



SUMMER 2025

4-H Family News

Leelanau County



Summer is Here!

Leelanau County 4-H is excited to continue our favorite summer traditions, and introduce something new! This summer, you'll find us at community events like the Leelanau Cheese Fest, Leelanau Farmer's Market Youth Day in Suttons Bay, the Parenting Communities Street Fair, and our 4-H Cherry Connection event during Cherry Festival week at the Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Center.

We're also looking forward to our annual participation in the Northwestern Michigan Fair, featuring livestock shows, crafts, and more. Plus, we're thrilled to launch a brand-new 4-H Swim School in late August!

Read on to learn more about all the exciting things happening with Leelanau County 4-H this summer!

Danny Schaub, 4-H Program Coordinator



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COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Tractor Safety

Each spring, the hum of tractors and the focused energy of young learners fill the grounds of the Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Center. This May was no different, as Leelanau County 4-H once again hosted its annual Tractor Safety program, an opportunity for local youth to gain hands-on experience, build practical knowledge, and grow in confidence behind the wheel of a tractor.

Nine youth signed up for the course this year, eager to take on the challenge. Over the course of several weeks, they participated in classroom lessons and real-life driving practice under the guidance of two experienced volunteer instructors. Using the Purdue Extension *Gearing Up for Safety* curriculum, the program emphasized not just technical know-how, but also the importance of responsibility, awareness, and safety on the farm.

For many, this was their first time driving a tractor, an exciting and sometimes intimidating milestone. But as the weeks went on their confidence grew. Laughter, encouragement, and determination could be seen and heard throughout the sessions as the youth mastered gear shifting, turning, reversing, and navigating hills and moving cherry tanks safely.

By early June, eight of the participants successfully passed both their written and practical exams. Each was awarded a certificate and a tractor safety license.

This program continues to be a highlight of Leelanau County 4-H, providing youth with real-world skills that serve them both on and off the farm. More than just a certification, it's a step toward becoming capable, responsible agricultural leaders in their communities.





COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Congratulations Seniors!!!



My name is Addie LaPaugh I just graduated from Glen Lake and will be attending Western Michigan University to study interior design in the fall. This is my 8th year in 4-H.

What 4-H means to me: One of the most important things 4-H has given me is confidence. Whether I was giving a presentation in front of a group, organizing a community service project, or preparing animals for show, I learned to trust myself and my abilities. These experiences taught me how to speak clearly, lead a team, and handle responsibility—skills that will directly support my success in college. Public speaking, for example, is no longer something I fear. I know how to prepare, practice, and present effectively, which will be crucial for class presentations and future professional interactions.

My Name is Caleb Chinlund. I am a senior at Traverse City Christian School. 4H has been an excellent opportunity for me to grow in my daily responsibilities of keeping livestock and maintaining a strong work ethic. Fair week has also been a highlight of my summers! I love the people and fun activities that take place during that week!



My name is Everett Howell. I graduated early, in January, as Valedictorian for Greenspire High School's class of 2025. I have been in 4-H since I was 7 and have loved every minute of it. I enjoy skiing, which I learned through 4-H, and most other sports or activities, such as mountain biking and basketball. 4-H has helped to guide me to be the person I am today and it has taught me everything from how to shoot an arrow to how to communicate effectively with those around me. I plan on finishing my associate's at NMC before transferring out to MSU or U of M. Without 4-H, I don't think I would be where I am today.

Congratulations to these additional seniors not pictured: Violet Claar, Sophia DiPisa, Hadley Holmes, Isabelle Plamondon, Leni Witt



COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Embryology Program -Glen Lake



This April, Glen Lake Public Schools partnered with Leelanau 4-H to bring hands-on science learning to 17 youth in the High-Five Program through an exciting embryology project. Thanks to new equipment purchased last year, including an automatic egg turner, candling light, and brooder, students were able to explore the full chicken life cycle in real time.

Youth set 22 eggs and successfully hatched chicks. Along the way, they learned how to candle eggs to check for development, identified which eggs were fertilized, and experienced the excitement of watching chicks hatch live in the classroom. Students also explored the stages of chick development and made connections to human development.



NEW! Swim School

Improve your swimming skills and have fun with our 6-lesson swim class this August! Classes will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays, starting on August 11th and ending on August 27th. We offer three levels to suit all swimmers: Beginner (11 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.), Intermediate (11:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.), and

Advanced (12:30 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.). The first lesson will take place at Northport Highlands, and all subsequent lessons will be held at Nedows Bay Beach. The class is designed to help swimmers of all levels build confidence and improve their technique. Each session is 30 minutes long, and the cost is free. Sign up now and get ready to dive into an exciting summer of swimming!

<https://leelanau4-hswim.4honline.com>



2025 4-H SWIM SCHOOL

Have fun and improve your swimming skills!
A 6 lesson swim class taught by **CERTIFIED** instructors.

Mondays and Wednesdays
**August 11th, August 13th, August 18th, August 20st,
August 25th, August 27th**

3 Levels and times available:
Beginner: 11:00 a.m - 11:30 a.m
Intermediate: 11:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m
Advanced: 12:30 p.m - 1:00 p.m
Only 12 swimmer slots available per level!

First Class: Northport Highlands
Other Classes: *Tentatively* Nedows Bay beach
Class is free! To register:

Sign up to 4-H here: 4honline.com
Then call 231-256-9888 or email schaubda@msu.edu
Information: <https://leelanau4-hswim.4honline.com>



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COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Leelanau County Community Events and Booths!



Leelanau County 4-H engaged youth and families in a variety of interactive educational activities this summer to promote healthy living and increase awareness of local 4-H opportunities. The 4-H smoothie bike was brought to both the Kids Day at the Leelanau Farmers Market and the Leelanau Cheese Fest, where youth selected ingredients, pedaled to blend their smoothies, and enjoyed the final product, all while learning about the importance of physical activity and healthy eating.

Additionally, local 4-H clubs collaborated to host a petting zoo and arts and crafts booth at the Northwest Michigan Horticulture Research Station during Cherry Fest. Participants learned about livestock, grape leaves, and upcoming 4-H programming while creating rock paintings, cork creatures, and origami. In total, over 600 youth and adults interacted with these hands-on 4-H activities across all events.



Image: vespamax on Pixabay



Leelanau County at Exploration Days



Leelanau County once again arranged transportation for youth from Leelanau, Grand Traverse, Manistee, and Antrim counties to attend Exploration Days at MSU. This year, thirteen youth participated from Leelanau County. While taking part in this mini-college experience, participants had the opportunity to learn from skilled instructors on a wide range of topics, from coffee syrup making and veterinary medicine to rugby. In addition to hands-on learning, youth enjoyed fun events like the dance, the UNO tournament, and grabbing ice cream from the MSU Dairy Store. Everyone hopes more youth go down next year!

4-H Sail Champion Adventure Camp 2025

July 18th and 21st

Sail Champion is a nonprofit that brings together sailing, history and community to build the capacity for resilience in youth in partnership with Leelanau 4-H. Sail the waters of West Grand Traverse Bay to Power Island aboard Champion, a 39 foot classic sailboat. Guided by a licensed captain, crew members, and you! Learn through hands-on experience and great adventure, go swimming in the bay, and more!



Who: 6 Youth, Ages 11+

Where: Northport Marina, G. Marsten Dame Marina (Northport Harbor), 105 Rose St, Northport, MI 49670

When: 9:30 am-4:00 pm on Monday, July 18 and 21st

What to bring: packed lunch, water bottle, hat/sunglasses, swimsuit (optional), and a towel

Cost: \$30/day joined



**To register, contact Danny
Schaub: schaubda@msu.edu or
256-9888**

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Visit the Fair!
August 3rd - 9th, 2025

**Please enter the campground or fairgrounds from
3606 Blair Townhall Rd.**

The Northwestern Michigan Fair was Established in 1908

The purpose of this Association shall be the PROMOTION of Michigan Agriculture, Horticulture, EDUCATION, Mechanical Arts, Fine Arts, Fruit and Grain Products, Stock Raising and Dairy Products, Domestic Science, and Kindred Interests throughout the Grand Traverse Region, to be accomplished in part by hosting the annual Fair celebrating area agriculture and youth PROGRAMS.



Fill the Tanner Building with club exhibition booths!

The tanner building would love your
clubs to display your hard work and
dedication by putting up club
booths!



Be sure to also partake in the
clover awards! A great chance to
be interviewed and win a \$100
VISA gift card, a certificate, and a
ribbon.

Tanner Building Coffee Tumbler Sale!

Get your fair week Coffee & Donuts in style!



New tumblers: \$25

Last year's tumblers can be used again for
\$20 (includes a new sticker)

Good for coffee during the fair's Coffee and
Donuts mornings!

***Can be used for tea,
coffee, or hot coco!***



Proceeds benefit Tanner Building 4-H youth
events and 4-H Livestock Council Teen
Representatives activities.



Support the Leelanau 4-H Youth Association!

Come buy some Leelanau 4-H merch and support Leelanau 4-H YA!

T-shirts- \$15

Hoodies- \$25

Hats- \$15

Socks/Bags \$10



Located in the tanner building during fair week!

Funds help provides scholarships to state-wide and local events and support programing needs in the area!



STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Welcome Back MSU 4-H Alumni Reception

Are you a current or former 4-H'er?

Join us for the MSU Welcome Back 4-H Alumni Reception

Sept. 3

5:30 - 7 p.m.



Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension * 4-H GROWS HERE

Join MSU Extension for the eighth annual MSU Welcome Back 4-H Alumni Reception on Wednesday, September 3.

All current or former 4-H'ers attending MSU this fall are invited to stop by the Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. for networking and free dinner!

Members of the MSU Extension staff will be on site to interact with 4-H alums and free pizza and pop will be provided. Come to meet fellow 4-H'ers, network with staff and students and have fun.

Learn more at www.canr.msu.edu/events/msu-welcome-week-4-h-alumni-reception.

Want to learn more about collegiate 4-H at MSU? Plan to stop by this event and stay for the club's first meeting of the fall semester, to start at the conclusion of the event.

August 2: Breakfast on the Farm

MSU Horse Teaching and Research Center, Lansing

Live in or around Ingham County? Stop by Breakfast on the Farm at the MSU Horse Teaching and Research Center. The event will include tours of the farm and great food.

www.canr.msu.edu/breakfast_on_the_farm/find_a_breakfast

August 14-17: 2025 Michigan 4-H State Horse Show

MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

The State 4-H Horse Show is an annual, three-day event that brings together 4-H members from counties across Michigan. Members are selected by their county 4-H programs to participate in this event; spectators are welcome.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-state-horse-show

August 14: Beach Day

Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens, East Lansing

Celebrate the end of summer at the garden with a day at the beach! Make sand castles, paint shells, play beach games and more. Bring your beach towel and suit and come ready to get wet.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/beach-day

August 18: Adulthood 101 - Navigating Life: Addressing and Handling Peer Pressure

Online

This interactive presentation will explore the reality of peer pressure and ways to identify, process, and overcome it, to ensure healthy decision making and positive self-confidence.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulthood-101-navigating-life

September 17: Adulthood 101 – Professionalism: Communicate, Dress and Deliver with Confidence

Online

Learn the essentials for thriving in any professional environment—from effective verbal and written communication to dressing the part and following through on commitments.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulthood-101-professionalism

September 20: Michigan State 4-H Dog Show

Shiawassee County Fairgrounds, Corunna, MI

The 4-H State Dog Show is an annual, single-day event that brings together 4-H'ers from counties across Michigan. Registration is due by August 31 and spectators are welcome!

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/2025-michigan-state-4-h-dog-show>





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Safe food for 4-H events

Food safety is important when hosting food events or fundraisers. A new fact sheet, **Safe Food for 4-H Events**, was created to provide education and resources for 4-H staff, volunteers and youth who are coordinating and participating in 4-H food fundraisers or events. View the factsheet at www.canr.msu.edu/resources/safe-food-for-4-h-events.

In addition, MSU Extension held a training on food safety best practice guidelines for those who are planning for, preparing and implementing food fundraisers or events. 4-H families are encouraged to watch the training online at https://mediaspace.msu.edu/media/Safe+Food+for+4-H+Events/1_krsqfes3.

As 4-H families plan fundraisers and other activities throughout the year, remember to review these important resources as a reminder of food safety best practice recommendations.



Going home: Biosecurity tips for animals that travel off the farm

Adapted from: https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/biosecurity_tips_for_animals_that_went_to_the_county_fair.

Animals that are exhibited at the county fair, jackpot shows, and other exhibitions are likely near and dear to their exhibitor's hearts. Michigan State University Extension offers these biosecurity steps exhibitors can take to protect their show animals and those that were left at home once the event has ended.

- Keep animals that left home separate from animals that did not for a minimum of 14 days. If at all possible, do not allow nose-to-nose contact and provide as much distance between animals.
- Disinfect all buckets, feeders, tools and footwear that left home.
- Throw away any feed or hay that left home.
- Always wear clean clothes and footwear. Boot coverings may be helpful when caring for isolated animals.
- Take care of animals that stayed home from the show first, and animals that were at the show second. Do not go back and forth between animals as this increases the risk of cross-contamination.
- Do not eat or drink in the barn.
- Observe animals daily for signs and symptoms of illness, such as:
 - Obvious pain or discomfort
 - Decrease in appetite and water intake
 - Fever
 - Lethargy
 - Diarrhea or changes in consistency in manure
 - Discharge from nasal cavity or eyes
 - Overall weakness

Care of animals after traveling is just as critical as their pre-show care. Exhibited animals were exposed to new animal populations and fair-goers, and will typically experience a lot of stress during their time away from home. By practicing these biosecurity steps, you can help keep all of your animals safe and healthy.

