



NETWORK

Bringing Knowledge to Life!

APRIL 2015

VOLUME 30 ISSUE 4

PRE-FAIR MEETING

Monroe County,
Michigan State University
and
Monroe County
Conservation District

This publication is provided to assist you in receiving the information necessary to enhance the quality of life for you and your family

It's getting to be that time of year once again, and fair will be here before we know it. The Pre-Fair Meeting is the time for Leaders of each club to be provided with all registration material required to allow your members to exhibit at the 2015 Monroe County Fair. This year's meeting will be held on **Thursday May 7th at 7:00 p.m. at the 4-H Activity Center.**

The General Superintendents along with the 4-H Tech Committee will be on hand to bring you up to speed on the new classes and new schedules. **ALL CLUBS MUST BE REPRESENTED** and all member and leaders must have completed enrollments and volunteer agreements on file for the April 1st deadline to be eligible.

Community leaders or their designated person must submit completed fair forms on June 15th. It is **EXTREMELY IMPORTANT** that all members get all of the information to their leaders in time for them to submit the forms. Registration for fair will only be accepted on June 15th, between 1:00 and 7:00 p.m. at the 4-H Activity Center.

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SAVE THE DATE:

Michigan 4-H Day at Comerica Park Friday, May 8th

Join fellow 4-H'ers from across Michigan as we watch the Detroit Tigers take on the Kansas City Royals at Comerica Park, 2100 Woodward Ave, Detroit, MI.

Your admission includes a Detroit Tigers T-Shirt which includes the 4-H Emblem.

Game Day Packages (including ticket and shirt)

- Skyline Package-\$18.00
- Upper Box Infield Package-\$31.00

REGISTRATION INFORMATION WILL BE COMING OUT IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS, SO KEEP A LOOK OUT!!

For more information, visit our website at www.msue.msu.edu/monroe

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.

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BOB POTTER,
Soil Conservationist
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PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT THROUGH PESTICIDE STEWARDSHIP SERIES :

PURCHASING A PESTICIDE THE RIGHT WAY

There are thousands of pesticide products registered in the United States, for a wide variety of uses. We are most familiar with pesticide use on crops, lawns, and gardens, but pesticides are used in buildings and on animals, aquatic sites, forests, golf courses, industrial sites, natural areas, parks, rights-of-way, seeds, etc...virtually any "site" where a pesticide is considered necessary to control a harmful pest.

Before purchasing a pesticide, there are important things you need to know.

1. Arrive at the store knowing what pest(s) you are trying to control. The MSU Extension or other trained professionals can help.
2. Make sure the pesticide product controls your pest(s). Check the label to see if the pest(s) are listed and under what conditions they will be controlled. For example, a postemergence herbicide will not control weeds that are too large, and a contact insecticide with no residual (lasting) activity will not control insects that are not currently on the site. No product will control pest populations that have developed resistance to the pesticide active ingredient.
3. Determine that the pesticide is registered for the "site" that you want to treat, and that you are willing (and able) to follow all directions for use. The label must specifically list the site you want to treat, and you must follow all application directions - product rate, timing, placement, weather conditions, etc.
4. Ensure that you can comply with all other label instructions as well. The label will list any required protective clothing, all precautions for protecting the environment, first aid procedures in case of an accident, re-entry intervals after treatment, and storage and disposal requirements. Not following the label may result in criminal charges and fines, as well as personal injury if the required protective clothing is not used, cleaned, stored, and discarded according to its directions.
5. Know when you are buying a pesticide. Any chemical making a pest control claim should be registered as a pesticide with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This includes **all** products that contain a pesticide, such as flea collars, "weed and feed" fertilizers, insect repellents, mold and mildew killers, many insect and rodent baits, and some swimming pool chemicals.
6. Confirm that you are buying a pesticide that has a current EPA registration number on the label. Sellers do not always know or follow the requirements of selling a pesticide so, if you see a counterfeit product for sale, notify your **Pesticide Regulatory Agency**. Pesticides sold over the internet are not exempt from federal and state pesticide laws - yet some are illegal, falsely-advertised, and improperly labeled.
7. Buy small amounts - preferably what you can use in one year or less. This reduces the need to store, dispose, or transfer pesticides.
8. When buying a pesticide, be careful about whom you ask for advice. The best source of information is the MSU Extension. Store employees, family members and friends may not know the correct answers to your questions, and you are ultimately responsible.



9. Understand what a “premix” is, so you can determine its value in your situation. A premix contains more than one active ingredient and will control more pest species. It may also reduce the chance of pest resistance developing if the active ingredients act in different ways on the same pest.

10. Never try to purchase a “restricted use” pesticide unless you have been legally certified to buy and use it for the particular category of use. Applicators can be certified in various categories, such as agricultural crops, structures, turf and ornamentals, and public health. You do not have to be certified to purchase a “general use” pesticide.

Responsible buyers ensure that they are buying the right product and can meet every label requirement before they leave the store. If in doubt, do not buy the product until you know it will control the pest(s) on your site, and that you can comply with the label, because the label is the law.

**Photo courtesy of the Penn State Pesticide Education Program*

THINK SPRING

HEALTH AND NUTRITION INSTITUTE

MONROE COUNTY HOMEMAKERS OF EXTENSION

MCHE is now on facebook.

Spring Fling - May 7th, 5:30 pm at Ida United Methodist church. Our speaker will be Cindy Semran. The theme of this year's Spring Fling is “Mothers”. Please remember to bring a dish to pass and your place setting. Group packets will be passed out.

Our Fair Cookbook will be “Old Time Recipes, Subtractions and Solutions”. Please bring your submissions to Spring Fling. Also please put your name and phone number on them in case there are any questions.

Our lesson was led by Mary Steinhouser. Building a compost tower was the topic.

Next meeting is April 21st at 10:00 am at the MSU Extension Learning Center.

Respectfully yours, Betty Curley

TERRY CLARK-JONES
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BEWARE OF STUDENT LOAN DEBT RELIEF COMPANIES

YOU DON'T HAVE TO PAY SOMEONE TO HELP YOU WITH STUDENT
LOAN REPAYMENT.

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) has put out a consumer advisory on student loan debt relief companies. Often these companies are taking advantage of student loan borrowers who are desperate and in the end, can cost them more money and time.

CFPB warns borrowers to steer clear of companies that promise "student debt relief". Often, the borrowers don't believe their student loan servicer will work with them and instead will seek out a third party company believing this is the answer to their problem.

These companies promise all types of false claims including having relationships or expertise working with the Department of Education. In fact, what they do for a cost of hundreds of dollars, you can do for free. In other cases, they just don't deliver on their promises leaving you with less money and time to deal with your student loan issues.

So what are the warning signs that you may be dealing with a student loan debt relief company?

- Pressure to pay a high up-front fee and sign a contract. Avoid any company that asks for payments before providing you the service. Remember, free assistance is available through your student loan services.
- Promises of student loan forgiveness and/or cancellation. There are special rules and guidelines to be eligible for these programs. Plus, for the forgiveness program you have had to show a number of years of consistent payment to qualify.
- Request that you sign a third party authorization. If you sign this authorization you are giving them legal permission to talk directly with the services and make decision on your behalf.
- Ask for your Federal Student Aid PIN. Your PIN is your unique ID and serves as your signature on federal student loan. If you give this number away it ultimately provides the company access to all of your student loan information.

If you believe you have been a victim of a student debt loan relief scam or feel that you are not getting assistance from your student loan services contact CFPB. Also CFPB has a site that assists you on how to manage your debt. It will show your options so that you can make the choice that is the best option for your financial situation.

Michigan State University Extension offers a number of education programs including education programs on financial management and house education. Also visit MIMoneyHealth.org where there is a number of educational materials and resources available for free.

**FREE
PRESSURE CANNING
TESTING
NOW AVAILABLE.**

**FINANCIAL, PARENTING, AND HOUSING
734 240-3179
SPRING 2015 PROGRAMS**

Parenting

**Parenting On Your Own
Nurturing Parenting**
Every Tuesday
11:30 am to 12:20 pm
ALCC
120 Eastchester
Monroe, MI 48161
Pre-register
Cost: Free

Home Education

**FREE HUD Certified
Foreclosure Prevention
Intervention Counseling**

Call for an appointment:
734-240-3179

Stress Less with Mindfulness

Tuesdays
May 26, June 2, 9, 16 & 23, 2015
6:30 to 9800 pm
MSU Extension office
963 S. Raisinville Road
Monroe, MI 48161

Pre-register by calling by May 21, 2015
Cost: \$25 per person or couple for series

734-240-3179

Building Strong Adolescents Parenting Program

Mondays
March 9, 16, 23, 30 & April 6, 13 & 20, 2015

6:30 to 8:30 pm
MSU Extension office
963 S. Raisinville Road
Monroe, MI 48161

Pre-register by March 6th
Cost: \$30 per person or couple for series

BE OPEN TO FEEDBACK

FEEDBACK IS IMPORTANT TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN RELATIONSHIPS AS WELL AS IN THE WORKPLACE!

Feedback doesn't just happen. You have to make it happen. Anytime you speak or act, there is an opportunity to receive constructive feedback. This can be scary for some of us but not if you remember that the person you are typically asking for the feedback from knows you and may have valuable information to share.

When you ask for feedback, pose the question in the positive. "How can I do better?" "What recommendations do you have?" It is easier for people to offer positive versus negative feedback. Let them know that you really want to know what they think, that you value their honesty, candor and opinion, no matter what they have to say.

Once you receive the constructive feedback, accept it and express your appreciation for their willingness to provide this helpful information. Do not let the feedback, no matter how unpleasant, affect your opinion of the person who is offering input.

The ultimate goal is to learn from the feedback. Make it a habit to ask for constructive feedback, even when you think everything is going well. Be patient with yourself as you implement the suggested changes and recommendations. This can take time but in the end your relationships will be better for the effort.

HOW TO START A SUCCESSFUL COTTAGE FOOD BUSINESS IN MICHIGAN

Michigan's Cottage Food Law allows those with an entrepreneurial spirit the opportunity to sell certain foods, made in their home kitchens, to the public. These foods are to be sold face to face at places such as farmers markets. If you are one of those individuals with an entrepreneurial spirit and are considering selling some of your homemade food products you will be interested a cottage food workshop held at the Monroe County Michigan State University Extension office located at 963 South Raisinville Rd., Monroe, MI 48161 on April 13 from 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The workshop combines the business and food safety aspects of preparing and selling cottage foods safely and successfully. At this workshop you will find out what foods can be legally produced as well as how to label and sell them. You will learn food safety practices to make sure that you are producing a wholesome product that people will want to buy. You will also pick up techniques to develop and then maintain a successful small business.

MSU Extension food safety educator, Jeannie Nichols, will be teaching with Micah Loucks an educator from the MSU Product Center for Agriculture and Natural Resources. The Product Center, <http://productcenter.msu.edu/> is a gateway to generating success for Michigan entrepreneurs for the agriculture, natural resources and bio economy sectors.

At the end of the workshop you will receive a certificate to display, when you are selling your cottage foods. This certificate states that you have taken food safety training related to Michigan Cottage Foods. This certificate is not required to sell cottage foods. It is for buyers of your food products to see that you have taken extra measures to ensure them safe food.

There is a small fee to attend this workshop that will help you have a successful small food business. You can register for How to Start a Successful Cottage Food Business in Michigan at <http://events.anr.msu.edu/cflmonroeapril2015/>.

Call Jeannie Nichols at 517-439-9301 or e-mail her at nicho115@msu.edu if you have questions.

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2015 MONROE COUNTY DELEGATES NAMED

Congratulations to the
2015 Monroe County
State 4-H Award
Delegates!!

Kayleigh Adams
Rachel Ouellette
Susan Grant
Sarah Ouellette
Kerrie Kraftchick
Lauren Pier
Karlie Lokuta
Kelsey Yarger
Katrina Lomas

Award delegates and their families are invited to a luncheon on May 3rd at 2:00 pm. RSVP to Sara Lewis by April 24th.

4 - H SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications for all scholarships are due on April 15th, and interviews begin at 7pm on April 16th at the 4-H Extension Office.

Cash scholarships will be awarded to 4-H members who are high school seniors or college freshman, and are currently enrolled in the Monroe County 4-H Program.

Awards are made directly to the student after the completion of their first semester of school, and their grades are submitted to the 4-H Extension Office.

Applications are available at the 4-H Extension Office.

4 - H GRADUATION DATE SET

We would like to invite the graduating Class of 2015, along with their parents/guardians to a 4-H Open House on Tuesday May 19th at the 4-H Activity Center @ 7pm.

Please bring a main course dish-to-pass. There will be some fun activities, and each graduate will receive a small token, to recognize their accomplishments.

Dessert will be provided by Teen Ambassadors.



EXPLORATION DAYS

From June 24-26 Monroe County youth and adults will be living on the campus of Michigan State University. They will experience "first hand" what it's like to live in dorm, and attend classes at MSU.

Exploration Days is a program designed for 4-H youth ages 11 to 19 from all over the State of Michigan to come together and take part in hands-on learning sessions, field trips, and recreation opportunities.

Our Office registered 82 youth on the first day of Exploration Days registration, that's up from a year ago.

Are you still interested in attending? There is still time!! All Youth and Adults must register no later than April 27th.

Please contact the 4-H Extension Office for more information.

SAVE THE DATE: Exploration Days meeting is June 10th @ 7:00 p.m. at the 4-H Activity Center

7TH ANNUAL TOM BLANCHETT MEMORIAL BEEF PREVIEW SHOW.

The 7th annual Tom Blanchett Memorial Beef Preview Show will be held on Sunday April 26, 2015 at the Monroe County Fairgrounds. The show “gives the exhibitor’s an opportunity to gain helpful information to better themselves and their project.” Part of their proceeds will be donated towards Pancreatic Cancer Awareness. For additional information please contact them at Blanchettbeefpreview@yahoo.com or check them out on Facebook: Blanchett Beef Preview Show.

2015 SPRING ACHIEVEMENTS



Mark your calendars, the 2015 Spring Achievement are near. Bedford District is scheduled for March 28th, Custer and Dundee have once again combined and is scheduled for April 11th, and Airport District is scheduled April 18th. All Spring Achievements will be held at the 4-H Activity Center.

Each district will still have the opportunity to send five acts and two emcees to the County Share-the-Fun which is scheduled for April 24th.

Adults and teens interested in judging at any of these events should contact the District President or the 4-H office.

SHARE - THE - FUN

The 2015 County Share-the-Fun is being coordinated by the Custer District Leaders Association. This year’s event will be held at the 4-H Activity Center on April 24th.

The top five acts from each district and the emcee winners will have the opportunity to demonstrate their talents and compete for the overall county winner.

Come out and support all our 4-Hers as it is sure to be a great time had by all!



AG AWARENESS DAY

Friday May 1st, 2nd and 3rd graders from around Monroe County will take over the Monroe County Fairgrounds to learn about agriculture. Volunteers from 4-H, FFA, and others will share their knowledge about animals, plants, farm equipment, farming, crops and a wide variety of safety topics.

We are currently seeking volunteers. If you would like to take part, or for more information please call the 4-H Extension Office.

2015 HORSE AND PONY CLINIC

The 2015 Horse and Pony Clinic will be held May 8th-10th at the Monroe County Fairgrounds.

Check-in for the clinic will be 6pm-8pm Friday evening for all Monroe Participants. Check-out will be between 8am-2pm Sunday. The clinic is open to all 4-H Riders.

All paperwork is due April 17th or May 1 with a late fee. **NO ENTRIES** will be accepted after May 1st. Cost \$30.00 per participant before April 17th. \$40.00 per participant until May 1st. All riders also need to pay a \$10.00 stall deposit.

For more information please contact Pascale Milkovich 734-755-5130 or Dusty Dalton 734-344-9039.

LIVESTOCK WORKSHOPS

Rabbit/Cavy/Pocket Pet Workshop	April 1 7:00 pm	Activity Center
Sheep Workshop	April 2 7:00 pm	Activity Center
Fitting & Showing Clinic (Beef)	April 25 6:00 pm	Fairgrounds
Sheep and Swine Tagging	May 2 9am-1pm	Fairgrounds
Swine Workshop	May 5 7:00 pm	Activity Center
Broiler Workshop	May 6 7:00 pm	Activity Center
Horse and Pony Clinic	May 8-10	Fairgrounds
Rabbit and Cavy Show	May 17 9:00 am	Small Animal Barn
Fitting & Showing Clinic (Sheep, Swine, Small Animal)	June 8 6:00 pm	Fairgrounds

SHEEP AND SWINE TAGGING

Sheep and Swine Tagging is scheduled for May 2nd from 9am to 1pm at the Monroe County Fairgrounds. All members must own their lambs and hogs by this date.

If you have any questions, need help, or your animal loses a tag, please call your Superintendent immediately.

Beef- Gary Drod- 734-269-2276
 Sheep- Mark Chapman- 734-755-3158
 Swine- Ray Kuehnlein- 734-242-0613

MINI EXPO

The Mini-Expo was once again a huge success. Members were taught everything from glass etching to electrical.

A special THANKS to the 4-H Council for sponsoring the event, and to Janis Seitz for chairing. To all of the leaders and volunteers, we could not do it without you, and we sincerely thank you!



SPRING LIVESTOCK WORKSHOPS

Sheep Quality Assurance – Members showing sheep for the first time in 2015 and members who did not attend the Sheep Workshops in 2014 are **REQUIRED** to attend the meeting on April 2nd. This workshop will focus on how raise a lamb for competition at the 2015 fair. Feeding, care, and showmanship tips will all be part of the meeting. The program will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will be held at the 4-H Activity Center.

Swine Quality Assurance – Members showing pigs for the first time in 2015 and members who did not attend the Swine workshops in 2014 are **REQUIRED** to attend the meeting on May 5th. This program will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will be held at the 4-H Activity Center.

Sheep and Swine Tagging – Will be held on May 2nd from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the fairgrounds. From that date on, all animals must be in the possession of the member until the fair.



IMPORTANT FAIR REMINDERS

Fair will be here before we know it, and we want to make sure you are all prepared. Listed below are some important things to remember.

Premium Catalogs will not be published in the Monroe Evening News. All families will need to get the catalogs from their Community Leaders.

Pre-Fair Meeting is scheduled for Thursday May 7th, 7pm @ the 4-H Activity Center. There must be representation from EVERY CLUB.

Monroe County Fair, August 2-8.

Premiums- You will be receiving premiums this year for everything but Market Livestock. The Fair Board will be paying \$3.00 for blue ribbons, \$2.00 for red and \$1.00 for white.

Thanks to HEARTT, Katie Seitz and her crew, money is being raised to pay for the ribbons and rosettes for the 2015 Fair.

All Fair registrations MUST be turned in by your leader on June 15th at the 4-H Activity Center. Registrations hours are 1pm to 7pm that day.

4-H Families, it is your responsibility to get the fair registration papers to your leader ahead of the deadline. Registrations will only be taken on June 15th, from your leader. Individuals CANNOT bring in their own forms.



OFFICER TRAINING

On March 24th, 44 Monroe County 4-Her's attended the Officer Training which was held at the 4-H Extension Office. The youth learned how to run a proper and successful meeting using parliamentary procedure. There were fun activities, and the youth had the chance to run a "mock" meeting. Current officers also had the opportunity to explain their roles to the rest of the group. A special thanks to Janelle Stewart for coming in and putting on a great training.



JUNIOR SUPERINTENDENTS NEEDED

Looking for a **JOB?** 4-H members 11 years of age and older are needed to serve as Junior Superintendents for the 2015 Fair. Like any other job, you must take your responsibility seriously, arrive on time, and stay until the work is done. Your duties will consist of preparing the exhibit area, assisting with check-in, working with judges, helping to prepare the displays and releasing the exhibits at the close of fair.

Junior Superintendents need to make a commitment that they will be available to help when needed and that they are willing to work the time and put forth the necessary effort to do an effective job. Junior Superintendents will be identified by name tags and ribbons which designate them as part of the official 4-H volunteer Fair Staff.

Applications must be completed and returned to the Extension Office by **May 15th**. Each member must take the responsibility to submit their own applications. Group applications by the community leader will not be accepted. In addition to the traditional assignment, many youth are needed to work in Old Macdonald's Nursery. Please check if you are willing to work a position different from your choice. Members who do not submit an application by the due date, will not serve as a Junior Superintendent role this year.

JUNIOR SUPERINTENDENT REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ age _____

Address _____ City _____ MI, Zip _____

Phone _____

Email address _____

Choice of areas

Educational Crafts Office
 Communications Produce & Horticulture Large Livestock
 Small Animals Horse Human Resources

Return to 4-H Office by May 15, 2015

Mail to: 963 South Raisinville Road, Monroe, MI 48161

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PLANTING SOYBEANS AFTER SOYBEANS

MAKE SURE THE BENEFITS OF PLANTING SECOND-YEAR SOYBEANS EXCEED THE RISKS AND MANAGE THE INCREASED RISK WITH PROVEN PRACTICES .

Posted on March 31, 2015 by Mike Staton, Michigan State University Extension

Given the projected market prices and current production costs for corn and soybeans, some producers may alter their long-term rotation plans by increasing soybean acreage in 2015. In these situations, soybeans will be planted into some fields that were planted to soybeans in 2014. Producers considering this practice can expect a 5 percent yield loss compared to soybeans planted after corn due to the rotation effect. However, plant stress caused by environmental conditions, diseases or insects can easily increase yield losses to 20 percent or more. This article will list the principle challenges and risks of planting second-year soybeans and provide some management recommendations for mitigating them.

Diseases including soybean cyst nematodes (SCN) present the largest risk to second-year soybeans. The best strategy is to avoid planting soybeans into fields that were infested with white mold, sudden death syndrome (SDS) or SCN in 2014. These are soil-borne pathogens having the potential to cause large yield losses in the 2015 crop as well as future soybean crops. However, if you plan to plant soybeans into fields that were infested with white mold, SCN or SDS, consider the recommendations provided below. Variety selection is your first line of defense when planting into fields infested with white mold, SDS or SCN. Try selecting varieties that have the highest level of resistance you can obtain for the identified challenge. Seed companies typically use a scale of 1 to 9 when rating the disease resistance or tolerance of their varieties. Read the scale carefully as 1 is excellent and 9 is poor in some catalogs, while in others it is the opposite. These ratings are useful when comparing varieties from a given company. However, they should not be used to compare varieties from different companies.

If you must plant soybeans into a field that was infested with white mold in 2014, be prepared for the possibility of large yield losses if extended periods of cool and wet weather occur from late June to early August. These losses may be reduced by the following management practices:

- Select resistant varieties.
- Bury the sclerotia deeper than 2 inches with tillage operations. This practice will be less beneficial if sclerotia from previous infestations are present in the soil and it increases the long-term survival of the sclerotia formed in 2014.
- Reduce planting rates.
- Plant in wide rows.
- Plant varieties from a range of maturity groups (early maturing varieties appeared to escape white mold infection or development in 2014).
- Select and apply foliar fungicides properly.

Keep in mind the additional tillage operations and foliar fungicide applications will increase production costs.

If you plan to plant soybeans into a field that was infested with SCN in 2014, yield losses, SCN populations and the risk of developing a resistant SCN population type may increase. The potential for these outcomes occurring can be reduced by implementing the following management practices:

- Collect soil samples from each field and submit them to Michigan State University Diagnostic Services for the standard SCN analysis and the SCN type test if yields have been declining.
- Select SCN resistant varieties. Ideally, the variety planted in 2015 should carry a different source of resistance than the variety planted in 2014. If this is not possible, planting a different variety with the same source of resistance has been shown to delay the development of resistant SCN populations.

The potential for seedling diseases such as Pythium and Phytophthora may increase in second-year soybeans. Planting after soil temperatures reach 60 degrees Fahrenheit reduces the risk from Pythium and the use of resistant or tolerant varieties is the preferred management strategy for Phytophthora. Effective seed treatments for these diseases are also available.

Pay attention to soil fertility and base fertilizer applications on recent soil tests. Many Michigan soybean producers apply phosphorus and potassium fertilizers prior to planting corn and let the following soybean crop scavenge for these nutrients. This works well on finer-textured soils when enough fertilizer is supplied to meet the needs of both crops. Don't forget to apply the recommended potassium fertilizer when soybeans will be planted instead of corn in 2015 as potassium contributes to disease resistance. Insect problems are not typically increased in second-year soybeans. Producers should scout all soybean fields for bean leaf beetles and soybean aphids.

There is potential for soil quality to be degraded by not staying with a corn-soybean rotation in 2015 as corn and wheat are the only two field crops that can build soil organic matter levels. The reduction in residue cover in second-year soybeans also increases the risk of soil loss due to erosion. Second-year soybeans should not be planted on sloping fields with low organic matter levels. Changing your crop rotation, especially shortening it, is an important decision as it will have long-term effects on pest populations and soil quality. Make sure the benefits exceed the risks and manage the increased risk with proven practices.

This article was produced by the SMaRT project (Soybean Management and Research Technology). The SMaRT project was developed to help Michigan producers increase soybean yields and farm profitability. The SMaRT project is a partnership between Michigan State University Extension and the Michigan Soybean Promotion Committee.

This article was published by Michigan State University Extension. For more information, visit <http://www.msue.msu.edu>. To have a digest of information delivered straight to your email inbox, visit <http://bit.ly/MSUENews>. To contact an expert in your area, visit <http://expert.msue.msu.edu>, or call 888-MSUE4MI (888-678-3464).



APRIL / MAY 2015

4-H

4-H

April

4/1/15	Rabbit, Cavy, Pocket Pet Workshop 4-H Activity Center	7:00 pm
4/2/15	SQA Sheep Quality Assurance 4-H Activity Center	7:00 pm
4/3/15	GOOD FRIDAY OFFICE CLOSSES AT NOON	
4/6/15	4-H Council Extension Learning Center	7:00 pm
4/9/15	Fair Board Fair Office	7:00 pm
4/11/15	Custer & Dundee Spring Achievement 4-H Activity Center	
4/13/15	Horse & Pony 4-H Activity Center	7:00 pm
4/15/15	Shooting Sports Extension Learning Center	7:00 pm
4/16/15	REAACT 4-H Activity Center	7:00 pm
4/16/15	Scholarship Interviews Extension Learning Center	7:00 pm
4/18/15	Airport Spring Achievement 4-H Activity Center	
4/20/15	Horse & Pony Royalty Interviews 4-H Activity Center	7:00 pm
4/22/15	Fair Advisory Board Extension Learning Center	7:00 pm
4/24/15	County Wide Share the Fun 4-H Activity Center	7:00 pm
4/25/15	Custer Make It & Take It 4-H Activity Center	8:30 am
4/25/15	REAACT - Earth Day Monroe County Expo Center	9:00 am
4/25/15	Beef Fit / Show Clinic Fairgrounds	6:00 pm
4/26/15	Beef Preview Show	
4/28/15	CSI 4-H Activity Center	7:00 pm
4/28/15	Middle Managers 4-H Activity Center	7:00 pm
4/29/15	Ag Day bag packing 4-H Activity Center	1:30 pm
4/29/15	Teen Ambassadors Extension Learning Center	7:00 pm

May

5/1/15	Ag Awareness Day Monroe County Fairgrounds	8:30 am
5/2/15	Sheep & Swine Tagging Monroe County Fairgrounds	9:00 - 1:00 pm

May

5/3/15	State Awards Recognition 4-H Activity Center	2:00 pm
5/4/15	4-H Council Extension Learning Center	7:00 pm
5/5/15	PQA - Port Quality Assurance 4-H Activity Center	7:00 pm
5/6/15	Broiler Workshop 4-H Activity Center	7:00 pm
5/7/15	Fair Advisory Board 4-H Activity Center	6:30 pm
5/7/15	<u>PRE-FAIR MEETING</u> <u>MADATORY</u> 4-H Activity Center	7:00 pm
5/8-10/15	Horse & Pony Clinic 4-H Activity Center	
5/11/15	Horse & Pony Meeting 4-H Activity Center	7:00 pm
5/14/15	Fair Board Meeting Fair Office	7:00 pm
5/15/15	Leader Banquet 4-H Activity Center	6:30 pm
5/16/15	Rabbit Show Set-up Monroe County Fairgrounds	6:00 pm
5/17/15	Rabbit, Cavy, Pocket Pet Show 4-H Educational Building	check-in 8:00 am show 9:00 am
5/18/15	Small Animal Association Extension Learning Center	7:00 pm
5/19/15	4-H Graduation Celebration 4-H Activity Center	7:00 pm
5/20/15	Junior Livestock Association Extension Learning Center	7:00 pm
5/21/15	REAACT Extension Learning Center	7:00 pm
5/25/15	MEMORIAL DAY OFFICE CLOSED	
5/26/15	CSI 4-H Activity Center	7:00 pm
5/27/15	Teen Ambassadors Extension Learning Center	7:00 pm

STAFF AND MSUE RESOURCES

The Monroe County MSU Extension office is open to the public on Monday thru Friday from 9:00 am to Noon, and 1:00pm to 5:pm. The office staff may be accessed via the main phone line at 734-240-3170.

TERRY CLARK-JONES Extension Educator <i>clarkjon@anr.msu.edu</i>	240-3170	DIANE MICHAUD Secretary <i>diane_michaud@monroemi.org</i> <i>msue.monroe@county.msu.edu</i>	240-3182
DARRYL DIAMOND 4-H Program Coordinator <i>diamon44@anr.msu.edu</i>	240-3188	ALLEN RUSSELL Family Nutrition Program Assistant <i>russe414@msu.edu</i>	240-3175
HEATHER HAMPEL Family Nutrition Program Instructor <i>hampel@anr.msu.edu</i>	240-3171	MATT SHANE District Coordinator <i>shanemat@anr.msu.edu</i>	517-264-5308
DENISE KOHLER Family Nutrition Program Assistant <i>denise_kohler@monroemi.org</i>	240-3176	PATTI WARTINGER Secretary <i>warting3@anr.msu.edu</i>	240-3184
SARA LEWIS 4-H Program Coordinator <i>seitzsa1@anr.msu.edu</i>	240-3174	WINNIE WEBB Breastfeeding Peer <i>webbw@anr.msu.edu</i>	240-3178

Though Extension has recently reorganized our structure, Extension professionals are still located in communities across the state and are still working to address Michigan's most pressing needs through four broad-themed areas; greening Michigan, agriculture and agribusiness, children and youth, health and nutrition. If you would like to learn more about these program areas, you can read about them in a document called "Carrying Out the Land-Grant Mission" that can be found at www.msue.msu.edu. To locate MSU Extension Staff across the state by name or area of expertise go to: <http://people.msue.msu.edu>

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE

April

4/6/15 Parenting Adolescents Extension Learning Center	6:30 pm
4/7/15 Nurturing Parenting Class Arthur Lesow Community Center	11:30 am
4/13/15 Parenting Adolescents Extension Learning Center	6:30 pm
4/14/15 Nurturing Parenting Class Arthur Lesow Community Center	11:30 am
4/20/15 Parenting Adolescents Extension Learning Center	6:30 pm
4/21/15 MCHE Extension Learning Center	10:00 am
4/21/15 Nurturing Parenting Class Arthur Lesow Community Center	11:30 am
4/28/15 Nurturing Parenting Class Arthur Lesow Community Center	11:30 am

May

5/5/15 Nurturing Parenting Class Arthur Lesow Community Center	11:30 am
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May

5/12/15 Nurturing Parenting Class Arthur Lesow Community Center	11:30 am
5/19/15 MCHE Extension Learning Center	10:00 am
5/19/15 Nurturing Parenting Class Arthur Lesow Community Center	11:30 am
5/26/15 Nurturing Parenting Class Arthur Lesow Community Center	11:30 am
5/26/15 Stress Less with Mindfulness Extension Learning Center	6:30 pm