



February 2025

4-H Family News

Montcalm County



Hello 4-H Families and Volunteers,

We have a lot of upcoming meetings and workshops, to help everyone be as ready as they can be for the 2025 Montcalm County Fair. I will post all information on the Facebook page, in the newsletters, and through email.

The 2025 Fair Theme is “Stars, Stripes, and Summer Nights”.

The [College Scholarship Application](#) is due the last Friday in March.

The [4-H'er of the Year Application](#) is due by March 31st.

Sincerely,
Sunni Haglund
4-H Program Coordinator

Montcalm County Committee Meeting times & locations

Fairboard Association | 1st Monday of the month | 7:00 p.m. | Ash Building – Fairgrounds

4-H Dog Committee | 1st Thursday of the month | 6:30 p.m. | Ash Building – Fairgrounds & via zoom (<https://msu.zoom.us/j/92086229811> passcode: 4Hdog)

4-H Horse Leaders | 2nd Tuesday of the month | 7:00 p.m. | Ash Building – Fairgrounds & via zoom (<https://msu.zoom.us/j/96502762151> passcode: Horse)

4-H Council | 3rd Monday of the month | 6:30 p.m. | via zoom (<https://msu.zoom.us/j/95340301576> passcode: Council)

4-H Community Connection Committee (CCC) | 3rd Monday of the month | 7:00 p.m. | via zoom (<https://msu.zoom.us/j/95542684298> passcode: 4HCCC)

4-H Small Animal Committee | 4th Monday of the month | 6:00 p.m. | Ash Building - Fairgrounds & via zoom (<https://msu.zoom.us/j/93871161694> passcode: 4hyouth)

4-H Youth Livestock Committee | 4th Monday of the month | 6:30 p.m. | Ash Building - Fairgrounds & via zoom (<https://msu.zoom.us/j/93871161694> passcode: 4hyouth)

CONTACT US

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msue.montcalm@county.msu.edu

WEBSITE:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/montcalm-county/>

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COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Fairboard Date: 2/3/25
- Dog Committee Date: 2/6/25
- Horse Leaders Date: 2/11/25
- **County-wide Dog Practice** Date: **TBD**
- Advisory Council Date: 2/17/25
- Community Connections Date: 2/17/25
- Small Animal Date: 2/24/25
- Youth Livestock Date: 2/24/25
- MCFAAC (Livestock) Date: 2/24/25

Times and locations for each 4-H committee meeting can be found on the front page of this newsletter!

Don't forget to visit the Montcalm County Fairgrounds webpage
<https://montcalmcountyfairgrounds.com/>.

Other Services Offered:

MSUE Master Gardener Hotline:

1-888-678-3464

The hotline is open weekdays between 9-noon and 1 – 4 p.m.

Select option “1” to speak directly with a gardening expert.

Ask an Expert:

Ask Extension offers one-to-one answers from MSU Extension experts and Extension Master Gardener volunteers on topics such as lawns, gardening, agriculture, nutrition and physical activity, food safety, food preservation, natural resources, community development, youth programming and more!

Ask here:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/outreach/ask-an-expert>





4-H Committee News

Join us in our 4-H committee meetings, while we plan/prepare or the upcoming year. You have a voice too we just need to hear it! Youth and adults are welcome.

4-H Committees:

Dog Committee – 1st Thursday of every month at 6:30pm at the Ash Building

Horse Leaders – 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7pm at the Ash Building

Advisory Council – 3rd Monday of every month at 6:30pm via Zoom

Community Connections – 3rd Monday of every month following Advisory Council via Zoom

Small Animal Committee – 4th Monday of every month at 6pm at the Ash Building

Youth Livestock Committee – 4th Monday of every month at 6:30pm at the Ash Building

4-H LEADERS





4-H Committee News

The committee meetings are a great opportunity to have your voice be heard. Any 4-H member/family can attend and take part in the planning of the species-specific events throughout the year and at fair. It is encouraged and very important to attend, so that everyone has a voice. Typically, August through October is when most of the changes are voted on, but planning occurs throughout the year.

The Youth Livestock Committee is hosting various educational workshops during their 4th Monday meetings. The next big workshop will be in the spring, covering showmanship. If you would like more information, or are willing to help plan, just come to one of our 4th Monday meetings.

4-H Community Connections Committee is getting ready to ramp up for their Helen DeVos Children's Hospital toy drive challenge. As a reminder, there is a bin at our Stanton office, just outside of our door. Any new/homemade gifts, puzzles, activity books, art supplies, etc., can be used as a donation. All clubs that participate in this challenge, qualify for something special hosted by the 4-H CCC at fair!

The Small Animal Committee is finishing up the plans for our spring showmanship workshop. Let them know if you have any ideas, or if you would like to contribute to the planning/organizing/running of the workshop. They are also looking for donations for door prizes. This workshop is a fundraiser for new poultry/goat pens.

4-H is a **community** of **young people** across **America** who are learning **leadership, citizenship** and **life skills.**





Montcalm County Fair Association

MCFA Info/Updates:

We also have various committees that are always looking for new faces and input. If you're interested in serving on one of the following committees, please reach out to Sunni at haglun10@msu.edu.

MCFA Committees:

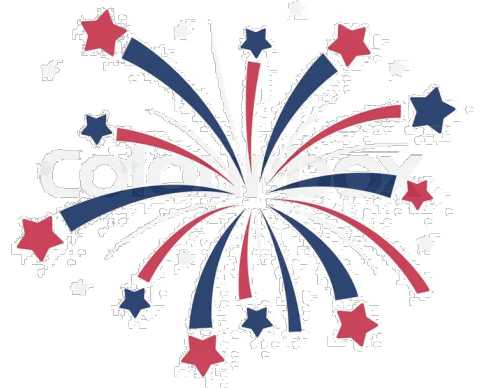
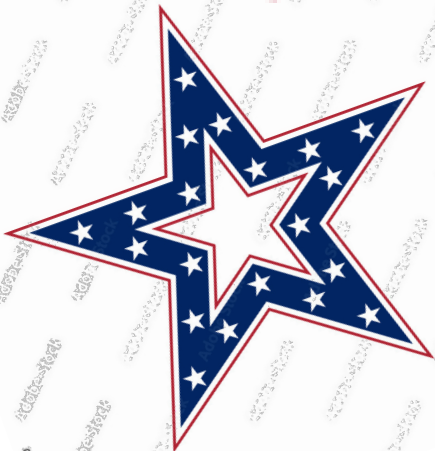
- Accessibility
- Association Membership
- Awards
- Biosecurity
- Budget and Audit
- Buildings and Grounds
- By-laws/Policies and Procedures
- Camping
- Fairbook
- Grandstand Events
- Judges
- Kids Day/Special Needs Day
- Livestock and Agriculture (MCFAAC)
- Marketing
- Parking/Security
- Plat Book
- Rentals
- ShoWorks
- Vendors/concessions/exhibits





Montcalm County Fair Association 2025 Montcalm County Fair Theme:

stars,
STRIPES, &
summer
NIGHTS





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS



Apply for the Michigan 4-H State Awards!

Michigan 4-H true leaders ages 11 and older have an opportunity to be recognized for the great work they do in 4-H and develop their career skills by completing a state award application. A Michigan 4-H State Award is the highest honor bestowed on a Michigan 4-H member and provides an opportunity to receive recognition for their engagement in rich learning experiences that result in outstanding knowledge and life-skill development.

State award applications are divided into four categories: Mark of Excellence contest (10-11 years), junior state award (12-15 years), senior state award (16-19 years) and group awards (13-19 years). Each application and selection process varies, dependent on the applicant's age.

More information about the Michigan 4-H State Award process and Mark of Excellence Contest can be found online at <http://bit.ly/stateaward>. Applications are due April 1. For more information, contact your 4-H program coordinator or email Betty Jo Krosnicki at nashbett@msu.edu or Janice Zerbe at rajzerj@msu.edu.

Participate in the World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute

As millions across the globe deal with food insecurity, the World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute (WFP MIYI) offers young people an opportunity to be part of the solution. Held May 8 in East Lansing, or by participating from anywhere else using Zoom video/web conference technology, the event seeks to inspire and prepare the next generation of global leaders to end world hunger.

To participate, youth should be in grades 7-12 and register by the March 15 deadline. As part of the registration process, youth are required to prepare a three- to five-page research paper about a developing country and one of 22 key factors that affect food security. At the event, youth present and discuss their papers with other attendees and research and industry experts.

The top performing students at the WFP MIYI will be selected to attend the World Food Prize Global Youth Institute in Des Moines, Iowa, in October. For more information, visit <https://www.canr.msu.edu/wfpmiyi/>. Registration opens Feb. 1 and closes Mar. 15.



Seeking outstanding agricultural 4-H volunteers

The Michigan 4-H Foundation is seeking nominations of remarkable agricultural 4-H volunteers for the Michigan Farm Bureau (MFB) 4-H Excellence in Agriculture Award. This award recognizes outstanding 4-H volunteers that have exhibited excellence in 4-H youth education and leadership development in the areas of 4-H beef cattle; dairy cattle; goats; horses; horticulture, crops and soils; poultry; rabbits; sheep; swine; and veterinary science.

Up to five MFB Excellence in Agriculture Award honorees are recognized each year. Selected recipients will be recognized by both Michigan 4-H and MFB. In addition, honorees receive a \$1,000 grant they designate to a 4-H agricultural program of their choice. The award is supported by an endowment with the Michigan 4-H Foundation that was established by MFB.



Nominations for the MFB Excellence in Agriculture Award should be submitted by March 15. To nominate a deserving individual or learn more about the 4-H Excellence in Agriculture Award, visit <https://mi4hfdtn.org/grants-scholarships/mfb-4-h-excellence-in-agriculture-award/>.



STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Get free tickets for Michigan 4-H Day at the Breslin!



Make plans for a fun day in East Lansing on March 1! Join with other members of the 4-H community for Michigan 4-H Day at the Breslin. This fun family event will be held at the Jack Breslin Student Events Center as the MSU Women's Basketball team takes on the Minnesota Golden Gophers.

In addition to the game, attendees will also enjoy 4-H activities around the concourse. Doors will open at 12:30 p.m., with tip-off scheduled for 2 p.m. Participants are encouraged to show their pride and wear green and white 4-H or MSU Extension apparel.

Tickets are free to 4-H youth and their families as well as 4-H volunteers and their families. For more information and to order tickets, visit www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-day-at-the-Breslin.

A member of the 4-H alumni community? Consider also stopping by the 4-H Alumni Tip-Off Reception on March 1! More information and registration at www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-alumni-tip-off-reception.

February 4: Crash Course: Credit Survival 101

Online

Youth learn the basics of credit: advantages and disadvantages, credit vs. debit, credit scores, interest, and tips to managing credit wisely.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/crashcreditcoursefeb-4

February 11: 4-H Wild Spartans – The Relationship Between Tribes and Fish

Online

Plunge into the world of Great Lakes fisheries and meet Jason Smith, Great Lakes fisheries assessment biologist for the Bay Mills Indian community. Learn about his work, and the education and career path he followed to get there. Ask questions to learn more through a live Q&A. Open to youth ages 12-19 years.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-monthly-wildlife-fisheries-webinar-series-february-2024-2025

February 12: Online Parent Talk System Webinar Series

Online

A course for caregivers to improve communication and provide strategies for raising confident, caring, responsible children. This weekly series will be offered Wednesdays from Feb. 12 – Mar. 19 at no cost.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/the-parent-talk-system-series-february-march-25

February 13: Ace the Interview: Tips to Land Your Dream Job

Online

Through the partnership of Toyota and Michigan 4-H, youth will explore a variety of career paths in the automotive industry as well as build workforce readiness skills to take on their goals. This second offering in the five-part webinar series will focus on tips for a successful interview.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/ace-the-interview

February 15: 4-H Animal Science Career Quest 2025

Online

A career exploration program for youth ages 12-19 interested in pursuing a career in animal science. Learn about everything animal science has to offer and many career skill-building activities through hands-on sessions. Register by Feb. 3.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-animal-science-career-quest-2025

February 25: 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series; Facilitation Skills for 4-H Clubs

Online

Gain essential facilitation skills to engage every voice and increase efficiency in your 4-H club. This session offers tools to create inclusive, dynamic discussions, making sure all members feel heard while streamlining club activities. This webinar will be offered at two different times:

12 p.m. www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-engaging-every-voice-facilitation-skills-for-dynamic-4-h-clubs-noon

7 p.m. www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-engaging-every-voice-facilitation-skills-for-dynamic-4-h-clubs-7pm





Upcoming Events



MICHIGAN 4-H HORSE PROGRAM WINTER WEBINAR SERIES



January 15th at 6pm: How to buy a horse with Paula Hitzler

January 29th at 6pm: The basics of Equine Management with David Lindsay

February 5th at 6pm: Equine Nutrition basics with Dr. Christine Skelly

February 18th at 6pm: Being a better boarder and Running a boarding facility with Taylor Fabus

March 12th at 6pm: From the judges' perspective: Showmanship with Dr. Karen Waite

March 26th at 6pm: From the judges' perspective: Ranch Riding with Dr. Alyssa Logan

Any further questions email David Lindsay, Extension Educator at lindsa75@msu.edu





2025 Calendar of Statewide Animal Science Events

4-H Animal Science Staff

Autumn Converse

4-H Livestock and Veterinary
Science Educator

conver20@msu.edu

David Lindsay

4-H Equine Educator

lindsa75@msu.edu

Kendra Van Order

4-H Dairy Educator

vanorde4@msu.edu

Jacob Stieg

4-H Poultry Point of Contact

stieg@msu.edu

Kat VanDouser

4-H Dog Point of Contact

krollkat@msu.edu

Glenda Weiss

4-H Rabbit & Cavy Point of
Contact

weissgle@msu.edu

January 25

State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show & Expo

February 15

4-H Animal Science Career Quest

March 1-2

4-H Dairy Conference

March 8

4-H Spring Livestock Workshop

March 15

4-H Hippology State Contest

March 29

4-H & FFA Horse Judging State Contest

May 8

4-H & FFA Meats Judging State Contest

June 11-12

Youth Livestock Judging Camp

June 25

4-H & FFA Livestock Judging State Contest

June 28

4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl

July 7-8 & 9-10

4-H Animal and Veterinary Science Camp

July 15-17

4-H Youth Dairy Days

August 14-17

4-H State Horse Show

Other programs could include the State 4-H Dog Show, species workshops, and more!



Scan me for
more
information
about these
programs!

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2025 MI 4-H STATEWIDE DAIRY EVENTS

March
1-2

MI 4-H Dairy Conference

Michigan State University

June
28

State 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl Contest

Anthony Hall, Michigan State University

July
14-17

MI 4-H Dairy Days

Michigan State University

Sept. 28-
Oct. 2

National 4-H Dairy Conference

Madison, WI

KENDRA VAN ORDER
MI 4-H DAIRY EDUCATOR

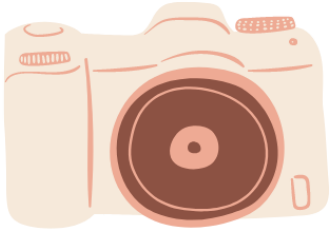
517-432-4306

VANORDE4@MSU.EDU

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Extension

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All of this and more!

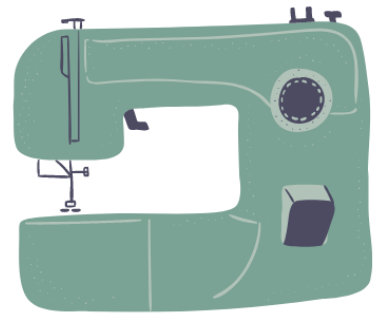
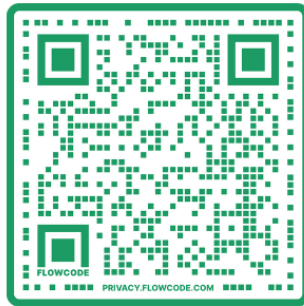


4-H HAS SO MUCH TO OFFER!



To find your local 4-H Program Coordinator, or to learn more about what 4-H can offer you and your family, go to:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/4h/join_4_h



4-H is about more than the ribbons & awards
IT'S ABOUT the PEOPLE, the Experiences, the life-long skills, the memories, the COUNTY FAIRS
IT'S ABOUT being a ROLE MODEL giving back, and MAKING THE BEST BET



MONTCALM COUNTY 4-H COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS COMMITTEE

What we do:


- Community Service Projects / Challenges
- Build / Expand Community Partnerships
- Bridge Gaps for Community Members
- Locate and Provide Needed Resources
- Join Together Surrounding Counties
- Host Events and Activities

Find us on Social Media


<https://www.facebook.com/groups/656549581412123>



Upcoming Events

 Rev up your career in 2025! Join us for Driven for the Future, a five-part webinar series on Automotive R&D Skilled Trades and Advanced Manufacturing Careers and Career-Building Skills (the very important topics of professionalism & interview tips!)—happening monthly, Jan-May 2025.

Sponsored by Toyota Research & Development, there's even an exclusive incentive for those who attend all five!

 Don't miss this chance to shift your career into high gear.

 Learn more & register: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/driven-for-the-future/index>

Webinars monthly January-May 2025

Driven for the Future: Automotive Research and Development Technician Career Webinar Series





Upcoming Events

Save the date!

4-H Animal Science Career Quest is back again this year! It will be on Saturday, February 15th, 2025, in Anthony Hall on campus. More information will be available in the new year. Keep an eye out - we hope to see you there!



4-H Animal Science Career Quest

February 15, 2025





4-H Winterfest 2025

DATE:
February 8—9, 2025

LOCATION:
Eagle Village
Hersey, MI

COST:
\$120

SOCIAL MEDIA:

[https://www.facebook.com/
profile.php?
id=100067458275560](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100067458275560)



WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

4-H youth 8—12 years old

DESCRIPTION:

Youth and adults who attend 4-H Winterfest will spend 2 days learning about exciting project areas while meeting youth from around the state. 4-H Winterfest offers participants and chaperones an opportunity to experience Eagle Ville in an overnight camp setting. Youth participate in hands on sessions.

HOW TO REGISTER

Registration information will be available in early January with registration taking place through 4-H Online. The committee highly encourages youth to be enrolled in 4-H Online prior to registration opening.

CONTACT:

Jacob Stieg: stieg@msu.edu

Holly Mueller: julianho@msu.edu

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Upcoming Events

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-day-at-the-breslin>

MICHIGAN 4-H DAY AT THE BRESLIN

MARCH 1

SAVE THE DATE!



Classic Equine

*Veterinary Service with a Special Interest
in Lameness Diagnostics*

******Show Horse
Package ******

*Vetera Gold
*Potomac/ Rabies

*Strangles

*Coggins

Total = \$189

Montcalm County Vaccine and
Coggins Clinic

March 8th, 2025
10am-1pm

Coggins- \$40

Vetera GOLD- \$75

(Eastern and Western Encephalomyelitis (EEE & WEE), West Nile virus, Tetanus, Rhinopneumonitis, Equine Influenza)

Vetera-\$52

(Eastern and western encephalomyelitis (EEE & WEE), West Nile virus, Tetanus)

Potomac + Rabies Combo – \$36

Strangles Intra Nasal- \$38

Fecal Egg Count - \$38

Classic Equine recommends all horses travelling to shows be vaccinated against Eastern and Western Encephalomyelitis (EEE & WEE), West Nile virus, Tetanus, Rhinopneumonitis, Equine Influenza, Potomac Horse Fever, Rabies, and Strangles

Cash or check only to receive this special pricing

4-H SPARK & SHARE SUMMIT



Join us for a workshop for adult volunteers and teen leaders to ignite sparks, share ideas, and explore interests through a variety of hands-on activities!



JOIN US!

REGISTER NOW!

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/SELeaderMeet2025/>

EVENT DETAILS

Southeast Regional 4-H Spark and Share Summit

Date: March 8, 2025

Time: 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM

Location: Bavarian Inn Lodge & Conference Center
Frankenmuth, MI

**\$50 per
person**

**Lunch
included**

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Tack & craft Sale

SATURDAY, MARCH 15TH

**ASH BUILDING 8784 PECK RD GREENVILLE, MI
48838**

10AM-4PM

\$25 a spot comes
with a table and two
chairs

-HORSE TACK

-SHOW CLOTHING

DONATION TABLE WILL
BE PROVIDED FOR
ITEMS

-ARTS & CRAFTS

-AND MUCH MORE!

**CONTACT- MONTCALMCOUNTYJUNIORS@GMAIL.COM
IF YOU'D LIKE A SPOT FOR YOUR ITEMS**

PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARDS CLASS AWARDS AT FAIR
GOAL: \$1,500

**SUPPORTING MONTCALM COUNTY 4-H
HORSE COMMITTEE**

MSU EXTENSION PROGRAMS AND MATERIAL ARE OPEN TO ALL WITHOUT REGARD TO RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, GENDER, GENDER IDENTITY, RELIGION, AGE, HEIGHT, WEIGHT, DISABILITY, POLITICAL BELIEFS, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, MARITAL STATUS, FAMILY STATUS, OR VETERAN STATUS.



Upcoming Events

Who: Youth in 9th grade through 12th grade. 4-H and non-4-H members welcome! (Non 4-H members will be asked to sign up in 4-H Online)

What: a 3-day event where youth can meet with peers to talk about issues that are important to them, network with folks that work in a wide variety of roles related to public policy, and see state government in action.

When/Where: Sunday, March 16 through Tuesday, March 18, in-person at the Okemos Conference Center and Michigan's State Capitol

Cost: \$365 includes conference registration, lodging, and meals

Register Now Until March 1 at: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/CapitolExperience2025/>

Additional Overnight Lodging Available: Hotel reservations at the Okemos Conference Center are available to families interested in extending their stay in Lansing before or after the event at [Okemos Conference Center](#). **Note** that parents/guardians are responsible for their children before and after the program, including lodging and transportation if needed. Staff will not provide supervision for overnight lodging for any additional nights.

MARCH 16-18, 2025

4-H CAPITOL EXPERIENCE



COST \$365

OPEN TO HIGH SCHOOL AGE YOUTH
EXPERIENCE STATE GOVERNMENT IN
ACTION AND LEARN HOW TO INFLUENCE
POLICY ISSUES.

INTERACT WITH LEGISLATORS, STATE
AGENCY STAFF, LOBBYISTS AND OTHER
RESOURCE PEOPLE!



PLEASE REGISTER BY MARCH 1ST AT: [HTTPS://EVENTS.ANR.MSU.EDU/CAPITOLEXPERIENCE2025/](https://events.anr.msu.edu/capitolexperience2025/)





Upcoming Events

Registration is now open for the Spring 2025 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Workshop! We hope to offer all disciplines at this workshop, and I've included some details including a social media graphic (attached) and suggested text below. Full event details and registration can be found at: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/2025SpringWorkshop/>



**REGISTER
NOW!**

**SPRING 2025
4-H SHOOTING
SPORTS**

**INSTRUCTOR
WORKSHOP**

**OFFERING ALL DISCIPLINES
MAY 3-4, 2025
SHIAWASSEE CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION
OWOSSO, MI**

THIS WORKSHOP IS SPONSORED WITH A GRANT FROM THE MI 4-H FOUNDATION



Upcoming Events

Great Lakes and Natural Resources Camp is currently seeking camp counselors for 2025! Camp is July 27-August 2, 2025, at Camp Chickagami in Presque Isle. In addition, counselors attend a two-day training beginning July 25th. Acting as a counselor is a great youth leadership opportunity and counselors attend camp free of charge! Counselors must be between the ages of 16 and 20 years old. Please reach out to Joe Kreider (kreider4@msu.edu) or Raye Host (hostrae1@msu.edu) with any questions.

4-H Great Lakes & Natural Resources Camp

Seeking Camp Counselors



If you are:

- 16-20 years old
- Enjoy working with kids and the outdoors
- Available July 25 - August 2, 2025



Join our team this summer at Camp Chickagami in Presque Isle for an enriching week of leadership and personal growth as you guide 13-15 year old campers on adventures filled learning experiences!

To learn more or register, contact:

Joe Kreider
kreider4@msu.edu



Raye Host
hostrae1@msu.edu