

April 2020, Update #1, sent on 4/2/2020:

As changes continue in society due to novel coronavirus, the Eaton County 4-H program is not going to be sending out monthly newsletters. Instead, we will continue to send out email digests with information as needed in order to quickly get you the information you need. Thank you for your continued flexibility and patience in working through changes in our 4-H program.

As a reminder, all in-person 4-H meetings, programs, and events through May 15 are to be postponed, rescheduled, moved to video conference, or canceled.

Does your teen have their own email address? You can add it into their 4HOnline profile so they receive emails as well! This builds responsibility and personal accountability. To do this, log into your 4HOnline account. On the family screen, scroll down to the blue chart and click Edit in the row with the youth's name. In the email line on the page that appears, change to the youth's email. Scroll to the bottom and click continue, then exit out. Both that email and the email associated with the login will receive emails from 4HOnline. If you need help with this, contact me!

Eaton County 4-H meetings and events:

**Please note: We are attempting to keep the Events Calendar as up to date as possible at: https://www.canr.msu.edu/eaton/eaton_county_4_h/4_h_events_calendar.

- **Tomorrow is the last day to join the county virtual scavenger hunt!** Are you at home and bored? We have a challenge for you! Eaton County 4-H is launching it's first virtual scavenger hunt, with PRIZES! The hunt goes until April 9 using the GooseChase app. Make sure to pre-register to get the game code! You can still register through 4/3 to participate in the scavenger hunt! Pre-register at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/eatoncountygoosechasegame1/>.
- **NEW Virtual Fireside Chat for Volunteers** on Tuesday, April 7 at 6:00 p.m. Join the meeting: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/974419961>. Missing the in-person connections from 4-H meetings? Wondering how you can support 4-H youth during this time? Just need a place to chat, vent, share ideas? Pull up a comfy chair to your computer or phone and get cozy at our first ever virtual fireside chat. There will be a few ideas and tips for running virtual meetings shared, but overall this will be an unstructured time for volunteers to chat and connect virtually.
- **NEW Photography Club**, Tuesdays & Thursdays, 3pm - 4pm, April 14, 16, 21, 23, 28, & 30 via Zoom and GooseChase. Do you love taking photos and want to learn more? Join the Online 4-H SPIN Club all about Photography! Club Members will learn the basics of photography through different hands-on activities in the comfort of your home. This club is free for anyone who wants

to expand their photography skills! The first meeting will be on April 14 at 3 PM. To register for the club, please visit t.ly/6X1xP. The link to the zoom meeting will be emailed to those who register. If you have any questions, please contact Rachel (ochylski@msu.edu).

- Spring Leader Update Meeting on Monday, 4/27, at 6pm, moved to video conference. Join the meeting on 4/27 at 6pm by clicking this link: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/669807625> All clubs must send at least one registered volunteer to this meeting. The meeting will go over 4-H updates, fair information, and sign-ups for Food Shack, 4-H Information Booth (grey building), and fairground clean-up shifts. It is highly important that someone from each club attends. If nobody from your club can make the meeting, the club administrative leader is responsible for contacting me to meet via video conference by Friday, May 1.
- Jr Livestock Association April meeting and buyer's workshop RESCHEDULED - to end of May, exact date TBD.
- Small Animal Association May meeting and buyer's workshop RESCHEDULED - to end of May, exact date TBD.
- The JLA/SAA Sale information, including buyer's brochures, proxy and premium forms, letters, and help shift information will be posted on the website and sent out as available.
- 4-H Council meeting on Monday, 5/4, moved to video conference. Join the meeting on 5/4 at 7pm by clicking this link: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/429657657>
- **NEW** DIY Spa Products SPIN Club at Grand Ledge District Library, Mondays, May 18 & June 1 from 6pm - 7pm; June 8, 15, 22, & 29 from 3pm - 4pm. Students 9-13 are invited to join us as we learn how to use botanicals to make all-natural skin care products. We will introduce the basics of plant science, stress management and entrepreneurship through interactive activities. Students will learn how to use the power of plants to make their own bath bombs, sugar scrubs, lip balms and more! Given the current concerns about novel coronavirus, we are prepared to offer some, or all the meetings virtually should the need arise. We will make arrangements with those registered if this occurs. Reserve your spot by contacting Rachel at the Eaton County MSU Extension office (517) 543-2310 or ochylski@msu.edu.
- **NEW** Gardening SPIN Club at Charlotte Community Library, Fridays, 4:15 - 5:15pm, May 21 & 28, June 4, 11, 18, & 25. Do you love to garden? Are you interested in understanding what plants need to grow, and why? Join the 4-H Gardening SPIN club! We'll cover plant science, nutrition, fresh food preparation, and more! Youth that attend each meeting and participate in a service-learning project will receive a Junior Master Gardener certificate! Reserve your spot by contacting Rachel at the Eaton County MSU Extension office (517) 543-2310 or ochylski@msu.edu

Eaton County Fair information from fair board and superintendents:

- Next fair board meeting is 4/20 at 7pm. Likely to be virtual; more information sent when available.
- Make sure to like and follow Eaton County Fairgrounds on Facebook for information! <https://www.facebook.com/EatonCountyFairgrounds/>
- If you are wondering about fair, fair board shared this message on 3/23 on their Facebook page: The Eaton County Fair is currently set to proceed as planned and will continue to work with the appropriate authorities to produce a safe and healthy fair. As each day develops we all watch, learn, and attempt to adapt to a rapidly changing situation as new facts emerge daily. At this time, the Eaton County Fair is still over 100 days away. Safety is always the number one concern for all of us, and we will keep you posted with updates going forward.
- Swine Tagging: Information now posted at https://www.canr.msu.edu/eaton/eaton_county_4_h/eaton_county_fair. Form (fillable PDF) and initial photos due 4/30/2020.
- Dairy Feeder Tagging: If you have not picked up tags yet, please contact Doug Pennington at 517-243-0804 or Chris Langmaack at 517-204-3423 to arrange getting tags. To submit the form and photos, please email them to eatondairybeef@gmail.com. Copies of the form and instructions can be found at https://www.canr.msu.edu/eaton/eaton_county_4_h/eaton_county_fair.
- Sheep tagging: No weigh in this year. There is a tag in starting April 26 through May 10. Sheep leaders need to text Donyaellie Wheaton at 517-652-9772 and let her know how many tags you need. She will bag them up and put them on her deck for sheep leaders to pick up. Fair uses the Q-flex 1.2 tags; let Donyaellie know if you have a tagger. Then leaders need to text Donyaellie a list of tag numbers and members by May 11. Fair won't be weighing anything so there will not be a rate of gain class.

Other upcoming educational opportunities and new resources:

- Top 5 tips in keeping youth safe in virtual environments: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/top-5-tips-in-keeping-youth-safe-in-virtual-environments>
- Biosecurity at the dog show: Wondering how to keep you and your dog safe while attending dog shows this summer? Join us April 9th at lunch time to learn all about biosecurity at the dog show! Bring your furry friend with you to the meeting! Please share with your 4-H Dog Youth & Adults! Link to join in: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/282058887>
- Livestock Learning Series from Shiawassee County 4-H: We will cover many topics through out the next few weeks. Meetings will take place on Monday and Thursday at 7 p.m, starting April 9. You must pre-register for this event to

get the link to join on the meetings. We have some amazing guest speakers coming to talk including a staff from Sullivan's Supply, a Livestock Judging team coach, a board member from MJLS and many more! Check out this link for the schedule and

registration: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/OnlineLivestockLearning/>

- Virtual Interviewing Tips: Virtual interviewing is becoming common. Learn from MSU Extension about some tips and tricks to having a successful virtual interview. Tuesday, March 31st at 11:00 am and April 7th, at 1:30 pm. Here is the zoom link. <https://msu.zoom.us/j/9821196586>
- Capturing Our New Normal: A Michigan Teen Photo Project: Registration is open now through April 12, 2020. The project, open to all Michigan youth ages 13+, will bring together diverse teens from across the state to take photos and share their experiences with adjusting to life under the impact of the novel coronavirus. Learn more about the project, and complete a registration to participate at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/photovoice/>
- Rabbit/Cavy Showmanship Workshop, May 16, 2020, Clinton County Fairgrounds (will be moved virtual if needed). To register, go to <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/state-4-h-rabbit-and-cavy-showmanship-workshop>.
- World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute: Now an online educational experience. Register today, the event is May 7 via Zoom Conference. For more information, visit: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/wfpmyi/>

Previously shared resources:

- Wondering what other great learning opportunities are out there while you are home (for both youth and adults)?? Visit <https://www.canr.msu.edu/rlr/index> for all of Extension's possibilities!
- Ways 4-H volunteers can support youth when not in person <https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/ways-4-h-volunteers-can-support-youth-when-not-in-person>
- Managing stress and anxiety <https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/managing-stress-and-anxiety-during-the-novel-coronavirus-pandemic>
- 84 science lessons you can do at home: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/84-easy-science-lessons-you-can-do-at-home>
- Hub of resources from Washington State University Extension: <https://extension.wsu.edu/king/learning-links-4-h-and-more/>
- 4-H STEM Lab: <https://4-h.org/parents/stem-agriculture/youth-stem-activities/>
- Talking to children about the coronavirus: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/talking-to-your-children-about-the-coronavirus>

- Facilitating Distance Meetings with Youth: https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/facilitating_distance_meetings_with_youth
- Educational Resources: There are many free activities available for download from 4-H to keep learning and education going while schools are closed. These are available by age at: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/family/Educational-Resources-for-School-Closures/>

Email and our county Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/EatonCounty4H/>) will continue to be the main sources of information sent out from our county office. I highly recommend making sure you have liked the Facebook page and marked "See First" and "Notifications On" under the follow settings so that you see our posts (Facebook's algorithm sometimes does not show page posts in newsfeeds, so this is the best way to ensure you will see all posts)!

You may see many meetings or educational opportunities moved to video conference. The platform that MSU Extension uses is Zoom. You can join Zoom meetings from your computer or phone (via the app) using the specific links provided for the different opportunities. To download Zoom, visit <https://zoom.us/download>.

If you have questions or concerns regarding this matter, please contact me.

Thanks,

Kristy

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Pronouns: She, her, hers

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