



# Washtenaw Farm Council



Each year the Washtenaw Farm Council puts on the Washtenaw County 4-H Youth Show for kids from 5 to 18 years old. We get 600-630 kids that participate for 6 days showing their animals and their projects that they have made. Each year there are some 7,000 projects entered. We have been providing the space, buildings and grounds since 1955 for this show. Several years ago the state dropped funding for premiums and matching funds for equipment rentals and exhibition equipment. This resulted in a reduction of over \$12,000 per year in funding. The County continues to provide \$15,000 per year from the PA-88 monies as they have for many years to help offset the costs. The Farm Council and donations cover all the other costs associated with the Youth Show, staffing, building maintenance, exhibit tents and set-up/clean-up costs. The total cost to put on the week's events for these kids exceeds \$45,000 each year. Without the county's contribution (allocated from PA-88) we will be hard pressed to continue to provide this experience for the youth of Washtenaw County. The economic impact to business in the county from feed stores, craft stores, tack shops, and restaurants would be significant.

Lynn Rich  
Manager  
Washtenaw Farm Council  
Washtenaw County 4-H Youth Show