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4-H Family News

Ogemaw

OCTOBER 2026

It's Officially Fall!

October 4-10 we celebrate National 4-H Week!
Keep an eye on our Facebook page for daily updates.

Friendly reminder that the 2026-27 enrollment year for 4-H is open! Our Swine and Beef clubs are full, and Sheep/Goats will close November 1st. Please try to be registered by the end of the 2026 year.
https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in
If you have questions, please email steph544@msu.edu or call 989-345-0692 to speak with the program coordinator.

Thank you,
Stephanie Stephens



CONTACT US



Stephanie Stephens

4-H Program Coordinator

MSU Extension Office

208 S. 8th St

West Branch, MI

48661

PHONE & EMAIL:

(989) 345-0692

msue.county@county.msu.edu

WEBSITE:

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

https://www.facebook.com/MSUExtensionOgemawCounty4H

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STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Preparing youth to be Beyond Ready: Building leadership skills through 4-H

Beyond Ready

4-H provides youth with opportunities to develop leadership skills in meaningful and age-appropriate ways. Whether leading a club activity, serving as an officer, mentoring younger members, or helping plan an event, youth practice communication, teamwork, decision-making and responsibility.

Volunteers can support leadership development by encouraging youth voice, sharing responsibilities and creating opportunities for members to take ownership of their learning. Every leadership experience helps young people build confidence and prepares them to contribute in school, work and their communities.

How are you helping youth grow as leaders this year?

#BeyondReady

October 3: MSU Tollgate Pumpkinfest
Tollgate Farm, Novi
Pumpkinfest is a family-friendly event at MSU Tollgate Farm. Enjoy a harvest celebration of wagon rides, u-pick pumpkin patch, cider, donuts, food, music and activities on the farm.
www.canr.msu.edu/events/pumpkinfest-2026

October 4-10: National 4-H Week
Nationwide
For over 100 years, 4-H has inspired families, shaped careers, and impacted communities. During this week, celebrate the impact of 4-H in various ways including Go Green Monday, Wheels Up Wednesday, Thankful Thursday and Stay Connected Saturday!
www.canr.msu.edu/events/national-4-h-week

October 7: Adulting 101—Mental Health Toolkit: Everyday Skills and Resources to Help Care for Your Mental Health
Online
This Adulting 101 session will equip participants with practical tools to support their mental health and emotional wellbeing.
www.canr.msu.edu/events/msu-extension-adulting-101-mental-health-toolkit-everyday-skills-and-resources-to-help-care-for-your-mental-health

October 27: 4-H Volunteer Webinar – Infusing Positive Youth Development into Your 4-H club
Online
Explore simple strategies that foster belonging, build developmental relationships, encourage youth voice, and create engaging experiences where young people can develop confidence, competence, character and caring.
www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-infusing-positive-youth-development-into-your-4-h-club

October 31: 4-H Animal Science Fall Fest
Anthony Hall, East Lansing
Youth will have the chance to learn about a variety of animal science topics, disciplines and careers from industry experts and Department of Animal Science staff. Open to youth ages 12-19. **Register by October 15!**
www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-animal-science-fall-fest-2026



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STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Nominate a deserving 4-H'er for Michigan 4-H Animal Science Sportsperson of the Year!



Do you know someone who displayed extraordinary sportsmanship at a recent 4-H animal science program? Perhaps at a club meeting, clinic or the county fair? Nominate them for the 2026 Michigan 4-H Animal Science Sportsperson of the Year Award!

This annual award recognizes one youth member and one adult 4-H leader who exemplify the definition of sportsmanship and have gone above and beyond to lend a helping hand to those around them during animal science programs. Nominations are due **October 15**. You can find full details, including the nomination form, at: www.canr.msu.edu/resources/competitive_event_resources.



Join the 4-H Future Squad!

Ready to level up your future? Youth ages age 12–19 are invited to join the 4-H Future Squad, a virtual 4-H club focused on life skills, career readiness, financial literacy, Adulting 101 topics and more.

4-H Future Squad was inspired by Generation Z youth seeking life skill development for a better future for themselves and their peers. This will be the sixth year of the program, which is designed to help youth feel prepared and ready to take on the future and adulthood.

The club will meet twice a month October 2026 through May 2027, virtually through Zoom. Meetings will involve team-building and will cover areas such as money management, career readiness, stress management, goal setting, time management, communication, politics, food safety and basic household tasks.

Meeting dates will take place on a variety of days of the week; dates and times will be communicated via email and on the program website. Youth can attend as many of these dates as they wish. 4-H Future Squad can be a primary or secondary club. Learn more and complete the interest form at: www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-future-squad/.

4-H scholarships available!

Outstanding Michigan 4-H members who are involved at county, regional, state, national or international levels are eligible to apply for Michigan 4-H scholarships to help fund their college experience.

A number of scholarship opportunities exist, ranging in value from $500 to $10,000 (over the course of four years). Each scholarship has specific eligibility, be sure to read the requirements to see if you qualify. All applications are due by November 1.

Learn more and access applications materials at: www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_scholarships_and_recognition_program/4_h_scholarships.

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COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Ogemaw 4-H Livestock Meetings

January 21, 2026 | 6:00pm | MSU Extension Office 205 S 8th St West Branch, MI 48661

March 18, 2026 | 6:00pm | MSU Extension Office 205 S 8th St West Branch, MI 48661

May 20, 2026 | 6:00pm | MSU Extension Office 205 S 8th St West Branch, MI 48661

July 15, 2026 | 6:00pm | MSU Extension Office 205 S 8th St West Branch, MI 48661

September 16, 2026 | 6:00pm | MSU Extension Office 205 S 8th St West Branch, MI 48661

November 18, 2026 | 6:00pm | MSU Extension Office 205 S 8th St West Branch, MI 48661

Ogemaw 4-H Council Meetings

January 21, 2026 | 7:00pm | MSU Extension Office 205 S 8th St West Branch, MI 48661

March 18, 2026 | 7:00pm | MSU Extension Office 205 S 8th St West Branch, MI 48661

May 20, 2026 | 7:00pm | MSU Extension Office 205 S 8th St West Branch, MI 48661

July 15, 2026 | 7:00pm | MSU Extension Office 205 S 8th St West Branch, MI 48661

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Ogemaw County

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msue.county@county.msu.edu



Happy opening day of bow hunting! Looking to see where land boundaries are? Pick up an Ogemaw County Plat book for $35.00. These are available at:

- MSU Extension: 205 S 8th Street, West Branch, MI 48661
- Ogemaw County Register of Deeds: 806 W. Houghton Ave, West Branch, MI 48661
- Ogemaw County Herald: 215 W Houghton Ave, West Branch, MI 48661
- City of Rose City: 410 N Williams St, Rose City, MI 48654



Through a new initiative with Tractor Supply and Starlink, you can help support 4-H'ers and provide more access to opportunity.
From Sept. 1 – Nov. 1, for every Starlink Kit purchased and registered at Tractor Supply, the first month's subscription will support 4-H.
In addition, customers receive $50 off each Starlink Kit purchased in store or online at Tractor Supply from September 15–November 15.
Reliable internet access opens doors to learning, leadership, career exploration, and connection – especially in rural communities. Together, we're building a future where every young person can be Beyond Ready.
Learn more: https://4-h.org/.../tractor-supply-and-4-h-collaborate.../



4-H Online Registration for the 2026-2027 year is here! See the graphics for enrollment instructions for new and returning families.

How to Register with 4-H: *NEW Family*

1. Visit **mi.4Honline.com.**
2. Create a family account.
3. Answer member questions; click the final SUBMIT button.
4. Use the Add Member button on the Member List page if needed.
5. Membership is approved at the county level. You will receive an email once approved.



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How to Register with 4-H: *Returning Family*

1. Visit **mi.4Honline.com.**
2. Log in to your account.*
3. Click “Enroll Now” for the returning member(s).
4. Update information.
5. Continue until you click the final SUBMIT button.
6. Add members if needed.

*If you need assistance accessing your account, contact your local 4-H staff; do not create a new account.



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VOLUNTEER WITH MICHIGAN 4-H

Michigan 4-H is the youth development program of Michigan State University Extension. Through fun, hands-on educational opportunities, Michigan 4-H is helping to prepare a ready generation in a world of change. And critical to delivering these opportunities are volunteers - the most essential partner in the 4-H program.

Consider becoming a Michigan 4-H volunteer today and help to prepare the next generation. By giving your time, talent and skills, you can help ready youth for whatever the future holds. Give an hour a week, month or year - there are volunteer roles for any skill level, time commitment and interest area.

With your help, more kids will be ready to take on the world. More youth, more community, more ready!

Make a difference



Share your talent



Support your community





Enhance your skills



Grow your network



Pass on your interests

Ready to get started?

Volunteer experiences are available in every Michigan county with opportunities to engage at the local, state, national and even international level. To get started, simply scan the QR code or visit extension.msu.edu/4Hvolunteers. To connect with 4-H in your county, contact:

Ogemaw County MSU Extension

205 S 8th St West Branch, MI 48661

Program Coordinator: Stephanie Stephens

989-345-0692 or steph544@msu.edu

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Beyond Ready

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4-H MERCHANDISE

Looking to represent 4-H for our county? We are happy to provide merchandise for Ogemaw County 4-H! Explore our collection of stylish t-shirts and hoodies, available in a variety of colors and sizes for both youth and adults. Every purchase helps to promote and celebrate the local impact of 4-H. You can receive an additional 15% off your purchase by applying the code **15OFF4-HOC** at checkout. If you're looking to save even more, feel free to select in-store pickup with 313 Designs located at 313 W. Houghton Ave. STE A. West Branch, MI 48661. Don't miss out—grab yours today!

Shop Here: https://www.313designswb.com/shop/4-h/Y5YHVJHU7LCX5C2QZGFPSTSC

*Please note, we do not have these available for purchase in the office, they are available online only.

