



FEBRUARY 2024

4-H Family News

Washtenaw County



Washtenaw County 4-H Horse Association Tack Sale: February 11th from 10 am – 2 pm

Mark your calendars for the annual Washtenaw County 4-H Horse Association Tack Sale on February 11th from 10 am – 2 pm at the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds at 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd, Ann Arbor, MI in Buildings B and C. The Tack Sale will feature new and used horse tack, riding apparel, and a silent auction. Set up will begin at 8 am. Reservations and payment required by February 1, 2024. First table/space is \$25. Additional table/space \$15 each. 4-H members and clubs first table/space is \$20. Additional table/space \$10 each. There is an additional \$10 per table/space late fee if after Feb 1, 2024. All proceeds benefit the Washtenaw County 4-H Horse Program. If you would like to reserve a table, [please check out the reservation flyer for more information.](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS & MEETINGS:

Livestock and Dairy Committee Meeting
February 8th at 7 pm at the MSU Extension

4-H Robotics Workshop
February 10th at 2 pm at the MSU Extension Office

Horse Board and Association Meeting
February 27th at 6:30 and 7 pm at the MSU Extension Office

Still Projects Committee
February 27th at 6:30 pm on Zoom (Link sent out soon)

Beef Weigh In/Tagging
March 2nd from 8-11 am at the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds

4-H Leader Training
Tentative March 16th location to TBD

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COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Washtenaw County MSU Extension Office Hours Change



We are currently without a secretary in the Washtenaw County MSU Extension Office and staff will be filling in until we hire a new staff member. During this time, the office will be open Monday – Friday from 9 am – 3 pm. If you need to stop by outside of these hours, please contact Amy or Jenny to make an appointment.

You can also use the black mailbox in the back of the building after hours to drop off any paperwork or forms. You can see it in warmer times in the photo to the left. We check the mailbox daily.

Beef Weigh-In and Tagging March 3rd 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 3rd 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 27th for sheep, goats, feeders and swine. Questions? Contact Amy Harris at harr1976@msu.edu or 734-222-3936 if you have questions.

We Need YOUR Help to Keep the 4-H Kitchen Open in 2024!



We are in search of a 4-H Kitchen coordinator for the 4-H Kitchen for the 2024 Youth Show! This position could be split into multiple people but requires someone to be on site each day to monitor the Kitchen. We would especially appreciate a volunteer(s) who have a background in food service. Without a 4-H Kitchen Coordinator, we will be unable to open the 4-H Kitchen during the 2024 Youth Show. If you know anyone interested, please have them contact, Jenny Speyer, at speyerje@msu.edu or 734-436-1362.



COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Now Accepting Applications for Washtenaw County MSU Extension Secretary and Financial Homeownership Educator

Are you or is someone you know interested in being the “face” of MSUE in Washtenaw County? We are now accepting applications for our Washtenaw County MSU Extension Secretary. The secretary directs clientele to appropriate information and resources and assist with the logistics and promotion of MSUE educational events in the county. They also support MSUE staff in working to foster a welcoming, inclusive environment for visitors and staff. You can read more about this position on [the flyer](#). Please pass this information along to anyone who might be interested. **The deadline to apply is February 6th.**



We also are accepting applications for the Financial Homeownership Educator for Washtenaw County. This position will provide homebuyer and financial education and housing counseling through workshops and trainings you conduct within Washtenaw County. Workshop topics will be relevant to the participants and the community in which they live and may include budgeting, savings, banking products, credit building, identity theft, homebuyer education, foreclosure, and post-foreclosure. You can read more about this position on [the flyer](#). **The deadline to apply is February 5th.**

Reminder: 4-H Online Re-Enrollment



Has everyone in your club re-enrolled or enrolled in 4-H Online for the 2023-2024 program year? We are no longer sending our emails to families who are not currently enrolled in 4-H online. We don't want anyone to miss out on any communications! All 4-H members should be enrolled in 4-H online prior to participating in 4-H projects or programming, and we are asking that all our existing families re-enroll as soon as possible. You must re-enroll to be an active 4-H member!

If you need help re-enrolling, please reach out to Amy Harris. We also have paper enrollment forms in the office if those are easier for families. Enroll or Re-Enroll at <https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>

Please Complete Our Cattle Hoof Trimming Survey!

Help Junior Livestock determine if we have a need for cattle hoof trimming! We need 4-H members to complete the survey here:

<https://forms.gle/qdrwPTmRmuMmk89o6>.

The deadline to complete the survey is **February 12th**.





COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Interested in Joining our 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! Hippology is the study of all horse-related knowledge, including judging, anatomy, breeds, colors, care, equipment, tack, health and welfare, and riding disciplines. The Hippology event is Saturday, March 16th at MSU's Anthony Hall.

Horse Judging is your opportunity to become the judge and place horses based on conformation (halter) and performance (riding). The Horse Judging event is Saturday, April 13th at the MSU Pavilion. 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, 2024 - email: angela_oakman@yahoo.com cell: 734-395-9714 (call or text). The Horse Judging Workshop and Mini Contest (February 2nd-3rd at the MSU Pavilion) is highly recommended for anyone participating on the Horse Judging team.

More information (from the 2023 contest):

https://www.canr.msu.edu/horses_ponies/registrationinformation?fbclid=IwAR1hMipUIYxBkwEQFDAXf1ce59IsPG6LwvGvFjZkgypyC0NsCnGiqc-CF2w

Project RED Volunteer Needed for April 23-25th

Project RED (Rural Education Days) will again be held from Tuesday April 23 to Thursday, April 25th 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. Thousands of 3rd graders across the county enjoy this event each year, and it takes many hands to pull the event together.



Don't miss out on a chance to help with this wonderful community event!

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



COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Upcoming 4-H Leader Training: Tentatively Scheduled for March 16th

Calling all 4-H volunteers! Are you looking to learn more about how to run a successful 4-H meeting? Maybe you would like a refresher on 4-H policy and program requirements? We invite you to our 2024 4-H Leader Training! The tentative date and location for this event are Saturday, March 16th in Pinckney. This training will feature hands on activities, a mock club meeting, and information sessions. This training will include Livingston County and Washtenaw County volunteers. To register, please visit:

https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2cd5PGpEJL1Q3mC



Please reach out to Amy or Jenny with any questions!

4-H Robotics Program with University of Michigan Mars Rover Team Leaders

There is still one spot available for the 4-H Robotics Program!

Join Michigan Mars Rover Team Leaders from University of Michigan College of Engineering on February 10th from 2-4:30 pm to explore the world of robotics and coding. Youth will work in teams to build Lego Mindstorm EV3 robots and define code for an out-of-this-world mission! Also, youth will learn about projects that the Michigan Mars Rover Team works on through the University of Michigan. Youth in grades 3-8 are welcome at this free program for robotics for beginners! This program will be at the MSU Extension Office at 705 N. Zeeb Rd, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Discover more about Michigan Mars Rover Team at <https://mrover.org/>. If the registration is full, you can contact Jenny, speyerje@msu.edu and 734-436-1362, to get on the waitlist.

Register here: https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3UWeNyirrRnEdX8

Save the Date! Cloverbud Spring Break Camp March 25-27th

We are planning for a Cloverbud Spring Break Camp on March 25th – 27th at the Washtenaw County Farm Council Grounds. We are looking forward to 3 days full of fun 4-H hands-on activities focused on agriculture, energy, and science! This camp will be open to youth ages 5-7 years old and we are also looking for youth ages 12-19 interested in acting as teen leaders. If you know a 12-19 year old interested, please contact Jenny Speyer or Amy Harris. Registrations is coming soon on Facebook and through 4-H Online.

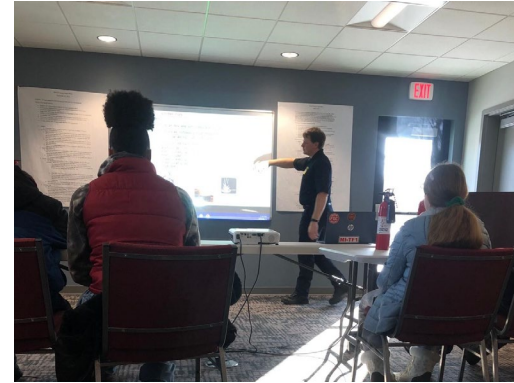




COUNTY 4-H NEWS

S & L Bauernhof visits the Webster Township Fire Station

S & L Bauernhof 4-H club participated in some fire safety training with firefighter Valentine at the Webster Township fire station in January. The club members who attended learned how to operate a fire extinguisher to put out fires and also got to take a look inside their emergency vehicles and equipment.



Junior Livestock End of the Year Party

Junior Livestock had their end of the year party and played a saran wrap ball game!



Save the Dates: 4-H Exploration Days at MSU from June 19-21st



The countdown is on for 4-H Exploration Days! MSU Extension staff are working hard planning this pre-college program for youth ages 12-19 years old. During this three-day event from June 19-21st, youth will gain confidence and independence through hands-on learning and make friends for a lifetime. Registration will open on March 25th at 7 pm and a \$50 deposit will be due at registration. The full cost of the event is \$220 for youth and \$130 for adult chaperones. There are opportunities for scholarships for all Washtenaw County youth or volunteers who attend! You do NOT need to apply for this scholarship, \$50 will automatically be taken off your cost. But do NOT pay the full amount. If you are interested in attending and have questions or want more information, please contact Jenny at speyerje@msu.edu or 734-436-1362.



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 February 24! 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 Rutgers Scarlet Knights.

Attendees will also enjoy 4-H games and activities around the concourse. Tickets are free to 4-H youth and their families as well as 4-H volunteers and their families. In addition, Michigan 4-H will be showcased during the halftime show as a group of 4-H youth will lead the crowd in reciting the 4-H pledge.

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.

For more information and to get tickets, visit www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-day-at-the-breslin.

February 7: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar - Engaging 4-H Youth in Animal Science Education

Online

Explore ways 4-H volunteers can utilize curriculum and resources to engage 4-H youth in animal science education. 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, once as a daytime option and once as an evening option.

- **12 p.m. session:** www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-engaging-4-h-youth-in-animal-science-education
- **7 p.m. session:** www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-engaging-4-h-youth-in-animal-science-education7pm

February 12: Fostering Happy and Healthy Relationships

Online

The 4-H Adulting 101 series helps young people prepare for college or life on their own through free online sessions. Join this session to explore healthy relationship models that can enhance your future and current bonds.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/relationships-1

February 13: 4-H Wild Spartans – Seeing the Forest for the Wildlife

Online

This month's 4-H Wild Spartans Series will wade with waterfowl and explore forests. Meet Jeremiah Heise, ecosystem program manager with the U.S. Forest Service, learn about his field work, and the education and career path he followed to get there. This free series is open to 4-H and non-4-H youth ages 12-19.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-series-2023-2024feb

March 2: Michigan 4-H Spring Livestock Workshop

Anthony Hall, East Lansing

This one-day workshop is designed for 4-H teens and volunteers in beef, sheep, goats and swine project areas. Youth will learn about different aspects of their livestock projects throughout a variety of sessions.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-spring-livestock-workshop-2024

March 6 and 9: Michigan 4-H Animal Science Skillathon

Online

This competition tests both youth and adult competitors' knowledge of market livestock, animal science, and management practices in various categories. Competitors can choose to compete during the week or on the weekend. Registration closes Feb. 29.

www.canr.msu.edu/otsego/4-h/2024-Skillathon





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS



Register today for Michigan 4-H Capitol Experience!

At Michigan 4-H Capitol Experience, teens learn how to change the world for the better through engagement in Michigan's state government and public policy process. The program is scheduled for March 17-19, in Lansing. The three-day event, open to high school-aged youth, includes tours of the Michigan Capitol, interactions with state legislators, meetings with state agency staff, lobbyists and state-level experts, and learning how policy is made. During the program, youth work in small teams to draft legislation on agriculture, civil rights and youth advocacy, crime and law enforcement, education and teacher retention, environment and natural resources, health, or jobs and the economy/infrastructure.

The cost to register in 2024 is \$365, which includes meals and lodging at the Quality Inn University in Lansing. Contact your local 4-H program coordinator to inquire about local funding opportunities. Scholarships may also be available through your local Farm Bureau office. To register or learn more, visit www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_capitol_experience/.

Make a difference for food security with 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 9 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 and submit a 2-to-5-page research paper about a developing country and one of 20 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.

There is no cost to participate in the WFP MIYI. For more information, visit www.canr.msu.edu/wfpmiyi/.



Apply for a Michigan 4-H State Award!

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 essay contest (11-12 years), junior state award (13-15 years), senior state award (16-19 years) and group awards (13-19 years). Each application and selection process varies, dependent on the age of the 4-H member. Additional details about the Michigan 4-H State Award process can be found 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.



MSU Extension Child and Family Development

MSU Extension has a wide range of free online classes for parents and caregivers of children of all ages and early childhood professionals.

Extension Extra's Parenting Hour

These free online parenting workshops will provide guidance for parents of young children as they navigate the challenges, concerns, and joys of parenting. Participants may register for as few or as many workshops as they wish. The workshops are on Tuesday evenings from 8:00 to 9:30PM EST as follows:

Class dates:

- 2/06/2024: Birds and the Bees: Talking with kids about sex
- 2/13/2024: Purpose of Play
- 2/20/2024: Setting the Stage: Promoting social emotional health in young children
- 2/27/2024: Together We Can: Co-parenting

Class times: 8:00 – 9:30 PM

Registration: https://msu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_viGxTEIqSdKY2cEX2EhVbQ

For more information contact Courtney Aldrich at aldric82@msu.edu



The Parent Talk System

Do you feel like your children aren't listening to you? This 6-week series is for parents of children of all ages and is designed to improve communication and provide practical verbal strategies for raising confident, caring, responsible children. Topics include eliminating unwanted behavior, setting limits, teaching about consequences, giving effective feedback, promoting independence, and developing character. Certificates of attendance are available.

Class dates: February 29, March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4

Class times: 11:30 am – 1 pm

Registration: https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bj8nWuROCeXu6vY

For more information, contact Courtney Aldrich, aldric82@msu.edu

Building Strong Adolescents

Are you wondering how to navigate the teen years with your child? Do you wonder how to set limits while still promoting independence and encouraging positive relationships? Join us for this five-week parenting education series for parents with children between 9-16 and explore the assets children need to succeed. Certificates of attendance are available.

Class date: February 29, March 7, 14, 21, 28

Class times: 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Registration: https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_85DU8Mc01G0H2DQ

For more information, contact Courtney Aldrich, aldric82@msu.edu

Kinship Caregiver Classes

Kinship Caregiver classes are targeted to relatives caring for another relative's children.

Class date: February 14: Reducing Challenging Behaviors in Toddlers

Class times: 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Registration: https://msu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_msxyZuH0QeS9MsKaD_y7Tg

For more information, contact Courtney Aldrich, aldric82@msu.edu





MSU Extension Child and Family Development

MSU Extension has a wide range of free online classes for parents and caregivers of children of all ages and early childhood professionals.

Guiding Principles for Highly Successful Parenting

Are you wondering how to gain greater cooperation from the children in your care? Struggling with chores or routines? Not sure how to handle discipline issues? Join us for this five week caregiver education series for caregivers with children of all ages will explore developing routines, emotional control, rules and relationships, and being a calm, assertive caregiver. Certificates of attendance are available.

Class date: February 14th: Reducing Challenging Behaviors in Toddlers

Class Times: 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Registration: https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0VpZf3ks77yZZGu

For more information, contact Courtney Aldrich, aldric82@msu.edu



Online Self-Paced Classes

These free online classes can be completed on your own at your own pace.

Positive Discipline

Helping young children learn self-control is important to their ability to be successful citizens now and in the future. Positive Discipline workshops help adults learn how their role in creating appropriate environments and experiences can strengthen that development. This class has a “parent and caregiver” track and a “professional” track. Certificates of attendance are available for all who take the class and professional development training hours are available for early childhood professionals. Credit in the MiRegistry system is available.

Registration: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/courses/positive-discipline-online-course>

For more information contact Courtney Aldrich at aldric82@msu.edu

Infant Safety

MSU Extension has partnered with the Livingston County Child Abuse Prevention Council to create a self-directed online infant safety course called “Sleeping, Crying, Driving.” This three part course contains videos and interactive content on infant safe sleep, how to handle extended infant crying and guidelines for transporting your child safely. A certificate of completion is available for those who need proof of attendance.

Registration:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/early_childhood_development/infant-safety/

MI Parenting Resource

This free, online program is meant to support caregivers across the state in strengthening their parent-child relationships and gaining new tools for enhancing positive child behaviors.

Registration: <https://miparentingresource.org/>

For more information contact Courtney Aldrich at aldric82@msu.edu

