



4-H Family News

Kalamazoo County

February
2026



Beyond
Ready

Kalamazoo 4-H Leaders Council is having a 3rd annual Bowl-a-Rama !

Sunday Feb. 22nd

2:30-4:00 pm

Come a little early to get your shoes

Revel & Roll West

4500 Stadium drive, Kalamazoo

The Council will cover lanes fee and shoe rental for our 4-H members. Additional family and friends who would like to join the cost is \$10.

Sign up here!

<https://forms.gle/RtXYy5i4w2Y18AuFA>



Show your 4-H pride wherever you go!

The Michigan 4-H license plate is a simple way to support youth programs while celebrating your connection to 4-H. A portion of every plate purchase benefits Michigan 4-H for young people to learn, lead, and grow through 4-H. Learn more at https://www.canr.msu.edu/4h/Support_Michigan_4_H/michigan-4-h-license-plate



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Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100057507535294#>

Program-122047197873078

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There are 4 in person YQCA (Youth for the Quality Care of Animals) sessions and 1 online version in 2025-2026. This is a requirement for all youth, ages 8-18, who will bring livestock to the Kalamazoo County Youth Fair 2026. There are two options- take 1 of the 5 face-to-face sessions or take the online session. The face-to-face sessions will be a minimum of 1 hour and the cost is \$3.00 per youth. The face-to-face version is meant to include all youth 8 – 18 years old. 19 yr old and above will need to take the online version. The online version is \$12.00 and the curriculum is *age specific*. This certification is good for one year. There need to be a minimum of 5 youth signed up to hold a face-to-face class. The face-to-face sessions will be held on the following dates and times:

Feb 26 - 6:30 pm
March 4 - 6:30 pm
April 18 - 10 am
June 4 - 6:30 pm

All certificates are due to the 4-H office no later than noon on July 1, 2026

Youth who would like to take the face-to-face session will need to do the following:

- Parents will need to create a **family** profile on <https://yqcaprogram.org/>
- Parents will need to assure each child showing at fair is added and chose the face-to-face training option.
- Pay the \$3.00 registration fee.
- Youth will need to complete the pre-test.
- Once the youth has taken the face-to-face session, staff will mark your session as complete.
- **Youth will need to log back in and take the post test** (found under the child's name and a drop down that says Enrolled ILT trainings).
- Once the post test is complete the youth's certificate will be sent.

Youth who would like to take the online session will need to do the following:

- Parents will need to create a **family** profile on <https://yqcaprogram.org/>
- Parents will need to assure each child showing in the fair is added and chose the online training session.
- Pay the \$12.00 registration fee.
- Youth will then need to complete the course.

Once the youth have completed either the online session or the face-to-face session and have received their certificate, the certificate will need to be emailed to msue.kalamazoo@msu.edu by July 1, 2025.

You can find helpful registration videos and documents here:

https://yqcaprogram.org/local/resources_for_youth_parents.php



Spread The Word!

Tack sale registration is now open!

Volunteers are needed and adults must be at least a Silver Level Volunteer.

[https://www.canr.msu.edu/becoming a 4 h volunteer/](https://www.canr.msu.edu/becoming_a_4_h_volunteer/)

The sale will be :

Monday March 23, 2025

5-9 pm

Kalamazoo County Expo Center
2900 Lake Street, Kalamazoo, MI

Email inquiries to

kalamazoo4hhorse@yahoo.com



KALAMAZOO
COUNTY 4-H
TACK SALE

Monday, March 23 2026
5pm - 9pm



SHOPPERS

Come shop private sellers and vendors in a 24,000 square foot indoor venue!

Concessions available for purchase

\$2/person donation to the Kalamazoo County 4-H Horse Project at entry

SELLERS

Reserve by March 1st:

Table space (table included) \$20
(\$25 if received after March 1)

Vendor cube (table included) \$35
(\$40 if received after March 1)

Contact kalamazoo4hhorse@yahoo.com
to reserve your space today!

Kalamazoo County Expo Center 2900 Lake Street Kalamazoo, MI 49048

We will be updating our food booth in this year!

Helping on the food booth committee would be a great resume builder for teens who are interested in culinary arts.

Help us compare cost, choose the menu items, plan an inventory for this year's fair. Meet with adults who currently run concessions and cafeterias.

Meetings will be via zoom.....Learn by being involved.....

Reach out to Chris Chase Myrichland4h@gmail.com if Interested.





2026 4-H Fair Schedule

A more detailed schedule with fun events will be in the fair book

Monday, July 27, 2026

6:00pm Carcass Program Live Animal Evaluation

Wednesday, July 29, 2026

10:00am Carcass Program Test and Results Announcements

Friday, July 31, 2026

7:00pm Dairy Show

Saturday, August 1, 2026

9:00am - 12:00pm Still project judging and display set up

1:00pm Cat show

Monday, August 3, 2026

9:00am Horse Showmanship & English

6:00pm Rabbit Showmanship

Tuesday, August 4, 2026

9:00am Horse Dressage and Jumping Classes

8:00am Poultry Show

1:00pm Market rabbit show

5:00pm Rabbit Agility

6:00pm Sheep show

6:00pm Fashion Review, Demonstration and Performances

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

9:00am Horse Western Classes

9:00am Swine Show

4:00pm Feeder Calf show

6:00pm Beef show

Thursday, August 6, 2026

9:00am Horse Versatility & Gymkhana Classes

9:00am Goat show

Friday, August 7, 2026

9:00am Livestock auction

10:00am Horse Costume Class

1:00pm Miniature Horse show

Saturday, August 8, 2026

9:00am Dog Show

10:00am Livestock judging contest

12:00pm Horse Drill Team Demonstration

3:00pm Master Showmanship



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

to Our Amazing Volunteers!

Pam A
Jodie B
Lois B
Kacey C
Julie D
Jennifer E
Amy G
Landon G
Tammy G
Pauline G
Anthony H
Amanda H
Jessica H
Karlie H
Megan J
Samuel J
Amanda M
Ross M



Jennifer N
Sarah N
Wendy P
Sarah P
Adrienne R
Emily R
Kevin R
Tacey R
Ashley S
Crystal S
Dawn S
Don S
Jackie S
Judith S
Kelli V
Leslie V
Brad W
Jamie W
Kathryn W



NEW PROJECT GUIDELINES

We are working hard to add some new projects to our guidelines and the 4-H fair book. When we add new guidelines, we will post them both in the newsletter and on the Kalamazoo County 4-H Facebook page.

In January we added:

- Social recreation guidelines (under youth organizations)
- Languages/passport (under youth organizations)
- Beekeeping (under youth science)

In February we will be adding the following guidelines:

- Backyard BBQ/Grilling (under culinary arts)



Help Us Tell the 4-H Story

Are you a current or former 4-H member? We want to hear from YOU! 4-H youth and alumni — help us share the amazing impact of 4-H by telling your story:

- **Who are you?**
- **What kinds of projects** have you done or are you working on now?
- **Where** has the 4-H program taken you — or where is it leading you?
- **Why** was 4-H important in shaping your goals, your life, or who you are today?

- **When** were you (or are you) part of the program?

We're still collecting and sharing the incredible stories of Kalamazoo County 4-H youth and alumni! Your story helps show how 4-H builds skills, confidence, and leadership — helping you be **Beyond Ready** for anything.

Share your 4-H story here:

https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6DsEDcIMZ3PZ3IY



DAIRY CLUB

Meeting at Vlietstra dairy Farm -

Monday March 23

Monday April 20

Monday May 18



Meetings will be weekly starting the week of June 8- night *tbd* by club members.

All meetings are at 6:30 -dress for the weather and wear footwear appropriate for being around animals- no sandals . Join the Kalamazoo county 4-H Dairy Club on Facebook for up-to-date information.

Don't miss this informative Speaker on the negative impact of Fast Fashion

**Sunday February 8th
3:00 pm
Richland
Presbyterian Church**

ARDEA GUEST SPEAKERS - FAST FASHION AND ACTION AGAINST IT

What is fast fashion, Why is it bad, What can you do about it? Activity - Upcycling clothing - patches



SUNDAY, 8, FEBRUARY
RICHLAND PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
3:00 PM

4H
MEETING

@Ardeayouthcc | Ardea@kalamazooclimatecrisis.org



Poultry Project News

Things to know:



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The poultry project has a three-meeting requirement to be able to participate in fair. Be sure to keep track and attend enough meetings. The all-species meeting DOES count toward that meeting requirement.

The market portion of the poultry project serves a variety of purposes. Youth that participate will learn how to grow their own food, learn how to do a cost analysis for raising their birds, as well as learn the entrepreneurial side of farming. They will also be challenged to speak to strangers and build their confidence as they try to recruit buyers to come to the auction.

There are many different market projects that youth may complete within the poultry project. They are turkey, heritage turkey, heavy duck, goose, roaster chicken, pekin duck, broiler chicken, and cornish chicken. All the birds must be ordered through the poultry project except the heritage turkeys and geese. Those two are up the exhibitor to source but there are age restrictions on the birds. If you are interested in doing either of those projects, please let me know and I will make sure that you have all the information that you need.

If you are participating in the market portion of the project, market bird order forms will need to be submitted to me NO LATER THAN February 16. You can either you can text or email a picture of your filled out form. My contact information is on the bottom of the order form that can be found here:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/kalamazoo/kalamazoo_county_4_h_1/Project-Guidelines/Small-Livestock

Bird type	How birds are sold	Recommended number of birds to order	Estimated pick up date	Cost per bird
Turkey - white broad breasted	1 male and 1 female	At least 6 if you want one of each gender to sell	March 24	\$9.98
Turkey - bronze broad breasted	1 male and 1 female	At least 6 if you want one of each gender to sell	March 24	\$10.68
Cornish Cross Chicken	Pen of 3	5-6	Roasters: May 27 Broilers: June 16 Cornish: June 23	Male: \$4.78 Female: \$4.63
Duck - Rouen	Pen of 3	4-5	May 12	\$8.15
Duck - Pekin	Pen of 3	4-5	June 9	\$8.15



Spring International Pen Pal Program

We are happy to announce that this spring States' 4-H are offering another round of the **Spring Pen Pal Program!** They are currently working to recruit international youth, but please mark your calendar for the below dates.

- **Program Dates**
 - **March 1:** US registration opens
 - **April 1 - June 1:** Pen pal program runs with weekly emails
- **Age:** Participants must be between the ages of 9 – 18 as of April 1, 2026.
- **Frequency:** participants will be expected to send one email/letter weekly for the duration (approximately 10 emails/letters). There will be weekly discussion topics to help get the conversation going, but these are only suggestions.
- **Regular Email Schedule Between Participants:** For example, international students send emails to their U.S. partners every Monday, and U.S. students reply every Friday.
- **Cost:** \$10 USD that can be paid online only.
- **Registration deadline:** Friday, March 20, 2026, or when all spots are filled.

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

• Youth who participate will earn a scholarship to Exploration Days and \$100.00 after teaching their first session.

Want to know more?

Learn more and register here:



<https://events.anr.msu.edu/register.cfm?eventID=0035887EF7B36417C9FE2F1F67ADB67DE5AFC2FCB42E4107841B259E86FE37A3®isProcessID=AFA1CCA327BB0978F6C70D75CF73DECC5D2959163F8101E360B92EACEEFEA8E0>



4-H Wild Spartans “Walking a Path of Conservation.”

February 10, 2026
6:30-7:30 pm

This month's 4-H Wild Spartans Series will take a walk through the woods on the wild side of conservation.

You will meet Carly Graff, Western Upper Peninsula Trails Specialist at the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. You'll learn about her work, and the education and career path she followed to get there.

Youth are encouraged to ask questions to learn more through a live Q&A. This free virtual series is open to 4-H and non-4-H youth ages 12-19 years. Monthly sessions are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm EST.

Pre-registration is required:

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





Adulting 101

Informed Renter-Thursday,

February 19 at 5 p.m. EST

This workshop covers the entire rental journey, giving you a clear understanding of your rights and responsibilities as a tenant, so you can feel confident and informed in your rental experience.

Register here

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?eventID=8B1038FC27595012D8A61F7EC3B45F0BE6EB377D3E4AA38CA6E20505FA9D43F6>



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**Avoiding Money Mishaps
Webinar**
Learn how to avoid fraud, scams, and identity theft!

January 13th at 6pm EST
February 11th at 6pm EST

Same content will be offered on both dates - choose the one that works best for you!

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Avoiding Money Mishaps!

February 11, 2026

6:00 PM EST

In today's digital world, young people are increasingly targeted by fraudsters, scammers, and predatory lenders. This interactive webinar will empower youth with the knowledge and tools to protect themselves and their personal information.

Register here

<https://msu.zoom.us/meeting/register/ZFu7bWDIRcKKz8O0BFCVNQ#/registration>



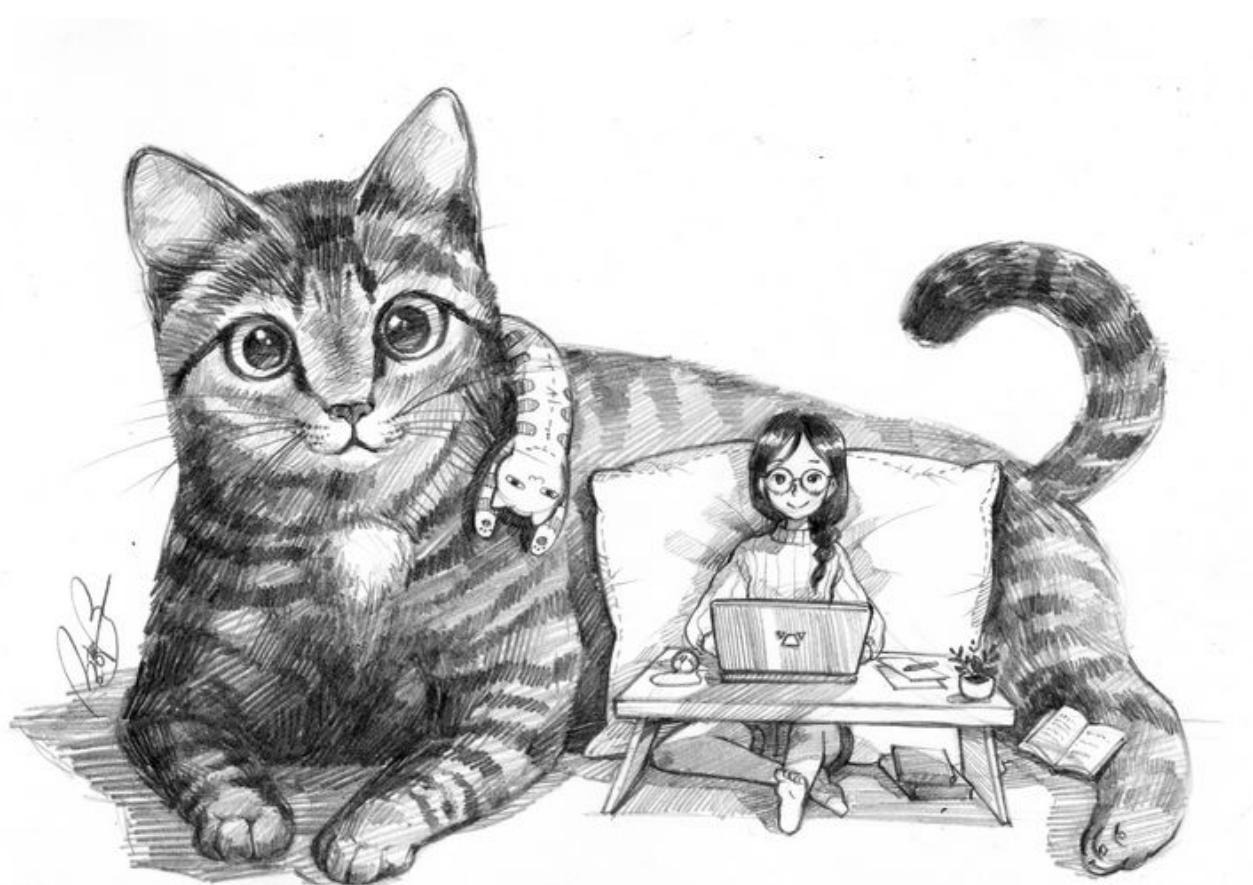
Hi Everyone!

I am Rose Wood and would like to introduce myself as the new cat project leader for Kalamazoo County 4-H!

I am a retired teacher and published author and have had ten of my own children involved in 4-H for my years with horses.

I am excited to guide you in obtaining more information and having fun with your cats.

Please contact me at wood_rosemary18@yahoo.com or 269.808.3101



Drawing by Kei Li



MSU Extension- Did You Know?

Sending out a big hello from Julie Lehman!

MSU Center for Regional Food System's (CRFS) Farm to Youth Network Coordinator! In her role, Julie coordinates activities and communications for Michigan's Farm to School and Farm to ECE community. She also serves as Michigan's lead for the [Lake Michigan School Food Systems Innovation Hub](#) regranting program. You can subscribe to the Michigan Farm to School Newsletter [HERE](#) and the Farm to ECE Network newsletter [HERE](#).

Julie comes to CRFS with 20 years of experience working with youth, gardens, community development, and education. She holds dual degrees in communications and education from Michigan State University.

Julie's interest in food systems stems from her experiences growing up on her family's apple orchard in mid-Michigan, from teaching at a PreK through 5th-grade Title I school garden in northern California, and from over a decade supporting Greater Lansing Food Bank's Garden Project.

In her spare time, she loves to be outside and aspires to have a garden as beautiful as her grandmother's.

LET'S MAKE SCHOOL MEALS
MORE LOCAL, MORE NOURISHING
& MORE LOVED!

ANNOUNCING
GRANTS UP TO
\$200K PER YEAR
FOR ILLINOIS,
MICHIGAN, WISCONSIN
AND INDIANA

Applications are open
InnovateSchoolFood.org

USDA |  LAKE MICHIGAN
SCHOOL FOOD SYSTEM
INNOVATION HUB

Learn more about what Julie offers here:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/people/julie-lehman?roleURL=julie-lehman&language_id=1



Join us! 2026 Michigan 4-H Day at the Breslin

You're invited to attend the 20th annual celebration of MSU Extension and Michigan 4-H Youth Development at the 2026 Michigan 4-H Day at the Breslin. Join us as the Spartan Women's Basketball Team takes on Ohio State's Women's Basketball Team

Sunday, March 1.

Game time is 12:00 p.m.. Doors open at 10:30 a.m.

As in year's past, there will be games and activities on the concourse of the Breslin in advance of the game.

Tickets are available at a discounted rate of \$7.50 + fees for the Michigan 4-H community including MSU Extension and 4-H youth, volunteers, partners, stakeholders, staff, alumni and their families!

Tickets can be reserved [here](#). Families should reach out to their local 4-H staff if cost is a barrier to attendance.



**Michigan 4-H Day
at the Breslin**

Tickets now available!

March 1, 2026

**MICHIGAN STATE
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 **Beyond
Ready**

The poster features a large orange basketball in the foreground, resting on a dark surface. The background is a dark gray basketball court with white lines. The text is in white, with the date in a smaller font. The 4-H clover logo is in the bottom right corner.



It's time — GALS applications are OPEN!

Open to high school students, this standout program helps young people grow, lead, and shine.

All high school students are welcome to apply.

Apply by March 2, 2026!

Start here: <https://galsmi.weebly.com/>

- student leadership empowerment
- hands-on science
- backpacking through the wilderness

GALS



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](https://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.

All are welcome to apply!



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



Calling all Michigan youth ages 13-19!

Get ready for the **Smart Money Missions GooseChase Game** — an interactive scavenger hunt that teaches money skills *while you play!*

1 April 1-21, 2026

Register by April 20 at 11:45 PM

Play on the **GooseChase** app

Complete fun missions, earn points, and you could win **\$50 gift cards!** A minimum of **\$500 in prizes** will be awarded.

Download the GooseChase app, create a username using your first and last name, then register at:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-money-smarts/money-smart-mission-goosechase-game>

Sponsored by the Michigan Credit Union Foundation & Michigan 4-H Foundation.



Reignite your passion for 4-H at the
2026 Spark and Share Summit !

March 7th
**Bavarian Inn Lodge and Conference Center in
Frankenmuth**

4-H Volunteers and teens can register for this 1-day conference where they can learn new projects and information that they can take back to teach and share in their local 4-H program at:
<https://events.anr.msu.edu/SparkShare2026/>

Registration is \$75 and includes lunch and selection of up to 4 breakout sessions.
A link to session descriptions is available through the registration page.
The deadline for registration is February 9th.

Looking for the perfect gift for the 4-H member, teen leader, or volunteer in your life?

Give the gift of a great experience!!
4-H Spark & Share Summit
March 7, 2026
Frankenmuth
<https://events.anr.msu.edu/SparkShare2026>

Make it a weekend get away for the family; enjoy Michigan's largest indoor waterpark at Bavarian Inn!!

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Michigan 4-H Day with the Detroit Tigers



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April 12



Michigan 4-H Day with the 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! Receive a co-branded Michigan 4-H and Detroit Tigers bucket hat and make a donation to 4-H with your ticket. To purchase tickets, visit <https://www.gofeo.com/event/Michigan4H26>



The registration for the **Equine Connection Weekend** is now open

Created in partnership with the Michigan Quarter Horse Association, Department of Animal Science at Michigan State University, and Michigan 4-H Horse Program, join us for a weekend of fun and learning about everything horses!

Participate in the riding clinic or audit from the stands, join the educational seminars, or participate in the Horse Judging and Hippology Clinic.

Register here: <https://pci.jotform.com/form/253146086083053>



2026 EQUINE CONNECTION WEEKEND

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 2026 THROUGH
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2026**

**AT THE FARM BUREAU PAVILION AT
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY**

- HORSE JUDGING
- HIPPOLOGY
- SHOWMANSHIP
- HORSEMANSHIP
- TRAIL

JOIN US FOR A WEEKEND OF FUN AND
LEARNING!

CLINIC SESSIONS WITH AQHA
PROFESSIONAL RYAN COTTINGIM AND
OTHERS!

****HORSES ONLY NEEDED FOR COTTINGIM
CLINICS, LIMITED TO 12 PARTICIPANTS****



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REGISTER NOW



[HTTPS://PCI.JOTFORM.COM/FORM/253146086083053](https://pci.jotform.com/form/253146086083053)



Ready to Join?

Scan the QR code below to view the 4-H Future Squad Website and Interest Form



For program support, questions, or assistance with registration, please contact Laurie Rivetto at rivettoL@msu.edu

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4-H Future Squad

A Virtual 4-H Club to Grow YOUR Future

Youth aged 12-19 are invited to join 4-H Future Squad, designed for youth to build skills, confidence, and connections for a successful future.

The club will meet virtually October 2025 – May 2026.

Topics for education include financial literacy, college and career readiness, stress management, building healthy relationships, studying abroad, goal setting, nutrition, and much more... based on the topics you share that will help you be beyond ready for your future!

Current meeting dates and times will be communicated via e-mail and on the Upcoming Programs webpage.

Why Join 4-H Future Squad?

- Adulthood is a big job — we'll help you get ready! Learn essential skills alongside new friends and mentors who can guide you toward your goals.
- Gain access to all 4-H benefits and statewide events A variety of events will be shared with the group often, and youth are encouraged to participate!
- Attend as you can! Join 4-H Future Squad as your primary or secondary club – attend as many sessions as you wish.



Beyond Ready





4-H Capitol Experience

**Sunday, March 15 - Tuesday, March 17,
in-person at the
Okemos Conference Center and
Michigan's State Capitol**

Capitol Experience



Cost \$365

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

MARCH 15-17TH, 2026



REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Register by March 1st @<https://events.anr.msu.edu/CapitolExperience2026/>



The Capitol experience is a 3-day event where youth can meet with peers to talk about issues that are important to them, network with folks that work in a wide variety of roles related to public policy and see state government in action. Current 4-H and non-4-H member's youth in 9th through 12th grade are all welcome. Non-4-H members will be asked to sign up in 4-H Online.

Register Now Until March 1 at:

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/CapitolExperience2026/>

The cost of \$365 includes conference registration, lodging, and meals.

Hotel reservations at the Okemos Conference Center are available to families interested in extending their stay in Lansing before or after the event at [Okemos Conference Center](#).

Note: Parents/guardians are responsible for their children before and after the program, including lodging and transportation if needed. Staff will not provide supervision for overnight lodging for any additional nights.

You can find more answers to questions on our [website](#).

You can also find a Facebook post at:
[Leadership, Civic, and Cultural Engagement Programs Facebook page](#).



Michigan 4-H Youth Code of Conduct

The opportunity to participate in or attend 4-H activities is a privilege. All 4-H participants – youth, families, volunteers, and Extension staff who participate in or attend any activity or event sponsored by the Michigan State University Extension 4-H Youth Development Program are expected to uphold the values of the Michigan 4-H program.

All 4-H youth participants must conduct themselves according to the following standards that apply to all Michigan 4-H programs, including virtual programs, and interactions such as social media and internet engagement-

1. Create a Welcoming Environment for All. Encourage everyone to fully participate in 4-H. Recognize that all people have skills and talents that can help others and improve the community. Though we will not always agree, we must disagree respectfully. When we disagree, try to understand why. Our first priority is to create a safe, inclusive space for learning, sharing and collaboration that is welcoming to people from diverse backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives. Diversity includes, but is not limited to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status.

2. Bring Your Best Self. Conduct yourself in a manner that reflects honesty, integrity, self-control, and self-direction. Accept the results and outcomes of 4-H activities and programs with grace and empathy for other participants. Accept the final opinions of judges and evaluators. Be open to new ideas, suggestions, and opinions of others.

3. Obey the Law. Obey the laws of the locality, state and nation and Michigan State University and Extension policies and guidelines. Commit no illegal acts. Do not possess, offer to others, or use alcohol, illegal drugs, marijuana, or tobacco products, which include e-pens, e-pipes, e-hookah, e-cigars, JUULs, vapes, vape pens or other electronic nicotine delivery systems. Do not attend 4-H activities under the influence of alcohol or illegal substances. Do not possess or use weapons or firearms except as expressly permitted as part of supervised 4-H shooting sports programming. This includes dangerous or unauthorized materials such as explosives or similar items.

4. Honor Diversity – Yours and Others'. Respect and uphold the rights and dignity of all persons with whom you interact as part of Michigan 4-H.

5. Create a Safe Environment. Be kind and compassionate toward others. Be considerate and courteous of all persons and their property. Do not carelessly or intentionally harm or intimidate anyone in any way (verbally, mentally, physically, or emotionally). Do not insult, harass, or bully others or engage in other hostile behaviors, including sexual harassment, sexual assault or sexual abuse. Abstain from sexual behavior and intimate physical/sexual contact in either public or private situations at an MSU Extension youth 4-H activity or event.

6. Be a Team Player. Work cooperatively with all individuals involved in 4-H programs and activities. Be responsive to the reasonable requests of the person in charge such as volunteers and staff. Respect the integrity of the group and the group's decisions.

7. Humane Treatment of Animals. Treat animals humanely and provide appropriate animal care.

8. Participate Fully. Participate in and contribute to planned programs, be on time and follow through on assigned tasks/responsibilities in a manner that fosters the safety, well-being, and quality of the educational experience for self and others.

Have fun!





Tentative Agenda

MSU Native's in STEAM Exploration Program (NSTEAM)

WHEN: April 10-11-12

WHERE: Campus of Michigan State University

Friday, April 10, 2026

12noon-1:30pm Welcome Luncheon (Residence Hall TBD)

2:00pm – 3:00pm Session 1 (TBD)

3:00pm-3:30pm Break/Transition to Next Session

3:30pm-4:30pm Session 2 (TBD)

4:30pm-5:30pm Check in Hotel (TBD)

5:30pm-6:00pm Travel to Nokomis Center (Need to Confirm)

6:00pm-8:00pm Dinner (Nokomis Potluck/NAISO/AISES Activities) (Need to Confirm)

8:00pm Return to Hotel (TBD) for Evening

Saturday, April 11, 2026

8:00am-9:00am Breakfast (Hotel or Resident Hall/TBD)

9:00am-9:30am Break/Transition to First Session

9:30am-10:30am Session 3

10:30am-11:00am Break/Transition to Next Session

11:00am-12Noon Session 4

12noon-1:30pm Luncheon (TBD)

1:30pm-2:00pm Break/Transition to Next Session

2:00pm-3:00pm Session 5

3:00pm-4:00pm Visit Spartan Bookstore

4:00pm-5:30pm Dinner (TBD)

6:00pm Presentation (TBD)

8:30pm Return to Hotel (TBD) for Evening

Sunday, April 12, 2026

9am-11am Breakfast at Hotel (TBD)

11:00am Check Out Deadline - Depart for Home



We are excited to share that we have a new look for our project guidelines!

Finding the guidelines on a mobile device has some extra steps.

Below are some screenshots and directions:

1 – Search MSU Extension Kalamazoo County

2 – Click on website <https://www.canr.msu.edu/kalamazoo/index>

3 – Click on Kalamazoo County 4-H

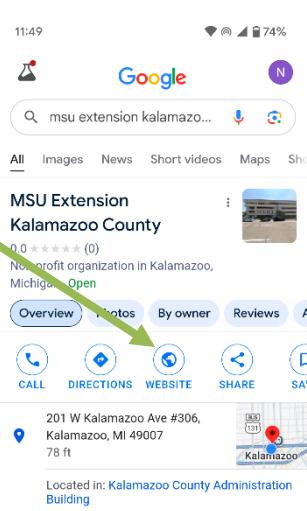
https://www.canr.msu.edu/kalamazoo/kalamazoo_county_4_h_1/index

4 - Click on menu at the bottom of your screen which will bring up the next screen

5 - Click on project guidelines

6 – Search for the project that you are looking for. Each set of guidelines is labeled to match the fair book.

For example, the member record book in the fair book is under Department 82. Educational projects.



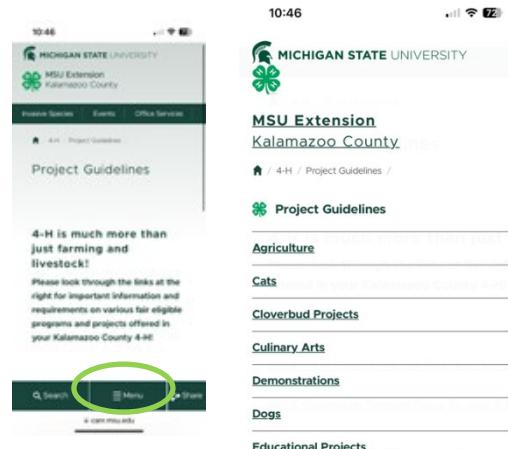
3 & 4



5



6



We are still working on updating some of the guidelines. If they don't have a green border at the top with a list of the project objectives and life skills, they will be updated soon!



Use of the 4-H Emblem – Quick Reference

Complete official Emblem rules available online at
http://www.national4-hheadquarters.gov/emblem/4h_name.htm.

The 4-H Name & Emblem belong to the 4-H Youth Development Program, under the authority of USDA and anyone wishing to use it must obtain permission prior to use.

Requirements

- Clover has four leaves and an "H" on each leaf.
- The numeral "4" separated from a capital "H" with a hyphen (not a dash, slash, or space).
- Clover's stem **must** point to the right as you look at the image.
- Emblem should appear in specific colors and in its entirety.
- The statement "18 USC 707" **must** legibly appear either to the right of the base of the stem or below the lower right leaf of the clover.
- The Emblem should be kept upright.
- The "18 USC 707" should be the same color as the leaves.
- Clover may be outlined, green outline for white clover or white outline for green clover.

Colors of Emblem

- Clover is 100% PMS 347 green, H's reversed out to the color of the paper on which the emblem is printed. *This is the official and preferred color of the Emblem.*
- Clover can be green and H's can be white, metallic gold, or black.
- Clover can be black and H's can be white or black.
- Clover can be white and H's can be white, green, or black.
- Clover can be metallic gold and H's can be white or black.
- **One color printing** – green or black only accepted colors

Do NOT

- Flip, rotate, or turn image on its side
- Place over or obscure the emblem with a photo, drawing, symbol, word or other figure or object.
- Place text over on top of Emblem
- Superimpose an image over the top of one or more of the leaves
- Use to imply endorsement of any product or material



Appropriate Use



4-H KIDS CLUB



Inappropriate Use

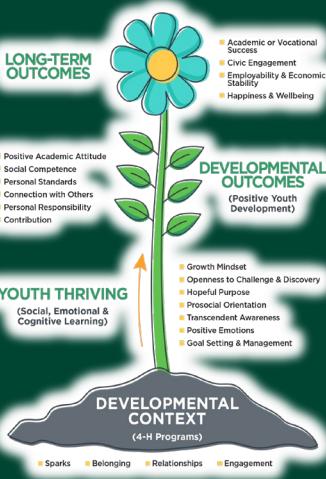


Inappropriate Use



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.