

2024 Horse Protégé Program

The Oakland County 4-H Horse Protégé Program offers an opportunity to pair up an experienced teen in the horse program with a cloverbud (5-7 years old as of January 1, 2024) OR 1st/2nd year project member. Program emphasis will be on education, participation, and the development of the youth. Participation in the program requires a large commitment by the novice, mentor, and their families Starting in the spring, the Mentor/Protégé teams will work on basic horsemanship including grooming, health care, showmanship, equitation, nutrition, and safety. At monthly activities, we will practice these skills to prepare for the Oakland County Fair and/or the Protégé Program Showcase class at the Grand Finale Show in August.

Program Description:

- You DO NOT need to be paired with a team member to sign up for Protégé.
- Mentors/Teens must be at least 13 years of age as of January 1, 2024 and/or at least 2 years of experience in 4-H Horse Program.
- Protégé's/Cloverbuds must be 5-7 years old as of January 1, 2024 OR 1st/2nd year project member to participate in the Protégé Program. *No exceptions.* You DO NOT need to already belong to a 4-H club.
- You do not need to own a horse to participate in the program.
- Attendance at ALL meetings and clinics (4-5 ride meets) is *essential* to be successful in the Protégé Program.
- You will have fun, meet new people, and learn a lot about horses!!!

For more info, please contact: Debbie Morgan, Oakland County 4-H Program Coordinator, morga194@anr.msu.edu or 248-347-3860, ext. 279.

2024 Horse Protégé Program Application

Date of Application: _____ I want to be a (circle one): MENTOR (teen) PROTEGE (cloverbud)
Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Age as of January 1, 2024: _____
Address (please include city and zip code) _____

Phone Number(s): _____ E-mail: _____
Home Cell

4-H Club and Leader Name (if applicable): _____

Are you already paired with a MENTOR or PROTÉGÉ? Circle One: No Yes (if yes, please indicate below)
Mentor Name: _____ Age (as of Jan. 1, 2024): _____
Phone Number: _____ 4-H Club (if applicable): _____

Do you have a horse/pony to use for Protégé Program? Yes No ****Protégé horses/ponies must be at least 5 yo****
Breed or Description: _____ Age: _____

I understand for my child to participate as protégé or mentor in the Protégé Program they must enroll in 4-H. I understand that the Protégé Program is not a replacement for riding lessons with a professional. I also understand the risks associated with working around and riding horses.

Under the Michigan Equine Activity Liability Act, an equine professional is not liable for an injury to or the death of a participant in an equine activity resulting from an inherent risk of the equine activity, (PA 351 of 1994). This includes all persons and animals involved in this program.

Print Parent Name: _____ Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

MSU Extension programs and materials 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.

