

Hi **4-H** Family,

By now, many of you may have seen the news sent from MSU Extension leadership regarding the plan for 4-H programs. If you missed the email sent from 4HOnline earlier this week, you can view the entirety of the message on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/EatonCounty4H/>. In brief, 4-H programs will continue in virtual formats until further notice. While this may be disappointing news to those who were looking forward to in-person programs this fall, safety of all those in our programs remains a top priority. Many of you have already been participating in or facilitating virtual programs, project meetings, and club meetings in new and creative ways over this summer and I look forward to seeing the continuation of these efforts and how we continue to work together and stay connected and engaged during this time. Make sure to check out all the ways listed below that you can still participate with the 4-H program!

The email also recognized the financial strain many families may be encountering during this time and announced that we will be waiving the 4-H Participation Fee statewide for the 2020-2021 program year, which starts September 1. 4-H youth and volunteers will still have to reenroll in the program through 4HOnline; however, no fee will be charged nor expected. If you wish to still support 4-H programs during this time, please contact me!

Position available - application deadline 8/10!

Would you want to coordinate youth programming? We are looking for an AmeriCorps Service Member to serve as the full time 4-H SPIN Club Coordinator from October 2020-August 2021! The 4-H SPIN Club Coordinator would plan and organize 4-H SPIN (special interest) clubs that focus on science, technology, engineering, arts, and math topics, engaging new youth and volunteers in 4-H programs. AmeriCorps members receive a living allowance and an education award upon successful completion of service. Full position description can be found at: https://www.canr.msu.edu/eaton/uploads/files/4-H_STEAM_Corps_Position_Description_FT.pdf Interested candidates should submit a resume and cover letter to Kristy Oosterhouse, Eaton County 4-H Program Coordinator, at oosterh6@msu.edu by August 10, 2020 (extension of original deadline).

Eaton County 4-H meetings and events:

Eaton County 4-H Events

Calendar: https://www.canr.msu.edu/eaton/eaton_county_4_h/4_h_events_calendar.

- **4-H Junior Livestock Association meeting**
 Monday, August 10, 7pm
<https://msu.zoom.us/j/98243192082> Passcode: jla
 JLA will be holding their regular August meeting to discuss any potential changes or ideas for this upcoming program year.
- **Virtual Fireside Chat for Volunteers**
 Wednesday, August 19, 6pm
<https://msu.zoom.us/j/94339831817> Passcode: fireside
 With the program changes and extension of virtual programming, the Virtual Fireside Chats for Volunteers will resume as a space for volunteers to share ideas, concerns, and brainstorm and problem solve solutions for moving our program forward. This first meeting will feature tips, tricks, and ideas for virtual meetings and programs.
- **County 4-H Awards**
 Now that we are at the end of our 4-H program year, now is the time to begin thinking about nominating and submitting awards for youth and volunteers for all of your hard work this past 4-H year! 4-H Council voted to extend the deadline for county 4-H awards to November 15, 2020 and offer the option to submit awards online via Google Forms. Council also voted that leader signatures are not required this year to reduce barriers for applying. If you have trouble with the website or Google Forms, please email oosterh6@msu.edu for a PDF of the application you need. The 4-H Participation Celebration awards banquet will be held in late February/early March (may be virtual depending on program guidelines at that time). The award forms have been updated at https://www.canr.msu.edu/eaton/eaton_county_4_h/eaton_county_4_h_associations_and_committees/4_h_advisory_council#awards
- **T-shirt contest - EXTENDED!**
 4-H Council has extended the submission deadline to the October 5 meeting! Submit your creative t-shirt designs to create the next Eaton County 4-H t-shirt! Designs should include the phrase "Eaton County 4-H" on the shirt and the clover logo (email me if you need a transparent white version of the logo). Designs must be able to be screen printed in one color. Designs can be for the front side, back side, or both! Designs can be emailed to oosterh6@msu.edu and will be considered during the October 4-H Council meeting.
- **Eaton County 4-H Activity Kits - Coming soon!**
 Are you interested in hands-on activities you can do by yourself? Volunteers - are you looking for project ideas for August meetings? Stay tuned - activity kits will be available soon! The activity kits will be available to order for \$5/kit, including shipping to your home, and come with activity directions and most supplies needed for the activities (supplies not provided are easy to obtain items)

like scissors). There will be three types of kits available with multiple activities per kit - STEM, Animal Science, and Crafts. Stay tuned for future emails regarding these kits and how to order! Funding for the kits is provided by the Eaton County 4-H Endowment.

Other upcoming educational opportunities and new resources:

- **Michigan State Fair 4-H & Youth Virtual Showcase**
MSU Extension is excited to partner with the Michigan State Fair to launch an exciting new program for Michigan youth. This statewide showcase will provide a virtual platform for Michigan 4-H'ers and other youth to exhibit their work in all project areas and apply for \$10,000 in scholarships. Michigan youth ages 5 - 19 are encouraged to participate. Registration will be open soon; once open, registration will be available until August 23. There is no cost to participate and youth can enter as many classes as they wish. Winners will be announced during the Michigan State Fair, September 3 - 7. More information about the virtual state showcase can be found at <https://www.canr.msu.edu/virtual-showcase/State-Fair-Virtual-Showcase/index>
- **Connections Through Signing: American Sign Language Beginners Series**
Have you been watching the American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters behind Governor Whitmer during her announcements and thinking what an amazing skill those people have? Now is your chance to start learning the basics! You will learn about ASL etiquette, finger spelling, numbers, and commonly used words and phrases. We will play games and you will receive a handout each week with new words learned. We will also have a guest speaker who is deaf and she will share about growing up deaf and how to communicate with someone who is deaf. Please join us Mondays and Fridays (beginning August 10th and ending September 4th) for 90 minute sessions. Here is the registration link: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/beginnerasl2/>
- **Fishful Thinking: Project FISH Program**
Do you love fishing? Ever wonder what kind of fish we have in Michigan? Ever have issues tying the best knot for your lines? Ever wanted to make a pop can caster rod? Then this is a program you won't want to miss. Zoom sessions will start August 18th and run every Tuesday until September 15th, with a new topic each week. We will meet via zoom from 1pm – 2pm. This program is open to both 4-H and non 4-H youth, statewide, in grades k-12. Register here: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/thinking-project-fish> by August 17th to make sure you don't miss out. Zoom link and supply list will be emailed upon registration.

- The Wizarding World of Harry Potter**
 This SPIN Club will begin on Monday, August 24 and end August 31. This club will meet virtually every weekday from 4 to 5 PM EDT. Over the course of the week, youth will get a chance to explore the imaginary world of Harry Potter! We will be making crafts, playing games, and learning more about this wonderful world! For more information and to register, please visit: <https://bit.ly/4-HWIZARDS>.
- Fostering Stability for Life**
 This club will start on Monday, August 24 and end August 31. This club will meet from 1 – 2 PM EDT for six straight weekdays from Monday to Monday. During these meetings, we will be walking through four practical rhythms to establish in our life – Rest, Restore, Connect, Create. Come learn how to take charge of your mental health. For more information and to register, please visit: <https://bit.ly/4-HLIFE>.
- Turn Your Passions into Profits Virtual Entrepreneurship Camp**
 Find the entrepreneur in you by attending this free virtual camp with interactive activities which will introduce you to the 4-H entrepreneurship project. Learn about the entrepreneur in you, and how to develop your own business ideas. You will also explore pricing your product, determining your target market and marketing techniques to help you succeed in starting your own business. Who: youth ages 12-15 When: Aug 25, 26, 27 (Tuesday-Thursday) Time: 11:30 am TO 1:30 pm Registration link: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/ENTREP/>
- MSU Tollgate Farm Virtual Vet Science Interactive Camp Sessions**
 August 10 - 14; Monday 2:30 – 4:30 pm EST; Tuesday – Friday 3:30 - 4:45 p.m. EST. Ages 10 – 15. This summer, spend time exploring the rarely seen world of the Tollgate barn and pastures virtually as you investigate veterinary science and animal medicine. Get to know several species as you explore how we make sure our animals are safe, healthy, and content. Investigate how animals at Tollgate see the world and explore the five freedoms, engage in daily STEM challenges, and learn about veterinary tools & technology. Get to know our goats, ducks, chickens, sheep, cattle, and horses with fun interactive STEM sessions with Tollgate Farm staff, visiting vets, and visiting MSU Extension Animal Science educator Melissa Elischer. The next best thing to being on the farm! Register at: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/TollgateVirtualVetScience/>

Reminders from previous email digests:

- Reminder to volunteers: Your profiles have now been added to our new volunteer management database, Volunteer Central and you should have received an email about how to access your profile. **It will be required that**

you complete the steps in that email prior to August 31, 2020 to remain a volunteer so please watch for that email! Volunteers who applied in Volunteer Central (since 1/1/2020) do not need to complete anything.

Stay Connected!

- Make sure to follow our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/EatonCounty4H/> and Instagram account: <https://www.instagram.com/eatoncounty4h/>
- You can also find these update emails on our newsletter website for reference. Please follow the most recent letter posted for guidance on changes from the state and from our organization. You can find them at https://www.canr.msu.edu/eaton/eaton_county_4_h/4_h_newsletter.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact me.

Thanks,

Kristy

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Pronouns: She, her, hers

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