

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Extension

Iosco County

4-H



2018-2019

Welcome Packet

For New Families

Dear 4-H Family,

Welcome to 4-H, the youth development program of MSU Extension! 4-H provides youth with positive learning experiences that help build character, while developing knowledge and skills that prepare them for the future.

We hope that your experience with MSUE-Iosco County 4-H provides your family with a positive experience that you will look back on and remember for years to come. Participation in 4-H should be educational as well as fun for the whole family. We know that 4-H is a large program and can be difficult to navigate, especially for new families, and we hope that this guide will give you the information you need to find your way around.

As you become more and more involved with 4-H, you will continue to have new opportunities – even beyond Iosco County – because 4-H events occur at the county, state, national, and even international levels! All the fun starts at the club level. We encourage you to become very active with your 4-H club. Throughout the year, we ask that you keep in mind that the majority of 4-H experiences are made possible by volunteers. Volunteers and 4-H staff will do their best to make the experience positive for your family.

Throughout the year, you and your family may also be asked to lend a hand; please remember that many hands make light work, so if everyone pitches in a little the job will be done quickly. We understand that families are very busy, but any amount of help your family provides is appreciated to make sure everyone has an opportunity to enjoy the experience.

If you have any questions throughout your 4-H journey, you can always reach out to the Extension office by calling 989-362-3449 or reach me via email at raukelli@msu.edu.

Sincerely,

Kelli Rau
4-H Program Coordinator

Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, or veteran status.

MSU is an affirmative-action, equal opportunity employer.

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4-H and Iosco County MSU Extension

4-H is a youth education program for youth ages 5 through 19. It is the youth development program of our nation's Extension system. Volunteer leaders of all ages work with youth to provide fun educational experiences. Michigan State University Extension staff are responsible for the management of 4-H, as well as providing support and resources for its members and volunteers. Youth who participate in 4-H develop the skills needed to be capable, productive citizens and Leaders as they learn about new project areas.

The Smith-Lever Act formalized Cooperative Extension Service (CES) in 1914 to expand the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) partnership with land-grant universities to apply research and provide education to communities. Cooperative States Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) is the USDA agency responsible for 4-H and Extension. 4-H programming is delivered locally and operated at the state and national levels through a partnership between county governments, the Cooperative Extension Service at the state's land grant university (in Michigan, through Michigan State University Extension), and the USDA. 4-H is one of the programs offered by the county Extension office. Other programs include Master Gardeners, Food and Nutrition, and Agricultural Programs.

For more information on CES, please visit www.reeusda.gov/1700/statepartners/usa.htm

For more information on CSREES, please visit www.csrees.usda.gov

Location and Contact Information

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Website: <http://www.canr.msu.edu/4h/>

County 4-H Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/ioscoCounty4H>

Email: msue.iosco@county.msu.edu

MSU Extension Office

420 W. Lake St.

Tawas City, MI 48763

Phone: 989-362-3449

Fax: 989-984-1109

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., closed 12:30– 1:30 p.m. for lunch

Please call ahead if you plan to visit, as 4-H staff are not always present.

Iosco County 4-H Policies

Non-Discrimination: 4-H clubs cannot discriminate by means of race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, or veteran status.

4-H Age: A 4-H member's age is determined by whatever age he/she will be during the 4-H year. The 4-H year begins on September 1, but 4-H age is determined by the age that the child will be on January 1 of that following year. For example, a youth born on January 20, 2000 would have a 4-H age of 15 for the program year that runs September 1, 2015-August 31, 2016. Youth that have a 4-H age of 5 – 19 years of age may join the 4-H program. 4-H members are ages 8 – 19 and participate in both non-competitive and competitive settings. Youth that are 4-H age 5 – 7 years old are considered Cloverbuds and only participate in non-competitive settings. As part of a Community Club, Cloverbuds often have their own “hands on” activities separate from the older members. There are Cloverbud-specific projects available and a number of regular 4-H projects are available to Cloverbuds as well.

Participation Fee: All 4-H members are required to pay a \$20 participation fee (families with three or more 4-H members are only responsible for paying \$60 per family). This fee helps to enable the development of new programming and curriculum. \$5 of every participation fee remains with Iosco County 4-H to develop programs locally; the remainder is used to support statewide programming. Fee waivers or scholarships are available for 4-H families who will experience a financial burden in paying this fee. Some clubs or projects may have an additional fee.

The \$20 participation fee is only paid once per 4-H year (September 1 through August 31). If you are enrolled through 4-H in another county, you will pay the participation fee through your primary county. If you are involved in more than one club, you will pay the participation fee through your primary club. Be sure to communicate where you have paid the fee with your administrative leader and the Extension office.

Enrollment/Reenrollment: 4-H members and volunteers must enroll/reenroll each year, beginning September 1st. New members can join 4-H anytime during the year, but they may not be able to meet all of the county, club, or project requirements to participate at the fair. All enrollments and reenrollments occur via 4-H Online, our online database. More information about 4-H Online and registration can be found at <https://mi.4honline.com>. Please note that you are not considered a 4-H member until you have enrolled or reenrolled in 4-H Online (including correct authorizations, club, and project participation) AND your participation fee has been verified by the Extension office (only members and volunteers need to enroll in 4-H Online).

Volunteers: Volunteers play a vital role in the ongoing growth and development of those in the 4-H Youth Development program. Adults have a lifetime of experience to share, including education, work experience, hobbies, and talents! Any adult that wishes to enroll as a volunteer with 4-H must complete the Volunteer Selection Process (VSP) prior to enrolling in 4-H Online. This includes filling out and returning the completed packet of information that you can get from the 4-H office, completing a background check, reference check, interview, 4-H Volunteer e-Learning Course, and an in-person orientation. Volunteers who are inactive for more than a year will be required to go through VSP again prior to being considered an active volunteer.

4-H Clubs: Clubs must complete paperwork and be registered with the Extension office to be considered a 4-H club and allowed to use the 4-H name and emblem. Clubs must consist of at least five members from two or more families, have at least one registered adult volunteer, and meet a minimum of six times per year. Club leaders are encouraged to attend Leaders' Council meetings, participate in county fundraisers, and must turn in their Annual Financial Summary report every fall for audit. Club benefits include assistance and support from the 4-H office & staff, recognition for members and leaders, scholarships, leader training reimbursements, and much more. More information regarding starting a club can be found by calling the Extension office.

Financial Guidelines: Each club, volunteer, member and parent is required to follow the financial guidelines for Michigan 4-H clubs. The volunteer book can be found at http://msue.anr.msu.edu/uploads/resources/pdfs/4H1687_4-H_Volunteers_Financial_Manual_WEB2.pdf and the youth/adult treasurer book can be found at http://msue.anr.msu.edu/resources/financial_manual_for_4_h_treasurers. Please contact the Extension office with any questions.

Fundraisers: All 4-H fundraisers must have a completed fundraising authorization form submitted to the Extension office **at least two weeks prior** to the start of the fundraiser. A follow-up report form must be completed and submitted **no more than 10 days** following the event. Only authorized 4-H groups may use the 4-H name and emblem in fundraising and all funds raised using the 4-H name and emblem are considered 4-H funds. This means that fundraisers for personal use may not use the 4-H name or club name. An attempt should be made to make the fundraiser an educational activity for youth. Deciding on the best activity to raise the funds, making a good impression, money handling, and record keeping are good skills to acquire during a fundraiser. Above all, be sure youth are safe when implementing a fundraiser.

Iosco County 4-H Communication

The major way of communicating with families is through email. The email address used to create your family profile will be used for all 4-H correspondences. A 4-H newsletter will be sent quarterly with the calendar of events through the 4-H online system. Other news such as local clubs starting, camps, and other events and programs will be sent through email as needed and are an integral part of the Iosco County 4-H communication.

The Iosco County 4-H website can be found at http://www.canr.msu.edu/iosco/iosco_county_4_h/. The website has a wealth of information for 4-H'ers including many forms and helpful links.

Iosco County 4-H also hosts a Facebook page containing useful information. It can be found here: <https://www.facebook.com/iosco4H>

Many clubs also have a Facebook group so check with your leaders to see how the club communicates!

4-H Pledge

I pledge....

My head to clearer thinking

My heart to greater loyalty

My hands to larger service

My health to better living

For my club, my community, my country and my world.

The 4-H pledge, which should be said at the beginning of every club and association meeting, addresses all four areas of youth development (cognitive, emotional, social, and physical). You should work with youth to help them memorize the 4-H pledge.

4-H Emblem



The 4-H emblem is a four leaf clover with an “H” in each leaf, which stands for Head, Heart, Hands, and Health. The 4-H emblem (commonly called the 4-H clover) is protected by federal law from commercial and unauthorized use. Due to this protection, only chartered 4-H clubs and organizations are authorized to use the 4-H clover in publications and advertising. The clover must also always be seen with the 18 USC 707 trademark (with few exceptions). There are also very strict policies regarding how you may use the clover in documents, apparel, etc. (for example, text or images cannot be placed over the clover). For further explanation of these policies, visit: <http://gaston.ces.ncsu.edu/files/library/36/4-H%20Clover%20Guidelines.pdf>

National 4-H

4-H is the nation’s largest youth development organization empowering six million youth in the U.S. and is part of the Cooperative Extension system of land-grant universities.

National 4-H provides a wealth of resources, including curriculum and activities as well as fund development, for local 4-H programs. They coordinate National 4-H Week, which occurs in October each year, along with the 4-H National Youth Science Day. They partner with Tractor Supply Company to host the Paper Clover Campaign (customers can donate \$1 to their local 4-H program at each TSC store) each fall and spring. They’ve recently partnered with JoAnn Fabric’s as well. 4-H members, families & volunteers can sign up to receive discounts at JoAnn’s and also they are very supportive of hosting community service events or club meetings and events.

National 4-H also runs the 4-H Mall, which is your go-to source for 4-H gear, including curriculum, apparel, club supplies, and more. Visit <http://www.4-hmall.org/home.aspx> to find all that they offer!

For more information on National 4-H, please visit <http://www.4-h.org/>.

Did you know?

*The 4-H Motto is
“TO MAKE THE BEST BETTER”*

This expresses a continual goal of excellence—to always strive to build on our goals and skills.

Michigan 4-H Youth Development

Michigan 4-H Youth Development operates under Michigan State University Extension. The program creates informal, hands-on educational opportunities to help youth thrive in a complex and changing world. There are seven guiding principles that provide the foundation for educational methods, activities and events that positively affect the lives of Michigan's youth. These are:

1. Youth develop positive relationships with adults and peers.
2. Youth are physically and emotionally safe.
3. Youth are actively engaged in their own development.
4. Youth are considered participants rather than recipients in the learning process.
5. Youth develop skills that help them succeed.
6. Youth recognize, understand and appreciate multiculturalism.
7. Youth grow and contribute as active citizens through service and leadership.

Michigan 4-H provides a wealth of resources and activities around a variety of project and topic areas, including animal science, arts, careers and entrepreneurship, citizenship, leadership, community service, environmental and outdoor education, global and cultural education, healthy youth, life skills, science and technology, volunteering, and mentoring.

Youth can apply for different awards and scholarships at the state level. Scholarships include the Michigan Rabbit/Cavy 4-H Scholarship for those involved with the rabbit/cavy project area, Michigan State University 4-H Scholarship for high school seniors who have applied to MSU, Michigan State University Pre-College Program Scholarship for students in 8th, 9th, or 10th grade who attend an MSU pre-college program (such as 4-H Exploration Days, 4-H Great Lakes & Natural Resources Camp, 4-H Renewable Energy Camp, 4-H Animal & Veterinary Science Camp, or 4-H Capitol Experience), and Michigan 4-H Foundation Scholarships.

For more information on Michigan 4-H, please visit <http://4-H.msue.msu.edu/>.

Michigan 4-H Foundation

The Michigan 4-H Foundation is a non-profit fundraising organization that solicits, manages, grants, and stewards support from private individuals, organizations, foundations, and corporations to support Michigan 4-H Youth Development programs.

For more information on Michigan 4-H Foundation, please visit <http://mi4hfdtn.org/>.

State 4-H Workshops and Events

There are many statewide 4-H workshops and events that 4-H members can attend throughout the year. Visit the website <http://4-H.msue.msu.edu/events> to find more information about each event. These events will also be included in the newsletter.

4-H Capitol Experience – Occurs in March at the State Capitol and the surrounding area and is a four-day conference to prepare youth for active citizenship focusing on civic engagement and public policy.

Citizenship Washington Focus – This is a trip taken by Michigan 4-H youth every other year involving a week of learning and fun in our nation’s capital. The short course is designed to help participants learn the basic functions of national government.

4-H Exploration Days – The most popular 4-H event! Occurs in June at MSU and is for youth ages 11-19, leaders, and parents. Spend three days on MSU’s campus, experiencing life like a college student and attending fun hands-on workshops and events with over 2,500 youth from across the state. Registration begins in March; you will want to register ASAP when registration books are available, as sessions fill up very quickly.

4-H Great Lakes & Natural Resources Camp – Occurs in August at Camp Chickagami in Presque Isle for youth ages 13-15. Experience all that our Great Lakes have to offer as you go charter fishing, snorkeling, sailing, hiking through forests, exploring dunes, and more. There is an application that is due in May.

4-H Renewable Energy Camp – Occurs in July on MSU’s campus and is a five-day camp for youth ages 13-19. Youth explore ideas, research, and opportunities relating to renewable energy (biofuels, solar, and wind energy).

4-H Teen and Adult Leader Kettunen Center Workshops – Each year a variety of workshops are offered at the 4-H Kettunen Center in Tustin, MI. These workshops are project specific and designed to increase knowledge and skills of both teen and adult participants.

For more information on State workshops and events, please visit <http://4H.msue.msu.edu/events>.

Travel Opportunities

4-H International Exchange – There are a number of international 4-H programs available including the LABO program, where youth travel to Japan for one month and Japanese youth come to Michigan for one month. To learn more, visit:

http://4h.msue.msu.edu/programs/global_cultural_education/international_exchange_programs

Iosco County 4-H Associations and Committees

Iosco County 4-H has a variety of associations and committees to guide certain project areas and events. Youth participation is highly encouraged as many offer great leadership opportunities!

4-H Leaders' Council

4-H Leaders' Council is the association that helps to oversee activities for the county 4-H program. The 4-H Leaders' Council meets in January, March, May, June, September, October, and December. All meetings are the fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. except for the December meeting, this meeting is held the 1st Tuesday. Meeting locations alternate between the Whittemore Fire Hall in Whittemore and the Plainfield Township Hall in Hale. The 4-H Leaders' Council is run by an adult volunteer board with three teen representatives. All clubs are encouraged to send representatives to this meeting to have a voice in shaping our county program.

4-H Leaders' Council oversees the following activities:

- **Scholarships**
 - 4-H Council has a scholarship application available for all active 4-H members. Applications will be reviewed at the next Council meeting.
- **County Awards**
 - Learning, completing a project, and receiving recognition are important parts of the 4-H program. Recognition enhances the member's self-esteem, increases his or her motivation to learn, to become more involved in 4-H, to accept new responsibilities, and to set new goals. 4-H Awards are given each November in the following categories: Blue Ribbon Awards (8-11 year olds), County Medals (12+), and higher-level awards including 4-H Award of Excellence and 4-H'er of the Year. The council will create an interview committee that will select the high-level award recipients. Contact the 4-H office for more information.
- **Fundraisers**
 - 4-H Leaders' Council organizes different fundraisers throughout the year. All clubs are expected to help with the fundraisers as the funds raised go to support 4-H Council activities in all areas of the county program.

Horse Developmental Committee

The 4-H Horse Developmental Committee consists of horse project leaders from different project groups, as well as teen representatives. It provides educational opportunities for youth involved in the horse project, as well as setting policies, procedures, fundraising, and countywide events. This committee also helps in the selection of the State Horse Show delegates.

Shooting Sports Committee

The 4-H Shooting Sports Advisory Committee provides educational opportunities for youth involved in the shooting sports project as well as setting policies, procedures, fundraising, and countywide events.

Junior Market Livestock Association

The Junior Market Livestock Association is comprised of all market project members and governed by an elected youth board of twelve. The advisors of the board are the 4-H leaders, FFA Advisor, Fairboard representative, and 4-H Staff member. The executive board sets the rules for the upcoming program year. The purpose of the association is to promote and encourage youth interest in beef, sheep, small animal and swine educational projects, activities and programs. The Board of Directors shall consist of nine Association members as follows: three beef project members, three swine project members, three small animal project members, and three sheep project members.

Iosco County 4-H Clubs

There are several different types of clubs within the 4-H structure. Iosco County consists mainly of project clubs, which involve members of a variety of ages working together on a certain project area. These clubs have general club meetings, which may be held on a monthly basis that all club members attend and include club business and educational activities, focused around the club topic area. The other club model is SPIN Clubs. SPIN Clubs are special interest short-term clubs that meet for 6 hours. This can be one hour once a week, or two hours for three weeks, or even one six hour day!

4-H members may be involved with more than one club as fits their needs.

The current list of Iosco County 4-H clubs, along with a contact person, contact information, location, and project areas is located at the MSU Extension Office.

Iosco County 4-H County Programs

There are a variety of countywide programs offered each year to 4-H and non-4-H members. These programs may have a small fee to help cover the costs of the program and you will need to register for the programs.

Examples of county programs held in the past:

- Horse Developmental Committee's Horse Camp
- 4-H Cloverbud Day Camp
- 4-H Painting Nights
- North Central 4-H Summer Camp
- Teen Officer Training
- 4-H Family Nights
- 4-H Achievement Day

Iosco County Fair

The Iosco County Fair is the largest event each year where 4-H members have the opportunity to showcase the projects they have been working on all year. The Iosco County Fair is run by the Iosco County Agricultural Society. The Fair Board meets the third Wednesday of every month at Eagle Pointe Plaza in Hale.

Here are a few things to note about the fair:

1. The answers to most questions can be found by looking in the fair book, which is available online at: <http://www.ioscocountyfair.com/>. This will include the schedule for fair, general rules, camping rules, livestock regulations, and class entry information.
2. Superintendents are those volunteers that are in charge of a particular project area(s) at the fair. Contact information for each superintendent can be found on the website.
3. If your club participates in fair, they are expected to clean-up Wednesday before fair & teardown the Sunday after fair ends.
4. All projects that you would like to exhibit at fair must be submitted via an entry form.