



2026 Michigan 4-H Livestock Workshop

OVERVIEW

This one-day workshop will be March 7, 2026, on MSU's main campus in East Lansing. It is designed for 4-H youth and volunteers in beef, sheep, goats, and swine project areas. Youth will learn about different aspects of their livestock projects throughout a variety of breakout sessions. Session topics include intro to your species project, animal evaluation, marketing your livestock project, large animal medicine, meats judging, nutrition, and more!

Space will be limited to 100 people: approximately 85 youth and 15 volunteers.

SCHEDULE OVERVIEW (all times EST)

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|-------|---------------------|
| 8:00 | Registration begins |
| 9:15 | Welcome! |
| 9:45 | Session A |
| 11:00 | Session B |
| 12:00 | Lunch |
| 1:00 | Session C |
| 2:15 | Session D |
| 3:30 | Conclusion |
| 4:00 | Safe travels! |

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DATE, LOCATION, FEES

WHEN: Saturday, March 7, 2026

WHERE: MSU Anthony Hall in East Lansing

WHO: Youth ages 12-19 and Gold-Level 4-H volunteers

COST: \$35 per participant

NOTE: The registration fee includes lunch and a t-shirt. Lodging (if needed) and transportation are the responsibility of the participant.

Event Contact

Autumn Converse

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BREAKOUT SESSION OFFERINGS - MORNING

Participants will pre-select one session per time slot during registration. Please select a different offering for each time slot.

Session A (9:45-10:45 AM)

- Intro to Your Beef Project
- Intro to Your Sheep Project
- Intro to Your Swine Project
- Intro to Your Goat Project

Session B (11:00 AM – 12:00 PM)

- Intro to Your Beef Project
- Intro to Your Sheep Project
- Intro to Your Swine Project
- Intro to Your Goat Project

Lunch Break! 12:00 – 1:00 PM

BREAKOUT SESSION OFFERINGS - AFTERNOON

Participants will pre-select one session per time slot during registration. Please select a different offering for each time slot.

Session C (1:00-2:00 PM)

- Livestock Judging and Evaluation
- Marketing Your Livestock Project
- Carcass Evaluation and Meats Judging
- Flip the Script: Tackling Rumors and Gossip with Confidence
- Animal Nutrition

Session D (2:15-3:15 PM)

- Livestock Judging and Evaluation
- Marketing Your Livestock Project
- Large Animal Medicine
- Dairy Goat Judging and Evaluation
- County Idea Exchange

Conclude 3:30 – 4:00 PM

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Breakout Session Descriptions – Session C (1:00-2:00)

- **Livestock Judging and Evaluation:** Learn the basic principles of livestock evaluation, how to mark a card, and how a contest works.
- **Marketing Your Livestock Project:** Learn helpful tips and tricks for successfully marketing your livestock project at the county fair with interactive lessons from the Youth Business Guide to Success.
- **Carcass Evaluation and Meats Judging:** Learn the basics of carcass evaluation and meats judging with hands-on practice in the MSU Meat Lab.
- **Flip the Script: Tackling Rumors and Gossip with Confidence:** Rumors and gossip can spread quickly and cause real harm—but they don't have to define your group's culture. In this interactive session, volunteers and teen leaders will explore how to recognize, respond to, and redirect gossip in positive ways. Participants will learn practical communication and response strategies to stop rumors in their tracks, promote respect, and build trust within their teams.
- **Animal Nutrition:** Learn more about the science of animal nutrition in this fun, hands-on session!

Breakout Session Descriptions – Session D (2:15-3:15)

- **Livestock Judging and Evaluation:** Learn the basic principles of livestock evaluation, how to mark a card, and how a contest works.
- **Marketing Your Livestock Project:** Learn helpful tips and tricks for successfully marketing your livestock project at the county fair with interactive lessons from the Youth Business Guide to Success.
- **Large Animal Medicine:** Dive into the ins and outs of animal health and explore career pathways within veterinary medicine.
- **Dairy Goat Judging and Evaluation:** Learn the basics of dairy goat evaluation. Many of the basic livestock judging principles still apply, but this session looks at what makes dairy goats special.
- **County Idea Exchange:** Adult and teen leaders alike will have the opportunity to share ideas and resources in this meeting of the minds! Learn about how other counties and clubs engage in learning experiences and how you can incorporate their ideas into your own programs.

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