



# 4-H Family News

Oakland County



## 4-H Photo Challenge!

### Oakland County 4-H Photo Challenge!

June 1 – July 30, 2025

Get ready to show off your creativity and 4-H pride! Whether you're working on your fair projects or completing a cool club activity, we want to see it!

*Open to 4-H Youth and Volunteers!*

**Challenge:** Submit photos that best showcase and promote the 4-H project(s) you're preparing for the fair OR a general 4-H club project you're proud of!

**Categories include:**

- Livestock & Animal Projects
- Crafts & Creative Arts
- STEM, Gardening, and More!
- Team/Club Project Displays
- Volunteer Highlights



Scan QR For Link



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Enter by tagging @OaklandCounty4H and using #OC4HPhotoChallenge2025 and use the QR link. Any questions reach out to: Jordan Hewitt at [Hewittj8@msu.edu](mailto:Hewittj8@msu.edu)

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June 1 – July 30, 2025

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👥 Open to:

- 4-H youth (individuals or clubs)
- 4-H volunteers

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🌟 **Categories include:**

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## CONTACT US

MSU Extension – 4-H Youth

1200 N Telegraph Rd

Building 34 East

Pontiac, Michigan

48341

## PHONE & EMAIL:

248-858-0889

[msue.4hoakland@campusad.msu.edu](mailto:msue.4hoakland@campusad.msu.edu)

## WEBSITE:

[Canr.msu.edu/oakland/4-h/](http://Canr.msu.edu/oakland/4-h/)

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## Backyard Chickens

Thinking about raising chickens? Whether you're a parent looking for a great learning opportunity for your child—or an adult ready to embrace a more sustainable lifestyle—backyard poultry is a rewarding journey for all ages. 🍳

Through the 4-H Backyard Chicken class, you can learn about:

- ✓ Daily animal care and responsibility
- ✓ Coop planning, building, and maintenance
- ✓ Safe handling and biosecurity
- ✓ Egg production

Interested in getting started with chickens and joining a supportive network of learners and mentors? Your local 4-H program can help. [Register Here](#)



## Senior Spotlights

### ☀️ Senior Spotlight: Wyatt T. ☀️

🌿 4-H Club: O.C. Poultry 4-H Club

🕒 Years involved in 4-H: 11 Years

🔧 Skills and knowledge gained from 4-H: "So many, the confidence of being around judges and animals."



### ☀️ Senior Spotlight: Laidyn P. ☀️

🌿 4-H Club: Bowers Farm 4-H Club

🕒 Years involved in 4-H: 3 Years

🔧 Skills and knowledge gained from 4-H: "Through my time in 4-H, I've gained valuable hands on experience working with my calf and goats, which has taught me a lot about responsibility, patience, and animal care. Being involved in a big agricultural community has also helped me grow personally. It pushed me out of my comfort zone and gave me the confidence to improve my communication skills and even speak publicly in front of the Oakland County Commissioners during Agricultural Week. That experience was a big step for me. I've also picked up so many new skills by participating in different 4-H events, from showmanship to teamwork and problem solving. Overall, 4-H has helped me become more confident, capable, and connected to my community."



### ☀️ Senior Spotlight: Sadie B. ☀️

🌿 4-H Club: Various clubs but currently O.C. Livestock 4-H Club

🕒 Years involved in 4-H: 10 Years

🔧 Skills and knowledge gained from 4-H: "I think the best skill 4-H gave me was to speak up for myself and for others"





## Oakland County Horse Shows!

Oakland County 4-H Horse Council offers horse shows for all age exhibitors. Show weekends for 2025 are:

May 9 & 10 - Horse Council Kick-Off Show (Fuzzy Horse)  
 May 30 & 31 - Triple B's  
 June 6 & 7 - Mane 2 Tail Connection  
 August 8 & 9 - Paint Creek Valley Grand Finale Show

The park and shows are open to the public! Come check out the 2025 shows at Springfield Oaks County Park, 12451 Andersonville Road, Davisburg.

Visit the website for more information: [Shows – Oakland County Horse Shows](#)



## Oakland County 4-H Horse Camp

June 22-26 | Springfield Oaks County Park

**Registration Closes on June 1st! Register now!**

Join us for a fun, hands-on horse camp perfect for riders of all levels! Enjoy activities like Western Horsemanship, Ranch Riding, Jumping, Gymkhana, Bareback, Mini Horse Driving, and more!

- ◆ Cost:
  - \$250 from April 15 - May 31
  - \$275 after June 1
- ◆ Camping: \$30 per night
- ◆ All meals included!

Make lifelong memories, learn new skills, and ride with fellow horse lovers! Register today! Forms available [HERE](#)

Don't miss out—secure your spot now!



## 4-H State Shooting Sports Tournament

We are excited to announce that registration is now open for the 2025 4-H State Shooting Sports Tournament!

This annual event provides Michigan 4-H shooting sports members with the opportunity to test their skills and earn recognition with other 4-H members from all over the state.

Registration and [more information here!](#)







## Explore the Outdoors with 4-H!

**Nature-Based SPIN Club at Holly Nature Center**

**July 8 – 10, 2025 | 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM Daily**

**Ages 9–13 | Free to Attend | Space is Limited**

**Kids under 11 must be accompanied by an adult**

Join us for three days of hands-on, nature-inspired learning and fun!

### Daily Themes:

- **July 8 – Orienteering:** Learn to navigate with maps and compasses in the great outdoors.
- **July 9 – Cyanotype Printing:** Create beautiful sun prints using natural materials.
- **July 10 – Nature Mindfulness:** Slow down and connect with nature through mindful activities.

 **Location:** Holly Nature Center, 5142 East Holly Rd, Holly, MI

 **Register on 4-H Online [here](#). Club selection: “SPIN Club Holly Nature Center”. Project selection: Environmental Science.**

Contact **Jordan Hewitt** at [hewittj8@msu.edu](mailto:hewittj8@msu.edu) or **Amy Childers** at [childe63@msu.edu](mailto:childe63@msu.edu)



**Explore the Outdoors with 4-H**

July 8 – 10, 2025 | 9:00 – 11:00 AM Daily  
Ages 9–13 | Free to Attend | Space is Limited  
Kids under 11 must be accompanied by an adult

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Register or Learn More:  
Contact Jordan Hewitt at [hewittj8@msu.edu](mailto:hewittj8@msu.edu) or Amy Childers at [childe63@msu.edu](mailto:childe63@msu.edu)

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## Discover 4-H



**DISCOVER 4-H**

August 22, 2025  
12 - 3 PM  
Shepherd Park  
24198 Church St. Oak Park, MI 48237

- ★ Live animal presentations
- ★ Educational, interactive games, crafts, and activities for the whole family
- ★ Learn about 4-H club opportunities available for youth

Looking for volunteers and vendors for this event! Please contact Cheyenne Shields if interested, [shield69@msu.edu](mailto:shield69@msu.edu)

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### FREE Family Fun Event!

**August 22, 2025, 12 – 3 PM**

**Shepherd Park – 24198 Church St. Oak Park, MI 48237**

Join us for a day of games, hands-on activities, and educational fun for the whole family! Hosted by MSU Extension, 4-H, and local partners, this event is a great way to explore what 4-H has to offer youth and families in your community.

We are looking for vendors and volunteers for this event! Please contact Cheyenne if interested, [shield69@msu.edu](mailto:shield69@msu.edu).

## New SPIN Club is looking for YOUR input!

This club will focus on **Art & Dance Therapy**, with the goal of empowering individuals to use creative expression to:

- Enhance mental health
- Foster self-expression
- Build community
- Promote physical well-being

To help us better understand your interests, we've created a quick 6-question survey. Even if you're just curious or think your family might enjoy a program like this, we'd truly appreciate your feedback! <https://forms.office.com/r/ABjp1StaMc>



# 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](https://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](https://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](https://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](https://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](https://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](https://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](http://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/>.