



# 4-H Family News

MACOMB COUNTY

OCTOBER 2025  
Volume 10 Issue 2



**Beyond  
Ready**

## Macomb County 4-H News & Events

### Apply for Macomb County 4-H Awards by October 15th

Apply or nominate a deserving 4-H member or volunteer for a Macomb County 4-H Award for their efforts during the 2024-2025 4-H program year (September 1, 2024-August 31, 2025)! Updated forms are [available here](#). The application deadline is 11:59 p.m. on October 15th. Awards will be presented at the Macomb County 4-H Awards Banquet on November 10th.

### Macomb County 4-H Awards Banquet - November 10th

The 2024-2025 Macomb County 4-H Awards Banquet is November 10th at Fern Hill Golf Club, 17600 Clinton River Road, Clinton Township. Come and help us recognize our 4-H members, volunteers and partners and enjoy an evening out! Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m. and the awards program will follow. All 4-Hers and their families are welcome to attend. Invitations have been mailed to 4-H families. **Please [R.S.V.P.](#) by October 25, 2025.**

This event is being sponsored by Macomb County Farm Bureau, Macomb County Health & Community Services, and MSU Extension. For more information, contact 4-H Program Coordinator Nikki Knight at 586-469-5979 or [knighn9@msu.edu](mailto:knighn9@msu.edu).

### Fall 4-H Leader Update

Macomb County 4-H club leaders are invited to the Macomb County Fall 4-H Club Leader Update on October 14, 2025 at 6 p.m. at the VerKuilen Building, 21885 Dunham Road, MSU Extension Assembly Rooms A & B, Clinton Township, MI 48036.

We are looking forward to connecting, sharing success stories, and discussing important changes for the 2026 4-H program year. Club leaders, please extend the invitation to any project leaders within your club who you would like to attend. Soup and salad will be served. [Please R.S.V.P. online.](#)

For more information, contact Macomb County 4-H Program Coordinator Lizz Duran at [duraneli@msu.edu](mailto:duraneli@msu.edu) or 586-469-6090.



In honor of National Hispanic Month, youth ages 5-19 are invited to MSU Extension's El Dia de los Muertos event. There will be traditional crafts, food and fun, and it's FREE!

#### Date:

October 11, 2025

#### Time:

1-5 p.m.

#### Location:

Thompson Community Center  
11370 Hupp Avenue  
Warren, MI 48089

[Please R.S.V.P. here.](#)

#### For more information, contact:

Lizz Duran  
4-H Program Coordinator  
[duraneli@msu.edu](mailto:duraneli@msu.edu) / 586-469-6090

## Macomb County 4-H Staff

**Kristi Evans**  
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4-H Program Coordinator

[Nikki Knight](#)  
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[Rebecca Konarski](#)  
4-H Program Coordinator

[Roberta Busquaert](#)  
Office Assistant - Senior

## Locations

MSU Extension has two office locations in Macomb County:

VerKuilen Building  
21885 Dunham Road, Suite 12  
Clinton Township, MI 48036

Max Thompson Family Resource Center  
11370 Hupp Avenue  
Warren, MI 48089

## Contact Us

Telephone: 586-469-6431

Email: [Macomb.4h@macombgov.org](mailto:Macomb.4h@macombgov.org)

**Subscribe**



## Macomb County 4-H News & Events (continued)

### 4-H Meets Wolcott: Farming 101 Animals and Agriculture

Learn about all aspects of the farm and how to properly care for animals in MSU Extension's FREE six-part 4-H series. This program is open to youth who are ages 5-19. Participants will meet at Wolcott Mill Metropark Farm Center, 65775 Wolcott Road in Ray Township every other Sunday between November 2 and January 15, 2025.

November 2	November 16	November 30	December 14	January 11	January 25
10 a.m.-12 p.m.	1 p.m.	1 p.m.	1 p.m.	1 p.m.	1 p.m.
Kickoff and Farm Tour	Horses	Goats	Sheep	Poultry	Rabbits

[Find more information and register here.](#) Questions? If you have any questions, please contact Macomb County 4-H Program Coordinator Nikki Knight at [knightn9@msu.edu](mailto:knightn9@msu.edu) or 586-469-5979.



### Volunteer for Trick or Treat on the Farm at Wolcott

Wolcott Mill Metropark Farm Center is looking for help creating a spooky good vibe this Halloween! The annual [Trick or Treat on the Farm](#) event is October 24, 25 and 26, 2025, and Wolcott Farm is looking for assistance from local 4-H clubs. Clubs will cover either a greenhouse or trunk station (2-4 volunteers per station, including 1 adult volunteer) and provide a giveaway item. The event will be at Wolcott Mill Metropark Farm Center, 65775 Wolcott Road, Ray Township, MI 48096. All volunteers should come with required Huron Clinton Metropark Authority [application](#) and [liability waiver](#) forms. Children under age 14 must be accompanied by their parent or a gold-level adult 4-H volunteer. Find more information and sign up [here](#), or contact Mary Barnes at [mary.barnes@metroparks.com](mailto:mary.barnes@metroparks.com), 586-752-5932 or 586-246-8603.

### Volunteer at Blake's, learn, and earn money for your club

In collaboration with Macomb County 4-H, Blake's Orchard & Cider Mill is offering a fantastic volunteer program for 4-H youth members on Saturdays and Sundays through November 2, 2025. Volunteers will interact with farm animals, learn about animal care, and assist with various activities at the orchard, gaining hands-on experience in a fun and welcoming farm setting. From helping care for animals to engaging with visitors, this program offers a great way to build skills and gain experience in agriculture. As a thank you, Blake's Orchard will make a donation of \$10 per person/hour worked to go back to their 4-H club.

Choose a morning shift (10 a.m.- 1 p.m.) or an afternoon shift (3-6 p.m.). The volunteer commitment is three hours per shift.

#### Responsibilities for volunteers include:

##### Animal Care:

- Replenish water in animal enclosures
- Feed animals according to provided guidelines
- Brush animals and help maintain their hygiene
- Assist with cleaning pens or arranging bedding

##### Guest Interaction:

- Communicate with visitors about the animals, their breeds, and their care
- Teach guests interesting facts about the animals (information will be provided beforehand for preparation)
- Help with farm operations, ensuring visitors follow safety protocols

#### Volunteers will:

- Follow all guidelines set forth by both 4-H Macomb County and Blake's Orchard.
- Be respectful of animals, guests, and the farm staff.
- Commit to their selected shifts and notify the farm in advance if they are unable to attend

#### Blake's will:

- Provide farm staff to supervise and mentor the volunteers, ensuring a safe and educational environment. Staff will not be alone with a volunteer (minor) in an isolated or private space.
- Provide all necessary training for the volunteers, including animal safety and proper care.
- Ensure that all volunteers follow safety protocols when interacting with the animals and guests.
- Provide the necessary materials, such as feeding tools, brushes, and safety gear.
- Provide clear communication channels with 4-H Macomb County for reporting issues, concerns, or updates.
- Request feedback from the 4-H volunteers about their experiences at the end of each month. Feedback will be used to help improve future programs.



Find more information and sign up [here](#) or contact 4-H Program Coordinator Rebecca Konarski at 586-783-8163 or [konars13@msu.edu](mailto:konars13@msu.edu).



## Macomb County 4-H News & Events (continued)

### Volunteers: Take the AFSR survey by October 15

The State 4-H Office is excited to invite adult 4-H volunteers to a **friendly competition** to see which county can achieve the **highest response rate** for its Annual Financial Summary Report (AFSR) Evaluation Survey! The survey is **mobile-friendly** and takes **less than 5 minutes** to complete. Insights from our 4-H volunteers are truly valued. Your feedback helps us improve the AFSR forms and process moving forward. And yes, there's a prize! In addition to **bragging rights**, the county with the most completed surveys by **October 15** will be awarded the **AFSR Royalty crown**. [Complete the survey here!](#)

### Macomb County 4-H Horse Project Recognition Banquet – Nov. 9

The Macomb County 4-H Horse Project Recognition Banquet is Sunday, November 9, 2025 at Zuccaro's Banquets & Catering 46601 N. Gratiot, Chesterfield Township. Doors open at 1 p.m. with dinner at 1:30 p.m. The cost for adults and youth ages 5-19 is \$25.00. Children ages 4 and under are FREE.

#### Attendees:

- Please give names of attendees and payment to your leader by October 20th
- Make checks payable to your leader or use their preferred method of payment.
- Late orders received October 21-27 will be charged an additional \$5.00 per attendee.
- No tickets will be sold after October 27.

#### Leaders:

- Please keep track of payments received from your members.
- Please submit the number of attendees along with a list of names from your club and collect payment from your members using your preferred method.
- Write one check made payable to MCHPC. (No Venmo, PayPal, etc.).
- Please note if any of your attendees are children 4 & under.
- Send to Crystal Pollock by OCTOBER 27th 68822 Romeo Plank, Ray Twp. MI 48096 ~ (810) 397-5240 ~ [cmpollock@comcast.net](mailto:cmpollock@comcast.net)
- Please note that all attendees must be paid for in advance.

Submitted by Macomb County 4-H Volunteer Michelle Short



### 4-H Youth Archery October 7-December 16

Untamed 4-H Club is holding a 4-H Youth Archery program at Huron Pointe Sportsmen's Association, 35800 E. 28 Mile Road, Lenox Township.

Participants will meet from 6:30-8 p.m. on Tuesdays, October 7-December 16, 2025.

The registration fee is \$50 for members of Huron Pointe Sportsmen's Association and \$60 for those who are not members of Huron Pointe Sportsmen's Association.

For more information, please contact Untamed 4-H Club at [untamed4h@gmail.com](mailto:untamed4h@gmail.com).



**Wolcott Mill Metropark Farm Center**  
Wolcott Farm Center Greenhouse  
65775 Wolcott Rd  
Ray MI 48096

**Huron-Clinton METROPARKS**

**Fecal Parasite Testing for Livestock**

4-H Meets Wolcott: Animal Health Clinic  
Monday December 29, 2025  
1:00pm - 2:30pm  
Ages 8 - Adult

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

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

### 4-H Meets Wolcott: Animal Health Clinic - Fecal Parasite Testing for Livestock

Learn about Fecal Parasite Testing for Livestock at the 4-H Meets Wolcott: Animal Health Clinic from 1-2:30 p.m. on December 29, 2025 at Wolcott Mill Metropark Farm Center, 65775 Wolcott Road, Ray Township. The program is free and is open to ages 8-adult.

Participants will learn to identify internal parasites in their livestock using both qualitative and quantitative methods. They will observe the methods and prepare their own slides, look at the samples under a microscope and learn about common types of parasites and their lifecycles.

[Register online](#) by December 26th. Questions? Contact Nikki at 586-469-5979.





## Other Local News & Events

### Armada Holly Days Parade

The [2025 Armada Holly Days Christmas Parade](#) will be held on **Saturday, December 6, 2025**. The parade will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. If your 4-H club is interested in participating, please fill out the [application](#) by **Wednesday, November 26, 2025**. Application information is needed by the deadline to complete the lineup, prep narrative for announcers, and purchase food. Prizes will be awarded to top floats. If you have any questions, please contact the Armada Fair Office at 586-784-5488 or [office@armadafair.org](mailto:office@armadafair.org).

## Statewide & National 4-H News & Events

### Michigan 4-H Fall 2025 Volunteer Webinar Series

The Michigan 4-H Fall 2025 Volunteer Webinar Series is designed to provide volunteers with a variety of learning opportunities to help them grow as volunteers and support the Michigan 4-H youth. Daytime and evening options are available. Attend one or more sessions. For more information and to register, visit <https://www.canr.msu.edu/.../mi-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series>.

### 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 [here](#).

### Wild Spartans Series returns



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

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

This free virtual series is open to 4-H and non-4-H youth ages 12-19 years. [Pre-registration is required](#).

### 4-H Thriving Model of Positive Youth Development

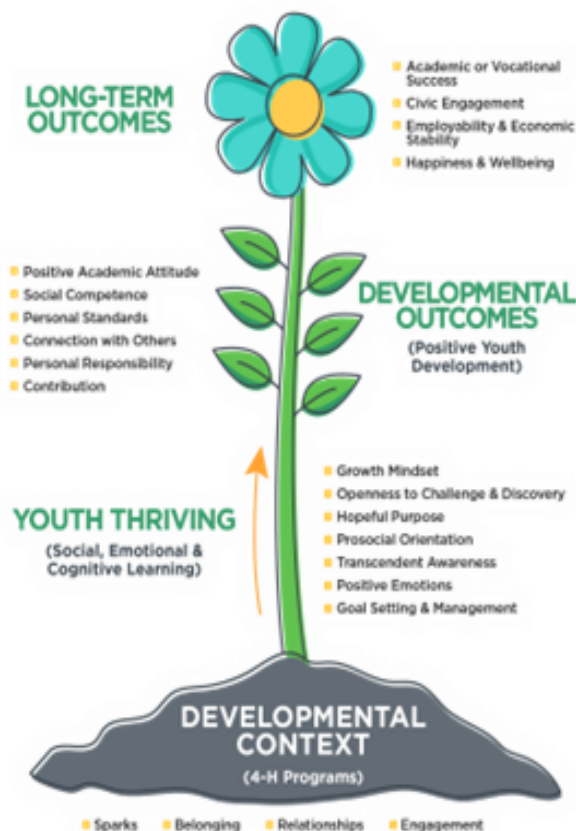
Why 4-H? This is a question asked many times of our youth and adults. What made you want to get involved and what keeps you coming back?

This is the SPARK of 4-H and serves as one of the four developmental context areas of the Thriving Model of Positive Youth Development. We strive to reach our members where they are and help them grow through the 4-H program.

To do this, we need to know what your spark is...

- Is there a specific project that brought you here?
- Is there a project you would like to see us add?
- Did you show up because you had friends in the program?

Reach out to your [local 4-H staff](#) to share your ideas.





## Statewide & National 4-H News & Events (continued)

### 4-H scholarships available!

Outstanding Michigan 4-H members who are involved at county, regional, state, national or international levels are eligible to apply for Michigan 4-H scholarships to help fund their college experience.

A number of scholarship opportunities exist, ranging in value from \$500 to \$10,000 (over the course of four years). Each scholarship has specific eligibility, be sure to read the requirements to see if you qualify. All applications are due by November 1. Learn more and access applications materials [here](#).



### Adulting 101 webinars

Join MSU Extension for its Adulting 101 webinar series! Sessions meet via Zoom and are designed to impart life skills that will help you successfully transition to living independently.

**October 23 (5-6 p.m.)**

[Enjoy your Holidays on a Budget](#)

Explore the benefits of a holiday spending plan, how to prioritize needs vs. wants, and set a comfortable budget. Plus, you'll get creative money-saving tips for a joyful, affordable celebration.

**November 13 (6:30-7:30p.m.)**

[Navigating Tough Talks: Conflict Resolution & Civil Discourse](#)

Learn how to manage disagreements with respect and open-mindedness.

### Join the 4-H Future Squad!

Hey, leaders of tomorrow - if you're age 12-19 and ready to grow skills, make friends, and become beyond ready for your future, join the 4-H Future Squad!

4-H Future Squad is a virtual 4-H club that was inspired by Generation Z youth seeking life skill development for a better future for themselves and their peers. This will be the fifth year of the program, which is designed to help youth feel prepared and ready to take on the future and adulthood.

The club will meet twice a month October 2025 through May 2026, virtually through Zoom. 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!



### Do you know someone deserving of the Michigan 4-H Animal Science Sportsperson of the Year?

Can you think of someone who displayed extraordinary sportsmanship at a recent 4-H animal science program? Perhaps at a club meeting, clinic, or the county fair?

Nominate them for the 2025 Michigan 4-H Animal Science Sportsperson of the Year Award!

This annual award recognizes one youth member and one adult 4-H leader who exemplify the definition of sportsmanship and have gone above and beyond to lend a helping hand to those around them during animal science programs. Nominations are due **October 15**. You can find full details, including the nomination form, [here](#).



## Calendars of Events

### Macomb County 4-H News & Events

**October 7-December 6**

[4-H Youth Archery](#)

6:30-8 p.m. Tuesdays, Huron Pointe Sportsmen's Association, Lenox Twp.

**October 11**

[El Día de los Muertos](#)

1-5 p.m., Thompson Community Center, Warren

**October 13**

Macomb County offices closed

**October 14**

[Macomb County Fall 4-H Leader Update](#)

6 p.m., MSU Extension Assembly Rooms A & B, Clinton Township

**October 15**

Macomb County 4-H Awards [application](#) deadline.

**November 2**

[Farming 101: Animals & Agriculture Kickoff & Farm Tour](#)

10 a.m.-Noon, Wolcott Mill Metropark Farm Center, Ray Township

**November 9**

Macomb County 4-H Horse Project Recognition Banquet

1 p.m., Zuccaro's Banquets & Catering, Chesterfield Township

**November 10**

[Macomb County 4-H Awards Banquet](#)

6:30 p.m., Fern Hill Golf Club, Clinton Township

**November 16**

[Farming 101: Animals & Agriculture \(Horses\)](#)

1 p.m., Wolcott Mill Metropark Farm Center, Ray Twp.

**November 30**

[Farming 101: Animals & Agriculture \(Goats\)](#)

1 p.m., Wolcott Mill Metropark Farm Center, Ray Twp.

### Other Local News & Events

**December 6**

[Armada Holly Days Parade](#)

6:30 p.m. To be in the parade, [apply by November 26](#).

### Statewide and National 4-H News & Events

**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.

**October 4**

[MSU Tollgate Pumpkinfest](#)

10 a.m.-4 p.m., Tollgate Farm, Novi

Pumpkinfest is a family-friendly event at MSU Tollgate Farm. Enjoy a harvest celebration of wagon rides, u-pick pumpkin patch, cider, donuts, food, music and activities on the farm.

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**October 5-11**

[National 4-H Week](#)

Nationwide

For over 100 years, 4-H has inspired families, shaped careers, and impacted communities. During this week, celebrate the impact of 4-H in various ways!

**October 6**

4-H Volunteer Webinar - Beyond Ready: Equipping Youth with Skills for Life

[Noon-1 p.m.](#) or [7-8 p.m.](#), online

Life doesn't come with a manual—but 4-H comes pretty close! Join Michigan 4-H State Leader Jodi Schulz for a fun and practical look at how volunteers can help young people build the skills they need to be Beyond Ready.

**October 14**

[Wild Spartans – Helping Others Help Nature](#)

6:30 p.m., [Online](#)

Join 4-H staff for a look into life working with fisheries and wildlife! This session will feature Trish Brockman, and ecologist with Environmental Consulting & Technology, Inc., who will help to explore the world of helping threatened and endangered wildlife. Open to youth ages 12-19.

**October 15**

[Michigan 4-H Sportsperson of the Year](#) nominations due

**October 23**

4-H Volunteer Webinar - Officers in Action: Empowering Youth Through Leadership Roles

[Noon-1 p.m.](#) or [7-8 p.m.](#), online

Understanding the development of youth is crucial for building strong, positive relationships. Learn how to support club officers in meaningful ways that promote responsibility, teamwork and real-life leadership skills.

**October 23**

[Adulting 101 - Enjoy Your Holidays on a Budget](#)

5-6 p.m., online

**November 1**

Michigan 4-H Scholarship applications due.

**November 13**

[Navigating Tough Talks: Conflict Resolution & Civil Discourse](#)

6:30-7:30 p.m., online

**November 18**

4-H Volunteer Webinar - Empowering Youth through Leadership Roles

[Noon-1 p.m.](#) or [7-8 p.m.](#), online

**December 29**

4-H Meets Wolcott: Animal Health Clinic-Fecal Parasite Testing in Livestock  
1-2:30 p.m., Wolcott Mill Metropark Farm Center, Ray Township

### Macomb County MSU Extension Program Guide

The September issue of the Macomb County MSU Extension Program Guide is now [available online!](#)

Read about [upcoming MSU Extension programs](#) in your area!

**Subscribe today** to receive the guide monthly!