



OCTOBER 2026

4-H Family News

Shiawassee County Clover Connection



HAPPY FALL!

National 4-H Week is October 5-10. Be sure to check out **page 2** for ways to celebrate and share your 4-H pride.

The **4-H Animal Science Sportsperson of the Year** nominations are now open and are due **October 15**. You can find more information on **page 3**. Page 3 also includes details about **statewide 4-H scholarships**, with applications due **November 1**.

On **page 4**, you'll find local 4-H updates and reminders, including information about **re-enrollment**, **fair checks**, and an upcoming **4-H Officer & Parliamentary Procedures Workshop**. We would love to fill the workshop, so please take a few minutes to learn more about this opportunity. You do not need to be a current officer in your 4-H club to attend.

We hope you take advantage of the many opportunity available through 4-H!

Sincerely,

Alexis Wheeler

4-H Program Coordinator

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SHIAWASSEE 4-H ADVISORY BOARD MEETINGS

Did you know that as a Shiawassee County 4-H member or volunteer, you can attend county advisory board meetings as a guest? Below is a list of the October meetings for Shiawassee County 4-H advisory boards.

All meetings take place at the Shiawassee County MSU Extension office (149 E. Corunna Ave., Corunna, MI 48817), unless otherwise stated. We hope to see you there!

JR. LIVESTOCK ASSOCIATION | OCTOBER 8 | 6:30 PM

HORSE LEADERS | OCTOBER 12 | 7:00 PM

SMALL ANIMAL ASSOCIATION | OCTOBER 13 | 6:30 PM

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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





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, Adulthood 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.





COUNTY 4-H NEWS

It's Time to Re-Enroll for the 2026-2027 4-H Program Year!



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.



The 2026-2027 4-H program year started on September 1, which means it's time to re-enroll for the new 4-H program year!

Families will need to log in to 4-H Online to enroll their child(ren) for the new program year. Volunteers, don't forget that you'll need to complete your own enrollment through 4-H Online as well to remain active as a 4-H volunteer.

Re-enrolling ensures that members and volunteers stay connected to the opportunities, events, and resources available through 4-H throughout the year. Enrollment must be completed and approved by county staff before members and volunteers can participate in any 4-H activities.

Enroll through **4-H Online**: <https://v2/4honline.com/>

Reminder: Fair Premium and Sale Checks Must Be Cashed by October 15

Shiawassee County Fair exhibitors who received a premium check or sale check are reminded that all checks must be cashed by **October 15, 2026**.

Please do not wait until the last minute. Any checks that are not cashed by the deadline **will not be reissued** by the Shiawassee County Fair. Be sure to deposit or cash your check before October 15 to avoid losing those funds.

If you have questions regarding your premium or sale checks, please contact the **Shiawassee County Fair Office**.

4-H Officer & Parliamentary Procedures Workshop



Want to know more about running a 4-H meeting? Join us for our 4-H Officer & Parliamentary Procedures Workshop on **October 24 from 12:00-2:30 p.m.** at the **Shiawassee County MSU Extension Office** (149 E Corunna Ave, Corunna, MI)

Participants will learn the basics of parliamentary procedures, how to run an effective meeting, and the roles and responsibilities of 4-H officers. This workshop is a great opportunity to build leadership skills and confidence.

The registration fee is **\$5 per person**, and registration is limited to 20 participants. Youth will receive priority enrollment, with registration opening to volunteers if spots remain available. **Registration is due October 22.**

Register here: <https://shia-officerworkshop.4honline.com>