



4-H Family News

Ingham County

NOVEMBER 21, 2025



Ingham County 4-H Award Application & Nominations



**Submit to office or email by
December 16th, 2025**



Glenda Weiss
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Awards and Scholarships
<https://shorturl.at/5RVsL>

See pages 8-10 for award descriptions

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Ingham County 4-H

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/ingham/4-h/>

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/Ingham4Hyou>

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SEEKING 4-H STILL LIFE SUPERINTENDENTS



Position Description



Application

What You'll Do:

- Host one county-wide educational activity
- Support fair exhibits and judging
- Promote inclusive, engaging learning experiences

Commitment:

Year-round with peak activity around the Ingham County Fair (July/August)

Open Project Areas Include:

RC Cars Rockets Archery Cloverbuds Crops Science
Woodworking Clothing & Textiles Firearms Photography
Horticulture/Floriculture Communications Food & Nutrition Cats



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4-H Spark & Share Summit

A conference for 4-H volunteers and teens

March 7, 2026

Bavarian Inn Lodge and Conference Center

Frankenmuth, Michigan

9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

\$75 (includes lunch)

Register by February 9th:

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/SparkShare2026>

Participants may select up to 4 sessions from topics including science, arts and crafts, leadership, animal science, global education, and much more!!



**MICHIGAN STATE
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Extension

A HIG THE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION OF FOUR NATIONS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SYSTEM AND USDA

The Informed Renter



**MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY**

Extension

DECEMBER 10, 2025 | 12-1 PM

JOIN US ONLINE!

INTRODUCTION TO LAKES

6 WEEK COURSE
STARTS IN JANUARY!

canr.msu.edu/lakesonline

**MICHIGAN STATE
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Guidance for Food Handlers and the Management of Halal Food



Halal Food training is for food handlers and educators with responsibilities related to nutrition and food. Key concepts of what food is considered halal and how to preserve the integrity of this food is covered in this training.

Participants will increase their knowledge and confidence in how to properly handle halal food for consumers requiring a halal diet and will be able to incorporate with relevant food safety knowledge.

- Dec. 9, 3 p.m. EST



To learn more and to register, visit:
https://events.anr.msu.edu/Halal2025aug_dec/

Safe Food = Healthy Kids

A free, online food safety workshop for childcare providers. Class is approved through Great Start to Quality, to provide 3 training hours.



- Nov. 17 & 18, 1 p.m. EST (two-part class)
- Dec. 15, 6 p.m. EST



To learn more and to register, visit:
<https://events.anr.msu.edu/SFHKJantoJune25/>

JOIN US ONLINE

Safe Food Handling for Food Donations: Basic Training

Safe Food Handling for Food Donations: Basic Training is designed for food banks, pantries, drives, and other organizations that distribute food to alleviate food insecurity.

- December 4, 1 p.m. EST



To learn more and to register, visit:
<https://events.anr.msu.edu/2025SepDecFoodDonationBasic/>

Safe Food Handling for Food Donations: ADVANCED Training

This training covers the legal aspects of liability, the types of food to accept for donation, storage conditions for food, the management of pests, understanding food recalls, transportation of donated food, staff and volunteer management, and emergency and food defense plans.



December 4, 1 p.m. EST

To learn more and to register, visit:
<https://events.anr.msu.edu/2025SepDecFoodDonationADVANCED/>

ServSafe®

*EARN SERVSAFE
MANAGER
CERTIFICATION WITH
HELP FROM MSU
EXTENSION.*

**This class is
designed for anyone
working in the food
service industry,
including non-profit
organizations.**





Michigan Cottage Food Law

Learn how to safely prepare and sell allowable foods to the public made in home kitchens. The Michigan Cottage Food Law workshop reviews the food safety aspects and guidelines of preparing and selling cottage foods. The MSU Product Center joins us to cover the business aspects of the Cottage Food Law. A Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Inspector will be available for the Q&A portion of this workshop

- Dec. 10, 10 a.m. p.m. EST



To Learn more visit:

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/CFL2025/>



Selling Michigan Honey & Maple Syrup Safely

Food safety is key to successfully selling honey and maple syrup in Michigan. Learn how to safely handle, package and store honey and maple syrup, and understand the exemption guidelines for selling these products in Michigan.

Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development allows for collection and production of honey and maple syrup that can be sold without a license, and there is an expectation that this is done safely. Personal hygiene, food safe containers, storage, cleaning and sanitizing methods, and MDARD's exemption guidelines are topics covered on this workshop.

- Dec. 10, 4 p.m. EST



To learn more and to register, visit:

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/SyrupHoney/>



Did you know?

Dial gauge pressure canners need to be tested annually to ensure dial gauges are accurate.

MSU Extension can help!

Contact your local MSU Extension Office to find out more information.

canr.msu.edu/outreach/county



4-H Plant Science Workshops for 2026

Here is a list of possible workshops for the 4-H'ers in your county. These workshops could also be used to recruit new 4-H members. Homeschool clubs, libraries, and after-school programs are other great possibilities for 4-H programs! Let's chat and set up a workshop in your area!

If you don't see one here that grabs your attention, we can work together to come up with ideas to fit your programming goals. Some interests of mine are Popcorn, Mexican Fiesta, Importance of Pollinators.

Workshops:

Exploring cultures while gardening and cooking with kids – all ages, fun for families \$

Gardening is a great way to introduce kids to a variety of fruits and vegetables. Exploring the origins of the foods we love and where the ingredients grow is a fun way to incorporate the exploration of world cultures into your garden. Kids can research new recipes or create their own recipes, learning new ways to prepare their harvest into tasty dishes. Eating new foods is a great way to learn to appreciate people from all backgrounds, from across town to across the world.

This workshop will utilize MSUE articles from Exploring Cultures While Gardening and Cooking with Kids and Plant Science at the Dinner Table

Viticulture - the Science of Growing Grapes – ages 12-19

Introduction to "Let's Grow Grapes"

In Michigan, grapes provide over 47,000 jobs and is one of the fastest-growing commodities in our state.

The Michigan 4-H Viticulture Project "Let's Grow Grapes" is designed to:

- Introduce youth to plant science with hands-on activities in and out of a vineyard
- Create an interest in careers in viticulture
- Build partnerships between industry, higher education, and 4-H Clubs for youth ages 12-19
- Develop a new pre-apprenticeship pathway for viticulture

100% Cocoa – all ages, fun for families \$\$

Explore interesting facts about chocolate from the Mayans to 2024. Who discovered chocolate? How is it grown? And how chocolate has influenced cultures around the world. We will taste chocolate and learn more about the "Food of the Gods".

Plant Science for Cloverbuds – ages 5-8 \$

Stories, hands-on activities, and snacks. This workshop is geared to get young kids ages 5-8 interested in the wonderful world of plants. We will explore fun facts and how we use plants in our everyday lives.

Learn more about how to teach science in a fun way to young children.

I will share several activities that will be great to use at family science nights and other outreach events.

Tragedy of Lake 4-H - ages 10 and up

With over 11,000 inland lakes in Michigan, lakes play a vital role in our lives. In turn, we play a vital role in the health of these great natural resources. This workshop provides a fun, hands-on way for youth to understand the consequences of development activities around inland lakes, and how recreational activities around and on the lake affect the lake's overall health. Through an interactive game, participants will belong to a "group" of people who have specific ideals about Lake 4-H, "their lake". Each group of people use the lake for different purposes: their livelihood, recreation, and relaxation. Each group acts in its own interest, and each group's actions have consequences for the entire lake.

HOMEOWNERSHIP EDUCATION WEBINAR

December 3, 2025 | 9am-1pm
December 9, 2025 | 1pm-5pm
or
December 15, 2025 | 4pm-8pm

To register go to
<https://mimoneyhealth.org>

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

DISASTER

DECEMBER 8, 2025 | 12-1 PM

FINANCIAL DISASTER PREPAREDNESS & RECOVERY

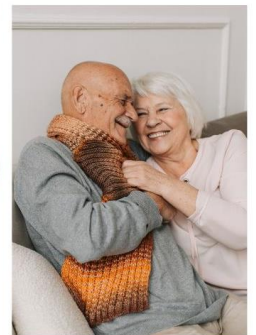
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DECEMBER 10, 2025 | 12-1PM

MAKE A SPENDING PLAN WORK FOR YOU

To Register go to www.mimoneyhealth.org



Join Us Online

THRIVING ON A FIXED INCOME

December 4, 2025 | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

GOOD CREDIT →

← BAD CREDIT

DECEMBER 16, 2025 | 12-1 PM

Tips to Build & Protect Your Credit

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

DECEMBER 11, 2025 | 2-3 PM

Top 10 Credit Tips

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension



Join Us Online Food Safety Online Workshops December Classes

Dec. 4th

Safe Food Handling for Food Donations: Basic Training
Safe Food Handling for Food Donations: ADVANCED Training

Dec. 9th

Guidance for Food Handlers and the Management of Halal Food

Dec. 10th

Michigan Cottage Food Law
Selling Michigan Honey & Maple Syrup Safely

Dec. 15th

Safe Food = Healthy Kids

To join by phone, call in advance to register at 877-643-9882.

ServSafe®

**EARN SERVSAFE MANAGER
CERTIFICATION WITH HELP
FROM MSU EXTENSION.**

This class is designed for
anyone working in the
food service industry,
including non-profit
organizations.

Contact your local MSU Extension Food Safety Educator
for more information.

HOW MUCH HOME CAN YOU AFFORD?

December 2, 2025
3:00 - 4:00 PM

Michigan Cottage Food Law Training

Dec. 10, 10 a.m.

To join by phone,
call in advance to register at 877-643-9882

JOIN US ONLINE Safe Food Handling for Food Donations: Basic Training

- December 4, 1 p.m. EST
- December 4, 3 p.m. EST

TO LISTEN BY PHONE,
CALL IN ADVANCE TO REGISTER - 877-643-9882



Tax Foreclosure Basics

December 17, 2025
12:00 - 1:00 PM

4-H Volunteer Nomination Required

Outstanding Young Member

Requirement to Apply: 4-H member 8-11 years old (4-H Age)

Number of Awards: One per club

Application Process: Nomination Form completed by 4-H volunteer based on young member's character

Award: Certificate

Outstanding Teen Leader

Requirement to Apply: 4-H teens recognized for outstanding leadership 4-H volunteer

Number of Awards: Two

Application Process: Nomination Form completed by 4-H volunteer (can nominate up to two teens)

Award: Certificate and pin

All Star Award

Requirement to Apply: Any youth nominated by a 4-H volunteer for any reason determined by the 4-H volunteer

Number of Awards: One per club

Application Process: Nomination Form completed by 4-H volunteer

Award: Certificate and pin

Good Citizen Award

Requirement to Apply: All youth are eligible to be nominated (by anyone) for going above and beyond normal expectations through their actions. (Please no nominations for normal daily activities such as feeding own animals, barn duty, etc.)

Number of Awards: Up to five winners and honorable mention recognition to additional nominees

Application Process: Completion of nomination form

Award: \$5 Gift Certificate for up to 5 winners: Certificate for honorable mention

Club Awards

Club Community Service Award

Requirement to Apply: Completion of a community service project by the 4-H club

Number of Awards: Three

Application Process: A report explaining how the youth in the club were involved in the planning and completion of the community service project and why that service project was chosen. A poster with pictures and a description of the service project needs to be presented at the Fair in the club's booth.

Award: 1st Place-\$50; 2nd Place-\$25; 3rd Place-\$15

Top Club Award

Requirement to Apply: All registered 4-H clubs are eligible

Number of Awards: Four; (2 small clubs; 2 large clubs)

Application Process: Completion of Top Club application packet

Award: \$25 gift certificate for club pizza party

Individual Member Awards-Self Nomination

Cloverbud Certificate

Requirement to Apply: Open to all Cloverbuds ages 5-7 (4-H age)

Number of Awards: All Cloverbuds who apply will receive a certificate

Application Process: Cloverbuds complete the certificate application themselves

Award: Certificate

County Medal

Requirement to Apply: 4-H member at least 12 years old (4-H age). Must have a minimum of two years completed in the project area

Number of Awards: Up to four different members in each project area: youth can only win one medal per project area during their 4-H career

Application Process: Completion of County Medal Form & Essay: Youth can apply for up to three different county medals each year, but can only be awarded two per year

Project Areas: Juniors (ages 13-15) and Seniors (ages 16-19); for Aerospace; Agriculture; Aquaculture; Beef; Biological Sciences; Cats/Companion Animal; Cavies; Clothing & Textiles; Computer Technology; Consumer & Family Science; Consumer Education; Dairy; Dogs/Companion Animal; Electricity; Engines, Tractors & Field Equipment; Entomology & Bees; Food & Nutrition; Forestry; Gardening & Horticulture; Goats; Healthy Living; Horses; Industrial Arts; Judging; Outdoor Education & Recreation; Performing Arts; Photography & Video; Physical Science; Plant Science; Poultry; Rabbits; Safety; Sewing; Sheep; Shooting Sports; Swine; Technology & Engineering; Veterinary Science; Visual Arts; Wildlife/Fisheries Achievement; Citizenship & Civic Engagement; Communications; Community Service; Leadership; Personal Development; Public Speaking

Award: Certificate and Medal

Head and Heart Award

Requirement to Apply: 1. At least 15 years old (4-H age); 2. Completed 4-H projects in at least two project areas; 3. Participated in at least three county and/or state 4-H events

Number of Awards: Four

Application Process: Completion of Ingham County Awards Application: Recommendation by 4-H volunteer

Award: \$50

Ingham County 4-H Ambassador

Requirement to Apply: 4-H member 12-19 years old (4-H Age), Desire to promote the 4-H program and develop leadership Skills, One year commitment (group meets 8-10 times per year)

Application Process: Completion of Ingham County Awards Application: Recommendation by 4-H volunteer

Award: Certificate and Notebook

10 and 15 Year Member Awards

Requirement to Apply: 10 Year Award: Applicant must be a high school senior or graduate; must have 10 years of consecutive membership between the ages of 5-19. **15 Year Award:** Applicant must have 15 years of consecutive membership between the ages of 5-19

Number of Awards: No limit

Application Process: Completion of Ingham County Awards Application

Award: Framed certificate

Michigan 4-H Key Club Award

Requirement to Apply: At least 15 years old by December 1st;
Completed three calendar years of 4-H work by Jan. 1st of the current year;
Completed 4-H work in at least two project areas;
Completed a Teen Leadership project;
Participated in at least three county, state or national 4-H events

Number of Awards: Top 0.5% of the total county delegation

Application Process: Completion of the Michigan Key Club application

Award: Key Club Pin

Danforth National "I Dare You" Leadership Award

Requirement to Apply: 15-18 years old (4-H age)

Number of Awards: Two

Application Process: Completion of "I Dare You" essay

Award: \$20 gift certificate; American Youth Foundation's National Leadership Award certificate; *I Dare You* book; nomination for "I Dare You" scholarship; opportunity to attend AYF's National Leadership Conference

Ignite by 4-H (March)

Requirement to Apply: 14-19 years old (4-H age)

Number of Awards: Two

Application Process: Completion of Citizenship Washington Focus Delegate Application

Award: Certificate; Participation in Citizenship Washington Focus in Washinton, D.C.

National 4-H Congress (November)

Requirement to Apply: 14-19 years old (4-H age)

Number of Awards: Two

Application Process: Completion of National 4-H Congress Delegate Application

Award: Certificate; Participation in National 4-H Congress in Atlanta, Georgia

Community Awards

Leader of the Year

Requirement to Apply: Active 4-H volunteer nominated (by anyone) for being an exceptional leader

Number of Awards: One for 1-5 years of leadership; One for 6-10 years of leadership;
One for 11-15 years of leadership; One for 16 or more years of leadership

Application Process: Completion of Nomination Form by anyone.

*Each club is encouraged to nominate one leader from the club who is deserving of this award

Award: Engraved Plaque

Friend of 4-H

Requirement to Apply: Person/Business/Organization that is nominated (by anyone) for making significant contributions to Ingham County 4-H

Number of Awards: One

Application Process: Completion of Nomination Form by anyone.

Award: Engraved Plaque



STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS



Support 4-H with the TSC Paper Clover Campaign

From Nov. 28 – Dec. 14, 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 during the campaign dates.

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, now in TSC stores! Proceeds from the sale of ornaments support 4-H.

Join the 4-H For Good Challenge!

A simple act of kindness can spark a ripple of good — and you can be the spark! National 4-H Council is teaming up with Universal Pictures leading up to the release of *Wicked: For Good* on November 21 by celebrating the power of young people and communities and creating a wave of kindness.

Just like Elphaba and Glinda in *Wicked: For Good*, your choices can change the world. This challenge is open to everyone — youth, families, schools, workplaces, and community groups — and it's your chance to show how one good deed can inspire another.

Join the #4HForGoodChallenge in four easy steps:

1. **Do something good.** Big or small, every act counts. Help out, give back or simply show someone you care.
2. **Share your heart hands.** Snap a pic of your heart hand and write a short post about your good deed.
3. **Post it online.** Use the hashtag #4HForGood and tag 4-H.
4. **Challenge your crew.** Tag for friends and invite them to keep the good growing!



MSU Extension hosts successful third Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol



On October 8, MSU Extension hosted the third Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol to showcase the positive impact of the Michigan 4-H program and bring additional visibility to its effects. The event was held in the atrium of Heritage Hall – the Capitol Visitor's Center.

"We're immensely proud of the Michigan 4-H program, which has been shaping futures and transforming communities for more than 115 years," said Quentin Tyler, MSU Extension director. "We're grateful for the opportunity to showcase this remarkable program to our state leaders for the third consecutive year and to bring additional awareness to the life-changing impact of 4-H."

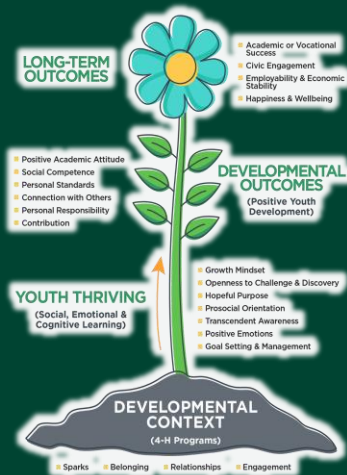
Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol was attended by legislators, stakeholders and members of the public. At the event, attendees visited information booths hosted by Michigan 4-H youth and staff. A brief program was held, featuring Tyler, as well as: Representative Jerry Neyer; MSU President Kevin Guskiewicz; Jackie Venton, Michigan Department of State Chief Operating Officer and a Michigan 4-H alumna; Logan Dole, Michigan 4-H youth from Clare County; and Danykah Muck, Michigan 4-H youth from Livingston County.

The program was livestreamed on the Michigan 4-H Facebook and can be viewed at www.facebook.com/Michigan4H.



STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

4-H Thriving Model of Positive Youth Development



The 4-H Thriving Model and 4-H Beyond Ready work hand-in-hand to prepare youth for success. The Thriving Model focuses on how quality 4-H experiences help young people grow by building sparks, relationships, and a sense of belonging that leads to thriving. Beyond Ready builds on this foundation by helping youth take what they've learned and apply it school, careers and real life.

Together, they ensure that 4-H youth don't just gain skills, but also the confidence, adaptability, and resilience to use those skills in the future. Through this connection, young people are not only supported in their personal growth today but are equipped to be "beyond ready" for whatever comes next.

Contact your local 4-H staff for more information.

November 10 – December 15: Online Parent Talk System Webinar Series

Online

This parenting workshop is designed to improve communication and provide strategies for raising confident, caring, responsible children. Caregivers of toddlers to teens will explore eliminating unwanted behavior, setting limits, teaching about consequences, giving effective feedback, promoting independence and developing character. Participants will meet for six week on Mondays.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/the-parent-talk-system-series-november-december-2025

November 11: Wild Spartans – Wildfire & Warriors: Science Where You Least Expect It

Online

Meet Michele Richards, natural resources and wildland fire program manager with the Michigan Army National Guard. Learn about her work and the education and career path she followed to get there. This free virtual series is open to 4-H and non-4-H youth ages 12-19 years.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-monthly-wildlife-fisheries-webinar-series-2025-2026

November 12: 4-H Chef Turkey Cheese Ball

Lenawee County MSU Extension Office, Adrian

Youth ages 5-11 will create a cheese ball that is perfect as a Thanksgiving appetizer.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-chef-turkey-cheese-ball

November 13: Adulthood 101 – Conflict Resolution and Civil Discourse

Online

Participants will learn how to manage disagreements with respect and open-mindedness, paving the way for stronger, healthier relationships. Leave with strategies to approach conflict confidently, express oneself respectfully, and find common ground with others.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulthood-101-toughtalks

November 15: 4-H Holidays Around the World Workshop – Diwali

Flat Rock Public Library, Flat Rock

Open to youth in grades 3–8, this hands-on workshop invites participants to learn about the traditions and cultural significance of Diwali, one of India's most celebrated holidays.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-holidays-workshop-diwali

November 18: Mich. 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series: So You Want to Be a Club Leader?

Online

Thinking about leading a club or want to refresh your leadership skills? Join to learn what it takes to be an effective and inspired club leader—from logistics and communication to culture and connection.

12-1 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-so-you-want-to-be-a-club-leader-lets-talk-noon

7-8 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-so-you-want-to-be-a-club-leader-lets-talk-7pm

