



January 2025

4-H Family News

WAYNE COUNTY



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Wayne County Upcoming Events

4-H State Awards and Mark of Excellence Award Information Session

A 4-H State Award is the highest honor bestowed on a Michigan 4-H member. 4-H State Award winners become part of an elite group of 4-H youth who have demonstrated the highest level of excellence in learning, leadership, and service.



A State 4-H Award is the highest honor bestowed on Michigan 4-H youth!

Information and application: <https://tinyurl.com/46afjtc8>
 Application deadline: April 1
 Submit application: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/StateAwards25>
 Recognition event: June 18



MSU EXTENSION

The Michigan 4-H State Awards Program provides 4-H members a learning experience where they can develop career skills by using their 4-H experiences to compile a portfolio similar to a professional

application while receiving recognition for their 4-H involvement. The application process will help youth build their skills in communication, literacy, record keeping, and marketability. The application will require youth to reflect on their past 4-H experiences and provide thoughtful responses. 4-H State Awards recognize youth for their engagement and learning in the 4-H program, focusing on the skills they have gained. Once completed, a 4-H State Awards portfolio may be a useful tool that can be referenced when completing future job, college, or scholarship applications.

Learn what it takes to apply for a 4-H State award during an information session,

When: Tuesday, January 28th at 5:30pm.

Where: Zoom, Registration is required.

Who: Youth ages 10-19 interested learning more about the 4-H State Awards Program

Registration Link:

<https://msu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJclceqqpjwjH9zdc5Linhy96TaubFEKI3MO>

Contact for questions: Ashleigh Klein (apelashl@msu.edu or 734-727-7408).



Wayne County Upcoming Events

State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Expo and Show!

Join us for the State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Expo and Show! Youth may choose to exhibit their rabbit and/or cavy as well as compete in other contests such as breed identification, photography, educational display, showmanship, and new this year skillathon.

Showmanship exhibitors are required to pre-register by January 17, 2025, all registrations are day of show.

Educational sessions scheduled throughout the day with the support of The Rabbit School and Rabbit Tutor. There are also new awards: All best in shows (educational display, photography, breed identification, skillathon, exhibit animals, and animals) will have their name on a Sparty perpetual trophy. You then may take it home between the 2025 and 2026 4-H show.

To register for showmanship and access the show catalog visit:
https://events.anr.msu.edu/2025_showmanship_rabbit_and_cavy/

Contact: Glenda at weissgle@msu.edu or (517)676-7303

MI 4-H Horse Program Winter Webinar Series

The Michigan 4-H Horse Program is hosting a six-part winter webinar series. The series will focus on an array of topics centered around Youth who are just getting started with horses and the Horse and Pony Project.

For information regarding the webinar reach out to David Lindsay (lindsa75@msu.edu) for the webinar link!





Wayne County Upcoming Events

2025 Spark and Share Summit for Volunteers and Teen Leaders



The poster features the Michigan 4-H logo at the top left. The main title 'Spark and Share Summit' is written in a large, white, serif font on a dark green, curved banner. Below the banner, the location 'FRANKENMUTH, MI' is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. The event details 'BAVARIAN INN LODGE AND CONFERENCE CENTER', 'MARCH 8, 2025', and '9AM -5:30PM' are listed in a white, sans-serif font. A green hexagonal badge on the left side contains the text '\$65 includes Lunch'. A list of activities is presented in a white, sans-serif font, arranged in three columns. Two circular inset images are on the right: the top one shows three young men in green shirts planting a tree, and the bottom one shows a group of diverse people, including children and adults, gathered around a table with educational materials.

Michigan 4-H

Spark and Share Summit

FRANKENMUTH, MI

BAVARIAN INN LODGE AND CONFERENCE CENTER
MARCH 8, 2025
9AM -5:30PM

\$65 includes Lunch

- Animal Science
- Science of Gardening
- Paper Art
- Engaging Meetings
- Mindfulness
- Rocketry
- Marketing your Project
- Youth-Adult Partnerships
- Teaching Science
- Vermicomposting
- Spa Day

Register by February 8th: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/SELeaderMeet2025/>

Reignite your passion for 4-H at the 2025 Spark and Share Summit March 8th at the Bavarian Inn Lodge and Conference Center in Frankenmuth, MI!!

4-H Volunteers and teens can register for this 1-day conference where they can learn new projects and information that they can take back to teach and share in their local 4-H program at: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/SELeaderMeet2025/>.

Registration is \$50 and includes lunch and selection of up to 3 breakout sessions. A link to session descriptions is available through the registration page. The deadline for registration is February 8th.

Scholarships to attend may be available in some counties. Please contact your local 4-H office for information.



Wayne County Upcoming Events

Join the Washtenaw County 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl Team

Do you know a 4-H'er interested in dairy science, dairy production, or veterinary science? Encourage them to join the Dairy Quiz Bowl Team! The group meets the 3rd Monday of each month January through July. They discuss dairy science and dairy production topics. The material is also very relevant to youth interested in vet science. Meetings are at Horning Farms in Manchester and the first meeting is Monday, January 20th at 6:30pm. 4-H'ers from surrounding counties are welcome to participate!

Interested in participating?

Please contact Katelyn Packard at klhorning14@gmail.com

Adulthood 101

Are you ready to leave for college or be out on your own? Are you prepared to do adult tasks and have skills to be successful? Michigan State University Extension's Adulthood 101 programs help teenagers and young adults demystify the obscure reality of being an "adult" through engaging educational sessions. Each FREE session is packed full of important life skills and tools necessary to live independently!

2025 ADULTING 101

Cost: FREE

Join us Monthly for a new Topic!



- DECREASING STRESS WITH MINDFULNESS- JANUARY 14 AT 6 PM
- MEDICAL INSURANCE 101 - FEBRUARY 10 AT 5:30 PM
- TIME AND ORGANIZATION TIPS TO THRIVE - MARCH 3 AT 7 PM
- WEALTH BUILDING - APRIL 8 AT 5 PM
- STAY SAFE OUT THERE - MAY 15 AT 6 PM
- INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL ON A BUDGET- JUNE 2 AT 6:30 PM
- MASTERING MEAL PLANNING - JULY 9 AT 4:00 PM
- NAVIGATING PEER PRESSURE - AUGUST 18 AT 6 PM
- WORKPLACE PROFESSIONALISM - SEPTEMBER 17 AT 6:30 PM
- ENJOY YOUR HOLIDAYS ON A BUDGET - OCTOBER 23 AT 5 PM
- NAVIGATING TOUGH TALKS - NOVEMBER 13 AT 6:30 PM

*ALL TIMES LISTED ARE EASTERN STANDARD TIME

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/Adulthood2025/>



2025 MI 4-H STATEWIDE DAIRY EVENTS

March 1-2	MI 4-H Dairy Conference Michigan State University
June 28	State 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl Contest Anthony Hall, Michigan State University
July 14-17	MI 4-H Dairy Days Michigan State University
Sept. 28 - Oct. 2	National 4-H Dairy Conference Madison, WI

KENDRA VAN ORDER
MI 4-H DAIRY EDUCATOR 517-432-4306 VANORDE6@MSU.EDU

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Decreasing Stress with Mindfulness

Tuesday, Jan. 14 at 6 p.m. ET

In this session, we will learn how stressors can affect our physical and mental health and then practice mindfulness techniques that can be used in everyday life.



Wayne County Upcoming Events

2025 4-H Cash Composition Contest

💰💡 **Calling all Michigan youth!** The 2025 4-H Cash Composition Contest is now open! If you're 9-19 years old (as of Jan. 1, 2024), it's your chance to win a \$100 gift card, thanks to Extra Credit Union!

🎯 This year's topic: **Credit**—Write a 300-word (or less) essay answering this year's question. How can borrowing money (or using credit such as taking a loan or having a credit card) end up being a good decision and when might it not? How and when will you decide if it is a good choice for you to borrow money? What are some tips you would give someone who needs to borrow money?

📅 **Deadline: February 28, 2025**

🏆 **Winners: Three youth from each age bracket!**



Don't miss your chance to show off your money smarts and snag that prize! Full details and entry info:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-money-smarts/money-smart-kids-contest>

World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute

The Michigan Youth Institute is a life-changing experience coordinated by Michigan State University where students in grades 7-12 engage with local leaders and experts on critical global challenges, participate in hands-on activities, and explore exciting ways to make a difference in Michigan and around the world.

The event is held on MSU's Campus on **May 8th, 2025**. Registration and projects are due on **March 15, 2025**.

For more information and resources to help you get started visit:

https://www.worldfoodprize.org/en/youth_programs/global_youth_institute/michigan/

Please direct questions to Brian Wibby & Debra Barrett Michigan Youth Institute Coordinators E-mail: wibby@msu.edu & smithde6@msu.edu



AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



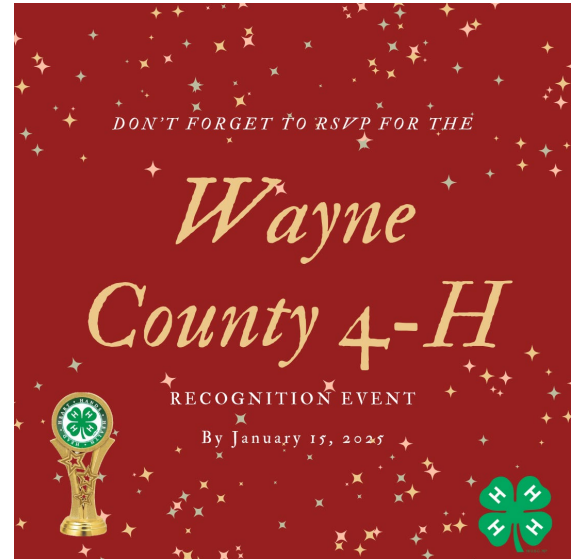
Announcements

Wayne County 4-H Recognition Event

You are invited to attend the 2023-2024 Wayne County 4-H Recognition Event.

Saturday, January 25, 2025
12 pm to 3 pm
at WCCCD Ted Scott Campus 9555 Haggerty Rd,
Belleville, MI 48111

It's time to celebrate the accomplishments of Wayne County 4-H and showcase the many achievements and talents held by our 4-H volunteers and 4-H'ers! Please join us for our annual Award and Recognition Ceremony Luncheon.



Event Details:

Theme: Golden Clovers on the Red Carpet

Attire: Business Casual to Dazzle

Recognition: 4-H membership, volunteer years of service, new volunteers, county award winners, scholarship winners, 4-H Exploration Days attendees, Cloverbuds, aging out 4-H'ers, and special awards.

Please RSVP by January 15, 2025

Click this link to RSVP <https://forms.gle/9GmE4S3vWm8SNRFWA>

Or contact: Ashleigh Klein, 4-H Program Coordinator, apelashl@msu.edu, 734-727-7408



Dress to Impress Contest

This year at the Wayne County 4-H Recognition Event you will have the opportunity to take a walk down the red carpet. With the dress code being business casual to dazzle, dress to impress all the other 4-H guests. Winners will be selected by a vote of attendees. Participation is encouraged but not required.



4-H Club Spotlight

Way Cool Cloverbud Club

The 4-H Cloverbud program offers informal, educational experiences designed to help youth develop confidence, social skills, and foundational knowledge. The Way Cool Cloverbud Club, located in Wayne County, is a community club dedicated to younger youth beginning their 4-H journey.

This club is developmentally tailored for youth ages 5-8 (as of January 1, 2025) and explores a variety of engaging topics to introduce participants to the 4-H experience. Activities are non-competitive and group-focused, encouraging social interaction and teamwork in a supportive environment. Join us for our first meeting!

 **Date: January 18, 2025**

 **Time: 11:00 AM**


 **Location: Plymouth District Library, Dining Room**

Address: 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170

For more information, contact the club leaders:

Amanda Grant-Longo

 waycoolcloverbuds@gmail.com

 **248-767-5172**

•**Melissa Rinke**

 mmrinke66@gmail.com

 **313-720-8194**

We look forward to welcoming your family to the 4-H community!



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

JOIN THE CLUB

WAY COOL CLOVERBUDS

Location

Plymouth District Library
Dinning Room

223 S Main Street Plymouth MI 48170

*This is not a PDL Sponsored Event

Contact Us

Amanda Grant-Longo: Club Leader
248-7675172
waycoolcloverbuds@gmail.com

Melissa Rinke: Club Co-Leader
313-720-8194
mmrinke66@gmail.com

Register

4honline.com

Meetings

January 18, 2025 at 11am
February 23, 2025 at 1pm

Additional Meetings TBD

About

4-H Cloverbud programs are informal educational experiences for youth to develop confidence, social skills, and Knowledge.

Developmentally age appropriate for you 5 years to 8 years of age.

Our program will go over a variety of subject areas to introduce youth to the 4-H experience. Youth are involved in noncompetitive group activities to encourage social skills.

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Member Spotlight- Gabby C.

What are your recent/past 4-H achievements?

My past 4-H achievements have been Grand Champion Steer in 2023 and 2024. Reserve Grand Champion Heifer 2023. Large Animal Overall Champion 2023 and Large Animal Reserve Champion 2024. Wayne County Horse and Pony Overall High Point Champion 2021 and 2022. Wayne County Reserve Master Equestrian 2022 and 2023. Wayne County Horse and Pony Graduate 2023.

How and when did you get involved with 4-H?

I got involved with 4-H at the ripe age of 5 years old. I've always grown up around horses, my mom had found out about the protege program Wayne County offered and I have been a part of it ever since.

What drew you to being a part of the 4-H program?

I was drawn to be a part of the Wayne County 4-H program because of the people involved. My club is the most supportive, kind, and passionate group I have ever met. Everyone is always willing to lend a hand, push you through the long days, and always willing to teach you something new. I realized this program strives for growth and knew I wouldn't grow without it.



What have you gained from being a part of 4-H?

Being a part of 4-H I have gained responsibility, confidence, leadership, and knowledge of how to care for my animals.

What advice would you give someone else in 4-H or thinking about joining 4-H?

If you are interested in joining there is no harm in trying it! 4-H has endless opportunities beyond learning about animals. There is always something you can be apart of!

What is your favorite memory of 4-H?

My favorite memory of 4-H has been the support of the people around me along with supporting them. I have been surrounded by so many supportive people but one specific time I remember was in 2023 when I won Grand Champion Steer. I remember looking to the sidelines seeing The Harris Family, jumping for joy knowing this was one of my biggest goals when I started showing and raising steer.

What are your plans for the future?

My short-term plans for the future include working to finish my Bachelor's degree at Heidelberg University. I hope to attend Michigan State University this upcoming fall to further my education in Agriculture. As for a long-term plan I hope to have a career involving animals specifically reining horses to compete at a higher level.



Volunteer Spotlight- Ali Hood

Where do you volunteer, and how did you get started?

I have volunteered in a couple cloverbud SPIN clubs and with Outstanding Livestock 4-H Club. I started out as a co-leader for a virtual cloverbud SPIN club during covid.

What has been your favorite or most fulfilling part of volunteering with 4-H?

My favorite part of volunteering with 4-H is see the kids strive and achieve their own goals.



What volunteer projects do you most like to be a part of?

I really enjoy working with the cloverbud ages.

Do you have any advice for other 4-H volunteers?

Really get involved. It's worth it.



STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Attend the State 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show & Expo



Join us for the 2025 State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show and Expo at the MSU Pavilion! Youth may choose to exhibit their rabbit and/or cavy as well as to compete in other contests such as breed identification, photography, educational display, showmanship, and new this year -skillathon.

Showmanship exhibitors are required to pre-register by January 17. All other contest registrations are done onsite at the show.

Educational sessions will also be scheduled throughout the day with the support of The Rabbit School and Rabbit Tutor.

Learn more at:
www.canr.msu.edu/events/2025_showmanship_rabbit_and_cavy_show.

January 6: Online Parent Talk System Series (Mondays in January and February)

Online

This parenting workshop is designed to improve communication and provide practical verbal strategies for raising confident, caring, responsible children. This class is for caregivers of toddlers to teens and will take place on Monday evenings for six weeks, beginning on Jan. 6.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/the-parent-talk-system-series-january-february-25

January 14: Wild Spartans – Working my dream job with Michigan Sea Grant

Online

Take a look into life working with fisheries and wildlife! This month, delve into the freshwaters and skies that surround as you meet Elliot Nelson with Michigan Sea Grant. You'll learn about his work, and the education and career path he followed to get there. Youth will be encouraged to ask questions to learn more through a live Q&A. This free virtual series is youth ages 12-19. www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-monthly-wildlife-fisheries-webinar-series-january-2024-2025

January 14: Adulting 101 – Decreasing Stress with Mindfulness

Online

Are you ready to leave for college or be out on your own? Are you prepared to do adult tasks related to finances, home, health or finding a career? Adulting 101 can help you learn real life skills to successfully transition to living independently. In this session, learn how stressors can affect physical and mental health and practice mindfulness techniques to use in everyday life.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting-101-2025

January 23: Gearing up for success through apprenticeships: Advance your career in automotive research and development

Online

Are you passionate about vehicles and ready to jump-start your career? Enjoy technology, robotics and hands-on problem solving? Join this webinar designed to provide valuable insight into the skills and certifications you need to excel in today's fast evolving automotive industry.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/gearing-up-for-success

January 30: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar – Building a Culture of Appreciation by Recognizing 4-H Volunteers and Youth

Online

Discover simple, impactful ways to celebrate and recognize volunteers and youth involved in your club.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-building-a-culture-of-appreciation-recognizing-4-h-volunteers-youth-noon

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-building-a-culture-of-appreciation-recognizing-4-h-volunteers-youth-7pm





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS



Register today for Michigan 4-H Capitol Experience!

At Michigan 4-H Capitol Experience, teens learn how to change the world for the better through engagement in Michigan's state government and public policy process. The program is scheduled for March 16-18, in Lansing.

The three-day event, open to high-school-aged youth, includes tours of the Michigan Capitol, interactions with state legislators, meetings with state agency staff, lobbyists and state-level experts and learning how policy is made. During the program, youth work in small teams to draft legislation on:

agriculture; civil rights; crime, law enforcement and corrections; education; energy, environment and natural resources; health and human services; and jobs and the economy.

The cost to register in 2025 is \$365, which includes most meals, materials, and lodging at the Okemos Conference Center. Please contact your local 4-H program coordinator to inquire about local funding opportunities. To learn more and/or find the link to register, visit www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_capitol_experience/.

Resolve to have a great 4-H year

Adapted from: www.canr.msu.edu/news/resolve_to_have_a_great_4_h_year.

As we start the New Year, how can 4-H clubs resolve to improve in the year ahead? Here are ten suggestions to make the upcoming year a successful one.

Resolve that:

1. Club meetings will start and end on time.
2. Business meetings will follow Robert's Rules of Order and that all club paperwork, such as minutes, club inventory and financial statements, will be completed in a timely manner.
3. All members will take part in discussions and have a say in decisions that are made. Keep a chart with each members' name and when they speak at business meetings.
4. The club meeting place will be a safe, comfortable and welcoming environment for all club members.
5. Fun will be included in each meeting.
6. A learning activity will be included in each club meeting. Ideas include exploring a new 4-H curriculum, having members volunteer to do a demonstration, doing a show and tell about each members' favorite project, or bringing in a guest speaker.
7. The club will pursue at least one community service project chosen, planned and celebrated by the club.
8. New members will have a buddy they may talk with about any 4-H questions.
9. The 4-H pledge will be said at every meeting.
10. Every club member will be recognized in some way to let them know they are cared about.



SAVE THE DATE – Michigan 4-H Day at the Breslin

Michigan 4-H Day at the Breslin returns on March 1, 2025! For nearly two decades, this has been exciting event attended by Michigan 4-H youth, volunteers and families. We look forward to continuing this event in 2025 as 4-H'ers from across the state come together for a day of fun, comradery and basketball at MSU.

Make plans to join us on March 1 as the MSU Women's Basketball team takes on the Minnesota Gophers. Tickets will be available soon; visit www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-day-at-the-breslin for more information.