



AUGUST 2026

4-H Family News

GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY



GOIN' TO THE FAIR

Dear 4-H Families,

How many days until fair? That is the question most of us are asking right now and it is exciting! Thank you for all you have done and are continuing to do to make this a year to remember. Once fair week begins and you meet with your clubs to discuss the highlights and expectations of the week, club members will likely also begin to wonder and imagine your club's future. Thank you for taking the time to process and plan together. Please know I am a resource for you during the week of fair. It would be my pleasure to connect, share ideas and hear concerns of individuals, clubs and club leaders regarding the future of 4-H in Grand Traverse County. I am here for it, and I am here for you!

Change is often uncomfortable, but it can also be a time for renewal. Let's look to each other to be positive change makers who see opportunity to build community with one another, to support one another and to create more amazing experiences for our youth. Together, let's have an incredible week at the Northwestern Michigan Fair, 4-H Style.

Boots On,

Sarah Bye

IMPORTANT DATES

8/27: MSU EXTENSION OPEN HOUSE | 4:00PM-7:00PM | 400 WEBSTER ST, TRAVERSE CITY

9/13: 4-H FAMILY GATHERING BBQ/POT LUCK DINNER | 4:30PM-6:30PM | BANCROFT FARM

9/14: LIVESTOCK COUNCIL MEETING | 6:30PM | REDEEMER CHURCH

9/23: FALL LEADER UPDATE MEETING OPTION 1 | 5:30-7:30

9/27: FALL LEADER UPDATE MEETING OPTION 2 | 2:30-4:30

CONTACT US

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Coordinator



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WEBSITE:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/grand_traverse/grand_traverse_county_4_h/index

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COUNTY 4-H NEWS



HealthCorps

4-H Fun in the Garden

SPIN Club #3

AGES 7-13

Three Weeks Every Tuesday

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

August 11th - August 25th, 2026

FREE

GTA Children's Garden

at the Traverse City District Library

Traverse City, MI

Join us for fun adventures in the garden nurturing resilience, kindness, mindfulness, community & creativity. This SPIN Club is designed to encourage sustainability, confidence & growth from the inside out through a fun & engaging hands-on approach with **snacks, art, music, drama, games and more** in nature. ALL are welcome.

Registration begins **TODAY!** Space is Limited.

REGISTER HERE: [HTTPS://V2.4HONLINE.COM](https://v2.4honline.com)

For Questions and More Information:

Please Contact Crystal, Youth Healthy Lifestyle Program Facilitator

turne680@msu.edu

231-715-1077

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AmeriCorps





COUNTY 4-H NEWS



HealthCorps

4-H Fun in the Garden

SPIN Club #4

AGES 7-13

Four Weeks Every Thursday

2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

August 6th - August 27th, 2026

FREE

GTA Children's Garden

at the Traverse City District Library

Traverse City, MI

Join us for fun adventures in the garden nurturing resilience, kindness, mindfulness, community & creativity. This SPIN Club is designed to encourage sustainability, confidence & growth from the inside out through a fun & engaging hands-on approach with **snacks, art, music, drama, games and more** in nature. ALL are welcome.

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AmeriCorps





COUNTY 4-H NEWS

CLOVER AWARD APPLICATION DEADLINE EXTENDED



All Grand Traverse, Benzie, Kalkaska, Antrim and Leelanau County 4-H members ages 10-19 are eligible to apply for a Clover Award. Application finalists chosen to earn a Clover Award must complete an interview on Monday during the fair. The top youth interviewed will be awarded the Outstanding Clover Award during the 4-H Awards Ceremony and be known throughout the region as an exemplary 4-H'er! Prize: a \$100 VISA gift card, certificate and a ribbon.

Applications are due by **FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, NO LATER THAN 4:00PM** to the Grand Traverse 4-H office, or by email to byesarah@msu.edu

[Clover Award Application 2026](#)

4-H FAMILY GATHERING BBQ POTLUCK DINNER

9/13/2026 from 4:30PM-6:30PM

Save the Date for the Second Annual Potluck at the Bancroft Farm on **Sunday, September 13.**

Everyone is invited, we just ask you bring a dish to pass. Meat will be provided, so bring your favorite side, dessert, drink, or anything else you can think of!



COUNTY 4-H NEWS

STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM



We have two guests from Japan staying with local 4-H families. It is the Martin family's third student they've hosted and the Honeycutt family's first. Isaac Martin gives the exchange program a big thumbs up and is planning to head to Japan on the exchange next year. For more info, visit https://www.canr.msu.edu/international_exchange_programs/



FIFE LAKE LIBRARY EVENT

Grand Traverse County 4-H Program Coordinator, Sarah Bye, took the Enviroscope to the Fife Lake Library a few weeks ago and discussed watersheds and things that impact our shared water source with participants.

Sarah is happy to bring the Enviroscope to club meetings or classrooms upon request.





STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Building work
readiness skills
through 4-H**



Beyond Ready

4-H programs create intentional opportunities for youth to build essential work readiness skills that prepare them for future success. Through structured, hands-on activities, young people practice communication, collaboration, problem solving and time management. Volunteers play a key role by guiding youth through meaningful tasks, helping them set goals, and encouraging personal responsibility and follow through.

As youth take on leadership roles, complete project work, and participate in real-world or simulated experiences, they begin to demonstrate growth in professionalism, work ethic and organizational skills. Every activity can help youth connect what they are learning in 4-H to what will be expected of them in the workplace.

How is your club helping youth build the skills they need to be work ready?

#BeyondReady

July 1 - August 7: Michigan 4-H License Plate Promotion Contest

Online

As part of the Michigan State Fair 4-H and Youth Virtual Showcase, youth ages 8-19 are invited to create a video or non-video promotional piece encouraging others to purchase the 4-H license plate. www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-license-plate-promotion-contest

July 1 - August 7: Michigan 4-H Business Pitch Contest

Online

Participants may present a business they already own, currently operate or hope to start in the future, including product, service or community impact ideas. Youth will create a two-minute video pitch introducing themselves, explaining their business idea, identifying the problem they are solving, and sharing why their product or service stands out. www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan4-hbusinesspitchcontest

August 12: Adulthood 101 – Roadmap to a Smart Used Car Purchase

Online

Are you wanting to purchase a used car, but have no idea where to start? Learn tips, resources and strategies to help you make an informed decision with confidence.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulthood-101-roadmap-to-a-smart-used-car-purchase

August 13-16: 2025 Michigan 4-H State Horse Show

MSU Pavilion, East Lansing, Mich.

This annual event brings together 4-H members from counties across Michigan. Members are selected by their county 4-H programs to participate; spectators are welcome.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-state-horse-show

August 17-20: 4-H Garden Adventures Summer Camp 2026

Traverse City, Mich.

Join us for fun adventures in nature, nurturing resilience, kindness, community and creativity. This camp is designed to encourage sustainability and growth from the inside out through a fun and engaging hands-on approach. Register by August 17.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-garden-adventures-summer-camp-2026-session-2

September 9: Welcome Back MSU 4-H Alumni Reception

Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens, East Lansing, Mich.

Join MSU Extension for the ninth annual Welcome Back MSU 4-H Alumni Reception. If you are a current or former 4-H'er attending MSU this fall, stop by the Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. for networking and free dinner!

www.canr.msu.edu/events/msu-welcome-week-4-h-alumni-reception





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Michigan 4-H alumni & supporters invited to get connected by the clover!

As a valuable member of the Michigan 4-H community, you already know the importance of the 4-H connection. We invite those age 18 and older to take that 4-H connection one step further by joining a new statewide community of 4-H supporters: Michigan 4-H Alumni & Friends.

The Michigan 4-H Alumni & Friends database will connect 4-H families, alumni, volunteers, supporters and others across Michigan with one another – connecting them by the clover! We hope you will take a few moments to sign-up for this free community and grow your connection.

As a member of Michigan 4-H Alumni & Friends, you will receive information about opportunities to support 4-H youth and programs; 4-H programming and participants; upcoming events for the Michigan 4-H Alumni & Friends community and more!

Michigan 4-H Alumni & Friends is open to anyone age 18+ who cares about Michigan 4-H: 4-H parents, staff members, volunteers, grandparents, supporters, partner organization representatives, donors and more. Learn more about Michigan 4-H Alumni & Friends and find the link to join by visiting extension.msu.edu/Michigan4HA&F.

Join
Michigan
4-H
Alumni &
Friends



Stay informed. Support youth.
Strengthen communities.
Get connected by the clover today!

Join for free at:
extension.msu.edu/Michigan4HA&F.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

Going home: Biosecurity tips for animals that travel off the farm

Adapted from: https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/biosecurity_tips_for_animals_that_went_to_the_county_fair.

Animals that are exhibited at the county fair, jackpot shows, and other exhibitions are likely near and dear to their exhibitor's hearts. [Michigan State University Extension](#) offers these biosecurity steps exhibitors can take to protect their show animals and those that were left at home once the event has ended.

- Keep animals that left home separate from animals that did not for a minimum of 14 days. If at all possible, do not allow nose-to-nose contact and provide as much distance between animals.
- Disinfect all buckets, feeders, tools and footwear that left home.
- Throw away any feed or hay that left home.
- Always wear clean clothes and footwear. Boot coverings may be helpful when caring for isolated animals.
- Take care of animals that stayed home from the show first, and animals that were at the show second. Do not go back and forth between animals as this increases the risk of cross-contamination.
- Do not eat or drink in the barn.
- Observe animals daily for signs and symptoms of illness, such as:
 - Obvious pain or discomfort
 - Decrease in appetite and water intake
 - Fever
 - Lethargy
 - Diarrhea or changes in consistency in manure
 - Discharge from nasal cavity or eyes
 - Overall weakness

Care of animals after traveling is just as critical as their pre-show care. Exhibited animals were exposed to new animal populations and fair-goers, and will typically experience a lot of stress during their time away from home. By practicing these biosecurity steps, you can help keep all of your animals safe and healthy.





2026 Michigan State Fair 4-H and Youth Virtual Showcase

ENTER PHOTO AND VIDEO PROJECTS IN SHOWCASE

Michigan youth ages 5-19 as of Jan 1, 2026 are eligible to enter the Michigan State Fair 4-H and Youth Virtual Showcase and share their projects online. There is no fee to enter and 4-H membership is not required.

There are classes in livestock and animal showmanship, still exhibits, contests, educational and leadership, and more! Youth can enter multiple classes and receive positive and constructive feedback from evaluators. Youth can enter the same project in a local or county fair but cannot enter the same project in the in-person Michigan State Fair.

The registration deadline is August 7, 2026.

SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE

Participants in the Michigan State Fair 4-H & Youth Virtual Showcase also can apply for up to \$1,000 in post-secondary education scholarships.

Michigan youth, ages 8-19 years old as of Jan. 1, 2026, who submit a project in the virtual showcase are eligible to apply in their age bracket (8-11, 12-15 and 16-19). The deadline to apply for scholarships is Monday, August 10, 2026 at 4 p.m. EST.

The Michigan State Fair 4-H and Youth Virtual Showcase Scholarship is provided by the Michigan State Fair Foundation and supported by the Bowman family.



For more information:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/virtual-showcase/State-Fair-Virtual-Showcase/>

Questions, please contact Janelle Stewart at stewa191@msu.edu or Laurie Rivetto at rivettoL@msu.edu.

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MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Extension

4-H Clover Award Application

All Grand Traverse, Benzie, Kalkaska, Antrim and Leelanau County 4-H club members ages 10-19 are eligible to apply for a Clover Award. **Applications are due by Friday, August 7th, no later than 4:00PM to the Grand Traverse 4-H office, or by email to byesarah@msu.edu.** Application finalists chosen to earn a Clover Award must complete an interview on Monday during the fair. The top youth interviewed will be awarded the Outstanding Clover Award during the 4-H Awards Ceremony on **Saturday, August 15th** and be known throughout the region as an exemplary 4-H'er! **Prize: a \$100 VISA gift card, certificate, and a ribbon.** Any questions, please contact Sarah Bye: byesarah@msu.edu

4-H'er's Name:

4-H Age:

Years in 4-H:

Club(s):

Phone number you can be reached at during fair:

Do you prefer a TEXT MESSAGE ☐ or PHONE CALL ☐ ? (please choose one)

ABOUT ME

How old were you when you joined 4-H?

Why did you join 4-H?

What are your interests and hobbies?

What are your future goals or career plans and how has 4-H influenced them?

CONTINUE TO NEXT PAGE...



4-H EXPERIENCE

What has been your most meaningful 4-H experience so far?

Who has been your greatest influence in 4-H and why?

PROJECT AREAS

Project/ 4-H Activity	# of Years Completed	Age(s) Involved

4-H LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

4-H Leadership/ Community Service Activity	# of Years Completed	Age(s) Involved

CONTINUE TO NEXT PAGE...



4-H IMPACT ON YOU

How has your 4-H participation changed how you feel about yourself?

What influence has your 4-H involvement had on your family?

Imagine creating a game (i.e. video, board or card) based on your 4-H experience. Please describe it.

PREFERRED INTERVIEW TIME

If your application is chosen as a Clover Award finalist, the next step is an in-person interview! The interview will only take approximately **15-20 minutes** and will be scheduled via phone by Sunday afternoon. Interviews for this award will happen on **Monday between 11:00AM-3:00PM in the Tanner Building.**

GOOD LUCK!

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FINAL - 2026 4-H FAIR SCHEDULE – 6/16/2026

Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday, August 5 -7, 2026

4:00pm – 9:00pm Campsite Set Up & Pen Decorations

Thursday & Friday August 6 & August 7th

12:00pm – 9:00pm Exhibit Building Set Up – Still Project Drop Off (Saturday 10am – 2pm)

Saturday, August 8

<u>Species</u>	<u>Check-In</u>	<u>Enter Gate</u>	<u>Weigh-In</u>	<u>Barn Meeting</u>
Swine	6:00am – 9:00 am	4	Upon Arrival	6:30pm (Haberlein)
Steer/Heifer/Dairy Beef	7:00am – 10:00am	4	12:00pm	6:00pm (Wash Rack)
Dairy Feeder	7:00am – 10:00am	4	12:45pm	5:00pm (Wash Rack)
Jr Beef	7:00am – 10:00am	4	1:00pm	4:30pm
Lamb	10:00am – 12:00pm	4	1:00pm (Lamb Barn)	3:00pm
Goat	10:00am – 12:00pm	4	1:30pm (Lamb Barn)	3:30pm (Rosa Arena)
Rabbit/Cavy	10:00am – 2:00pm	4	Upon Arrival	3:00pm
Poultry	10:00am – 2:00pm	4	Upon Arrival	4:00pm
Llama/Alpaca	11:00am – 1:00pm	4	-----	5:00pm
Horse	12:00pm – 3:00pm	4 (Drop in Pits)	-----	5:30pm

10:00am – 2:00pm Exhibit Building Set Up

4:00pm – 6:00pm Exhibit Barn Judging

6:00pm – 8:00pm BARNs CLOSED

6:00pm – 7:30pm 4-H & Sibling Wristbands (Outside of Grandstands)

7:30pm **MANDATORY** Meeting for 4-H Members, Leaders, & Parents – Grandstands

8:30pm Pizza Party – Greenspace Tent– Sponsored by the Northwestern Michigan Fair

Sunday, August 9

7:30am Leaders' Meeting – Rosa Arena
 8:00am Large Beef /Dairy Beef Handling Practice (**MANDATORY**) – Haberlein Arena
 9:00am – 11:00am Jr Beef & Dairy Feeder Handling Practice – Haberlein Arena
 9:00am Open Goat, Breed, Showmanship, Pack, Pee Wee – Rosa Arena
 9:00 am – 12pm 4-H Still Exhibit Judging – Tanner Building
 10:00am 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Showmanship – Greenspace Tent
 Draft Horse Team, Wagon – Horse Arena
 DA Swine Show – Swine Barn
 11:00am 4-H Cloverbud Swine Show – Haberlein Arena
 12:00am – 7:00pm Swine Practice (*see posted schedule*) – Haberlein Arena
 12:00pm 4-H Dog Agility, Rally Obedience, Obedience & Showmanship – Outside Rosa Arena
 2:00pm Lamb Practice – Rosa Arena
 4:00pm 4-H My Goat & Me Interviews – Goat Barn
 7:00pm Large Beef / Dairy Beef Handling Practice (**MANDATORY**) – Haberlein Arena
 8:00pm 4-H Glow Party lead by Teen Reps – Greenspace Tent

Monday, August 10

7:30am Leaders' Meeting – Rosa Arena
 8:00am Open Swine Show - Haberlein
 8:30am 4-H Poultry & Waterfowl Market – Poultry Barn
 4-H Horse Halter, Showmanship, Pole Bending, Keyhole, Speed & Action, Costume, Hobby Horse, & Horse Skillathon – Horse Arena
 9:00am 4-H Breed Cavies, 4-H Market & Breed Rabbits, Pet, Open Breed Cavies & Rabbits, Poster Contest – Rabbit Barn
 4-H Swine Showmanship – Haberlein Arena
 4-H Large Beef Handling Practice – Wash Rack
 9:00am 4-H Differently-Abled Program Show – Greenspace Tent
 11:00am – 3:00pm Exhibit Area Interviews – Tanner Building
 1:00pm 4-H Swine Market – Haberlein (Exact time TBD by the Judge)
 4-H Poultry & Waterfowl Showmanship – Greenspace Tent
 4-H Lamb Market – Rosa Arena
 2:00pm – 4:00pm Cloverbud Activities – Tanner Building
 4:00pm – 6:00pm Dairy Feeder & Jr Beef Handling Practice – Horse Arena
 Horse ONLY Washing/Grooming Time – Calf Wash Rack
 Open Lamb Showmanship & Breed – Rosa Arena
 4:30pm

Tuesday, August 11

7:30am Leaders' Meeting – Rosa Arena
 8:00am Open Heifer, Cow, Cow/Calf, Bull, Bred & Owned – Haberlein Arena
 Open Dairy Feeder, Jr Beef, & Large Beef Showmanship – Haberlein Arena
 Following Open Cattle Shows - 4-H Dairy Feeder, Jr Beef, Large Dairy Beef, Large Beef **Market** – Haberlein Arena
 8:30am 4-H Horse English Equitation, English Pleasure, Dressage, & Trail – Horse Arena
 9:00am 4-H Goat Showmanship, Market, Breed, Pack, Draft (Clover Buds to Follow)– Rosa Arena
 9:00am – 1:00pm 4-H Blood Drive – Front Gate
 2:00pm – 4:00pm Cloverbud Activities – Tanner Building
 3:00pm 4-H Lamb Showmanship (Clover Buds to Follow)– Rosa Arena
 6:00pm 4-H & Open Llama/Alpaca Showmanship & Halter Class – Rosa Arena

Wednesday, August 12

7:30am Leaders' Meeting – Rosa Arena
 8:00 am – 10:00 am 4-H Photos for Rabbit & Poultry – Rosa Arena
 Photos are \$12.00 for Non-Market Animals, Paid at Time of Photo
 8:00am 4-H Photos for Swine (**Do NOT feed pigs until after photos**)
 Photos are \$12.00 for Cloverbuds, Paid at Time of Photo



8:30am	4-H Horse Western Horsemanship, Western Pleasure, Ranch Riding, Reining, Western Riding, Indiana Flag Race, Cloverleaf – Horse Arena
9:00am	4-H Large Beef Showmanship, 4-H Large Dairy Beef, Dairy Feeder (Cloverbuds to follow), Jr Beef (Cloverbuds to follow) – Haberlein Arena
10:00am – 12:00pm	4-H Photos for Goat & Lamb– Rosa Arena Photos are \$12.00 for Non-Market Animals, Paid at Time of Photo
1:00pm	4-H Rabbit Skillathon – Rabbit Barn
2:00pm	4-H Goat Talent & Costume Show & Parade – Rosa Arena Open Goat Fun Class – Rosa Arena
2:00pm – 4:00pm	Cloverbud Activities – Tanner Building
4:00pm	4-H & Open Llama/Alpaca Costume Class, Obstacle Course & Pack – Rosa Arena
4:00pm – 7:00pm	4-H Auction Buyer Pre-Registration
8:00pm	4-H Goat Run – Meet at Goat Barn / 4-H Lamb Run – Meet at Lamb Barn



**11:00pm –
Curfew
(Nightly)**

Thursday, August 13

8:00am	4-H Auction Buyer Registration
9:00am	4-H Large Animal Auction – Haberlein Arena (<i>Swine, Large Beef, Large Dairy Beef, Dairy Feeders, Jr Beef</i>)
10:00am	4-H Photos for Cattle – Taken upon exit of auction ring 4-H Small Animal Auction – Rosa Arena (<i>Goats, Rabbits, Turkeys, Production Pullets, Meat Chickens, Cornish Hens, Ducks, Geese, Lambs</i>)
11:00am – 2:00pm	Buyers' Luncheon – Greenspace Tent
2:00pm – 4:00pm	Cloverbud Activities – Tanner Building
4:00pm – 6:00pm	Horse ONLY Washing/Grooming Time – Calf Wash Rack
8:00pm	4-H Goat Run – Meet at Goat Barn/ 4-H Lamb Run – Meet at Lamb Barn
8:30 pm	4-H Movie Night – Teen Rep Activity in Greenspace Tent

Friday, August 14

7:30am	Leaders' Meeting – Rosa Arena
8:00 am	4-H Still Exhibit Auction – Rosa Arena
9:00am – 3:30pm	4-H Blood Drive – Outside Jr Beef Barn
8:30am	Open Horse Show
9:00am	4-H Poultry, Rabbits & Cavy Cloverbud Showmanship – Greenspace Tent
10:00am – 1:00pm	4-H Fast Cat – Haberlein Arena
12:00pm – 5:00pm	Reduced Rates on Carnival Rides for 4-H Members
1:00pm	4-H Fun Classes – Haberlein Arena, Rabbit Fun Classes & Agility – Rabbit Barn
4:00pm	4-H Grand Champion Showmanship Showdown – Haberlein Arena
6:00 pm	Calf Give A Way – Haberlein Arena (Parents Must be Present)
7:00pm – 11:00pm	ALL 4-H Dance – Rosa Arena - 11:00pm – 12:00am Adult Only Dance – Rosa Arena
7:30pm – 9:00pm	4-H Differently-Abled Party – Greenspace Tent
8:00pm	4-H Goat Run – Meet at Goat Barn / 4-H Lamb Run Meet at Lamb Barn

Saturday, August 15

9:00am	4-H Awards Program, Celebration of Champions, Senior Recognition – Rosa Arena
12:00pm – 11:00pm	Reduced Rates on Carnival Rides for 4-H Members
2:00pm	Fair Queen Pageant – Rosa Arena
1:00pm	4-H Fun Classes – Haberlein Arena
4:00pm	4-H Fun Saturday Games – Haberlein Arena 4-H Cloverbud Games – Greenspace Tent
8:00pm	4-H Goat Run – Meet at Goat Barn/ 4-H Lamb Run – Meet at Lamb Barn

Sunday, August 16

5:45am	Earliest Animals Can Leave the Fairgrounds (<i>Leave White Pen Cards Up Until Your Animal Is Loaded</i>)
7:00am – 12:00pm	Poultry & Rabbits are Prepared for Processing or Leave the Fairgrounds
8:30am – 11:00am	Self Pick Up & 4-H Exhibit Building Entries Removed – <u>Must Check out w/ Species Chair or Superintendent before removal of any animals!</u>

12:00pm All Animals Gone & All Stalls Clean



Michigan State University Extension Volunteers at Fair

PROGRAM DEFINITION

MSU Extension may coordinate or provide volunteers for fairs. When individuals fulfill roles at a fair under the direction of MSU Extension, they need to be screened appropriately. These roles may include those who serve as superintendents, food stand volunteers, judges, clerks, guards in exhibit buildings, and individuals who help with educational displays and outreach coordinated by MSU Extension.

GOLD VOLUNTEER ROLES

In many counties, MSU Extension partners with fairs in a variety of ways. Gold volunteers often have direct contact with 4-H youth who are also fair participants. MSU Extension 4-H volunteers frequently conduct tasks related to 4-H educational experiences or are under the direction of an MSU Extension staff person.

Examples may include:

- Individuals representing MSU Extension through outreach, such as an informational table, an activity table, or demonstrations at the fair.
- 4-H food booth volunteers who provide leadership or collect funds
- Superintendents for 4-H classes
- Volunteers who are handling finances (ie. auctions, merchandise)
- Volunteers providing oversight to youth handling or collecting funds
- Individuals who have access to sensitive participant information

SILVER VOLUNTEER ROLES

Volunteers who have little to no contact with program participants can have Silver level screening. Volunteers who assist with these items regularly should be screened at a Gold volunteer level. Silver volunteers have no access to sensitive information.

Examples may include:

- Individuals volunteering for a shift at a food booth with at least one Gold Volunteer or MSU Extension employee present at all times.
- Exhibit building volunteers
- Clerks for 4-H classes or shows
- Judges hired and paid by MSU Extension or 4-H funds when they are not alone with the youth.

PARENTS, PARTNERS, OR FRIENDS (NO BACKGROUND CHECK OR INTERVIEW)

- Oftentimes, there are needs at fair that arise quickly or are not anticipated. It is recognized that parents, partners, and friends of the program will sometimes step in to provide support in the moment. Screening is not required if the following conditions are met; however, staff should work with the individual to obtain Silver status if they frequently/regularly assist with MSU Extension programs, events or activities. This includes individuals who:
 - Do not represent MSU Extension, but may represent a partner organization.

To contact an expert in your area, visit extension.msu.edu/experts or call 888-MSUE4MI (888-678-3464)

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For additional information, visit extension.msu.edu

- Have minimal interactions with participants and no meaningful conversations.
- Help in a public area with other Gold or Silver MSU Extension volunteers or MSU Extension staff members (if youth are involved).

Examples may include:

- Employees and volunteers coordinated and supervised by the fair.
- Parking attendants.
- People offering impromptu cleanup or setup help at an event.
- Gate attendants.
- Ring stewards.

VEST COACH SUPPORT

Other volunteer roles unique to a fair may require discussion between 4-H staff and their VEST coach to determine the appropriate screening level. If you are unsure what level of screening a volunteer should receive, 4-H staff should contact their VEST coach.