



MARCH 20, 2026

# 4-H Family News

## Ingham County



### YQCA

YOUTH FOR THE QUALITY CARE OF ANIMALS

#### CERTIFICATION CLASS 2026

Thursday, March 26  
6:30pm - 7:30 pm

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

Cost: \$3.00

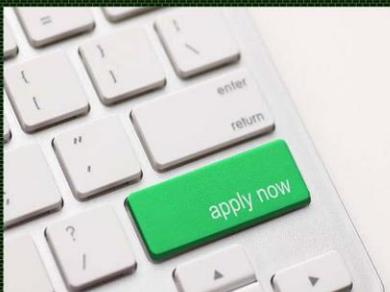
Register online at [yqcaprogram.org](http://yqcaprogram.org)



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.



## Michigan 4-H State Awards



- Write your resume, cover letter, and application
- Tell your 4-H story
- Hands-on learning experience to develop career skills
- Get recognized
- Compete for cash prizes

**Application deadline: April 1**  
**Recognition event: June 24**

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/StateAwards26>

### Contact Us:

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[weissgle@msu.edu](mailto:weissgle@msu.edu)

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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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# SCHOLARSHIP

# OPPORTUNITIES



**DUE TUESDAY APRIL 15TH**  
**EARL THREADGOULD**  
**SCHOLARSHIP**



**DUE MONDAY JULY 28TH**  
**BILL WHEELER MEMORIAL**  
**SCHOLARSHIP**



## **NEW at Ignite 2026:** **Animal Science!**

Hands-on workshops. Become career-ready.



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

### CALLING ALL FROG LOVERS!

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING FILLED WITH CROAKS, TRILLS, AND SPLASHES FROM OUR FAVORITE FROG FRIENDS



### TWO FREE EVENTS

APRIL 9 | 8:00 - 9:30 PM  
MSU COREY MARSH ECOLOGICAL RESEARCH CENTER  
LAINGSBURG, MI

APRIL 23 | 8:00 - 9:30 PM  
BENGL WILDLIFE CENTER  
BATH, MI

## Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar: From Sparks to Skills: Using AI Responsibly in 4-H

March 25, 2026 12:00PM - 1:00PM  
Zoom

Contact: Christine Heverly  
[sisungch@msu.edu](mailto:sisungch@msu.edu)

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is transforming the way we learn, work, and interact—and 4-H is no exception. 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. Join us to gain confidence in addressing questions about AI and discover ways to keep learning fun, safe, and future-focused!

To Register: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-from-sparks-to-skills-using-ai-responsibly-in-4-h>

## Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar: Let's Talk It Out: Handling Conflict with Ease

April 22, 2026 12:00PM - 1:00PM  
Zoom

Contact: Christine Heverly  
[sisungch@msu.edu](mailto:sisungch@msu.edu)

Conflict happens—even to the best volunteer groups. This laid-back session is all about learning how to handle tough conversations without the stress. We'll chat about simple ways to stay cool, listen well, and speak up when things get tense. You'll pick up practical tips for turning disagreements into productive dialogue and keeping your volunteer experience positive and drama-free.

To Register: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-let-s-talk-it-out-handling-conflict-with-ease>

## Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar: Supporting Youth Entrepreneurs: Your Role in 4-H Animal Projects

May 4, 2026 12:00PM – 1:00PM  
Zoom

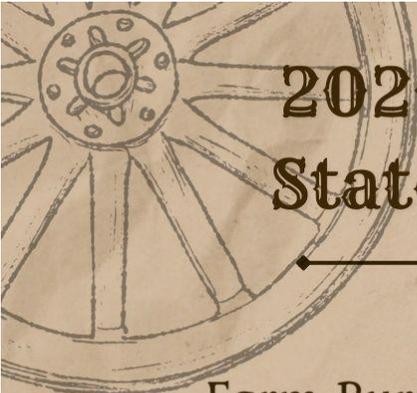
Contact: Christine Heverly  
[sisungch@msu.edu](mailto:sisungch@msu.edu)

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.

Discover how you can mentor youth in goal setting, budgeting, marketing, and record-keeping for real-world skills.

To Register: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-let-s-talk-it-out-handling-conflict-with-ease>



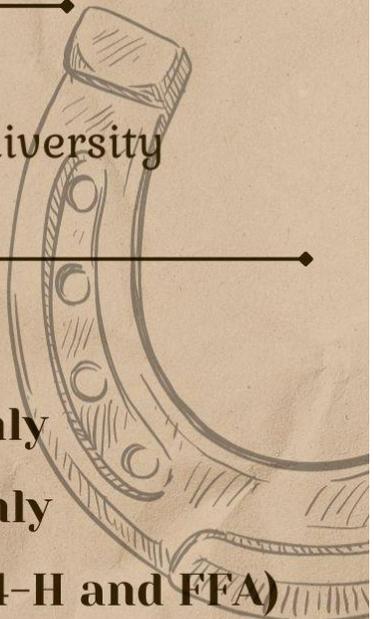


# 2026 Michigan 4-H and FFA State Horse Judging Contest

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)**

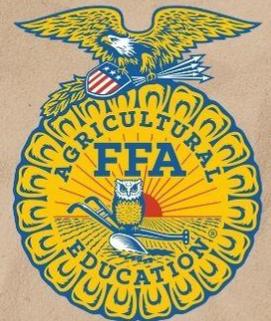
**Class #8: Halter - Place for all (Reasons for Sr. Regular Only)**



**Beyond  
Ready**

**MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

**Extension**



Register now at:

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

Questions? Email David at [lindsa75@msu.edu](mailto: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.

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## 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](mailto:lindsa75@msu.edu)



**MICHIGAN STATE**  
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**Beyond  
Ready**



# NEW at Ignite 2026: Animal Science!

Hands-on workshops. Become career-ready.



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



## Make the Most of your Market Animal Project Webinar Series

FREE on Zoom at 6:30pm ET

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



Goal- Getters	April 21
Talk the Talk	April 28
Marketing Mastery	May 5
Records to Riches	May 12
From Pitch to Payment	May 19

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# 2026 ADULTING 101



- 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



# 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



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## Make the Most of Your Livestock Project

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension



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!**

# Michigan 4-H Day with the Detroit Tigers



Beyond Ready

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

April 12



reversible bucket hat with purchase

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



Beyond  
Ready

4-H

# EXPLORATION DAYS

June 24-26, 2026



Register Here:

[www.canr.msu.edu/4\\_h\\_exploration\\_days/](http://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_exploration_days/)

Get ready for the ultimate summer experience at  
**Michigan 4-H Exploration Days June 24-26, 2026.**

Each year, nearly 1,000 youth from across Michigan head to Michigan State University for three unforgettable days of learning, leadership, new friendships and FUN. With 100+ hands-on sessions to choose from, you'll live in an MSU dorm and explore campus while discovering new interests and building skills that last a lifetime.

Registration opens **March 12 at 7:00 PM** and popular sessions fill quickly, don't wait!

For more information and to find a list of sessions, please visit: [https://www.canr.msu.edu/4\\_h\\_exploration\\_days/](https://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_exploration_days/)

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension **2026** Beyond Ready

# 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](mailto:4H.ShootingSports@msu.edu)

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

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

# 4-H GREAT LAKES & NATURAL RESOURCES CAMP

July 26-August 1, 2026 - Camp Chickagami - Presque Isle, MI

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Beyond Ready

# MICHIGAN STATEWIDE 4-H TRAIL RIDING PROGRAM

## Questions and Answers

**QUESTIONS?**  
CONTACT JORDAN AT [HEWITTJ8@MSU.EDU](mailto:HEWITTJ8@MSU.EDU)  
OR DAVID AT [LINDSA75@MSU.EDU](mailto:LINDSA75@MSU.EDU)

- What is this program:**
  - Recognize youth who participate in trail riding as part of their 4-H horse project.
- Who Can Participate:**
  - Any youth enrolled in a 4-H horse project member in Michigan.
- What are the requirements to log my hours:**
  - Trail location, date, hours ridden, miles, type of ride
  - Trail type classes or arena riding do not count towards these hours
  - Miles will accrue from August 1<sup>st</sup> thru the following July 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Recognition:**
  - Top five Junior and Senior participants awarded at the Michigan 4-H State Horse Show.
- How do I Record my Rides:**
  - Use this link to record your rides:  
[https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_bOyn5zWO RdTsyfy](https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bOyn5zWO RdTsyfy)

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# STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Preparing youth to be Beyond Ready



## Beyond Ready

4-H's approach to readiness begins with participation in high-quality positive youth development programs.

4-H has historically helped young people prepare for work and life through the development of competencies, skills and tangible assets, resulting in youth who are healthy, productive and engaged.

The complex landscape youth face today calls us to go a step further in preparing them to navigate their readiness pathway during and after their 4-H experience.

Is your club intentionally preparing youth to be Beyond Ready for the changing world? Watch here for tips to use with your club.

#BeyondReady

### March 5: Future Ready – Exploring College and Career Paths Workshop

Washtenaw County MSU Extension Office, Ann Arbor

This workshop will feature an interactive panel discussion about the variety of opportunities available for high school graduates in college, trades and more. Ideal for youth ages 12-19.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/future-ready-exploring-college-and-career-paths-workshop](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/future-ready-exploring-college-and-career-paths-workshop)

### March 10: 4-H Give Green Day

Online

Help us reach our goal of raising \$5,000 in a 24-hour period on Give Green Day to support learning experiences for Michigan 4-H youth.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/4h-give-green-day](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4h-give-green-day)

### March 10: 4-H Wild Spartans - The Lands Has a Story to Tell – But Are We Listening?

Online

Explore the stories that nature and humans weave with Zach Wilson, forest ecologist for the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission. Learn about his career and education, and ask questions via a live Q&A. Suited for youth ages 12-19.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-wild-spartans-march](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-wild-spartans-march)

### March 25: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar – Using AI Responsibly in 4-H

Online

Artificial intelligence (AI) is transforming the way we learn, work and interact. Learn what AI is, how it impacts youth development, and how to use it responsibly within 4-H. Explore MSU Extension guidance, discuss ethical considerations, and share tips for supporting youth navigating technology.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-from-sparks-to-skills-using-ai-responsibly-in-4-h](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-from-sparks-to-skills-using-ai-responsibly-in-4-h)

### March 30- April 1: 4-H on the Move: Detroit Cultural Connection Camp

Detroit

An unforgettable spring break alternative! Build cultural awareness, empathy, and a deeper understanding of Detroit's diverse communities through guided tours, hands-on activities, and an opportunity to make a positive impact.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-cultural-connection-camp](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-cultural-connection-camp)

### April 1: Smart Money Missions Goosechase Game

Everywhere

This fun money management scavenger hunt game is played on the Goosechase app and is open to youth 13-19 years old residing in Michigan.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/smart-money-missions](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/smart-money-missions)





# STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

## Open your home to a student with the 4-H International Exchange Program!

Invite an international youth (ages 12-17 years) or adult chaperone into your home and share an American experience! Michigan 4-H is looking for host families interested in opening their homes and hearts this summer. Consider sharing the clover and giving a lucky Japanese youth and your family the experience of a lifetime!

The Japanese delegation will arrive in Grand Rapids mid-July and depart mid-August, meeting their hosts for a 3.5-week stay. A host family must complete the States' 4-H International Exchange Programs online application, have a youth to match as a host brother/sister (within three years of age) be Michigan 4-H adult Gold volunteers, and participate in an interview and home visit process.



Online applications to host can be found at: <https://www.states4hexchange.org/apply/host/>. For more information, contact Michigan 4-H International Exchange Program Coordinator Jan Brinn [brinn@msu.edu](mailto:brinn@msu.edu).

## Michigan 4-H Day with the Detroit Tigers



## Get your tickets for Michigan 4-H Day with the Detroit Tigers

Join Michigan 4-H and MSU Extension for a fun day at Comerica Park to watch the Detroit Tigers take on the Miami Marlins on Sunday, April 12. Michigan 4-H will be honored as the Group Charity of the Game. To celebrate, 4-H youth, volunteers, staff and their families will enjoy a discounted ticket to the game, as well as:

- Access to a pre-game, on-field opportunity. Michigan 4-H youth are invited to take a lap around the warning track of Comerica Park before the game.
- A portion of each ticket sold donated to Michigan 4-H.

There are several ticketing options available this year, in three main locations, ranging in price from \$33-54. In addition, each ticket purchased through the Michigan 4-H link will have the opportunity to purchase an exclusive co-branded Michigan 4-H and Detroit

Tigers bucket hat (while supplies last). Hats can only be purchased by purchasing a ticket through the Michigan 4-H link; however, there is an option to buy tickets without the purchase of a hat.

Learn more at [www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-day-with-the-detroit-tigers](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-day-with-the-detroit-tigers).

## 4-H Youth in Action Program applications open

Apply now for the 2027 4-H Youth in Action Awards! This program recognizes four confident young leaders with diverse backgrounds and unique perspectives who are making a difference in their communities. Winners will have the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to share their stories along with unforgettable experiences, celebration on the national stage, recognition in the media and a \$5,000 college scholarship.

This opportunity is open to youth ages 14-19. The deadline to apply is April 13. Learn more and apply at <https://4-h.org/programs/4-h-youth-in-action-program/>.