



MAY 2025

4-H Family News

Eaton County



Spring Has Sprung!

I hope you are having a lovely start to your spring so far! Here are some event announcements and updates for you all:

If you missed the pre-registration deadline, don't worry – you can still register for the 2025 Eaton County 4-H Pre-Fair Dog Fun Match on Saturday, May 17th starting at 7:30am! Registration will remain open from 7:30am-9:00am that morning. More information on this event can be found on page 6 of this newsletter.

Mark your calendars! The 4-H Junior Livestock Association and Small Animal Association joint Sub-Committee is planning a Showmanship and Showing Clinic during the weekend of June 28-29th! We are still planning out the details of this clinic, but if you are interested in assisting in this planning process, or lending a hand at the clinic, please let me know!

Entries for 2025 Eaton County Fair are now open! You can find entry forms, sale details, and all information pertaining to the Fair on their website: eatoncountyfair.com

Thanks!

Jessie Gott, 4-H Program Coordinator

UPCOMING EVENTS + MEETINGS

Spring Leader Meeting | May 5 | 6:00pm | Extension Office

Council Meeting | May 5 | 7:00pm | Extension Office

Expo Days Orientation Meeting | May 14 | 5:30pm | Extension Office

HDC Meeting | May 14 | 6:30pm | Extension Office

Pre-Fair Dog Fun Match | May 17 | 9:00am | Eaton County Fairgrounds

HDC Clinic | May 18 | 9:00am | Eaton County Fairgrounds

UPCOMING OFFICE CLOSURE

Memorial Day | May 26th

CONTACT US

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Eaton County 4-H:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/eaton/eaton_county_4_h/

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/EatonCounty4H/>

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EATON VOLUNTEER NEWS

WELCOME...

New Eaton County 4-H Gold Volunteers:

- Marrison Miller
- Sierra Lunsford
- Mike Vedder
- Paula Hager
- Brian Williams
- Rick Elder
- Paige Wymer
- Courtney Walker
- Caleb Pease

New Eaton County 4-H Silver Volunteer:

- Zachary Heiden

Want to become a 4-H Volunteer before Fair? Please apply now!

If your club plans to add new volunteers to assist with Fair this year, please have them begin the Volunteer Selection Process ASAP!

It usually takes one to two months for us to screen new potential volunteers, and we want to make sure you have all the help you need! Please take this timeline into account when planning for fair.

Thinking about becoming a volunteer but not sure where to start?

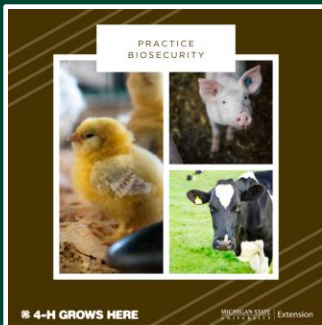
Please reach out to Jessie to learn more!
gottjess@msu.edu





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.





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Make the Most of Your Market Animal Project – Webinar Series

Are you ready to make the most of your small or large market livestock project? Join our FREE Webinar Series this April-May 2025 designed just for youth ages 8-19! Gain valuable tools to stand out, achieve your goals, and build a brighter future!

Topics Include: Marketing your project, Communication skills, Record-keeping essentials, Goal-setting for success, and so much more!

When: April-May 2025 (Wednesdays at 6:30pm) The first webinar takes place April 30, 2025. There are 5 webinars total in the series.

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



Make the Most of Your Market Animal Project Webinar Series



Communication, marketing, record-keeping, and goal-setting skill building to maximize market potential

This five-part free series takes place April-May 2025 and is geared towards youth 8-19 years old.

Register today!

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

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>

Adulting 101 Webinar

Join us Thursday, May 15 at 6 p.m. EST for a 4-H *Adulting 101* session focused on personal safety in any setting — from hiking trails and public parks to city streets and college campuses.

Learn how to stay alert, confident, and prepared!
Get practical tips for situational awareness and emergency response!
Feel more secure wherever life takes you!

Register now and take the first step toward safer adventures:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting-101-2025>



MICHIGAN 4-H
ADULTING 101 WEBINAR

**STAY SAFE
OUT THERE**



From hiking trails to bustling cities, learn practical strategies to be prepared no matter where you go.

May 15, 2025 at 6 p.m. EST

FREE ON ZOOM

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension





2025 Eaton County 4-H Pre-Fair Dog Fun Match

Saturday, May 17, 2025

For Youth
and
Adults

Registration Packet and full information can be found here:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/eaton/eaton_county_4_h/eaton_county_4_h_associations_and_committees/dog_committee

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Pre-registration is preferred. Please return forms by **Monday, April 28, 2025**. Day of Registration will be from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m.

Pavilion, Eaton County Fairgrounds
1025 S. Cochran Ave, Charlotte, MI

Class Fees:
\$6.00 per class (Pre-Registration)
\$8.00 per class (Day of Show)

Join us for a fun dog show experience!

- Participants may Adults or Youth
- 4-H rules and regulations will be followed for all classes
- Current vaccination records must be attached to the registration form (Bordetella, DHLPP, and Rabies.)
- Appropriate behavior and dress is required at all times
- No puppies under 5 months are allowed to show
- Concessions will be available
- Bake sale fundraiser! Donations for these fundraisers are encouraged

Please review Registration Packet for full list of rules

\$100 of the profit earned may be donated to the Eaton County Agricultural Society for the 2025 Eaton County Fair dog trophies.





Make the Most of Your Market Animal Project

Program Summary

Designed for youth ages 8-19, this engaging webinar series covers everything you need to succeed at livestock auctions. From marketing and communication to record keeping, goal setting, and understanding break-even points, each session equips participants with the skills to maximize their market potential.

Webinar Dates and Titles

Wednesdays, 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

- April 30: Goal Getters
- May 7: Talk the Talk
- May 14: Records to Riches
- May 21: Marketing Mastery
- May 28: From Pitch to Payment



SCAN ME

Registration Information

FREE on Zoom

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/MakingMostMarketAnimal/>

Contact

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jamies13@msu.edu

Janice Zerbe -
rajzerj@msu.edu

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MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Extension

SPECIAL THANKS

A special thanks to the Michigan 4-H Foundation for underwriting the license plate start-up costs and serving as fiduciary agent for generated funds.

Thanks also to State Reps. Bierlein and Miller for sponsoring the license plate bills, all those who supported the legislation's passage, and the Michigan Secretary of State.

SUPPORT MICHIGAN 4-H WITH A 4-H LICENSE PLATE

Michigan drivers can show their 4-H pride while supporting 4-H youth development programming by purchasing the newly released Michigan 4-H license plate. Michigan 4-H and MSU Extension are excited about the opportunities presented by the Michigan 4-H license plate, which will generate a new revenue stream for Michigan 4-H programming, as well as increase visibility for the program.

WHAT DOES A 4-H LICENSE PLATE COST?

The Michigan 4-H license plate will cost \$35, with \$25 of the purchase fee benefiting Michigan 4-H through the Michigan 4-H Foundation. A \$10 fee will also be charged to benefit Michigan 4-H when the plate is renewed.

HOW CAN YOU OBTAIN A 4-H LICENSE PLATE?

License plates may be ordered by visiting Michigan.gov/sos, by mailing a form or scheduling a visit to any Secretary of State office. The plate will be delivered by mail in two to three weeks.

WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE?

Visit extension.msu.edu/4-Hplate.



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