



Michigan 4-H FORESTRY FUN DAY CAMP July 6-7, 2015

Audience

This camp was open to youth ages 10-15 who were interested in learning about all aspects of forestry. A total of ten male participants attended representing Iosco, Ogemaw and Roscommon counties.

Funding

Collaborative efforts of MSU Extension, MSU Forestry Department, Michigan Conservation District, the Marlane & Tim Searfoss Family, and the Ogemaw County Fair Board made this camp possible. There was also a \$20.00 participant fee.



Objectives

The camp was designed to:

- To teach science and math skills related to forest management.
- To give campers the opportunity to explore a career related to the area of forestry.
- To provide hands-on experiences and activities in the area of forest science.



Description

Participants had twelve contact hours with four MSU Extension staff and two area Conservation District Foresters.

The 4-H youth spent two days exploring ideas, taking part in hands on activities related to forestry. Youth were given the opportunity to learn about tree identification, how to take forest measurements, identification of insects and diseases, how to operate a compass and multiple career opportunities related to our forests.

Youth were also able to work in teams to create a mini forest management plan and present it to the MSU Extension District 4 Council members.

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Impacts

- 100% of the participants agreed or strongly agreed that they were more knowledgeable about forestry science after the camp.
- 100% of youth indicated they are more knowledgeable about entrepreneurship and career opportunities that youth can pursue in forestry fields.
- 90% of youth plan on applying the science knowledge and skills from this camp.
- 100% of youth indicated that they like experimenting and testing ideas.
- 80% of youth indicated that they would like to have a job related to science.



Digital Badge

Campers participating in the Forestry Fun Day Camp will be awarded a Silver Forestry Digital Badge. MSU Extension is working with Michigan Department of Education and other organizations to recognize the learning that takes place outside the classroom in non-formal education opportunities like 4-H.

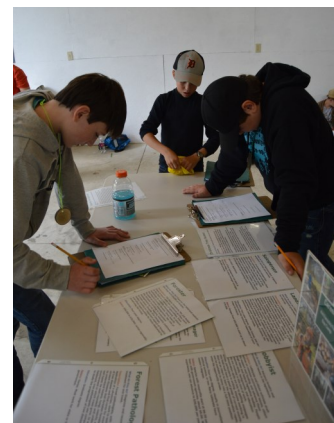
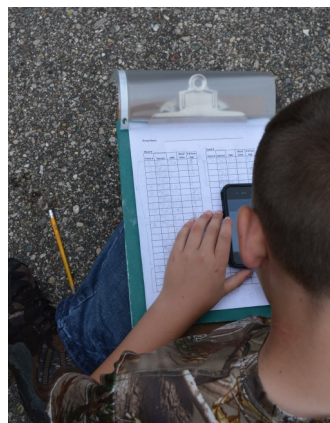
The badge will be linked to Michigan Educational Standards and can be used by youth when applying for summer jobs, scholarships and on college applications indicating their areas of interest and willingness to continue to learn, grow and develop when not in school.

MSUE awards badges at three levels; bronze, silver and gold. Bronze indicates exposure, silvers indicates youth were actively engaged in the standards and gold indicates a level of verifiable proficiency.



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Participant Comments

"I liked working with forestry tools, identifying trees, diseases, invasive species, being in the woods and learning the different types of jobs working with forests."

~ Ogemaw County Youth

"I loved going out and doing activities with the foresters. Especially finding insects. I loved to learn all the new things about forestry."

~ Ogemaw County Youth

"I learned many things about trees and other living growing things. I had a great time and hope other kids will be able to experience this."

~ Iosco County Youth

"My favorite part was measuring tree, walking around and talking."

~ Roscommon County Youth