



4-H Family News

Oakland County



We are Hiring an AmeriCorps Member

EMPOWER YOUTH, ENRICH LIVES: BECOME AN
AMERICORPS MEMBER

Join 4-H HealthCorps and lead engaging mental, emotional, and physical health lessons for youth! You'll plan workshops for the classroom, after-school programs, or at camps to give youth skills to navigate life's challenges and build a foundation for a healthy future.

MEMBERS WILL:

- Serve part-time, 20-25 hours/week, February 18 - November 13, 2026
- Be paid \$12,000, split into equal paychecks, bi-weekly
- Receive a \$3,697.50 education award upon service completion, usable for student loans or tuition
- Receive student loan forbearance (subject to eligibility)
- Have an opportunity to obtain certifications or school credits in social work upon eligibility

Apply Now Send a cover letter and resume to: Lisa Mazzola at mazzolal@msu.edu

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension AmeriCorps

Do you, or someone you know, want to make a real impact on your community? Oakland County MSU Extension is now recruiting for a 4-H HealthCorps AmeriCorps member to join our team starting in February 2026!

As a member, you'll gain professional experience with MSU Extension while leading youth workshops focused on social and emotional health and substance use prevention. It's a part-time role with a big impact, right here in our backyard. Your office will be located in Pontiac.

Program Highlights:

- Feb. 18 – Nov. 13, 2026
- 20–25 hrs/week
- \$12,000 living stipend (pre-tax)
- \$3,697.50 education award
- Student loan forbearance (if eligible)
- Professional development & certifications

Interested? Send your resume and cover letter to Lisa Mazzola at mazzolal@msu.edu by Nov. 10th.

Let's make 2026 a year of growth, service, and community impact!

CONTACT US

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Canr.msu.edu/oakland/4-h/

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Window Display Winners

4-H Clubs in Oakland County never disappoint during National 4-H Week!

The creativity and effort put forth by each club this year was truly astounding. As in past years, the judges had a tough time choosing — there was no unanimous favorite! However, based on points, we do have a winner. Each club will receive a ribbon at the annual 4-H Achievement Awards on Nov. 15, and the top three clubs will receive prize money.

1st place - Oakland County Sport Rocket 4-H Club

2nd Place – Walt Whitman 4-H Garden Club

3rd Place – Tollgate Farm 4-H

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



- Clarkston Independence District Library
- Riley Park (Farmington)
- Whitman Elementary

Oakland County Sport Rocket 4-H Club



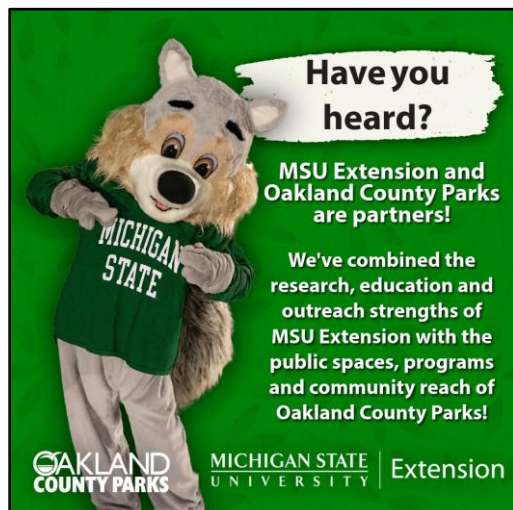
Walt Whitman 4-H Garden Club



Tollgate Farm 4-H



Strengthening Our Roots Through Partnership



We're excited to share that MSU Extension has entered into a new partnership with Oakland County Parks, an opportunity that will help us grow and better serve our communities. Some of you have asked what this means for our programs. Rest assured, MSU Extension remains the same organization you've dedicated your time and talents to. This partnership simply enhances our ability to serve the community through shared resources and support. MSU Extension has always worked hand-in-hand with local county governments and community partners, and this collaboration continues that tradition of cooperative support. Together, we're growing stronger for the benefit of Oakland County residents.



4-H Apple Crisp & Orchard Adventure

🍏 Get ready for some apple-tastic fun! 🍏

Join us for a 4-H Apple Crisp & Orchard Adventure where you'll whip up a tasty apple crisp to take home AND explore the beautiful Tollgate orchard!

📍 Tollgate Farm — 28115 Meadowbrook Rd, Novi, MI 48377

📅 Nov. 1st

🕒 12 – 2:00 p.m.

💰 Just \$20 to join the fun!

⚠️ Hurry, spots are limited — must register!

👨👩👧👦 Kids under 13? Bring your favorite grown-up along!

Come hungry, curious, and ready for a bushel of fun!

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/4HAppleworkshop/>



Cash Composition Contest

🛡️ Scams and fraud don't discriminate by age!

Michigan youth ages 9–19 are invited to enter the 2026 Michigan 4-H Cash Composition Contest on the theme of scams & fraud. Participants can win a \$100 gift card, thanks to Extra Credit Union. Essays are due March 1, 2026.

Learn more & enter at: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-money-smarts/money-smart-kids-contest>



Awards Ceremony Reminder



📅 Saturday, Nov. 15, 2025

🕒 1 – 4 p.m.

📍 Lafayette Grande

1 Lafayette Grande Street, Pontiac, MI 48342

To those who RSVP'd, we'll see you there!



Wild Spartans

Join 4-H staff as we take a look into life working with fisheries and wildlife! This month's 4-H Wild Spartans Series will explore the unexpected world of working with wildlife in the armed forces. Join us on Tuesday, November 11th, 2025 at 6:30pm EST for "Wildfire, Wildlife, and Warriors: Science Where You Least Expect It" You will meet Michele Richards, Natural Resources and Wildland Fire Program Manager with the MI Army National Guard. You'll 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. Monthly sessions will be held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm EST. [Pre-registration is required here.](#)



Join Us Online

WILD SPARTANS

SCIENCE * RESEARCH * CAREERS * CONSERVATION

WILDFIRE, WILDLIFE, AND WARRIORS: SCIENCE WHERE YOU LEAST EXPECT IT

WITH MICHELE RICHARDS, NATURAL RESOURCES AND WILDLAND FIRE PROGRAM MANAGER WITH THE MI ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

November 11 | 6:30 PM EST

Registration required:
<https://events.anr.msu.edu/WildSpartansSeriesFall2025Spring2026/>

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension



Run Elf Run!



Get ready to run the parade route — elf shoes, cocoa mugs, and holiday spirit required!

If your 4-H club would like to **host a table or participate** in this year's [Holiday Extravaganza](#), please contact Cheyenne Shields at, shield69@msu.edu.

 Saturday, December 6, 2025 @ 8 a.m.
 Pontiac, MI

Michigan 4-H License Plates Now Available!



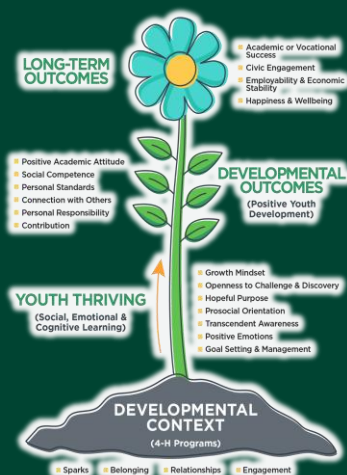
Members of the Michigan 4-H community can show their 4-H pride while supporting 4-H youth development programming by purchasing a Michigan 4-H license plate. The Michigan 4-H license plate will cost \$35, with \$25 of the purchase fee benefiting Michigan 4-H. A \$10 fee will also be charged to benefit Michigan 4-H when the plate is renewed. License plates may be ordered by visiting Michigan.gov/sos, by mailing in a form or scheduling a visit to any Secretary of State office.

Learn more at extension.msu.edu/4-Hplate



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





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.