



4-H Family News

Jackson County Connections

SEPTEMBER
2025



**Beyond
Ready**

Summer Recap, Fall Preview: What's Next?

Dear 4-H Volunteers and Families,

On behalf of our entire team, we want to extend our deepest thanks to each and every one of you for making this year's fair such a tremendous success. Your hard work, dedication, and unwavering support are what makes our 4-H community so special.

From early mornings to late nights, your efforts did not go unnoticed—from setting up barns and exhibits, to guiding our youth, to cheering each other on every step of the way. It truly takes a village, and we are beyond grateful for the incredible community we have in all of you.

Thank you for believing in the mission of 4-H and for helping create lasting memories for our youth. We couldn't do it without you!

With sincere appreciation,

Hayley & Jessica



Stay Connected

* Jackson County 4-H Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/jacksoncounty4h>

* Jackson Co. 4-H Small Animal Assoc. Facebook Page:

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

* Jackson County 4-H Livestock Assoc. Facebook Page:

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

* Jackson County Horse Council Facebook Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/232601997473213>

CONTACT US

Hayley Wineland
winela11@msu.edu
4-H Program Coordinator

Jessica Waldron
waldro45@msu.edu
4-H Program Assistant

Gerilyn Darnell
darnel37@msu.edu
Support Staff



PHONE & EMAIL:

(517) 788-4292

msue.Jackson@county.msu.edu

WEBSITE:

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

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COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS



September Meetings

Monday, 8th at 7:00 pm
Horse Council

Tuesday, 9th at 7:00 pm
Small Animal Association
(Rabbits, Poultry, Goats, Dogs)

Wednesday, 17th 7:00 pm
Livestock Association
(Beef, Swine, Dairy, Sheep)

Monday, 22nd 6:00 pm
4-H Youth Council
Potluck

*Our Office Will Be Closed
Friday, September 26th



**ATTENTION ALL
JACKSON COUNTY
4-H'ERS!!**

**4-H enrollment
OPENS September 8th
for the 2025-2026 4-H
Program Year!**

- Families will need to log in to their 4-H Online account to reenroll their child for the new year. This is for any returning 4-H Youth 8-19 yrs old & Cloverbuds 5-7 yrs old.
- Volunteers, don't forget you also need to complete your reenrollment through 4-H Online.

• Enroll/Reenroll here:
<https://v2.4honline.com/>

- **Heads up! Reenrollment is due by December 1st — don't leave it to the last minute.**



Mark Your Calendar

2026 Jackson County Fair

Sunday, August 9th – Saturday, August 15th



October Meetings

Monday, 13th at 7:00 pm
Horse Council

*Our Office Will Be Closed
Thursday October 9th & Friday October 10th



COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Small Animal Auction Checks – Auction checks will be ready for pick up mid/end of September. Dates and details will be emailed out when ready.

Large Animal Auction Checks – Auction checks will be mailed to exhibitors starting in mid September. As a reminder, checks are not sent until an Exhibitor's buyers have paid.



Thank You Cards

Now that the fair has wrapped up, it's time to take a few moments to say **thank you** to the amazing people who supported you—your buyers and add-ons!

Sending a handwritten thank you card is an important part of your 4-H project. It shows appreciation, teaches responsibility, and helps build lasting relationships with the people who invest in you and your hard work.

Please make sure to:

- Write and send your thank you cards as soon as possible
- Be specific—mention what they supported and what it meant to you
- Make it personal and sincere

A thoughtful thank you goes a long way! If you need help finding addresses or ideas for what to write, let us know—we're happy to help.

Jackson County 4-H Scholarship Opportunities

Gale Todd Volunteer of The Year Award – Any current Jackson County 4-H members who has volunteered for their club, Youth Council, Small or Large Animal Association or Horse Council.

Key Club Award – Any current or former Jackson County 4-H members (High School Seniors or graduate attending college or trade school) that have demonstrated leadership in Jackson County.

Please visit the website for applications and their full requirements.

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



STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wild Spartans Series returns



Starting in October, the Wild Spartans Series is back! Join 4-H staff as they take a look into life working with fisheries and wildlife! Follow along to climb through bogs, peer into bear dens, mist net songbirds, snorkel for fish, or perhaps even tag deer. Meet natural resources professionals, learn about their field work, and the education and career path they've followed to get there.

Monthly sessions will begin in October and be held on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. EST. Each 30-minute session will feature 1-2 guest speakers. Youth will be encouraged to ask questions to learn more through a live Q&A with scientists.

This free virtual series is open to 4-H and non-4-H youth ages 12-19 years. Pre-registration is required: www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-monthly-wildlife-fisheries-webinar-series-2025-2026.

September 11: 4-H Volunteer Webinar – Planning with Purpose: Designing Your Best 4-H Year Yet Online

This webinar will guide volunteers through seasonal planning, setting goals and aligning club activities with youth development outcomes. This session will be offered twice.

- 12 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-planning-with-purpose-designing-your-best-4-h-year-yet-noon
- 7 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-planning-with-purpose-designing-your-best-4-h-year-yet-7pm

September 17: Adulting 101 – Professionalism: Communicate, Dress & Deliver with Confidence Online

Participants will learn the essentials for thriving in any professional environment—from effective verbal and written communication to dressing the part and following through on commitments.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting-101-professionalism%20\(COPY_1754674660740\)](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting-101-professionalism%20(COPY_1754674660740))

September 18: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar – Friendly but Firm: Boundaries that Make Volunteering Better Online

Online

Learn how to say “yes” with intention, “no” without guilt, and keep your 4-H experience fun, respectful, and drama-free. This session will be offered twice.

- 12 p.m.: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-friendly-but-firm-boundaries-that-make-volunteering-better-noon
- 7 p.m.: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-friendly-but-firm-boundaries-that-make-volunteering-better-7pm

September 20: 2025 Michigan 4-H Dog Show

Shiawassee County Fairgrounds, Corunna

The 4-H State Dog Show is an annual, single-day event that brings together 4-Hers from counties across Michigan. Spectators welcome.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/2025-michigan-state-4-h-dog-show

September 20-21: Fall 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Certification for Adults and Teens

Shiawassee Conservation Association, Owosso

Learn about 4-H shooting sports mission policy, risk management and safety, discipline-specific equipment use, and care, how to teach shooting fundamentals to youth, range set-up, and more.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/fall-2025-4-h-shooting-sports-instructor-certification-for-adults-and-teens

October 3: Michigan 4-H Foundation Annual Membership Meeting

Henry Center for Executive Development, Lansing

4-H donors are encouraged to attend and vote on all items at the meeting.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-foundation-annual-membership-meeting



STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

2025 Michigan 4-H State Award winners announced

The Michigan 4-H State Awards program recognized outstanding 4-H members during 4-H Exploration Days on June 18. A Michigan 4-H State Award is the highest honor bestowed on Michigan 4-H members and recognizes excellence in learning, leadership and service.

In total, 38 4-H members from 15 counties submitted applications for this year's program. Recipients of the 2025 awards are:



- **Achievement:** William Rogers of Washtenaw County
- **Beef Science:** Emma Verbeek of Delta County (junior division)
- **Birds and Poultry Science:** Avery Mastej of Van Buren County (junior division)
- **Civic Engagement and Service:** Brandon Fisher of Monroe County (senior division)
- **Companion Animal Science:** Taylor Johnson of St. Joseph County (junior division) and Makenzie Rehberg of Monroe County (senior division)
- **Dairy Science:** Adrienne Balchik of Gogebic County (junior division) and Harper Jane Adkins of Washtenaw County (senior division)
- **Equine Science:** Lillian Wasson of Oceana County (junior division)
- **Food, Nutrition, Health and Fitness:** Vivienne Turri of Washtenaw County (junior division)
- **Gardening and Horticulture:** Trent Simons of Otsego County (junior division)
- **Goat Science:** Aleah Simpson of Houghton County (junior division) and Alison Borowski of Alpena County (senior division)
- **Leadership:** Zoe Rorick of Lenawee County (senior division)
- **Rabbit and Cavy Science:** Lyla Lapaugh of Eaton County (junior division)
- **Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM):** John Jinks of Monroe County (junior division)
- **Sheep Science:** Morgen Schmidt of Monroe County (junior division) and Owen Plum of Lenawee County (senior division)
- **Swine Science:** Taylor Trattles of St. Joseph County (junior division)
- **Visual, Performing and Expressive Arts:** Verina Duncan of Eaton County (senior division)

The Michigan 4-H State Awards Program is open to 4-H members who are 12-19 years old with two or more years of 4-H experience. To qualify, 4-H'ers must submit a written application that showcases the learning experiences, knowledge and skills they've acquired through 4-H, as well as their contributions to 4-H communities. Submissions are reviewed by a selection committee. In addition to a plaque, each 4-H State Award winner in the senior division received a \$300 cash award, junior winners received \$100 cash awards, and achievement award winner received \$500. These awards are made possible by generous donations to the Michigan 4-H Foundation.

National 4-H Week: October 5-11

For more than 115 years, 4-H has inspired families, shaped careers, and impacted communities. From October 5-11, we will celebrate the impact of 4-H during National 4-H Week. The theme of this year's National 4-H Week is "Beyond Ready." This theme celebrates how 4-H is building a ready generation in a world of change, equipping youth with skills for the future while meeting them where they are today.

Learn more about ways you can celebrate during National 4-H Week at <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/national-4-h-week>.