



Benzie County

4-H Family News

July 2021

Summer is Coming, and so is Soccer!

Summer is here and it is time to start thinking about our annual soccer season! Fairs are a go for 2021 with 4-H participation and we eagerly await our in-person soccer season here in Benzie, especially with the lifting of MSU Extension requirements surrounding COVID and in-person 4-H meetings, activities, and events.

While our youth are most certainly excited for our upcoming soccer season, changes have been made regarding coaching staff. All of our adult coaches are required to complete MSU Extension's Volunteer Selection Process at the Gold level in order to coach in 2021 and beyond. If you or someone you know has been a coach in the past or has an interest in becoming a 4-H soccer coach, please reach out to me as soon as possible so we can get the VSP started.

Finally, in an effort to offer more efficient communication option, a Benzie 4-H Remind class has been set up for text message notifications and file sharing. To join this group, go to Remind.com and create an account if you do not have one already, and join with class code: @beb37ad8

Sincerely,
Ali Olson
4-H Program Coordinator

Upcoming Events & Announcements

4-H Class Registration is now open for Manistee Co. Fair 4-H participants!

This will be open until August 5.

July 30 - Pen & Stall Forms and Drug-Free/Proof of Origin Statements Due for Manistee Co. Fair 4-H participants.

Soccer Registration will open mid-August.

Keep an eye on your emails, social media, & Remind notifications for more upcoming events and activities. Benzie Remind Class Code: @beb37ad8

Contact Us

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Web Sites

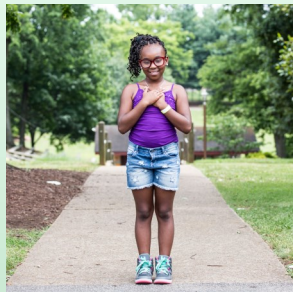
[MSUE County](#)

[Benzie 4-H Facebook](#)

[NW Michigan 4-H Live-
stock Council](#)

[Manistee 4-H Livestock
Council](#)

Michigan 4-H returns to in-person programming



Thanks to thoughtfully crafted guidelines created by MSU Extension professionals, Michigan 4-H is excited to once again be hosting face-to-face programs and events.

Since May 17, Michigan 4-H professionals and volunteers have been hosting in-person activities that adhere to specific public health guidelines.

To learn more about these meeting requirements and how your club or group can request a face-to-face program, please visit the Approved Activities for MSU Extension Volunteers in 2021 website at extension.msu.edu/approvedactivities.

4-H Events and Workshops

July 1: 4-H History at Home SPIN Club with the Naval History and Heritage Command

Online

Join Sawyer and Shea the sea dogs, along with Tom Frezza of the Naval History and Heritage Command in Washington, D.C., to learn about WWII history! All ages welcome but recommended for youth 10 and up.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-history-at-home-spin-club-2

July 8: 4-H History at Home SPIN Club with the Naval History and Heritage Command

Online

Join Sawyer and Shea the sea dogs, along with Tom Frezza of the Naval History and Heritage Command in Washington, D.C., to learn about WWII history! All ages welcome but recommended for youth 10 and up.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-history-at-home-spin-club-3

July 10: MSU Tollgate Farm HomeGrown Gardening Series 2021

Online

Are you interested in starting a vegetable garden for the first time or are you an experienced veggie gardener looking to explore new ideas? All levels of experience are welcome at this monthly series! This session will focus on season extension for the home garden.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/msu-tollgate-farm-homegrown-gardening-series-2021-july-10

July 12: Michigan 4-H Sights and Sounds of Nature

Online

Michigan youth are invited to become mindful and engaged in nature during July and August by completing nature journaling prompts each week using the app Goose-Chase.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-sights-and-sounds-of-nature

July 14: 4-H Cloverbud Outdoor Adventure Day Camp

DeVries Nature Conservancy, Owosso

The Outdoor Adventure Camp will be a fun filled day of everything outdoors, from nature walks to crafts and bug hunting to meeting animals! Open to ages 5-8 as of Jan. 1, 2021.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-cloverbud-outdoor-adventure-day-camp

July 17: 4-H Spartan Coding Camp

Online

Explore the exciting field of computer coding at MSU Extension's newest premier pre-college program for two weekends this summer, July 17-18 and August 14-15!

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-spartan-coding-camp

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

4-H Spartan Coding Camp

Explore the exciting field of computer coding with MSU Extension's newest premier pre-college program, 4-H Spartan Coding Camp! Discover your passion for technology and develop skills you can continue practicing throughout high school.

4-H Spartan Coding Camp is a four-day virtual camp being held over two weekends this summer, July 17-18 and August 14-15. In addition to coursework, it will include evening engagement activities, including career exploration. Whether you have prior computer coding knowledge, or have never even thought about it, you will gain valuable coding experience and skills through this interactive online experience. By the end of the camp, youth will learn how to develop their own tech ideas, as well as design and code a personal website from scratch!

This camp is open to rising high school freshman, sophomores, juniors and seniors with an interest in learning computer coding and applying it to solve problems. **Space is limited, register online by July 12 at www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-spartan-coding-camp.** The cost to attend this four-day camp is \$300 and includes tech support, post-camp support and program fees. There is potential grant funding and limited scholarships available. Attendees will need a computer with internet and the ability to do video conferencing (microphone and webcam) to participate.

Questions? Contact Christine Miller at 517-552-6905 or email johns832@msu.edu.

Michigan 4-H eliminates 4-H participation fee

It is with great enthusiasm that MSU Extension has eliminated the 4-H participation fee beyond the current program year. The fee was not collected in 2020-2021 in consideration of the financial strain put on some families due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This pause gave the organization an opportunity to reflect on how it can best reach all audiences. Despite best efforts, this fee has been a barrier for some. By removing the fee indefinitely, MSU Extension feels it can best bring the power of 4-H to all young people in Michigan.

MSU Extension 4-H program coordinators played a large role in leading MSU Extension through this decision. These professionals serve alongside youth across the state and have been champions for removing the participation fee in an effort to better reach under-served audiences in rural, urban and suburban communities.

It is important to note that enhancements previously supported by 4-H participation fee funds, including 4-H grants, awards and scholarships, and supplemental accidental insurance for 4-H youth and volunteers, will continue. Michigan 4-H has identified alternative funding sources that can support these and other local and state programming initiatives previously enhanced by participation fee dollars. This includes endowments, grants, reallocating funds formerly used for 4-H participation fee scholarships and other methods. The quality and quantity of programming offered by Michigan 4-H will not be diminished as a result of the participation fee dissolution.

The last 15 months have been difficult. MSU Extension is excited to once again offer face-to-face programs in local communities and hopes this new policy will provide the current and future 4-H community with new and improved opportunities to grow with 4-H.



Support Michigan 4-H at Walgreens

Help communities you care about by donating your **myWalgreens** Cash rewards



4-H community members that frequent Walgreens can now support Michigan 4-H while they shop!

The Michigan 4-H Foundation is now participating in the **myWalgreens** nonprofit donation program. At Walgreens, customers earn unlimited 1% Walgreens Cash rewards when shopping with a free **myWalgreens** membership. Walgreens customers may choose to donate their **myWalgreens** cash rewards to the Michigan 4-H Foundation or they can contribute \$1, \$5, or more of their Walgreens Cash rewards. It's that easy and the amount you donate is up to you!

To participate, interested individuals should login or create a **myWalgreens** account at: <https://www.walgreens.com/mywalgreens/donation.jsp>. Then, shop at Walgreens, using your **myWalgreens** rewards. Once your Walgreens cash adds up, donate all or a portion of your Walgreens cash to support the Michigan 4-H Foundation.

The last day to donate Walgreens cash is August 31, 2021.