



4-H Family News

MACOMB COUNTY

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Macomb County 4-H News & Events

Help new farmer's market raise 4-H and agriculture awareness

Macomb County 4-H has been offered a free table at the Farmer's Market, 33320 Kelly Road, Clinton Township. The market is new this year and is hosted by the John F. Kennedy Knights of Columbus Council 5460. Market dates are May 11, June 8, July 13, August 10 and September 14. Market organizers would especially like to bring 4-H and agriculture awareness to the market.

MSU Extension needs at least 2-3 youth members and 1 adult 4-H volunteer per 9 a.m.-12 p.m. or 12 p.m.-3 p.m. shift at the market to answer questions about 4-H. Clubs are asked to sign up for the date(s) and time(s) they are available. This is a great way to get 4-H community service hours, and you can showcase your club projects, recruit members for your club, fundraise for your club, and/or sell your club's products while you're there!

This is an easy community service opportunity for your club! Please [sign up here](#). For more information, contact 4-H Program Coordinator Lizz Duran at 586-469-6090 or duraneli@msu.edu.

Macomb County 4-H welcomes two summer staff members

Please help us welcome Leanna Konarski and Mackenzie Meerschaert to the Macomb County 4-H staff. Leanna started with MSU Extension on April 1st and Mackenzie returned on April 29th. Both will be helping with 4-H programming through mid-August.

New 4-H SPIN Clubs are available, join today!

Are you interested in rabbits, knitting, Apple iPads, Mindfulness or Arts & Crafts? The Macomb County 4-H staff has developed five new SPecial INTERest (SPIN) Clubs and we want you to join us! If you're interested in one or more of the 4-H SPIN Clubs listed below, please submit this [interest form](#) and we will reach out to you!

Rabbits - Sessions will focus on the 'ins-and-outs' of rabbits. It will cover breeds, terminology, diet, housing, and handling. Participants will be able to have hands-on learning experiences based off of the topic of the session.

Knitting - Knitting can be a good decompressing activity. Youth will learn the basics of knitting, such as how to cast on and bind off of their needles, two basic stitches, and will learn a fun washcloth pattern.

Apple iPads - Youth can explore coding, photography, video, drawing, music and more through our Clovers CODE program. Apple iPads will be provided.

Mindfulness - Mindfulness can benefit children by enhancing important social and emotional skills such as the ability to feel in control, to make and maintain meaningful relationships, to be calmer and more resilient.

Arts & Crafts - Children can express themselves, be creative and make an impression! They will work with all kinds of materials and create something truly unique.

Macomb County 4-H Staff

Kristi Evans
D11 Director

Diane Wisnewski
4-H Supervising Educator

Kathy Jamieson
4-H Educator

Kea Norrell-Aitch
4-H Educator.

Elizabeth Duran
4-H Program Coordinator

Leanna Konarski
4-H Program Assistant

Mackenzie Meerschaert
4-H Program Assistant

Roberta Busquaert
Office Assistant - Senior

Locations

MSU Extension has two office locations in Macomb County:

VerKuilen Building
21885 Dunham Road, Suite 12
Clinton Township, MI 48036

Max Thompson Family Resource Center
11370 Hupp Avenue
Warren, MI 48089

Contact Us

Telephone: 586-469-6431
Email: Macomb.4h@macombgov.org

**2024 Macomb County
4-H Fair Theme:
Seas the Opportunities
in 4-H! (beach)**

**Male
Chaperone
Needed**

Macomb County desperately needs a male chaperone for seven boys at [Exploration Days](#) at MSU in East Lansing from June 19-21. Campus is also looking for someone during that time who can sew and play pickleball. If you or someone you know is available to help, please contact Macomb County 4-H Program Coordinator [Lizz Duran](#) at 586-469-6090.



Macomb County 4-H News & Events (continued)

Macomb County 4-Her partners with Warren to plant trees

By 4-H Program Coordinator Lizz Duran

Meet Nethanya!

Macomb 4-H has an amazing new member in the Teen Counselor program. Nethanya Fonseca joined 4-H for the 2023-2024 program year after finding information online for environmental projects. She had originally reached out to MSU Extension Educator Darren Bagley in Genessee County. Bagley was heading up the environmental project she had found, and he referred her to Macomb County 4-H because she lives in Macomb Township. She is a passionate environmentalist and has her own [project website](#). I am sharing a small piece of her email to me so that you can grasp her passion and commitment to climate change.

"I chose trees because I have always had a deep love for trees. Dr. Diana Beresford-Kroeger's global bio plan, which entails planting a native tree each year for six years, inspired me to act on this love and do my part in saving the Earth. I partnered with Living Carbon because of their commitment to creating climate-smart trees that can help us combat climate change. I am doing an extensive tree-planting project in our state of Michigan to help fight climate change. Our state has a goal of 50 million new trees to be planted by the year 2030, and I started 'Plant It Forward' to commit and contribute my part to this planet-saving effort. I have begun phase one with my own township here in Macomb with 100 trees already in the ground, and then for phase two I have partnered with my neighbor city Sterling Heights for more tree-planting projects. My goal is to partner with as many cities and organizations as possible to plant trees effectively. I have also collaborated with the bio-tech firm Living Carbon which grows seedlings specifically enhanced for carbon capture and storage to plant some of these new trees (especially for over-used, abandoned, and nutrient-poor soil areas) along with native trees". (Nethanya Fonseca, 12/2024).

Nethanya has presented to and retained a commitment from Warren Mayor Lori Stone and Warren Parks & Recreation to host a number of community service events that will assist Nethanya in meeting her goal. The trees will be planted at Warren's [Ridgewood Park](#) and [Shaw Park](#). **The first tree planting event will be Saturday, May 4th at 9 a.m. at Ridgewood Park, 13333 Racine, Warren.** We will be planting with the Warren Parks & Recreation Department and would welcome any 4-H club or member who would like to take part in this effort to improve our community. Please feel free to join us and bring your own shovel.



From left to right: DPW Superintendent Scott Raedel, 4-H Program Coordinator Lizz Duran, 4-H Member Nethanya Fonseca, Warren Mayor Lori Stone, Community Outreach Director Rhonda Hawe and City Controller Richard Fox.

Other Local News & Events

Junior Leadership Macomb

It's time to start making summer plans. There are sports camps, writing camps, and LEADERSHIP camps. Apply today for Junior Leadership Macomb Class XI! Open to youth who will be high school juniors in the fall of 2024, this camp goes well beyond summer, connecting you with new friends, helping with career exploration, focusing on community service, and getting you to start thinking about plans for after high school. Camp is July 29-August 2, 2024. Call 586-954-2788 to inquire. [Learn more and apply](#) by Friday, May 24th!

Armada Fair animal tagging dates

For the most updated Armada Fair animal tagging dates, visit <https://www.armadafair.org/livestock-sale> or contact the Armada Fair Office at office@armadafair.org or 586-784-5488.

- ◆ Swine – 1st Sunday in June, 8-10:30 a.m.
- ◆ Goat, Sheep & Prospect Beef - 1st Sunday in June 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.
- ◆ All Poultry & Rabbits – 3rd Sunday in July 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Don't miss the latest MSUE Macomb Program Guide

MSU Extension has much in store for Macomb County residents during the month of May. Check out the organization's [newest program guide](#). To receive the guide monthly, subscribe at macombmsue@macombgov.org.

Armada Fair Clean-Up

May 11 / 10 a.m.-2 p.m. / Armada Fairgrounds
74280 Fair St., Armada
586-784-5488

Volunteer Opportunity!

The Ray Township Recreation Committee is asking for 4-H members to help with Ray Day on June 23rd from 12-4 p.m.

Ray Day is an annual Ray Township community event at the Ray Township Park featuring activities for all ages.

For more information, contact Donna Seymour at donna_walt@yahoo.com.



Statewide & National 4-H News & Events

Livestock & poultry owners encouraged to heighten biosecurity

Recently, highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) has been detected in cattle, cats and commercial poultry flocks across the country and Michigan. MSU Extension and its state partners are continuing to monitor the situation and providing outreach to help mitigate the spread of HPAI. Livestock and poultry owners are strongly encouraged to take proactive measures to defend against additional outbreaks in Michigan. Check out the following resources helpful information on biosecurity:

- www.canr.msu.edu/fair-and-exhibition-animal-health/biosecurity
- www.canr.msu.edu/resources/biosecurity-for-dairy-and-beef-cattle-farms
- www.canr.msu.edu/news/small-scale-and-backyard-poultry-owners-should-remain-vigilant-to-protect-against-highly-pathogenic-avian-influenza
- www.canr.msu.edu/avian_influenza/



Tips for purchasing and bringing home livestock

Adapted from: www.canr.msu.edu/resources/tips-for-purchasing-and-bringing-home-livestock

Acquiring new stock is exciting whether you are building your herd or flock or purchasing your annual 4-H project. These tips will help manage their health and safety by making sure you know what to ask before purchasing and how to prepare to bring livestock home.

Assessing Animal Health and Treatment Documentation

When purchasing animals, you should know their history. Ask the following questions:

- When was the animal born?
- What specific vaccinations has the animal been given and when were they given?
- If necessary, was the animal properly castrated and what method was used?
- Have any other treatments been administered to the animal? If so, what is the slaughter withdrawal for the drugs given?
- Have any of the animals on the farm been ill or shown symptoms of illness?
- If acquiring a market animal, what is the approximate weight?

Considerations as You Bring Animals Home

Transporting. Secure a trailer. If you do not own a trailer, make arrangements with someone who can transport animals for you. Be prepared to pay someone to provide transportation, as a courtesy.

Unloading. Make sure that your facility is ready to house your new animals before they arrive. Have a pen identified for new animals to go into with fresh water and appropriate feed. (Feed should be similar to their previous diet; changing to a new diet should be done over a period of time.) Have a clear and direct path to the animals' new pen from the trailer. Make sure that all gates are open or closed, as appropriate, and secured.

Settling in. Isolate or separate new animals for a minimum of 14 days. At minimum, try to avoid nose-to-nose contact, and comingling feeding and watering. Minimize stress on new animals during the isolation period. If after 14 days, the newly acquired animals have not shown any symptoms of illness, it should be safe to comingling them into your existing herd or flock.

Comingling. Since each species has a social hierarchy, observe animals during comingling and separate if there is risk of injury. Over the course of a day, the herd or flock should settle into a routine that includes the new animals.

MDARD signed an [HPAI Risk Reduction Response Order](#) on May 1st. MSUE is working to ensure alternative activities for 4-H'ers to showcase their knowledge should it become necessary. Stay tuned for more information.

Follow our series on how you can reduce biosecurity risks in 4-H projects

Biosecurity related to 4-H projects is a matter of high priority. Taking simple precautions will protect animals, members and consumers. Learn more in this nine-part series:

Part 1: [Biosecurity practices](#)

Part 2: [4-H project biosecurity](#)

Part 3: [Biosecurity risks of the judging area](#)

Part 4: [Youth biosecurity risk and disease prevention programs](#)

Part 5: [The importance of having separate clothes and shoes while working with animals.](#)

Part 6: [Handwashing](#)

Part 7: [Isolating animals new to your farm](#)

Part 8: [Properly cleaning and disinfecting equipment on your farm and not borrowing from others](#)

Part 9: [Limiting exposure to your animals](#)



Statewide & National 4-H News & Events (continued)

Michigan 4-H Foundation opens 2024-25 grant cycle

Awarded annually, the Michigan 4-H Foundation recently opened their grant and award opportunities for the 2024-2025 season. Open to 4-H volunteer leaders, members and staff, the grants and awards support local 4-H clubs and county programs, as well as recognize members of the 4-H community. **All applications are due June 1.**

Opportunities include:

- **Michigan 4-H Legacy Grants of \$1,000.** These grants are awarded to support development of a new program or initiative or to strengthen, enhance or expand a current program that is making a difference.
- **4-H On-Target Grants of \$500.** These grants support 4-H Shooting Sports programs to enhance existing programs, develop a new program or offer a special experience related to 4-H Shooting Sports.
- **The Collins 4-H Youth Horticulture Grant of \$500.** This grant is available only to 4-H youth clubs and supports advancement of club work in plant science and horticulture activities.
- **4-H Educational Garden Grants of \$1,000.** These grants support the creation of local 4-H educational gardens in Michigan.
- **Michigan Farm Bureau 4-H Excellence in Agriculture Award (includes \$1,000 grant).** This award recognizes outstanding 4-H agricultural volunteers that have exhibited excellence in 4-H youth education and leadership development.



Learn more or apply online at <http://mi4hfdtn.org/grants>. Questions? Contact the Michigan 4-H Foundation at 517-353-6692.

Michigan 4-H State Horse Show - August 16-18

SAVE THE DATES! The [Michigan 4-H State Horse Show](#) is August 16-18. Information regarding registration is coming soon.

Support 4-H when you shop

- **Tractor Supply Company (TSC):** Purchase a Paper Clover at [Tractor Supply \(TSC\) stores or online](#) through May 5th to support 4-H youth. Funds raised will support county, state and national 4-H programming. Macomb County has TSC stores in Macomb County has TSC Stores in [New Haven](#), [Richmond](#), and [Washington](#).
- **JOANN Stores:** The [2024 JOANN 4-H Point of Sale Campaign](#) runs through May 4th. During this time, round up your purchase or donate to support 4-H when you shop at JOANN stores or online. Macomb County has JOANN stores in [Chesterfield Township](#), [Roseville](#), and [Shelby Township](#).

Social media and texting

4-H members and volunteers, please keep [these tips](#) in mind as you interact on social media.

Learn valuable life skills with Adulting 101 series

Are you ready to leave for college or be out on your own? Are you prepared to do the adult tasks of managing your finances, home, health, or finding a career? Zoom in to one or more of MSU Extension's FREE Adulting 101 sessions to learn real life skills that will help you successfully transition to living independently. Register online at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/Adulting2024/> to receive the meeting link(s).

Build and Protect Your Credit

May 15 / 5 p.m.

Learn why your credit matters, how to start obtaining credit and how to manage it.

Traveling on a Budget

June 6 / 6:30 p.m.

Anticipating future travel plans? Tap into strategies for traveling on a budget to ensure you reach your next destination.

Cooking Basics

July 16 / 4 p.m.

Learn the language of cooking, how to read recipes and how to be creatively resourceful in the kitchen.

Summer Berries: Jam & Jelly

August 12 / 4 p.m.

Enjoy the taste of summer while having fun making jams and jellies using fresh summer fruits.

Changing the World with Your One Vote

September 16 / 5 p.m.

Learn to register and select your candidates.



CALENDARS OF EVENTS

Macomb County 4-H Events

May 16

[Exploration Days Orientation #1](#)

6:30 p.m., Max Thompson Family Resource Center, Warren

May 23

[Exploration Days Orientation #2](#)

6:30 p.m., VerKuijen Building, Clinton Township

Other Local Events

May 11

Armada Fair Clean-up

10 a.m.-2 p.m., Armada Fairgrounds, Armada

May 24:

[Junior Leadership Macomb applications](#) due

June 2

Armada Fair Animal Tagging

8-10:30 a.m. - Swine

10:30 a.m.-Noon - Goats, Sheep & Prospect Beef

Armada Fairgrounds, Armada

Visit <https://www.armadafair.org> for the most updated information

Statewide 4-H Events

March 3-May 4:

[JOANN 4-H Point of Sale Campaign](#)

Support 4-H by donating at the register when you shop at JOANN stores or online.

April 24 – May 5:

[Spring TSC Paper Clover Campaign](#)

Your Local Tractor Supply

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

May 5 – June 1

[Michigan 4-H Alumni & Supporters Walking Challenge](#)

Across the state

All Michigan 4-H alumni and supporters are invited to compete in a virtual walking challenge! Get active, stay healthy, and win prizes for you and your county 4-H program!

May 13:

Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar - Preparing 4-H'ers for Fairs and Showcases

Online, [12 p.m. session](#) or [7 p.m. session](#)

Attend this online session to hear about opportunities as well as techniques to prepare 4-H'ers for fairs and showcase events. This session will be offered twice, once as a daytime option and once as an evening option.

May 15:

[Adulting 101 Series - Build and Protect Your Credit](#)

Online

By attending this workshop, you can learn why your credit matters, how to start obtaining credit and how to manage it.

May 22:

Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar - Managing Risk for Volunteers

Online, [12 p.m. session](#) or [7 p.m. session](#)

One step in keeping 4-H'ers safe is reviewing the media and medical authorization forms for members engaged in your club. Attend this session to learn how to access, review and keep this information safe while serving as a 4-H volunteer. This session will be offered twice, once as a daytime option and once as an evening option.

June 1

Michigan 4-H Foundation Grant applications due

June 6:

Adulting 101: Traveling on a Budget

6:30 p.m., online

4-H Volunteer Opportunities

Warren Tree Planting

May 4, 9 a.m., Ridgewood Park, Warren

Contact: [Lizz Duran](#), 586-469-6431

Farmers Market

May 11, June 8, July 13, Aug. 10, Sept. 14, 9 a.m.-Noon Sign up [here](#).

Contact: [Lizz Duran](#), 586-469-6090

Armada Fair Clean-up

May 11, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Armada Fairgrounds, Armada

Contact: [Armada Fair](#), 586-784-5488

Ray Day

12-4 p.m., June 23, Ray Twp. Park

Contact: [Donna Seymour](#)

Exploration Days

Male chaperone needed

June 19-21, MSU, East Lansing

Contact: [Lizz Duran](#), 586-469-6090