



July 2026

4-H Family News

Ogemaw



Happy July 4-H Families!



We are going to have a float in the parades for Skidway Lake on Friday, July 3rd at 11:00am, Saturday July 4th in Rose City at 4:00pm and West Branch at 6:00pm. We would be thankful to anyone who is willing to wear your 4-H shirt and walk in the parade while passing out candy. Please contact Andrew Walker for more information 989-780-4213

Can you believe that fair is NEXT MONTH!? Make sure to have your buyer sheets turned into the fairgrounds by July 10th. Also, make sure you are completing your exhibitor entry form. Club leaders are happy to help if you need assistance with this process. Families are welcome to stop by and purchase t-shirts and record book covers prior to fair. We are open Monday-Friday 8:30am-4:30pm

Please note: I will be out of the country and unavailable from July 20-24. If you have any needs while I am off, please contact the office front desk, Felicia Frantz at felicia.frantz@affiliate.msu.edu or call 989-345-0692 and select the prompt to speak with the front desk. If you need anything urgently or there is some kind of issue that arises, please contact my supervisor Sara Malone at malones@msu.edu or ph. 989-306-7745.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Stephens
4-H Program Coordinator

CONTACT US

Stephanie Stephens
4-H Program Coordinator



MSU Extension Office
208 S. 8th St
West Branch, MI
48661

PHONE & EMAIL:

(989) 345-0692

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WEBSITE:

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

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

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STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Preparing youth to be Beyond Ready through the fair experience



Beyond Ready

The fair experience is more than a showcase; it's a powerful opportunity to prepare youth to be Beyond Ready for life. Through exhibiting their projects, interacting with judges and engaging with the public, young people practice real-world skills such as communication, responsibility, problem-solving and professionalism.

When volunteers create intentional learning moments, like encouraging youth to reflect on project growth, prepare for interviews or take leadership roles in their clubs, youth deepen their understanding and strengthen skills that extend far beyond the fairgrounds. Every fair interaction becomes a stepping stone toward future readiness.

Is your club helping youth make those connections and see how fair experiences prepare them for what comes next?

#BeyondReady

July 13-15: Michigan 4-H Dairy Days

Farm Bureau Pavilion, Lansing

Join 4-H members from around Michigan July 13-15 at the Farm Bureau Pavilion for Michigan 4-H Youth Dairy Days! Dairy Days is part of Michigan Dairy Expo, a celebration of dairy farmers and dairy cattle in the Great Lakes State.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/2026-michigan-4-h-youth-dairy-days

July 16: Water Day

Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens, East Lansing

Come cool off from the summer heat and have fun in the garden with water. Play water games, do water art and explore all things fun about water. Come ready to get wet!

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

July 20-21: Saginaw Bay Fish Camp

Haithco Park, Saginaw

This two-day camp will teach youth to fish and protect our Great Lakes. All campers receive a fishing rod with a reel, tackle box, t-shirt and snacks. Learn about knot-tying, tackle crafting, casting, aquatic ecology, angler ethics and more! Open to 4-H members ages 8-13. Registration deadline is July 10.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/2026-saginaw-bay-4-h-fish-camp

July 23: Bug Day at the Children's Gardens

Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens, East Lansing

Join for a tribute to insects in the gardens. Collect, observe and even make bugs! The MSU Bug House will also be on site with their collections of insects from all over the world.

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

July 27: 4-H Garden Adventures Summer Camp

The Botanic Garden at Historic Barns Park, Traverse City

Youth ages 7-12- are invited to join this camp for fun adventures in nature, nurturing resilience, kindness, community and creativity as they explore sustainability and growth through an engaging, hands-on approach.

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

July 30: Bubble Day at the Children's Gardens

Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens, East Lansing

Come celebrate summer vacation at the garden with bubbles! Youth will paint, eat and even make music with bubbles.

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





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Join the Michigan State Fair 4-H & Youth Virtual Showcase!

MSU Extension is thrilled to partner again in 2026 with the [Michigan State Fair](#) on an exciting program for Michigan youth: the Michigan State Fair 4-H & Youth Virtual Showcase. This statewide showcase provides a virtual platform for youth across Michigan to exhibit their work in all project areas and apply for up to \$1,000 in scholarships. Any Michigan youth ages 5-19 is encouraged to participate; 4-H membership is not required.

There is no cost to participate and youth may engage in as many classes as they wish by [submitting project photos and videos](#). **Be sure to submit your entries by the registration deadline of August 7 at 5 p.m.** Project evaluation will occur before the start of the Michigan State Fair so that winners can be announced at the event. Learn more, find helpful resources and registration links at www.canr.msu.edu/virtual-showcase/State-Fair-Virtual-Showcase/.



2026 MSF 4-H & Youth Showcase Business Pitch Contest

Got a business idea? Whether your business is already running, just getting started or still an idea, we want to hear your pitch! Enter the Michigan State Fair 4-H & Youth Virtual Showcase and share your entrepreneurial skills in a two-minute video!

Entries will be judged on creativity, communication, understanding of the target audience, and overall presentation skills. Winners in each age division will receive gift card prizes (\$75, \$50, \$25) sponsored by Michigan State University Federal Credit Union and be recognized through Michigan 4-H communications and social media. For more information, visit Department 73 of the fair book at www.canr.msu.edu/virtual-showcase/State-Fair-Virtual-Showcase/.

2026 MSF 4-H & Youth Showcase Michigan 4-H License Plate Promotion Contest

Michigan youth ages 8–19 are invited to enter the Michigan 4-H License Plate Promotion Contest as part of the Michigan State Fair 4-H & Youth Virtual Showcase! Create a short video and/or design a poster, flyer or graphic that encourages others to purchase the Michigan 4-H license plate and you could win. Prizes will be awarded and winners will be featured on Michigan 4-H social media channels. Put your creativity to work and help spread the word about 4-H across Michigan! For more information, visit Department 73 of the fair book at: www.canr.msu.edu/virtual-showcase/State-Fair-Virtual-Showcase/.

New scholarships for Michigan 4-H'ers!

The Michigan 4-H Foundation is pleased to offer new scholarship opportunities to Michigan 4-H members for fall 2026. Nearly \$30,000 in post-secondary 4-H scholarships are available for the 2026–2027 academic year to high school seniors or incoming college freshmen. Youth must have participated in 4-H for three or more years.

These scholarships are made possible through generous support from 4-H alumni, retirees and friends of 4-H. Apply by September 1 at mi4hfdtn.org/scholarship.



YARD SIGNS

We have 4-H Yard signs available! If you would like to show your support this summer, please pick up your 4-H sign at the MSU Extension office. 205 S 8th St. West Branch, MI 48661
Our office hours are Monday-Friday 8:30am-4:30pm



We do ask that these be returned at the end of summer please



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

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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



Has MSU Extension made a difference in your life?

Whether through 4-H, nutrition education, farm programs, or financial resources, we'd love to hear your story!

If MSU Extension has had an impact on you, please share it with us. Include:

- A photo of you from your younger years
- A current photo
- A brief story about how MSU Extension helped shape your journey

Your story could inspire others and showcase the lasting value of Extension programs across Michigan!



How it started.

HOW'S IT GOING?

Share your 4-H alumni #BeyondReady story!



**Beyond
Ready**

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Extension

WWW.CANR.MSU.EDU/4H/EVENTS



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
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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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