2018 MSU Extension Exploration Days—Journey to Success

The 2018 MSU Exploration Days registration is coming up soon. Youth won’t want to miss out on this exciting adventure for 11-19 year olds! The registration books online at [http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/4_h_exploration_days/registration_information](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/4_h_exploration_days/registration_information) and at the 4-H office. All of the forms that need to be completed are included in the registration booklet and need to be brought to the 4-H office. Don’t delay! Sign up early for the best opportunity to get the classes that interest you the most. It’s going to be an exciting time for youth to attend classes at MSU, develop new friends and skills while having a great time with our county delegation! Youth will be able to enjoy swimming in the Olympic size pool, MSU dairy ice cream and a variety of other activities while on campus.

The session numbering system easily identifies the session type as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Session Range</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100-157</td>
<td>1st-half session (Wed. PM, Thurs. AM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>200-266</td>
<td>2nd-half session (Thurs. PM, Fri. AM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>300-311</td>
<td>Full session (Wed. PM, Thurs. AM &amp; PM, Fri. AM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>500-528</td>
<td>1st-half session repeated as 2nd-half</td>
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<tr>
<td>600-628</td>
<td>2nd-half session same as 1st-half</td>
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<tr>
<td>900-918</td>
<td>State Awards 4-H Program</td>
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REGISTRATION ENDS APRIL 16!
MSU Extension 4-H youth development programs, throughout the state, are in need of 4-H project leaders to help youth grow and develop in a variety of life skills. These life skills can be anything from science, baking, car repair, animal care, financial literacy and so much more.

Take a look at these questions:

Do you have a couple of hours a month you could give to a small group of youth?

Are there children in your club or neighborhood who show an interest in learning about a subject that you know something about or are willing to learn about with the youth?

Are you interested in making a difference in the lives of the next generation?

Can you help a child to become successful, giving them the tools to become confident leaders in their homes, schools and communities?

Do you believe that volunteering helps to build a better community?

Did you participate in a youth organization where adults volunteers helped you to develop into a confident adult?

If the answer was yes to any of these questions we’re looking for YOU!

If you are interested in helping the next generation to “Make the best better” please contact the 4-H office at bolhuisv@anr.msu.edu.

Some specific project leaders we are looking for currently are: culinary arts (food), needlecrafts (including sewing), arts and crafts (including drawing, painting, photography, ceramics, pottery, wood crafts, etc), vet science, entomology (study of bugs/beekeeping), sports and recreation, and so many more. If you have an idea for a project that you would like to teach and don’t see it listed above please contact the 4-H office, we would love to talk to you!

Remember part of our pledge is to use our “hands for larger service” - many times this is taught through the example of our volunteers to our youth
ANIMAL PROJECTS

Animal Health and Sciences Workshops

**Animal Senses: Finding a New Perspective**
Tuesday, March 20, 2018
6:30 PM
Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds, Room B

During this interactive session, we’ll learn about important science principals that help us better understand how to work with livestock in a low stress manner for us and them. We’ll explore the domestication history of common livestock species and how this impacts their sensory world. We’ll also take time to talk about how animal senses, what is the same and different from ours as humans and how can understanding these sense help us better work with animals.

**Goat Welfare**
Tuesday, May 29, 2018
6:30 PM
Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds, Room B

At this session, we’ll first start by defining what animal welfare is and is not. With that, we’ll talk about two important references scientists use to think about and discuss animal welfare. Once we have a basic understanding of animal welfare in general, we’ll turn our attention to goats and learn about species specific information for these animals.

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**2018 Poultry Deadlines**

**Turkey:**
Order—February 23
Pick-up—March 27

**Market Geese:**
Order—March 30
Pick-up—May 8

**Heavy Duck:**
Order—April 13
Pick-up—May 22

**Roaster (chicks):**
Order—May 4
Pick-up—May 29

**Market (Peking) Duck:**
Order—May 11
Pick-up—June 12

**Broiler (chicks):**
Order—May 25
Pick-up—June 19

**Cornish (chicks):**
Order—June 1
Pick-up—June 26
Kalamazoo County 4-H Benefit Auction

The Kalamazoo County 4-H Benefit Auction will be held on Saturday, April 28 at the Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds. The registration will begin at 9AM and the bidding will begin at 10AM and will run until all items are sold.

All proceeds help to support the Kalamazoo County 4-H program through offering scholarships to attend MSU Exploration Day, college scholarships, 4-H programming, awards, trips and more!

Many of the items have been listed (or will be listed) on the Kalamazoo County 4-H Benefit Auction Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/4HLeadersCouncilBenefitAuction/. Please check it out and pass the link on to others.

JOANN Fabrics Partnership

The JOANN’s Fabrics Paper Clover campaign has been extended through March 31! Michigan is currently in the top 10 states for Paper Clover sales and this will give us a few more solid weeks for additional fund generation.
EVENTS

National 4-H Day of Service

In April, 4-H’ers across the nation will participate as True Leaders in Service in multiple community service projects, culminating in a National 4-H Day of Service on Saturday, April 28, 2018.

The 4-H True Leaders in Service Toolkit and Event Registration are now live on 4-H.org. Want to plan a community service project? Visit https://4-h.org/get-involved/true-leaders-in-service/#!overview to start planning your event.

Research shows youth who participate in 4-H programs are significantly more likely to make a positive contribution to their communities.

Raise Your Hand Activation

Following the success of last year’s activation, National 4-H Council just announced that they will once again be holding the Raise Your Hand Activation this spring. This is a great opportunity to engage with 4-H alumni and friends and will be held April 1 – May 15. Although details are still being worked out, I’m told it will again feature cash prizes for the winners.
High School Financial Planning Program Training

If you or someone you know (a non-profit, school teacher, community leader) wants to teach important money management topics to teens and are near Hastings, this is a great training. You are invited to participate in a FREE training opportunity for a curriculum in the National Endowment for Financial Education (NEFE) High School Financial Planning Program (HSFPP). HSFPP has improved the financial literacy of millions of students across the county for nearly 30 years. Each workshop offers award-winning, noncommercial curriculum that aligns with state and national standards and provides easy-to-use lesson plans as well as free instructor manuals and workbooks for each student.

March 23, 2018
9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (Check-in at 8:30 a.m.)
Hastings Public Library
227 East State Street
Hastings, MI 49058
https://events.anr.msu.edu/NEFEHSFPPHastings2018/

**Materials, refreshments, and lunch will be provided.**
SCHOLARSHIPS

Kalamazoo County Leader’s Council Scholarship

The Kalamazoo County 4-H Leaders Council Senior and Upperclassmen Scholarship deadline is April 16, 2018 at 5:00 PM to the 4-H office. Applications are available at www.msue.msu.edu/kalamazoo or at the 4-H office. Your Member Record Book must be handed in with your application. Applicants will be selected based upon their Member Record Book, statement of your reason for attending college or other advanced education and an interview. Senior interviews will be held on April 23rd. If you need help completing your Member Record Book, please contact the 4-H staff.

Application deadline for the 2018 Michigan Youth Livestock Scholarship is May 15, 2018

To be eligible for either the MYLSF general scholarship or the statewide scholarship, the applicant must be a resident of Michigan and a graduating high school senior or a high school graduate continuing their education at an accredited institution in the year in which they are applying.

For the general MYLSF scholarship, the applicant must be a youth exhibitor at the Michigan Livestock Expo, the Michigan Dairy Expo or the former Michigan State Fair, for a minimum of three calendar years prior to the year of application. For the statewide scholarship, an applicant must be a youth exhibitor at a local, county, or statewide exhibition for a minimum of three years prior to the year of application.

Applications and qualification requirements for the MYLSF and the statewide scholarship can be obtained at www.michigan.gov/mda-mylsf. Applications must be postmarked no later than May 15, 2018. If you have any questions, please contact Jeff Haarer, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development’s Producer Security Section Manager, at 517-284-5642 or Ernie Birchmeier, Michigan Farm Bureau’s Livestock & Dairy Specialist, at 517-679-5335.
4-H International Exchange Opportunity

We are now accepting application for families to host international exchange students for one month this summer, 2018. We have 8 Korean delegates and 30 Japanese delegates looking forward to meeting your family.

HOSTING PERIOD 4 weeks: July 22 – Aug. 17, 2018

- Japanese & Korean delegates are ages 12-16 (most are 12-14) or adult chaperones
- Youth have limited English language skills, so host families should be prepared to communicate imaginatively.

HOST FAMILY REQUIREMENTS

- Japanese & Korean youth will be the same gender and within 3 years of age of your child.
- A chaperone can be hosted for two weeks by an individual or any family. Chaperones can be college interns or age 60+.
- No special activities needed. The youth want to experience American culture, make new friends, and improve their English by staying with your family.
- Volunteer to participate. Previous 4-H involvement not required.
- Delegates can attend summer camp (we cover cost up to $250) with your child.

Applications are found at [www.states4hexchange.org](http://www.states4hexchange.org) or if you have questions...
FUN at the Fair

Over the past several years we’ve had a lot of fun for the 4-H youth at the fair. A few years ago water games and pizza were added on Sunday night along with a dance on Friday night. We would like to add more fun games and activities for youth and adults throughout the week, but we are looking for your input. Josh (the fair manager) and I would like to have both youth and adults attend on Thursday, March 15th, 6:30 PM at the fairgrounds. If you can’t make it, but have ideas please send them to us by March 14th to Veronica at bolhuisv@anr.msu.edu or Josh at jdgowe@kalcounty.com.

Youth Business Guide to Success

Are you involved in the 4-H market animal project area? Want to expand the market animal project area in your 4-H group to teach life skills around marketing, budgeting, communication, and entrepreneurship skills?

If so, Michigan 4-H has a curriculum and training to support the work you do with youth! Through the Youth Business Guide to Success (YBGS) curriculum, youth will gain knowledge about marketing and advertising their products. Participants will also explore and practice production, management and distribution skills. In addition, it provides a venue to explore what it takes to be successful in business and view the world of animal science and agribusiness as a viable career option.

Intended for 12-19 year olds, the Youth Business Guide to Success (YBGS) curriculum is very adaptable to 4-H and non-4-H audiences working with animals. We would like to offer a class in the spring of 2018.

If you are interested please contact the 4-H office at bolhuisv@anr.msu.edu.
Revised 4-H Teen Leadership Guide now online

Learn the roles and responsibilities of a teen leader from this newly revised 4-H Teen Leadership Guide. Designed to make the process of taking on a 4-H teen leadership project easier, the publication provides a five step project guide along with fillable forms that make any teen into a great teen leader.

The 4-H Teen Leadership Guide is available to download for free at msue.anr.msu.edu/resources/4_h_teen_leadership.

STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

4-H Events and Workshops

March 6: 4-H and Fundraising 101 for Volunteers -Online
Learn about Michigan 4-H and MSU Extension fundraising policies.
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4_h_and_fundraising_101_for_volunteers

March 15: 4-H Junior Master Gardener Workshop -Kalamazoo Fairgrounds, Kalamazoo
Become a 4-H Junior Master Gardener at this workshop. Registration is due by March 7.
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4_h_junior_master_gardener_workshop_kalamazoo

March 17: Time for Success 4-H Workshop -MSU Tollgate Farm and Conference Center, Novi
Polish your skills and get prepared for your next interview.
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/time_for_success_4_h_workshop

March 19: Michigan 4-H Embryology Staff, Teacher and Volunteer Training -Online
This free training is designed for educators who would like to learn how to implement an embryology program through classroom activities or 4-H SPIN clubs. Register by March 15.
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/michigan_4_h_embryology_staff_teacher_and_volunteer_training_online

March 21: Animal Care and Well-Being - Mid Michigan Community College, Harrison
During this free event, learn about large and small animal welfare from MSU Extension educator Melissa Elischer.
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/animal_care_and_well_being_1

March 31: Southeast Michigan 4-H Target Archery Shoot -Springfield Oaks County Park Activity Center, Davisburg
This first annual event provides Michigan 4-H shooting sports members with the opportunity to test their skills and earn recognition. Register by March 17.
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/2018_southeast_michigan_4_h_target_archery_shoot

April 4-5: 4-H Tractor Safety - NorthWest Michigan Research Center, Traverse City
Complete the tractor operation safety course to become certified to perform farm jobs. Registration is due by March 23.
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/2018_4_h_tractor_safety

April 7: Michigan 4-H Hippology Skills and Communications Contest -Michigan State University, East Lansing
Combine youth interest in horses with the importance of science literacy and life skill building in this fun contest. Submit entries to your county MSU Extension office by March 9.
http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/mi-4-h-hippology-skills-communications-contest

April 14: State 4-H Goat Expo -Michigan State University, East Lansing
The State 4-H Goat Expo is designed for young people who are interested in live animal evaluation and in testing their knowledge of the goat (caprine) industry.
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/state_4_h_goat_expo

For the most up-to-date events listing, go to
4-H Exploration Days registration opening March 13

4-H Exploration Days is Michigan 4-H’s largest pre-college program and could be the highlight of your summer—maybe even change your life! Registration for this popular event will open March 13 and is open to any Michigan 4-H’er above the age of 11 as of Jan. 1.

4-H Exploration Days is designed to help youth build the skills they need to successfully transition to college and to life as an adult. Michigan 4-H youth who participate have the opportunity to stay in MSU campus residence halls while attending classroom and field trip sessions throughout their stay.

With more than 200 session choices held on and off campus, there are topics for everyone including animal science, business and entrepreneurship, international language and culture, performing and visual arts, and science, engineering, and technology. During the 2017 4-H Exploration Days, nearly 2,000 youth attended and they gained important life skills like decision making, problem solving and communication.

Registration will be available beginning March 13 at 9 a.m. All registration information should be turned in to your county’s Extension office, typically by the end of April. Check with your local 4-H program coordinator for your specific county date or visit www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_exploration_days for more information.

4-H Great Lakes and Natural Resources Camp

From August 5 to 11, 4-H youth with an interest in the outdoors have the opportunity to engage in an amazing outdoor, hands-on learning experiences at the 4-H Great Lakes and Natural Resources Camp (GLNRC). Held annually at Camp Chickagami in Presque Isle, camp participants get to go charter fishing, snorkeling, sailing and hiking, while learning about Great Lakes ecology, natural resources and environmental education.

Declared one of the top eight 4-H science programs nationally in 2012, the goal of GLNRC is to help prepare, reinforce and enrich what youth have already learned in school and what they will learn in the future. This is achieved by allowing participants to spend one week learning from experts about coastal ecology, fisheries management, limnology, wildlife, invasive species and forestry. After attending the camp, participating youth will gain knowledge and skills in environmental science and related careers.

To attend, youth must be between the ages of 13 and 15 and apply online. Registrations are due by May 1, but space is limited to 70 campers, so early application is encouraged. For more information, visit www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_great_lakes_natural_resources_camp.
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<td>Oshtemo, Portage club meetings</td>
<td>Early sign up for Exploration Days, Room C, fairgrounds, 6:30 pm Derby car project, room B, fairgrounds, 7pm</td>
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<td>Scotts, Tri-united club meetings</td>
<td>Climax, Fulton, Galesburg, Schoolcraft club meetings</td>
<td>4-H Friends club meeting</td>
<td>Richland club meeting Home show—no rooms available @ fairgrounds</td>
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<td>Alamo club meeting</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Hickory Corners club meeting</td>
<td>Horse council tack sale, 5-9pm fairgrounds, Dog council, Panera Bread, West Main, 7pm</td>
<td>Countywide poultry meeting, room B, fairgrounds, 7pm</td>
<td>LSA, room B, fairgrounds, 7pm</td>
<td>Countywide goat meeting, room B, fairgrounds, 7pm</td>
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<td>Leader’s council, room B, Carcass, room C, Cooper Cavaliers, room A, fairgrounds, 7pm</td>
<td>Countywide rabbit meeting room B, swine meeting room A, fairgrounds, 7pm Beekeeping project meeting, 6:30 PM</td>
<td>Fair council, room C, fairgrounds, 7pm</td>
<td>Countywide beef, room A &amp; sheep meeting, room B, fairgrounds, 7pm</td>
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