

Clare County 4-H

Family News



IMPORTANT DATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

RE-ENROLLMENT DEADLINE!

All returning members must re-enroll for the new 4-H year by going to [4-H Online](#) by December 1st

Join Us at the 4-H Holiday Craft Day

Saturday, December 2 from 1 PM to 4 PM

Join us at the Outback Room
Jay's Sporting Goods
8800 S Clare Ave. Clare, MI

Bring 4-H Fun to Fair Week!

Join the Clare County 4-H PLANiT Squad

In past years the 4-H Youth Leadership Council hosted fun and exciting activities at fair. **The group is no longer active.**

Join Us and Let's Bring 4-H Fun to Fair Week!

[LEARN HOW TO HELP BRING THE FUN](#)

Virtual 4-H Council Meeting Wednesday, December 6th

Our 4-H Council is the backbone to program. The council and committees are ran by volunteers. All are welcome. We would love to see you there! Join Us at Our Virtual Meeting on 12/6 at 6:00 PM

[LINK TO ZOOM MEETING](#)

Local 4-H Youth Leadership Opportunities

Did you know that you can become a 4-H Ambassador?

Elevate your leadership skills to a new level!

[APPLY TO BE A 4-H AMBASSADOR TODAY](#)

Clare County 4-H Council Needs New Youth Vice President

Are you ready to learn how to participate in professional meetings?

[TALK TO MIRANDA - SEE CONTACT INFO](#) →

CONTACT US

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DECEMBER

Friday, December 1

4-H Re-Enrollment Deadline

Re-Enroll on [4-H Online](#)

Friday, December 1

2024 Clare County Fair Entry Forms Due

Due to the Clare County Fair Office - Email / Drop Off

Saturday, December 2 - 9 AM to 11 AM

Beef Weigh In

William Warner Farm, 10590 E Monroe Rd. Gladwin, MI

Saturday, December 2 - 1 PM to 4 PM

4-H Holiday Craft Day

Jay's Sporting Goods in Clare, MI [Learn More](#)

Tuesday, December 5

Deadline for 4-H Expo Days Instructors

[Learn More](#)

Wednesday, December 6 - 6 PM

Virtual 4-H Council Meeting

[Link to Zoom Meeting](#)

Friday, December 8

Deadline for Apply for 4-H the 2024 Outbound Program

[Learn More](#) - For Michigan 4-H processing you *must* apply by December 8, 2023

Tuesday, December 12 - 6:30 PM

Virtual 4-H Wild Spartans Series

[Register Here](#)

OPPORTUNITY AT THE NORTHERN DISTRICT FAIR - CADILLAC

The Northern District Fair is open to all Michigan Residents. For youth to participate they *must* be part of a recognized youth organization. This is currently a small fair so it is a great opportunity for new families who do not want a lot of competition. NDF allows market projects at 4-H age 6 and beef at age 9.

[2024 Market Livestock Rules](#)[Market Livestock Registration](#)

SWINE DAY WORKSHOP - ALMA

Who Should Attend: Any youth ages 5 to 19 in any county may attend this workshop. Parents are also welcome to attend. Great for beginners and veteran showmen!

This event is an afternoon of swine presentations for youth looking to show pigs. The topics include:

Selecting your Show Pig Basic Pig Nutrition I Bought a Pig, Now What?!

February 18, 2024 - 1 PM to 4 PM

Registration Cost: \$10

Deadline: February 12, 2024

QUESTIONS?**CONTACT**

Kami Paksi

(989) 875-5234

REGISTER AT:bit.ly/3u23JoA

Casting for a Career in Coldwater Conservation with Jamie Vaughn The 4-H Wild Spartan Online Series



Join 4-H staff as we take a look into life working with fisheries and wildlife! This month's 4-H Wild Spartans Series will take a dive into the Great Lakes and rivers to explore their coldwater residents. Join us on Tuesday, December 12th, 2023 at 6:30pm EST for "Casting for a Career in Coldwater Conservation." You will meet the Great Lakes Engagement Coordinator for Trout Unlimited, Jamie Vaughn, learn about her field work, and the education and career path she followed to get there. Youth will be encouraged to ask questions to learn more through a live Q&A. This free series is open to 4-H and non-4-H youth ages 12-19 years. Monthly sessions will be held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm EST. Pre-registration is required: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/wildspartans20232024/>

Calling All Current and Potential Volunteers and Teen Leaders! 4-H Exploration Days Instructors Wanted! **Deadline to Apply - December 5th**



4-H Teen Leader, Gabby, leads her very own session on Astronomy to fellow 4-H Exploration Days participants. June, 2023.

Do you have a unique skill or interest you could share with the youth at 4-H Exploration Days? Instructors are a valuable resource for ensuring a wonderful experience for the youth that attend. If you are interested in being an instructor for 4-H Exploration Days, please fill out this [pdf](#) and email it to 4h.expodays@msu.edu. Your time and knowledge are valued and appreciated to make this a premiere event at Michigan State University!

What is 4-H Exploration Day All About?

About 1,000 youth (ages 12-19) and chaperones from across Michigan attend annually.

This fun MSU pre-college program could be the highlight of your summer - it could even change your life!

4-H Exploration Days registration goes from mid-March through April with session assignments made on a first-come, first-served basis. As you select your session choices, be sure to watch for age restrictions! **Age requirements for sessions are based on your age as of January 1.**



**4-H Exploration Days
June 19 - 21, 2024**

canr.msu.edu/4_h_exploration_days

**VIEW THE 4-H EXPLORATION DAYS
BROCHURE HERE**



MSU Extension

FESTIVE HOLIDAY

CRAFT

day

SPONSORED BY

THE CLARE COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL

DECEMBER 2, 2023 | 1 PM TO 4 PM

JOIN US AT THE OUTBACK ROOM

JAY'S SPORTING GOODS

8800 S CLARE AVE. CLARE, MI

PUBLIC WELCOME!

COME JOIN 4-H FAMILIES FROM ACROSS THE COUNTY TO HAVE FUN AND ENJOY SOME FAMILY TIME BEFORE THE HOLIDAY RUSH BEGINS! YOUTH WILL MAKE PROJECTS TO EXHIBIT AT THE 2024 CLARE COUNTY FAIR OR GIVE TO PARENTS, GRAND PARENTS, TEACHERS AND/OR SIBLINGS.

COST: A SUGGESTED DONATION OF \$5.00
PER CRAFTER TO COVER SUPPLIES

**REFRESHMENTS
WILL BE PROVIDED
NO RSVP REQUIRED**

ALL YOUTH MUST BE
ACCOMPANIED BY A
RESPONSIBLE ADULT OR TEEN

HOLIDAY CRAFTS:

Scarf Pillow, Bead Crafts
Owl Magnet, Book Mark
Gel Air Freshener
Clothes Pin Ornaments
Flower Pot Reindeer
Flower Pot Snowman

Culinary Adventures with Clare County 4-H

Written by Zoey C. Member of Hilltop 4-H Club and 4-H Cooking SPIN Club



Zoey C. cooking up something delicious in class!



Emily Waddell instructing the 4-H Cooking SPIN Club members at Arthur Center Church of God in Clare, MI



Every Saturday between October 21st and November 18th 4-H kids got together at the Arthur Center Church of God to learn new skills and knowledge in food safety, food preparation, and nutrition. Miss Emily Waddell taught us things from the basics like how important it is to wash our hands before and after handling food and how to use knives safely, all the way to reading a recipe, prepping the food, and cooking the dish. We all tried new foods that we had never had before like gouda cheese and chocolate covered pomegranate. Each Saturday we made at least one recipe from the 4-H Cooking 201 recipe book. We made:

- Veggie Pizza
- Baked Macaroni and Cheese
- Pumpkin Peanut Butter Dip
- Breakfast Burritos
- Glazed Carrot Coins
- Grilled Apple Cheese Sandwiches
- Oven French Fries
- and Fruit Pizza.

Even though not everyone loved every dish that we made or the other foods that we tried, we all learned to try new things and how to give feedback in a positive way.

I loved the SPIN club and everyone involved made it so much fun! I can't wait to use my new cooking skills for my family and friends!

By Zoey C.

canr.msu.edu/clare/clare_county_4_h/special_interest_programs

**LEARN HOW TO LAUNCH
YOUR OWN SPIN CLUB!**

Winners of the Clare County 2023 4-H Flowerpot Contest!

Every summer during the Clare County Fair, 4-H hosts their Flowerpot Contest. The event, open to both youth and adults, transforms ordinary flower pots into stunning works of art. **This year's winners are:**

Grace T.
Busy Bunny Raisers
Category:
 Youth - 7" and larger pot
FIRST PLACE



Lucy O.
Busy Bunny Raisers
Category:
 Youth - 6" and smaller pot
FIRST PLACE



Lena S.
Busy Bunny Raisers
Category:
 Youth - 6" and smaller pot
SECOND PLACE



Join in on some friendly competition! Learn about this and other 4-H contests:
canr.msu.edu/clare/clare_county_4_h/4h-contests

Your Chance to Win a \$100 Gift Card! Enter the 2024 Cash Competition Contest



The Michigan State University Extension 4-H Cash Composition Contest is back again this year- with a new deadline and expanded ages for entries! This year's contest is open to any youth residing in Michigan, ages 9-19 years old as of Jan 1, 2024.

Get started now on writing a short essay on budgeting to have a chance to win a \$100 gift card thanks to the generous sponsorship from [Extra Credit Union](#). Three winners in each age bracket (9-13, 14-19) will win! **The deadline to register and submit your essay is February 29, 2024.**

Contest details can be found here: canr.msu.edu/4-h-money-smarts/money-smart-kids-contest

Budgeting Doesn't Have to be Scary! Use These Sources to Help You:

Spartan Dollars and Cents: Realistic Budget Simulator

canr.msu.edu/resources/spartan-dollars-and-cents-budget-simulation

Self-Guided Course on Budgeting

canr.msu.edu/courses/4-hbudgeting

Clover Cents - Short Videos on Finance

canr.msu.edu/youth_money_management/clover-cents



Grace T. (left) and Allison W. (right) leading with the 4-H Flag at the Clare Irish Festival 2023.

Apply to Become a 4-H Ambassador at Anytime This Year!

As a Clare County 4-H Ambassador, you'll have the opportunity to be a shining example of the positive impact 4-H has on our community. This is your chance to shine and make a real difference!

We invite you to become a Clare County 4-H Ambassador! The application window is now open year-round, allowing you the flexibility to apply at your convenience.

Ambassador Positions

Junior (4-H age 8 to 12)

Intermediate (4-H age 13 to 15)

Senior (4-H age 16 - 19)

Apply for the Clare County 4-H Ambassador

Access the application here:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/clare/uploads/files/4-H%20Ambassador%20Application%20Packet.pdf>



Linde D. (left) and Jane K. (right) leading pledges during the Clare County Fair 2023

Did you know? Multiple 4-H Ambassador Programs are available at the state and national levels! To learn more about these leadership opportunities go to:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-ambassadors/>

4-H Higher Education Scholarship 2023-2024 High School Seniors



The Clare County 4-H Council offers a \$500 scholarship to 3 seniors each year. **Don't hesitate! See what the requirements are before it's too late to apply.**

To learn more about how you can be eligible go to:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/clare/clare_county_4_h/grant-and-scholarship-applications

4-H Youth Make a Difference! Join Us at the First 4-H PLANit Squad Meeting!

Are you a young go-getter, brimming with fresh ideas and a passion for making things happen? If you're ready to take the reins and shape the future while having a blast, then the 4-H Planit Squad is calling your name! **Get ready to embark on an exciting journey where you become the leader, the visionary, and the planner of it all.**

Fun, Educational, and Youth-Led

Imagine being the driving force behind an array of engaging, fun, and educational activities through the year. The 4-H Planit Squad isn't just another club; it's your chance to design and execute events that cater to your interests, making a difference in your community while having an absolute blast.

Open to ages 5 to 19. [Learn more here!](#)

Come to the first meeting! Wednesday, January 24, 2024 - 6 PM - Pere Marquette District Library in Clare, MI



STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

MSU Extension announces statewide public listening sessions

Adapted from: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/msu-extension-announces-statewide-public-listening-sessions-in-november-and-december>.

Whether it's supporting the dedicated professionals who drive the state's agriculture economy or empowering children to develop leadership skills, helping others is central to the mission of Michigan State University Extension, the community outreach arm of the university.

"Service is at the core of who we are," said Quentin Tyler, director of MSU Extension. "As we think strategically about our organization, we value input from those we serve most of all."

With that in mind, MSU Extension is holding a series of public listening sessions at various locations across the state as part of an ongoing strategic direction process. These sessions will begin in late November and continue through mid-December.

Through these sessions, the organization hopes to gather input from a diverse group of people to determine where MSU Extension is, what is working well and opportunities for improvement. This feedback will be used to help shape MSU Extension's priorities and service for years to come.

Each listening session will begin with a welcome from MSU Extension leadership and staff. Then, participants will be divided into two groups – external participants and partners will gather in one room, and MSU Extension faculty and staff will gather in another. In each of these rooms, participants will be invited to share their perspectives and insights through a series of facilitated activities. Questions will center on topics such as: emerging social, economic, and other trends that participants expect will impact them in the future; what participants know MSU Extension for; what participants believe MSU Extension does well, and what they think can be improved; and what participants envision a thriving MSU Extension would look like in the future. Common themes heard from participants will be identified and reflected to the entire group for each activity.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend – youth, parents, community and statewide partners, all MSU Extension-affiliated faculty and staff, and curious community members. Translation and interpretation services, as well as other accommodations, may be available upon request.

Listening Session Locations and Dates:

- **Nov. 28** - Detroit - 1-3:30 p.m. - MSU Detroit Center
- **Nov. 28** - Troy - 6-8:30 p.m. - Troy Continuing Education Building
- **Nov. 29** - East Lansing - For public attendees only, 9-11:30 a.m. - Hannah Community Center
- **Nov. 29** - East Lansing - For MSU Affiliated Staff only, 1-3:30 p.m. - MSU Campus, Conservatory
- **Dec. 11** - Marquette - 4-6:30 p.m. - Northern Center, Northern Michigan University
- **Dec. 12 - Grayling** - 4-6:30 p.m. - Kirtland College Event Center
- **Dec. 13 - Frankenmuth** - 4:30-7 p.m. - Saginaw Valley Research and Extension Center
- **Dec. 14 - Muskegon** - 4-6:30 p.m. - Muskegon Community College
- **Dec. 18 - Kalamazoo** - 4-6:30 p.m. – Delta Hotels Kalamazoo Conference Center

Pre-registration is highly encouraged. Walk-in registrations may be limited due to facility capacity. Register now at events.anr.msu.edu/listeningseries. Questions? Contact Kathy Walicki at walicki@msu.edu or Marie Garcia at garci434@msu.edu.

