



MARCH 27, 2026

4-H Family News

Ingham County



YQCA

YOUTH FOR THE QUALITY CARE OF ANIMALS

CERTIFICATION CLASS 2026

Monday, April 20
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



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.

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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>

Ingham County 4-H

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

Facebook

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

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Beyond Ready

4-H

EXPLORATION DAYS

June 24-26, 2026



Register Here:

www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_exploration_days/

HAVE FUN, PARTICIPATE IN 4-H EXPLORATION DAYS AND CONTRIBUTE TO POSITIVE YOUTH EXPERIENCE

EXPLORATION DAYS

24-26
JUNE



CHAPERONES NEEDED

REGISTRATION FEE
\$150/ADULT

FULL AND PARTIAL SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FROM OUR 4-H COUNCIL

CONTACT: RACHEL OCHYLSKI
INGHAM COUNTY 4-H URBAN PROGRAM COORDINATOR
OCHYLSKI@MSU.EDU 517-676-7300

FORMULA OF 
CHAMPIONS[®]
SHOW FEED

**SHOW FEED
CLINIC**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22 AT 6 PM

WEBBERVILLE FEED

421 S SUMMIT ST.

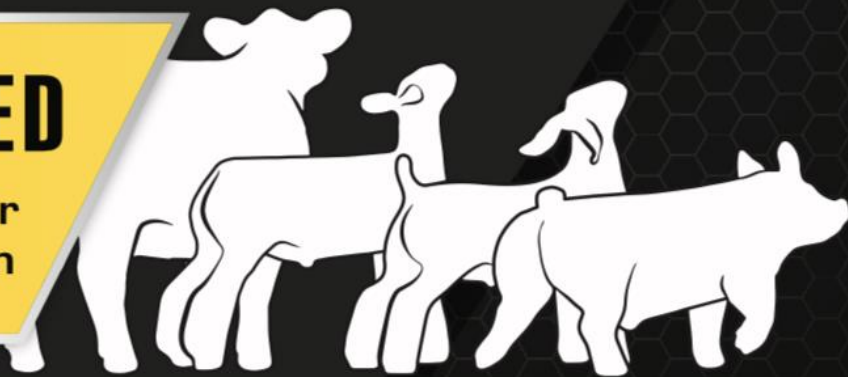
WEBBERVILLE, MI 48892



Webberville Feed

DINNER PROVIDED

RSVP to 517-521-3082 or
webbervillefeed@gmail.com





April 11, 2026

2026 Ionia County Youth Bake-Off

5-7 year olds	Easy baking
8-11 year olds	Quick breads, 6 muffins or 6 baked cookies unfrosted cake squares (no box mixes)
12-14 year olds	Yeast products (rolls, bread, etc.), frosted cake, pastry pie
15-19 year olds	Baked fancy dessert, fancy pastry, tarts, tortes, or cheesecakes
9-19 year olds	Ethnic or International dish
9-19 year olds	Item made with real maple syrup

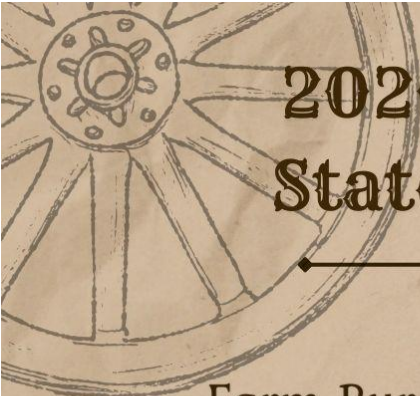
Contest rules as follows:

1. Open to ALL youth between the ages of 5-19.
2. You **MUST** pre-register your entry before April 6th at:
https://events.anr.msu.edu/2026_ionia_county_4h_bake_off/
3. Food entries **MUST** be prepared and baked exclusively by the youth. Youth should be supervised by an adult for safety reasons while preparing and baking their entry.
4. Bake your entry at home and bring it to the Ionia MSU Extension office, 50 E Sprague Rd. Ionia and drop off between 11 a.m. and Noon. on Saturday, April 11th.
5. Be prepared to talk to the judge and have a written copy of your recipe with you.
6. Return between 1:00-1:30 p.m. to pick up your entry. The winning entry in each category (except the 5-7 year olds) will receive an award. The 5-7 year olds – Easy baking will be awarded a participation certification only.
7. To register go on-line to https://events.anr.msu.edu/2026_ionia_county_4h_bake_off/ if you have any questions contact Shawn at the the Ionia MSU Extension office at 616-330-4453 or email at heintze8@msu.edu.

The event is sponsored by the Ionia County 4-H Still Exhibit Committee.
You **do NOT** need to be a 4-H member to participate in this event.



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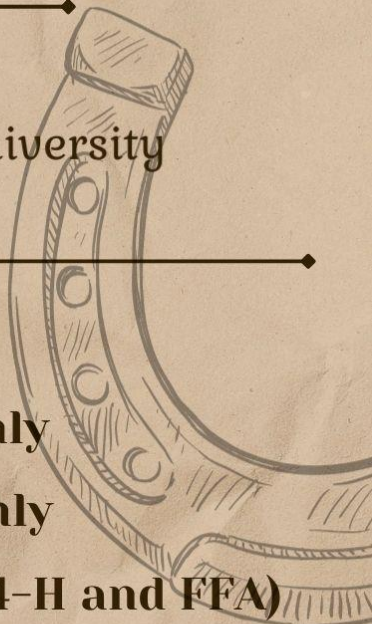


2026 Michigan 4-H and FFA State Horse Judging Contest

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)

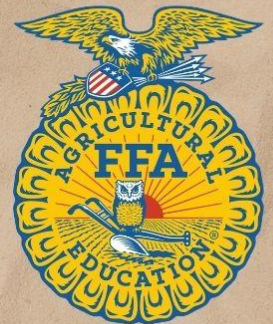
Class #8: Halter – Place for all (Reasons for Sr. Regular Only)



**Beyond
Ready**

**MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY**

Extension



Register now at:

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

Questions? Email David at lindsa75@msu.edu

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**

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 STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

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



April 12

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension



reversible bucket hat with purchase



Make the Most of your Market Animal Project Webinar Series



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

FREE on Zoom at 6:30pm ET

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

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

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

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 STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

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



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

SPRING 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS INSTRUCTOR WORKSHOP



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

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

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>

WORLD FOOD PRIZE



MICHIGAN YOUTH INSTITUTE

AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

May 7, 2026



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension



REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

4-H GREAT LAKES & NATURAL RESOURCES CAMP

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



MICHIGAN STATEWIDE 4-H TRAIL RIDING PROGRAM

Questions and Answers

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

QUESTIONS?

CONTACT JORDAN AT HEWITTJ8@MSU.EDU
OR DAVID AT LINDSA75@MSU.EDU

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

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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

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

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

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

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

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





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.



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

hats.

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.

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/>.