MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

November 2026

4-H Family News

Jackson County Connections

Dear 4-H Volunteers and Families,

As we begin a new 4-H year, we want to make sure our 4-H families stay connected and don't miss important deadlines, reminders, or opportunities!

Here are the ways our office will keep you informed throughout the year:

Monthly Newsletter
Our monthly newsletter will be emailed during the first week of each month with upcoming dates, events, deadlines, and other helpful 4-H information. You can also choose to receive the newsletter by text by checking the cellphone box on your 4-H Online profile.

Jackson County 4-H Facebook Page
Be sure to follow our Jackson County 4-H Facebook page for announcements, reminders, events, and updates throughout the year.

Friendly Reminders & Updates
We'll also send occasional emails throughout the month with friendly reminders, important updates, and information that may be helpful to our 4-H families.

We know there's a lot to keep track of during the 4-H year, so we'll do our best to help keep you in the loop! Stay connected, stay informed, and let's have a great 4-H year together!

STAY CONNECTED



Jackson County 4-H Facebook Page:
https://www.facebook.com/jacksoncounty4h
Jackson Co. 4-H Small Animal Assoc. Facebook Page:
https://www.facebook.com/JacksonCountySmallAnimal
Jackson County 4-H Livestock Assoc. Facebook Page:
https://www.facebook.com/JacksonCountyLargeAnimal
Jackson County Horse Council Facebook Group:
https://www.facebook.com/groups/232601997473213

CONTACT US

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https://www.canr.msu.edu/jackson/4-h/

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COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All Meetings Are At MSU Extension Office Unless Noted
1715 Lansing Ave, Ste 257
Jackson, MI 49202

November
2026



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
						1 4-H Key Club & Gale Todd Volunteer of The Year Award Due
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 Horse Council Meeting @ 6:30pm	10 Small Animal Association Meeting @ 6:30pm	11 MSUE Office Closed	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 Livestock (Lg Animal) Association Meeting @ 6:30pm MSUE Office Closed	19	20	21	22
23 4-H Youth Council Meeting @ 6:00pm	24	25	26 MSUE Office Closed	27 MSUE Office Closed	28	29
30						

As we reflect on this season of thankfulness, we're especially grateful for our 4-H youth, volunteers, and families. Because of your support, young people are gaining the skills they need to be **Beyond Ready** for the future. Research shows that 4-H members are twice as likely to aspire to leadership roles, three times more likely to participate in community service, and twice as likely to live with purpose and intentionality. Thank you for helping youth grow into capable, confident leaders who are ready for whatever comes next.

Beyond Ready



the cake canvas workshop

Jackson County 4-H'ers get ready to mix, frost, and create! In this hands-on workshop, kids will make their own single-layer cake, customize colorful buttercream, learn piping techniques using different decorating tips, and discover fun tricks of the cake decorating world. Everyone will take home their own sweet masterpiece along with decorating kit.

When: Saturday, December 5th 2026
Time: 10:00am-12:30pm
Where: Jackson Co. MSUE Office - 1715 Lansing Ave, Ste 257
Register: Email waldro45@msu.edu **by November 27th**

Not in 4-H yet and interested in joining? We'd love to have you! Email Jessica Waldron at waldro45@msu.edu to learn more and to get started.



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Time to Enroll

4-H ENROLLMENT IS NOW OPEN!

RETURNING TO 4-H? Please follow these steps:

- Families will need to log in to their 4-H Online account to re-enroll their child for the new year. This is for any returning 4-H Youth 8-19 yrs old & Cloverbuds 5-7 yrs old.
- **Re-enrollment deadline 12/1.**
- Enroll/Re-enroll here: https://v2.4honline.com/

NEW TO 4-H? Please follow these steps:

- New Families will need to create an account in 4-H Online to enroll their child in 4-H.
- **New enrollment deadline is 1/15.**
- Please reach out to your club leader before enrolling. Don't know what club to join, email Jessica and she'll help you get started.
- Enroll/Re-enroll here: https://v2.4honline.com/

VOLUNTEER:

- Gold & Silver level volunteers, don't forget you also need to complete your re-enrollment through 4-H Online.
- Enroll/Reenroll here: https://v2.4honline.com/

Don't leave this for the last minute! In order to participate at the Jackson County Fair, workshops, camps, club activities, etc. you must be enrolled in 4-H by the deadlines.

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COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All Meetings Are At MSU
Extension Office Unless Noted
1715 Lansing Ave, Ste 257
Jackson, MI 49202

December
2026



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	1 LAST DAY FOR 4-H RE-ENROLLMENT	2	3	4	5 The Cake Canvas Workshop See Flyer For Details	6
7 Jackson County 4-H Foundation Meeting @ 6pm	8	9 MSUE Office Closed	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 MSUE Office Closed	25 MSUE Office Closed	26	27
28 MSUE Office Closed	29 MSUE Office Closed	30 MSUE Office Closed	31 MSUE Office Closed			

Your participation matters! Please make every effort to attend our Large Group, Small Group, Horse, and Council meetings. Meetings are a great opportunity to stay informed, share ideas, learn, and help shape the future of our 4-H program.

Please come with positive attitudes, open minds, and constructive feedback. We want to create a safe, respectful, and welcoming environment where everyone feels comfortable sharing ideas—and where our 4-H youth have a voice and a say in their experience.

Together, we can continue to grow, learn, lead, and make 4-H a great place for everyone!



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STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Preparing youth to be Beyond Ready: Developing a growth mindset through 4-H

Beyond Ready

Learning often comes through challenges, mistakes and trying something new. 4-H helps youth develop a growth mindset by encouraging them to persevere, reflect and continue improving their skills over time.

Volunteers can reinforce this by celebrating effort, encouraging problem solving, and helping youth view setbacks as opportunities to learn. When young people learn that success comes from persistence and practice, they gain confidence to tackle future challenges. These experiences help youth become more resilient and better prepared for life beyond 4-H.

#BeyondReady

November 10: Wild Spartans – Migratory Fishes are Amazing!
Online
Splash into the underwater world to follow fish along their journeys with Karen Murchie, director of freshwater research at the Shedd Aquarium. Learn about her work and the education and career path she followed to get there. Ask questions and learn more through a live Q&A. This free virtual series is open to 4-H and non-4-H youth ages 12-19 years.
www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-wild-spartans-november

November 12: Adulting 101 – Paws, Claws and Commitment: The Realities of Animal Care
Online
Explore the true costs, responsibilities and lifestyle considerations of caring for animals—from vet bills and training to choosing the right pet for your space and schedule. Learn how to make informed decisions that honor both you and your future pet.
www.canr.msu.edu/events/realities-of-animal-care

November 17: Online Guiding Principles for Highly Successful Parenting Webinar Series
Online
Explore ways to be highly effective in raising kids to be successful in school and in life with this free online series. Parents of kids from toddlers to teens will explore: developing family routines, developing emotional control in your child, being a calm assertive parent, developing consistent rules and relationships, learning from mistakes, developing empathy and the ability to be thankful.
www.canr.msu.edu/events/guiding-principles-for-highly-successful-parenting-webinar-series-nov-dec-2026

November 19: 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series – Growing Money Skills through 4-H
Online
Financial skills are life skills—and they're skills youth can start growing today. Join this webinar to discover easy, engaging ways to plant financial education into your 4-H club meetings, activities and events. Participants will leave with hands-on activities, discussion starters and ready-to-use resources that help youth build money management skills while having fun. Thanks to the support of MSUFCU, randomly selected attendees will receive a free financial education resource for their clubs.
www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-growing-money-skills-through-4-h

November 27 – December 13: Fall TSC Paper Clover Campaign
Tractor Supply Co. stores statewide
Embrace the holiday spirit and purchase a paper clover at Tractor Supply Co. (TSC)! The Paper Clover campaign will officially launch on Black Friday; support 4-H youth both online or in TSC stores for just $1!
www.canr.msu.edu/events/tractor-supply-co-paper-clover-campaign



STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS



Support 4-H with the TSC Paper Clover Campaign

From Nov. 27 – Dec. 13, Tractor Supply Company (TSC) customers across the nation will have the opportunity to support 4-H youth by purchasing a $1 clover at checkouts when shopping both in stores or online at www.TractorSupply.com. Funds raised will support county, state and national 4-H programming. To learn more, visit www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/cms/4h.

You can also support 4-H by purchasing three special commemorative 4-H holiday ornaments (a beef cow, lamb and dog), now in TSC stores! Proceeds from the sale of ornaments support 4-H.

Michigan 4-H Foundation launches Beyond Ready Campaign to prepare youth for the future



At the Michigan 4-H Legacy Awards Celebration on Saturday, October 3, the Michigan 4-H Foundation announced the public launch of the Michigan 4-H Beyond Ready Campaign, a bold fundraising initiative with a goal of raising $12 million by 2032 to help prepare Michigan youth for the future.

"Today's youth face a rapidly changing world that requires resilience, adaptability and confidence," said Mary Draves, co-chair of the Michigan 4-H Foundation's Beyond Ready Campaign Committee. "Michigan 4-H is uniquely equipped to support youth in developing these critical skills and more. The Beyond Ready Campaign will provide long-term, stable funding that allows Michigan 4-H to continue offering opportunities and experiences that prepare young people to face challenges and thrive, no matter what the future may bring."

Research consistently demonstrates the positive impact of 4-H participation. Young people involved in 4-H are more likely to develop leadership skills, contribute to their communities and gain confidence in their ability to succeed. The Michigan 4-H Beyond Ready campaign will help ensure future generations of Michigan youth can experience these same benefits by investing in the programs, people and possibilities that bring 4-H to life.

The campaign focuses on five priority areas: **4-H educational opportunities and skills development**; **Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens**; **health, well-being and belonging; emerging needs**; and **endowment investments**, including **county endowments** for localized impact. The campaign also includes a **planned giving goal of securing 40 planned gifts by 2032**, helping to create a lasting legacy of support for Michigan 4- H.

"Today's young people will soon lead our communities, workforce and future," said Joe Hune, Michigan 4-H Foundation trustee and co-chair of the Beyond Ready Campaign Committee. "This campaign will ensure Michigan 4-H can continue to provide life-changing experiences, deliver innovative programs, support diverse learning needs, and help youth from all communities across Michigan become Beyond Ready for future success through 4-H."

The Oct. 3 public launch builds on strong momentum from the campaign's leadership phase. Already $7.3 million, nearly 62% of the $12 million goal, has been raised through more than 5,200 gifts from nearly 2,200 donors. Michigan 4-H alumni, volunteers, families, partners and friends are invited to join the effort to help build a generation that is Beyond Ready through Michigan 4-H.

Every gift to the Beyond Ready Campaign is an investment in Michigan youth and their future. There are many ways to participate, including one-time gifts, multi-year commitments, IRA gifts and qualified charitable distributions (QCDs), gifts of stock, planned/estate gifts, or donations of property, grain or other assets. Together, these investments will help expand opportunities, build confidence, spark curiosity and prepare more Michigan youth to be beyond ready for life, leadership and success.

To learn more about the campaign or make a gift to invest in the future of Michigan 4-H, visit www.mi4hfdtn.org/beyondready.



Jackson County 4-H Shooting Sports Interest Survey

Jackson County 4-H is exploring the possibility of restarting the 4-H Shooting Sports Program. This survey will help us determine the level of interest, identify potential instructors, and understand which disciplines families would like to see offered.

https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_38V5YUygqrVC5p4

Objectives specific to the MI 4-H Shooting Sports program are to:

- Encourage participation in environmental and outdoor education programs by exposing youth to shooting, hunting and other related activities.
- Support youth in developing valuable conservation and natural resources related knowledge, skills and stewardship.
- Enhance development of self-concept, character and personal growth through safe, educational and socially acceptable involvement in shooting.
- Teach safe and responsible use of firearms and archery equipment.
- Promote the highest standards of safety, sportsmanship, ethical behavior and conservation.
- Strengthen families through participation in lifelong recreational activities.
- Provide hands-on learning experiences.

Hunting & Wildlife Area: This includes activities such as wildlife id, plant id, habitats, animal tracks, basic outdoor & safety skills, nature scavenger hunts, ecology, and more (No live fire or firearms).

Firearm Areas: Archery, Pistol, Shotgun, Muzzleloader, Rifle (Air Rifle, .22, BB)

MI 4-H Shooting Sports: https://www.canr.msu.edu/shooting_sports/

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2026 INTEGRATED CROP AND PEST MGMT UPDATE FOR AGRIBUSINESS

FIELD CROPS PIT STOP

Join us for a field crops pit stop to fuel your minds and prepare for 2027 with the latest research-based recommendations on crop and pest management from MSU experts. **RUP/CCA credits requested.**

PROGRAM DETAILS

WHO: Agribusiness professionals and crop consultants

WHEN: Thursday, December 17, 2026, 8:30 am to 4 pm

WHERE: MSUFCU Headquarters 2, 3899 Coolidge Rd, East Lansing, MI 48823

COST: $75 in-person **pre-registered by 12/10** ($85 if after 12/10), $45 to attend online (by 12/15)

HOW: Join us in-person or online

REGISTER: https://events.anr.msu.edu/icpmu26/ or call the Jackson County MSU Extension office: 517-788-4292

Pre-register by 12/10 for in-person and 12/15 for online

5 RUP AND 5.5 CCA (0.5 SW, 2 PM, 2.5 CM, 0.5 PD) CREDITS REQUESTED

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269-858-8739

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Are You A Show Pig Breeder?



Elevate Your Herd: Industry Insights & Dinner with MPPA Regional Show Pig Breeder Meetings

Join Michigan Pork Producers Assocation for Dinner and Information

- **Industry & Marketing Spotlight:** Key strategies to market your pigs and stay ahead of trade trends.
- **Animal Health Updates:** Updates and information from the State Vet's office as well as herd health Information.
- **MSU Swine Extension:** Extension educators will be at each meeting to share practical research, applicable biosecurity practices and official ID resources.

Tuesday November 3 2026 6:30 PM-8:30 PM
Mecosta County Extension Office
14485 Northland Dr, Big Rapids, MI 49307
Keynote speaker- Lydia AcMoody with Showpig.com

Thursday November 5 2026 6:30 PM-8:30 PM
Jackson County Extension Office
1715 Lansing Ave, Jackson, MI 49202
Keynote speaker- Lydia AcMoody with Showpig.com

Tuesday November 10 2026 6:30 PM-8:30PM
Lapeer Center Building
425 County Center St, Lapeer, MI 48446
Keynote speaker- Clay Zwilling with National Swine Registry

Wednesday November 11 2026 6:30 PM-8:30PM
Shiawassee County Conservation Club
4247 N. M-52, Owosso, MI 48867
Keynote speaker- Clay Zwilling with National Swine Registry

Thursday November 12 2026 6:30 PM-8:30 PM
Kalamazoo Expo Center, Room B
2900 Lake St, Kalamazoo, MI 49048
Keynote speaker- Lydia AcMoody with Showpig.com

To register and reserve your meal, scan the QR code or go to mipork.org/show-pigs/

MICHIGAN PORK PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

pork checkoff.

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Fair Prep BECAUSE IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO START PREPARING

How To Market Your 4-H Livestock Project

Want to Rock Your 4-H Auction Experience? Learn how to market your project like a pro, attract potential buyers to the auction, and write a thank you card that really stands out (because it should be more than just "thanks for supporting me")!

Check out these helpful links for tips, ideas, and inspiration to make the most of your 4-H journey!

HTTPS://WWW.CANR.MSU.EDU/YOUTH_BUSINESS_GUIDE_TO_SUCCESS/4-H-ANIMAL-PROJECT-MARKETING-RESOURCES/BEEF

HTTPS://WWW.CANR.MSU.EDU/YOUTH_BUSINESS_GUIDE_TO_SUCCESS/4-H-ANIMAL-PROJECT-MARKETING-RESOURCES/SHEEP-GOATS

HTTPS://WWW.CANR.MSU.EDU/YOUTH_BUSINESS_GUIDE_TO_SUCCESS/4-H-ANIMAL-PROJECT-MARKETING-RESOURCES/SMALL-ANIMAL

https://www.canr.msu.edu/youth_business_guide_to_success/4-H-Animal-Project-Marketing-Resources/general-marketing-resources

SHOWMANSHIP/ SWEEPSTAKES PACKETS

POULTRY
DAIRY GOATS
MEAT GOATS
RABBITS
DOG OBEDIENCE
HORSE
SHEEP
MARKET BEEF
SWINE
DAIRY

Jackson County Fair 2027 Dates August 8th-14th