



AUGUST 2026

4-H Family News

Washtenaw County



Thank you for making the best better at the Washtenaw County 4-H Youth!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to making the 4-H Youth Show happen!

A special thank you to our superintendents for all their hard work and time, Lisa Garcia, Kristie Taylor, and Caryn Delbene for running the 4-H Kitchen, Jr. Livestock Members, our 4-H Ambassadors, and everyone who helped with set up, tear down, haul out, and so much more.

The 4-H Youth Show is only possible because of our amazing volunteers, families, & youth!

Remember, [anyone can nominate someone for the Friend of 4-H award](#) if you saw someone going above and beyond for the 4-H Youth Show or any other time of year and want them to receive recognition!

UPCOMING EVENTS & MEETINGS:

Still Projects Committee Meeting

August 25th at 6:30 pm on Zoom

4-H Online Shuts Down

August 31st – September 2nd

Deadline for County Award Nominations

September 1st

4-H Online Opens for 2026-27 Program Year

September 3rd

Advisory Council Meeting

September 8th at 7 pm at the MSU Extension Office

CONTACT US

Amy Harris

4-H Program Coordinator

harr1976@msu.edu

Jenny Speyer

4-H Program Instructor

speyerje@msu.edu

705 N. Zeeb Rd.,
P.O. Box 8645
Ann Arbor, Michigan
48107

PHONE & EMAIL:

734-997-1678

msue.washtenaw@county.msu.edu

WEBSITE:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/washtenaw/>

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COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Don't Forget to Write Thank You's!



4-H'ers, please remember to take a few minutes to write any remaining thank you notes to trophy sponsors, ribbon sponsors, buyers and other individuals and businesses you may know of who supported our event in some way. Your words mean a lot to them!

This year we received roughly **\$13,860** in sponsorships for the 2026 4-H Youth Show! We want to make sure all these folks get recognized for their contributions.

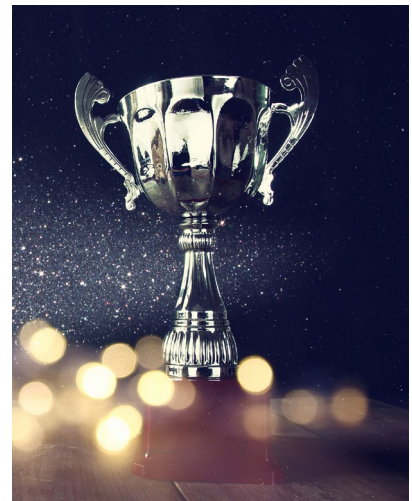
Not sure how to write a thank you note? Check out [this handout](#) by MSU Extension Educator Laurie Rivetto with tips.

Not sure who sponsored your award? Contact the 4-H Office at 734-997-1678 or email Amy or Jenny.

Nominate Someone for a Washtenaw 4-H County Award!

It is time again for the annual nominations for County Medals, 4-H Club Spirit Awards, I Dare You Award, Key Club Award, Alumni of the Year, Leader of the Year, and Friend of 4-H Award.

We would like nominations in all areas from EVERY CLUB! There are many worthy people and businesses out there, as well as younger members who could benefit from this recognition. We would also like our youth to think about 4-H leaders who have made an impact in their lives. The Leader of the Year Award can be a 4-H club leader but also can be a superintendent, coach, or other 4-H volunteer. You can find a description of the awards and eligibility [here](#).



We highly encourage you to discuss the county medal opportunity with eligible younger teen members and nominate as many as possible. Their completion of the county medal application alone is a great skill-building opportunity. Youth can also self nominate for County Medal Awards! Youth just must have a 4-H leader to check off their award. Leaders can be superintendents, club leaders, coaches, or advisors.

Award nominations are due by September 1st.

To nominate someone for a county award, please use the Qualtrics survey:

https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0HuE4ZFTh0rtf38. We also have paper copies of the forms in our office if you would prefer.



COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Washtenaw County 4-H Scholarship & Harwood Scholarship

We are now accepting [applications for the Washtenaw County 4-H Scholarship funded by the Advisory Council](#). This scholarship is open to any high school senior graduating in 2027. We will also be releasing the Ada May and Webb Harwood Memorial Scholarship Application at the end of this month. This scholarship is for incoming freshman or higher continuing their education at an accredited institution of high education. When the application is ready, we will send it out through 4-H Online, Facebook, and put it on our website. Questions? Please contact Jenny Speyer, 4-H Program Instructor at speyerje@msu.edu



Washtenaw County 4-H Superintendent & Leader Meetings



We are looking at dates for our 4-H Superintendent Meeting and our 4-H Leader Meeting in September.

Our Superintendent meeting will give us a chance to think about what went well and what can be improved at our 4-H Youth Show.

Our 4-H Leader meeting is a required meeting for our 4-H club leaders when we go over our annual paperwork and also expectations for the upcoming program year.

Keep an eye out for more information and dates!

Join or Attend a 4-H Committee Meeting this Fall!

Do you want to make a difference in our 4-H program? Join a Washtenaw County 4-H Committee! 4-H advisory groups (also known as committees) can add value to county-wide 4-H programs by raising funds to support scholarships and events, hosting educational clinics and workshops, and providing feedback on programs and insight on new program opportunities designed to meet the needs of our youth. When volunteer-driven 4-H advisory groups take ownership of these tasks, their potential community impact and therefore benefit to the local 4-H program increases significantly.



If programs are reliant solely on a staff to create, lead and implement, they will be limited to an individual staff person's capacity. When volunteers take ownership, programs can grow exponentially in communities.

COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Congrats to Our Washtenaw County Dairy Teams



The Washtenaw County Novice Dairy Quiz Bowl team buzzed their way straight to the top at the 2026 Michigan 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl Competition! The team consisted of four 4-H youth who attended practices at the Horning Family Farm and the statewide competition at MSU. They learned patience and skill in an excellent show of team collaboration. Congratulations to Martha Broesamle, Kendall Brooks, Andrew Harris, and Jesse Brown!

For information on how you can be involved on the dairy team, contact coaches Katelyn Packard and Harper Jane Adkins through MSU Extension Office.

We also want to recognize our older participants on our senior and junior teams, including Harper Jane Adkins, Lydia Avery, Harlee Bristle, Raelyn Bristle, Amelia Harris, Lily LeBlanc, Evan Weidmayer, Grace Weidmayer, and Alora Wahl.

In the Dairy Quiz Bowl Contest, the senior team took 2nd place. In Dairy Judging, the senior team (our team combined with other counties) took 3rd place. In Dairy Management, the senior team took 3rd and the junior team (our team combined with other counties) took 2nd.





COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Thank you to our Poultry Community Service Project Participants

We would like to recognize the 4-H'ers who raised and donated 9 chickens and 3 turkeys to Saline Social Services for this year's Poultry Community Service Project:

- Vivan Burger of S & L Bauernhof 4-H Club – 1 Turkey
- Kyle Zahn of Saline 4-H Farmers 4-H Club – 1 Turkey
- William Rogers of Saline 4-H Farmers 4-H Club – 1 Turkey
- Eliana Pinson of Saline 4-H Farmers 4-H Club – 9 chickens

All 12 of these birds were donated to Saline Social Services to help feed folks in our local community. If you are interested in participating in 2027, look out for information in the Spring newsletters for more information. Pictured to the left are William Rogers and Eliana Pinson.



Washtenaw County 4-H'ers Place 1st at the Michigan 4-H State Shooting Sports Tournament



Four of our 4-H'ers from the Washtenaw County 4-H Target Archery Club competed in the Michigan 4-H State Shooting Sports Tournament in Calhoun this past weekend and did a great job!

4-H'ers Evelyn Tessier, Isaac Tessier, Simon Tessier, and Vivienne Turri all competed on the Washtenaw County 4-H team.

The Michigan State 4-H Tournament provides Michigan 4-H shooting sports members with the opportunity to test their skills, earn recognition, and build camaraderie with other 4-H members from all over the state.

Vivienne Turri placed first in Junior Unsighted Archery and Isaac Tessier placed first in Senior Unsighted Archery!

And of course, we could not have any of these youth competing without our wonderful 4-H Target Archery leaders including Jerry Bima, Dan Rosolowski, Jean Martin, and Tim Davis.





4-H Youth Show Results

4-H Youth Show Herdsmanship Winners



Congratulations to the following clubs for winning herdsmanship in the following species. Herdsmanship is judged on the cleanliness of the club's area, their signage, decorations, and their educational exhibits.

- The top club in the Dairy Herdsmanship is Saline 4-H Farmers 4-H Club
- The top club in Beef Herdsmanship is Saline 4-H Farmers 4-H Club
- The top club in Swine Herdsmanship is Saline 4-H Farmers 4-H Club & Rogers Corners Herdsmen 4-H Club
- The top club for Poultry Herdsmanship is All Around 4-H Club

- The top club for Llama Herdsmanship is Ann Arbor Llama Lovers
- The top club for Rabbit Herdsmanship is All Around 4-H Club
- The top club for Goat Herdsmanship is Saline 4-H Farmers 4-H Club
- The top club for Sheep Herdsmanship is Final Drive 4-H Club
- The top club for Horse Herdsmanship is Challengers 4-H Club for the Cement Barn and S & L Bauernhof 4-H Club for the Dirt Barn

4-H Youth Show Sweepstakes Showmanship Winners 2026

Congratulations to the winners of our 2026 Sweepstakes Showmanship

- **Sweepstakes Showmanship Grand Champion Audrey Wells of Saline 4-H Farmers 4-H Club**
- **Sweepstakes Showmanship Reserve Grand Champion Valorie Hieber of Country Expressions 4-H Club**

And congratulations to all our Sweepstakes Contestants:

- Beef is David Prielipp of Country Expressions 4-H Club, Feeder Calves is Stephanie Bushey of Saline 4-H Farmers 4-H Club, Sheep is Valorie Hieber of Country Expressions 4-H Club, Swine is Eliana Pinson of Saline 4-H Farmers 4-H Club, Goats is Audrey Wells of Saline 4-H Farmers 4-H Club, Dairy is Harper Jane Adkins of Saline 4-H Farmers 4-H Club, Horse is Alexis Couch of Challengers 4-H Club, Dogs is Annikah Stalhandske of Revel Wranglers 4-H Club, Poultry is Violet Olley of S & L Bauernhof 4-H Club, Rabbits is Meghan McLennan of Saline 4-H Farmers 4-H Club, Llamas is Abby Schmaus of Ann Arbor Llama Lovers 4-H Club.



4-H Youth Show Photos



4-H Youth Show Photos



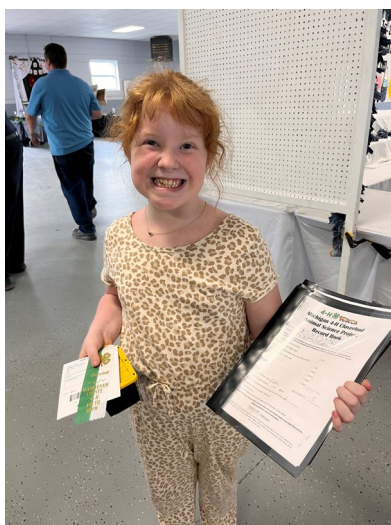


4-H Youth Show Photos



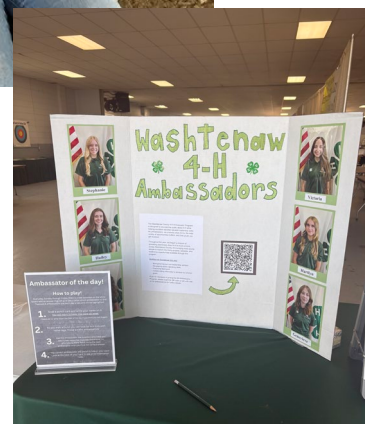


4-H Youth Show Photos





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STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Building work
readiness skills
through 4-H**



Beyond Ready

4-H programs create intentional opportunities for youth to build essential work readiness skills that prepare them for future success. Through structured, hands-on activities, young people practice communication, collaboration, problem solving and time management. Volunteers play a key role by guiding youth through meaningful tasks, helping them set goals, and encouraging personal responsibility and follow through.

As youth take on leadership roles, complete project work, and participate in real-world or simulated experiences, they begin to demonstrate growth in professionalism, work ethic and organizational skills. Every activity can help youth connect what they are learning in 4-H to what will be expected of them in the workplace.

How is your club helping youth build the skills they need to be work ready?

#BeyondReady

July 1 - August 7: Michigan 4-H License Plate Promotion Contest

Online

As part of the Michigan State Fair 4-H and Youth Virtual Showcase, youth ages 8-19 are invited to create a video or non-video promotional piece encouraging others to purchase the 4-H license plate.
www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-license-plate-promotion-contest

July 1 - August 7: Michigan 4-H Business Pitch Contest

Online

Participants may present a business they already own, currently operate or hope to start in the future, including product, service or community impact ideas. Youth will create a two-minute video pitch introducing themselves, explaining their business idea, identifying the problem they are solving, and sharing why their product or service stands out.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan4-hbusinesspitchcontest

August 12: Adulthood 101 – Roadmap to a Smart Used Car Purchase

Online

Are you wanting to purchase a used car, but have no idea where to start? Learn tips, resources and strategies to help you make an informed decision with confidence.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulthood-101-roadmap-to-a-smart-used-car-purchase

August 13-16: 2025 Michigan 4-H State Horse Show

MSU Pavilion, East Lansing, Mich.

This annual event brings together 4-H members from counties across Michigan. Members are selected by their county 4-H programs to participate; spectators are welcome.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-state-horse-show

August 17-20: 4-H Garden Adventures Summer Camp 2026

Traverse City, Mich.

Join us for fun adventures in nature, nurturing resilience, kindness, community and creativity. This camp is designed to encourage sustainability and growth from the inside out through a fun and engaging hands-on approach. Register by August 17.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-garden-adventures-summer-camp-2026-session-2

September 9: Welcome Back MSU 4-H Alumni Reception

Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens, East Lansing, Mich.

Join MSU Extension for the ninth annual Welcome Back MSU 4-H Alumni Reception. If you are a current or former 4-H'er attending MSU this fall, stop by the Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. for networking and free dinner!

www.canr.msu.edu/events/msu-welcome-week-4-h-alumni-reception





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Michigan 4-H alumni & supporters invited to get connected by the clover!

As a valuable member of the Michigan 4-H community, you already know the importance of the 4-H connection. We invite those age 18 and older to take that 4-H connection one step further by joining a new statewide community of 4-H supporters: Michigan 4-H Alumni & Friends.

The Michigan 4-H Alumni & Friends database will connect 4-H families, alumni, volunteers, supporters and others across Michigan with one another – connecting them by the clover! We hope you will take a few moments to sign-up for this free community and grow your connection.

As a member of Michigan 4-H Alumni & Friends, you will receive information about opportunities to support 4-H youth and programs; 4-H programming and participants; upcoming events for the Michigan 4-H Alumni & Friends community and more!.

Michigan 4-H Alumni & Friends is open to anyone age 18+ who cares about Michigan 4-H: 4-H parents, staff members, volunteers, grandparents, supporters, partner organization representatives, donors and more. Learn more about Michigan 4-H Alumni & Friends and find the link to join by visiting extension.msu.edu/Michigan4HA&F.

Join Michigan 4-H Alumni & Friends

Stay informed. Support youth.
Strengthen communities.
Get connected by the clover today!

Join for free at:
extension.msu.edu/Michigan4HA&F

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

Going home: Biosecurity tips for animals that travel off the farm

Adapted from: https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/biosecurity_tips_for_animals_that_went_to_the_county_fair.

Animals that are exhibited at the county fair, jackpot shows, and other exhibitions are likely near and dear to their exhibitor's hearts. [Michigan State University Extension](#) offers these biosecurity steps exhibitors can take to protect their show animals and those that were left at home once the event has ended.

- Keep animals that left home separate from animals that did not for a minimum of 14 days. If at all possible, do not allow nose-to-nose contact and provide as much distance between animals.
- Disinfect all buckets, feeders, tools and footwear that left home.
- Throw away any feed or hay that left home.
- Always wear clean clothes and footwear. Boot coverings may be helpful when caring for isolated animals.
- Take care of animals that stayed home from the show first, and animals that were at the show second. Do not go back and forth between animals as this increases the risk of cross-contamination.
- Do not eat or drink in the barn.
- Observe animals daily for signs and symptoms of illness, such as:
 - Obvious pain or discomfort
 - Decrease in appetite and water intake
 - Fever
 - Lethargy
 - Diarrhea or changes in consistency in manure
 - Discharge from nasal cavity or eyes
 - Overall weakness

Care of animals after traveling is just as critical as their pre-show care. Exhibited animals were exposed to new animal populations and fair-goers, and will typically experience a lot of stress during their time away from home. By practicing these biosecurity steps, you can help keep all of your animals safe and healthy.

