



4-H Family News

September
2025

Kalamazoo County



**Beyond
Ready**

Welcome to the 2025-2026 4-H Programming year!

Starting September 15th, 2025, families and volunteers will need to log into the 4-H online database at -

<http://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>

to re-enroll for the new programming year.

Some reminders-

- Any youth 5-19 years old as of January 1, 2026 will be able to enroll in the 4-H program
- There is no fee to enroll in 4-H.
- Adults who would like to be a volunteer will need to go through the MSU Extension Volunteer Selection Process (VSP) prior to working with youth, unless it has been completed previously.
- VSP completion is required for both virtual and face to face programs. For information on this process please visit- http://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/msu_extension_volunteer_selection_process
- New members may join anytime during the year, but will not be able to meet fair participation requirements if enrolled after April 1, 2026
- Re-enrollment is due no later than November 30, 2025.



Thank you everyone for making
the 4- H Showcase a huge hit!

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Facebook Page

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

Program-122047197873078

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Thank You



Gull Road Culvers has chosen to support the
Climax Willing Workers 4-H Club
with a program called ***"Thank-you Farmers!"***

"Thank You Farmers". September 1st- 21st, Culver's will be selling their "Thank-you farmers" wall decals for \$1. Guests will write their name on a decal and display in the restaurant. They will also have a cool blue barn collection canister on the counter for miscellaneous donations. Please spread the word and promote this fundraiser being held at the GULL ROAD CULVER'S.

Last year they supported a local farmer who donated the funds to the Kalamazoo County 4-H Poultry Project!

Come on out and support our friends in 4-H!



Beyond Ready for National 4-H week October 5-11, 2025



120+ years of 4-H to celebrate in October 2025!

Let's have some fun in Kalamazoo County this year to celebrate!

Who: Kalamazoo county 4-H youth members

What: Create a short video (maximum of 2-3 minute) about what 4-H means to you. Alumni- Please share how 4-H shaped you into the adult you are now. Submit your video to Veronica Bolhuis: bolhuisv@msu.edu

When: Starting now until September 26, 2025

Every youth that submits a video will have their name entered into a drawing to win a prize. 5 youth winners will be selected during National 4-H week!

On **Monday** of National 4-H Week, **Go GREEN** and show your 4-H state spirit! A simple, cohesive way for youth, professionals, volunteers, alumni & supporters across the country to celebrate their 4-H program being *Beyond Ready*. Wear a green hat, clothing, face paint - anything green goes. Let's paint the nation **GREEN**, on **Monday, October 6!**

Thursday October 9, 2026: **For Good**

On Thursday of National 4-H Week, help us shine a light on all the good that 4-H does! A day to recognize all 4-H'ers who are doing good and making positive impact by helping their communities and beyond. Share your own story or celebrate someone who is making a difference - another 4-H'er, volunteer or educator We want to know, on **Thursday, October 9!**

Share on social, tag others in your 4-H community, tag National 4-H and use **#4HBeyondReady #National4HWeek**

Kalamazoo 4-H Community Clubs are also encouraged to share 4-H information this week such as window displays in your community, library and/or school displays & more. Be creative. **Head Heart Hands Health!**

Kalamazoo County 4-H is **Beyond Ready!**



Thank You Cat! And Regional Security Group for generously donating Security Services for the week!

Thank You to our 1st Truck and Tractor Encounter Participants!

College Hunks * McDonald Towing * Kalamazoo Road Commision
Matthew Bolhuis * Pirtek * Kalamazoo Emergency Management

**The Dog Project would like to thank the following people
and organizations for their gracious donations:**

Pet supplies Plus - treat pouches, toys, treats, poop bags, and wipes for 2025 member gift bags!

Our wonderful judges who donated their time and expertise. Without you we could not put on such a wonderful show!

Blains Farm and Fleet -2 camp chairs for our Best Overall and Reserve Best Overall awards!

The Setters Company - Four 64oz insulated engraved water bowls for 2025 High Point awards!

Hounds and Co - samples for gift bags and toys/treats/food/gift cards for best Notebook and Poster awards!

And we want to thank all our Time, Trophy, Award, and Toy Contributors!



A huge thank you for all our amazing Livestock Auction Buyers! Thank you for supporting our youth!

40 & 8 Veterans Assoc
A+ Well Service
Aaron & Meagan Srackangast
Adam Snider
Advantage Roofing & Exterior
Al & Deanna Pattison
Alamo Valley Ag
Alan Hinchman
Alex Diljack
Alice Srackangast
Ambs Family
Angela Shannon Insurance Agency
Ausra Equipment
B & T Partnership
Bak-Ayr Farms
Balkema Excavating Kalamazoo
Bartholomew Heating & Cooling
Battle Creek Farm Bureau
Beadle Lake Large Animal Clinic & Athens
Veterinary Services
Beck's Hybrids - John & Jenni Hayward
Bert's Bakery
Bimbo's Pizza
Black Gold Transport
Bob & Margaret Goldston
Bob and Kelly Meyer
Boerkoel & Boerkoel Ltd.
Brueck Farms
Burnips Equipment
C & L Concrete Construction
Caledonia Farmers Elevator
Carleton Equipment
Cindy Rose
Cole Brandon
Coon Creek farms
Cornerstone Ag Management
Crystal Flash Petroleum
CT Electric Services, Inc.
D & E Custom Trucking
Dale W Hubbard Inc.
Dana Arledge
Darlene Wayne
Dave Pease
DeHaan Dairy LLC
Diamond Springs Custom Cart
Didi & Rip Shindorf
Dinzik Farms
Don Peck Family
Dr. Michael Leonard
Drobny Farms LLC

Dyer Farms
Edge Wood Dairy
Elspeth Ryan
Eric Tabor
Fader Equipment
Farmers' Co-op Foster Custom Harvesting
Gale Acres - Jeff & Denise Wilson
Galesburg Hardware
GM Equipment Rentals
Greenstone Farm Credit Services
Greg Crawford
Greg Feltner
Hall Builders
Harmon's Maple Ridge Farm
Hoagg Hoof Trimming
Ian and Lynne Remijn
J Allen & Co. Inc.
Jay & Sara Vandyk
Jeanne Himmelein & Berger Hortice
Jerrid Hisler Agency - Farm Bureau
Joe's Farm
John & Susan Compton
John Gilfillan
John Hoffa
Justice Fence Company
Justin and Kristen Shook
Kalamazoo Podiatry PC
Kalsee Credit Union
Kate's Korner Kupboard
Katz Well Drilling
Kevin and Jess Kaercher
Keystone Coop
Kristin Blood
Kyle and Johanna Vosburg
Lipscombs LLC
Little Pine Farm
Lyster Exteriors, Inc
M-40 Bar & Grill
Marshall Feed & Grain
Marshall Meats
Martin Spring & Drive
Matt & Alisha Gibson
Matt Millikin
Maury & Nancy Kaercher
Meeuwse Farms
Michelle Miersma
Migala Carpet One
Mike & Vicky Schug
Mike Norton
Mitch Kline

Moline Co-op
Morrison Landscape services
Mosel Animal Clinic
Motor Shop Electric
Mulder's Landscape Supplies, Inc.
Myers Farms LLC
Nancy Dubois
Nancy Shaffer
Natalie's Buyer Group
P T V Show Lambs,
Vandegiessen Tim & Paige
Perkins Farms LLC
Phil Gernaat and Sons Greenhouse
Pickle Street Veterinary Service
Quality Cylinder Service LLC
Ray Brandon
Robert Walk
Roco Crushing & Screening, Ireland
Roger and Chris Subacz
S & F Propane
Sara Reeves
Sarah & Mike Dyer
Sattler Family
Save A Lot - Parchment
Schug Farms
Scott & Tiffanie Myers
Scramlin Agency
Shaun and Corrina Willis
Sheriff Fuller
Shoemaker's Garage
Southwest Interiors
Squirter Kings
Stafford Farms
Stanton Excavating
State Farm Ins. Kristin Wykoski Agent
Steensma Lawn and Power
Sutherland Farms
Swihart Farms - Mick & Jan Swihart
Taylor Page
The Nelson Family
Thompson Recycle
TJ & Taylor Gibson
Todd Rhodes
Tony Heib
Victory Farms
Voyager Dog Food Co.
West Milham Dental
Woodwork Specialties
Woody Thompson -Thompson Home Imp
WXC Cattle Company



A huge Thank You to all our Sponsors for making the 2025 Kalamazoo County 4-H Showcase Great!

**Cornerstone Ag
Maury and Nancy Kaercher
Cagney Lambs
CT Electrical
David and Eileen Rutten
D&E Custom Trucking
Don and Sheryl Peck
The Groundskeeper
Jerrid Hisler Agency
Hinga Farm
Howard and Doris Gray Memorial
IBEW #131
Jaworski Farms
Joe and Robin Peck
Jeff and Andrea McCubbin
Jan and Nellie Lou Vosburg
Jordan Riemersma
John Gilfillan
Kalamazoo Podiatry
Kalamazoo Frat. Order Police #98
Katz Well Drilling
Kings Equipment
Keystone Coop
Kristin Blood
Lyster Exteriors
Lakeland Asphalt
Lipscombs LLC
Logan and Kara Hunter
Matt and Alisha Gibson**

**Nulty Insurance
Mick and Jan Swihart
Mike and Janet Gibson
Meeuwse Farms
Mark and Veronica Bolhuis
Marshal Feed and Grain
Marshall Meats
Motor Shop
Myers Farms LLC
Morrison Landscaping
Nally's Greenhouse
Neil and Barb VanBruggen
No Jes Goats
Overhead Door Co
Pam Acker
Paul and Sue Harrison
Phil Gernaat and Sons Greenhouse
Quality Cylinder Service
Rita McClish
In Memory-Ron Roeder
Sandy Ambs
Stafford Farms
Shook Farm
Schug Farm
TJ & Taylor Gibson
Winding Creek Grain Farms
Wade and Kim Lawrence
Zoetis
All our Attendees!**



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Kalamazoo Count 4-H Horse Project 2025 Sponsors

Coburn Fleet Services LLC
Delton Family Dental Dr. Beuker, The Peterson Company

Battle Creek Farm Bureau, CT Electrical Services Inc, Carleton Equipment,
Gernaat Greenhouse, Dr. Bill and Ruth Ann Uggen, Nick & Julie Carr,
Bright Financial Advisors Inc, Corbin & Erin Sullivan, Sault Animal Hospital,
Woolf Excavating, Merchant McIntyre & Associates, Maxson Family, Schupan,
Rosemarie Ryan, Territorial Brewing Company, Hazelhoff Builders,
Westdorp Builders Inc, Josie's Farrier Service, Kazoopy Barkin Babies,
Superior Asphalt, Transport Fox Custom Builders, Farm Bureau Insurance,
Scramlin Agency, Mobility Plus, Blue Heron Barn,
Full Swath Harvesting (Straw & Hay)

Brocks Towing & Recovery, Murray Landscaping LLC, John & Janet Carrig,
Edwards Family Homes, Richland Meat Center, Neds on Gull Lake,
The Feed Bag, The Local Grind, Allen Equine Veterinary Services,
Take me to the Mouse Vacations, Dr. Catherine Pike, Omni Source,
Classic Saddlery, Coffee Klutch, Behan & Company LTD, Mom, Dad & Jenson,
Gilbert Family, Brinker Equine Services & Training,
Country Lane Electric, Willis Law, Full City Café, Angel Calnin Realtor,
The Bow-wow-tique, Good Luck CC Riders, Gull Meadow Farms,
Sikkema Real Estate Team, Bev Hundley Studio,
Hi-Tech Deck Marine Flooring, Loving Hands Equine Massage,
Pawriffic Grooming, Acres of Hope, Jersey Giants Subs!, Lanphear - Funk Family

We Need Your Help!!

Volunteering can be both beneficial for the volunteer but especially for the youth involved.

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

- Arts & Craft
- 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
- Performing art
- Public speaking
- Sewing/Quilting
- Wood Crafts
- 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

**SPREAD THE
WORD**



Congratulations State Horse Show Winners!

* Western *

Claire L	8th	14-15 yr old Ranch Showmanship
Aubrey M	Top 5- 2 nd	14-15 yr old Ranch Pleasure
Claire L	8th	14-15 yr old Ranch Pleasure
Claire L	6th	14-15 yr old Ranch Riding
Aubrey M	Top 5- 4 th	14- 15 yr old Reining
Aubrey M	7th	14-15 yr old Ranch Trail
Claire L	6th	14-15 yr old Ranch Trail
Kayla H	8th	18 yr old Western Pleasure
Madylynn H	2 nd	12 yr old Western Pleasure
Madylynn H	3 rd	12 yr old Western Horsemanship
Miley C	2 nd	13 yr old Western Dressage- Level 1
Miley C	Reserve Champion	13 yr old Western Dressage- Level 2
Miley C	7th	13 yr old Trail
Alyssa T	Top 5- 1 st	14 yr old Western Pleasure
Katherine W	4 th	14 yr old Western Pleasure
Alyssa T	3 rd	14 yr old Western Horsemanship
Katherine W	2 nd	14 yr old Western Horsemanship





Congratulations State Horse Show Winners!

★ English ★

Emmit N	6 th	17 yr old Dressage Equitation
Emmit N	Top 5- 2 nd	17 yr old Hunter Hack
Kayla H	5 th	18 yr old English pleasure Hunt
Kayla H	5 th	18 yr old English Equitation Hunt
Kayla H	3 rd	18 yr old Dressage Test-Level 1
Madylynn H	1 st	12 yr old Showmanship
Madylynn H	4 th	12 yr old English Equitation Hunt
Megan B	5 th	14 yr old Showmanship
Katherine W	6 th	14 yr old English Pleasure Hunt
Megan B	Top 5- 2 nd	14 yr old English Pleasure Hunt
Alyssa T	4 th	14 yr old English Equitation Hunt
Katherine W	6 th	14 yr old English Equitation Hunt
Megan B	5 th	14 yr old English Equitation Hunt
Aliyah S	4 th	15 yr old English Pleasure Hunt
Aliyah S	7 th	15 yr old English Equitation Hunt
Aliyah S	Top 5- 6 th	15 yr old Dressage Test- Level 1
Aliyah S	3 rd	15 yr old Dressage Test- Level 2





Cats Cats and more Cats!



The Cat project is back! Those 4-H youth that participated in the Cat Show and the 4-H Show case had a great time! Audience members enjoyed the show and the judge!

Congratulations to all the 4-Hers who participated this year. We hope to grow the project for the 2025-2026 4-H programming year. Meetings will start up in the fall

Congrats to our winners:

Decorated Cage Costume Class

Sakara W.

1st Taylin R. 2nd Sakara W. 3rd Madalyn S.
4th Gunner S.

Household Kitten

1st Taylin R. 2nd Gunner S. 3rd Madalyn S.

Household Female Cat

Sakara W.

Champion Cat

Taylin R.

Reserve Champion Cat

Gunner S.

Junior Showmanship

1st Taylin R. 2nd Madalyn S. 3rd Gunner S.

Intermediate Showmanship

Sakara W.

Top Showman

Madalyn S.

Cat Personality Award

Gunner S.

Special thanks to our Cat show Judge:
Nancy Wheatley from Van Buren County Cat Project!

If you are interested at all in the Cat Project, please sign-up in 4-H on-line so you will receive emails and information regarding the project.

Questions?

Please contact the Cat Superintendent Andrea McCubbin

Cell: 269-598-5231 call / text Email: jamccubbin@aol.com





Did you meet a bearded dragon or a snake at the 4-h showcase?

Congrats to our project members on a job well done!

Cavy and Critter Show results:

Junior sow
Intermediate sow
Senior sow
Champion Cavy.
Reserve champion cavy.
Mice / Rats.
Hamster or gerbil
Champion Pocket pet
Reserve champion Pocket pet
Snakes
Bearded dragon
Any other reptile/amphibian
Champion reptile / amphibian
Reserve champion reptile/amphibia
Cavy Junior showmanship
Cavy Intermediate showmanship
Top Cavy showman
Pocket pet junior showmanship
Pocket pet intermediate showmanship

1st place Sakara W.
1st place Sakara W.
1st place Christian T.
Christian T.
Sakara W.
1st place Sakara W. with her mouse
1st place Maverick M. with his hamster
Sakara W. Cheese puff mouse
Maverick M. Buddy hamster
1st place Sakara W
1st place Sakara W
1st place Tortoise Sakara W.
Sakara W. Bearded dragon Fury
Sakara W. Snake Zitrios
1st place Christian T.
1st place Sakara W.
Sakara W.
1st place Maverick M.
1st place Sakara W.



Special thanks to judge Shantell Aiken!

If you interested at all in the cavy and critter project please sign up in 4-H online so you will receive information about the project. Meetings will start up in the fall. If questions contact the superintendent

Andrea McCubbin: cell 269-598-5231 call/ text or email: jamccubbin@aol.com.





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.

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 gccg.kzoo@gmail.com.

Learn more about Growing Community Garden at www.growingcommunitygardenkzoo.com

Don't you just love a Parade?



Mark your calendar for November 22, 2025 for the annual Kalamazoo Holiday Parade!

Kalamazoo County 4-H Leaders Council is once again sponsoring our entry in the parade

Candy and a 4-H information sheet will be available to hand out along the route

We will have a new parade banner this year, so we are excited about being able to display a new banner!

More information will be forthcoming: Be on the look out in October for the sign-up to participate in the parade.



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





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

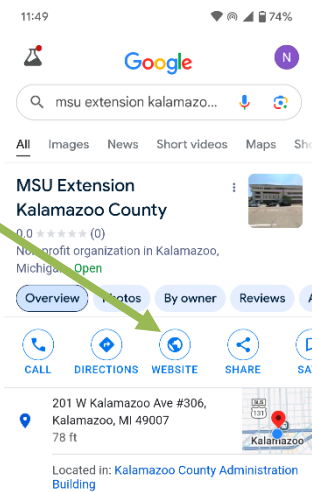
4 – Click on menu at the bottom of your screen which will bring up the next screen

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.

1 & 2



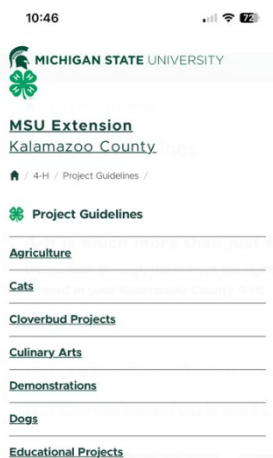
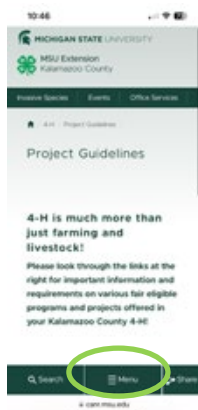
3 & 4



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!



National 4-H Congress November 28th- December 2nd, 2025

Shine your 4-H
Leadership and
service **light** by
attending this
premier event
for 4-H
members from
across the
country



- In Atlanta, Georgia
- For youth 4-H ages 14-19
- Workshops on leadership and service on a National level
- Led by a Youth Design Team

Contact your 4-H Program Coordinator today to
find out more and to reserve a spot!



Do you know a youth who is interested in meeting other young people from across the country and learning about leadership & service?

National 4-H Congress is a five-day Educational Experience held in Atlanta, GA. Congress is the premiere nation-wide event for 4-Hers to network with others from around the country, Canada, and Puerto Rico. While at Congress, 4-Hers engage in leadership, citizenship, global awareness, and inclusion.

Join us to expand your skills, engage with other 4-H members, and be inspired to make an impact in your club, community, country and world.

When: November 28 – December 2, 2025

Where: Atlanta, GA

Cost information: \$100 non-refundable deposit is due September 1, 2025.

Total cost is approximately \$1300.00-\$1500.00, but could be adjusted once airline tickets are purchased.

Who: Youth aged 14-19

Website: [National 4-H Congress](#)



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

Wild Spartans Series returns



Join Us Online WILD SPARTANS

MONTHLY WILDLIFE & FISHERIES WEBINAR SERIES
FOR FAMILIES INTERESTED IN LEARNING
SCIENCE • RESEARCH • CAREERS • CONSERVATION

October-March, 2nd Tuesday of each month | 6:30 PM EST

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

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>.