



FEBRUARY 2025

4-H Family News

Washtenaw County



Write Your Way to Success Workshop on February 27th at 6:30 pm

We are excited to host the Write Your Way to Success Workshop in the MSU Extension Office. In this workshop, presented by MSU Extension Educator Laurie Rivetto, youth will unlock the power of words and learn how to:

- Secure scholarships, Win awards, Stand out in job applications!

Register now: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/write-your-way-to-success>

This FREE, in-person workshop will teach you effective strategies to showcase your strengths and discover exciting opportunities to test your skills!

This workshop is open to youth ages 11-19 (No prior 4-H membership required, but participants must enroll in 4-H before attending.)



UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS:

Livestock and Dairy Committee Meeting

February 13th at 7 pm at the MSU Extension Office

Horse Association Tack Sale

Sunday February 23rd at the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds

Horse Association Meeting

February 25th at 7 pm at the MSU Extension Office

Still Projects Committee Meeting

February 25th at 6:30 pm on Zoom

Write Your Way to Success Workshop

February 27th at 6:30 pm at the MSU Extension Office

Beef Weigh In & Tagging

March 1st from 8-11 am at the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds

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COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Washtenaw County 4-H Horse Association Tack Sale: Sunday Feb. 23rd



The annual Washtenaw County 4-H Horse Association Tack Sale will be Sunday February 23rd from 10 am to 2 pm at the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds in Buildings C and D at 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd, Ann Arbor, MI. Vendors will have new and used horse tack, riding apparel, crafting supplies, livestock and showing attire, and more! There will also be a silent auction. This event is a fundraiser for the 4-H Horse Association with proceeds from the tables/space reservations supporting the Washtenaw County 4-H Horse Program. Please share this event with your friends & family!

Reservations and payments are required by February 1st for vendors. The first table/space is \$25 with additional table space being \$15. 4-H members and 4-H Clubs have a discounted rate of \$15 for the first table and 10 per additional table. There is a late fee of \$10 for any tables/spaces that are not reserved or payment submitted by February 1st.

To reserve a table/space, please complete [the flyer](#) and return it to the MSU Extension Office.

Volunteers Needed for Drop-In Craft Friday Nights

The 4-H Staff is looking to host monthly Drop-In Craft Friday Nights at the MSU Extension Office. We are looking for 4-H volunteers or 4-H teens willing to teach a simple craft to 4-H'ers who attend. These can be projects like card making, sewing, vision boards, collages, macrame, etc. If you are interested in coming as a volunteer, please contact Jenny Speyer, speyerje@msu.edu.



Beef Weigh-In & Tagging: March 1st from 8-11 am at the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds



Youth planning to show beef at the Washtenaw County 4-H Youth Show, must attend the Beef Weigh In and Tagging on Saturday, March 1st from 8-11 am at the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds at 5055 Ann Arbor Saline Rd, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. RFID tags should be in ears, or at minimum, bring your tag and tagger; RFID is required for the Youth Show. We also strongly encourage youth to be enrolled in 4-H Online before weigh in dates as only currently enrolled 4-H youth are covered under 4-H liability policy. The next tagging date is April 26th for sheep, goats, feeders and swine.

Questions? Contact Amy Harris at harr1976@msu.edu or 734-222-3936 if you have questions.



COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Livestock, Dairy, and Small Animal Mentor Night on March 17th at 6:30 pm

Join us for Livestock, Dairy, and Small Animal Mentor Night when we will match mentors and mentees for the Mentorship Program! This program is a great way for teens to gain leadership skills and provides our Cloverbud age participants and Mentees that are new in a project area with experience and skills in a livestock project area. We will also have a fun ice cream social for all that come!

New to the program? We will share a short presentation about the program and provide mentors and mentees with time to get to know each other!

Questions? Please contact Kathy Grau, kgrau3437@aol.com or 734-353-0350 or Mary Hammer, hammerfarm89@aol.com or 734-216-7048.



Ace the Interview: Skill Building and Practice for Teens on March 23rd at 2 pm



This workshop, led by MSU Extension Educator Laurie Rivetto, equips teens with the tools to confidently navigate job, internship, or college interviews. Participants will learn key strategies for answering common questions, showcasing their strengths, and making a great first impression. The session includes a hands-on practice opportunity with peer and instructor feedback. We will have 4-H volunteers and a 4-H Teen Leader on hand to help with practice opportunities.

This workshop will be held at the MSU Extension Office at 705 N. Zeeb Rd, Ann Arbor, MI. All youth ages 12-19 years old are welcome. You do not need to be a previous 4-H member but must sign up in 4-H before attending.

Register at <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/ace-the-interview-skill-building>

Junior Livestock Cattle Hoof Trimming Event on May 3rd

Junior Livestock is once again organizing a cattle hoof trimming event on May 3rd at the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds. If you are interested in attending, please complete the survey here: <https://forms.gle/3ZcStRGMHjegSyvk6> so they can get numbers for the event.

The deadline to complete the survey is **April 2nd**.

If you have questions about this event, please contact Kathy Grau, kgrau3437@aol.com or 734-353-0350 or Mary Hammer, hammerfarm89@aol.com or 734-216-7048.





COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Join the Washtenaw County 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl Team



Do you know a 4-H'er interested in dairy science, dairy production, or veterinary science? Encourage them to join the Dairy Quiz Bowl Team! The group meets the 3rd Monday of each month January through July. They discuss dairy science and dairy production topics. The material is also very relevant to youth interested in vet science. Meetings are at Horning Farms in Manchester and the next meeting is Monday, February 17th at 7:00 pm.

Interested in participating? Please contact Katelyn Packard at klhorning14@gmail.com.

Join the Washtenaw County 4-H Hippology and/or Horse Judging Teams!

Washtenaw County 4-H is looking for registered 4-H members (ages 5-19) to join our Hippology Team and/or Horse Judging Team! The Hippology contest is on Saturday March 15th and Horse Judging is on Saturday March 29th.

Hippology is the study of all horse-related knowledge, including judging, anatomy, breeds, colors, care, equipment, tack, health and welfare, and riding disciplines. Horse Judging is your opportunity to become the judge and place horses based on conformation (halter) and performance (riding).



Both teams compete against other Michigan counties and senior divisions can qualify for the national contest. Cost is roughly \$23 per member, per team. Optional study sessions will start in early February.

If you are interested in participating on both/either teams, please contact Angela Oakman by January 31, 2025 - email: angela_oakman@yahoo.com cell: 734-395-9714 (call or text). The Practice Horse Judging Workshop (event at MSU January 31-Feb 1) is highly recommended for anyone participating on the Horse Judging team. [Check out the MSUE website for more information.](#)



COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Participate in the 2025 Washtenaw County 4-H Poultry Service Project

Attention all poultry exhibitors for the 2025 Washtenaw County 4-H Youth Show. If you are interested in participating in either the chicken or turkey community service project, please send an email to Mandy Rogers (see contact information below) by February 24th. We will have a zoom meeting to discuss if we want to fundraise or get donations to help with the community service project.

Fair Book 2025: (Single chickens or turkey projects will be accepted for food bank donations. If you raise any market project for the youth show you have the option to enter them into a market class or donate them to the food bank, but you do not have to have a market project entered in the youth show to participate in the community service project. There is no limit on how many birds can be donated.)

You will also be required to fill out a community service project record book, which will be e-mailed to you to fill out.

All Community Service Chickens and Turkeys are donated a week before the fair to Saline Social Services.

Ordering Deadline: February 24. We will contact you when the birds arrive for you to pick them up. Turkeys will be arriving approximately March 1st and chicks will arrive at the end of May (about 8 weeks before the 4-H Youth Show). All money for community service birds will be paid at that time to the superintendent. All birds will be donated one week prior to the 4-H Youth Show. This is due to Munsell's Poultry Processing fitting us in before the Lenawee County Fair. Interested? Contact Mandy Rogers, Poultry Superintendent rogers3mandy@yahoo.com.



Project RED Volunteers Needed



Project RED (Rural Education Days) will again be held from Tuesday April 22 to Thursday, April 24th at the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds. Set up will take place on the afternoon/evening of April 22nd. The Washtenaw County MSU Extension 4-H Program, the Farm Bureau Promotion and Education Committee and the Washtenaw Farm Council sponsor this program filled with educational experiences for 3rd grade students. Volunteers are needed for animal exhibits, group leaders, commodity displays, and other educational exhibits. Don't miss out on a chance to help with this wonderful community event!

Sign up now at: <https://forms.gle/5oEHtihAcQruZ2p49>



4-H Club Happenings

Saline 4-H Farmers Annual Family Fun and Awards Night



Saline 4-H Farmers held their annual Family Fun and Awards Night. The club celebrated with a potluck and crafts and games. Awards were also distributed for club members. It's great to see so many youth attending these events and the club continuing to expand.

Junior Livestock Rock Painting Fundraiser at Saline FFA Toy Show

Junior Livestock hosted a fundraiser to support the Washtenaw County 4-H Youth Show. Members painted a variety of rocks for sale at the Saline FFA Toy Show. Thank you to Junior Livestock members Westin Rogers, Meghan McLennan, and Stephanie Bushey for staffing this table.



4-H Online Re-enrollment Reminder



Don't forget that you need to re-enroll youth and 4-H volunteers each year in 4-H Online. Now sure if you re-enrolled? Visit [4-H Online](#) and log into your account. Forgot your password? Use the forgot my password link at the bottom to make a new password. For most 4-H programs, youth must be currently enrolled in 4-H online to attend.

You will also stop getting newsletters and communications from the 4-H Office at the end of this month. Make sure to enroll to stay in the know!



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





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/>.