



Benzie County

4-H Family News

September 2020

Welcome to the New 4-H Year

Greeting 4-Hers and Families,

As we all know, the year 2020 has been a rough and uncertain one. This Newsletter contains important information about how different 4-H might look in this new year. I encourage you to read through in its entirety and reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

I am happy to be here as your new 4-H Program Coordinator and look forward to the day we can all meet again in person. In the meantime I am working tirelessly to bring new opportunities to our youth and programs through virtual learning. I have an open-door policy, I am here for youth and parents equally and encourage you to reach out to me if there is a learning opportunity you would like to see come to Benzie, or a new club or program you or your child (ren) would like to explore.

Our Facebook page is constantly kept up to date with the latest offerings in MSUE/4-H virtual learning and we are rolling out a Resource site for Teachers, Parents, and Children returning to school this Fall in a virtual setting to help ease the burden. That flyer has been included with this newsletter and the website is scheduled for Launch on September 1.

Sincerely,

Allison Olson

4-H Program Coordinator

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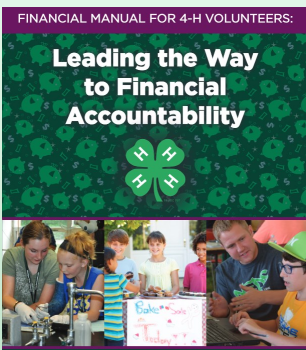
Facebook
Benzie County 4-H

Things to Look Forward to:

- Benzie 4-H Virtual Fall Soccer is now OPEN for registration. There are no fees for Soccer this year. Please contact the Benzie County Office for more information and registration forms.
- Shooting Sports Looking to Expand in Benzie County. Exciting opportunities are in the works for Benzie Shooting Sports. More information to come!
- Equestrian and Livestock Opportunities Coming this Spring! We are working on expanding agricultural education and opportunity in Benzie County.

What do YOU want to see offered in Benzie County 4-H? Contact your 4-H PCI

Important Changes to 4-H Financial Manuals for Volunteers & Treasurers



The 4-H Financial Manuals for Volunteers and Treasurers support 4-H volunteers and adult and youth treasurers in their roles managing 4-H funds.

Small revisions and updates to these books were made in 2020. The online PDF versions of the manuals contain the changes. However, if you have a printed or hard copy version that does not contain the 2020 changes, a one-page document is available online that notes all the important content adjustments. It is recommended that you print this resource and store it in your manual for quick reference.

Download the 2020 changes resource at www.canr.msu.edu/resources/4_h_financial_management_toolkit. For more information, please contact your local county staff member.

Update on Face-to-Face Michigan 4-H Programming

Earlier this year, MSU Extension pivoted all programming to online formats to comply with the original Stay Safe, Stay Home order ([EO2020-42](#)). Though this has been a difficult time for communities, families and our own faculty and staff members, we are proud of the work our team has done to ensure that the 4-H community continues to have access to high-quality educational opportunities throughout Michigan.

After much discussion and study, we have decided to continue to keep all 4-H programming, meetings and events virtual until further notice. This applies to all children and youth activities involving ages birth to 19. We recognize that this is a hardship on those who are eager to engage in in-person activities with their 4-H community. However, we must do everything we can to keep youth and adults safe and healthy. As such, please continue to hold 4-H club meetings and other local events virtually. MSU Extension staff members, including 4-H program coordinators, cannot support in-person activities. In addition, funds raised in the name of 4-H cannot be used to support in-person events until further notice.

Although our delivery modes have changed, we are still hard at work for you. Because of our statewide reach, you have access to a number of MSU Extension events. Visit our [MSU Extension Remote Learning and Resources](#) to learn more.

We assure you that this does not diminish our commitment to the 4-H community. We will continue to offer high-quality, virtual programming and experiences, and look forward to the day when we can resume in-person programming.

4-H Events and Workshops

September 2: 4-H in the Kitchen Live

Zoom Webinar

Explore the kitchen and learn how to bake old-fashioned cream cheese cookies. Topics covered include the proper ways to mix ingredients, safety in the kitchen, and cleanliness.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-in-the-kitchen-live>

September 10 & 14: Women's Leadership Institute

Zoom Webinar

On Day 1, listen and learn from women leaders working at the intersection of health and wellness.

On Day 2, discuss Day 1 speakers and explore your own challenges and successes as leaders.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/women-s-leadership-institute-2020>

September 14: Upper Peninsula 4-H Babysitting SPIN Club

Zoom Webinar

This 8-session 4-H SPIN club will run through October 7. It is open to U.P. youth in grades 6-9 who want to learn about caring for children and how to be a great babysitter.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/upper-peninsula-4-h-babysitting-spin-club>

September 19: Birds of Prey—LIVE!

Zoom Webinar

Join the Kellogg Biological Sanctuary (KBS) for a virtual presentation about the birds of prey that reside at the Sanctuary and meet two special guests. This workshop is offered for \$5 for KBS members and \$7 for non-members.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/birds-of-prey-live>

For the most up-to-date events listing, go to <http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events>.



Explore your leadership skills with the 2020 Women's Leadership Institute

Youth ages 13-19 are invited to learn from strong women leaders while exploring their own leadership skills at the 2020 MSU Women's Leadership Institute. This two-day event will begin on September 10 when attendees (open to anyone of any age) join an interactive webinar to hear from women leaders working at the intersection of health and wellness—including on the front lines of health care during the novel coronavirus pandemic. Learn how the different leadership types responded during times of crisis, and how they're promoting health and wellness at this critical time.

On September 14, youth participants will take part in the second portion of this event, which is reserved just for teens. During this virtual session, youth will discuss the Day 1 speakers and their own leadership challenges and successes.

Each event will be hosted from 6-8 p.m. Although featuring women leaders, the Women's Leadership Institute is a great opportunity for youth of any gender to learn more about leadership. Register at www.canr.msu.edu/events/women-s-leadership-institute-2020 or contact Roxanne Turner (turnerr@msu.edu or 517-546-3950) or Darren Bagley (bagleyda@msu.edu or 810-244-8515) for more information.

Update on 2020-2021 4-H Participation Fees

MSU Extension recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic and other associated factors have put a financial strain on many families. Therefore, we have opted to waive the Michigan 4-H participation fee of \$20 per person or \$60 per family for the 2020-21 4-H program year which begins September 1, 2020. Some events may continue to have registration fees. You will continue to register through 4-H Online, but no participation fees will be collected or expected next year.

If you are interested in supporting 4-H in lieu of paying participation fees, please contact your 4-H program coordinator for opportunities.

Changes coming to 4-H Online this fall!

This fall, 4-H Online will be upgraded to version 2.0. This enhanced version of our current registration system will offer many improvements, including the ability to register for events, the ability to collect registration fees via credit card, and improved communication features, among others. Though the system will look a bit different, we anticipate this upgrade will also provide a better user experience for the 4-H community.

In preparation for this upgrade, 4-H Online will shut down on August 27 as our Michigan 4-H data are migrated to the 2.0 version. The system will reopen mid-September; during the transition time, you will not be able to access 4-H Online. Once the system is operational again, MSU Extension will email the 4-H community with instructions on how to enroll/re-enroll in the upgraded system. In that communication, we will also provide additional training resources for administrative leaders/volunteers, as well as 4-H families who would like to learn more about 4-H Online 2.0.

We appreciate your patience with this transition and look forward to starting the 2020-2021 program year with an even better 4-H Online experience.

Virtual Learning Resources for Parents, Teachers and Homeschool Families



Though the back-to-school season occurs each fall, this year is unlike anything that has been experienced before. The 2020-2021 school year will present new challenges for families and teachers alike, whether youth are returning to school in the classroom, online or at home.

To support teachers, parents and homeschool families in their educational efforts, MSU Extension is compiling a list of helpful resources that can be used by varying audiences to supplement school plans. Arranged by audience, grade level and topic, a variety of resources will be available in differing delivery methods. While not all tools utilize school standards, many do.

Look for additional information coming soon! In the meantime, please check out extension.msu.edu/online4MI.