



Cass County

4-H Family News

September/ October 2020

Dear 4-H Family and Friends,

I hope this newsletter finds you healthy and well! We have such and EXCITING year ahead. I hope you are as excited as I am! Of course, this year will look different than previous years but 4-H will continue! We will become a stronger and better program as we navigate these difficult times. I hope you will waiver the storm with me!

We have so many amazing Leaders in this community that are working with me to bring great programs and activities to you. Please read through the newsletter to find out what we're doing over the next couple of months! I hope you will consider attending at least one of the programs!

I will leave you with this for now: 4-H Grows HERE. 4-H grows right here in Cass County. 4-H will continue to be a premier youth development program, right here, in Cass County! I'll see you all soon! *cue triumphant music*

Sincerely,

Hailey Harman

4-H Program Coordinator, Cass County

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Newsletter Web Site

www.canr.msu.edu/Cass/4-h/newsletters

2020-2021 4-H Online Enrollment and Participation Fees

Our new 4-H year will begin on September 1, 2020; however, 4-H Online will not be available for re-enrollment until mid-September. Help documents will be sent out mid-September to aid you in re-enrolling with the new system. In addition, participation fees for the 2020-21 4-H year have been waived. More information about this is located on page three under Statewide News.

All 4-H members and leaders are strongly encouraged to enroll online. If you have forgotten your 4-H online login information, **please do not make a new profile.**

Please contact our office for assistance!

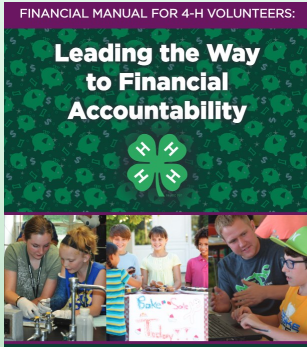
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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Important Changes to 4-H Financial Manuals for Volunteers & Treasurers



The 4-H Financial Manuals for Volunteers and Treasurers support 4-H volunteers and adult and youth treasurers in their roles managing 4-H funds.

Small revisions and updates to these books were made in 2020. The online PDF versions of the manuals contain the changes. However, if you have a printed or hard copy version that does not contain the 2020 changes, a one-page document is available online that notes all the important content adjustments. It is recommended that you print this resource and store it in your manual for quick reference.

Download the 2020 changes resource at www.canr.msu.edu/resources/4_h_financial_management_toolkit. For more information, please contact your local county staff member.

September

- 9 Teen Leader Association Meeting, Zoom, 6:30 p.m.
- 16 Horse Leaders' Association Meeting, Zoom, 7:00 p.m.
- 19 Virtual 4-H Outdoor Experience, Zoom, 9:00 a.m.
- 21-25 Farm Safety and Health Week
- 24 Mandatory Key Leader Update, Zoom 5:30 p.m.
- 24 Leaders' Association Meeting, Zoom, 7:00 p.m.

October

- 8 County Medal Applications Due
- 8 Last Year 4-H Member Bios Due
- 14 Teen Leader Association Meeting, Zoom, 6:30 p.m.
- 21 Equine Education Wednesday!, Zoom, 6:30 p.m.
- 22 Leaders' Association Meeting, Zoom, 7:00 p.m.
- 27 Ag Explorers, Zoom, 7:00 p.m.
- 28 Equine Education Wednesday!, Zoom, 6:30 p.m.

For the most up-to-date events listing, go to <http://4h.msu.edu/events>.

4-H State Events and Workshops

September 10 & 14: Women's Leadership Institute, Zoom Webinar
<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/women-s-leadership-institute-2020>

September 14: Upper Peninsula 4-H Babysitting SPIN Club, Zoom Webinar
<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/upper-peninsula-4-h-babysitting-spin-club>

September 19: Birds of Prey—LIVE!, Zoom Webinar
<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/birds-of-prey-live>

Update on Face-to-Face Michigan 4-H Programming

Earlier this year, MSU Extension pivoted all programming to online formats to comply with the original Stay Safe, Stay Home order ([EO2020-42](#)). Though this has been a difficult time for communities, families and our own faculty and staff members, we are proud of the work our team has done to ensure that the 4-H community continues to have access to high-quality educational opportunities throughout Michigan.

After much discussion and study, we have decided to continue to keep all 4-H programming, meetings and events virtual until further notice. This applies to all children and youth activities involving ages birth to 19. We recognize that this is a hardship on those who are eager to engage in in-person activities with their 4-H community. However, we must do everything we can to keep youth and adults safe and healthy. As such, please continue to hold 4-H club meetings and other local events virtually. MSU Extension staff members, including 4-H program coordinators, cannot support in-person activities.

In addition, funds raised in the name of 4-H cannot be used to support in-person events until further notice.

Although our delivery modes have changed, we are still hard at work for you. Because of our statewide reach, you have access to a number of MSU Extension events. Visit our [MSU Extension Remote Learning and Resources](#) to learn more.

We assure you that this does not diminish our commitment to the 4-H community. We will continue to offer high-quality, virtual programming and experiences, and look forward to the day when we can resume in-person programming.



Explore your leadership skills with the 2020 Women's Leadership Institute

Youth ages 13-19 are invited to learn from strong women leaders while exploring their own leadership skills at the 2020 MSU Women's Leadership Institute. This two-day event will begin on September 10 when attendees (open to anyone of any age) join an interactive webinar to hear from women leaders working at the intersection of health and wellness—including on the front lines of health care during the novel coronavirus pandemic. Learn how the different leadership types responded during times of crisis, and how they're promoting health and wellness at this critical time.

On September 14, youth participants will take part in the second portion of this event, which is reserved just for teens. During this virtual session, youth will discuss the Day 1 speakers and their own leadership challenges and successes.

Each event will be hosted from 6-8 p.m. Although featuring women leaders, the Women's Leadership Institute is a great opportunity for youth of any gender to learn more about leadership. Register at www.canr.msu.edu/events/women-s-leadership-institute-2020 or contact Roxanne Turner (turnerr@msu.edu or 517-546-3950) or Darren Bagley (bagleyda@msu.edu or 810-244-8515) for more information.

Update on 2020-2021 4-H Participation Fees

MSU Extension recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic and other associated factors have put a financial strain on many families. Therefore, we have opted to waive the Michigan 4-H participation fee of \$20 per person or \$60 per family for the 2020-21 4-H program year which begins September 1, 2020. Some events may continue to have registration fees. You will continue to register through 4-H Online, but no participation fees will be collected or expected next year.

If you are interested in supporting 4-H in lieu of paying participation fees, please contact your 4-H program coordinator for opportunities.

Changes coming to 4-H Online this fall!

This fall, 4-H Online will be upgraded to version 2.0. This enhanced version of our current registration system will offer many improvements, including the ability to register for events, the ability to collect registration fees via credit card, and improved communication features, among others. Though the system will look a bit different, we anticipate this upgrade will also provide a better user experience for the 4-H community.

In preparation for this upgrade, 4-H Online will shut down on August 27 as our Michigan 4-H data are migrated to the 2.0 version. The system will reopen mid-September; during the transition time, you will not be able to access 4-H Online. Once the system is operational again, MSU Extension will email the 4-H community with instructions on how to enroll/re-enroll in the upgraded system. In that communication, we will also provide additional training resources for administrative leaders/volunteers, as well as 4-H families who would like to learn more about 4-H Online 2.0.

We appreciate your patience with this transition and look forward to starting the 2020-2021 program year with an even better 4-H Online experience.

Virtual Learning Resources for Parents, Teachers and Homeschool Families



Though the back-to-school season occurs each fall, this year is unlike anything that has been experienced before. The 2020-2021 school year will present new challenges for families and teachers alike, whether youth are returning to school in the classroom, online or at home.

To support teachers, parents and homeschool families in their educational efforts, MSU Extension is compiling a list of helpful resources that can be used by varying audiences to supplement school plans. Arranged by audience, grade level and topic, a variety of resources will be available in differing delivery methods. While not all tools utilize school standards, many do.

Look for additional information coming soon! In the meantime, please check out extension.msu.edu/online4MI.

4-H Leaders' Association

Are you looking to help the county 4-H program? The 4-H Leaders' Association is the place for you! Come to our meetings on Thursday, September 24th and October 22nd via Zoom at 7:00 p.m. to see what we are all about!

<https://msu.zoom.us/j/92911449224>
+1 312 626 6799
ID:929 1144 9224
Password: Cass



Horse Leaders' Association

Our Cass County 4-H Horse Leaders' Association works to provide educational opportunities for youth in the horse project area. If you would like to be involved, please consider coming to the Horse Leaders' meeting on Wednesday, September 16th via Zoom.

<https://msu.zoom.us/j/92294069396>
+1 312 626 6799
ID:922 9406 9396
Password: Cass

2020 Virtual 4-H Outdoor Experience

The Leaders' Association is hosting their annual 4-H Outdoor Experience on Saturday, September 19, 2020 via Zoom from 9:00 a.m.– 2:00 p.m for youth ages 5-12. This year the program will be virtual and will be a project kit mailed directly to your door with supplies to complete 5 projects! The event costs \$17.30 (the cost of shipping).

This year's activities include dream catchers, recycling, painting and more! Any projects made at this program may be used for the 2021 Cass County Fair and will be awarded a special ribbon signifying your participation at 4-H Outdoor Experience.

Registration closes September 11th with limited spots: events.anr.msu.edu/CCOutdoorExperience

County Medal Applications

New this year... County Medal Applications are available to everyone, regardless of whether you have been nominated by a Leader! Which means if you would like to apply, make note of the dates below!

September 1st– Nomination Notification Letters Mailed

September 3rd– County Medal Applications Available

October 8th– County Medal Applications Due

October 22nd– County Medal Recipient's Award Invites Mailed

A County Medal is the highest form of recognition a 4-H Member can receive at the county level. It is a great accomplishment to receive these awards. Members will be recognized at the Annual 4-H Awards Banquet in November. To apply, members must submit an application by the deadline above. No late applications will be accepted. Applications are available outside the MSU Extension office, via email, or on our website!

Volunteer Central Transition For Existing Volunteers

Existing volunteers have officially been merged into Volunteer Central! If you have not received communication about creating your online profile in Volunteer Central, please email harmanha@msu.edu. If you have, please complete the actions requested in the email ASAP. This system will be where your background check will be completed for the 2020-2021 4-H year.

2020 4-H Awards Banquet Hosted by CCLA

Please join us for the 72nd Annual 4-H Awards Banquet on November 14th at 6:00 p.m. We will be honoring our 4-H Leaders, County Medal Recipients, Class of 2021 Seniors, Horse Honorees, Teen Leaders, Final Year 4-H Members, and more! The 2020 4-H Awards Banquet will be virtual via Zoom and Facebook Live. Save the date reminders will be sent out early October. No RSVP will be necessary this year.

Farm Safety and Health Week

September 21-25th is National Farm Safety and Health Week! Although this will certainly not be as AMAZING as our Annual Farm Safety Program, I hope you will enjoy the content that will be posted throughout the week via email and Facebook about how to safely work on a farm! The following topics will be covered:

- Monday, September 21, 2020 - Tractor Safety & Rural Roadway Safety
- Tuesday, September 22, 2020 - Overall Farmer Health
- Wednesday, September 23, 2020 - Safety & Health for Youth in Agriculture
- Thursday, September 24, 2020 - Emergency Preparedness in Agriculture
- Friday, September 25, 2020 - Safety & Health for Women in Agriculture

PARENTS: An interactive activity book will be available for download for your youth to follow along throughout the week and learn the importance of working safely on a farm! Visit our website after September 14th to find the activity book!

Final Year 4-H Member Bios

This year has certainly been a difficult one for our final year members. We realize that your last year did not go as planned. We would love to recognize YOU in our Virtual 4-H Awards Banquet on November 14th. Whether you were in 4-H for one year or 14, please follow this link to fill out the form: <https://forms.gle/C66nB8PgQHGMd6Nr7>. You will be missed as you continue on to your future endeavors!

Equine Education Wednesdays!

Equine Education Wednesdays is coming right to Cass County! For six weeks starting on October 21st, we will be featuring a different topic focused within the equine industry with professionals for you to learn and ask questions! Featured topics will include: Veterinary Care, Hoof Trimming, Dental Care, Judging, and more! This series is sponsored by the Cass County 4-H Horse Leaders' Association.

Registration will be available September 21st: events.anr.msu.edu/CCEquineWednesdays

Ag Explorers

Do you love agriculture? Are you in High School or a College Freshmen 4-H member? Are you wondering what you are going to do in your future? If you answered yes to all of these questions (or maybe only one!), then this program is JUST for you! We will be getting agriculture professionals from a variety of different careers on Zoom for you to learn about their careers and ask questions. We will be featuring careers you didn't even know existed (or linked to agriculture) and careers that are more commonly known among the industry. This program is FREE and you can choose which careers you attend so that you can explore the ones that light your interest!

Registration will be available September 28th: events.anr.msu.edu/CCAExplorers

4-H Teen Leaders' Association

Our Cass County 4-H Teen Leaders' Association works to provide educational (and fun) opportunities for youth in Cass County 4-H. All youth 13+ are encouraged to attend! If you would like to be involved, please consider coming to the Teen Leader meetings on Wednesday, September 9th and October 14th at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom.

<https://msu.zoom.us/j/92261798949>

+1 312 626 6799
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