



4-H Family News

June 2025

Kalamazoo County



4-H Showcase Enrollment is open until June 20th!

Fair Entry

Sign up in Fair Entry!

It's Easy!

1. Go to <https://fairentry.com>
2. Click "Find Your Fair" at the top
3. Search "Kalamazoo" on the keyword search or look where sorted by state for 2025 Kalamazoo County 4-H Showcase
4. "Sign in with 4-H online"

Follow the prompts to register for our 4-H Showcase!!

Find more Fair Entry registration tips on page 2 or here:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/kalamazoo/kalamazoo_county_4_h_1/fair-information

CONTACT US

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WEBSITE-

<http://canr.msu.edu/kalamazoo4H>

Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/Kalamazoo-County-4-H-Youth-Program-122047197873078>

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Fair Entry is open until June 20

Kalamazoo County 4-H is using a system called [FairEntry](#) for 2025 Showcase registration.

It's easy to sign in to FairEntry!

- Go to <https://fairentry.com/Public/FindYourFair>
- search by state to find your fair
- sign in with your 4-H Online credentials!



If you would like help with Registration:

On-line help is available too! Dates and time listed on page 8.

When signing in to Fair Entry,

Always use the 4-H Online Option.

Do not use the FairEntry sign up option.

Please note:

Only 4-H members can show animals at the Kalamazoo County 4-H Showcase

If you need assistance signing in with your

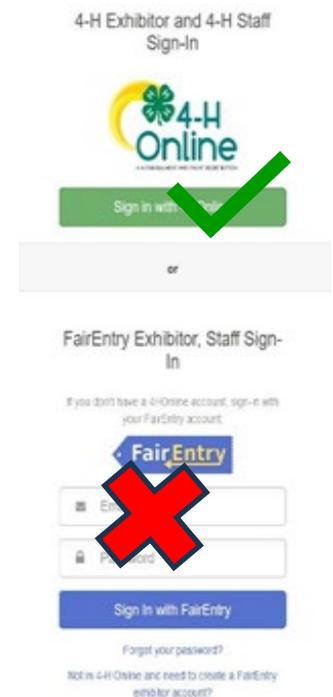
4-H Online username or password, Please contact us at 269-383-8830

To learn more about 4-H Online Registration, please visit:

- [4-H Online 2.0 Existing Family Profiles Video Tutorial](#)
- [4-H Online 2.0 Creating A New Family Profile Video Tutorial](#)
- [4-H Online 2.0 Volunteer Enrollment Video Tutorial](#)

For Step-by-Step FairEntry registration, please visit the links below:

- [How to log in to Fair Entry](#)
- [FairEntry Help](#)
- [FairEntry tip sheet](#)
- [FairEntry important reminders](#)





Youth who need 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.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wZHW2qtMIOc>



**Community Service/Volunteering at the
Growing Community Garden this summer**



The following dates are set for individuals or groups to volunteer (and harvest) at the Growing Community Garden, 2800 Gull Road, Kalamazoo 49048.

June 10 (Tues. 4-7:30); June 14 (Sat. 10-2); June 24 (Tues. 4-7:30); June 28 (Sat. 10-2); July 8 (Tues. 4-7:30); July 12 (Sat. 10-2); July 22 (Tues. 4-7:30); July 26 (Sat. 10-2); Aug 5 (Tues. 4-7:30); Aug 9 (Sat. 10-2); Aug 19 (Tues. 4-7:30); Aug 23 (Sat. 10-2); Sept 9 (Tues. 4-7:30); Sept 13 (Sat. 10-2); Sept 23 (Tues. 4-7:30); Sept 27 (Sat. 10-2).

Volunteer/community service arrangements for other times can be arranged by contact with David Newhouse at gcg.kzoo@gmail.com. Learn more about Growing Community Garden at www.growingcommunitygardenkzoo.com.



Kalamazoo County 4-H and Kalamazoo Freedom School Team Up for Summer Youth Programming

Kalamazoo County 4-H and the Kalamazoo Freedom School are teaming up to provide exciting and enriching summer programming for youth in grades K–12. This innovative partnership will offer young people the opportunity to explore new interests, develop valuable life skills, and make new friends in a safe and supportive environment.

Through a range of hands-on activities, leadership development opportunities, and other educational experiences, participants will be encouraged to discover their passions, build confidence, and strengthen their sense of community. Whether it's through science experiments, creative arts, gardening, or civic engagement projects, every youth will have the chance to learn and grow this summer.

Freedom School will be held:

Monday- Friday
June 23 – August 1 (no class July 3 & 4) at the
Kalamazoo Nature Center's Heronwood Field Station.
6378 Hart Dr, Kalamazoo, MI 49009

The program will be Monday – Friday, with field trips on Friday.

You are welcome to join us to explore our strategic vision, programming goals and summer 2025 itinerary!

June 20th at
The Foundry located at
600 E. Michigan Ave.
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007
from 5:30-8:30 pm

Enroll forms can be printed here :

In English

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/kalamazoo/uploads/2025%20Child%20Enrollment%20Form-English.pdf>

In Spanish

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/kalamazoo/uploads/2025%20Child%20Enrollment%20Form-Spanish.pdf>

Forms can be emailed to Will at barnwe18@msu.edu or brought to the event on June 20, 2025



Do you need help with Fair Entry?

Live help is available and no appointment is needed!

- 1. Pick a time or day that works for you below.**
- 2. Log in on that time and date at the listed link**
- 3. Enter the meeting ID and Passcode,**
- 4. Veronica will be there waiting to help!**

June 9 – 12pm – 1pm

<https://msu.zoom.us/j/96010196505>

Meeting ID: 960 1019 6505

Passcode: 818409

June 11 – 7:30pm – 8:30pm

<https://msu.zoom.us/j/95647213410>

Meeting ID: 956 4721 3410

Passcode: 867857



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

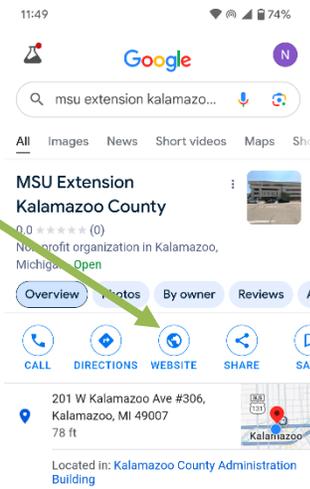
Finding the guidelines on a mobile device has some extra steps.

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
- 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.

1 & 2



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!



2025 Kalamazoo County 4-H Youth Showcase Camping Fees & Information

Beginning on May 1, 2025 you must call to make your reservation directly with the Expo Center.

Camping Fees:	Weekly Rate - \$175.00 per week (8/2-8/9) Reservations made after July 25 are \$210 per week
Advance Reservation Fee:	One-time \$5.00 fee will be charged for all advance reservations
Septic Service:	A dump station with potable water is available on the grounds. On-site septic service will be available by pre-registration with your camping reservation for \$45 per dump. Dumps will be scheduled for Wednesday, August 6.

Call 269-383-8778 for Reservations!
Deadline for Camping Registration
July 25, 2025

Campground check-in will begin at 9am on Saturday, August 2.
NO EARLY ARRIVALS

All camping units must be removed from the Expo Center by 9:00pm on Saturday, August 9

CAMPING POLICIES:

Camping will be reserved by campground area at time of reservation (see map for campground areas) and specific site numbers will be emailed out approximately 1 week prior to arrival. We will try to accommodate special requests. All requests will be considered in order by date of reservation.

Campers may not switch from assigned site number upon arrival. All reservations must be paid by credit card at the time of reservation. There is a non-refundable \$5 reservation fee for each campsite reserved. Most sites offer water and electric hook-up.

Showers and handicapped-accessible restrooms are available.

Cancellations will be accepted until July 25, 2025. Reservation fees are non-refundable. If you cancel your reservation by July 25, 2025 your refund will be the camping fees paid less a \$5 cancellation fee. No refunds are available for cancellations after July 25, 2025.

Campers must comply with all Kalamazoo County Parks & Expo Center Camping Rules.



YOUR 4-H NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

Volunteering can be both beneficial for the volunteer but especially for the youth involved. It creates a safe space for youth to try out new ideas, be creative, build relationships and learn what to do when things don't work out.

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a 4-H volunteer to lead one of these projects, please apply online at *Become a 4-H Volunteer*. (https://www.canr.msu.edu/becoming_a_4_h_volunteer/) Your time spent as a volunteer can be as little as a few hours a year to a few hours a week.

Volunteers will need to successfully complete the Gold level MSU Extension Volunteer Selection Process at https://msu.samaritan.com/custom/502/volunteer_home prior to working with 4-H youth.

We currently have youth enrolled in the following projects, but do not have a gold level volunteer to work with the youth !

- Arts & Crafts
- Calligraphy
- Cloverbud (variety of activities to introduce Cloverbuds to projects and pique their interest)
- Communication & Expressive Arts
- Creative Writing
- Dungeons & Dragons
- Drawing
- Engines/transportation/tractors/field equipment
- Fishing/Hunting
- Food & Nutrition
 - Cake decorating
 - Candy Making
 - Food Preparation
- Hunting
- Horticulture
 - Flowers/house plants
 - Fruits/vegetables
- Jewelry making
- Knitting/cross-stitch/embroidery
- Music – vocal/instrumental
- Painting
- Performing arts
- Public speaking
- Sewing/Quilting
- Wood Crafts

**SPREAD THE
WORD**

Kalamazoo County 4-H Showcase Volunteers

Those who will be helping **in any way during the showcase** need to be, at minimum , a screened and approved, **silver level volunteer**.

If you are **working directly with youth** you will need to be a screened, and approved, **gold level volunteer**.

All applications need to be submitted **no later than June 20, 2025** in order for screening to be completed prior to the events. **Those completing the application after June 20th may not be able to complete the process and will not be eligible to help during the 4-H showcase.**

The definitions of silver and gold level volunteers can be found at [FAQ](#).

The application to apply to become an MSU Extension Volunteer can be found at [Volunteer Home](#).

For those who are currently approved silver level volunteers please read over the definition.

If you would like to change your status to gold level please reach out to Veronica and she will work with you to make those additions to your profile.



Mini Horse Meeting-

We will be working with the minis there on hand, making educational posters and more! Dress for the barn.

If you are interested in showing a mini at fair this year and are new to the program, please follow our Facebook page: Kalamazoo County 4H Miniature Horses and contact Julie Sheppard with any questions you may have. jsheppard@shps.org

This year we will offer the following classes for minis: Showmanship, in hand trail, in hand jumping (not open to cloverbud), costume and gymkhana in hand classes. We will also have a fun game night before show day to practice. Here are 10 things to know about miniature horses:

They are real **horses**, **not** ponies:

Miniature horses are a breed of horse, not a type of pony, and are known for their small size, typically standing under 34 inches tall at the withers.

They have a gentle and social personality: Miniature horses are known for their friendly and calm temperaments, making them excellent pets and service animals. This of course can differ within genetics and backgrounds.

They are easily trained: Due to their disposition and intelligence, miniature horses are relatively easy to train for various tasks, including riding, driving, and even as service animals.

They require similar care to larger horses: While they require less feed, miniature horses still need regular hoof care, dental care, veterinary attention, and access to healthy forage.

They can be used as service animals: **The Americans with Disabilities Act recognizes miniature horses as legitimate service animals**, providing comfort and assistance to people with disabilities.

They have a lifespan of 25-35 years:

Miniature horses typically live for 25 to 35 years, making them long-term companions if given proper care and of sound genetics.

They can be used for various activities:

Miniature horses can be used for riding, driving, and even participating in agility courses, similar to dogs.

They have a small but strong build:

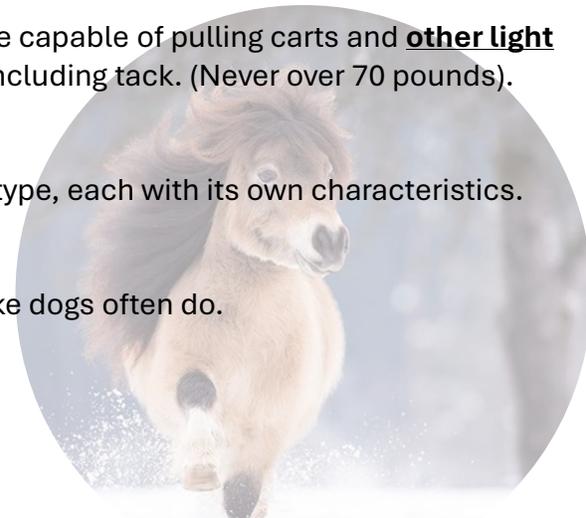
Despite their small size, miniature horses have a muscular build and are capable of pulling carts and **other light tasks**. They are not built for riders more than 20% of their body weight including tack. (Never over 70 pounds).

They are often bred for specific types:

Breeders focus on two main types, a "stock horse type" and a "refined" type, each with its own characteristics.

They are relatively easy to groom:

Miniature horses are easy to groom and don't shed or trigger allergies like dogs often do.





Calling all Cloverbuds!

We will have crafts at the Showcase on the 4-H Mall during fair week from 2-3 pm

Bring any supply donations to the 4-H office or Leaders Council meeting.

Monday: Kindness Rocks

Tuesday: Horse-shoe Wind Chimes

Wednesday: Bee Happy Pollinator Display

Thursday: Tye Dye, (Bring Your Own Shirt)

Friday: Bubble Wands





Dairy Club Update

Dairy club members: join the Kalamazoo County 4-H Dairy 4-H club Facebook page for more education/announcements pertaining to the project. Contact Sara if you have questions



Swine Project updates

We have set a date for our summer swine "fit and show" meeting - **Monday, June 16**, at the Sattler's house in East Leroy, MI. We will have the second round of swine flu doses available at this meeting. As a reminder you must attend at least 2 of the 4 county-wide meetings to show at fair, so if you haven't already met those requirements, please plan to join us on **June 16**.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you, Pam (#517-930-1297) and TJ (#269-903-9991)

Poultry Project News

June Poultry Order Pick Ups:

Market (Pekin) Ducks	June 10
Broiler Chicken	June 17
Cornish Chicken	June 24



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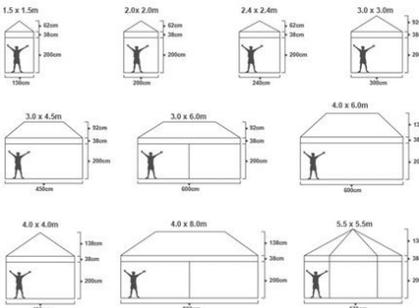
We are looking for Carnival Games and Tents for the Showcase!

Do you have some wood working skills? We are looking for someone to build some fun Carnival type games.

Maybe you have old harvest or lawn games hidden away that we can borrow?

Also: Does anyone have, or know of someone who has, a **Large Canopy** we might be able to use for a game tent?

Please contact christinamariechase@gmail.com if you can help!





Kalamazoo 4-H Showcase Schedule

Entries for the Kalamazoo County 4-H Showcase will take place through the FairEntry website <https://faireentry.com/Fair/SignIn/21320> from May 14 – June 20, 2025.

There may be additional events/activities added to the schedule as more plans are made.

The following events will take place off-site prior to the Showcase:

Monday, July 28, 2025

6:00pm Carcass Program Live Animal Evaluation Pease Packing – Scotts, MI
(Animals must arrive before 5:30pm)

Wednesday, July 30, 2025

10:00am Carcass Program Test and Results Announcements Pease Packing – Scotts, MI

Friday, August 1, 2025

7:00pm Dairy Show Vlietstra Dairy Farm – Kalamazoo, MI

These events will take place at the Kalamazoo Expo Center

Saturday, August 2, 2025

9:00am – 12:00pm Still project judging TBD
Campers may be dropped off, but no camping will be allowed until Sunday

Sunday, August 3, 2025

12:00pm – 3:00pm Horse drop off and vet check behind the horse arena’s
4:00pm – 7:00pm -livestock arrival, swine vet check in livestock barns

Monday, August 4, 2025

9:00am Horse Showmanship & English Performance Classes Horse Arenas
9:00am -12pm livestock drop off, swine vet check in
1pm – 7pm carnival and yards games TBD location
2:00pm Rabbit Show Rabbit Barn
2pm – 3pm craft projects available TBD location
Cavies and Critters Show (following Rabbit Show) TBD location
Rabbit Showmanship
6:00pm Sheep Show Livestock Show Arena

Tuesday, August 5, 2025

9:00am Horse Western Performance & Trail Classes Horse Arenas
9:00am Swine Show Livestock Show Arena
2:00pm Feeder Calf Show Livestock Show Arena
1pm – 7pm carnival and yards games TBD location
2:00pm – 3:00pm craft projects available TBD location
5:00pm Rabbit Agility cement pad near rabbit barn
6:00pm Beef Show Livestock Show Arena



Showcase schedule continued

These events will take place at the Kalamazoo Expo Center

Wednesday, August 7, 2025

9:00am	Horse Dressage & Jumping Classes	Horse Arenas
9:00am	Poultry Show	Livestock Show Arena
10:00am	Miniature Horse show	Grass area near 4-H concession stand
1pm – 7pm	carnival and yards games	TBD location
2:00pm	Goat Show	Livestock Show Arena
2:00pm – 3:00pm	craft projects available	TBD location
6:00pm	Auction set up	Livestock Show Arena

Thursday, August 8, 2025

9:00am	Horse Versatility & Gymkhana Classes	Horse Arenas
10:00am	Livestock Sale (Small Animals)	Livestock Show Arena
1:00pm	Livestock Sale (Large Animals)	Livestock Show Arena
1pm – 7pm	carnival and yards games	TBD location
2:00pm – 3:00pm	craft projects available	TBD location
6:00pm	Fashion Review, Demonstration and Performances	TBD

Friday, August 9, 2025

10:00am	Horse Costume Class	Horse Arenas
12:00pm	Horse Drill Team Demonstration	Horse Arenas
1:00pm	Horse fun and games	Horse Arenas
1:00pm	Livestock Enduro	Livestock Show Arena
1pm – 7pm	carnival and yards games	TBD location
2:00pm – 3:00pm	craft projects available	TBD location
TBD	Horse Awards program	Horse Arenas
5:00pm	Milk drinking contest	Livestock Show Arena
7-10pm	4-H Dance	Livestock Show Arena

Saturday, August 10, 2025

9:00am	Dog Show	Main Expo
12:00pm	Thank you notes turned in deadline	project superintendents
1:00pm	Livestock Judging	Livestock Show Arena
3:00pm	Master Showmanship	Livestock Show Arena
4:00pm – 6:00pm	still project pick up	still project barn
Following master showmanship – breed livestock and some market animals moved out		
Campers moved out		



Auction – Start To Finish

We presented this topic at the All-Species meeting in February but thought it might be helpful to summarize the key takeaways to get ready for the livestock auction at the fair.

1. **Prior to Fair Week (May, June, July):**

- a. Invite buyers
 - i. Who are you are going to invite?
 1. The list of potential buyers is endless – family (grandparents, aunts/uncles, cousins), friends, parents’ business acquaintances or coworkers, doctor, dentist, local feed supply company, car salesman, etc.
 - ii. How do you plan to invite your buyers?
 1. This can be accomplished by writing and mailing a letter or even better taking your letter/brochure/flyer and visiting your potential buyers in person!
 - iii. What might you include within a letter/brochure/flyer?
 1. Youth information – name, years in 4-H/project, what animals you are exhibiting at the fair
 2. What have you learned in 4-H?
 3. Maybe a picture so they recognize you on the day of the auction.
 4. Auction information – date, time, location, sale order
 - iv. Other information to share with potential buyers:
 1. They can do an “add-on” if they are unable to be present at the auction. The QR code is included in the auction letter sent out closer to fair time by the MSUE 4-H Office.
 2. They could have someone come in their place with a defined budget amount to purchase an animal.
 3. What happens when you purchase an animal? There are options:
 - a. Have it processed
 - b. Resell it (sheep, beef, and swine can be resold)
 - c. Donate the animal
- b. Take and print 4x6 pictures for the auction green boards – pictures to be submitted to species superintendents. Picture should consist of clean finished animals & 4-Her in show clothes.

2. **Fair Week:**

- a. Hang up a thank you sign over your pen for the previous year’s auction buyers
- b. Reach out to your buyers to remind them of the auction and tell them how you did in the show

3. **Auction Day (August 7, 2025):**

- a. Wear show clothes – the same kind of outfit you wore on show day!
- b. Greet your buyers, thank them for coming, shake hands
- c. Get lunch with them, show them your animals
- d. After you sell in the auction:
 - i. Find out who bought your animal
 - ii. Go find them in the stands (ask others if you don’t know who they are)
 - iii. Shake their hand, say thank you, and give them a small gift of appreciation (not required but many do provide gifts)
 1. Examples of gifts:
 - a. Purchased gifts or gift baskets such as popcorn, candy, BBQ kit, candles, etc.
 - b. Homemade goods such as jam, cookies, honey
 - c. Other: customized cutting boards, tumblers, ornaments, etc.
- e. Other things to do ASAP after the auction:
 - i. Print out list of buyers with addresses after the auction at the check-out station or find the list posted in your species barn later that night Hang up new thank you signs for this year’s buyers
 - ii. Write thank you notes – due Saturday of fair week by 12noon.

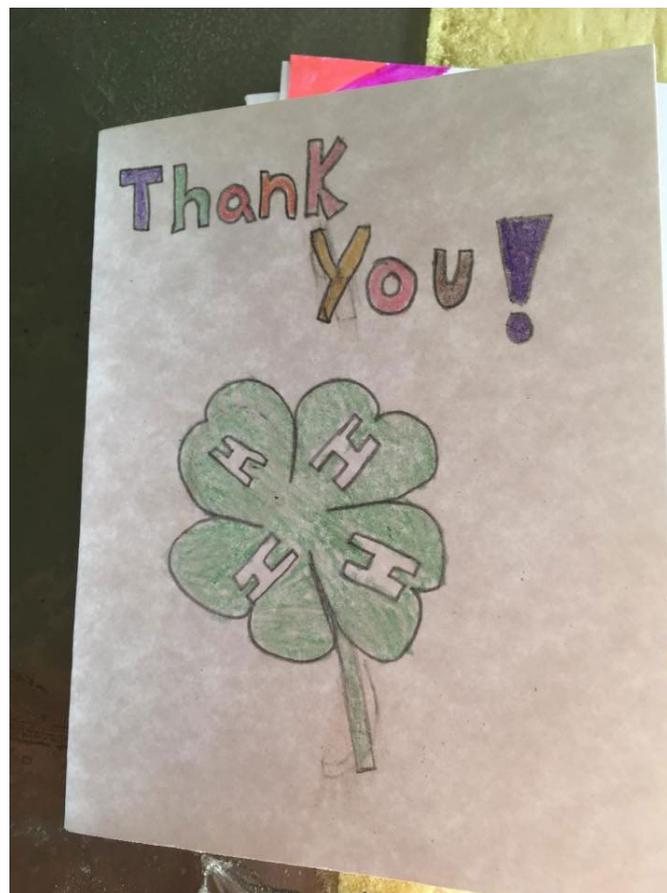


Thank You Notes Guidelines:

- a. Hand-written, addressed, return-addressed, stamped, not sealed
- b. Submitted to superintendents by Saturday of fair week by 12noon
- c. Superintendents will review and mail the following week
- d. Must write thank you notes for any awards/trophies received in addition to buyer thank you's.
- e. Notes should be sincere, best handwriting, at least 3 sentences each

What does a good buyer thank you note consist of?

- a. A greeting with the buyer's name or company.
- b. An acknowledgment of the specific reason for thanks (i.e., the purchase of your project).
- c. The reason why you appreciate the buyer. For instance, they supported you and your 4-H project, have been generous to 4-H, or took time to benefit youth.
- d. How you plan to use the money from the sale (i.e., savings or to purchase next year's project, etc.)
- e. A comment or details about yourself or an update on your life. For example, you can explain how you enjoy 4-H or something you learned in your project.
- f. A repeat of your thank you.
- g. A closing and your signature (e.g., With thanks, name or Sincerely, name)





Share the Clover—

Give one lucky child the experience of a lifetime this summer

Michigan 4-H will have 10 Japanese youth and one Chaperone available in 2025 for interested families opening their homes and hearts by hosting!

They are scheduled to arrive in

**Grand Rapids, MI, on July 23rd (Matching Ceremonies July 24th)
and depart on August 18th (Departure program August 16th)**

to meet host families for a 3.5-week stay. We have 7 of the 10 Japanese already matched for 2025!!

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 3 years of age),
- be Michigan 4-H adult Gold Volunteers, and
- participate in an interview and home visit process.

2025 Online Applications to host can be found at: <https://www.states4hexchange.org/apply/host/>

Applications to host can also be found at www.states4hexchange.org



SHARE THE CLOVER—
**Give one lucky child the experience
of a lifetime this summer!**



Applications are open for KRESA Career Connect's career pathway planning programs.

There are several paid opportunities for ages 14 to 24, including:



MyCITY (ages 14-24)

- Ages 14 - 15: 4-week paid career exploration, project-based learning and career pathway planning.
- Ages 16 - 24: 7-week paid internships and professional development.

CareerNOW (ages 18-24)

- Paid 8-week career exploration opportunities in the fields of Skilled Trades and Healthcare.
- Employability skills training, mentorships, career pathways development, and connections to training, employment and apprenticeships.

2GEN (Families)

- 7-week career exploration program for families (youth 14-18 + adult).
- Families explore their strengths, career interests and opportunities in the community.
- 2-hour weekly sessions with a paid stipend awarded upon completion.

Career Coaching

- Gain skills, craft a customized action plan, and overcome barriers with one-on-one personalized guidance.
- Tailored support, development of essential skills, and customized actions plans.

Learn more and apply at kresa.org/summerprograms.



Since its founding in 2019, the National Society Descendants of American Farmers has awarded over 104,000.00 in agricultural farming scholarships to 47 students.

- Scholarship is specific to higher education students majoring in an agricultural field of study
- Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5
- A written essay is required
- A personal interview may be required
- Students may reapply each year that they are in school
 - 2 annual deadlines to apply: July 1st and December 1st

If Awarded:

- Funds are paid to the accredited institution and not to the individual
- This scholarship may be accepted in addition to other awards
- Students can be part-time or full-time through each semester/quarter
- For more information, contact Joy Linn at linnranch@hotmail.com

More information and the application can be found at

<https://www.nsdoaf.com/scholarships>

Or on our website under:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/kalamazoo/kalamazoo_county_4_h_1/4-h-member-resources-forms



Animal U

From Iowa State University Extension

Check it out at:

<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/animalu/>



ANIMAL U promotes involvement in animal agriculture and allows all youth the opportunity to increase their knowledge. It also enables more young people to become involved through accessible, straight-forward, and research-based information.

The program goals are to:

- Connect more young people to animal agriculture and promote its application to everyday life.
- Create an understanding of the relationship between animal agriculture and the science and technology that supports it.
- Promote the variety of potential careers associated with food production through real-world experiences.

Animal U is a program developed through [Iowa State University Extension and Outreach](#) and [Iowa State University Department of Animal Science](#). The program manager is [Dr. Amy Powell](#), Extension Youth Animal Science Specialist. This project is a collaboration of Extension subject matter experts, faculty members, commodity groups, and industry partners.



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!



STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Showcase your
photography,
videography and
graphic design skills
at 4-H Dairy Days!



New for 2025, Michigan 4-H Dairy Days will have feature three new contests! These contests are open to any Michigan 4-H youth ages 8-19, regardless of their enrolled project area.

Showcase your creative skills by submitting your entries to:

- Photography
- Graphic design
- Videography

So grab your cameras, get those creative juices flowing and show us what you've got!

Submissions are due June 5. Learn more at tinyurl.com/DDcreative.

June 6: Fairy Garden Workshop

Britton

Youth ages 5-19 will learn the basics of miniature gardening and some fairy lore.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/fairy-garden-workshop25

June 7: Garden Geocache Event

Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens, East Lansing

Cache veterans and new enthusiasts are welcome at this geocaching adventure. Bring your picnic lunch and enjoy a day of caching in the gardens. We will be finding new caches, trading travel bugs, exploring the gardens and much more.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/garden-geocache

June 13: 4-H Terrarium Workshop

Britton

Youth ages 8-19 will create a miniature, self-sustaining ecosystem, in a controlled indoor environment.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-terrarium-workshop

June 20: Garden to Table Summer Workshop Series

Taylor Community Library, Taylor

In this hands-on program, youth will explore the journey of food from seed to plate! Participants will learn how to plant and care for a garden, harvest fresh produce, and turn their homegrown ingredients into simple, healthy meals.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/garden-to-table-summer-workshops

June 24: Digger Day

Michigan 4-H Children's Garden, East Lansing

Come to the garden and explore the world of diggers. Front-end loaders, dump trucks and back hoes – all of these tools help with projects both big and small in our communities.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/digger-day

June 28: Michigan 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl

Anthony Hall, East Lansing

Come test your dairy industry knowledge against other 4-H'ers! This free event is open to any 4-H youth ages 8-19. Youth may enter as individuals or as teams.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/2025-mi-4-h-dairy-quiz-bowl>





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Register for the Michigan 4-H and FFA State Livestock Judging Contest

Registration is now open for the Michigan 4-H and FFA State Livestock Judging Contest! Participants can demonstrate their livestock evaluation and selection skills, as well as improve their communication and decision-making skills at this fun statewide contest. The day will include both individual and team competition with classes of beef cattle, Boer goats, sheep and swine.

Contest divisions include:

- 4-H Juniors - 4-H youth ages 8-13 as of January 1
- 4-H Seniors - 4-H youth ages 14-19 as of January 1
- FFA Junior High - FFA members that recently completed seventh or eighth grade
- FFA High School – FFA members that recently completed grades 9-12
- MLE - Youth ages 8-21 as of January 1 that are competing in the Michigan Livestock Expo but are not a member of 4-H or FFA
- Cloverbuds - 4-H youth age 7 as of January 1, non-competitive



While the dates for the contest no longer coincide with Michigan Livestock Expo (MLE), this contest does still count as an educational experience for the MLE Premiere Stockman Award!. Registration is due by June 12. Find registration information at www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-and-ffa-livestock-judging-state-contest-2025.

Ten Michigan 4-H volunteers honored for 50 years of service in 2025

For the fifth year, MSU Extension is celebrating outstanding volunteers who have given a half-century of service to Michigan 4-H. These individuals have pledged their heads, hearts, hands and service to improving the lives of youth and their communities through Michigan 4-H for the past 50 years.

“Simply put, our Michigan 4-H programs would not be possible without the help of caring volunteers who give their time and talent,” said Quentin Tyler, director of MSU Extension. “MSU Extension is grateful for every volunteer in every program, but these ten individuals deserve special recognition. They have given so much to 4-H over their five decades of service and we offer our heartfelt thanks for all they have given to support 4-H youth.”

The Michigan 4-H 50-year volunteers being recognized in 2025 are:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| • Cheryl Barton, Shiawassee County | • Vanessa Powell, Jackson County |
| • Linda Bogue, Cass County | • Diane Shepherd, Sanilac County |
| • Lisa Coe, Barry County, | • Paul Shoup, Mason County |
| • Janel Horrocks-Boehmer, Ingham County | • Bernadette Strahl, Menominee County |
| • Sharon Mitchell, St. Joseph County | • Marla Wedge, Allegan County |

In recognition of their service, 50-year volunteers received a gift of appreciation from MSU Extension leadership, as well as a personal note of thanks. Tribute gifts in honor of any or all of these 4-H volunteers may be made to support 4-H at: <https://mi4hfdtn.org/memorial-tribute-gifts/>.