



Mecosta County

4-H Family News

March 2022

Happy March!

Hope everyone is ready for Spring because it looks as if it may be right around the corner. I know I am personally excited for some warmer temperatures so I can enjoy some walks with my two pups—Bailee and Daisy. Daylight Savings is this month. Do not forget to SPRING FORWARD with your clocks.

The Extension office has lost our Office Manager/Support Staff as of last month. Therefore, if you have any 4-H questions, please call my office phone line direct at 231-592-9494. As you all know, we are starting to get into the busy season of 4-H with fair coming soon. Be on the lookout soon for record books to be available on our Facebook group and the Fair website. 4-H enrollment deadline is **MARCH 31st**—so make sure to spread the word to any friends who may want to sign up.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Myers

4-H Program Coordinator

Contact Us



Jennifer Myers

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Mecosta County Calendar of Events

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March 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 4-H Council Meeting @ 6:30 PM MCSB	2	3	4	5 Michigan 4-H Skillathon Qualifier
6 Back Road Country Kids Club Meeting @ 5 pm Remus	7 Morley Stanwood Critter Club Meeting @ 6:30 PM MS Elementary	8 Horse Leaders Meeting @ 7 PM MCSB	9 Hippology & Pine Grove Club Meeting @ 6:30 PM MCSB	10	11	12 Michigan 4-H Skillathon Qualifier
13 Daylight Savings Time 	14	15	16	17 	18	19 Michigan 4-H Skillathon State Championship
20	21 Junior Fair Board Meeting @ 7 PM MCSB	22	23	24	25	26
Back Road Country Kids Easter Pie Sale						
27	28	29	30	31 4-H Enrollment Deadline		
Back Road Country Kids Easter Pie Sale						

Back Road Country Kids Easter Pie Sale

BRCK (Back Road Country Kids) Club is having an Easter pie sale. All pies are handmade by the kids and parents of BRCK. We will be selling Apple, Blueberry, Cherry, Chocolate and Peanut Butter pies beginning March 21st and ending April 6th. Pies will be delivered the week of April 11th—just in time for Easter. Pies are 10.00 each. Fruit pies will be frozen and need to be baked, but the Chocolate and Peanut Butter will be ready to eat. The purpose of this fundraiser is to raise funds to buy club fair decorations along with club supplies for club functions. If you are interested contact a BRCK member, Deb Niedzielski, Myra VanSyckle or the 4-H office.



Broilers and Duck Orders

It's that time again to order for the broiler and market duck projects.

Big Rapids Farm and Garden will be making a broiler order for delivery the week of May 16 properly timed for Fair meat pens. Order deadline is April 18. They will also do an order of Pekins white ducks for those planning a market duck.

Big Rapids Farm and Home will also have chicks available for purchase and have ordered extra for that week. No pre-order required. Available while supplies last.

Contact Mary Jo if you have any questions about ordering.

A wooden sign with the text "ORDER TIME!" in large, bold, orange letters. Below the text are two photos: one of a white duck standing in a field and one of a white duck's head with an orange beak. Below the photos, the text reads: "Pre-Order at Big Rapids Farm & Garden" and "No pre-order required at Big Rapids Farm & Home." The sign has a dark wood grain background.

ORDER TIME!

Pre-Order at
Big Rapids Farm & Garden

No pre-order required at
Big Rapids Farm & Home.

SPRING WEIGH—IN REMINDER

April 9, 2022 from 9 am to 11 am at the Fairgrounds

Registration forms due in the Extension Office by 4 pm on April 12, 2022

COMMUNITY SERVICE LOG SHEET

Below is an image of the Community Service, Education, and Junior Fair Board Meeting Log Sheet. You can find the pdf file of this on the Mecosta County 4-H Community Facebook group. You may also stop by the Extension Office to pick up a copy.

Record of Mecosta County Junior Fair Board Community Service, Education,
and Jr. Fair Board Meetings for 2021-2022

Member: _____ Leader's Approval: _____
Club: _____

Mecosta County Junior Fair Board Youth Community Service must be completed by July 1, 2022 and Education must be completed by June 1, 2022. Each youth ages 8 years old and up are required to do either 1 educational session or 3 community service hours and attend 1 Jr. Fair Board meetings (doesn't include October 2021 or June 2022 meetings)

Date:	Description of Community Service:	Location:	Organizer Signature:	Hours:

Date:	Description of Educational Session:	Location:	Leader Signature:

Date:	Junior Fair Board Meeting	Location:	Leader Signature:



Requirements for selling Market Animal(s) at Fair Auction:

- *Must attend 1 Junior Fair Board Meeting (November—May)*
- *Attend 1 Educational Workshop and/or 3 Community Service Hours*

All Things GREEN

1. Which 2 colors make GREEN? _____
2. Name a shade of GREEN. _____
3. Name a book with GREEN in the title. _____
4. Name a movie with GREEN in the title. _____
5. Name a song with GREEN in it. _____
6. Name 2 GREEN vegetables. _____
7. Name 2 GREEN insects. _____
8. Name 2 GREEN desserts. _____
9. Name something GREEN outside. _____
10. Name something GREEN inside. _____

St. Patrick's Day Coloring Page



4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Certification Workshops



Interested in leading shooting sports with a 4-H club? Become a certified instructor at this one-day, hybrid workshop!

Held at the Ralph A. MacMullan Conference Center in Roscommon on April 9 and 10, workshops will offer hands-on training that compliments virtual video instruction.

Participants will learn about the Michigan 4-H Shooting Sports' mission and policies, risk management, safety, equipment use and care, teaching methods, positive youth development and more.

Each day will offer different certifications with choices among archery, rifle, shotgun, and hunting and wildlife disciplines. First Aid/CPR and Project WILD/Learning Tree will be concurrent sessions.

Register by March 15. To learn more, contact Laura Quist at quistla1@msu.edu.

4-H Events and Workshops

March 2: Virtual School Garden Education Sessions

Online

This six-week series that will occur every other Wednesday through May 11. Attendees will leave each session with 2-3 lesson ideas for teaching in the garden.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/virtual-school-garden-education-sessions-spring-2022>

March 3: Paying for Post-Secondary Education

Online

Learn the many ways to fund your education after high school so you can minimize your debt while investing in yourself.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/youth-money-3-3>

March 5: 4-H Shooting Sports Trainer Workshop

Demmer Shooting Sports and Education, Lansing

Become a trainer for the Michigan 4-H Shooting Sports program! Trainers facilitate instructor certification workshops for teen and adult volunteers in the 4-H shooting sports project area.

https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/ss_trainer_workshop

March 8: Wild Spartans Series

Online

Are you a Wild Spartan? Join us for this free monthly fisheries and wildlife research webinar series for families interested in exploring science, careers and conversation

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-series-march-2022>

March 9: 4-H State Awards Preparation Training — Resumes and Cover Letter Review

Online

Meet individually with staff to receive feedback on your resume and/or cover letter.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-state-awards-preparation-training-resumes-and-or-cover-letter-review>

March 16: 4-H State Awards Preparation Training—Application Review

Online

Meet individually with staff to receive feedback on your application.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-state-awards-preparation-training-application-review>

March 18—20: Animal Science Career Quest

Anthony Hall, East Lansing

Learn about all the opportunities an animal science education can bring them, not just as an undergraduate student, but long-term post-graduate, career options, and beyond.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/animal-science-career-quest>

March 26: 4-H Hippology Contest

Anthony Hall, East Lansing

Demonstrate your knowledge of equine science and husbandry in a competitive setting.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-hippology-contest-2022>

March 27: 4-H/FFA Horse Judging Contest

MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

Demonstrate your knowledge of equine conformation and performance while giving an oral explanation of your class evaluation.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-ffa-horse-judging-contest-2022>

For the most up-to-date events listing, go to <http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events>.

STATEWIDE NEWS AREA

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Apply for a 2022 4-H State Award!

Michigan 4-H true leaders ages 11 and older have an opportunity to be recognized for the great work they do in 4-H and develop their career skills by completing a state award application. A Michigan 4-H State Award is the highest honor bestowed on a Michigan 4-H member and provides an opportunity to receive recognition for their engagement in rich learning experiences that result in outstanding knowledge and life-skill development.



2019 State Award winners with their plaques

State award applications are divided into four categories: Mark of Excellence essay contest (11-12 years old), junior state award (13-15 years old), senior state award (16-19 years old) and group awards (13-19 years old). The application process and selection is determined by the age of the 4-H member.

More information about the Michigan 4-H State Award process can be found online at <http://bit.ly/stateaward>. Applications are due April 1. For more information, contact your 4-H program coordinator or email Betty Jo Krosnicki at nashbett@msu.edu or Janice Zerbe at rajzerj@msu.edu.

New training required for 4-H volunteers

Since 2013, Michigan State University (MSU) has required all MSU employees and volunteers conducting business on behalf of the university to report child abuse and other harm to children. To help MSU Extension volunteers better understand the reporting expectations, a new online learning module titled "Child Abuse Reporting Protocol" has been developed. The module can be completed in 10-15 minutes.

All 4-H volunteers are required to complete this training in the upcoming year. Deadlines are as follows:

- New volunteers must complete the module as part of the screening and onboarding process.
- Current 4-H volunteers due for annual compliance and background checks on April 1 or later must complete the training before their 2022 annual compliance date.
- Current 4-H volunteers due for annual compliance and background checks in February or March must complete the training before their 2023 annual compliance date. However, these volunteers are encouraged to complete the training prior to this date.

To review the training, 4-H volunteers may either:

- Log into [Volunteer Central](#) and complete the module through the system. Within Volunteer Central, the module will be visible on either the screening dashboard (applicants) or the annual compliance dashboard (volunteers). Once completed, Volunteer Central will log this as "completed".
- Check with your local 4-H program coordinator to determine if they will be hosting a local training or meeting to review and discuss the material. For trainings conducted by MSU Extension professionals, attendance will be recorded in Volunteer Central on your behalf.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment as a 4-H volunteer. Questions about the training? Contact your local 4-H program coordinator.

*Help youth find
their SPARK with
JOANN Fabrics*



From now until April 30, every dollar can make a difference in helping a young person find their SPARK. While visiting your local JOANN store or shopping online, you can support 4-H by adding a donation at checkout.

The funds donated will support the 4-H program with 50% going back to local 4-H programming and 20% supporting Michigan 4-H.

To find out more information about this partnership, visit joann.com/4h.