



THE

February, 2024

G.O.A.T.

Goings On At Tollgate



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Extension



MAPLE FEST
Tollgate Farm and Education Center
March 9th and 10th
Register Today.

Join us for the 2024 MSU Tollgate Farm Maplefest!

\$17 per person 2 and under free

Hourly Limited Timeslots from 9 am – 2 pm Saturday and Sunday

Limited Seating: Pre-Registration will be required (no refunds)

Identify and tap a maple tree, tour the sugar shack, explore fun maple-themed activities, take a wagon ride, taste maple sap, syrup, and sugar, and explore maple tools and technology.

Enjoy an 'all-you-can-eat pancake celebration in the historic 19th-century barn. Pancakes (prepared by Chris Cakes of Michigan), sausage, and of course, pure maple syrup will be provided!

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!](#)

We're also looking for

volunteers for Maplefest!

All volunteers are required to complete the **Michigan State University Volunteer Selection Process**. This process helps to provide a safe volunteering and work environment for both adults and youth. Volunteers must complete an application, background check.

To learn more about this process, contact Carmen Hamilton at hamil466@msu.edu. 248-347-0269 ext. 239



Baby Goat Milk and Meet

Hope you'll join us for a very special event relaxing on the farm while feeding and meeting our new baby goats (and their moms).

Feedings starts March 4th

*Feeding Time Slots are 11am, 2pm and 6pm
30-minute time slots (limited slots)*

You'll have plenty of time to not only feed the kids, but you'll also have some great photo opportunities.

All proceeds go back into supporting the MSU Tollgate Farm animals for education.
Groups larger than 10 please email Destiny at pears278@msu.edu

Please dress appropriate to be outside and on a farm.

15 and younger need to be accompanied by an adult 18+

[CLICK HERE](#) to register.



Tollgate Farm 4H recently wrapped up their annual seed service project. As part of their mission to help others, the Club distributed over 1,700 vegetable, herb, and flower seed packets to fifteen community and school gardens. The produce grown from these seeds is used to educate, bring people together, and provide fresh food for individuals in areas where it otherwise is not readily available. All shared seeds were donated by seed companies and then sorted and organized by the kids for a smooth distribution at Tollgate.



Summer Camp Registration is Filling Fast!

[www.canr.msu.edu/tollgate/
camps/](http://www.canr.msu.edu/tollgate/camps/)

Camp at MSU Tollgate Farm is a fun and enriching opportunity to experience the natural world hands-on. With 160 acres of beautiful farm and forest to explore, our camps offer the best in farm and food, discovery science, and natural resource exploration. Campers not only learn about the natural world around them, but how to interact with it sustainably.

For camp questions, email Carmen Hamilton at hamil466@msu.edu.



Night Hikes

April 19 - 8:00pm

I Frog-got what the Toad Said

Many of the creatures around the farm are looking for mates this time of year. Our Frog and Toad friends are no exception and we'll adventure around the property to see who is serenading their would-be partners.

Cost: \$12 per person 3 and older per night hike. Registration is non-refundable.

Click [here](#) to learn more.



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

MSU TOLLGATE FARM STEWARDS TEEN LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Farm - Friends - Fun

MSU Tollgate Farm Stewards Teen Leadership Programs

MSU Tollgate Farm Teen Leadership Programs provide a safe place for social, emotional, and physical growth. The Stewards Teen Leadership Program looks forward to hosting the 2024 stewards and stewards-in-training teen leadership program for youth ages 13-19.

What is a Steward?

A steward is a person whose responsibility it is to take care of something. This service opportunity offers teens a chance to enrich, mentor, and lead campers while gaining valuable leadership and life skills. In a positive educational environment, teens experience the responsibilities associated with potential career paths before entering college. The Tollgate Teen Steward (15-19 yrs) and Steward-in-Training (13-14 yrs) program is for youth interested in gaining experience serving in leadership roles.

Registration for the Steward Teen Leadership Program at Tollgate is LIVE!

"Nature is a tool to get youth to experience not just the wider world, but themselves." Check out this opportunity for teens ages 13-19 to mentor and lead campers while gaining valuable leadership and life skills. Tollgate farm camp stewards learn where their food comes from and so much more. Confidence, resilience, leadership, service, friendships and fun, and practical life skills are all part of becoming a Tollgate steward. Cost to be a steward-in-training (ages 13-14) is \$200 per week. Stewards (ages 15-19) volunteer. **Spaces fill quickly.**

[REGISTER HERE](#)



Tollgate Farm and KBS Winged Wonders Traveling Camp.

Birds of a feather really do flock together. Birders ages 9-13 join the flock July 15-19 for the 8th 4-H Winged Wonders Camp with MSU's Tollgate Farm, Kellogg Biological Station, and Corey Marsh Preserve. Two days are spent at farm camp exploring wild and farm birds plus a bus trip for 3 days at Kellogg Bird Sanctuary to camp and bird with the best of them. Fish and feed the eagles, meet raptors up close, care for the farm birds, help scientists conduct research. Partial scholarships are available through 4-H. See the Tollgate Farm camp website page for more information.

For more info on Winged Wonders Camp or to register click [HERE](#).



Picture of the month!

One of our winter campers meeting one of our goats.

Photo credit: Carmen Hamilton



Looking for a unique venue for your 2024 business meeting or private event?

Tollgate's historic charm and picturesque grounds, is a perfect setting in southeast Michigan. Choose from the historic Americana boardroom, rustic barn or charming Conference Center. Outdoor options are also available with a Pavilion and gardens. Add a teambuilding activity or service project on the farm for a unique experience.

Book your 2024 business meeting or special event at Tollgate Farm.

To view our unique venue space,
visit <https://www.canr.msu.edu/tollgate/cc/>

Contact bahmlisa@msu.edu to discuss your needs and rental rates.



Attention Photographers!

We welcome Commercial Photographers to use MSU Tollgate as their outdoor studio for photo and video shoots with clients.

It's a GREAT location for wedding, family or graduation pictures.

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE

MSU Tollgate Farm and Education Center
28115 Meadowbrook Rd. Novi, MI 48377
248-347-0269
<http://tollgate.msu.edu/>



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