



March 2026

4-H Family News

Jackson County Connections



Scholarships & Awards

Kyle Mason Memorial Scholarship

Due March 15th

****anything in person by 13th at 5pm****

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/jackson/4-h/newsletters-scholarships-and-awards>



Jackson County Farm Bureau Scholarship

Due March 20th

<https://www.michfb.com/about/news-media/2026-jackson-co-fb-scholarship-application-now-available>

Michigan 4-H State Awards

Due April 1st

https://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_scholarships_and_recognition_program/4-h-awards-and-recognition-program/youth-recognition/

Michigan Farm Bureau 4-H Excellence in Ag Award

4-H Emerald Clover Society

4-H Salute to Excellence Awards

All Due March 15th

<https://mi4hfdtn.org/legacy-awards/>

CONTACT US

Hayley Wineland
winela11@msu.edu
4-H Program Coordinator

Jessica Waldron
waldro45@msu.edu
4-H Program Assistant

Gerilyn Darnell
darnel37@msu.edu
Support Staff

PHONE & EMAIL:

(517) 788-4292

msue.Jackson@county.msu.edu

WEBSITE:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/jackson/4-h/>

Jackson County 4-H Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/jacksoncounty4h>

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. Issued in furtherance of MSU Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Quentin Tyler, Director, MSU Extension, East Lansing, MI 48824. This information is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names does not imply endorsement by MSU Extension or bias against those not mentioned.



COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Association Meetings Are A Great Opportunity To Meet With Superintendents To Discuss Fair Related Questions, Species Specific Info, & Expectations Packets.
Hope To See You There!!

March Meetings

Monday 9th 6:30pm

Horse Council

MSU Extension Office

Tuesday 10th 6:30pm

Small Animal Association

MSU Extension Office

Thursday 12th 6:00pm

Pocket Pets - See Flyer For Details

Tuesday 17th 6:00pm

Cloverbuds - See Flyer for Details

Wednesday 18th 6:30pm

Large Animal Association

MSU Extension Office

Monday 23rd 6:00pm

4-H Youth Council

MSU Extension Office

Tuesday 24th 6:00pm

YQCA @ JACC



Jackson County 4-H'er's who are taking **MARKET BEEF, SHEEP & OR SWINE** to fair will need to be YQCA certified. You can either take the class in-person class or do it online at your convience.

In-Person - March 24th

Sign in will be from 5:30- 6pm. Pizza will be provided by 4-H at 5:30pm

Training will start promptly at 6pm

Jackson Area Career Center - PD Room

6800 Browns Lake Rd.

\$3 per person

Register & pay by March 20th

<https://yqcaprogram.org/login/index.php>

Or

Online

<https://yqcaprogram.org/login/index.php>



JACKSON COUNTY 4-H WELDING CLASS AT THE WORKSHOP

APRIL 25TH
10AM-12PM

\$45

Includes all materials to
create a custom made
garden themed project

REGISTER AT

Jackson County 4-H
Welding Workshop | The
Workshop - Early
Vocational Center





THE GREAT 4-H PREMIUM BOOK COVER CHALLENGE

Show off your creativity & design skills for a chance to make history —the winning artwork will be featured on the official 2026 Jackson County 4-H Premium Fair Book cover.

Rules:

- Open to all Jackson Co. 4-H youth
- Artwork must be original
- Size: 8½" × 11", vertical, one-sided
- Any media allowed (paint, pencil, crayon, etc.) - NO digital artwork
- Winning artwork may not be entered in the fair
- Theme: 250th Anniversary of the U.S.A.

Drop off at the MSUE Office
by April 6

LET YOUR IMAGINATION SHINE!



COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April Meetings

Monday 6th 6:30pm
Foundation
MSU Extension Office

Tuesday 21st 6:00pm
Cloverbuds
See Flyer For Details

Wednesday 22nd 6:30pm
Fair Entry Training
See Flyer For Details

Saturday April 25th
Welding Workshop
See Flyer For Details

FAIR ENTRY TRAINING

For superintendents, check-in helpers, and volunteers/youth who may want to support:

- Managing entries
- Check-In procedures
- Entering results
- Standard and custom reports

Wednesday, April 22nd at 6:30 p.m.
Jackson MSU Extension Office

Admin Leaders are also welcome to attend, and we can discuss supporting club member enrollments

PRE- FAIR CHECK –IN APRIL 27th – May 1st

Office Hours:

Monday & Tuesday 8-5pm

Wednesday 7:30am – 5:30pm

Thursday & Friday 8-5pm

REFER TO SPECIES EXPECTATION PACKETS FOR SPECIE SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

For those needing to purchase H1N1 vaccines for their hogs, please contact the swine superintendents ASAP so we do not run out



JACKSON CO. 4-H POCKET PETS & CATS



Got a bird, a reptile, a cat, an ant farm, a gerbil, or another pocket-size pal? Join the club made just for you! Dive into hands-on activities, meet amazing guest speakers, learn how to keep your critter thriving, explore animal-focused careers, and show off your pet at the Jackson Co. Fair!

MEETING DATES:

Jan 8th

Feb 12th

March 12th

April 9th

May 14th

June 11th

TIME:

6PM -7:30PM



**MSU EXTENSION OFFICE
1715 LANSING AVE, STE 257
JACKSON, MI 49202**



SIGN UP AT

WALDR045@MSU.EDU

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT 4-H CONTACT

Jessica Waldron
at 517-788-4292



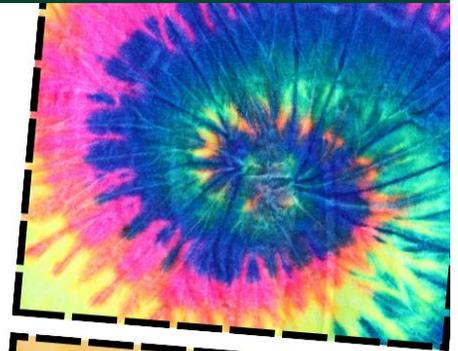
Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status. Issued in furtherance of MSU Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Quentin Tyler, Director, MSU Extension, East Lansing, MI 48824. This information is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names does not imply endorsement by MSU Extension or bias against those not mentioned



JACKSON COUNTY 4-H CLOVERBUDS

JOIN THE FUN!!

- * January 20th - Tie Dye Time
- * February 17th - Chef Cloverbud
- * March 17th - Canvas Painting
- * April 21st- Rock Lab: Explore, Sort, & Create
- * May 19th - Buzz Builders: Inside The World of Bees
- * June 16th- 4-H Council Night (activities the youth council)



ALL ACTIVITIES ARE FROM 6-7:30PM
COST \$5 PER ACTIVITY
MSU EXTENSION OFFICE
1715 LANSING AVE
STE 257
JACKSON, MI 49202

OPEN TO ALL JACKSON CO. 4-H MEMBERS
5-7 YRS OLD.
FOR MORE INFO PLEASE CONTACT JESSICA WALDRON AT
517-788-4292 OR
WALDRO45@MSU.EDU



**REGISTER AT:
WALDRO45@MSU.EDU
BY THE FRIDAY
BEFORE EACH CLASS**



Sheep & Market Goat Clinic

CHAMPIONS CHOICE CAMPS

2026 SCHEDULE

March 14

Merced, California

April 18

Princeton, Indiana

April 25

Owenton, Kentucky

May 2 & 3

Circleville, Ohio

May 16

Honey Brook, Pennsylvania

May 17

Timonium, Maryland

May 23

Jackson, Michigan

May 30

Helena, Montana

June 6

Jasper, Georgia

June 7

Cookeville, Tennessee

June 13

Location TBA, New York

June 18

Sioux Falls, South Dakota

June 20

McArthur, California

June 27

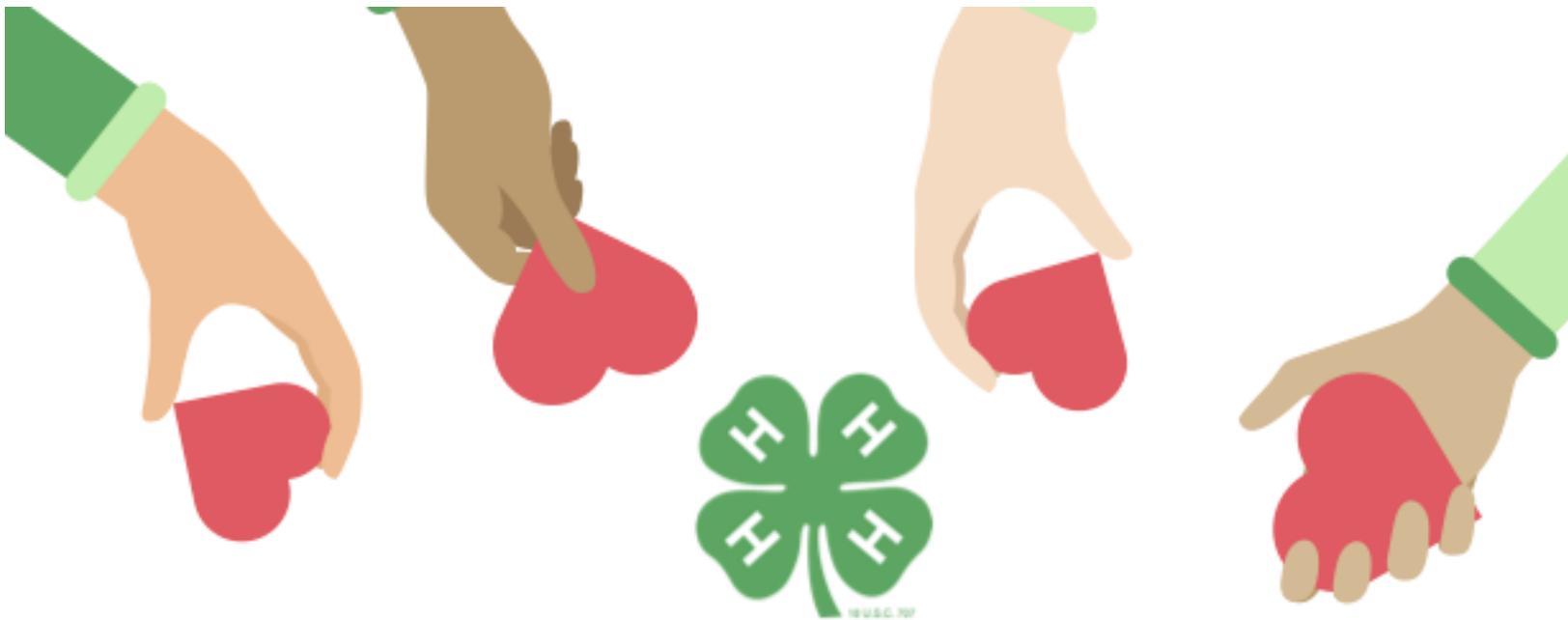
Colfax, Washington

September 19

Brownwood, Texas

October 17

Tonwaka, Oklahoma



MAKING THE BEST BETTER S.E. MI 4-H VOLUNTEER SERIES

January 29th 2026 6:30 PM

Join the Conversation: Tips for
Engagement from Seasoned
Volunteers

Live at Monroe Ext. Office or Virtual

February 12th 2026 6:30 PM

Cha-ching
Making Cents of 4-H Finances
Live at Livingston Ext. Office or
Virtual

February 26th 2026 6:30 PM

Join the Conversation: Engaging
Parents & 4-H Alums in 4-H Experiences
Live at Washtenaw Ext. Office or Virtual

March 12th 2026 6:30 PM

Youth Engagement &
Engaging Youth Voice
Live at Lenawee Ext. Office or Virtual

March 26th 2026 6:30 PM

From Clash to Collaboration Practicing
the Art of Conflict Resolution
Live at Jackson Ext. Office or Virtual

RSVP HERE!
**[HTTPS://BIT.LY/
D12VOLUNTEER](https://bit.ly/d12volunteer)**

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact Jenny Speyer at speyerje@msu.edu



STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*Preparing youth
to be
Beyond Ready*



**Beyond
Ready**

4-H's approach to readiness begins with participation in high-quality positive youth development programs.

4-H has historically helped young people prepare for work and life through the development of competencies, skills and tangible assets, resulting in youth who are healthy, productive and engaged.

The complex landscape youth face today calls us to go a step further in preparing them to navigate their readiness pathway during and after their 4-H experience.

Is your club intentionally preparing youth to be Beyond Ready for the changing world? Watch here for tips to use with your club.

#BeyondReady

March 5: Future Ready – Exploring College and Career Paths Workshop

Washtenaw County MSU Extension Office, Ann Arbor

This workshop will feature an interactive panel discussion about the variety of opportunities available for high school graduates in college, trades and more. Ideal for youth ages 12-19.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/future-ready-exploring-college-and-career-paths-workshop

March 10: 4-H Give Green Day

Online

Help us reach our goal of raising \$5,000 in a 24-hour period on Give Green Day to support learning experiences for Michigan 4-H youth.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4h-give-green-day

March 10: 4-H Wild Spartans - The Lands Has a Story to Tell – But Are We Listening?

Online

Explore the stories that nature and humans weave with Zach Wilson, forest ecologist for the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission. Learn about his career and education, and ask questions via a live Q&A. Suited for youth ages 12-19.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-wild-spartans-march

March 25: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar – Using AI Responsibly in 4-H

Online

Artificial intelligence (AI) is transforming the way we learn, work and interact. Learn what AI is, how it impacts youth development, and how to use it responsibly within 4-H. Explore MSU Extension guidance, discuss ethical considerations, and share tips for supporting youth navigating technology.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-from-sparks-to-skills-using-ai-responsibly-in-4-h

March 30- April 1: 4-H on the Move: Detroit Cultural Connection Camp

Detroit

An unforgettable spring break alternative! Build cultural awareness, empathy, and a deeper understanding of Detroit's diverse communities through guided tours, hands-on activities, and an opportunity to make a positive impact.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-cultural-connection-camp

April 1: Smart Money Missions Goosechase Game

Everywhere

This fun money management scavenger hunt game is played on the Goosechase app and is open to youth 13-19 years old residing in Michigan.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/smart-money-missions





COUNTY 4-H NEWS



Jackson County 4-H 2026 Expectation Packets

[Poultry Expectation Packet](#)

[Rabbit Expectation Packet](#)

[Goat Expectation Packet](#)

[Dog Expectation Packet](#)

[Beef Expectation Packet](#)

[Sheep Expectation Packet](#)

[Dairy Expectation Packet](#)

[Swine Expectation Packet](#)



Jackson County 4-H Exhibitors:
Please take time to review your project expectations packet, where you'll find important details for each species.

These can all be found on our MSU Extension website under 4-H [Jackson County Fair](#)



• Jackson County 4-H Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/jacksoncounty4h>

• Jackson Co. 4-H Small Animal Assoc. Facebook Page:

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

• Jackson County 4-H Livestock Assoc. Facebook Page:

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

• Jackson County Horse Council Facebook Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/232601997473213>



Fair Prep BECAUSE IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO START PREPARING

How To Market Your 4-H Livestock Project



Want to Rock Your 4-H Auction Experience?

Learn how to market your project like a pro, attract potential buyers to the auction, and write a thank you card that really stands out (because it should be more than just "thanks for supporting me")!

Check out these helpful links for tips, ideas, and inspiration to make the most of your 4-H journey!



[HTTPS://WWW.CANR.MSU.EDU/YOUTH BUSINESS GUIDE TO SUCCESS/4-H-ANIMAL-PROJECT-MARKETING-RESOURCES/BEEF](https://www.canr.msu.edu/youth_business_guide_to_success/4-h-animal-project-marketing-resources/bef)

[HTTPS://WWW.CANR.MSU.EDU/YOUTH BUSINESS GUIDE TO SUCCESS/4-H-ANIMAL-PROJECT-MARKETING-RESOURCES/SHEEP-GOATS](https://www.canr.msu.edu/youth_business_guide_to_success/4-h-animal-project-marketing-resources/sheep-goats)



[HTTPS://WWW.CANR.MSU.EDU/YOUTH BUSINESS GUIDE TO SUCCESS/4-H-ANIMAL-PROJECT-MARKETING-RESOURCES/SMALL-ANIMAL](https://www.canr.msu.edu/youth_business_guide_to_success/4-h-animal-project-marketing-resources/small-animal)

https://www.canr.msu.edu/youth_business_guide_to_success/4-h-animal-project-marketing-resources/general-marketing-resources

- [SHOWMANSHIP/ SWEEPSTAKES PACKETS](#)
- [POULTRY](#)
- [DAIRY GOATS](#)
- [MEAT GOATS](#)
- [RABBITS](#)
- [DOG OBEDIENCE](#)
- [HORSE](#)
- [SHEEP](#)
- [MARKET BEEF](#)
- [SWINE](#)
- [DAIRY](#)



JACKSON COUNTY FAIR 2026 DATES AUGUST 9TH – 15TH



COUNTY NEWS

Hay Production 101



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

Hay Production 101

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 7-8:30 p.m.
February 24 – March 12, 2026

Register today: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/2026HayProduction101/>

RUP & CCA Credits Available

MSU Extension Hay Production 101 online short course

Everything you need to know to get started growing hay

Registration is open



Take the 2026 Forage Extension Needs Assessment!



The MSU Extension Forage Team is surveying Michigan forage producers / grazers and professionals to assess industry needs.

bit.ly/forageneeds

- This feedback helps improve existing programs and create new ones.
- All responses remain confidential.



STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Open your home to a student with the 4-H International Exchange Program!

Invite an international youth (ages 12-17 years) or adult chaperone into your home and share an American experience! Michigan 4-H is looking for host families interested in opening their homes and hearts this summer. Consider sharing the clover and giving a lucky Japanese youth and your family the experience of a lifetime!

The Japanese delegation will arrive in Grand Rapids mid-July and depart mid-August, meeting their hosts for a 3.5-week stay. A host family must complete the States' 4-H International Exchange Programs online application, have a youth to match as a host brother/sister (within three years of age) be Michigan 4-H adult Gold volunteers, and participate in an interview and home visit process.



Online applications to host can be found at: <https://www.states4hexchange.org/apply/host/>. For more information, contact Michigan 4-H International Exchange Program Coordinator Jan Brinn brinn@msu.edu.

Michigan 4-H Day with the Detroit Tigers



Get your tickets for Michigan 4-H Day with the Detroit Tigers

Join Michigan 4-H and MSU Extension for a fun day at Comerica Park to watch the Detroit Tigers take on the Miami Marlins on Sunday, April 12. Michigan 4-H will be honored as the Group Charity of the Game. To celebrate, 4-H youth, volunteers, staff and their families will enjoy a discounted ticket to the game, as well as:

- Access to a pre-game, on-field opportunity. Michigan 4-H youth are invited to take a lap around the warning track of Comerica Park before the game.
- A portion of each ticket sold donated to Michigan 4-H.

There are several ticketing options available this year, in three main locations, ranging in price from \$33-54. In addition, each ticket purchased through the Michigan 4-H link will have the opportunity to purchase an exclusive co-branded Michigan 4-H and Detroit

Tigers bucket hat (while supplies last). Hats can only be purchased by purchasing a ticket through the Michigan 4-H link; however, there is an option to buy tickets without the purchase of a hat.

Learn more at www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-day-with-the-detroit-tigers.

4-H Youth in Action Program applications open

Apply now for the 2027 4-H Youth in Action Awards! This program recognizes four confident young leaders with diverse backgrounds and unique perspectives who are making a difference in their communities. Winners will have the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to share their stories along with unforgettable experiences, celebration on the national stage, recognition in the media and a \$5,000 college scholarship.

This opportunity is open to youth ages 14-19. The deadline to apply is April 13. Learn more and apply at <https://4-h.org/programs/4-h-youth-in-action-program/>.