



MAY 2025

4-H Family News

Washtenaw County



Washtenaw County 4-H Youth Show FairEntry Registration Opening May 30th

The Washtenaw County 4-H Youth Show is quickly approaching, and we want to remind families of the upcoming deadlines to participate in the 4-H Youth Show.

First, youth need to be enrolled in 4-H Online by May 1st to participate in the Youth Show. FairEntry registration will then open on Friday, May 30th and close on June 13th at 11:59 pm.

There will be a late fee of \$50 per exhibitor for 4-H Youth Show entries not submitted or requested changes after the June 13th FairEntry deadline. See page 2 of the Newsletter for more details or refer to the email from April 29th.

The 4-H Youth Show Book for 2025 is now available online and changes are marked in gray. Books will soon be available for purchase at the MSU Extension Office for a cost of \$5 cash or check (exact change please).

There will also be a Zoom Webinar to walk families through the process of registration. Stay tuned for details!

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS:

Advisory Council Meeting

May 8th at 7 pm at the MSU Extension Office

Small Animal Committee

May 22nd at 6 pm at the MSU Extension Office

Horse Association Meeting

May 27th at 7 pm at the MSU Extension Office

FairEntry Registration for 4-H Youth Show

May 30th – June 13th at 11:59 pm

Still Projects Orientation & Mock Judging Workshop

May 31st from 2-4 pm at the MSU Extension Office

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<https://www.canr.msu.edu/washtenaw/>

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COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Washtenaw County 4-H Youth Show Late Fees for 2025



Due to the large number of late changes to 4-H Youth Show registrations in the last three years that required weeks of staff time, we are implementing a late fee for changes or registrations after June 13th.

There will be a late fee of \$50 per exhibitor for 4-H Youth Show entries not submitted or requested changes after the June 13th FairEntry deadline. As FairEntry closes at 11:59pm on June 13th exhibitors must contact 4-H staff for change requests. If you wish to modify or add entries and pay the late fee you **MUST** request changes to be made by June 23rd.

The late fee must be paid by July 14th, or the exhibitor will not be able to exhibit that project in the 4-H Youth Show. If the exhibit is a market animal to be entered in the auction, the late fee must be paid to participate in the Auction.

Late Fees **MUST** be paid by cash or check (payable to Washtenaw County 4-H Youth Show) and submitted or mailed to MSU Extension Office at 705 N Zeeb Rd, PO Box 8645, Ann Arbor, MI 48107.

For those who do not have internet access, online registrations may be completed at the MSU Extension office from May 30th until June 13th. Contact 4-H staff before the deadline to schedule an appointment at 734-997-1678.

Superintendents will be able to make necessary changes between June 13th and June 27th.

Still Projects Orientation and Mock Judging Workshop on May 31st from 2-4 pm

Do you have youth in your families showing Still Projects at this year's 4-H Youth Show? Join us for a Still Projects Orientation and Mock Judging Workshop on May 31st from 2-4 pm at the MSU Extension Office. This workshop will give youth ages 5-19 years old the opportunity to learn about how Still Projects are judged and get the chance to practice your Still Project judging interview. This is a great workshop for youth new to Still Projects or those who just want to get a chance to practice.

We also encourage new 4-H club leaders or 4-H project leaders to attend this workshop! You can ask questions and get prepared for the Youth Show.



Sign Up Here: https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_b7AHEylLtWLI02



COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Sign up Now for the 4-H Junior Master Gardener Program!

Do you know a 8-12 year old who loves to get their hands dirty in the garden? Sign up now for the 4-H Junior Master Gardener (JMG) program!

The JMG program is designed for youth ages 8 to 12 and provides an interactive, hands-on educational experience in gardening enabling them to achieve a Junior Master Gardener certificate. Classroom topics include: Soil, Introduction to Plants, Flowers, Vegetables, Yard and Garden Pests, and Lawns, and Woody Plants. The youth will also have hands on experience in Gardening (planting, tending, and harvesting) in a garden plot. JMG is taught by adult volunteers who are both MSU Extension Master Gardeners and 4-H volunteers.



Thursday classes and work sessions run from May 22-August 21st at the Farm at Trinity Health, 5557 McAuley Dr., Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Cost: \$60, includes a 4-H JMG Student Guide, class supplies, name tag, and JMG t-shirt. If you are interested in financial aid to cover the cost of participation, please indicate this in your registration and we will contact you for more information.

Sign up at: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/washtenawjmg2025/>

Questions? Contact Jenny Speyer at speyerje@msu.edu.

Washtenaw County 4-H Youth Show Camping with Washtenaw Farm Council



If you are interested in camping at the Washtenaw County 4-H Youth Show the week of July 20th through July 26th, please contact the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds Staff as soon as possible via email at wfc5500@gmail.com with the following information:

- Your Name
- Your 4-H Club
- Your Requested Amperage (30 or 50)
- Your Stay Duration .

There are a limited number of camping spots so act quickly to secure your spot. The 4-H Office does not coordinate camping so do not reach out to our office with questions.



COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Don't Forget to Complete YQCA Training for Beef and Swine Projects



All market beef and swine exhibitors are required to have an updated YQCA certification before marketing animals at the 4-H Youth Show auction. This certification can be obtained by participating in an online or in-person training.

Thanks to a grant from Bayer, this training is provided free of charge to Washtenaw 4-H exhibitors. Please follow the steps below to complete a certification.

1. Contact the MSU Extension Office (734-997-1678 or email cousin40@msu.edu) to obtain a coupon code (optional) to receive the training for free- you will need to specify if you need an online or in-person code.
2. Register through www.yqcaprogram.org – this step is required whether you attend in-person or online!
3. Sign up for your in-person training on the site and/or complete the online training. The March and April dates will be listed in the YQCA system for in-person training options.
4. Be sure to complete the pre-test before you attend an in-person training.
5. **If you want to complete an online YQCA training, you MUST wait until a year has lapsed on your previous training. If it is too close to the Youth Show, we recommend taking an in-person training. You do NOT have to wait a year to take an in-person training. There are no more Washtenaw County in-person trainings but there are trainings available in other counties that you can sign up for on the YQCA website.**

Once you have completed the YQCA trainings, please send you YQCA certificate to

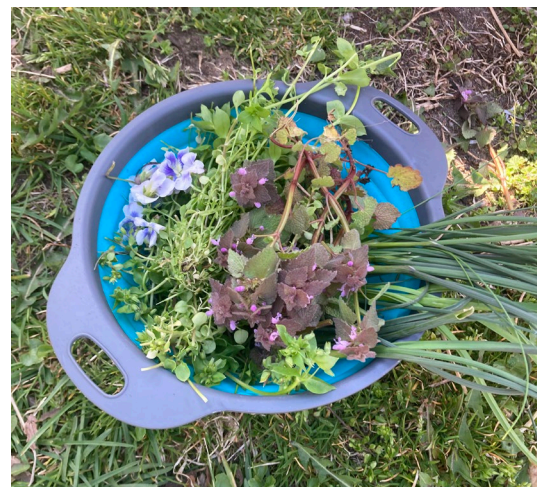
Need help registering? Check out the [YQCA Help Page](#) to help walk you through the registration process.

Sign Up Now for Fighting Food Insecurity: One Bowl of Ramen at a Time!

Join the Washtenaw County Youth Commission and Growing Hope Teen Leaders for an evening of education, food, and fun at Growing Hope Urban Farm, 922 W Michigan Ave, Ypsilanti, MI 48197, on May 20th from 4:30 – 6:30 pm. This event is open to all ages but especially great for youth!

We will have a ramen cooking demonstration, a guided edible weed foraging walk, interactive games, a scavenger hunt, and much more! There will also be other organizations with tables like the Farm at Trinity, Food Gatherers, and Fed Up Ministries!

Sign up now for this free event: <https://bit.ly/ramenfood>





COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Thank you to all our Project RED Volunteers, Sponsors, and Supporters!

Thank you to all the Project RED Volunteers, sponsors, and supporters for once again making it possible to education almost 2,000 students and more than 500 teachers and chaperones.

This year was also the 35th Anniversary of Project RED and we celebrated with a dinner and program on April 17th at the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds. The Project RED Partners were recognized by both Congresswoman Debbie Dingell and Representatives Jason Morgan and Jennifer Conlin. We also got to hear from special guests Ben Lacrosse, Michigan Farm Bureau President; Tonia Ritter, Michigan Farm Bureau Education & Leadership Programs Manager; Mike Fusilier, MFB District 3 Director; and Dr. Quentin Tyler, Director of MSU Extension.



We also recognized the Saline FFA for their contributions to this program along with the Pittsfield Grange. Both Whitmore Lake Schools and Manchester Community Schools were also recognized during the week for attending for 35 years! This year, we had 3rd graders from every school district in the county attend.

Once again, we could not put on this event without the many volunteers, sponsors, and folks who bring animals, equipment, and supply food. Thank you for all you do to education 3rd graders across our county about agriculture and natural resources in Michigan.

A Fun 4-H Ceramics Workshop in April



We had a great time at the 4-H Ceramics Workshop hosted by Little Gnome Studio on April 19th. We had 10 youth and a few parents paint various 4-H ceramic pieces. Little Gnome Studio supplied the pieces and paint, and participants will pick up the pieces after they have been fired.

We plan to do another workshop this fall, so keep a look out if you are interested in participating.

COUNTY 4-H NEWS

A Great 4-H Teen Led Rabbit Showmanship Clinic



Thank you to 4-H member Genevieve Peale for coordinating and leading a 4-H Rabbit Showmanship Clinic at the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds on April 26th. Genevieve approached the 4-H staff about leading this clinic in the winter to get more youth interested in showing rabbits. She created the registration and send out reminders to families. At the clinic, she was assisted by 4-H volunteers, Corinne Rafalski and Julie Peale. Youth got a chance to practice showmanship and also make a first aid kit for their rabbits.

We love to see youth taking the initiative to lead and plan programs!

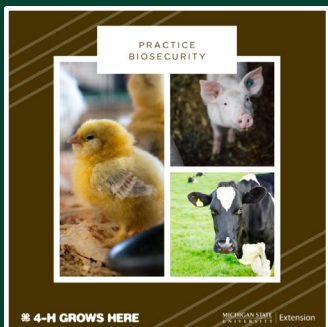
More Project RED 2025 Photos





STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Livestock and poultry owners encouraged remain vigilant about biosecurity



In recent years, highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) has been detected in cattle, cats and poultry across the country and Michigan. Livestock and poultry owners are strongly encouraged to take proactive measures to defend against additional outbreaks in Michigan. Check out the following resources helpful information on biosecurity:

- www.canr.msu.edu/fair-and-exhibition-animal-health/biosecurity
- www.canr.msu.edu/resources/biosecurity-for-dairy-and-beef-cattle-farms
- www.canr.msu.edu/news/small-scale-and-backyard-poultry-owners-should-remain-vigilant-to-protect-against-highly-pathogenic-avian-influenza
- www.canr.msu.edu/avian-influenza/

May 7: Make the Most of Your Market Animal Project Webinar – Talk the Talk

Online

Effective communication is key to successfully selling livestock. This session covers tools and techniques to connect with buyers, convey product value, and empower youth with practical tips for impactful auctions and markets.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/market-animal-project-webinars-may-7

May 7: Make the Most of Your Market Animal Project Webinar – Records to Riches

Online

Learn how to keep track of what you spend and earn so you can make smart choices for your project. Discover the power of record keeping and learn how to calculate your break-even point to make smarter decisions in livestock marketing.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/market-animal-project-webinar5-14

May 15: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series: Fueling or Squashing the Rumor Mill

Online

This webinar will focus on supporting youth who face rumors about their projects and how to prevent the spread of misinformation.

12 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-fueling-or-squashing-the-rumor-mill-noon

7 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-fueling-or-squashing-the-rumor-mill-7pm

May 15: Adulting 101 Webinar – Stay Safe Out There

Online

Practical strategies to help you stay aware, prepared and confident, no matter where you go.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/staysafe

May 19: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series: Engaging Parents in 4-H Experiences

Online

Discover strategies to engage parents and implement shared leadership in your 4-H club.

12 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-engaging-parents-in-4-h-experiences-and-implement-shared-leadership-in-4-h-clubs-noon

7 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-engaging-parents-in-4-h-experiences-and-implement-shared-leadership-in-4-h-clubs-7pm

May 21: Make the Most of Your Market Animal Project Webinar – Market Mastery

Online

Delve into the 5 Ps of marketing and explore innovative strategies to elevate your outreach. Learn practical tools and techniques to promote projects successfully, enhance sales, and build valuable connections in the industry.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/market-animal-project-webinar-5-21





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Michigan 4-H license plate now available!

Michigan drivers have a new way to show their 4-H pride while supporting 4-H youth development programming: through the purchase of the newly released Michigan 4-H license plate. Available at the Michigan Secretary of State, the plate prominently displays the signature 4-H clover and part of the proceeds from every sale and renewal will go to support Michigan 4-H youth.

"We are elated that the Michigan 4-H license plate is officially here," said Quentin Tyler, director of Michigan State University Extension, which is home to the Michigan 4-H program. "We hope the many members of our Michigan 4-H community – youth, parents, alumni and supporters – will consider supporting 4-H by purchasing a plate as they renew their licenses this year."



Similar to other special cause fundraising license plates in the state, the Michigan 4-H license plate will cost \$35, with \$25 of the purchase fee benefiting Michigan 4-H Youth Development. A \$10 fee will also be charged to benefit Michigan 4-H when the plate is renewed. License plates may be ordered by visiting Michigan.gov/sos, by mailing in a form or scheduling a visit to any Secretary of State office. The plate will be delivered by mail in two to three weeks.

To learn more, visit extension.msu.edu/4-HPlate.

Michigan 4-H Foundation opens 2024-25 grant cycle

Awarded annually, the Michigan 4-H Foundation recently opened their grant and award opportunities for the 2025-2026 season. Open to 4-H volunteer leaders, members and staff, the grants and awards support local 4-H clubs and county programs. **All applications are due June 1.**

"County 4-H programs and clubs have so many unique programs," said Abbey Miller, director of the Michigan 4-H Foundation. "Thanks to the support of our generous 4-H donor community, we are pleased to offer mini-grants to support these many wonderful programs."



Opportunities include:

- **Michigan 4-H Legacy Grants of \$1,000.** These grants are awarded to support development of a new program or initiative or to strengthen, enhance or expand a current program that is making a difference.
- **4-H On-Target Grants of \$500.** These grants support 4-H Shooting Sports programs to enhance existing programs, develop a new program or offer a special experience related to 4-H Shooting Sports.
- **The Collins 4-H Youth Horticulture Grant of \$500.** This grant is available only to 4-H youth clubs and supports advancement of club work in plant science and horticulture activities.
- **4-H Educational Garden Grants of \$1,000.** These grants support the creation of local 4-H educational gardens in Michigan.

Learn more or apply online at <http://mi4hfdtn.org/grants>. Questions? Contact the Michigan 4-H Foundation at 517-353-6692.

| Sun | Mon | Tues | Weds | Thur | Fri | Sat |
|-----|--|--|------|---|--|---|
| | | | | 1 May 1 st Forms 4-H Online Enrollment Deadline | 2 | 3  JR Livestock Hoof Trimming Clinic - FULL |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8  7pm - Advisory Council Meeting | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20  2-4pm - Food Insecurity Ramen Event | 21 | 22  6pm - Small Animal Committee Meeting | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26  MEMORIAL DAY | 27  7pm - Horse Association meeting | 28 | 29 | 30  FairEntry 4-H Youth Show Registration Begins | 31  2-4 pm - Still Projects Orientation & Mock Judging |