



August 2026

4-H Family News

Ogemaw



Happy August 4-H Families!

It is officially fair month! Here is our fair schedule!

4-H CABIN HOURS:

SUNDAY: 4:00-7:00pm

MONDAY: 8:00am-4:00pm

TUESDAY: 1:00-4:00pm

WEDNESDAY: 1:00-4:00pm

THURSDAY: 1:00-4:00pm

FRIDAY: 10:00am-5:00pm – THANK YOU CARDS & pick up your year pins!

ANIMAL SHOWS

Monday: 9:00am – Judging of Rabbits – Small Animal Barn

Monday: 12:00pm – Judging of Poultry – Small Animal Barn

Monday: 4:00pm – Showman of Showman – Small Animal Barn

Tuesday: 9:00am – Judging of Swine – Chief Ogemaw Pavilion

Tuesday: 1:00pm – Judging of Sheep – Chief Ogemaw Pavilion

Wednesday: 10:00am – Dairy Show – Chief Ogemaw Pavillion

Wednesday: 2:30pm – Goat Show – Chief Ogemaw Pavilion

Thursday: 9:00am – Market & Dairy Beef Show – Chief Ogemaw Pavilion

Thursday: 6:00pm – **Livestock Auction** – Chief Ogemaw Pavilion

Friday: 1:00pm – Showman of Showman – Chief Ogemaw Pavilion

CONTACT US

Stephanie Stephens
4-H Program Coordinator



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208 S. 8th St
West Branch, MI
48661

PHONE & EMAIL:

(989) 345-0692

msue.county@county.msu.edu

WEBSITE:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/ogemaw/4-h/>

<https://www.facebook.com/MSUExtensionOgemawCounty4H>

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Ogemaw County Fair Schedule

Rabbit Show

Monday, August 17th @ 9:00am
Judging of Rabbits
Small Animal Barn



POULTRY SHOW

Monday, August 17th @ Noon
Judging of Poultry
Small Animal Barn



SHOWMAN OF SHOWMANSHIP



MONDAY, AUGUST 17TH @ 4:00PM
SMALL ANIMAL SHOWMAN OF SHOWMANSHIP
SMALL ANIMAL BARN

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21ST @ 1:00PM
LARGE ANIMAL SHOWMAN OF SHOWMANSHIP
CHIEF OGEMAW PAVILION



Ogemaw County Fair Schedule

SWINE SHOW



*Tuesday, August 18th @ 9:00am
Judging of Swine
Chief Ogemaw Pavilion*

Sheep Show

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18TH @ 1:00PM
JUDGING OF SHEEP
CHIEF OGEMAW PAVILION



Dairy Show

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19TH @ 10:00 AM
JUDGING OF DAIRY OPEN & YOUTH
CHIEF OGEMAW PAVILION

GOAT SHOW

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19TH
@ 2:30PM
JUDGING OF GOATS
CHIEF OGEMAW PAVILION





Ogemaw County Fair Schedule

BEEF & DAIRY SHOW

Thursday, August 20th @ 9:00am
Judging of Market Beef & Dairy
Chief Ogemaw Pavilion

OGEMAW COUNTY
FAIR
TRADITION • YOUTH • COMMUNITY
Youth
LIVESTOCK AUCTION

AUGUST 20, 2026 ★ STARTING AT ★ **6 PM** ★
IN THE **CHIEF Ogemaw PAVILION**

★ SUPPORT OUR YOUTH. INVEST IN OUR FUTURE. ★

SHOWMAN OF SHOWMANSHIP



MONDAY, AUGUST 17TH @ 4:00PM
SMALL ANIMAL SHOWMAN OF SHOWMANSHIP
SMALL ANIMAL BARN

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21ST @ 1:00PM
LARGE ANIMAL SHOWMAN OF SHOWMANSHIP
CHIEF OGEMAW PAVILION



4-H CABIN HOURS



SUNDAY: 4:00-7:00pm

MONDAY: 8:00am-4:00pm

TUESDAY: 1:00-4:00pm

WEDNESDAY: 1:00-4:00pm

THURSDAY: 1:00-4:00pm

**FRIDAY: 10:00am-5:00pm – THANK YOU CARDS
& pick up your year pins!**



HERE IS SOME OF THE GOOD STUFF 4-H OFFERS!

We need participants. REGISTRATION OPEN! 4-H Hiking Club will be taking place Saturdays (Exact dates to be determined based upon registration, likely beginning in August) from 10:00-11:00am. Locations will vary. The first meeting will occur at Ogemaw Hills Pathway 651 S Fairview Rd. Registration is open to youth ages 8-14.

Register here: <https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>

If youth have not participated in 4-H previously, they will need to register for 4-H. (It's free)

We will email a list of locations, please know that is the best way to communicate with everyone.

If you have any questions, please email steph544@msu.edu or call 989-345-0692.



4-H HIKING CLUB

CLUB INCLUDES

- ✓ Exercise by Hiking
- ✓ Exercise Education
- ✓ Nutrition Education
- ✓ Heart Rate Monitoring

DATES

**SATURDAYS
TO BE DETERMINED
10-11AM
AGES 8-14**

REGISTRATION OPEN

LOCATIONS VARY

Hiking locations will occur around West Branch and Lupton.
Email communications will be important for this club to give updated meeting locations.

Registration open:
<https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>

First meeting will be at:
651 S Fairview Rd, West Branch, MI 48661

For any questions please email steph544@msu.edu or call 989-345-0692

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Crafty Clover Club

Inspiring Creativity and Fair Participation

Ogemaw County 4-H recently offered the Crafty Clover Exhibition Club for youth ages 5-14, providing hands-on opportunities to explore creativity while learning how to create projects eligible for exhibition at the Ogemaw County Fair.

Throughout the club, youth completed a variety of projects including clay creations, recycled material crafts, stepping stones, popsicle stick projects, bracelets, and more. Participants developed new skills, expressed their creativity, and gained confidence as they completed their own unique projects.

The club was well received by youth and families and encouraged participants to consider exhibiting their work at the fair. One parent shared that her son was so disappointed when he learned the club had finished meeting, a testament to how much he enjoyed the experience and looked forward to attending each session.

The success of the Crafty Clover Club highlights the power of 4-H's learning by doing approach. By providing a fun and supportive environment, the club helped youth build new skills, explore their interests, and create projects they can proudly showcase at the county fair.



**Beyond
Ready**





STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Building work
readiness skills
through 4-H**



Beyond Ready

4-H programs create intentional opportunities for youth to build essential work readiness skills that prepare them for future success. Through structured, hands-on activities, young people practice communication, collaboration, problem solving and time management. Volunteers play a key role by guiding youth through meaningful tasks, helping them set goals, and encouraging personal responsibility and follow through.

As youth take on leadership roles, complete project work, and participate in real-world or simulated experiences, they begin to demonstrate growth in professionalism, work ethic and organizational skills. Every activity can help youth connect what they are learning in 4-H to what will be expected of them in the workplace.

How is your club helping youth build the skills they need to be work ready?

#BeyondReady

July 1 - August 7: Michigan 4-H License Plate Promotion Contest

Online

As part of the Michigan State Fair 4-H and Youth Virtual Showcase, youth ages 8-19 are invited to create a video or non-video promotional piece encouraging others to purchase the 4-H license plate.
www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-license-plate-promotion-contest

July 1 - August 7: Michigan 4-H Business Pitch Contest

Online

Participants may present a business they already own, currently operate or hope to start in the future, including product, service or community impact ideas. Youth will create a two-minute video pitch introducing themselves, explaining their business idea, identifying the problem they are solving, and sharing why their product or service stands out.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan4-hbusinesspitchcontest

August 12: Adulting 101 – Roadmap to a Smart Used Car Purchase

Online

Are you wanting to purchase a used car, but have no idea where to start? Learn tips, resources and strategies to help you make an informed decision with confidence.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting-101-roadmap-to-a-smart-used-car-purchase

August 13-16: 2025 Michigan 4-H State Horse Show

MSU Pavilion, East Lansing, Mich.

This annual event brings together 4-H members from counties across Michigan. Members are selected by their county 4-H programs to participate; spectators are welcome.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-state-horse-show

August 17-20: 4-H Garden Adventures Summer Camp 2026

Traverse City, Mich.

Join us for fun adventures in nature, nurturing resilience, kindness, community and creativity. This camp is designed to encourage sustainability and growth from the inside out through a fun and engaging hands-on approach. Register by August 17.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-garden-adventures-summer-camp-2026-session-2

September 9: Welcome Back MSU 4-H Alumni Reception

Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens, East Lansing, Mich.

Join MSU Extension for the ninth annual Welcome Back MSU 4-H Alumni Reception. If you are a current or former 4-H'er attending MSU this fall, stop by the Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. for networking and free dinner!

www.canr.msu.edu/events/msu-welcome-week-4-h-alumni-reception





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Michigan 4-H alumni & supporters invited to get connected by the clover!

As a valuable member of the Michigan 4-H community, you already know the importance of the 4-H connection. We invite those age 18 and older to take that 4-H connection one step further by joining a new statewide community of 4-H supporters: Michigan 4-H Alumni & Friends.

The Michigan 4-H Alumni & Friends database will connect 4-H families, alumni, volunteers, supporters and others across Michigan with one another – connecting them by the clover! We hope you will take a few moments to sign-up for this free community and grow your connection.

As a member of Michigan 4-H Alumni & Friends, you will receive information about opportunities to support 4-H youth and programs; 4-H programming and participants; upcoming events for the Michigan 4-H Alumni & Friends community and more!.

Michigan 4-H Alumni & Friends is open to anyone age 18+ who cares about Michigan 4-H: 4-H parents, staff members, volunteers, grandparents, supporters, partner organization representatives, donors and more. Learn more about Michigan 4-H Alumni & Friends and find the link to join by visiting extension.msu.edu/Michigan4HA&F.



Going home: Biosecurity tips for animals that travel off the farm

Adapted from: https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/biosecurity_tips_for_animals_that_went_to_the_county_fair.

Animals that are exhibited at the county fair, jackpot shows, and other exhibitions are likely near and dear to their exhibitor's hearts. [Michigan State University Extension](https://extension.msu.edu) offers these biosecurity steps exhibitors can take to protect their show animals and those that were left at home once the event has ended.

- Keep animals that left home separate from animals that did not for a minimum of 14 days. If at all possible, do not allow nose-to-nose contact and provide as much distance between animals.
- Disinfect all buckets, feeders, tools and footwear that left home.
- Throw away any feed or hay that left home.
- Always wear clean clothes and footwear. Boot coverings may be helpful when caring for isolated animals.
- Take care of animals that stayed home from the show first, and animals that were at the show second. Do not go back and forth between animals as this increases the risk of cross-contamination.
- Do not eat or drink in the barn.
- Observe animals daily for signs and symptoms of illness, such as:
 - Obvious pain or discomfort
 - Decrease in appetite and water intake
 - Fever
 - Lethargy
 - Diarrhea or changes in consistency in manure
 - Discharge from nasal cavity or eyes
 - Overall weakness

Care of animals after traveling is just as critical as their pre-show care. Exhibited animals were exposed to new animal populations and fair-goers, and will typically experience a lot of stress during their time away from home. By practicing these biosecurity steps, you can help keep all of your animals safe and healthy.





COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Ogemaw 4-H Livestock Meetings

January 21, 2026 | 6:00pm | MSU Extension Office 205 S 8th St West Branch, MI 48661

March 18, 2026 | 6:00pm | MSU Extension Office 205 S 8th St West Branch, MI 48661

May 20, 2026 | 6:00pm | MSU Extension Office 205 S 8th St West Branch, MI 48661

July 15, 2026 | 6:00pm | MSU Extension Office 205 S 8th St West Branch, MI 48661

September 16, 2026 | 6:00pm | MSU Extension Office 205 S 8th St West Branch, MI 48661

November 18, 2026 | 6:00pm | MSU Extension Office 205 S 8th St West Branch, MI 48661

Ogemaw 4-H Council Meetings

January 21, 2026 | 7:00pm | MSU Extension Office 205 S 8th St West Branch, MI 48661

March 18, 2026 | 7:00pm | MSU Extension Office 205 S 8th St West Branch, MI 48661

May 20, 2026 | 7:00pm | MSU Extension Office 205 S 8th St West Branch, MI 48661

July 15, 2026 | 7:00pm | MSU Extension Office 205 S 8th St West Branch, MI 48661

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Ogemaw County

MSU Extension Office

208 S. 8th St

West Branch, MI

48661

(989) 345-0692

msue.county@county.msu.edu





VOLUNTEER WITH MICHIGAN 4-H

Michigan 4-H is the youth development program of Michigan State University Extension. Through fun, hands-on educational opportunities, Michigan 4-H is helping to prepare a ready generation in a world of change. And critical to delivering these opportunities are volunteers – the most essential partner in the 4-H program.

Consider becoming a Michigan 4-H volunteer today and help to prepare the next generation. By giving your time, talent and skills, you can help ready youth for whatever the future holds. Give an hour a week, month or year – there are volunteer roles for any skill level, time commitment and interest area.

With your help, more kids will be ready to take on the world. More youth, more community, more ready!



Ready to get started?

Volunteer experiences are available in every Michigan county with opportunities to engage at the local, state, national and even international level. To get started, simply scan the QR code or visit extension.msu.edu/4Hvolunteers. To connect with 4-H in your county, contact:



Ogemaw County MSU Extension

205 S 8th St West Branch, MI 48661

Program Coordinator: Stephanie Stephens

989-345-0692 or steph544@msu.edu

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension



Beyond Ready





4-H MERCHANDISE

Looking to represent 4-H for our county? We are happy to provide merchandise for Ogemaw County 4-H! Explore our collection of stylish t-shirts and hoodies, available in a variety of colors and sizes for both youth and adults. Every purchase helps to promote and celebrate the local impact of 4-H. You can receive an additional 15% off your purchase by applying the code **15OFF4-HOC** at checkout. If you're looking to save even more, feel free to select in-store pickup with 313 Designs located at 313 W. Houghton Ave. STE A. West Branch, MI 48661. Don't miss out—grab yours today!

Shop Here: <https://www.313designswb.com/shop/4-h/Y5YHVJHU7LCX5C2QZGFPSTSC>

*Please note, we do not have these available for purchase in the office, they are available online only.





2026 Calendar of Statewide Animal Science Events

4-H Animal Science Staff

Autumn Converse
4-H Livestock and Veterinary
Science Educator
conver20@msu.edu

David Lindsay
4-H Equine Educator
lindsa75@msu.edu

Kendra Van Order
4-H Dairy Educator
vanorde4@msu.edu

Jermo Reese
4-H Animal Science Program
Instructor
reesejer@msu.edu

Jacob Stieg
4-H Poultry Point of Contact
stieg@msu.edu

Kat VanDouser
4-H Dog Point of Contact
krollkat@msu.edu

Glenda Weiss
4-H Rabbit & Cavy Point of Contact
weissgle@msu.edu

January 24	4-H State Rabbit Show
Feb. 27- March 1	4-H Dairy Conference
March 7	4-H Spring Livestock Workshop
March 14	4-H Horse Communications Contest
March 21-22	Norma Agnew 4-H Hairy Horse Show
March 21	4-H Rabbit and Cavy Workshop
March 22	4-H Rabbit and Cavy Quiz Bowl
April 11	4-H & FFA Horse Judging State Contest
April 12	4-H Hippology State Contest
May 6	4-H & FFA Meats Judging State Contest
June 10-11	Michigan Youth Livestock Judging Camp
June 27	4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl
July 1	4-H & FFA Livestock Judging State Contest
July 6-7 & 8-9	4-H Animal and Veterinary Science Camp
July 13-16	4-H Youth Dairy Days
August 13-16	4-H State Horse Show
September 19	4-H State Dog Show



Scan me for more
information about these
programs!

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