OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS | MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension

November 2026

4-H Family News

Oakland County

4-H Orienteering Adventure



Ready to put your navigation skills to the test? Join us at **Independence Oaks County Park on Sunday, November 15 at 10 AM** for a fun outdoor adventure! Participants will learn to use a map and compass to navigate the landscape and find checkpoints.

🗺️ Beginners are welcome!

The morning will begin with an introduction to orienteering and a short practice course, followed by the main event at 11 AM.

🧑‍🤝‍🧑 **Who can attend?** Registered 4-H members ages 8 and up. Youth under 12 must attend with an adult.

💲 **Cost:** $5. Youth who stay to complete the full course after the 4-H portion will receive a free map!

📝 **Pre-registration is required.** Full event details will be provided upon registration.

🔗 **Register here:** https://events.anr.msu.edu/OrienteeringEvent26/

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Achievement Awards Ceremony

We are looking forward to seeing everyone at our awards ceremony! Registration is closed.

🗓️ **Saturday, November 7 | 1–3 PM**
📍 **Springfield Oaks County Park**
12451 Andersonville Road, Springfield Township, MI



4-H Archery – Fall & Winter

Youth **ages 12+** are invited to learn and practice archery!
Oct.: Springfield Oaks 3-D Range
Nov.–Feb.: Springfield Oaks Activity Center

🕖 **5:30–7 PM** | 💲 **$5/session**
🏹 **No experience or equipment needed!**

🗓️ Nov. 5 & 19 • Dec. 3 & 17 • Jan. 7 & 21 • Feb. 4 & 18

Attend one or all! Spots are limited. 👉 Register for 4-H Archery



Share Your Passion at 2027 Expo Days!

Michigan State University Extension is seeking session instructors and Free Time Activity leaders for **4-H Exploration Days, June 23–25, 2027, at Michigan State University!**
Share your passion, knowledge, or talents with youth ages 12–19 through hands-on workshops, career exploration, games, research, campus tours, and more. Help inspire youth while supporting their learning and personal growth!
Submit your proposals by December 5, 2026. A separate survey is required for each session or Free Time Activity.

Submit a Session or Free Time Activity Proposal
Help make Exploration Days an unforgettable experience for Michigan 4-H youth!



Window Display Results

4-H Clubs in Oakland County never disappoint during National 4-H Week! The creativity and effort put forth by each club this year were truly astounding! Every display showcased the enthusiasm and dedication of our 4-H members!









Congratulations to this year's winners!
1st Place – Oakland County Sport Rocket 4-H Club
2nd Place – 4-H Poultry Fanciers
3rd Place – Tollgate Farm 4-H
Participation Award – Stem With Compassion 4-H Club

Each club will receive a ribbon and certificate at the annual 4-H Achievement Awards on November 7!

A HUGE thank-you to the businesses and locations that hosted 4-H clubs this year and helped make National 4-H Week a success!

- Clarkston Independence District Library
- Riley Park (Farmington)
- Maher Feed & Supply (Holly)
- Keith Elementary School

Thank you to everyone who participated, hosted a display, and helped celebrate the impact of 4-H in Oakland County!

Beef Market Project for 2027 Oakland County Fair

Market Beef exhibitors planning to participate in the 2027 Oakland County Fair should attend Market Beef Tag-In at the Oakland County Fairgrounds.



Market Beef must be in the exhibitor's possession by the first Saturday in January. Tag-In will be held Saturday, January 2, from 9:00 a.m. to Noon.

Exhibitors should review the current Market Beef rules and requirements before attending and contact the Oakland County Fair Office with any questions regarding 2027 requirements.
Sign up here: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050545A8AF2BA20-67131917-2026#/

4-H Winter Craft Series



Get creative this winter with hands-on projects perfect for **2027 Fair projects!** 🏆

✨ Fabric Art 🐴 Lead Braiding 🍪 Cookie Decorating 🧵 Sewing 🌸 Embroidery & more!

📍 Springfield Oaks Activity Center | 🕔 5:30–7 PM | 👧 Ages 8+

Nov. 18 • Dec. 2 & 16 • Jan. 6 & 20 • Feb. 3 & 17
Attend one or all! Registration coming soon!

4-H Horse Council Banquet



We look forward to seeing everyone who reserved a spot for the 2026 Oakland County 4-H Horse Council Banquet on **Sunday, November 8!** Join us for an afternoon of awards, dinner, and fellowship with fellow 4-H members, families, and supporters.

Doors Open: 2:00 PM | **Awards:** 2:30 PM | **Dinner:** 4:00 PM
Cost: $25 per guest
Location: Deer Lake Athletic Club, 6167 White Lake Road, Clarkston, MI 48346
Questions? Reach out to: ochcouncil@gmail.com

Save the Date - 4-H Tack Sale



Calling all horse enthusiasts! Mark your calendars for the Oakland County 4-H Tack Sale!

Join Oakland County 4-H Horse Council for a great opportunity to buy, sell, and browse horse tack and equestrian supplies.

Saturday, February 20, 2027
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Oakview Middle School
More details to come. We hope to see you there!

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

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.