

# Happy April!

Many clubs have now begun their meetings for the year, and leaders are using Facebook and email to communicate with members—if you have not already joined your club Facebook groups, please find them listed <u>here</u> at the bottom of the page and send a request to join! Please let me know if you feel you are not receiving communications from your leaders, and I will be happy to help.

While a bit early yet, we are working to certify two leaders in the 4-H Shooting Sports discipline, and look forward to offering that once again. Plans continue for summer day camp, as well as some other upcoming opportunities for youth this summer—including the famous Exploration Days! Please stay tuned for information about an orientation session, and start thinking about whether you will have youth in attendance, and whether you might want to chaperone with the delegation that attends! We need both male and female adult chaperones, approximately one for every 10 kids in attendance, so if you are willing—please volunteer! We will be offering scholarships for youth and chaperones to attend. There is an online info packet available with session information, please reach out if you'd like to learn more about the opportunity (or would like to pick up a printed copy at the office)! Transportation will not be provided this year, but families can arrange to carpool to campus.

There will be a **mandatory** YQCA training session offered on **May 16th at 6:30pm** in the auditorium at Ogemaw Heights High School, please hold this date and time in your calendar. Registration information and link will be available soon!

I am also looking to offer Earth Month opportunities for April! I am hoping to offer an Earth Day cleanup event on April 23rd, in partnership with the Michigan DNR's Adopt-A-Forest program, please let me know <u>here</u> if you are interested in attending! I was able to get 20x tree seed germination kits from the nonprofit organization <u>One Tree Planted</u>. Each kit includes: a mini greenhouse, seeds, soil, and perlite, and will come with a student book with instructions and information about the process of growing a tree from a seed! **Want to get your hands on a kit?** Sign up in <u>4-H Online</u> by adding "*One Tree Planted Seed Germination Kits*" to your list of clubs, OR email me at defeijte@msu.edu!

Enya

Ogemaw County 4-H Program Coordinator

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#### **Contact Us**



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Web Site <u>https://</u> www.canr.msu.edu/ ogemaw/4-h/

Facebook <u>https://</u> <u>www.facebook.com/</u> <u>MSUExtensionOge-</u> <u>mawCounty4H</u>

## MSU Masking Guidelines Lifted



In early March, Michigan State University (MSU) updated their COVID-19 mask guidance. These changes impact attendees of MSU Extension and Michigan 4-H programs occurring on and off MSU property.

As of March 8, masks are no longer required at MSU Extension or Michigan 4-H programs, events, offices or meeting rooms.

While not a requirement, Michigan 4 -H in-person events are still encouraged to follow best practices that include meeting outside when possible, keeping participant numbers below maximum capacity to allow for social distancing, offering hand sanitizer and respecting the continued use of masks by those who choose to wear them.

As always, the most upto-date guidelines for Michigan 4-H can be found at extension.msu.edu/ approvedactivities.

# **4-H Statewide Events and Workshops**

#### April 2: Reality Fair

#### Heilmann Recreation Center, Detroit

Gain experience making real-life financial decisions in this money management simulation. <u>https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/realityfair</u>

#### April 4: Michigan 4-H Month of the Military Child Goosechase (Online)

Join Michigan 4-H to celebrate military families and children during the Month of the Military Child! New missions will be released every week through May 4. https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-month-of-the-military-child-goosechase

#### April 7: Adulting 101—Paying for Post-Secondary Education (Online)

This series helps youth and young adults prepare for life on their own. Different topics will be offered each Thursday in April. The first session will explore different ways to help pay for the cost of college, trade school, and other post high school educational opportunities. https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting-101-spring-paying

#### April 9 or 10: 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Certification Workshop

Ralph MacMullan Conference Center, Roscommon Interested in leading shooting sports with a 4-H club? Become a certified instructor at this oneday workshop! Each day offers an independent workshop leading to its own certification. <u>https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/ss\_instructor\_certification\_spring22</u> <u>https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-shooting-sports-instructor-certification-workshop-2</u>

#### April 12: Wild Spartans—Great Lakes Fish Investigations (Online)

Head out onto the Great Lakes to learn about fish of all sizes - from tiny venomous catfish to massive lake sturgeon. Meet Michigan DNR Fisheries Technician Brad Utrup and learn about his field work, and the education and career path he followed to get there. https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-series-april-2022

#### **April 16: Montcalm County 4-H Goat Show**

Montcalm County Fairgrounds, Greenville Do you have a goat who you think is the GOAT (Greatest of All Time)? Bring them to the Mont-

calm County Fairgrounds for the 4-H Goat Educational and Fun Show. Open to all. https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/montcalm-county-4-h-goat-show

#### **April 23: Mock Interview Day**

MSU Tollgate Farm and Education Center, Novi Gain confidence, communication and career readiness skills as you also gain tips on networking and interviewing. Includes opportunities to practice and receive feedback. https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/mock22

#### **April 28: Line Dancing Lessons with Lia**

Montcalm County Fairgrounds Ash Building, Greenville Join an evening of fun on your feet! Lia of Lia's Line Dance will teach you the basic steps of line dancing. This event is free and open to all. https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/line-dance-lessons-with-lia2

For the most up-to-date events listing, go to http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events.



# Be a Wild Spartan in 2022!

Join 4-H staff as we take a look into life working with fisheries and wildlife! This month's 4-H Wild Spartans Series will head out onto the Great Lakes to learn about fish of all sizes- from tiny venomous catfish to massive lake sturgeon.

Join us on Tuesday, April 12th, 2022 at 6:30pm EST for "Great Lakes Fisheries Investigations." You will meet Michigan Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Technician, Brad Utrup, learn about his field work, and the education and career path he followed to get there. This scientist will take us above and below the water is a presentation full of photos and media detailing the work the Lake St. Clair Fisheries Research Station performs. Youth will be encouraged to ask questions to learn more through a live Q&A. This free series is open to 4-H and non-4-H youth ages 12-19 years. Monthly sessions will be held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm EST.

Pre-registration is required: <u>https://events.anr.msu.edu/</u>



# Join Us Online WILD SPARTANS

SCIENCE \* RESEARCH \* CAREERS \* CONSERVATION

GREAT LAKES FISHERIES INVESTIGATIONS WITH BRAD UTRUP, FISHERIES RESEARCH TECHNICIAN MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

April 12 | 6:30 PM EST

Registration required:

https://events.anr.msu.edu/wildspartans2022/





# Call for volunteers!

Do you have an interest in any of the following topic areas?

- Cooking/baking
- Fishing
- Hiking
- Art
- Gardening
- Embryology/
  Poultry
- Outdoor Skills
- Or any other fun topics?

We are looking for adults in the community to join the Ogemaw County 4-H volunteer team and lead SPIN Clubs! SPIN clubs are short, 6 to 8 week clubs that focus on one topic & project for the duration of the club.

Sound like fun? Please reach out to me to learn more!

**Contact:** Enya deFeijter 4-H Program Coordinator <u>defeijte@msu.edu</u> 989-345-0692



GROWS HERE



# May 16th, 2022 at 6:30pm

Ogemaw Heights High School Auditorium 960 M-33 West Branch, MI 48661



\$5.00 for YQCA On-site \$12.00 for YQCA Online

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# Mandatory YQCA Training

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) is a national multi-species quality assurance program for youth ages 8 to 21. YQCA is designed as an annual education and certification program focused on food safety, animal well-being and character awareness.



#### Who should attend....

All youth exhibiting an animal at the Ogemaw County Fair are required to complete a YQCA certification class.

#### Age breakdown....

Ages 8-18 yrs old: can attend in-person or complete training online 19 yrs old: must complete YQCA online

Youth must register online at least ONE WEEK prior to the selected workshop. Workshops are on a first come, first serve basis until full. No walk-ins will be accepted on site. All payments must be made in advance.

# **Contact:**

Enya deFeijter 4-H Program Coordinator 989-345-0692 defeijte@msu.edu

# May 16th, 2022 at 6:30pm



**Ogemaw Heights High School Auditorium** 960 M-33 West Branch, MI 48661

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#### **YQCA Online Certification:**

Youth Quality Care Assurance certification can be completed online as well. Please note the following details:

- Cost: \$12.00
- Who: Open to youth exhibitors ages 8-19 years of age.
- Time: Youth can complete the course at their convenience online at any point. Each module takes 15-20 minutes with there be a total of five (5) modules.
- Certification Expiration: Certification is good one (1) year from the date of passing exam.

How to register for online trainings: Go to http://yqcaprogram.org and log in/create an account. After logging in, you will need to select the correct YQCA class depending on age of the participant.

#### **YQCA Online Test Out Option:**

New, this year YQCA is offering a test-out option that consists of 50 questions. Youth must receive a passing score of at least 80% to receive certification through this option. Youth will only be given one chance to pass. Failure to receive a passing score will result in youth having to take the certification course either online or in-person.

- Cost: \$36.00-\$48.00
- Who: 12, 15, and 19 years old
- Certification Expiration: Certification is good for three (3) or four (4) years from date of passing depending on age.

How to register online: Go to http://yqcaprogram.org and create an account. Once created you will be redirected to log in with the same information. After logging in, you will need to select the correct YQCA class depending on age.



**YQCA** has help documents available for parents and youth, scan the code to the left to find them!

**Contact:** 

989-345-0692 defeijte@msu.edu

Enva deFeijter 4-H Program Coordinator

# **April is Earth Month!**

Ogemaw County 4-H is looking to gauge interest in an Earth Day Event! The proposed idea is to partner with other counties around the state, as well as Michigan DNR and their Adopt-a-Forest program to clean up our forests. Participants will also learn about the importance of forest ecosystems, and how we can help protect them.

#### SURVEY: https://forms.gle/HpCA395VxJxTwG7GA

The Adopt-a-Forest volunteer cleanup program was established as a leader in connecting people to protect Michigan's forests in 1991. The program shares the importance of clean and healthy forests, improves recycling and responsible trash disposal and works to stop illegal dumping. Led by the Department of Natural Resources, the program is a partnership of the DNR, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy, and Michigan-based USDA Forest Service. In the program's history, more than 2 million acres of forest land have been cleaned up, with 100,000 tires removed and tens of thousands of cubic yards of trash properly disposed of. This work is critical to protecting public forest lands for future generations.

More info: <u>https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-350-</u> 79137\_79767\_107392---,00.html





One Tree Planted is a non-profit environmental charity on a mission of global reforestation. Planting trees around the globe they seek to involve individuals and communities to restore forests, create habitat for biodiversity, and make a positive social impact around the world. In March, I reached out to their T.R.E.E.S. School Program Coordinator and was

able to order 20x tree seed germination kits in celebration of Earth Month! **Each kit includes: a mini green**house, seeds, soil, and perlite, and will come with a student book with instructions and information about the process of growing a tree from a seed!

# Want to get your hands on a kit?

Sign up in <u>4-H Online</u> by adding "*One Tree Planted Seed Germination Kits*" to your list of clubs, OR email me at <u>defeijte@msu.edu</u>!



# Michigan 4-H Presents April Money Management Contests!

Join Michigan 4-H for a series of fun contests and workshops leading up to National Financial Literacy Month in April. Expand your knowledge and compete with other youth across Michigan to earn prizes in money management challenges. For more details visit www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-money-smarts.

#### Cash Composition Contest (9-12 years old)

Youth residing in Michigan, <u>age 9-12</u> have a chance to win \$100 by writing a 300 word (or less) essay on "paying yourself first." Contest registration and essay submission must be complete by April 11. Learn more at <u>www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-money-smarts/money-smart-kids-contest</u>.

#### Show Your Money Smarts Contest (13-19 years old)

Michigan youth <u>age 13-19</u> will compete in an online quiz challenge taking place the entire month of April for a chance to win \$100. High scoring youth will be entered into the drawing for four \$100 prizes. Contest registration must be complete by April 28. Learn more at <u>www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-money-smarts/show-your-money-smarts-contest</u>.

Youth who want to prepare for the contests may take part in a webinar on April 13 at 4:30 p.m. (<u>www.canr.msu.edu/events/youth-money-4-13</u>) or a self-guided learning experience (<u>www.canr.msu.edu/courses/grow-your-money</u>).

# 4-H Exploration Days registration coming in April!

4-H Exploration Days is Michigan 4-H's largest pre-college program and could be the highlight of your summer—maybe even change your life! This exciting event is open to any Michigan youth age 12 -19 as of Jan. 1.



4-H Exploration Days is designed to help youth build the skills they need to successfully transition to college and to life as an adult. Michigan 4-H youth who participate have the opportunity to stay in MSU campus residence halls while attending classroom and field trip sessions throughout their stay.

With more than 100 session choices held on and off campus, there are topics for everyone including animal science, business and entrepreneurship, international language and culture, performing and visual arts, and science, engineering, and technology. As youth gain important life skills like decision making, problem solving and communication, they'll also have plenty of time for fun with free time activities such as skating, bowling, basketball and a dance. View sessions available <u>HERE</u>.

Registration for 4-H Exploration Days will open in mid-April. The cost for the 2022 event is \$220. Check with your local 4-H program coordinator for additional information regarding county

sign-ups and scholarships or visit <u>www.canr.msu.edu/4\_h\_exploration\_days</u> for more details.

# Michigan 4-H Alumni and Supporters Walking Challenge

Starting May 1. will host a 4-H participants will pete for a top swag prize and \$100 cash prize H program! Ranners will also be registered partici-

Learn more and register at www.canr.msu.ed u/events/ michigan-4-halumni-andsupporterswalkingchallenge.

# MSU EXTENSION 4-H EXPLORATION DAYS

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY PRE-COLLEGE PROGRAM

June 22-24, 2022

# YOUTH WILL:

- Experience campus living
- Develop and expand their career and personal interests
- Increase their responsibility, independence, accountability, problemsolving, decision making and time management skills

covers meals, lodging, all event activities and a T-shirt.

220

# LEARN MORE TODAY!

Contact your local MSU Extension Office

OR

Visit canr.msu.edu/4\_h\_exploration\_days/index





# MICHIGAN STATE

# Extension

# Adulting 101 Free Online Class

DATE & TIME: April 7 at 5 p.m. Paying for Post-Secondary Education

April 14 at 5 p.m. Communication and Conflict

April 21 at 5 p.m. Credit & Why it Matters

April 28 at 5 p.m. Rocking Resume

LOCATION: Virtual: join a live Zoom webinar from home

COST: Free

Prepare yourself for the future!





## WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

Youth and Young Adults interested in skills to use on their own.

## **DESCRIPTION:**

Learn some quick tips that will help you navigate life.

**Paying for Post-Secondary Education:** Explore different ways to help pay for the cost of college, trade school, and other post high school educational opportunities.

**Communication and Conflict:** Gain some tips on communicating more effectively and how to avoid conflict.

**Credit & Why it Matters**: Learn about credit and how it impacts future goals.

**Market Yourself with a Rockin Resume:** Learn how to market yourself as we discuss the basic do's and don'ts of resume writing.

### **REGISTER:**

### https://events.anr.msu.edu/adulting101spring22/

## **CONTACT:**

#### Michelle Neff by hydemich@msu.edu or 989-429-2359

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# EXPLORING

Learn about research with birds, plants, insects and more from the W.K. Kellogg Biological Station scientists who make it happen!

- For upper-elementary & middle school students
- Held online, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.
- Free! Attend one or all six.
- Register at bit.ly/kbs-scientists2022



March 1 How do some species avoid extinction? Kyle Jaynes



March 22 Do birds avoid noisy habitats? *Elizeth Cinto-Mejía* 



March 8 How do we actually DO the science? Holly Vander Stel



April 5 How do microbes help plants grow? Nameer Baker



March 15 In what ways do insects attack plants, and can plants defend themselves? Luke Zehr



April 12 In what ways do pollinators affect the evolution of flower shape? Robin Waterman



kbs.msu.edu/events



# This club is geared toward 4th - 6th graders and enrollment is open!



- participate in night sky viewings
- build your own telescopes and rockets
- take a field trip to a planetarium
- hear from guest speakers

# Join the club by...

- 1. enrolling at <u>https://</u> v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign <u>-in</u>
- selecting "Ogemaw County 4 -H SPIN: Astronomy Club " as your club
- 3. selecting "Aerospace" as your project

Meetings will be alternating Saturdays at 10:30am—first meeting is April 9th!

Location: West Branch Public Library



## Click the images below for more information on the program!















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# State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Committee

Seeking Adult and Youth Volunteers

loin the state committee that hosts state-wide clinics, the state show and helps drive the rabbit and cavy project area

Interested youth and adults apply at Three references needed (1 county staff) Applications and references due April 16, 2022

Contact Glenda for more information weissgle@msu.edu or (517)676-7303



April 16 and 23, 2022 | 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

**% 4-H GROWS HERE** 





## Click the images below for more information on the program!





# **MI Diaries**

How has your week been? What are you grateful for this week? Tell us your stories.

We are a project documenting changes in the lives and language of people living in Michigan during the Covid-19 pandemic and beyond.

Across the state, kids, teens, and adults send us 'audio diaries' recorded on their phones or other devices. We send new prompts each week to get the diarists thinking, and they respond! Diarists can receive a gift card every two weeks as a thank you.

The audio diaries will help us to answer some research questions about how and why language changes over time.

Join us! It's easy to become a contributor to MI Diaries.

