



4-H County Medals & Awards

St. Joseph County

(All Ages)



Activities:

Community Service
Fashion Revue
Judging

Animals & Plants:

Agriculture
Aquaculture
Beef
Cats
Dairy
Dogs
Gardening & Horticulture
Goats
Horse
Poultry
Rabbits
Sheep
Swine

Communication Arts:

Demonstrations
Performing Arts
Photography
Public Speaking
Visual Arts (Crafts)

Consumer & Family Science:

Child Care & Development
Clothing & Textiles
Consumer & Family Science
Consumer Education
Family Life
Home Environment

Environmental Stewardship:

Environmental Stewardship
Earth, Water, Air
Forestry
Outdoor Education & Recreation
Shooting Sports
Three R's
Wildlife & Fisheries

Health Lifestyles:

Bicycle
Food & Nutrition
Health Lifestyles
Safety

Personal Development:

Achievement
Career Exploration
Citizenship
Hobbies & Collections
Leadership
Personal Development

Science & Technology:

Aerospace
Biological Science
Computer Technology
Electricity
Engines, Tractors & Field Equipment
Entomology & Bees
Industrial Arts
Marine Science
Physical Science
Plant Science (Crops)
Technology & Engineering
Veterinary Science
Weather
Wood Science (woodworking)

4-H Enthusiast Award: A special award to honor 4-H members for their 4-H enthusiasm. Awarded to members who are 8 years old or older by January 1, 2026, and have just **completed their first year** of "regular" 4-H. Do you love 4-H and enjoy helping with your club's activities? Apply for the 4-H Enthusiast Award!

Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) (TBA June/July 2027): CWF is a unique citizenship education program utilizing the Nation's Capital as the classroom. Applicant must have an interest in government/citizenship and may only receive this award once during their 4-H career. Number selected may vary each year and interviews may be scheduled. Your 4-H age needs to be 15 by January 1, 2027. 4-H Youth Council will pay for ¾ of the cost, leaving the applicant to pay ~\$500.00 (total cost ~\$2,000.00). Applicants must complete the essay prompt for this award. Limit of two (2) winners per year.

4-H Mark of Excellence Award (June 23-25, 2027 - Exploration Days): 4-H Mark of Excellence Award is an award for 4-H youth between the ages of 10-11 by January 1, 2027. For the St. Joseph County Awards Form, complete an essay focusing on the theme of "4-H Beyond Ready..." All essays must be 200-500 words. Please do not include graphics or pictures in your essay. Two winners may be selected and will represent St. Joseph County at the state Awards Celebration during 4-H Exploration Days. Youth are only eligible to receive this award one time. You MUST complete the application at the county level by October 2, to be eligible, regardless of the State Awards deadline.

4-H Key Club Award: Any 4-H member 15 years old or older by January 1, 2026, is eligible. Members must have completed at least three years of club work, have taken at least two different 4-H projects, served and completed as a teen leader this past 4-H year. Applicants must complete the essay prompt for this award. A 4-H member may only receive this award once during their 4-H career. Limit of two (2) winners per year.



St. Joseph County 4-H Award Form



To be filled out by the 4-H member.

Applications are due to the MSU Extension Office by **October 2, 2026**.

NOTE: Youth will be recognized at the 4-H Leader/Donor Recognition Banquet on Thursday, November 12, 2026,
in the Centreville Elementary School Gymnasium (190 Hogan St., Centreville, MI 49032).

Please neatly print all information (in ink or type).

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Name of Parents/Guardians: _____

4-H club(s): _____

Completed application checklist:

_____ Page 2

_____ Page 3

_____ All pages / essays specific to the award I am applying for

I have filled out my report and believe it to be correct.

4-H Member signature

Date

Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

Date

4-H Leader

Date

Please check all that you are applying for:

- ☐ 4-H Enthusiast Award (8 years old & older, first year only)
- ☐ Citizenship Washington Focus (15 to 19 years old)
- ☐ Mark of Excellence Award (10 & 11 years old)
- ☐ Key Club Award (15 to 19 years old)
- ☐ County Award Medals (8-11 years old)
- ☐ County Award Medals (12-14 years old)
- ☐ County Award Medals (15 and older)

Date of Birth: _____ 4-H Age (**as of January 1, 2027**): _____

I have completed _____ calendar years of 4-H as of the end of 2026.

Name of 4-H Club(s): _____

Please check all that you have attended. Indicate the year(s) you attended and which show/contest, if applicable.

- | | |
|---|-------|
| ☐ 4-H Youth Council Member | _____ |
| ☐ Summer 4-H Camp Camper | _____ |
| ☐ Summer 4-H Camp Counselor | _____ |
| ☐ State 4-H Show (Horse, Rabbit/Cavy, Dog) | _____ |
| ☐ State 4-H Contest
(Including Shooting Sports, Hippology, Quiz Bowls, Judging, Skillathon, etc.) | _____ |
| ☐ 4-H Exploration Days | _____ |
| ☐ 4-H State 4-H Awards | _____ |
| ☐ Capital Experience | _____ |
| ☐ Great Lakes Natural Resource Camp | _____ |
| ☐ Citizenship Washington Focus | _____ |
| ☐ Other | _____ |

4-H Enthusiast Award

Prompt: On this paper, please write 3-4 sentences to tell us a little bit about your first year in 4-H and why you are excited for next year.

[illegible]

Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF)

Prompt: In 500 words or less, use your own words to define Civic Engagement and why it is important to build skills in this area.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

4-H Mark of Excellence Award

Prompt: In 500 words or less, write an essay focusing on the theme "4-H Beyond Ready..."

[illegible]

4-H Key Club Award

Prompt: In 500 words or less, describe how your time in 4-H has helped you to develop life skills that will carry into other aspects of your life.

[illegible]

County Project Medal Awards Form

Project Area Applying For: _____
Complete Sections A-E for the project area noted above.

Section A: Project Activities

Number of years in 4-H project:_____ Were you in the 4-H project in 2026?_____ In 2025? _____

List project related activities on local, county, state and national level.

Section B: My 4-H County Medal Story

Briefly explain what you have learned or how you have benefited from this project area and why you applied for this award.

[illegible]

Section C: Community Participation:

List your participation in church, school, and other youth organizations.

Section D: 4-H Leadership:

List all 4-H leadership responsibilities you have accepted in your club, county and state programs. Summarize your experiences and indicate the level at which the events were conducted (i.e. club, county, or state).

Section E: 4-H Accomplishments (non-project related):

Write a brief summary of what you have accomplished outside this project area so far in your 4-H career. Include special community club activities/projects, community service, helping at the fair, fundraising, Exploration Days, trips, conferences, workshops, etc.

[illegible]