



MAY 2023

4-H Family News

Calhoun County



Notes from the Program Coordinator

You may have noticed that the newsletter is a little later this month than normal – I spent last week at my first CYI Spring Meeting. I was able to meet 4-H Program Coordinators from all over the state, got lots of training, and was able to see beautiful Lake Michigan!

Congratulations to all of our Seniors! We have 26 members graduating high school this year from schools all over the county.

Exploration Days Orientation: For those who are attending Exploration Days, please plan on attending orientation on May 22nd at 6:30 p.m. at the Fredonia Township Hall. I will be sending an email reminder as well.

Fair Updates: Registration is due by June 14th. Please reach out to your club leaders with any questions about that process.

Avian Flu Update –

Visit the links listed on page 2 for more updates and information about this biosecurity issue.



Meet Lucky Stars Leader Sandy Howard

Sandy Howard has been a 4-H leader for 38 years. Her involvement came through meeting a 4-H Lucky Stars leaders at her children's school when they were young. Her daughter loved horses and started a 4-H club called the "Stable Mates."

Later, Sandy became a leader of Lucky Stars and took over the running of the club when the previous leader retired. She has gained patience working with kids and more about crafts during her years of leadership.

While Sandy may not have grown up in 4-H, as she watched her kids grow and learn she quickly learned its value. She explained, "It's a very good program for teaching kids' responsibility, having fun, and making new friends."

When they grew up, Sandy stuck with it! She said, "When my daughter got married and pregnant, I couldn't give it up because I wanted my grandkids to be in it."

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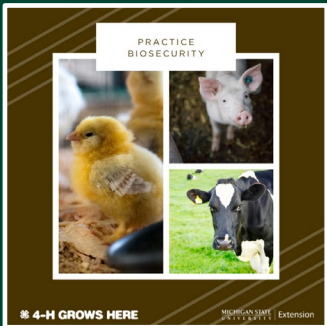
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STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Livestock and 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/

May 5 – June 1

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!

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-alumni-and-supporters-walking-challenge

May 13: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar - Preparing 4-H'ers for Fairs and Showcases

Online

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.

- 12 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-preparing-4-hers-for-fairs-and-showcases
- 7 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-preparing-4-hers-for-fairs-and-showcases7pm

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.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/credit

May 22: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar - Managing Risk for Volunteers

Online

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.

- 12 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-managing-risk-for-volunteers
- 7 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-managing-risk-for-volunteers7pm





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

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.



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.

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