Dog Committee Meeting | March 19th | 6:30 PM | PMR

CONTACT US

Jessie Gott

4-H Program Coordinator

gottjess@msu.edu

Michigan State University Extension

Eaton County

551 Courthouse Dr. Suite 1

Charlotte, Michigan 48813

517-543-2310

Eaton County 4-H:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/eaton/eaton_county_4_h/

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/EatonCounty4H/>

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COUNTY 4-H NEWS

The Maple Valley Riders 4-H Club Volunteer at Mitten Misfits Farm Sanctuary



The Maple Valley Riders 4-H Club of Eaton County voted earlier in the year to volunteer at an animal shelter as a community service project. They chose to volunteer at a local animal rescue, Mitten Misfits Farm Sanctuary, in Grand Ledge. The weather was cold, and the barnyard was muddy, but serving the community is a big part of what 4-H is all about and these kids sure love to help others, so they didn't mind. Everyone pitched in and worked hard to help! They spread straw in the animal sheds, scooped cow manure, stacked bales, learned about the care and keeping of all the animals there, and most importantly, experienced the joy of giving back and helping others.

Mitten Misfits Farm Sanctuary is a non-profit sanctuary providing a forever home to senior farm animals. Their mission is to enrich the lives of animals while educating the public on proper care to improve animal welfare. If you're interested in volunteering, please visit mittenmisfits.org for more information.





COUNTY ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

The Food Shack is Hiring for 2025 Fair!

The Food Shack is looking for one employee to join the team for the 2025 fair season. This is a paid position!

Interested? Call Carla at **517-652-9732** for more details!

Ag Science Teacher / FFA Advisor Job Opening

Click the following link to view this position: <https://jobs.redoverk12.com/org/eatonrapids/opening/112169>

It's Time to Register!

Log into 4-H Online to register
for the 2025 4-H year

www.4honline.com



Driven for the Future: Career Webinar Series

ace the interview

Tips to Land Your Dream Job

Thursday, February 13, 2025 at 6pm EST



4-H Great Lakes & Natural Resources Camp

Seeking Camp Counselors

If you are:

- ✓ 16-20 years old
- ✓ Enjoy working with kids and the outdoors
- ✓ Available July 25 - August 2, 2025

Join our team this summer at Camp Chickagami in Presque Isle for an enriching week of leadership and personal growth as you guide 13-15 year old campers on adventures filled learning experiences!

To learn more or register, contact:

Joe Kreider
kreider4@msu.edu

Raye Host
hostrael@msu.edu





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS



Apply for the Michigan 4-H State Awards!

Michigan 4-H true leaders ages 11 and older have an opportunity to be recognized for the great work they do in 4-H and develop their career skills by completing a state award application. A Michigan 4-H State Award is the highest honor bestowed on a Michigan 4-H member and provides an opportunity to receive recognition for their engagement in rich learning experiences that result in outstanding knowledge and life-skill development.

State award applications are divided into four categories: Mark of Excellence contest (10-11 years), junior state award (12-15 years), senior state award (16-19 years) and group awards (13-19 years). Each application and selection process varies, dependent on the applicant's age.

More information about the Michigan 4-H State Award process and Mark of Excellence Contest can be found online at <http://bit.ly/stateaward>. Applications are due April 1. For more information, contact your 4-H program coordinator or email Betty Jo Krosnicki at nashbett@msu.edu or Janice Zerbe at rajzerj@msu.edu.

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 8 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 Feb. 1 and closes Mar. 15.



Seeking outstanding agricultural 4-H volunteers

The Michigan 4-H Foundation is seeking nominations of remarkable agricultural 4-H volunteers for the Michigan Farm Bureau (MFB) 4-H Excellence in Agriculture Award. This award recognizes outstanding 4-H volunteers that have exhibited excellence in 4-H youth education and leadership development in the areas of 4-H beef cattle; dairy cattle; goats; horses; horticulture, crops and soils; poultry; rabbits; sheep; swine; and veterinary science.

Up to five MFB Excellence in Agriculture Award honorees are recognized each year. Selected recipients will be recognized by both Michigan 4-H and MFB. In addition, honorees receive a \$1,000 grant they designate to a 4-H agricultural program of their choice. The award is supported by an endowment with the Michigan 4-H Foundation that was established by MFB.

Nominations for the MFB Excellence in Agriculture Award should be submitted by March 15. To nominate a deserving individual or learn more about the 4-H Excellence in Agriculture Award, visit <https://mi4hfdtn.org/grants-scholarships/mfb-4-h-excellence-in-agriculture-award/>.



STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Get free tickets for Michigan 4-H Day at the Breslin!



Make plans for a fun day in East Lansing on March 1! Join with other members of the 4-H community for 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 Minnesota Golden Gophers.

In addition to the game, attendees will also enjoy 4-H activities around the concourse. Doors will open at 12:30 p.m., with tip-off scheduled for 2 p.m. Participants are encouraged to show their pride and wear green and white 4-H or MSU Extension apparel.

Tickets are free to 4-H youth and their families as well as 4-H volunteers and their families. For more information and to order tickets, visit www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-day-at-the-Breslin.

A member of the 4-H alumni community? Consider also stopping by the 4-H Alumni Tip-Off Reception on March 1! More information and registration at www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-alumni-tip-off-reception.

February 4: Crash Course: Credit Survival 101

Online

Youth learn the basics of credit: advantages and disadvantages, credit vs. debit, credit scores, interest, and tips to managing credit wisely.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/crashcreditcoursefeb-4

February 11: 4-H Wild Spartans – The Relationship Between Tribes and Fish

Online

Plunge into the world of Great Lakes fisheries and meet Jason Smith, Great Lakes fisheries assessment biologist for the Bay Mills Indian community. Learn about his work, and the education and career path he followed to get there. Ask questions to learn more through a live Q&A. Open to youth ages 12-19 years.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-monthly-wildlife-fisheries-webinar-series-february-2024-2025

February 12: Online Parent Talk System Webinar Series

Online

A course for caregivers to improve communication and provide strategies for raising confident, caring, responsible children. This weekly series will be offered Wednesdays from Feb. 12 – Mar. 19 at no cost.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/the-parent-talk-system-series-february-march-25

February 13: Ace the Interview: Tips to Land Your Dream Job

Online

Through the partnership of Toyota and Michigan 4-H, youth will explore a variety of career paths in the automotive industry as well as build workforce readiness skills to take on their goals. This second offering in the five-part webinar series will focus on tips for a successful interview.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/ace-the-interview

February 15: 4-H Animal Science Career Quest 2025

Online

A career exploration program for youth ages 12-19 interested in pursuing a career in animal science. Learn about everything animal science has to offer and many career skill-building activities through hands-on sessions. Register by Feb. 3.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-animal-science-career-quest-2025

February 25: 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series; Facilitation Skills for 4-H Clubs

Online

Gain essential facilitation skills to engage every voice and increase efficiency in your 4-H club. This session offers tools to create inclusive, dynamic discussions, making sure all members feel heard while streamlining club activities. This webinar will be offered at two different times:

12 p.m. www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-engaging-every-voice-facilitation-skills-for-dynamic-4-h-clubs-noon

7 p.m. www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-engaging-every-voice-facilitation-skills-for-dynamic-4-h-clubs-7pm





UPCOMING EVENTS

2025 MI 4-H Dairy Conference



The MI 4-H Dairy Conference is back for 2025! This event is open to 4-H members ages 12-19. This year's event will take place on the campus of MSU on March 1st & 2nd. This is an overnight event that focuses on the dairy industry, but this program is open to anyone interested in dairy and animal science. The cost is \$130 for both youth and adult participants.

Registration closes on February 6th, 2025. Reach out to Kendra at vanorde4@msu.edu with any questions.

Registration Link: [MI 4-H Dairy Conference - 4-H Animal Science](#)

2025 Michigan 4-H Livestock Workshop

Registration is now open for the 2025 Michigan 4-H Livestock Workshop!

This one-day workshop will take place on Saturday, March 8 on MSU's main campus in East Lansing. It is designed for 4-H youth ages 12-19 (as of January 1, 2025) and Active Gold MSU Extension volunteers in beef, sheep, goats, and swine project areas. Youth will learn about different aspects of their livestock projects throughout a variety of breakout sessions, including intro to your species project, animal evaluation, marketing your livestock project, careers, anatomy, nutrition, and more! Registration will cost \$35, which includes lunch and a t-shirt.

Full details and a link to register can be found here: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-spring-livestock-workshop-2025>



4-H Capitol Experience



Do you want to make our state a better place? 4-H Capitol Experience is now open for registrations! Join us at the Michigan Capitol March 16-18 to learn more about state government, and how your voice can make an impact!

More information can be found on our website:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_capitol_experience/



UPCOMING EVENTS



Join Us Online

ADULTING 101 MEDICAL INSURANCE

February 10, 2025 5:30-6:30pm ET



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

Michigan 4-H Day with the Detroit Tigers



April 27

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

4-H GROWS HERE

Michigan 4-H Day at the Breslin

Reserve your free tickets today!



March 1, 2025

4-H GROWS HERE
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension



Join Us Online

WILD SPARTANS

SCIENCE * RESEARCH * CAREERS * CONSERVATION

"THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TRIBES AND FISH"

WITH JASON SMITH
BAY MILLS INDIAN COMMUNITY

February 11 | 6:30 PM EST

Registration required:

https://events.anr.msu.edu/wildspartans2024_25

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension





ANIMAL SCIENCE CAREER QUEST

OVERVIEW

Animal Science Career Quest is February 15, 2025 on MSU's campus in East Lansing for youth ages 12-19 (as of January 1, 2025) and 4-H volunteers.

Participants will learn all about the available opportunities within the fields of animal science and veterinary medicine, not just as a student, but also long-term career options. There will be breakout sessions dedicated to various fields.

Participation is limited to 100 people (85 youth, 15 volunteers)

***Past attendees should select different breakout session options than what they have already attended at Career Quest programs in previous years.*

SCHEDULE OVERVIEW (all times EST)

Saturday, February 15

- 7:30 Registration begins
- 8:30 Welcome
- 9:00 Species Sessions
- 10:45 Career Exploration and Workforce Prep Activity
- 11:30 MSU Animal Science Program Overview
- 12:15 Lunch*
- 1:00 Learning Labs
- 5:00 Dinner*
- 6:00 Discipline Sessions
- 8:00 Conclusion

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DATES, LOCATION, FEES

WHEN: February 15, 2025

WHERE: Michigan State University campus in East Lansing – Anthony Hall and the South Campus Farms

WHO: Youth ages 12-19 and 4-H volunteers

COST: \$35

NOTE: No overnight lodging is provided; this is the sole responsibility of the program participant.

Transportation to and from the South Campus Animal Farms will be provided for youth participants who are attending Learning Lab sessions at a farm; adults attending Learning Lab sessions at a farm will be responsible for their own transportation.

Event Contacts

Autumn Converse
Extension Educator, 4-H Livestock and Veterinary Science Programs
conver20@msu.edu

David Lindsay
Extension Educator, 4-H Horse Programs
lindsa75@msu.edu

Kendra Van Order
Extension Educator, 4-H Dairy Programs
vanorde4@msu.edu

Follow us on Facebook:

- Michigan Dairy Youth Programs
- Michigan 4-H Livestock and Veterinary Science Programs
- Michigan 4-H Horse Programs



ANIMAL SCIENCE CAREER QUEST

SPECIES and DISCIPLINE SESSIONS DESCRIPTION

Saturday morning, participants will learn about the types of animal studied and taught about in the Department of Animal Science. There will be two sessions, each 45 minutes long. All species options are available during both time blocks, except poultry and rabbits which will be offered one time. Species sessions will be pre-selected during registration. Please select each species session only once.

Species: Beef Cattle, Companion Animals, Dairy Cattle, Horses, Poultry, Rabbits and Cavies, Sheep and Goats, and Swine

See below for a full list of session offerings for **Saturday afternoon's** 90-minute Learning Lab sessions.

Saturday evening, participants will learn about different disciplines, or topics, studied and taught about in the Department of Animal Science. There will be two sessions, each 50 minutes long. All discipline options are available during both time blocks. Discipline sessions will be pre-selected during registration. Please only attend each discipline session once.

Disciplines: Animal Behavior and Welfare, Animal Health, Animal Nutrition, Animal Reproduction, and Education and Outreach

Learning Lab Session Offerings

- **Building Skills for Your Future** (Anthony Hall)
- **Veterinary Medicine and Nursing** (Anthony Hall)
- **Leader Dogs for the Blind** (Anthony Hall)
- **Egg-stravaganza!** (Anthony Hall)
- **Intro to Livestock Judging** (Anthony Hall)
- **Intro to Carcass Evaluation and Meats Judging*** (Anthony Hall)
- **Dairy Nutrition** (Anthony Hall)
- **Intro to Rabbit and Cavy Management** (Anthony Hall)
- **Intro to Horse Judging*** ([Horse Teaching and Research Center](#))
- **Intro to Horse Management*** ([Horse Teaching and Research Center](#))
- **Intro to Dairy Cattle Judging*** ([Dairy Cattle Teaching and Research Center](#))

REGISTER NOW!

MICHIGAN 4-H State Hippology Contest

March 15, 2025 at Michigan
State University

The annual Michigan 4-H Hippology Contest allows youth in horse and pony projects to test their equine knowledge.

Youth aged 5-19 are eligible to participate in the Michigan 4-H State Hippology Contest. Cloverbuds, Junior and Senior divisions as well as Junior Novice and Senior Novice allow for youth to demonstrate their comprehensive equine knowledge and skills in an engaging setting.

REGISTER HERE:

[HTTPS://WWW.CANR.MSU.EDU/EVENTS/2025-MICHIGAN-4-H-STATE-HIPPOLOGY-CONTEST](https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/2025-michigan-4-h-state-hippology-contest)



CONTACT
DAVID LINDSAY
EXTENSION EDUCATOR
4-H YOUTH HORSE PROGRAMS
LINDSA75@MSU.EDU



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MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY OCCUPIES THE ANCESTRAL, TRADITIONAL AND CONTEMPORARY LANDS OF THE ANISHINAABEG - THREE FIRES CONFEDERACY OF OJIBWE, ODAWA AND POTAWATOMI PEOPLES. THE UNIVERSITY RESIDES ON LAND CEDED IN THE 1819 TREATY OF SAGINAW.

4-H



Night
Every 4th
Tuesday at
7pm



AN EVENT FOR ALL TO
ENJOY, JUST CHILL
PEOPLE HANGING OUT



Register to attend:

<https://forms.gle/gV5yaKdPxb3Yc4uA7>



4-H SPARK & SHARE SUMMIT



Join us for a workshop for adult volunteers and teen leaders to ignite sparks, share ideas, and explore interests through a variety of hands-on activities!



JOIN US!

REGISTER NOW!

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/SELeaderMeet2025/>

EVENT DETAILS

Southeast Regional 4-H Spark and Share Summit

Date: March 8, 2025

Time: 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM

Location: Bavarian Inn Lodge & Conference Center
Frankenmuth, MI

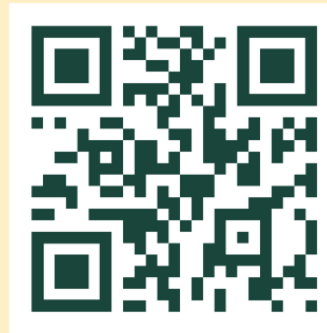
**\$50 per
person**

**Lunch
included**

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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:

Summer 2025

Cost:

FREE

Website:

galsmi.weebly.com

GALS is a free 2-week summer program for high-school students interested in learning about science and teamwork in nature.

You will embark on backpacking trips in the Michigan wilderness.

You will learn hands-on about the ecology, biology, and geology of your surroundings while honing leadership skills.

**We invite high school-aged students identifying
as female or gender non-conforming to apply!**



Driven for the Future: Empowering Michigan's Next Auto Tech Workforce

Website:

<https://bit.ly/3ONTYI3>



Questions:

Laurie Rivetto

RivettoL@msu.edu

734-727-7224



TOYOTA MOTOR
NORTH AMERICA

Research &
Development

Through the partnership of Toyota and Michigan 4-H, youth will experience a variety of career paths in the automotive industry as well as build crucial workforce readiness skills during this five webinar series. Skilled trade careers and apprentice experiences will be highlighted.

Any attendee who attends all five webinars (live or recorded) with submission of contact information will receive an incentive.

This program is FREE and open to all, though geared towards middle school students, high school students, and recent graduates.

January 23, 2025 at 6pm EST– Gear Up for Success through Apprenticeships in Automotive Research and Development

February 13, 2025 at 6pm EST– Ace the Interview

March 20, 2025 at 6pm EST– Rev Up Your Future: Careers in Automotive Performance and Evaluation

April 10, 2025 at 6pm EST– Drive Success with Workplace Professionalism

May 1, 2025 at 6pm EST– Engineer the Future with Careers in Integrated Vehicle Systems

For more information and registration:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/driven-for-the-future/>

Sponsors:

Incentives and program are free thanks to generous support from Toyota Motor North America Research and Development

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2025 MI 4-H STATEWIDE DAIRY EVENTS

March
1-2 **MI 4-H Dairy Conference**
Michigan State University

June
28 **State 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl Contest**
Anthony Hall, Michigan State University

July
14-17 **MI 4-H Dairy Days**
Michigan State University

Sept. 28- **National 4-H Dairy Conference**
Oct. 2 Madison, WI

KENDRA VAN ORDER
MI 4-H DAIRY EDUCATOR

517-432-4306

VANORDE4@MSU.EDU

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY | **Extension**

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States' 4-H Summer Hosting

HOST an international youth delegate and bring the richness of the world to your home!

Host an International Youth in Summer 2025 with States' 4-H International

"It's like having a sister I always wanted and a best friend"
-States' 4-H Host Sibling

Open your home to an exchange student and open your lives to the world!



Hosting Details

- Mid-July to Mid-August 2025
- Youth from Costa Rica, Japan, Korea, and Taiwan
- * Exact dates dependent on your state. Please check with your state's Coordinator for details.
- Host a youth aged 12-18 (majority are 12-14) or an adult chaperone
- Youth have a range of English language abilities, so host families should be prepared to communicate imaginatively
- This is a voluntary program; no stipends will be provided

Host Family Requirements

- You must have a child of the same gender who is within 3 years of the hosted youth (children aged 9+ are eligible to host)
- Families without children of the appropriate age may host an adult chaperone
- No special activities need to be planned since these youth want to experience American culture, make new friends, and improve their English by staying with your family

For more information, visit <https://www.states4hexchange.org/state-contacts/> to find contact information for your local State Coordinator

Please note: Host family selection is dependent on completion of an application and screening process, as well as student availability and personality compatibility.