



JUNE 2026

4-H Family News

Washtenaw County



4-H Youth Show Sponsorships Needed!

We are now accepting sponsorships for the Washtenaw County 4-H Youth Show! The Washtenaw County 4-H Youth Show strives to provide families with educational experiences that are affordable and accessible to all.

As the costs to run the 4-H Youth Show continue to rise, we rely on the generosity of our community to help us continue offering this meaningful experience for our 4-H youth.

Sponsors are needed for the many trophies, plaques and awards distributed to youth, as well as the multitude of costs incurred to hold this event. [Check out the Sponsorship Form](#). We also have a listed of [Awards to Sponsor](#).

We also need help from our 4-H members to reach out to local businesses, community members, and other contacts to help us fill all of our sponsorships. This is a great opportunity for youth to build public speaking skills and spread the word about 4-H in our communities!

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS:

Livestock & Dairy Committee

June 11th at 7 pm at the MSU Extension Office

4-H Youth Show Registration Closes

June 12th at 11:59 pm

Horse Association Meeting

June 23rd at 7 pm at the MSU Extension Office

Still Project Committee Meeting

June 23rd at 6:30 pm on Zoom

4-H Youth Show Leaders Meeting

June 22nd at 6:30 pm at the MSU Extension Office

Horse Association Horse Packet Stuffing

July 7th at 7 pm at the MSU Extension Office

4-H Youth Show Superintendents Meeting

July 9th at 7 pm at the MSU Extension Office

CONTACT US

Amy Harris

4-H Program Coordinator

harr1976@msu.edu

Jenny Speyer

4-H Program Instructor

speyerje@msu.edu

705 N. Zeeb Rd.,
P.O. Box 8645
Ann Arbor, Michigan
48107

PHONE & EMAIL:

734-997-1678

msue.washtenaw@county.msu.edu

WEBSITE:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/washtenaw/>

Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status. Issued in furtherance of MSU Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Quentin Tyler, Director, MSU Extension, East Lansing, MI 48824. This information is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names does not imply endorsement by MSU Extension or bias against those not mentioned.



COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Washtenaw County 4-H Youth Show FairEntry Registration Open



Registration for the Washtenaw County 4-H Youth Show is now open! Registration is open from now until June 12th at 11:59 pm.

There will be a late fee of \$50 per exhibitor for 4-H Youth Show entries not submitted or requested changes after the June 12th FairEntry deadline. See [page 7 of the 4-H Youth Show Book](#) for all the details on this fee and deadlines for late submissions.

For those who do not have internet access, online registrations may be completed at the MSU Extension office from June 2nd until June 12th. Let us know when you are planning to come in so we can make sure staff are available. We are also offering FairEntry office hours on June 10th from 5-8pm, June 11th from 3-6:30 pm and again on June 12th till 5:00pm.

If you plan to attend, you MUST bring a list of entries that your 4-H'er wants to enter. We will not be able to provide help picking specific entries for your child. Contact 4-H staff before the deadline to schedule an appointment at 734-997-1678.

[The 4-H Youth Show Book for 2026 is now available online](#) and changes are marked in gray. Books are available for purchase at the MSU Extension Office for a cost of \$7 cash or check (exact change please). Our office is open Monday-Friday from 8:30 am – 3:30 pm and closed for lunch from 12-1 pm.

Save the Dates: Upcoming 4-H Youth Show Related Meetings

We want to remind our 4-H Leaders and Superintendents that we have a few upcoming meetings to prepare for the Washtenaw County 4-H Youth Show. If you are a 4-H Club Leader and unable to attend, please send a parent or volunteer from your club. If you are a superintendent and cannot attend any of these, please let Amy (harr1976@msu.edu) know! We will cover important information on logistics, policies, and required volunteer hours at these meetings and we do not want 4-H Clubs to miss out on this information.



- **4-H Youth Show Leader Meeting on June 22nd at 6:30 pm at the MSU Extension Office**
 - 4-H Club leaders will turn in pen counts, pen fees, youth exhibitor fees, and sign ups.
- **4-H Horse Association Horse Packet Stuffing on July 7th at 7 pm at the MSU Extension Office**
 - 4-H horse and pony exhibitors and volunteers help stuff packets for the 4-H Youth Show.
- **Youth Show Superintendents Meeting on July 9th at 6:30 pm at the MSU Extension Office**
 - Superintendents will receive their boxes and go over set up instructions for WFCG Staff, and FairEntry.



COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Now Accepting 2026 Washtenaw County 4-H Scholarship Applications

We are now accepting applications for the Washtenaw County 4-H Scholarship listed below. There is also a Washtenaw County Farm Bureau Scholarship for youth ages 15-19 years old. Below are the deadlines for the applications and links to the application forms. These are great opportunities for youth to apply and practice their application skills! Questions? Please contact Jenny Speyer, 4-H Program Instructor at speyerje@msu.edu



- [Washtenaw County 4-H Dairy Scholarship](#): Due July 1st
- [Washtenaw County 4-H Poultry Scholarship](#): Due July 1st
- [Washtenaw County 4-H Scholarship](#): For 2027 Seniors, Due September 4th
- [Washtenaw County Farm Bureau Outstanding Involvement in Agriculture Award for 4-H Member](#): Due August 3rd

Washtenaw County 4-H Youth Show Camping with Washtenaw Farm Council



If you are interested in camping at the Washtenaw County 4-H Youth Show the week of July 19th - July 25th, please contact the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds Staff as soon as possible via email at wfc5500@gmail.com with the following information:

- Your Name
- Your 4-H Club
- Your Requested Amperage (30 or 50)
- Your Stay Duration .

There are a limited number of camping spots so act quickly to secure your spot. The 4-H Office does not coordinate camping so do not reach out to our office with questions.

Washtenaw 4-H Horse Association is Looking for Youth Delegates and Adult Volunteers for the State Horse Show August 13-16

The Michigan 4-H State Horse Show will be hosted on August 13-16th and Washtenaw has space for 17 delegates to attend. Before youth can register, we must fill our volunteer quota. We will need at least 3 adult volunteers this year. Adults interested in volunteering (you must be Silver or willing to go through the volunteer screening process), should contact Amy at harr1976@msu.edu. Once our volunteers are secured, the youth registration is first come, first served and youth have until July 2nd to register.



If you have a youth interested in attending, please contact Amy Harris, harr1976@msu.edu.



COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Still Project Judges, Clerks, and Runners Needed for 4-H Youth Show



Every club with member(s) participating in Still Projects of any type (Dept 60 and higher) is **required** to provide at least one full shift clerk or runner or at least two half shift clerks or runners to assist with judging. Remember, the 4-H Youth Show can't happen without YOU!

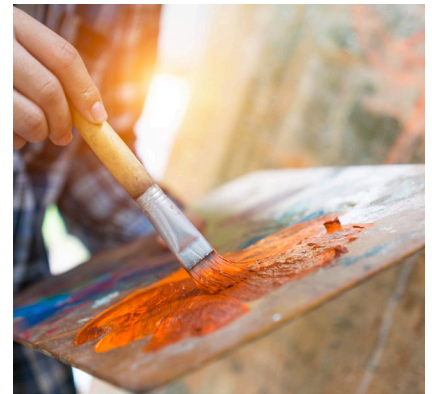
Clerks and runners are needed Sunday, July 19th, 12:30 PM-4:30 PM in Building B (Open Pavilion). Clerk Orientation **MUST** be completed prior to this time either in person at the Youth Show or with our Still Project Superintendents before hand. Clerks and runners can be **anyone** who

meets the age requirements— 4-H members, parents, leaders, alumni, grandparents, friends, etc. However, Clerks do need to be Silver Level Volunteers. Check out the [Sign Up Form](#) for more information on the roles and age requirements. We are also looking for Still Project Judges who are flexible and have expertise in various Still Project Areas. If you know someone interested, please contact Jean Martin, jmmartin@umich.edu.

Club & Individual Trash Cans Available after June 6th

Does your club or 4-H'er need a trash can to decorator for the Washtenaw County 4-H Youth Show? Come pick them up at the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd, Ann Arbor, MI starting June 6th. Trash cans will be outside the main gate for you to pick up.

Keep in mind we recycle trash cans so they will not be brand new, and you will likely have to paint over a previous design. If you want a brand-new trash can, clubs are welcome to buy one and donate it to the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds.



Traveling Trophies & Plaques Due Back to the MSU Extension Office by July 1



If you won a traveling trophy or plaque last year at the Washtenaw County 4-H Youth Show, it is now time to return these items to the MSU Extension Office. The office is open Monday-Friday 8:30 am – 3:30 pm (closed for lunch from 12-1 pm). If you need to schedule a time outside those hours, please contact us.

Trophies and plaques should be returned no later than July 1st so we can assess their status and polish them up for the next recipient. These trophies mean a lot to the 4-H program, and particularly to the families who donated most of them in memory of a past 4-H participant and family member. Thank you for being a good trophy steward!



COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Washtenaw County 4-H Member Genevieve Peale is a Washtenaw County Young Citizen of the Year Winner

Congratulations to Washtenaw County 4-H Member Genevieve Peale from All Around 4-H Club who is one of five Young Citizens of the Year for 2026! The Washtenaw County Youth Citizen of the Year Award, which includes a \$4,500 scholarship, annually recognizes high school students across the county for outstanding achievement in out-of-school volunteerism and community service. The award program was started by The Ann Arbor News in 1998 to honor teens who give back.

Genevieve received this award for her volunteer and community service work in 4-H and through her church.

Genevieve has led several rabbit workshops across our county and is also a member of the Washtenaw County 4-H Ambassadors.

The article she gave 4-H a shout out explaining: "I really think (4-H) helped me develop strong skills of being comfortable in talking to people and finding the interests I had... It helped give me a space to explore different paths that might (work) for what I want to do, so exploring the responsibilities of raising animals, and then, exploring the creative side of doing the arts and crafts and skills."

You can read the whole article about all the winners on [MLive](#).

We love to see our Washtenaw County 4-H members recognized for their leadership and service!



Save the Date: Washtenaw County Bicentennial Rodeo on June 26th



Washtenaw County will celebrate it's Bicentennial this year, having been founded 200 years ago in 1826. To honor this milestone, Washtenaw County is hosting several events throughout the year. One event will be the Washtenaw County Youth Rodeo hosted at the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds on Friday June 26th. Washtenaw County 4-H is partnering with the County and details are coming soon!

We will be asking for 4-H clubs, members, and volunteers interested in helping lead activities in the barns and share about 4-H at this event. We will have times and more information soon. If you are interested, please contact Amy or Jenny.



COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Washtenaw County 4-H Youth are Getting Ready for the 4-H Youth Show!

As we get closer and closer the 4-H Youth Show, many of our 4-H youth are getting their projects ready. This includes Still Projects, Horse Projects, Small Animal Projects, and Livestock Projects! Check out the photos below from 4-H'ers Clara Hess and Aida Dauw of Blue Ribbon Livestock 4-H Club working with their steers and picking up feeders.

You can always send in your photos of 4-H'ers working with animal projects or on their Still Projects to [Jenny Speyer](#) to be featured in an upcoming newsletter. We appreciate the opportunity to show off what our 4-H'ers are up to!



Resources: MSU Extension Articles about 4-H and Fairs










Fair time can be a great time of year, but also comes with some stress and exhaustion. As you move into Fair season, check out these great resources from Michigan State University Extension 4-H Educators about getting ready for fairs and the positive experiences we see from our 4-H'ers at fairs.

- [How to be an involved 4-H parent in 10 easy steps – Step 9: 4-H and the county fair](#)
- [Why are fairs so important to 4-H?](#)
- [Smiles, laughter, and life lessons at the fair](#)
- [The magic of fair](#)



June 2026



Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thur	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9  	10 5-8pm FairEntry Office Hours 6:30 pm - 4-H Ambassadors Meeting	11 3:30-6:30 pm FairEntry Office Hours 7pm - Livestock & Dairy Committee Meeting	12  LAST DAY for FairEntry for 4-H Youth Show! Staff in Office until 5 pm	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 8 am - 4-H Club Leader FairEntry Edits due	20
4-H Club Leaders Review 4-H Youth Show Entries June 15-19, Superintendents Review June 19 th - 26th						
21	22  6:30pm - 4-H Youth Show Leader Meeting	23 6:30/7pm - Horse Board and Ass'n Meeting  6:30pm - Still Projects Committee Meeting	24	25 	26 Washtenaw Co Bicentennial Rodeo  Superintenden ts FairEntry Edits due	27
4-H Exploration Days!						
28	29	30	31	July 1 Traveling Trophies Due Back to Office 	July 2 State Horse Show Deadline to Register 	



STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Preparing Youth to Be Beyond Ready Through 4-H Livestock Projects



Beyond Ready

4-H livestock projects provide powerful, real-world learning that helps youth become Beyond Ready for life, work and leadership. Caring for animals teaches responsibility, time management and problem solving, all of which are essential skills for future success. Through chores, recordkeeping and making informed decisions, youth practice accountability and perseverance.

Livestock projects also build confidence as members explain their work to judges, interact with buyers and demonstrate professionalism in the show ring. When volunteers encourage reflection, support goal setting, and help youth connect these experiences to life beyond the barn, young people begin to see how their efforts today prepare them for tomorrow. Are your project activities helping youth become Beyond Ready?

#BeyondReady

June 6: 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. Find new caches, trade travel bugs, explore the gardens and much more.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/garden-geocache

June 9: Online Extension Extras for Parents: Internet Safety

Online

Screens are everywhere, and children are spending more and more time in front of them. This session will discuss topics including steps to take to keep kids safe online, apps youth use and their safety, Michigan laws, and more.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/online-internet-safety-6-9-26

June 11: Adulting 101 – AI and You: Smart, Safe and Savvy

Online

As part of the Michigan 4-H Adulting 101 webinar series, this session will explore the basics of how artificial intelligence works, ways it can support you, and how to make smart decisions.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/ai_and_you

June 18: Pirate and Pixie Garden Party

Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens, East Lansing

Argh me mateys. Join a morning of swashbuckling fun! Go on a treasure hunt, making pixie dust, decorate an eye patch and more!

www.canr.msu.edu/events/pirate-and-pixie-garden-party

June 23: 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 communities.

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

July 1: 4-H and FFA Livestock Judging State Contest

Farm Bureau Pavilion, East Lansing

Participants will demonstrate their livestock evaluation and selection skills, as well as improve communication and decision-making skills. Register by June 15.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-and-ffa-livestock-judging-state-contest-2026





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 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 15. Find registration information at www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-and-ffa-livestock-judging-state-contest-2026.



MSU Extension honors 11 Michigan 4-H volunteers for 50 years of service in 2026

For the sixth 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.

“We give thanks for every volunteer in our program,” said Quentin Tyler, director of MSU Extension. “Michigan 4-H would not exist as it does today without the dedication of volunteers who generously share their gifts, and these 11 remarkable individuals in particular have been sharing their gifts for a half-century. We offer them our sincere and heartfelt appreciation for all they’ve done for our organization and Michigan 4-H’ers.”

The Michigan 4-H 50-year volunteers being recognized in 2026 are:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| • Kay Booth, Barry County | • Deb Pincumbe, Ingham County |
| • Joyce Goerge, Clinton County | • Linda Preston, Cass County |
| • Betty Groth, Cass County, | • Peter Preston, Cass County |
| • Beverly Koppelman, Monroe County | • Kathy Williams, St. Clair County |
| • Gary Koppelman, Monroe County | • Mary Yeomans, Midland County |
| • Michael Lee, Osceola 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/>.