



4-H Family News

Oct 2024

Kalamazoo County



Welcome to the 2024-2025 4-H programming year!

Starting September 15th, 2024, families and volunteers will need to log into the 4-H online database at- <http://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in> to re-enroll for the new programming year.

Some reminders-

- Any youth 5-19 years old as of January 1, 2025 will be able to enroll in the 4-H program
- There is no fee to enroll in 4-H.
- Adults who would like to be a volunteer will need to go through the MSU Extension Volunteer Selection Process (VSP) prior to working with youth, unless it has been completed previously.
- VSP completion is required for both virtual and face to face programs. For information on this process please visit- http://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/msu_extension_volunteer_selection_process
- New members may join anytime during the year, but will not be able to meet fair participation requirements if enrolled after April 1, 2025
- Re-enrollment is due no later than November 30, 2024.

CONTACT US

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WEBSITE-

<http://canr.msu.edu/kalamazoo4H>

Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/Kalamazoo-County-4-H-Youth-Program-122047197873078>

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Poultry Project News

Next up is our project meeting on

Thursday, Oct. 17th at 7pm in room B of the Expo Center –
topic to be determined - but it's bound to be fun and educational.
Put it on your calendar along with the **Nov. 21st** meeting.

Another great poultry event this month is

Fowl Fest - Michigan's only open poultry show.

It is taking place at the

**Shiawassee County Fairgrounds in Chesaning on
Saturday, Oct 12th.**

It's a great opportunity to see hundreds of beautiful birds,
talk to the breeders and maybe buy that next breed
for your home flock in the sale area.

Go To <http://www.fowlfest.org/> for more info.



Fowl Fest™
Two-Day
Double
Show!

OCTOBER 12 - 13
CHESANING, MICHIGAN
20 MILES WEST OF I-75, CLIO EXIT # 131
23 MILES EAST OF US-127, ASHLEY EXIT # 109
26 MILES NORTH OF I-69, PERRY EXIT # 105

Judges: Tim Bowles, Terry Britt, Paul Gilroy and Ron Patterson
Two-day DOUBLE Open Show, coop-out by 10am, Sunday
One-day DOUBLE Junior Show, may coop-out Saturday evening

- Early coop-in Friday from 4 - 9pm
- Spacious 6' Wide Aisles
- Single Stacked Show Cooping
- Poultry Sale Area
- Public is welcome on Saturday
- Junior Showmanship
- Hake's Twin City Poultry Supplies

FowlFest.org • entries@FowlFest.org

Clay Mills, Show Superintendent
989-763-1973

Matt Boensch, Show Secretary
989-529-7030

Saginaw County Fairgrounds, 11350 Peet Rd, Chesaning Michigan



Are you new to 4-H?

Have questions about the local, state and national 4-H programs? Come to the New Family Orientation to meet the Kalamazoo County 4-H staff on :

Thursday, October 24th in Room B at the Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds and Expo Center.
RSVP to Veronica at bolhuisv@msu.edu by October 22.

Help needed: We are planning some fun days just for our youngest 4-H members, our Cloverbuds. The first one is on November 16th from 10am -3pm. We are currently looking for gold level or teens to help with activities throughout the day. If you are available all or part of the day, please reach out to Veronica at bolhuisv@msu.edu. Veronica will be there all day and will need a minimum of 2 volunteers throughout the day to help. If you are not a current gold level volunteer please plan on completing the application process by November 1st. Youth registration for this event will start on November 1st.





Mini Horse Project

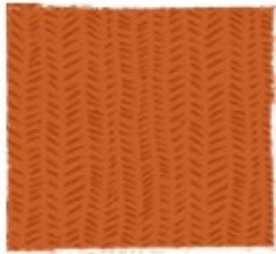


The Kalamazoo County Miniature Horse Project was a resounding success for its first year. Congratulations to all that participated. We look forward to adding in even more minis this coming year and have added in gymkhana in hand classes for the 2025 fair year! We are thankful to all of our volunteers that made this possible and to the great audience that we had.

Please follow the link below to join our Facebook page Kalamazoo County 4H Miniature Horses for updates and news found in the project guidelines.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/kalamazoo/uploads/2024%20Mini%20Horse%20Project%20-%20final.pdf>





SATURDAY,
NOV. 23rd,
2024
2pm - 4pm



4-H Holiday Ornament Party

Join the Kalamazoo ARTisans
in our studio at the Park Trades Center
to paint a personal handmade holiday ornament OR two
Make a great "thank you" gift, gift tag or holiday memory
\$5 each ornament-all materials and instruction included
Make it a party with your 4-H friends, club or family
after the holiday parade
email stasevichjackie@gmail.com to register

Richland Club

The Richland club has raised \$525 for the Bronson's Children's Hospital Fun Run. And we haven't even run yet! We set the original goal at \$100!

Thank you everyone!



The Richland club is sewing!

We will be making these cute pin cushions at the Richland Presbyterian Church on **November 10th at 3:00**.

The activity will last approximately one and a half hours.

The cost is \$7 for the needed supplies. If you would like to join us for this and other sewing projects, send an email to :

myrichland4h@gmail.com





Submit Your 4-H Member Record Book for Awards & Recognition

The Kalamazoo Co. Farm Bureau and 4-H Leader's Council sponsor awards recognizing members for their involvement in 4-H project areas and the Member Record Book is submitted as your 4-H involvement documentation.

To apply is simple:

1. Go to https://www.canr.msu.edu/kalamazoo/kalamazoo_county_4_h_1/4-h-member-resources-forms and download the Kalamazoo County 4-H Member Award Application.
2. Complete the form indicating what project areas you're applying for.
3. Be sure your record book includes a Project Record Sheet (available on the same web page) for each project you participated in each year, so the judges have an accurate picture of your involvement and achievements.
4. Have your leader sign your award application.
5. Submit your record book and signed award application to the 4-H office by the fourth Friday of October (Oct. 25, 2024).

Congrats and Good Luck!





4-H Future Squad- Virtual 4-H Club



What is 4-H Future Squad?

The 4-H Future Squad is a 4-H virtual club created for Michigan 4-H youth, ages 12-19 as of January 1, 2025, to learn new skills for their future. The club will meet October 2024-May 2025. Meetings will involve team-building and will cover areas such as money management, career readiness, stress management, goal setting, time management, communication, politics, food safety, and basic household tasks.

Club meetings will be virtual through Zoom twice monthly along with occasional, fun, optional virtual events.

4-H Future Squad can be a primary or secondary club.

How to Join

4-H membership is free and joining 4-H Future Squad unlocks access to all 4-H benefits and programs!

Are you ready to sign up? Complete the interest form on the 4-H Future Squad website to receive more information on how to enroll in this club.

"I like the community I've met. We share some similar interests, and it's a great place to discuss topics that are important life skills, in a place with other people that care about learning also."

2023-2024 4-H Future Squad member

Contact Information:

Laurie Rivetto at
rivettoL@msu.edu,

734-727-7234

Visit the 4-H Future Squad website at:

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

"My favorite part of 4-H Future Squad was learning new things and meeting wonderful people."

2023-2024 4-H Future Squad member

Photo shows members of 4-H Future Squad members meeting, in person, at the 2023 4-H Exploration Days event.

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Michigan Fair and Exhibition Industry Offers Scholarships



Community volunteers and youth have always been the backbone of Michigan fairs and festivals. In addition to youth involved with fairs, there are a number of partners such as carnivals, concessionaires and entertainers that support the Michigan fair industry. Beyond the annual fair event, there are insurance providers, equipment providers and a multitude of companies that provide support to fairs, festivals and exhibitions throughout the state. The Michigan Association of Fairs and Exhibitions (MAFE) is a member organization of these fairs, festivals and industry partners founded in 1885.

MAFE is excited to announce that **scholarships for youth involved with a MAFE member fair, festival or associate will be offered this year and presented at the annual convention banquet on Saturday, January 11, 2025, at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids.**

Up to six \$1000 scholarships will be awarded based on an **application due November 2.** The MAFE scholarships are a coveted award with over 100 applicants annually. Applications are available on the MAFE website. <https://form.jotform.com/240988554571065>. The applications are reviewed by a committee of industry volunteers with winners notified in December.

“Supporting the next generation of fair leaders through scholarships and post-secondary education is vital to our industry’s sustainability,” shared John Schut, MAFE Executive Director. “In addition to leadership and growth opportunities at the annual convention, Michigan youth are also able to network with leaders in the fair and exhibition industry.” MAFE was established in 1885 and is a voice for the Michigan fair and festival industry. MAFE member fairs and festivals serve all 83 Michigan counties.

Michigan agricultural fairs are an economic and social asset to their communities and the state. They are the ultimate showcases of Michigan agriculture. With a normal attendance of nearly 4.5 million attendees, which is roughly half the population of the state, people of all ages come to enjoy the fun, food, and entertainment they provide of the state, people of all ages come to enjoy the fun, food, and entertainment they provide.

For more information please contact the Michigan Association of Fairs and Exhibitions office at 517-317-4544 or mifairs@gmail.com.



Michigan 4-H Youth Code of Conduct



The opportunity to participate in or attend 4-H activities is a privilege. All 4-H participants – youth, families, volunteers, and Extension staff who participate in or attend any activity or event sponsored by the Michigan State University Extension 4-H Youth Development Program are expected to uphold the values of the Michigan 4-H program.

All 4-H youth participants must conduct themselves according to the following standards that apply to all Michigan 4-H programs, including virtual programs, and interactions such as social media and internet engagement-

- 1. Create a Welcoming Environment for All.** Encourage everyone to fully participate in 4-H. Recognize that all people have skills and talents that can help others and improve the community. Though we will not always agree, we must disagree respectfully. When we disagree, try to understand why. Our first priority is to create a safe, inclusive space for learning, sharing and collaboration that is welcoming to people from diverse backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives. Diversity includes, but is not limited to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status.
- 2. Bring Your Best Self.** Conduct yourself in a manner that reflects honesty, integrity, self-control, and self-direction. Accept the results and outcomes of 4-H activities and programs with grace and empathy for other participants. Accept the final opinions of judges and evaluators. Be open to new ideas, suggestions, and opinions of others.
- 3. Obey the Law.** Obey the laws of the locality, state and nation and Michigan State University and Extension policies and guidelines. Commit no illegal acts. Do not possess, offer to others, or use alcohol, illegal drugs, marijuana, or tobacco products, which include e-pens, e-pipes, e-hookah, e-cigars, JUULs, vapes, vape pens or other electronic nicotine delivery systems. Do not attend 4-H activities under the influence of alcohol or illegal substances. Do not possess or use weapons or firearms except as expressly permitted as part of supervised 4-H shooting sports programming. This includes dangerous or unauthorized materials such as explosives or similar items.
- 4. Honor Diversity – Yours and Others'.** Respect and uphold the rights and dignity of all persons with whom you interact as part of Michigan 4-H.
- 5. Create a Safe Environment.** Be kind and compassionate toward others. Be considerate and courteous of all persons and their property. Do not carelessly or intentionally harm or intimidate anyone in any way (verbally, mentally, physically, or emotionally). Do not insult, harass, or bully others or engage in other hostile behaviors, including sexual harassment, sexual assault or sexual abuse. Abstain from sexual behavior and intimate physical/sexual contact in either public or private situations at an MSU Extension youth 4-H activity or event.
- 6. Be a Team Player.** Work cooperatively with all individuals involved in 4-H programs and activities. Be responsive to the reasonable requests of the person in charge such as volunteers and staff. Respect the integrity of the group and the group's decisions.
- 7. Humane Treatment of Animals.** Treat animals humanely and provide appropriate animal care.
- 8. Participate Fully.** Participate in and contribute to planned programs, be on time and follow through on assigned tasks/responsibilities in a manner that fosters the safety, well-being, and quality of the educational experience for self and others.

Have fun!



STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

4-H scholarships available!



Outstanding Michigan 4-H members who are involved at county, regional, state, national or international levels are eligible to apply for Michigan 4-H scholarships to help fund their college experience.

A number of scholarship opportunities exist, ranging in value from \$500 to \$10,000 (over the course of four years). Each scholarship has specific eligibility, be sure to read the requirements to see if you qualify.

All applications are due by November 1.

Learn more and access applications materials at: www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_scholarships_and_recognition_program/4_h_scholarships.

October 5-6: MSU Tollgate Pumpkinfest

Tollgate Farm, Novi

Pumpkinfest is a family-friendly event at MSU Tollgate Farm. Enjoy a harvest celebration of wagon rides, u-pick pumpkin patch, cider, donuts, food, music and activities on the farm.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/pumpkinfest-2024

October 6-12: National 4-H Week

Nationwide

For over 100 years, 4-H has inspired families, shaped careers, and impacted communities. During this week, celebrate the impact of 4-H during National 4-H Week.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/national-4-h-week

October 9: Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol

Heritage Hall, Lansing

An education and awareness event to elevate knowledge of Michigan 4-H with Michigan legislators and to share the impact of its programming across Michigan.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-day-at-the-capitol

October 10: Wild Spartans – From the Desert to the Deep Sea

Online

Join as we take a look into life working with fisheries and wildlife! This month, dive into the depths of the ocean to explore the world of sharks and marine science! Meet researchers, learn about their field work, and the education and career path they've followed to get there.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-monthly-wildlife-fisheries-webinar-series-2024-25

October 23: 4-H Volunteer Webinar - Building Strong Relationships Through Every Stage

Online

Understanding the development of youth is crucial for building strong, positive relationships. In this webinar, explore the key stages of child and youth development and the common characteristics that young people share as they grow. This session will be offered twice for the convenience of volunteers.

12-1 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-positive-youth-development-101-building-strong-relationships-through-every-stage

7-8 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-positive-youth-development-101-building-strong-relationships-through-every-stage7pm





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Wild Spartans series is back!

The ever popular 4-H Wild Spartans series is back for a new season! Join 4-H staff as they meet scientists from across MSU Extension, the MSU Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and more!

Follow along as we climb through bogs, peer into bear dens, mist net songbirds, snorkel for fish, or perhaps even tag deer. Meet researchers, learn about their field work, and the education and career path they've followed to get there. Sessions last approximately 30 minutes and will feature 1-2 guest researchers. Following presentations, youth will be encouraged to ask questions to learn more through a live Q&A with scientists.

Suggested audience age is 12-19 years. Viewers are encouraged to watch together with their families. This free series is open to both 4-H members and non-4-H members. Monthly sessions will be held on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. ET, October through March.



Join Us Online
WILD SPARTANS
 MONTHLY WILDLIFE & FISHERIES WEBINAR SERIES
 FOR FAMILIES INTERESTED IN EXPLORING
 SCIENCE * RESEARCH * CAREERS * CONSERVATION
 October-March, 2nd Tuesday of each month | 6:30 PM EST

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension



For more information and registration, visit www.canr.msu.edu/environmental_outdoor_education/wild-spartans-series.



Join
4-H FUTURE SQUAD
 A virtual 4-H club for youth 12-19 years old focused on life skills for the future

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

Join the 4-H Future Squad!

Figuring all this "adulthood" out can be hard! If you are a 12-19 year-old youth in Michigan, join 4-H Future Squad in learning more about important life skills for YOUR future.

4-H Future Squad was inspired by Generation Z youth seeking life skill development for a better future for themselves and their peers. This will be the fourth year of the program, which is designed to help youth feel prepared and ready to take on the future and adulthood.

The club will meet twice a month October 2024 through May 2025, virtually through Zoom. Meetings will involve team-building and will cover areas such as money management, career readiness, stress management, goal setting, time management, communication, politics, food safety and basic household tasks.

Club meetings for the 2024-2025 year will take place on a variety of days of the week. Current meeting dates and times will be communicated via e-mail and on the upcoming programs webpage.

"I like the community I've met. We share some similar interests, and it's a great place to discuss topics that are important life skills, in a place with other people that care about learning also."

- 2023-2024 4-H Future Squad member

This club can be your primary or secondary club. For more information and to get registered, visit: www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-future-squad/.