



4-H Family News

Oakland County



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>

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Congratulations Megan Ohm!

Megan Ohm has been awarded a \$2,000 Michigan State University Pre-College Scholarship! Students in 8th to 11th grades for 2024-25 who attended an MSU summer pre-college program in the summer of 2024 were eligible to apply for this award. Megan participated in Vet Science Camp, one of four pre-college programs offered by MSU Extension 4-H Youth Development.

MSU pre-college programs are great for helping youth explore possible career interests. They are great fun, very educational, and help connect young people with university faculty and other resources. MSU pre-college programs also help youth envision their future so they can wisely choose their high school classes and prepare for college.

Selection for this scholarship is based on application and student essay. The scholarship is applied toward the student's first year at MSU as a degree-seeking student.

The pre-college programs annually offered by MSU Extension 4-H Youth Development are: 4-H Capitol Experience, 4-H Exploration Days, 4-H Great Lakes & Natural Resources Camp, 4-H Animal & Veterinary Science Camp and World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute. For more information on these 4-H pre-college programs as well as other MSU pre-college programs, please visit Spartan Youth Programs at <http://www.spartanyouth.msu.edu>. You'll find a multitude of programs that can help youth develop valuable skills, make new friends and taste college life



Holiday at the Farm

Join MSU's Tollgate Farm and Education Center on December 7th for their second annual Holiday at the Farm event, where festive fun awaits the whole family! Experience the charm of the farm with a delightful wagon ride through their scenic landscape, and get up close and personal with the adorable farm animals that are sure to warm your heart.

Capture the magic of the season by snapping unforgettable holiday pictures on the beautifully decorated grounds. The event also features a variety of engaging activities designed especially for the little ones, making this a perfect outing for families. And don't miss the chance to meet Santa himself, who will be visiting the farm to greet children and spread holiday cheer.

Whether you're looking to create lasting memories or simply enjoy the spirit of the season, Holiday at the Farm is an experience you won't want to miss!

Get your tickets here:

https://commerce.cashnet.com/msu_3568?&itemcode=3568-L2116





Welcome Autumn!



"Hi! My name is Autumn and I am so excited to be the new MSU Extension 4-H AmeriCorps member for Oakland County! I was most recently employed with Oakland County's Health Education department as their Health Education Assistant/Intern so I am more than excited to be back to serve the county I was raised in. I recently graduated with a bachelor of science in public health education with a minor in substance use disorders from Central Michigan University in May. Ultimately, my passion in public health is epidemiology and infectious diseases. But, I wanted to take on this position so that I can do what I also love in the field, which is program implementation and direct education, especially for youth. I love doing arts and crafts projects, collecting records, retail therapy, and watching football with my family. One Pride!"

Spark and Share Summit in Frankenmuth!

Reignite your passion for 4-H at the 2025 Spark and Share Summit March 8th at the Bavarian Inn Lodge and Conference Center in Frankenmuth!!

4-H Volunteers and teens can register for this 1-day conference where they can learn new projects and information that they can take back to teach and share in their local 4-H program at:

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

Registration is \$50 and includes lunch and selection of up to 3 breakout sessions. A link to session descriptions is available through the registration page. The deadline for registration is February 8th.

If a scholarship is needed, please contact the 4-H Office.

Save the Dates - Discovery Day & Achievement Awards Ceremony

Discovery Day - April 26th 2025! A FREE family event open to the public providing fun and educational activities for the whole family! There will be information about joining 4-H and exhibiting at the Oakland County Fair. Stay tuned for more information to come out soon!

Achievement Awards- November 8th 2025! The 4-H Achievement Awards honors the many efforts and accomplishments of 4-H members and the volunteers who work with them! Stay tuned for more information about this event.



STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Shop the Michigan 4-H store this holiday season



Buy your favorite Michigan 4-H apparel, drinkware, and essentials at the SHOP 4-H Online Store!

Offered in collaboration with National 4-H Council through Shop 4-H, the Michigan 4-H store offers Michigan 4-H branded apparel and other gifts. Visit the store online and find the perfect item for your favorite 4-H'er, volunteer, alumni, professional or fan! The shop is open to the public and a percentage of all proceeds will be donated to Michigan 4-H.

To order Michigan 4-H specific items, visit <https://bit.ly/30pdNJw>. The store will remain open beyond the holiday season to continue offering Michigan 4-H branded gear to the Michigan 4-H community.

November 29 – December 15: Fall TSC Paper Clover Campaign

Local Tractor Supply Co.

Support 4-H by purchasing a \$1 paper clover at your local Tractor Supply Co. (TSC) store!

www.canr.msu.edu/events/tractor-supply-co-paper-clover-campaign

December 3: Giving Tuesday

Online

Join the #GivingTuesday movement — a global day of giving and a chance to celebrate the opportunities that makes 4-H so extraordinary. 4-H'ers are leading the way in a world full of change and together, we can build a generation ready for anything. We have set a goal to raise \$5,000 to grow 4-H county endowments in a 24-hour period.

<https://mi4hfdtn.org/giving-tuesday/>

December 10: Wild Spartans – Forestry Fire Crew

Online

Join 4-H staff to spark excitement in the world of wildland fire. Meet Jennifer Hansen and Courtney Kubitskey, who are on the forestry fire crew with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Learn about their work, and the education and career path they followed to get there. This free series is open to all youth ages 12-19 years. Pre-registration is required:

www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-monthly-wildlife-fisheries-webinar-series-december-2024-25

December 17: Online Extension Extras - Helping Kids Manage Stress

Online

Children and youth experience stress; parents and caregivers have an opportunity to support them. This workshop will cover common causes, signs and symptoms of stress, as well as discuss strategies for supporting children, youth and parents experiencing stress.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/online-parenting-helping-kids-manage-stress-12-17-24

Kettunen Center Inventory Closeout

Kettunen Center was the first 4-H volunteer and youth training center in the nation, owned and operated by the Michigan 4-H Foundation from 1961 to 2021. The center's remaining merchandise and furnishings is now available for sale through the MSU Surplus Store! We know the Kettunen Center meant so much to the 4-H community and this is an opportunity to purchase something by which to remember the center. Purchase yours today!





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Help youth build the Five C's: Competence, confidence, connection, character and compassion

Adapted from an article by Christine Heverly, MSU Extension

Michigan 4-H works to ensure that youth are engaged in a positive youth development program and utilizes the 4-H Thriving Model to help illustrate how it is meeting the needs of youth across Michigan. A key component of the 4-H Thriving Model is that youth form developmental relationships. Young people thrive best when their families, friends, schools, neighbors, businesses and other community members support them in a variety of ways.

Positive relationships with volunteers provide young people with chances to learn life skills such as goal setting, problem-solving and communicating. Volunteers can help young people move through the developmental stages and address difficulties along the way. One important way volunteers can help youth thrive is to help them build their Five C's. According to "Liberty: Thriving and civic engagement among America's youth" by Richard Lerner, the Five C's are competence, confidence, connection, character and compassion.



The Five C's aren't tangible things you can give to young people. They're skills and characteristics young people develop through their experiences and relationships. According to Zarrett and Lerner, young people who are able to display stronger evidence of having the Five C's are considered to be thriving and more likely to be developmentally on target than those who do not. Volunteers have the potential to assist young people in building the Five C's by creating relationships and situations that allow them to thrive.

MSU Extension recommends the following ideas to help Michigan 4-H volunteers working with youth to help build the Five C's.

- Help youth learn new concepts for the projects or activities they are participating in.
- Know youth names and address them by their preferred names and pronouns.
- Have youth find their spark by trying something new.
- Help youth navigate obstacles that they encounter.
- Help youth work through the tough side of giving away a project (i.e., selling an animal, giving away a project they worked hard on).
- Help youth record progress, no matter how small; each completed task is a job well done (i.e., maintain a "Done It List").
- Identify values or ethical standards a youth lives by. Do this with them. Write a non-negotiables list showing beliefs the youth will not alter. This helps alleviate peer pressure break downs.
- Define confidence, competence, connection, character and compassion. Use one of these terms to define during a group meeting and discuss ways we show it. Align with the 4-H pledge and have youth brainstorm ways (or goals) to show these traits in the new 4-H year on paper. They can draw or write those ideas.
- Use simple ice breaker activities in pairs or small groups to help young people talk through or work on a common activity or topic. Have them share out loud to the larger group their shared connection or how they worked together to achieve a common goal (building competence and confidence, building connections).
- Focus on building relationship with the youth involved by really getting to know them (their hobbies, interests, events in school or family) and inquire about them with a genuine interest.
- Recognize specific positive behaviors or accomplishments in competence, confidence or character of youth in the club/group.
- Be compassionate in one's interactions with youth (and others) and serve as a role model in that behavior.