



Family Programs

Spring & Summer 2020

Summer Fun Series



Experience the wonder and beauty of "Butterflies in the Garden!" Watch and marvel as butterflies flutter and fly about in the Indoor 4-H Children's Garden. Visitors are invited to enjoy the garden and butterflies Monday-Friday from 2-4 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. NOTE: Butterflies will be closed Easter Sunday, April 12. Visit <http://4hgarden.msu.edu> for more information. **FREE***

Schedule a "Butterflies in the Garden" tour by calling (517) 353-0452. **\$2 per visitor.***

SPECIAL SPRING BREAK HOURS
April 6-10, M-F: Open to the public from 1 to 4 p.m. each day. There will be special activities for visitors that week.

Train schedule

Members of the Capital Area Railway Society will run the model train in the garden on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., June 4 to August 27, 2020 (weather permitting).



Come and celebrate three months of recess at the garden! Each month we will have fun in the garden celebrating what is best about summer!

Butterfly Day

April 25 from 10 a.m.-noon

Join us in celebrating another exciting season of "Butterflies in the Garden." Come and explore the secret life of butterflies in the Indoor 4-H Children's Garden. We will discover the amazing butterfly life cycle, create butterfly gardens to take home and much more. **\$5 per child.**

Garden Geocache Event

June 6 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Cache veterans and new enthusiasts are welcome at this geocaching adventure. Bring your picnic lunch and enjoy a day of caching in the gardens. We will be finding new caches, trading travel bugs, exploring the gardens and much more. If you have a GPS unit please bring it to this event. If you do not have one, we will provide them. For those that are new to geocaching come to the introduction class, Geocaching 101, from 10-11 am in B109 Plant and Soil Sciences. **FREE.**

Mad Hatter Tea Party

June 18 from 10 a.m. sharp-noon

Bring a friend and join us for a spot of tea and cake in the garden. Please wear your fanciest hat, and costumes are quite acceptable. We will be playing games making hats and much more. **Registration required. \$5 per child.***

Digger Day

June 23 from 10 a.m.-noon

Come to the garden and explore the world of diggers. Front-end loaders, dump trucks and back hoes - all of these tools help with projects both big and small in our communities. MSU Infrastructure Planning and Facilities will bring some of MSU's biggest and best equipment to the garden for us to explore. We will also have activities and crafts, so come ready to dig and get dirty at this event! **\$5 per child.***



Plant sale

May 16 from 7 a.m.-2 p.m.

Our plant sale features hanging baskets, perennials, annuals, grasses, herbs, vegetable seedlings, shrubs and more.



*Event cost does not include parking.

Curiosity Camps

Garden Writers Workshop

July 7-9 from 10 a.m.–noon

Young writers will learn about the wonderful world of writing in the garden. Using the garden as their inspiration, campers will connect writing to nature by creating poems, stories, plays and much more. Ages 7 and up. (Limited to 20 participants). **Registration required. \$30 for all three days.***

Camp Monet

August 4-6 from 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Young artists will love spending three days in the gardens creating marvelous projects. Campers will use inspiration from the garden to make projects that involve sketching, painting, sculpting, dying, weaving and much more! Lunch will not be provided, so please bring a lunch each day. We will eat together in the garden. Ages 7 and up. (Limited to 20 participants). **Registration required. \$70 for all three days.***



*Event cost does not include parking.

Water Day

July 13 from 10 a.m.–noon

Come cool off from the summer heat and have fun in the garden with water. We will play water games, do water art and explore all things fun about water. Come ready to get wet! **\$5 per child.***

Train Day

July 23 from 10 a.m.–noon

All aboard! Join us in celebrating our love for locomotives with the Capital Area Railway Society. Watch trains of all shapes and sizes, help us construct a train village in the garden, discover what happens on the tracks and much more! **\$5 per child.***

Bug Day

July 30 from 10 a.m.–noon

We cannot get enough of these amazing six-legged friends! Join us for what has become an annual tribute to insects in the gardens. We will be collecting bugs, observing bugs, making bugs and even writing poetry about bugs! Our friends from the MSU Bug House will be back this year with their amazing collections of insects from all over the world! **\$5 per child.***

Bubble Day

August 13 from 10 a.m.–noon

Come celebrate the end of summer vacation at the garden with bubbles! As we explore the wonderful world of bubbles we will paint, eat, and even make music with bubbles. Don't forget to invite your friends and family to come to this bubblicious bash! **\$5 per child.***

Holiday Open House

December 3 from 5–7 p.m.

Enjoy our displays of poinsettias and 16' poinsettia tree under evening lights. Bring your camera and the kids. Santa will arrive in his sleigh at 5:30 p.m. MSU poinsettias, centerpieces and wreaths will be for sale. Enjoy some holiday refreshments. **FREE.***



IMPORTANT PARKING NOTE

Visitors during the week needing to park on campus will have a parking fee in addition to any registration cost to attend the event. You must park in a space designated as a "Pay by Plate" parking space. Signage has been installed in these areas. Parking spaces not marked as "Pay by Plate" may be reserved for faculty/staff permit parking. Parking in a space not designated as "Pay by Plate" parking may result in a parking violation. Immediately after parking, enter your license plate number and payment into the lot's SPOTON pay station or via the MSU SPOTON app. Pay stations accept cash payment or credit cards. They do not give change back nor are refunds issued for time paid for, but not used.

Splendid Stories

Stories in the Garden

June 10 from 10-11:30 a.m.

July 8 from 7-8:30 p.m.

August 12 from 10-11:30 a.m.

Teens will be reading stories to younger children—a magical time of fun and learning. Great for kids 0 to 100! **FREE.***

Stories in the Garden is a partnership between the East Lansing Public Library and the Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens. Interested teen readers should contact the East Lansing Public Library directly at elpl.org or by phone (517) 351-2420. Sign up to be a reader soon!

Stories for Sprouts & Seedlings

Third Wednesday of each month from 10-11 a.m.

This program is designed especially for young children, ages 0-4, to experience the wonders of gardening through stories and hands-on projects. This program meets on the third Wednesday of every month and each session will feature a different book with an accompanying nature activity. **FREE.***

May 15 — *The Very Impatient Caterpillar* by Ross Burach

June 20 — *The Amazing Life Cycle of Plants (Look and Wonder)* by Kay Barnham

July 15 — *Bee: A Peek-Through Picture Book* by Britta Teckentrup

August 19 — *Over and Under the Pond* by Kate Messner

September 16 — *Potato Pants!* by Laurie Keller

October 21 — *Big Pumpkin* by Erica Silverman

Be sure to register early!

Register at <http://4hgarden.msu.edu> or call (517) 353-0452.



4-H Tours & Trips

Call us at (517) 353-0452 to discuss your specific needs and together we can create experiences that will impact your kids for years to come. Here are two great opportunities:

4-H Children's Gardens Tours

Arrange a special tour of the 4-H Children's Gardens with one of our knowledgeable docents to lead the way. Listen to stories about different plants growing in the gardens, learn about how plants are important in our daily lives and explore the gardens with all of your senses through taste test challenges, smelly explorations and more! You can also request an optional scavenger hunt that provides an opportunity for focused exploration of the gardens individually or in small groups. **\$2 per garden visitor.***

Discovery Field Trips

Schedule a class or group Discovery Field Trip. Discovery Field Trips combine experiential exploration of the garden with a focused hands-on thematic lesson. Begin your garden discovery with a short tour and scavenger hunt. Then discover more through one of our interactive discovery topics designed to meet the needs and interests of children. Discoveries include: Important Plants, Plant Evaluation, Salad Bowl Experiment and Plant Problems. Discoveries occur in the gardens, using their unique resources while incorporating sketching, journaling, technology and group conversation. Your visit can last from two hours to the entire day or even multiple days. We work with the teacher/leader to create discoveries that fit your student's interests and needs as well as address your curriculum and interests. **\$3 per student.***

*Event cost does not include parking.



Make Your Garden Visit Special!

ABOUT THE

MICHIGAN 4-H CHILDREN'S GARDENS

The Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens consist of three educational gardens – the outdoor Michigan 4-H Children's Garden, the Indoor 4-H Children's Garden and the Pete and Sally Smith Schoolyard Demonstration Garden. The outdoor garden season is Apr. 1 through Oct. 31. The indoor garden is open year round. The gardens, part of the MSU Horticulture Gardens, are located at the corner of Bogue St. and Service Rd. on the campus of Michigan State University.

TO REGISTER FOR EVENTS

Register online at <http://4hgarden.msu.edu> or call the 4-H Children's Gardens at (517) 353-0542.

Registration is required for all events.

GARDEN EVENT E-LIST

Sign up for our e-list to receive information on garden events by email. Sign up at the 4-H Children's Gardens or by sending an email to garden4h@msu.edu.

VISIT THE GARDEN ONLINE

Find out more about the 4-H Children's Gardens and take a virtual tour at: <http://4hgarden.msu.edu>.

CONTACT

For more information, contact:

Jessica Wright, Education Coordinator
Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens
Michigan State University
1066 Bogue St.
East Lansing, MI 48824
Email: garden4h@msu.edu
Phone: (517) 353-0452

Dr. Norm Lownds, Curator
Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens
Michigan State University
1066 Bogue St.
East Lansing, MI 48824
Email: lownds@msu.edu
Phone: (517) 353-0349

Experience plants

When you visit the 4-H Children's Gardens we want you to experience plants. Here are some plant experiences to do during your visit:

- Touch and smell the flowers and leaves.
- Smell the Popcorn flower and wonder, "why would a plant smell like buttered popcorn?"
- Touch the leaves of Sensitive Plant and Lamb's Ear.
- Find a flower that is your favorite color and show it to someone.
- Take pictures of the plants in the garden.
- Look for a butterfly or a bee pollinating a flower.
- Encourage everyone you visit with to experience plants.

Scavenger Hunt

As you walk through the garden look for the QR code Scavenger Hunt signs. Scan the code with your phone and have some fun learning more about the garden and plants. At each stop you will learn something about that theme garden and something about the plants. Then there will be something to do and a clue to help you find the next sign. Have some fun exploring and learning as you become a 4-H Children's Garden expert!



Share your garden story

Finally, share your garden stories with us. The 4-H Children's Garden is all about the stories. Plant stories, theme garden stories and stories of children in the garden. We would love to hear your Great Garden Stories and see your photos. Visit our web site and click on the Share Your Stories and Photos link to upload your stories and photos. We look forward to hearing from you and enjoying your 4-H Children's Garden stories and photos!

Help us Grow!

The Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens and its programs are made possible by private donations to the Michigan 4-H Foundation and Michigan State University.

The Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens need your continued support. Think about how you might support the gardens to insure their beauty and to provide fun learning experiences for kids that encourage them to let their imaginations grow. Please consider making a donation, buying a brick, sponsoring a theme garden or program, or becoming a volunteer.

If you have questions or would like more information on giving to the gardens, please contact the curator, Dr. Norm Lownds at (517) 353-0349 or the Michigan 4-H Foundation at (517) 353-6692.