



# 4-H Family News

Oakland County



## Achievement Awards Ceremony Recap!



The Oakland County 4-H Achievement Awards is a cherished annual event that celebrates the dedication and hard work of 4-H members and volunteers. Since April 1979, this ceremony has served as a platform to recognize the accomplishments of individuals who contribute to the community and foster growth among youth. The recent award ceremony on October 27, 2024 we had over 140 people attend! This day was nothing short of amazing.

A special thank you to Oakland County Farm Bureau for sponsoring this event!

[Click here to see all the photos from the Awards Ceremony](#)

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## Retirement Celebration for Deb Morgan!

Deb Morgan is retiring!! ❤️  
Please join us as we celebrate Deb and her 13 years at MSU Extension and 4-H!

Wednesday, November 13<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 – 6:30 pm at the Fair Office Community Room (before Horse Council meeting).

Fair Office Community Room  
12451 Andersonville Rd  
Davisburg MI 48350



## Window Display Results

4-H Clubs in Oakland County never disappoint during National 4-H Week. The creativity and effort put forth by each club is truly astounding. As in past years there was no unanimous favorite of each judge, but we do have a winner based on points.

Each club received a ribbon at the annual 4-H Achievement Awards on October 27<sup>th</sup> and the top 3 clubs will receive prize money.

- 1st place** - Oakland County Sport Rocket 4-H Club
- 2nd Place** - Davisburg Busy Bees 4-H Club
- 3rd Place** - 4-H Poultry Fanciers of Oakland County
- Amazing Participation - Homesteading Free Rangers 4-H Club
- Amazing Participation - STEM With Compassion 4-H Club
- Amazing Participation - Oakland Youth Rabbit & Cavy 4-H Club

A HUGE thank you to the businesses that hosted 4-H Clubs this year! 🍀

- Springfield Township Library
- Maher Feed and Pet Supply, Holly, MI
- Cook's Farm Dairy
- Clarkston Independence District Library
- Oakland Corners Realty
- Keith Elementary PTA







## 4-Hers Please Join us at the Novi Pet Expo 12/13/2024 – 12/15/24

4-H is at the **Novi Pet Expo, Friday thru Sunday, 12/13-15/24 at Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi!** Stop by and visit our booth or join us in the 4-H Youth Activities Area! There will be NO COST to 4-Hers (parents/volunteers or youth) staffing the booth or presenting educational info/demos etc. This is a great opportunity to support and promote 4-H! 4-Hers and their horses from Young Riders 4-H horse club will be presenting demos and educational information throughout the weekend! Feel free to bring YOUR pet (dog, cat, bunny, chicken or whatever 😊) and talk about your 4-H project. Be sure to check out the pet policy at the Novi Pet Expo link below. For complete information about the show please visit: <https://www.novipetexpo.com/show-info>

**Volunteers are needed and encouraged to help us promote 4-H!** Please sign up for a shift at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A044BA5A82BA2FE3-52822627-2024>

For more information, contact Deb Morgan at [morga194@msu.edu](mailto:morga194@msu.edu)



## Michigan 4-H Spectacular Youth Leadership Institute



The Michigan 4-H Spectacular Youth Leadership Institute is a pre-college program at Michigan State University for teens who want to improve their communities and our world through leadership and youth power! Attending the Institute will help teens gain leadership skills and approach life with their head, heart, and hands open to new ideas, interesting people, and diverse cultures. The Institute will feature a wide variety of engaging and interactive activities focused on youth leadership, community engagement, and global citizenship.

This Michigan 4-H workshop is open to ALL teens (ages 13+ by Jan. 1, 2025). The registration fee of \$175 includes meals, program materials, group transportation during the event, and overnight hotel lodging for the evenings of December 6 and 7. Scholarships are available from many county 4-H programs and for anyone in need of financial assistance.

Online registration will begin October 1 at: <https://SYLI24.4honline.com> The deadline to register for the conference is November 8, 2024.

The Michigan 4-H Spectacular Youth Leadership Institute is sponsored with a grant from the Michigan 4-H Foundation. For more information, please contact MSU Extension educators Roxanne Turner ([turnerr@msu.edu](mailto:turnerr@msu.edu) ~ 517-546-3950) or Brian Wibby ([wibby@msu.edu](mailto:wibby@msu.edu) ~ 906-439-5065)



## 2025 Host Family Applications Are Now Open

"Don't be scared this Halloween—embrace the spirit of adventure! Host a Japanese youth this summer and create a hauntingly fun cultural exchange that will leave lasting memories. It's a treat, not a trick!"  
**Host a Japanese youth in Summer 2025 through States' 4-H International!**

Invite an international youth into your home for three and a half weeks and share an American experience. Expand your family's cultural understanding, learn about new foods and customs, and possibly learn a new language while sharing your own. Your children will build lifelong friendships and gain new perspectives on their country too!

2025 Online Applications to host can be found at:  
<https://www.states4hexchange.org/apply/host/>

Any questions please feel free to contact Janis Brinn [brinn@msu.edu](mailto:brinn@msu.edu) or visit the States 4-H International Exchange Programs website:  
<http://www.states4hexchange.org> or Email: [exchange@states4h.org](mailto:exchange@states4h.org)



## Be the Impact: Empower Youth for the Future!

WAYS VOLUNTEERS CAN  
**SPARK** BIG DREAMS AND  
 FUTURE *Careers*



A Michigan 4-H Volunteer Training Webinar  
 November 6, 2024 at noon or 7pm

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension



As a neighbor, teacher, community member, volunteer, family member, or youth development staff member, you have the power to help youth become "beyond ready" for whatever lies ahead. 🚀

Join MSU Extension 4-H staff in a special 4-H volunteer Webinar! Together, we'll explore simple yet effective strategies for making a lasting difference in young lives.

When: November 6, 12 PM or 7 PM

Where: Online (recording available for registrants!)

Register: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/.../mi-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series>

You don't need to be a current 4-H volunteer to participate. Let's make an impact together—see you there!





# STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Support 4-H with the TSC Paper Clover Campaign



To embrace the holiday spirit, the Tractor Supply Company (TSC) Paper Clover campaign has moved from its traditional October dates to November and December this year! Now from Nov. 29 – Dec. 15, 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](http://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](http://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/cms/4h).

New for 2024, 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.



### November 6: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series - Ways Volunteers Can Spark Big Dreams and Future Careers

Online

November is National Career Development Month! Learn easy activities to help youth explore career pathways and develop skills to be ready for the workforce. Explore tools and resources that allow youth to reflect and prepare for the next steps in their career journey. This session will be offered twice for the convenience of volunteers.

**12 – 1 p.m. session:** [www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-ways-volunteers-can-spark-big-dreams-and-future-careers](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-ways-volunteers-can-spark-big-dreams-and-future-careers)

**7 – 8 p.m. session:** [www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-ways-volunteers-can-spark-big-dreams-and-future-careers7pm](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-ways-volunteers-can-spark-big-dreams-and-future-careers7pm)

### November 12: Wild Spartan Series – Behind the Scenes in the Life of a Park Ranger

Online

This month's 4-H Wild Spartans will fly into the refuges that many migrating birds depend on for migration. Join us at 6:30 p.m. to meet Andrea Martinson, park ranger for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at the Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge. Learn about her work, and the education and career path she followed to get there. Youth will be encouraged to ask questions to learn more through a live Q&A. This free virtual series is open to 4-H and non-4-H youth ages 12-19 years.

[events.anr.msu.edu/wildspartans2024\\_25/](http://events.anr.msu.edu/wildspartans2024_25/)

### November 19: Adulting 101 - Cracking the Code to College

Online

The Michigan 4-H Adulting 101 series helps young people prepare for college or life on their own. In this session, explore the admission and application process and get tips on writing your essay.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/college](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/college)

### November 21: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series - Positive Youth Development 101; Building Strong Relationships Through Every Stage

Online

Understanding the development of youth is crucial for building strong, positive relationships. In this webinar, we will explore the key stages of child and youth development and the common characteristics that young people share as they grow. Learn how to support and engage with youth effectively, recognizing that each young person develops at their own pace. Equip yourself with the knowledge and tools to foster meaningful connections with youth at every stage of their growth.

**12 – 1 p.m. session:** [www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-positive-youth-development-101-building-strong-relationships-through-every-stage](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-positive-youth-development-101-building-strong-relationships-through-every-stage)

**7 – 8 p.m. session:** [www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-positive-youth-development-101-building-strong-relationships-through-every-stage7pm](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-positive-youth-development-101-building-strong-relationships-through-every-stage7pm)





# STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

## Starting the 4-H season off right: Suggestions for the year's first meeting

Adapted from an article by Michelle Neff at [www.canr.msu.edu/news/starting-the-4-h-season-off-right-suggestions-for-the-years-first-meeting](http://www.canr.msu.edu/news/starting-the-4-h-season-off-right-suggestions-for-the-years-first-meeting).

A new 4-H year has started and that means it is time to start thinking about the goals and plans for educational, inspirational and recreational activities for Michigan 4-H clubs! No matter what project youth are participating in, it is important to start the year off right!



MSU Extension has resources for volunteers to help lead and manage their 4-H club on the 4-H Club Development website, [www.canr.msu.edu/4hclub/index](http://www.canr.msu.edu/4hclub/index). A good start to the 4-H year will allow youth members, club leaders and parents to be clear about expectations and plans for the group and be excited for what will take place. Some tips to get you started include:

- Get to know youth and adults and share about 4-H! Clubs transition from year to year. There may be members new to 4-H, youth trying new project areas, and members who have left or transitioned to different activities. Make sure everyone knows each other with a fun icebreaker activity.
- Prepare a list of activities for the year. The 4-H year goes fast and there is a lot to do in a short period of time. Preparing a list of club activities for meetings is important to ensure youth are learning the life and technical skills of their 4-H project.
- Create a calendar. Once you have your activities picked out, it's time to plan when and where it will all happen!

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

On October 9, MSU Extension hosted the second 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 were so excited to bring this event back in 2024," said Deanna East, MSU Extension associate director who served as the event emcee. "Michigan 4-H is certainly worth celebrating every day of the year and we are grateful for the opportunity to highlight this impactful program to our state's leaders."

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 featured East as well as: legislative host Representative Reggie Miller; MSU President Kevin Guskiewicz; Emma Young, policy analyst for Governor Whitmer and a Michigan 4-H alumna; Everett Howell, Michigan 4-H youth from Leelanau County; and Brianna Sierra, Michigan 4-H youth from Genesee County.



Mich. 4-H youth with Rep. Miller (fourth from left).

"The Michigan 4-H program serves an incredible number of youth each year but we hope to reach even more young people in the years ahead" continued East. "Elevating awareness of the program is one of our primary goals for Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol and we believe this event will help connect more youth with our program and all that Michigan 4-H has to offer."

The program was livestreamed on the Michigan 4-H Facebook and can be viewed at [www.facebook.com/Michigan4H](http://www.facebook.com/Michigan4H).