



JULY 2026

4-H Family News



Charlevoix County

Summer is finally HERE

Welcome to July! Summer is in full swing, bringing sunshine, outdoor adventures, county fairs, and plenty of opportunities to make lasting memories with family and friends. As you enjoy everything the season has to offer, remember to make safety a priority. Protect yourself from the summer sun by wearing sunscreen, staying hydrated, seeking shade during the hottest parts of the day, and wearing a hat when you're outdoors. If you're spending time at the beach, lake, or pool, always practice water safety by swimming with a buddy, following posted rules, wearing a properly fitted life jacket when boating or participating in water sports, and keeping a close eye on children near the water. We hope your July is filled with fun, learning, and safe adventures. Thank you for being part of our amazing 4-H family—we can't wait to see all the great things our 4-H members accomplish this summer!

IMPORTANT JULY DATES:

- Charlevoix 4-H Council Meeting** –2:00pm.....Date: 07-19-2026
At Boyne City – Veteran's Park Pavilion
- Emmet-Charlevoix Market Livestock Meeting** –7:00pm.....Date: 07-20-2026
At Emmet County Fair Grounds – Community Center
- Emmet-Charlevoix Horse Council Meeting** –7:00pm.....Date: 07-16-2026
At Emmet County Fair Grounds – Equestrian Center

- **Market Livestock Small Animal (Chicken) Contracts Due -**
Monday, July 20, 2026
- **Fair Registration Deadline:** Monday, July 20, 2026
o <https://www.fairentry.com/Fair/SignIn/24270>
- **Boyne Area 4-H Swim School: Pre Lake Swim -** Friday, July 31, 2026 @ 10:00 a.m.
- **Boyne Area 4-H Swim School: Annual Lake Swim** from Young State Park to Whiting Park – Friday, August 7, 2026 @ 8:30a.m.

CONTACT US

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STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*Preparing youth to
be Beyond Ready
through the fair
experience*



Beyond Ready

The fair experience is more than a showcase; it's a powerful opportunity to prepare youth to be Beyond Ready for life. Through exhibiting their projects, interacting with judges and engaging with the public, young people practice real-world skills such as communication, responsibility, problem-solving and professionalism.

When volunteers create intentional learning moments, like encouraging youth to reflect on project growth, prepare for interviews or take leadership roles in their clubs, youth deepen their understanding and strengthen skills that extend far beyond the fairgrounds. Every fair interaction becomes a stepping stone toward future readiness.

Is your club helping youth make those connections and see how fair experiences prepare them for what comes next?

#BeyondReady

July 13-15: Michigan 4-H Dairy Days

Farm Bureau Pavilion, Lansing

Join 4-H members from around Michigan July 13-15 at the Farm Bureau Pavilion for Michigan 4-H Youth Dairy Days! Dairy Days is part of Michigan Dairy Expo, a celebration of dairy farmers and dairy cattle in the Great Lakes State.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/2026-michigan-4-h-youth-dairy-days

July 16: Water Day

Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens, East Lansing

Come cool off from the summer heat and have fun in the garden with water. Play water games, do water art and explore all things fun about water. Come ready to get wet!

www.canr.msu.edu/events/water-day

July 20-21: Saginaw Bay Fish Camp

Haithco Park, Saginaw

This two-day camp will teach youth to fish and protect our Great Lakes. All campers receive a fishing rod with a reel, tackle box, t-shirt and snacks. Learn about knot-tying, tackle crafting, casting, aquatic ecology, angler ethics and more! Open to 4-H members ages 8-13. Registration deadline is July 10.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/2026-saginaw-bay-4-h-fish-camp

July 23: Bug Day at the Children's Gardens

Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens, East Lansing

Join for a tribute to insects in the gardens. Collect, observe and even make bugs! The MSU Bug House will also be on site with their collections of insects from all over the world.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/bug-day

July 27: 4-H Garden Adventures Summer Camp

Online

Youth ages 7-12- are invited to join this camp for fun adventures in nature, nurturing resilience, kindness, community and creativity as they explore sustainability and growth through an engaging, hands-on approach.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-garden-adventures-summer-camp-2026

July 30: Bubble Day at the Children's Gardens

Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens, East Lansing

Come celebrate summer vacation at the garden with bubbles! Youth will paint, eat and even make music with bubbles.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/bubble-day





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Join the Michigan State Fair 4-H & Youth Virtual Showcase!

MSU Extension is thrilled to partner again in 2026 with the [Michigan State Fair](#) on an exciting program for Michigan youth: the Michigan State Fair 4-H & Youth Virtual Showcase. This statewide showcase provides a virtual platform for youth across Michigan to exhibit their work in all project areas and apply for up to \$1,000 in scholarships. Any Michigan youth ages 5-19 is encouraged to participate; 4-H membership is not required.

There is no cost to participate and youth may engage in as many classes as they wish by [submitting project photos and videos](#). **Be sure to submit your entries by the registration deadline of August 7 at 5 p.m.** Project evaluation will occur before the start of the Michigan State Fair so that winners can be announced at the event. Learn more, find helpful resources and registration links at www.canr.msu.edu/virtual-showcase/State-Fair-Virtual-Showcase/.



2026 MSF 4-H & Youth Showcase Business Pitch Contest

Got a business idea? Whether your business is already running, just getting started or still an idea, we want to hear your pitch! Enter the Michigan State Fair 4-H & Youth Virtual Showcase and share your entrepreneurial skills in a two-minute video!

Entries will be judged on creativity, communication, understanding of the target audience, and overall presentation skills. Winners in each age division will receive gift card prizes (\$75, \$50, \$25) sponsored by Michigan State University Federal Credit Union and be recognized through Michigan 4-H communications and social media. For more information, visit Department 73 of the fair book at www.canr.msu.edu/virtual-showcase/State-Fair-Virtual-Showcase/.

2026 MSF 4-H & Youth Showcase Michigan 4-H License Plate Promotion Contest

Michigan youth ages 8–19 are invited to enter the Michigan 4-H License Plate Promotion Contest as part of the Michigan State Fair 4-H & Youth Virtual Showcase! Create a short video and/or design a poster, flyer or graphic that encourages others to purchase the Michigan 4-H license plate and you could win. Prizes will be awarded and winners will be featured on Michigan 4-H social media channels. Put your creativity to work and help spread the word about 4-H across Michigan! For more information, visit Department 73 of the fair book at: www.canr.msu.edu/virtual-showcase/State-Fair-Virtual-Showcase/.

New scholarships for Michigan 4-H'ers!

The Michigan 4-H Foundation is pleased to offer new scholarship opportunities to Michigan 4-H members for fall 2026. Nearly \$30,000 in post-secondary 4-H scholarships are available for the 2026–2027 academic year to high school seniors or incoming college freshmen. Youth must have participated in 4-H for three or more years.

These scholarships are made possible through generous support from 4-H alumni, retirees and friends of 4-H. Apply by September 1 at mi4hfdtn.org/scholarship.





COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Take A Day On! 4-H Community Service on Beaver Island

What an incredible day on Beaver Island! A huge congratulations to our amazing 4-H'ers for their hard work, positive attitudes, and commitment to giving back to their community.

From fun icebreaker activities aboard the Emerald Isle Ferry to the breathtaking views that greeted us on our morning ride, the day was filled with memories from the very beginning.

Once on the island, we learned about the important work of the Beaver Island Food Pantry and the Beaver Island Community Center and the vital role they play in serving island residents. Our 4-H members proudly rolled up their sleeves and got to work by:

- 🍀 Stacking and organizing donated food items collected for the food pantry
- 🍀 Completing yard work at the library
- 🍀 Creating Fourth of July decorations
- 🍀 Sprucing up the front of the Community Center
- 🍀 Folding and sorting bins of table linens

After a job well done, we enjoyed exploring the Print Shop Museum, the Toy Museum, and McDonough's, making time to learn more about the rich history and charm of Beaver Island.

A heartfelt thank you goes to:

- ♥ The Community Center for providing a delicious lunch
- ♥ McDonough's for treating us to dinner
- ♥ Beaver Island Boat Company for helping with our ferry tickets
- ♥ Our generous private shirt donor and snack donor for making our day even more special
- ♥ Our wonderful 4-H parents who attended and joined us throughout the day. Your encouragement, willingness to lend a hand, and support of our youth helped make this experience even more meaningful. We appreciate the time you invested in creating memories and serving alongside our 4-H'ers.

Most importantly, thank you to our outstanding 4-H youth. You demonstrated what 4-H is all about—learning by doing, serving others, building friendships, and making a positive difference in your community.

The 4-H pledge reminds us to use our hands for larger service, and you lived those words. By giving back, working together, and embracing new experiences, you truly embodied the 4-H motto: "To Make the Best Better."

We had an amazing time learning about our fellow 4-H'ers, discovering a remarkable island community right here in Charlevoix County, and proving that even a single day of service can leave a lasting impact.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this adventure possible! 🍀 ♥





COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Boyne Area 4-H Soccer – Needs YOU!

We need volunteers to fill these critical roles by AUGUST 1, 2026 to have a fall season, please consider volunteering so our kids can play!

The Boyne Area 4-H Soccer Program is gearing up for another exciting fall season, but we need the support of our community to make it happen. Without enough volunteers, the Fall 2026 soccer season may not be possible. The season is scheduled to run from September 8 through October 15, 2026, with practices and games taking place on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. at Rotary Park in Boyne City.

The Boyne Area 4-H Soccer Program provides local youth with opportunities to stay active, build confidence, learn sportsmanship, and make lasting friendships. This program means so much to our kids and community, and it simply cannot continue without caring volunteers willing to lend a hand. Whether you can give a little time or a lot, every volunteer makes a difference. If you have ever considered getting involved, now is the perfect time to step up and help ensure our youth have the soccer season they are excited for. To become a GOLD volunteer, apply here:

https://msu.samaritan.com/custom/502/volunteer_home

Let's make sure our kids get the season they're excited for!

Looking for
VOLUNTEERS
FOR FALL 2026 SEASON!

WE NEED HELPING HANDS!

-  **FIELD MANAGERS (PAINT LINES)**
-  **PROGRAM MANAGERS**
-  **COACHES**

PLEASE APPLY to be a GOLD VOLUNTEER!

APPLY HERE:
https://msu.samaritan.com/custom/502/volunteer_home

THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY!



COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Charlevoix County 4-Her's attend MSU 4-H Exploration Days 2026



4-H Exploration Days at MSU is in the books, and our Charlevoix County 4-H members had an amazing time!

From exploring the Michigan State University campus and meeting new friends from across the state to diving into hands-on learning career session tracks, our youth are making memories, building confidence, and trying new things every step of the way.

We're so proud of our Charlevoix County 4-H members for stepping outside their comfort zones, representing our county, and embracing every opportunity that 4-H Exploration Days has to offer.

COUNTY 4-H NEWS

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!
PLEASE COMPLETE THE SURVEY'S THAT APPLY TO YOU!

Emmet-Charlevoix 4-H Market Livestock Survey

Youth form- <https://forms.gle/dTezL9oinRSXkaSV9>

Adult form- <https://forms.gle/JNoeApWyhsVGxaBP8>



Emmet-Charlevoix 4-H Horse Council Survey

Youth Survey- <https://forms.gle/SNKRJ1WhAvK84qGZ7>

Adult Survey- <https://forms.gle/VPpocuEaKUNNJciC8>



COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2026 Charlevoix County 4-H Tennis Clinic



You're All Invited to
HIT The Courts!



JUNE CLINIC

AUGUST CLINIC

Dates: June 22-26, 2026

Dates: August 3-7, 2026

Session 1: 9:00 - 10:30 am

Session 3: 9:00 - 10:30 am



This session is for ages 5-13 and for players who have had tennis experience & want to play more competitively.

This session is ideally for ages 5-13 and for players wanting to learn the game & play fun drills.

Done

Rotary Park in Boyne City
All classes are designed to have fun & help players learn to love the sport!

Session 2: 10:30 am - 12:00pm
This session is ideally for ages 8-16 and for players who have had tennis experience & want to play more competitively.

Session 4: 10:30 am - 12:00pm

This session is ideally for ages 8-16 and for players who have had tennis experience & want to play more competitively.

Tennis Sessions

Registration fee per session
\$65.00

Meet Our Instructor!
Susan Lahti

Scholarships are available upon request.

She played tennis for Michigan Tech & has been teaching 4-H for 21 years and plays competitively for the USTA.

If you have questions or for weather cancellations, please contact:

Program Leader: Susan Lahti
(231) 313-6968
OR

Leah LaVanway: 4-H Coordinator

319 B North Lake Street
Boyne City, MI 49712
Phone: 231-582-6232
Fax: 231-582-2831
Email: ljl4211@msu.edu

Checks made payable to:
Charlevoix Community 4-H Tennis





COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Emmet-Charlevoix 4-H Horse Council

Presents



Kickin' Up Dust

Twilight Horse Show Summer Series

May 31- Ranch Riding at 2pm
Intro to ranch riding clinic 11-1pm

June 28 - Speed at 2pm

July 19- Speed at 2pm

August 9- Dressage at 2pm (English or Western)
Intro to dressage clinic 11-1pm

September 20- Speed at 2pm

Emmet County Fairgrounds

4-H Member: \$15

Non 4-H-Member: \$20

Questions? Call Amanda at (231)439-8974



COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

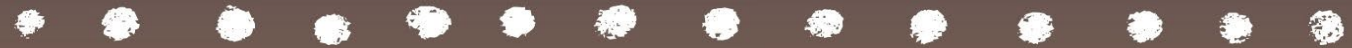


2026 MICHIGAN 4-H STATE HORSE SHOW

Thursday, August 13: Ranch Day
Friday, August 14: Gymkhana and Mini Day
Saturday, August 15: Senior Day
Sunday, August 16: Junior Day

August 13 to August 16, 2026

Registration opens on June 1, 2026



ALL counties must have their COMPLETE volunteer quota before they receive the registration link!

Questions?

Reach out to David at lindsa75@msu.edu



**Beyond
Ready**

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COUNTY 4-H NEWS

2026 Michigan State Fair 4-H and Youth Virtual Showcase



Prepare for the Michigan 4-H and Youth State Fair Virtual Showcase

WHAT IS THE VIRTUAL SHOWCASE?

The Michigan 4-H and Youth State Fair Virtual Showcase provides a virtual platform for youth across Michigan to exhibit their work in all project areas, receive feedback, and if age-eligible, apply for a scholarship of up to \$1,000 for post-secondary education. The Virtual Showcase is open for entries in late spring through the beginning of August and is free for youth, ages 5-19 years old, to enter.

HOW TO PREPARE

To avoid last-minute stress and ensure your project shines, here are some helpful tips to let you prepare now for your entry:

- Review the guidelines for your [department](#) and confirm what is required for judging. Make a checklist of materials, photos, and documentation you'll need.
- Take high-quality photos and write descriptions before it's consumed or goes bad. Capture multiple angles and include any details that show your skills and effort.
- Take a photo of you, the exhibitor, with your project.
- Videos should be no longer than 90 seconds and continuous in nature. Use multiple angles for your video depending on requirements. Upload onto YouTube set to unlisted.
- Upload photos and descriptions to a safe place as soon as possible so you're ready when registration opens.
- If you're unsure about requirements, reach out to find out more now—don't wait until the deadline.

Contact:

Janelle Stewart,
stewa191@msu.edu

Laurie Rivetto,
rivettoL@msu.edu



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More information at: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/virtual-showcase/State-Fair-Virtual-Showcase/> or <https://bit.ly/4idDMHG>





COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS



2026 EMMET-CHARLEVOIX COUNTY FAIR CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

	SUNDAY AUGUST 23	MONDAY AUGUST 24	TUESDAY AUGUST 25	WEDNESDAY AUGUST 26	THURSDAY AUGUST 27	FRIDAY AUGUST 28
FRIDAY AUGUST 21	7:00 am - 12:00 pm Livestock Animals Arrive	4-H Horse Shows Showmanship ~ 10:00 am	Poultry Shows 9:00 am 1st - 4-H Market Livestock 2nd - 4-H Cloverbud Show 3rd - 4-H Animal Husbandry Show 4th - Open Class Show	Rabbit Shows 9:00 am 1st - 4-H Market Livestock 2nd - 4-H Cloverbud Show 3rd - 4-H Animal Husbandry Show 4th - Open Class Show - Barn 1 -	4-H Horse Shows 9:00 am Bareback & English	4-H Horse Show 9:00 am Western
4:00 - 7:00 pm 4-H Still Projects Drop Off & Judging	9:00 am - 12:00 pm Small Animals Arrive	 Trail - 1:00 PM - Horse Arena -	 - Barn 1 -	Following Rabbit Show Pocket Pet Shows 1st - 4-H Cloverbud Show 2nd - 4-H Animal Husbandry Show 3rd - Open Class Show - Barn 1 -	 - Horse Arena -	 - Horse Arena - 4-H Overall Master Showman Show 2:00 pm - All Barns -
9:00 - 11:30 am Pullorum Testing for all Poultry (just outside of the small animal barn - # 1)	12:00 - 6:00 pm All Horses & Exotics Arrive	AH & Open Swine Shows 4:00 pm	Following Poultry Show Waterfowl Shows 1st - 4-H Market Livestock 2nd - 4-H Cloverbud Show 3rd - 4-H Animal Husbandry Show 4th - Open Class Show	4-H Horse Show Ranch Riding - 9:00 am	3:00 - 6:00 pm 50th Annual 4-H Market Livestock Auction	SATURDAY AUGUST 29
In Barn #2	MKT Livestock Meeting in the T-Barn Time TBD after weigh-in is complete (typically around 1 pm)	1st - 4-H Cloverbud Show 2nd - 4-H Animal Husbandry Show 3rd - Open Class Show	4-H Horse Shows Dressage - 9:00 am	4-H Exotic Animal Shows 1:00 pm Obstacle Course - Horse Arena -	Sale Order Large Beef Chickens Swine Duck Lamb Rabbit Goat Geese Jr. Beef Turkey Dairy Feeder	4-H Horse Show 9:00 am Costume
SATURDAY AUGUST 22	9:00 am - 11:00 am 4-H Still Projects Drop Off & Judging	 - T-Barn ~	Speed - 4:00 pm - Horse Arena -	AH & Open Goat Shows 5:00 pm	ALL Market Livestock members please meet in the T-Barn immediately following the livestock auction	SUNDAY AUGUST 30
12:00 - 6:00 pm 4-H Club Booths Set Up in Barn #2	2:00 to 6:00 pm MKT Record Books Checked In & Judged in Barn #2	4-H Market Livestock Swine Show 6:00 pm	AH & Open Lamb Shows 1st - 4-H Cloverbud Show 2nd - 4-H Animal Husbandry Show 3rd - Open Class Show	AH & Open Beef & Dairy Shows 4:00 pm 1st - 4-H Cloverbud Show 2nd - 4-H Animal Husbandry Show 3rd - Open Class Show	~ T-Barn ~	T-BARN: 7:00 am - 10:00 am - Animals Released By 10:00 am - T-Barn Cleaned
6:00 pm Barn #2 Closed	6:00 pm ALL Barns Closed	 - T-Barn ~	4-H Market Livestock Goat Show 5:30 pm	4-H Market Livestock Dairy Feeder & Jr. Beef Show	~ T-Barn ~	SMALL ANIMAL BARN 7:00 am - 10:00 am - Animals Released By 12:00 pm - Barn Cleaned
1:00 - 6:00 pm 4-H Club Booths Set Up in Barn #2		4-H Horse Show 7:00 pm Jumping	4-H Market Livestock Lamb Show 6:00 pm	4-H Market Livestock Large Beef Show 6:00 pm		HORSE BARNs: 7:00 am - 10 :00am - Animals Released By 12:00 pm - All Barns Cleaned
		 - Horse Arena -	 - T-Barn ~	 - T-Barn ~		BARN #2 PICK UP YOUR 4-H STILLEXHIBITS 7:00 am - 12:00 pm! Exhibits not picked up by 12:00 pm on Sunday, will be available at the MSUE offices, but only until the end of September, when they will be recycled or disposed of.



COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS



2025-2026

Charlevoix 4-H Council Meeting Dates

Every 1st Monday of the month unless it falls on a holiday week at Boyne City - City Hall in the Commission Chambers (2nd floor) or Zoom

Youth (8-19) are required to attend 2 council meetings & 1 Educational Event OR 3 Council meetings to be eligible to show at fair.

September 8, 2025 - BC City Hall - Commission Chambers 6:30 pm

October 26, 2025 - Sunday, 2:00 pm Awards Banquet @ Veteran's Park Pavilion

November 3, 2025 - Zoom 6:30 pm (*Leader In-service following mtg*)

**Hilltop Renegades*

December 14, 2025 - Sunday, 2:00 pm Holiday Party @ Veteran's Park Pavilion

**Mavericks & Charlevoix County Critter Club
(Responsible for Holiday Games & Activities)*

January 2026 - *NO MEETING*

February 2026 - *NO MEETING*

March 2, 2026 - Zoom 6:30 pm

**Jordan Valley All Breed Horse Craft & Critter Club*

April 2026 - *NO MEETING*

May 4, 2026 - BC City Hall - Commission Chambers 6:30 pm

**Maple River Hoof Prints*

June 1, 2026 - BC City Hall - Commission Chambers 6:30 pm

**Charlevoix County Creature Clan*

July 19, 2026 - Sunday, 2:00 pm Annual Picnic @ Veteran's Park Pavilion

**Country Kids*

August 2026 - *NO MEETING*

** 4-H club responsible for Education/Social Activity at meeting*



COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Emmet - Charlevoix 2025-2026

4-H Market Livestock Meeting Dates

**Every 3rd Monday of the month at 7:00pm at the
Community Center or T-Barn in Petoskey**

Youth (8-19) are required to attend 5 Market Livestock meetings, 2 work bees, 1 Fundraiser as needed by the association and actively participate on a committee to be eligible to show at fair.

Youth are required to be at October or November Meeting

Youth are required to be at July or August Meeting

September 28, 2025 (Sunday) - cookout at 4:00 pm, meeting at 6:00 pm October 20, 2025

October 20, 2025 - Review and approval of Bylaws, Rules, Enrollment & Contracts

November 17, 2025 - Enrollment Form & Large Beef Contracts Due

December 2025 - NO MEETING

January 19, 2026 - Held on Zoom (No in person meeting)

February 16, 2026 - Held on Zoom (No in person meeting)

March 16, 2026

April 20, 2026

May 18, 2026 - Dairy Feeder, Goat, Jr. Beef, Lamb & Swine Contracts Due

June 15, 2026 - Duck, Geese, Rabbit & Turkey Contracts Due

July 20, 2026 - Pre Fair Meeting, Fair Registration & Chicken Contracts Due

August 3, 2026 - Pre Fair Meeting

August 23, 2026 - Fair Animal Weigh-In from 7:00 - 12:00pm & meeting at 1:00pm



COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Emmet - Charlevoix 2025-2026

4-H Horse Council Meeting Dates

Every 3rd Thursday of the month (unless otherwise noted) at 7:00pm at the Equestrian Center or T-Barn in Petoskey

Youth (8-19) are required to:

- *Attend 3 horse council meetings with one of them being a pre-fair meeting in July or August*
- *Participate in 1 fundraiser*
- *Attend 1 Horse Sponsored clinic/show/club ride*
- *Complete a horse record book*

***Cloverbuds (youth 5-7) are strongly encouraged to attend meetings but MUST attend one pre-fair meeting in July or August & complete a cloverbud horse record book*

September 18, 2025

October 16, 2025

November 2025 - NO MEETING

December 2025 - NO MEETING

January 2026 - NO MEETING

February 19, 2026

March 19, 2026

April 16, 2026

May 1, 2026 (Friday) - *Horse Membership Form Due

May 21, 2026

June 18, 2026

July 16, 2026 - Pre-Fair Meeting *Horse Registration Form Due

July 20, 2026 (Monday) - *Fair Registrations Due in Fair Entry

August 6, 2026 - Pre-Fair Meeting