



May 2025

4-H Family News

WAYNE COUNTY



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Wayne County Upcoming Events

Earth Explorers- Seed and Soil Science: Dig In and Grow!

Join us for an exciting, hands-on workshop where you'll dig into the world of seeds and soils! Discover the different types of soil and explore which one gives seeds the best chance to grow. You'll get to touch and compare dry and wet soil textures, then plant seeds in different soil types to test their growth potential. Best of all, you'll take home your planted seeds to observe and discover if your chosen soil is the key to success. Get your hands dirty and grow your curiosity! Advance registration is required for \$5/participant.

Date: May 20, 2025, 6-7pm

Location: Livonia Parks and Recreation, Greenmead Friends Meeting House

20501 Newburgh Road, Livonia, MI 48152

Registration: [Register Here!](#)

(<https://livonia.gov/Calendar.aspx?EID=3941&month=5&year=2025&day=20&calType=0>)

EARTH EXPLORERS! **Seed and Soil Science: Dig In and Grow!**



Greenmead Historical Park's
Friends Meeting House

Tuesday, May 20, 6-7 p.m.



Join us for an exciting, hands-on workshop where you'll dig into the world of seeds and soils! Discover the different types of soil, and bring home your own planted seeds to observe and grow!

\$5/Participant

Advance registration required at
LivoniaParks.org

Best for participants ages 10-15



Employment Workshop for Teens

Hey high schoolers! Ready to land that job? Join us for an **Employment Workshop on Saturday, May 17, from 11 AM - 12:30 PM at the Redford Township District Library.**

- ✓ Get expert advice on writing resumes
- ✓ Learn interview tips to stand out
- ✓ Practice your skills with hands-on activities
- 🎁 Plus, score some awesome door prizes!
- 📅 Registration opens May 3 at 10 AM. Don't miss out!
- 🔗 Learn more: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/employment-workshop-for-teens> #JobReady #TeenWorkshop #CareerPrep



Employment Workshop for High Schoolers

**Saturday, May 17
11:00 am - 12:30 PM**

ENTER THE WORK FORCE WITH CONFIDENCE!

- ✓ DOOR PRIZES
- ✓ ADVICE FOR WRITING A STANDOUT RESUME
- ✓ TIPS & TRICKS FOR EXCELLING AT INTERVIEWS
- ✓ HANDS-ON PRACTICE

Sign up at
rtdl.org/events or scan
the QR code





Wayne County Upcoming Events

Garden to Table Summer Workshop Series

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. Activities promote teamwork, environmental awareness, and healthy living through fun and engaging gardening and cooking experiences.

Where: Taylor Community Library
(12303 Pardee Rd, Taylor, MI 48180)

When:

- **6/20, 2-3:30pm:** Plant it, grow it, eat it! Youth will learn the basics of gardening, including how to start seeds, transplant seedlings, and care for plants. Participants will create their own mini container gardens to take home, using herbs or veggies that are easy to grow.
- **7/25, 4-5:30pm:** Harvest & Snack! Participants will explore how to identify when produce is ripe and ready to harvest. They'll pick garden-grown fruits and vegetables, learn about their nutritional value, and prepare a simple meal.
- **8/22, 4-5:50pm:** Keep it Fresh! Learn simple ways to make your garden harvest last longer! Youth will explore easy preservation methods like quick pickling, drying herbs, and freezing produce.

Garden to Table Workshop Series

at Taylor Community Library

Jun 20th 2-3:30 PM:

Plant it, grow it eat it!

Jul 25th 4-5:30 PM:

Harvest and Snack

Aug 22nd 4-5:30 PM:

Keep it Fresh

Registration
Required, suitable
for ages 10 & up



Cost: Free!

Suitable for ages 10 & Up.

Registration Required (Opens May 1st): <https://events.anr.msu.edu/gardentotableworkshops/>



Wayne County Upcoming Events

Roll into Summer- 4-H Family Skating Night

Join us for a fun-filled evening of roller skating, games, socializing, and more as we kick off summer in style!

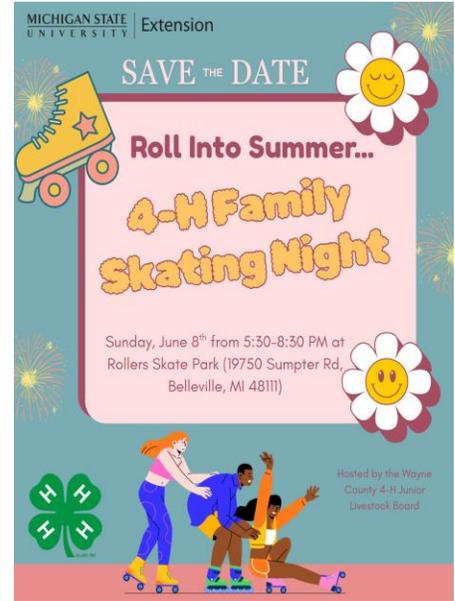
When: Sunday, June 8: 5:30 – 8:30pm
Where: Rollers Skate Park
(19750 Sumpter Rd., Belleville, MI 48111)

This event is hosted by the Wayne County Junior Livestock Board and is open to all 4-H families and non-4-H families too!! EVERYONE is welcome!

Admission:

- Ages 8 & up: \$10
- Ages 3 – 7: \$5
- Ages 2 & under: Free

Mark your calendars and get ready to roll into summer with us!



Michigan Youth Livestock Judging Camp

Registration for Michigan Youth Livestock Judging Camp is now OPEN!

This camp is for teens who are looking to sharpen their livestock judging skills and will be a great practice opportunity prior to the State Contest! It is open to youth ages 12-19 (as of January 1) and will be held June 11-12 on the campus of Michigan State University.

Full details and a link to register can be found here:
<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-youth-livestock-judging-camp-2025>





Wayne County Upcoming Events

Wayne County 4-H Livestock Clinic

Join us for a comprehensive two-day livestock clinic designed to help youth build skills, gain confidence, and improve their knowledge of both small and large animal projects. Whether you're new to livestock or preparing for the show ring, these hands-on sessions will provide valuable guidance from experienced instructors. Don't miss this opportunity to sharpen your skills, connect with fellow 4-H members, and prepare for a successful show season!

May 16 -17: Wayne County Fairgrounds

Small Animal Clinic

Friday, May 16th | 5:00 PM – 9:00 PM | Dinner Provided

This evening clinic will focus on rabbits, cavies, and poultry (chickens and ducks only). Participants can choose up to 3 breakout sessions tailored to their interests and skill levels.

Topics include:

- Fitting and Showmanship
- Breed & Market Conformation
- Basic Care & First Aid

Large Animal Clinic

Saturday, May 17th | 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM | Breakfast & Lunch Provided

This full-day clinic covers swine, goats, sheep, and cattle. Youth can choose up to 5 breakout sessions offering hands-on learning and in-depth discussions.

Topics include:

- Fitting and Showmanship
- Breed & Market Conformation
- Basic Care & First Aid
- Marketing Your Project

Cost: \$5 for one day, \$10 for both

Camping on Friday night is available for an additional fee and must be booked with the fair office in advance.

For registration inquiries, reach out to Ashleigh Klein: apelashl@msu.edu

734-727-7408

Make the Most of Your Market Livestock Project!

Join the "Make the Most of Your Market Livestock Project" webinar series this April-May 2025 on Wednesdays at 6:30pm!

- Who: Youth ages 8-19
- Cost: FREE
- What You'll Learn:
 - Marketing strategies
 - Communication skills
 - Record-keeping tips
 - Goal-setting techniques
- ...and so much more!

Take your small or large livestock project to the next level and gain tools for success in and out of the ring! Sessions will not be recorded and take place Wednesdays at 6:30pm on Zoom.

See dates and topics and save your spot now:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/market-animal-project-webinars-all>



4-H Club Spotlight

Wayne County 4-H Fun Corner: Parfait-ly Simple Recipe of the Month

Materials Needed:

- Cutting boards
- Plastic knives
- Plastic cup or bowl
- Measuring cups and spoons

Ingredients (Includes, but not limited to):

- Yogurt (plain or flavored)
- Granola
- Mixed fresh fruit (bananas, strawberries, blueberries, etc.)
- Honey (optional)
- Chocolate chips

Steps

- **Step 1:** Wash and prepare fruit (demonstrate proper washing).
- **Step 2:** Safely cut fruit into small pieces.
- **Step 3:** Layer yogurt, fruit, chocolate chips, and granola in a cup or bowl.
- **Step 4:** Drizzle honey if desired and enjoy!





4-H Success Stories

4-H STEM-Tastic Spring Break Day Camp!

The 2025 4-H STEM-Tastic Spring Break Day Camp offered an exciting day of hands-on learning for 19 youth in grades 4–8. Held at Jefferson Barns Community Vitality Center in Westland, the free camp focused on engaging youth in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) through interactive activities designed to spark curiosity and build real-world skills. Thanks to the generous support of Jefferson Barns, the camp also included lunch for all participants and instructors, helping eliminate barriers related to childcare and meals for families in the Wayne-Westland community.

Throughout the day, youth participated in a variety of activities that connected STEM concepts to everyday experiences. They explored electrical conductivity by designing light-up greeting cards with paper circuits and learned about emulsions and physical changes while making homemade butter. During the outdoor environmental science sessions, participants dissected real owl pellets to study predator-prey relationships and created homemade bird feeders to support local wildlife.

A budgeting activity using M&Ms introduced financial literacy in a fun and accessible way, helping youth understand how to manage income, expenses, and savings. The AgBot challenge encouraged critical thinking around agricultural technology and robotics, while the final activity—creating mindfulness jars—combined science with self-care as youth learned about liquid density and sensory regulation.

The camp also provided leadership development opportunities for two teen leaders who assisted with programming and served as role models for younger participants. They helped guide activities, offered encouragement, and gained valuable experience in mentoring and youth engagement.

By the end of the day, participants left with increased STEM knowledge, improved problem-solving skills, and a deeper appreciation for science in everyday life. The camp successfully combined learning, creativity, and leadership, offering a meaningful experience for all involved.





4-H Success Stories

Click It Time: How to be an Informed Driver or Passenger

The Wayne County Traffic Safety Network held its spring meeting on Wednesday, April 16th from 10am-1pm at the Wayne County Community College Ted Scott Campus in Bellville, MI. Kathy Henderson and Greg Lanzi were among the presenters at this meeting. They introduced Wayne County and State law enforcement, local litigators and local policy makers to their new program.



Click It Time: How to be an informed driver or passenger is an MSU Extension 4-H program in partnership and funded by the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP). This program is designed to teach middle school and high school youth about seat belt safety and distracted driving. For more information about this program, feel free to contact Kathy or Greg directly.

Kathy Henderson hende578@msu.edu,
Greg Lanzi lanzigre@msu.edu



Announcements

Meet the new 4-H Program Assistant– Marc Peeples!

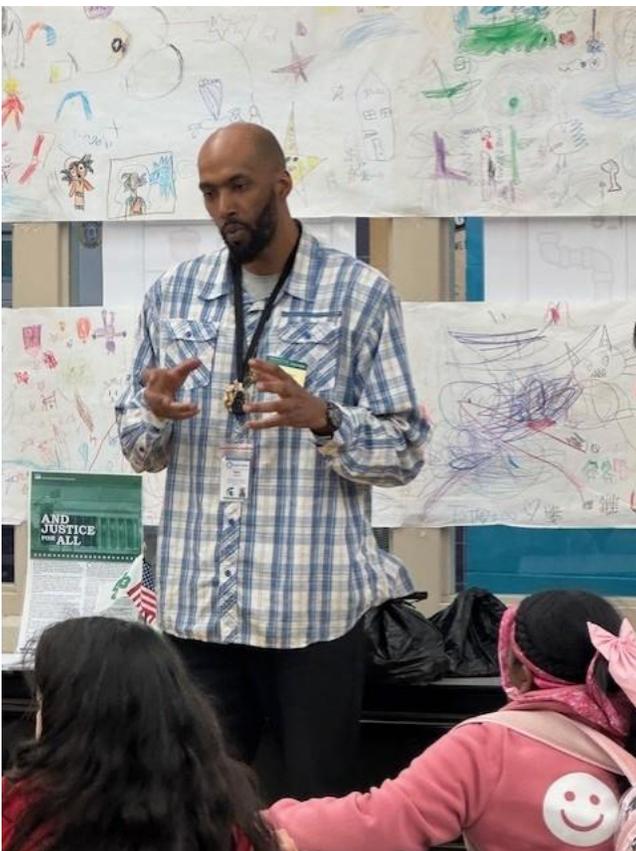
Wayne County 4-H is proud to welcome Marc Peeples as our new 4-H Program Assistant, focused on delivering agriculture education across the county. Known throughout the community as *Brother Truth*, Marc brings a wealth of experience and passion for urban farming, youth empowerment, and food justice.

Born and raised in Detroit, Marc is the co-founder of Liberated Farms and the Pyramid Builders Institute of S.T.E.A.M., both deeply rooted in the neighborhood where he grew up. He is also a member of the Detroit Food Policy Council, working at the intersection of community, food access, and education.

Marc gained attention as a survivor of the viral #GardeningWhileBlack incident, using that moment to fuel a movement. His mission is clear: to combat food apartheid by equipping youth with the skills and education to transform their communities.

Through Liberated Farms, Marc offers innovative youth programs like the Youth Farmer Apprentice Program, Free Coding and Computer Programming Classes, a Rites of Passage Program for young boys, and the powerful Freedom Freedom Bags initiative—which provides 5 pounds of fresh produce monthly to each household in the community.

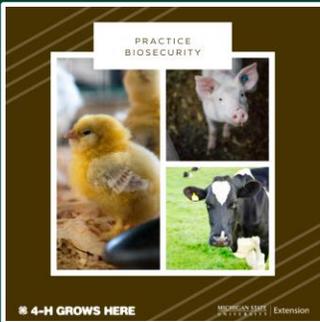
Marc's energy and vision are a perfect fit for 4-H, and we're excited to see the impact he'll make here in Wayne County. Join us in giving a warm welcome to Marc!





STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Livestock and poultry owners encouraged remain vigilant about biosecurity



In recent years, highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) has been detected in cattle, cats and poultry across the country and Michigan. Livestock and poultry owners are strongly encouraged to take proactive measures to defend against additional outbreaks in Michigan. Check out the following resources helpful information on biosecurity:

- www.canr.msu.edu/fair-and-exhibition-animal-health/biosecurity
- www.canr.msu.edu/resources/biosecurity-for-dairy-and-beef-cattle-farms
- www.canr.msu.edu/news/small-scale-and-backyard-poultry-owners-should-remain-vigilant-to-protect-against-highly-pathogenic-avian-influenza
- www.canr.msu.edu/avian-influenza/

May 7: Make the Most of Your Market Animal Project Webinar – Talk the Talk

Online

Effective communication is key to successfully selling livestock. This session covers tools and techniques to connect with buyers, convey product value, and empower youth with practical tips for impactful auctions and markets.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/market-animal-project-webinars-may-7

May 7: Make the Most of Your Market Animal Project Webinar – Records to Riches

Online

Learn how to keep track of what you spend and earn so you can make smart choices for your project. Discover the power of record keeping and learn how to calculate your break-even point to make smarter decisions in livestock marketing.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/market-animal-project-webinar5-14

May 15: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series: Fueling or Squashing the Rumor Mill

Online

This webinar will focus on supporting youth who face rumors about their projects and how to prevent the spread of misinformation.

12 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-fueling-or-squashing-the-rumor-mill-noon

7 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-fueling-or-squashing-the-rumor-mill-7pm

May 15: Adulting 101 Webinar – Stay Safe Out There

Online

Practical strategies to help you stay aware, prepared and confident, no matter where you go.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/staysafe

May 19: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series: Engaging Parents in 4-H Experiences

Online

Discover strategies to engage parents and implement shared leadership in your 4-H club.

12 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-engaging-parents-in-4-h-experiences-and-implement-shared-leadership-in-4-h-clubs-noon

7 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-engaging-parents-in-4-h-experiences-and-implement-shared-leadership-in-4-h-clubs-7pm

May 21: Make the Most of Your Market Animal Project Webinar – Market Mastery

Online

Delve into the 5 Ps of marketing and explore innovative strategies to elevate your outreach. Learn practical tools and techniques to promote projects successfully, enhance sales, and build valuable connections in the industry.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/market-animal-project-webinar-5-21





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Michigan 4-H license plate now available!

Michigan drivers have a new way to show their 4-H pride while supporting 4-H youth development programming: through the purchase of the newly released Michigan 4-H license plate. Available at the Michigan Secretary of State, the plate prominently displays the signature 4-H clover and part of the proceeds from every sale and renewal will go to support Michigan 4-H youth.

“We are elated that the Michigan 4-H license plate is officially here,” said Quentin Tyler, director of Michigan State University Extension, which is home to the Michigan 4-H program. “We hope the many members of our Michigan 4-H community – youth, parents, alumni and supporters – will consider supporting 4-H by purchasing a plate as they renew their licenses this year.”

Similar to other special cause fundraising license plates in the state, the Michigan 4-H license plate will cost \$35, with \$25 of the purchase fee benefiting Michigan 4-H Youth Development. A \$10 fee will also be charged to benefit Michigan 4-H when the plate is renewed. License plates may be ordered by visiting Michigan.gov/sos, by mailing in a form or scheduling a visit to any Secretary of State office. The plate will be delivered by mail in two to three weeks.

To learn more, visit extension.msu.edu/4-HPlate.



Michigan 4-H Foundation opens 2024-25 grant cycle

Awarded annually, the Michigan 4-H Foundation recently opened their grant and award opportunities for the 2025-2026 season. Open to 4-H volunteer leaders, members and staff, the grants and awards support local 4-H clubs and county programs. **All applications are due June 1.**

“County 4-H programs and clubs have so many unique programs,” said Abbey Miller, director of the Michigan 4-H Foundation. “Thanks to the support of our generous 4-H donor community, we are pleased to offer mini-grants to support these many wonderful programs.”

Opportunities include:

- **Michigan 4-H Legacy Grants of \$1,000.** These grants are awarded to support development of a new program or initiative or to strengthen, enhance or expand a current program that is making a difference.
- **4-H On-Target Grants of \$500.** These grants support 4-H Shooting Sports programs to enhance existing programs, develop a new program or offer a special experience related to 4-H Shooting Sports.
- **The Collins 4-H Youth Horticulture Grant of \$500.** This grant is available only to 4-H youth clubs and supports advancement of club work in plant science and horticulture activities.
- **4-H Educational Garden Grants of \$1,000.** These grants support the creation of local 4-H educational gardens in Michigan.

Learn more or apply online at <http://mi4hfdtn.org/grants>. Questions? Contact the Michigan 4-H Foundation at 517-353-6692.

