



4-H Program Coordinator

Olivia (Liv) Fox



Liv Fox is the new 4-H Program Coordinator for Antrim and Otsego Counties. Ms. Fox is an MSU graduate with a bachelor's degree in Animal Science.

She is currently the North America Dairy Sheep Association's President and is the incoming Executive Director for the Michigan Sheep Producers Association.

She has also been instrumental in supporting efforts to advance dairy sheep genetics within the United States.

Ms. Fox lives in Antrim County with her daughter, where they raise a flock of high percentage East Friesian dairy sheep, with the goal of achieving purebred status. Outside of her professional work, she enjoys the quieter side of life, with knitting as her favorite creative outlet.

She is eager to connect with youth and families through 4-H programming, supporting engaging projects, partnerships, and new initiatives throughout Antrim County. Ms. Fox brings energy, experience, and a strong commitment to youth and community development.

Lake Level Management

The Elk Rapids-Chain of Lakes Watershed spans four counties. Both the Antrim County and Kalkaska County Boards of Commissioners have approved resolutions affirming that Leslie Meyers, Antrim County Drain Commissioner, has the authority to manage the lake levels. Charlevoix County and Grand Traverse County have not yet approved similar resolutions. Until all four county resolutions are in place, no work on the dam repairs or other improvements can begin.

On January 7, the **Grand Traverse County** Board of Commissioners approved the following motion: "Direct Administration to work with the Drain Commissioner to seek a written response from Antrim County to written questions from Grand Traverse County so that they may better understand the lower chain of lakes project and to ensure adequate protections of Grand Traverse County's and property owner's interests."

On January 14, the **Charlevoix County** Board of Commissioners meeting included an Unfinished Business agenda item of "Six Mile Lake Survey" which was related to the proposed lake level resolution. No motion was made. Once all four resolutions are in place, the next step with the Circuit Court to update the lake level orders and confirm the special assessment district boundaries can proceed.

Public Safety Center Progress

With the guidance and input of the experienced professionals Abonmarche-Byce, The Christman Company, and Plante Moran Realpoint, the County is working hard to develop a concept plan for a Public Safety Center that is reduced in size while still serving the needs of the community and of law enforcement.

Reductions under consideration include the total square footage in the jail housing area, combining spaces dedicated for separate offices, creating a more efficient medical area, and a general size reduction of most spaces.



The County has just released a newsletter dedicated to providing information about the project. It can be found on the County's website and on the Antrim County Public Safety Center Facebook page.

News from Antrim County Parks

Barnes Park: 2026 camping reservations for 5+ nights open April 12 at one minute past midnight. For camping 2+ nights, reservations open Tuesday, April 14.



Site fees for 2026 are: Electric \$42/night, Rustic \$28/night, and \$50 for a daily pavilion rental. Discounts are available for Antrim County residents

(please mention when you call or check-in). The camping season officially opens May 21, 2026 and runs until October 25, 2026. The Petoskey Stone Festival is Saturday, May 16, 2026.



Antrim Creek Natural Area:

A fundraising campaign for the restoration of the historic Antrim City Schoolhouse is getting underway. Information is available on the new Antrim Creek Natural Area Facebook page and the Antrim County Parks website. For info on donations, email barnespark@antrimcountymi.gov.

Wetzel Lake Day Park: An advisory group is being assembled to make recommendations for Wetzel Lake Day Park improvements. It is hoped that officials from Mancelona Township and the Village of Mancelona will attend, along with other community members. The first meeting is expected to take place in March. Interested? Please email: barnespark@antrimcountymi.gov.