



4-H Family News

Oakland County



Exploration Days!



4-H
EXPLORATION DAYS

June 18 - 20, 2025
Michigan State University Campus
East Lansing, MI

- **Academic:** College-level courses & workshops
- **Social:** Meet new people, participate in events
- **Residential:** Live in dorm rooms, eat on campus, college independence
- **Mentorship:** Build relationships

Ages 12-19.
Cost, \$250. Limited scholarships available!
Mandatory Orientation May 1, 6-8 PM
Contact Cheyenne Shields for more information,
shield69@msu.edu

Chaperones needed!

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension
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CONTACT US

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Pontiac, Michigan
48341

PHONE & EMAIL:

248-858-0889

msue.4hoakland@campusad.msu.edu

WEBSITE:

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

Join 1,000 youth from across Michigan on MSU's campus to explore YOUR future! Live like a college student and learn about future careers at 4-H Exploration Days. This three-day pre-college program is designed to help you explore careers, build skills and envision your future. Choose from more than 100 fun learning sessions on a variety of topics that are led by MSU faculty, 4-H staff and volunteers, and other experts! You'll stay in and eat at MSU residence halls, attend sessions in buildings throughout campus, and of course have fun at free-time activities across the university!

Registration opens on March 20th at 7 PM and closes on April 25th.

Cost: \$250 – Limited scholarships are available! Please contact Cheyenne Shields for more information at shield69@msu.edu

[View session listing here!](#)

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Discovery Day!

Discovery Day is Saturday, **April 26, 2025!** 10 AM – 2 PM at Springfield Oaks Park in Davisburg. Discovery Day is 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. Concessions will be available!

Sign up [HERE](#) to request a table to showcase your club or community organization.



4-H DISCOVERY DAY 2025

Saturday, April 26, 2025
10 AM - 2 PM

Springfield Oaks County Park
12451 Andersonville Road
Davisburg, MI 48350





JOIN US FOR A FREE FAMILY EVENT!

- ★ Live animal presentations
- ★ Educational, interactive games, crafts, and activities for the whole family
- ★ Learn about 4-H club opportunities available for youth
- ★ Learn about exhibiting at the Oakland County Fair

All provided by local organizations and 4-H clubs! Concessions will be available for purchase.




MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension **Contact: Lisa Mazzola, mazzola@msu.edu, 248-858-0892**

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Happy Americorps Week!

In honor of Americorps week, we would like to express gratitude to our fantastic Americorps member, Autumn Walton! MSU Extension 4-H of Oakland County is thrilled to have Autumn on board since last November. Autumn provides Mindfulness and Health Education programs to youth throughout the county. Her skillset, enthusiasm and positivity are contagious! We are thrilled to have her with us this year!



AmeriCorps

Horse Program Winter Series



MICHIGAN 4-H HORSE
PROGRAM WINTER
WEBINAR SERIES



January 15th at 6pm: How to buy a horse with Paula Hitzler
January 29th at 6pm: The basics of Equine Management with David Lindsay
February 5th at 6pm: Equine Nutrition basics with Dr. Christine Skelly
February 18th at 6pm: Being a better boarder and Running a boarding facility with Taylor Fabus
March 12th at 6pm: From the judges' perspective: Showmanship with Dr. Karen Waite
March 26th at 6pm: From the judges' perspective: Ranch Riding with Dr. Alyssa Logan

Any further questions email David Lindsay, Extension Educator at lindsa75@msu.edu



Extension



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The Michigan 4-H Horse Program is hosting a six-part winter webinar series. The series will focus on an array of topics centered around Youth who are just getting started with horses and the Horse and Pony Project. All webinars start at 6 pm.

March 12th: From the judges' perspective: Showmanship with Dr. Karen Waite, multi-carded judge and Associate Professor at Michigan State University

March 26th: From the judges' perspective: Ranch Riding with Dr. Alyssa Logan, multi-carded judge and Assistant Professor at Middle Tennessee State University

Zoom link: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/97121881938>

Password: 4HHORSE

Questions – David Lindsay, lindsa75@msu.edu.



4-H Healthy Horizons Clubs

4-H Healthy Horizons Club

FREE 12-week Health Education Programming for Youth Aged 8-18!

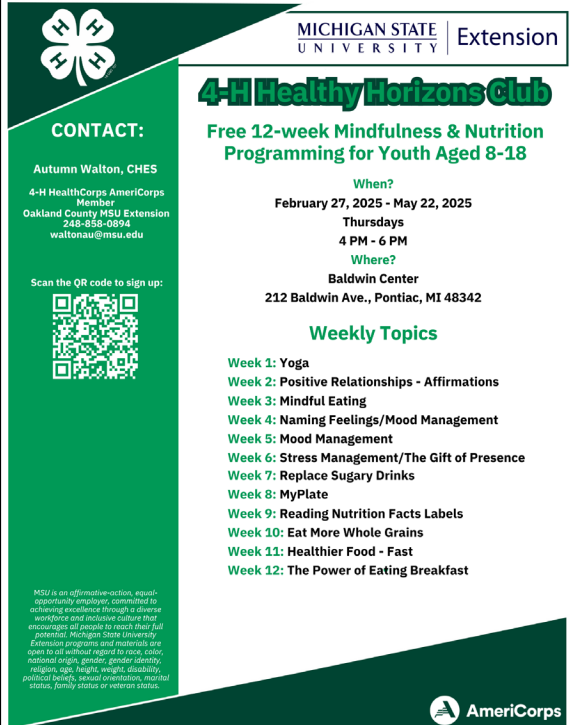
WHEN: February 27, 2025 – May 22, 2025
Thursdays 4 PM – 6 PM

WHERE: Baldwin Center
212 Baldwin Ave
Pontiac, MI 48342

Weekly Topics –
Series for Mindfulness & Nutrition Programming

Sign up [here!](#)

Contact- Autumn Walton, waltonau@msu.edu or 248-858-0894



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

4-H Healthy Horizons Club

Free 12-week Mindfulness & Nutrition Programming for Youth Aged 8-18

CONTACT:
Autumn Walton, CHES
4-H HealthCorps AmeriCorps Member
Oakland County MSU Extension
248-858-0894
waltonau@msu.edu

Scan the QR code to sign up:

When?
February 27, 2025 - May 22, 2025
Thursdays
4 PM - 6 PM

Where?
Baldwin Center
212 Baldwin Ave., Pontiac, MI 48342

Weekly Topics

- Week 1: Yoga
- Week 2: Positive Relationships - Affirmations
- Week 3: Mindful Eating
- Week 4: Naming Feelings/Mood Management
- Week 5: Mood Management
- Week 6: Stress Management/The Gift of Presence
- Week 7: Replace Sugary Drinks
- Week 8: MyPlate
- Week 9: Reading Nutrition Facts Labels
- Week 10: Eat More Whole Grains
- Week 11: Healthier Food - Fast
- Week 12: The Power of Eating Breakfast

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AmeriCorps

Mark Of Excellence 2025



“Because of 4-H I can...” Apply for the 4-H Mark of Excellence Award today! Tell us how 4-H has helped you to become “Beyond Ready.” Open to 4-H youth ages 10-12.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/.../4-h.../Youth-Recognition/index>

🌟 **Winners:** Selected winners will receive a certificate and medal. Submissions may be posted on the Michigan 4-H section of the MSU Extension website and promoted digitally in newsletters and social media. You will also receive another special award at Oakland County's annual awards ceremony. 🌟

Submit to Lisa Mazzola at mazzolal@msu.edu by April 1, 2025.

4-H Capitol Experience

Do you want to make our state a better place? 4-H Capitol Experience is now open for registrations! Join us at the Michigan Capitol March 16-18 to learn more about state government, and how your voice can make an impact! More information available on our website at

https://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_capitol_experience/



MARCH 16-18, 2025

4-H CAPITOL EXPERIENCE

COST \$365

OPEN TO HIGH SCHOOL AGE YOUTH EXPERIENCE STATE GOVERNMENT IN ACTION AND LEARN HOW TO INFLUENCE POLICY ISSUES.
INTERACT WITH LEGISLATORS, STATE AGENCY STAFF, LOBBYISTS AND OTHER RESOURCE PEOPLE!

PLEASE REGISTER BY MARCH 1ST AT: [HTTPS://EVENTS.ANR.MSU.EDU/CAPITALEXPERIENCE2025/](https://events.anr.msu.edu/capitalexperience2025/)

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension



4-H Great Lakes & Natural Resources Camp

Registration is now OPEN for 4-H Great Lakes and Natural Resources Camp! Spend the week at Camp Chickagami on beautiful Lake Esau. Learn about the Great Lakes and Michigan's natural resources through experiential learning opportunities, enjoy recreational sessions including swimming, kayaking, archery, outdoor skills, campfires, and more! Camp is open to youth ages 13-15.

Learn more and register:
at https://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_great_lakes_natural.../index



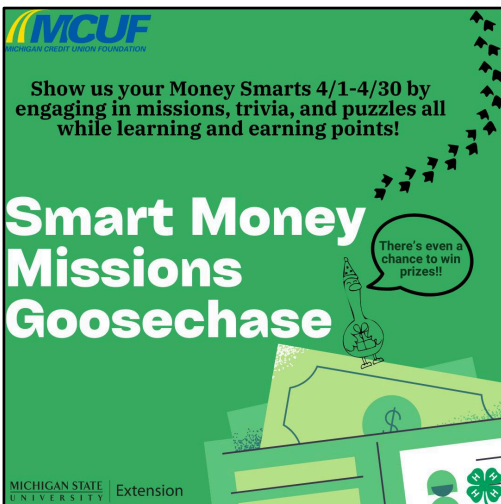
2025 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Workshop



Spring 2025 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Workshop:
May 3rd and 4th, 2025 at the Shiawassee Conservation Association (4247 M-52 Owosso, MI 48867).

Register and more information:
<https://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?eventID=366E66A894043D1F550E612E220B2353CBD12E4B6B4F551D623D2284A6DDC366>

Smart Money Missions Goosechase



💰 Smart Money Mission: GooseChase Game! 💰

Hey Michigan teens (13-19)! Ready for an EPIC scavenger hunt that tests your money smarts? Join the Smart Money Mission on the GooseChase app for a month of exciting challenges, trivia, and puzzles—all designed to boost your budgeting, saving, and investing skills.

Why Join?

- * Fun, interactive money challenges
- * Win 1 of 10 \$50 Amazon gift cards 🎁
- * Learn \$\$\$ skills for life

When? All through April!

How? Download GooseChase, create a username (your full name), & register at <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/smart-money-missions>.



STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

4-H Youth in Action Program applications open



Apply now for the 2026 4-H Youth in Action Awards! Each year, the program recognizes four confident young leaders with diverse backgrounds and unique perspectives who are making a difference in their communities.

Winners will have the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to share their stories along with unforgettable experiences, celebration on the national stage, recognition in the media and a \$5,000 college scholarship.

This opportunity is open to youth ages 14-19. The deadline to apply is March 31. Learn more and apply at <https://4-h.org/programs/4-h-youth-in-action-program/application/>.

March 3: Adulting 101 – Get It Together: Tim and Organization Tips to Thrive

Online

Learn practical tips to tackle schedules, beat procrastination and organize spaces to help you be successful now and in the future.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/get-it-together

March 11: 4-H Give Green Day

Online

Help us reach our goal of raising \$5,000 in a 24-hour period on Give Green Day to support learning experiences for Michigan 4-H youth.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4h-give-green-day

March 11: Wild Spartans

Online

Join 4-H staff for the "Wild Spartans" series for a look into life working with fisheries and wildlife! This month's session will explore conservation efforts in zoos with Seth Magle, director of the Urban Wildlife Institute at the Lincoln Park Zoo in Chicago.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-monthly-wildlife-fisheries-webinar-series-march-2024-2025

March 15: Michigan 4-H Hippology Contest

East Lansing

Youth aged 5-19 are eligible to demonstrate their comprehensive equine knowledge and skills in an engaging setting.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/2025-michigan-4-h-state-hippology-contest

March 18: Mich. 4-H Volunteer Webinar - Cultivating Developmental Relationships with Youth

Online

Explore how to build impactful connections with youth through developmental relationships. This series will provide volunteers with a variety of learning opportunities to help them grow as a volunteer and support Michigan 4-H'ers. This session will be offered twice:

- **12 p.m. session:** www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-the-heart-of-4-h-cultivating-developmental-relationships-with-youth-noon
- **7 p.m. session:** www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-the-heart-of-4-h-cultivating-developmental-relationships-with-youth-7pm

April 1: 2025 Michigan 4-H State Awards application deadline

Online

This program provides 4-H members a learning experience where they can develop career skills by using their 4-H experiences to compile a portfolio similar to a professional application while receiving recognition for their 4-H involvement.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/2025-michigan-4-h-state-awards-application-deadline





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Open your home to a student with the 4-H International Exchange Program!

Michigan 4-H will have 10 Japanese youth and one chaperone arriving in 2025; we are looking for families interested in opening their homes and hearts by hosting these individuals. Consider sharing the clover this summer and giving a lucky Japanese youth and your family the experience of a lifetime by hosting!

The Japanese delegation is scheduled to arrive in Grand Rapids in mid-July and depart in mid-August, meeting host families for a 3.5-week stay. Online applications to host can be found at:

<https://www.states4hexchange.org/apply/host/>.

For more information, contact Michigan 4-H International Exchange Program Coordinator Jan Brinn at brinn@msu.edu.



MSU Extension launches 2025 Global Voices Essay Contest with MSU Global Youth Advancement Network

The Global Voices Essay Contest offers a platform for young people around the world to advocate for their communities and share their opinions and stories about local and national challenges. Michigan students in grades 9-12, and young adults ages 18-24, are invited to share their own stories, reflections and visions by writing and submitting a 600-900-word essay focused on community (defined as the rich tapestry of cultures, experiences and ideas that shape our state). Sub-themes for the essay contest include shared natural resources, heritage and home, bridges of unity, innovation for the future and other.

A panel of MSU, MSU Extension, and Michigan 4-H judges will review and select the winning essays, which will be published on the MSU Global Youth Advancement Network website and receive cash prizes!

The deadline for youth to submit their essay online is May 2. For more info please visit: <https://globalyouth.isp.msu.edu/programs-projects/global-voices/essay-contest/call-submissions-2/>

Michigan 4-H needs your input!

Michigan 4-H is conducting a survey to better understand the topics and educational approaches that best meet community needs. Your feedback will help us improve and enhance how Michigan 4-H serves families across the state.

Visit https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bqmeT5Dxtthvja or scan the QR code to share your input and help shape the future of the Michigan 4-H program. If you have questions regarding this survey, please reach out to Kathy Fischer at fisch226@msu.edu.

