



THE

August, 2024

G.O.A.T.

Goings On At Tollgate



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Extension



YOU PICK FLOWER & PHOTO EVENT
This Friday!



Get ready for a fun summer evening right here at Tollgate! On August 30th, from 4:00 pm to 7:30 pm, the flower fields will be open for you to create your own stunning bouquet.

As you enter the vibrant flower fields, you'll be greeted by an array of blooming flowers that will captivate your senses. Take your time to explore the fields and select the perfect blooms for your bouquet. Don't forget to capture some memorable photos amidst the colorful sunflowers.

Pre-registration is encouraged by 10pm on August 29th for a discounted price of \$17. Walk-in registration is also available on the day of the event for \$20. Your registration includes a vase, access to the flower fields, and cutting shears.

While you're at the farm, indulge in delicious MSU dairy store ice cream, engage in fun yard games, and visit the farm fresh vegetable stand for local produce.

[Click here](#) to visit our Farm Store Page and reserve your spot.



Calling all little equestrians! Are you ready to embark on an unforgettable journey with our friendly ponies? Our 'Tame the Mane' Intro to Pony Class is designed specifically for young riders ages 5-7, offering a safe and engaging introduction to the world of horsemanship.

Get ready to meet our gentle ponies! These trusty steeds are perfect for young riders, ensuring a safe and enjoyable experience. Our experienced instructors will guide your little one through basic horsemanship skills, including grooming, leading, and riding.

This class is a repeating class; the same content will be presented on each date. There's only 4 dates - Sept. 12th, 19th, 26th and Oct. 3rd. 60 lb weight limit - Child must be accompanied by parent or legal guardian.

Must arrive 10 minutes prior to class to sign waiver. General questions, please email Destiny at pears278@msu.edu; Registration date not changeable or refundable.

[Click here](#) to visit our Farm Store Page and reserve your spot.

**3RD
ANNUAL**



**MICHIGAN
BBQ
GRILLING
COMPETITION**

TICKETS ON SALE NOW

The EGGfest welcomes visitors to a wide array of activities and demonstrations, all centered around the Big Green Egg. Renowned chefs and grilling enthusiasts will showcase their culinary prowess, sharing their secrets for creating mouthwatering dishes.

CLICK [HERE](#) for tickets.



**Come Visit Us
for a School or
Community
Program!**

With the heat and humidity of summer slowly winding down, fall programs at Tollgate are ramping up! Designed for a variety of ages, visits to MSU Tollgate Farm are interactive, educational, and fun. Aligned with Next Generation Science Standards, learners investigate science phenomena taking place on the farm. Choose from a variety of opportunities for project-based learning that allow learners to make a positive difference in their world.

From plants, animals, landforms, water, and so much more, Tollgate has several amazing programs to fit any curriculum. **Here are a few of our fall favorites:**

Water and Land: The Connection -

How can we have an impact on the movement of the land? Students will use this knowledge of the nonliving parts of our earth and apply it to uncover how they are connected to the living things in an ecosystem.

Harvest Farm Ecology -

Take a wagon ride to pick a pie pumpkin at the patch, visit the orchard to explore the apple life cycle and the science of sweetness, press apples, and enjoy a harvest snack with cider. Engage with the farm animals to learn how they cope with the coming cold.

Weather and Animal Adaptations -

Help care for the Tollgate animals while you observe plant and animal adaptations to the weather. Make and use weather instruments to collect weather data on the farm and compare with measurements taken in your schoolyard.

The Secret Life of Trees:

How do trees survive and grow on the farm? What is something you observe that all trees have? What do some trees have and others don't? How are trees different from other plants and how are they the same? How do trees compete and cooperate with other trees for sun, water, nutrients to meet their essential needs? Observe and explore these and many more phenomena as you investigate the world of trees in the forest, orchard, and arboretum on the farm.

To learn more or reserve a program - [click here](#).



Saturday September 21st, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Tollgate's Fall Plant Sale specializes in a variety of reasonably priced hardy perennials popular for SE Michigan gardens. Our plants are divisions or seed grown perennials found in our beautiful Tollgate gardens or are donations from

the home gardens of our volunteers, friends of the farm or local supporting nurseries. Sun and shade perennials are available in 1- gallon pots.

Proceeds from this sale support the horticultural gardens at MSU Tollgate Farm and Education Center. Experienced Tollgate Garden Volunteers will be assisting with questions and selections for a great shopping experience.

This event is held rain or shine.

[Click here](#) to learn more.

Save the Date(s)



Admission includes:
Musical Performances • Garden Strolls
Hayride to Pumpkin Patch • Mini Corn Maze
• Farm Animals • Face Painting
Pumpkin Painting • Fishing
Photo Opportunities • Hands on Activities
Learning Discovery Center
Storybook Trail • MSU Bug House
Children Play Areas

PUMPKINFEST 2024 **Oct. 5th - 6th**
(11am-5pm)

\$15 per person (at the gate)
\$12 per person - early bird tickets (purchase tickets by Sept. 28th)

Ready to reserve your tickets? [Click here.](#)

We need volunteers!

We are seeking enthusiastic volunteers to join the Pumpkinfest team. This vibrant festival requires a network of passionate individuals who share a love for the Farm and are eager to contribute to its success.

Every successful event relies on the support of a strong volunteer base. Volunteers play a crucial role in various aspects of the event, including:

- * Welcoming and assisting guests
- * Managing activities and games
- * Providing information and answering questions

For teens seeking community service hours, volunteering at Pumpkinfest is an excellent opportunity to fulfill their requirements while making a meaningful contribution. By volunteering, individuals not only support the event but also gain valuable experience in teamwork, customer service, and community involvement.

If you are passionate about creating a memorable experience for festival

attendees, we invite you to join our team of volunteers. Your time and dedication will make a significant difference in ensuring that Pumpkinfest is an enjoyable and unforgettable event for all.

All volunteers are required to complete the Michigan State University Volunteer Selection Process.

[Click Here](#) to learn more.



Picture of the month!

We are thrilled to announce the arrival of three new ducklings to our animal count this month. These adorable and energetic additions have brought a wave of excitement and joy to our farm.

MSU Tollgate Farm and Education Center
28115 Meadowbrook Rd. Novi, MI 48377
248-347-0269
<http://tollgate.msu.edu/>



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