



COMMUNICATOR

It's That Time of Year Again!

It's that time of year again where winter weather can be very unpredictable. Due to any unforeseen weather conditions some UW-Extension programs may cancel without notice. In these instances, you will be sent an email notifying you of the cancelation. The cancelation will also be posted on the home page of our website and on the Chris Clover Facebook page. If you don't receive an email or are unsure if the meeting has been canceled, please contact the UW-Extension Office for more information. Evening program / meeting cancelations will be done by 3:00pm.

Winter Activities Need Insurance

Just a reminder that most winter activities (skiing, sledding, tubing, etc.) are not covered by our normal \$1.00 per year per member insurance taken out on all enrolled members in the 4-H program. These activities require additional insurance that can be purchased for a very small fee per participant. This special activity insurance will also cover non-4-H members if your club has invited other youth to an event and will cover adults and volunteers participating in the event. To get this extra insurance for your event contact Heather at least 1 week prior to your event.

Notice to All Groups Using the Meeting Rooms After Regular Business Hours:

Please make sure you lock the front door of the Ag Service Building and shut off all of the lights following your meeting. If you have questions about how to do this please contact Laura.



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4-H Pledge

*"I pledge my HEAD to
clearer thinking,
my HEART to greater
loyalty,
my HANDS to larger
service, and
my HEALTH to better
living, for my club, my
community, my country,
and my world."*

Join us on Facebook

St. Croix County 4-H
and
Extension St Croix County

Dear 4-H Families,

As we create this newsletter, we are diving into the new year of 2022. I hope you have found value through your 4-H participation, and I look forward to seeing you at activities during the upcoming year.

Sometimes people ask, “Does participation in 4-H make a difference?” Research studies provide specific evidence about the value of the 4-H experience for young people. In an article written by Cathann Kress, Vice President for Agricultural Administration and Dean of the College of Food, Agriculture, and Environmental Sciences at Ohio State University, she stated, “Young people who participate in 4-H Clubs do better in school, are more motivated to help others, and are developing skills in leadership, public speaking, self-esteem, communication and planning, and are making lasting friendships.”

A ten-year longitudinal study done by Tufts University comparing 4-H youth to non-4-H youth concluded the following about 4-H youth:

- 4X more likely to give back to their communities
- 2X more likely to make healthier choices
- 2X more likely to participate in STEM activities
- 3X more likely to be physically active
- 2X more likely to get better grades in school
- 2X more likely to report high school engagement
- 2X more likely to have higher levels of positive youth development skills
- 5X more likely to graduate college
- 2X more likely to pursue a career in science, engineering, or computer technology

As we begin the new 4-H year, I would like to encourage all youth, leaders, and parents to take an active part with their 4-H club this year. I would challenge you to try new things: projects, countywide activities, 4-H camp, etc. 4-H is truly making a difference in the lives of the youth in our program, but it is up to all of us to continue to engage and encourage youth. I look forward to a great 2022!

Happy 4-H'ing!



Heather Vierling
St. Croix County 4-H Youth Development Agent



CALENDAR

January

- 3 YQCA Training
- 3 Monthly Horse Project Meeting
- 6 NW 4-H Golf Classic Committee Meeting
- 8 Horse Project Kick-Off
- 10 VIP Training (RSVP Deadline Dec. 28)
- 10 WI Tour Committee Planning Meeting via Zoom
- 10 Dog Project Committee Meeting
- 11 Livestock Committee Meeting
- 13 Cloverbuds @ Home
- 13 VIP Training (RSVP Deadline Jan. 3)
- 15 Ambassador Meeting
- 18 Leaders Association Meeting
- 29 4-H Food Expo



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February

- 7 Monthly Horse Project Meeting
- 8 Livestock Committee Meeting
- 10 Cloverbuds @ Home
- 19 Ambassador Meeting
- 22 VIP Training (RSVP Deadline Feb 11)
- 22 YQCA Training
- 26 Clover College



March

- 1 Family Challenge Deadline
- 5 YQCA Training
- 7 Monthly Horse Project Meeting
- 8 Livestock Committee Meeting
- 10 Cloverbuds @ Home
- 15 4-H Enrollment Deadline
- 15 Leaders Association Meeting
- 19 Ambassador Meeting
- 26 Clover University
- 31 Last Day to Change Projects



THE 4-H FAMILY CHALLENGE

Its time to get the whole family involved! We are excited to offer four 4-H Family Challenge Activities during the next few months. Each time your family completes one of the challenges your name will go into the hat for a drawing at the end of March. We will draw two families to receive a family night fun gift pack (worth over \$50 each). Good luck. Once registered you will receive more information about each challenge.

To register for the 4-H Family Challenge go to: <https://forms.gle/KNKHecXwxd8W4ZyW6>

SERVICE PROJECT

Here is an opportunity for your family to give back to your local community. Find a service project that means something important to your family. Examples could include: food drives, clothing drives, writing cards to nursing home residents, ringing bells, shoveling a neighbors driveway, etc. Service activities can be found everywhere. Jump in and do some good deeds for the year.



FAIRY GARDEN

Legend says that fairies possess the power to bring health, happiness and spiritual blessings to those who build them a garden to live in. Enjoy creating a magical world with your family where fairies can live and thrive.



OUTDOOR WINTER FEAST

With temperatures in the single digits and the sun out for only a few hours a day how do our animal friends survive the cold Wisconsin winters? Here is an opportunity for your family to help out our smallest friends by giving them a winter feast. This is a great project for families to get creative and see what kind of feast they can create.



FAMILY PHOTO SHOOT

Here is an opportunity to take some great, memorable family photos. Families will be challenged by taking a number of different, themed photos. This challenge will encourage families to put their personalities into some awesome photos.



CLUB INFORMATION

2022 4-H Clover College (REGISTRATION ON PAGE 7)

Date: Saturday, February 26, 2022
Location: Glenwood City High School, Glenwood City, WI
Time: 9:00am—2:30pm
Cost: \$15.00 / youth
Registration Deadline: February 11, 2022



This fun filled day is open to all youth (4-H and non) grades K—5. The day will be filled with a variety of workshops for youth to explore different 4-H projects. Youth will take home several completed fair projects. Please see registration form for more information on the workshops being offered. Youth are required to bring a brown bag lunch. **All registrations are due to the St. Croix County UW-Extension Office by February 11.** Workshops are on a first come first served basis.

2022 WI 4-H Trips

Below is a list of 4-H Educational Travel Opportunities that will be offered to Wisconsin 4-H youth for 2022. Watch your email for more information / registration information as each trip becomes available. Please contact Heather if you have question on any of these experiences.

2022 - American Spirit East (Grades 8-10)
National 4-H Conference (Grades 10-12)
Wisconsin 4-H Youth Conference (Grades 7-10)
Citizenship Washington Focus (Grades 10-12)
National 4-H Congress (Grades 9 - 12)
2023 - Advanced Space Academy (Grades 10-12)



WI Tour Committee Meeting

Heather is looking for individuals (youth and adults) who are interested in helping to plan a WI Tour experience for 2022. Join her via Zoom for the first planning meeting on **Monday, January 10 @ 7:00pm**. Zoom log in information is below.

Join Zoom Meeting <https://uwmadison.zoom.us/j/99417854676?pwd=QTBMRW9qV0VnbFlJbFhxcnF4NW9DQT09>
Meeting ID: 994 1785 4676
Passcode: 740375
One tap mobile +13126266799,,99417854676# US (Chicago)





UW-MADISON EXTENSION

Clover College

Saturday, February 26, 2022
Glenwood City High School (850 Maple St., Glenwood City)

Session Descriptions

Woodworking

Jerry & Melanie Donoth

Use your carpentry skills to build a beautiful woodworking project to take to the county fair.
Class Limit: 12

Fun with Chemistry

Rob Brown

See how to make tooth paste for an elephant and gummy bears dance amongst other fun experiments through chemistry.
Class Limit: 12

Get Electrified!

Ben Meyer

Want to learn more about electricity? Here is your chance to learn about electrical currents, batteries, circuits and more!
Class Limit: 10

Scratch Off Art

Marci Meyer

Do you like to draw? Do you like to paint? Well, how about scratch art? Join us for a fun new way to create awesome pieces of art work.
Class Limit: 10

Paper Quilling

Marci Meyer

Paper quilling is the art of cutting paper into long strips, rolling them up and shaping them into designs. Learn how to make your designs POP.
Class Limit: 10

Fairy Gardens

Elizabeth Hesselink

Youth will plant succulents into various containers creating one of a kind fairy gardens.
Class Limit: 12

Spring Time in the Woods

Mike Lindley

Are you interested in turkey hunting, shed deer antler hunting, and moral mushroom picking? Join us for a fun filled adventure in the woods.
Class Limit: 12

Nature Painting

Becky Olson

Learn the art of painting. Create your own nature masterpiece with acrylic paints on canvas.
Class Limit: 12

Leathercraft

Heidi Wagner

Experience the art of leathercraft. Learn new skills and create one of a kind pieces.
Class Limit: 10

Sugars & Fats

Heather Vierling

How much is too much? Learn about the science behind sugars and fats in our everyday foods.
Class Limit: 15

Mini Fold Up Photo Albums

Mari Omann

Make a mini photo album from folded squares of cardstock. Youth are encouraged to bring a few small photos to add during the workshop.
Class Limit: 12

Candle Holders

Carole Schurtz

Make a beautiful candle holder with decoupage, tissue paper and a clear container.
Class Limit: 12

Snow Candles

Carole Schurtz

Making candles in the snow. These will be a one of kind creation.
Grades 3-5, Class Limit: 10

Sewing 101

Debbie Stevens

Join us for a simple sewing project. All supplies will be provided.
Grades 3-5, Class Limit: 8

MARS Landing

Bridget Lentz

Learn about the surface of mars and it's environment. Use you engineering skills to land a rover on top of Mars.
Class Limit: 10

On a Scale of One to T-REX

AJ Lentz

Love to perform in plays, skits, or dramas? Learn to become an actor with warmups, movement and play.
Class Limit: 8

Arm Knitting

Catherine Schurtz

Try out a new method of knitting...arm knitting. This is a fun way to learn to knit using your hands and nothing else.
Class Limit: 10

Lefsa

John Johnson

Learn how to make a soft Norwegian bread from potatoes and flour.
Class limit: 10

Hula Hoop Rugs

Jennie & Kaylee Bazille

Join the fun! Learn to make a small rug using a hula hoop and old t-shirts.
Class limit: 10

Blast Off

Heather Vierling

Learn about basic rocketry. Design and build rockets to blast off.
Class Limit: 15



UW-MADISON EXTENSION



Clover College

Saturday, February 26, 2022
Glenwood City High School
Open to all youth grades K-5th
Registration at 8:30am / Will start at 9:00am
Registration Fee: \$15.00 / youth

2022 Clover College Participant Registration

Name (s) _____ Email _____

Address _____ Telephone _____

Grade (s) _____ Parent (s) name _____

Gender _____ Race _____

Emergency contact name _____ Emergency contact telephone _____

I am currently a 4-H member: ☐ Yes ☐ No Club Name _____

Health Concerns: (allergies, etc.) _____

I require an accommodation for a disability to participate in this program: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Amount enclosed: _____ (\$15.00 / youth) Ck# _____ Cash _____

ALL YOUTH WILL NEED TO BRING A SACK LUNCH TO THE EVENT.

Registration Deadline: **Feb. 11, 2022** No refund for cancellations will be issued after the deadline.

Make check payable to: **St. Croix County 4-H Leaders Association**

Return to: 1960 8th Ave, Suite 140, Baldwin WI 54002

Please rank your TOP TEN choices (1 highest to 10 lowest). First-come / first-serve for session choices. All youth will attend 3-5 sessions. Limited participants in each session.

____ Fun with Chemistry

____ Woodworking

____ Scratch Off Art

____ Fairy Gardens

____ Mini Fold Up Photo Albums

____ Candle Holders

____ MARS Landing

____ On A Scale of One to T-REX

____ Hula Hoop Rugs

____ Blast Off

____ Get Electrified!

____ Springtime in the Woods

____ Paper Quilling

____ Nature Painting

____ Leathercraft

____ Snow Candles

____ Arm Knitting

____ Lefsa

____ Sewing 101

____ Sugars & Fats

Yes ☐ No ☐ I am available to help with sessions at Clover College on February 26, 2022:

Name: _____

National 4-H Congress

This November, I got the amazing opportunity to travel to Atlanta, Georgia for the 100th Anniversary of the National 4-H Congress. The days were long and eventful and filled with sightseeing, service projects, workshops, and my personal favorite, lots of great food. It was amazing to see the city of Atlanta including the Atlanta Aquarium, CNN Studios, and the Atlanta History Center. It was so great to connect with 4-Hers from across the United States and Puerto Rico and I know that I have made friends that I will stay in touch with for many years to come. I loved to listen to the speakers and performers that we had at congress because they inspired me to find my passion and live a life of service to others. Some of my favorite speakers were John Beede who has climbed the tallest mountain on every single continent on earth. He told us his story and encouraged us to set out to climb our own mountains. I also enjoyed listening to Manny Ohonme who runs an organization called Samaritans Feet that has provided shoes to millions of kids in Africa. I would encourage anyone who is even the slightest bit interested to attend next year's National 4-H Congress. It is truly an experience you will never forget.

Bennett Hatfield "National 4-H Congress was an amazing opportunity to connect with other 4-Hers across the country, strengthen my leadership and service skills, and see the great city of Atlanta. I learned that in 4-H, it is others first, always. I would encourage anyone who is thinking about going to attend next year's congress."



SAVE THE DATES

Clover Cooking - January 29

Clover College - February 26

Clover University - March 26



What's Up with Your Club?

Would you like your Club featured in the next St. Croix County 4-H Communicator? It's simple!

Write up a short article telling us just how fun your club's event / meeting was and make sure to include a picture with the names of the members featured. Let us and other clubs know the good work you are doing in the community! Once you have completed your story send it to Laura at laura.hinz@wisc.edu





Rolling Hills 4-H Club

In November and December, our club donated time doing service projects for our community.

We collected non-perishable food items for our local food shelf, participated in Salvation Army bell ringing, set-up for Operation Help and sponsored two children for Christmas and decorated tissue boxes for a local senior living community.

Happy Holiday's from Rolling Hills 4H Club!



Dry Run Go-Getters 4-H Club

The Dry Run Go-Getters had a busy December!

We spent a Saturday taking shifts and ringing bell for the Salvation Army outside of Walmart. Some of the kids went shopping for the 2 families we sponsored in the Baldwin-Woodville Communities. And we made a virtual Christmas Caroling Video to send to the local nursing homes!!

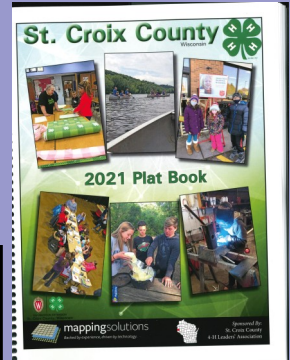
St. Croix County 4-H **2021 Plat Book and Plat Maps**

On Sale NOW at the following locations:

- ♦ UW-Madison Extension Office, Baldwin, WI (payment with cash or check only)
- ♦ Gregerson Ace Hardware, Baldwin, WI
- ♦ Doyle's Farm & Home, New Richmond, WI

**Thank you for supporting
St. Croix County 4-H!**

**Book Cost \$40
Map Cost \$45**



Educational Resources from **“The Learning Store”**

Using high-quality educational materials is an important part of a 4-H meeting or experience.

The Learning Store is an online service of UW-Madison Division of Extension. It offers educational resources and publications. There are topics like health, finances, food safety, environment, agriculture and farming, community, and economic development. 4-H youth and families can use them for project work. A few examples include:

- Raising Waterfowl
- Shelves, Houses, and Feeders for Birds and Mammals
- Guide to Raising Healthy Goats
- Chicken Breeds and Varieties
- Poultry for Small Farms & Backyards

Go to The Learning Store at <https://learningstore.extension.wisc.edu>. There, you will find more than 900 titles. To read a publication for free, click the View Publication button. Or purchase print copies to share at 4-H events and/or county fairs.



Get your FREE 4-H Curriculum

The St. Croix County Extension office is cleaning and we would love your help. We have an extensive collection of 4-H Curriculum available to you for free. Examples include:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| • Horse | • Home Economics |
| • Beef | • Exploring 4-H |
| • Dairy & Meat Goat | • Citizenship |
| • Swine | • Youth Leadership |
| • Sheep | • Photography |
| • Poultry | • Videography |
| • Waterfowl | • Communication |
| • Rabbit | • Theater |
| • Dog | • Demonstrating |
| • Vet Science | • Leathercraft |
| • Shooting Sports | • Block Print |
| • Hunting | • Metal Enamel |
| • Adventures | • Food & Nutrition |
| • Bikes | • Wildflowers |
| • Aerospace | • Trees/Forest Fun |
| • Scale Models | • Insects |
| • Self Determine | • Spring Bulbs |
| • Woodworking | • House Plants |
| • Small Engines | • Vegetable Gardens |
| • Tractors | • Pest |
| • Electricity | |
| • Lawn Care | |
| • Landscape | |
| • Child Development | |
| • Clothing/Crochet/Knit | |

Contact Laura for
info: 715-531-1937 or
laura.hinz@wisc.edu

LEADER NEWS

VIP Training—Required for New 4-H Volunteers

If you have adults who are interested in becoming certified 4-H volunteers they are required to take the Volunteer in Preparation Training (VIP). Completion of a VIP Training is one of the requirements to becoming a certified 4-H volunteer. All VIP Trainings will be held both in person and virtually this fall. These trainings take 1—1 1/2 hours to complete. Below you will find a list of dates and RSVP deadlines. These RSVP deadlines are firm in order to mail you the training packet ahead of time. For more information contact Heather heather.vierling@wisc.edu

January 10 @ 5:00pm	(RSVP By: December 31)
January 13 @ 7:30pm	(RSVP By: December 31)
February 22 @ 9:30am	(RSVP By: February 11)
February 22 @ 5:30pm	(RSVP By: February 11)

TO REGISTER FOR A TRAINING GO TO
<https://forms.gle/nJbsSJM6fHbbb7ht6>

Steps to Becoming a 4-H Volunteer

- 1.) Enroll in 4-HOnline
- 2.) Complete a National Background Check
- 3.) Attend VIP Training
- 4.) Completed online Mandated Reporter Training



St. Croix County 4-H Leaders Association Meeting

January 18 @ 7:00pm

UW-Extension Office or via ZOOM

**Agenda will be sent out prior to the
meeting**



4-H Event Insurance

As you plan out your club calendar take note of those activities that may require additional insurance. This insurance will cover all participants (youth/adult, 4-H and non 4-H). The cost is \$0.30/person/day. Contact Heather for insurance coverage.

NEWS TO SHARE??

Do you have news to share in the St. Croix County 4-H Communicator? Write up a short article and we will put it in the next communicator. Share important dates and information for projects and events. Keep everyone informed on the happenings in 4-H!

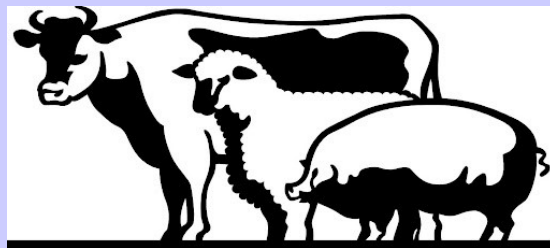
Send your articles to Laura at laura.hinz@wisc.edu

Livestock Committee Updates

Livestock Committee Meeting: January 11th 6:00 PM

The St. Croix Livestock Committee will be holding several rules meetings. These rules meetings are required for all exhibitors and one parent. They will be held at the Extension office at 6:00. Please make sure to attend!

If you have any questions, please contact
Lori DeBoer. lordeb651@gmail.com



YQCA Training

YQCA Training (Youth for the Quality Care of Animals) is a national multi-species quality assurance program for youth ages 8-21 with the focus on three core pillars: food safety, animal well-being, and character development. YQCA certification is required for all St. Croix County livestock youth (sheep, swine, beef, and meat goats) who plan to participate in the fair.

For 2022 YQCA Training will be offered both in person and online. You must register for both options and pay the fee. To register go to <http://yqca.org/> and create an account or log into your existing account. Once you are entered into the sight you can search for upcoming trainings. Below is a list of trainings that are being offered in our area.

Jan 3 @ 6pm, St. Croix UWEX Office
Jan 15 @ 9am, Ellsworth High School
Feb 21 @ 5:30pm, Ellsworth High School
Feb 22 @ 7pm, St. Croix UWEX Office
Mar 5 @ 9am, St. Croix UWEX Office



Horse Project News



Education kick-off Open House Jan 15th 5:30 – 7:30 PM Ag Center in Baldwin

Purpose:

There is more to the St. Croix County horse project than showing your horse at the fair and state events. There is also an educational component to assist you in learning more about horses, which includes but not limited to:

- Anatomy
- Care of horses
- Tack
- History of horses
- Nutrition
- Reproduction
- Judging

State Events:

- May 13th - State Speaking and Demonstration Contest – Dodge County
- May 14th – State Quiz Bowl and Hippology Contest – Dodge County
- Sept 16th – 18th – Horse Judging / Educational projects – West Allis

What to expect on Jan 15th:

- Open House – Drop in when you can
- Practice Hippology – we have a sample of the state boards
- Info on quiz bowl so you know what to expect
- Info on Horse Judging so you know what to expect
- County and state educational projects

St. Croix County Youth Horse Project MANDATORY Kick-off meetings

Both meetings are being held at the Ag Center in Baldwin. These are MANDATORY every horse project member that would like to participate in the project is required to attend one of these 2 meetings. Put them on your Calendar now and make these a priority. – Thank you!

1. **Saturday April 9th – 8:30 am Arrival – 9:00 am Start.**
2. **Thursday April 21st – 6:30 pm Arrival – 7:00 pm Start**

All Horse project parents and youth are welcome and encouraged!

Upcoming 2021 – 2022 Youth Horse Project Meetings - Ag Center

Youth Meeting 7:00 / all project meeting 7:30

- Monday January 3rd
- Monday February 7th
- Monday March 7th
- Monday April 4th
- Monday May 2nd
- Monday June 6th
- Monday July 11th (moved due to 4th)
- Monday Aug 1st (project recap meeting)
- No Sept meeting
- Monday Oct 3rd – 2022 Year-end banquet

Sheep & Goat Workshop

Saturday, January 22nd, 2022

Spring Valley High School Ag Room

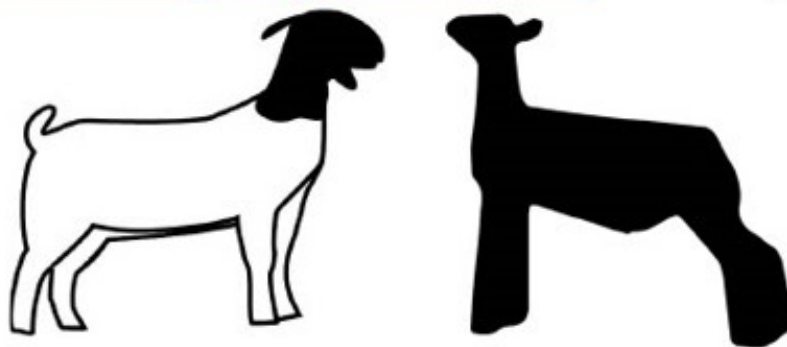
Sheep Meeting 9:00 am

Goat Meeting 11:00 am

**Basic Nutrition and Selection for New
Members with focus on Market Animals**

RSVPs are strongly encouraged to accommodate for hands
on projects

E-Mail black-sheep21@outlook.com with any questions



Hosted by Kaylee & Jacob Bazille



Farm Ready Research Webinar Series

Farm Ready Research is Extension's agriculture winter webinar meeting series for farmers and ag professionals. Learn the most up-to-date information on topics from dairy and livestock production to forage and farm management. Sessions continue in January 2022. Review the program topics and descriptions, and register at <https://extension.wisc.edu/agriculture/farm-ready-research/>

Friday, January 7 | 11am – 12pm : Farm-gate Economic Outlook

Tuesday, January 11 | 1 – 2:30pm : Animal Care Starts with the Calf

Tuesday, January 11 | 7:30 – 8:30pm : SRW A new year, a new ewe perspective

Friday, January 21 | 11am – 12pm : Farm Pulse Program, Make Sense of Financial Management

Tuesday, January 25 | 1 – 2:30pm : Diving Into Dairy Data Projects

Wednesday, January 26 | 12:30 – 1:30pm : Focus on Forage: Optimizing Forage Production in Wisconsin

Friday, January 28 | 11am – 12pm : Don't Gamble the Farm Away, Take Charge of Your Future Today!

Foods Project Members

4-H Food Expo - Saturday, January 29: 9 am - 3 pm

Want to learn how to prepare nutritious foods and improve your skills in the kitchen? Join us for the 4-H Food Expo. This event is open to all youth (4-H and non 4-H) interested in learning more about foods & nutrition. Youth will attend 5 different sessions. This years workshops include: *Mini Cheesecakes, Fitness Fun, Homemade Noodles, Fun with Popcorn, and Saucy Sauce*

See next page for registration.





4-H FOOD EXPO



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

Want to learn how to prepare nutritious foods and improve your skills in the kitchen? Join us for the 4-H Food Expo. This event is open to all youth (4-H and non 4-H) interested in learning more about foods & nutrition. Youth will attend 5 different sessions. This years workshops include: *Mini Cheesecakes, Fitness Fun, Homemade Noodles, Fun with Popcorn, and Saucy Sauce*



GRADE: Open to all youth (4-H and non 4-H)

WHEN: Saturday, January 29, 2022

WHERE: Somerset Middle School (625 Sunrise Drive, Somerset)

TIME: 9:00am—3:00pm (Registration 8:30am)

COST: \$15.00 / youth

WHAT TO BRING: Please bring an apron and pack a bagged lunch.

NAME: _____

GRADE: _____

CLUB: _____

PARENT'S NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

If your child needs accommodations or has any food allergies please list them here:

Make checks payable to: St. Croix County 4-H Leaders Association
Mail to: St. Croix County UW-Extension
1960 8th Ave., Suite 140
Baldwin, WI 54002

Registration Deadline:

January 19, 2022

Wisconsin 4-H Foundation Kicks off Art Contest

The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation has kicked off a contest that challenges all 4-H members to explore their creativity.

The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation Celebrates the Arts Art Contest is open to any current Wisconsin 4-H member, with cash prizes totaling nearly \$1,000. The contest will be held virtually, with photos of all entries submitted electronically. Entries are being accepted now through December 31, 2021.

The contest is broken into eight categories:

1. Drawing Using Any Medium
2. Painting (acrylic, watercolor or oil)
3. Pottery, Ceramics or Clay
4. Photography
5. Paper
6. Fabric, Yarn or Fiber
7. Wood
8. Any Other Media (ex: digital, metalcraft, jewelry, leatherwork, wax, eggshells, taxidermy, etc.)



A winner will be chosen in each category with a Best of Show award given to one entry chosen by the judging committee. Category winners will receive a \$100 cash award. The Best of Show entry will receive an additional \$150 cash award. Other art may be recognized but will not receive a cash award. Winners will be notified by email by February 1. A complete winner's list, as well as photos of the winning entries, will be on the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation Website by February 15, 2022.

To be eligible for the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation Art Contest, youth must be a 4-H member enrolled in 4H Online for the 2021-2022 4-H Program Year. Entrants do not need to be enrolled in any specific project to participate.

Entry Information

- Entries will be accepted from Friday, October 1, 2021, until midnight on Friday, December 31, 2021.
- A photo of the entry and the completed entry form must be submitted through the contest website: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/projects/arts-communication/celebrate-the-arts/>
- A tip sheet for entrants is available. Please review this information to learn how best to present and share your art.
- Each artist may submit one entry in one or more category but may submit only one entry in any one category. Example: Fred can submit a photo, a chalk drawing and a ceramic dish, but he cannot enter two photos.

For official contest rules and requirements and how to submit photos of artwork, please visit: Wis4HFoundation.org/events/celebrate-the-arts/



2022 State Team Applications Available Now

Applications are available for the 2022 Wisconsin 4-H State Teams! Do you love to sing, dance, act, write, speak, or draw? This may be for you!

Youth in grades 9-13 can apply to join the State Drama Company and State Arts Team for 2022. Teams help to lead WI 4-H & Youth Conference, perform at State Fair, help conduct the State Art Show, and much more! You can find out more information at <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/state-arts-teams/>

Applications are open in 4HOnline and close on February 15, 2022. Review the application pages for full information on what is required to apply. We hope to have you join us on one of our State Teams!

2022 Wildlife & Woods Virtual Classes – Coming Soon!

More Wildlife and Woods Virtual Sessions. Wildlife and Woods is Wisconsin 4-H's statewide natural sciences, wildlife, and forestry virtual event.

Outdoor enthusiasts get to connect with other 4-H youth grades 3-13 from around the state. Together, we explore the natural world with a special focus on wildlife, wildlife habitats, and forests. Participants learn about wild places across the United States following the 4-H Wildlife Habitat Education Program (WHEP) and the 4-H Forestry Program. Each month focuses on a different habitat, some of its plants and critters. Materials are designed for all ages and knowledge levels, so everyone can benefit. Since the sessions are co-led by youth and adult leaders, the youth leadership opportunities are plentiful. Youth leaders can research about wildlife, trees, management concepts and management practices; prepare slides; lead activities; present topics from slides; record videos; or read announcements. Youth leaders also meet virtually the week before for prep and practice. Being a part of this team is great preparation for WHEP and Forestry competitions. For more information or to join the Wildlife & Woods Leader Team, contact: Shannon Stege: wi4hwildlifeforestry@gmail.com



To register for the virtual sessions, watch your e-mail for a message from 4-H online. The registration link will also be in the January TRACKS Newsletter. Mark your 2022 calendars for the third Wednesdays, 7- 8 pm. Jan 19 - Wonderful Wetlands; Feb 16 - Hot Desert; Mar 16 - City Wildlife; Apr 20 - Great Lakes

4-H American Spirit Experience 2022 Information and Next Steps

Dates: June 3-12, 10-19 or 17-26, 2022

Highlighted Location(s):

- * Maumee, Ohio
- * Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- * New York City, New York
- * Boston, Massachusetts
- * Lexington/Concord, Massachusetts
- * Gloucester, Massachusetts
- * Niagara Falls, New York



What is this Experience:

Experience history & heritage by immersing in a 10-day bus journey to the East Coast — Youth-led content throughout the experience — Increase knowledge of American history while experiencing where it occurred — Dynamic exposure to diverse cultural experiences and perspectives of the foundation of our nation.

Participant Eligibility:

- All youth grades 8-10 (Youth in 11th -12th grade eligible for 2022 dates ONLY)
- Pre-Registration in 4-H Online 2.0 open January 3-14, 2022. Youth and their parent/guardian must complete the online registration together; it includes several questions for the youth participant to answer!
- Each experience is limited to 44 youth, decisions about who is selected to travel are based on the following factors: first-come-first-serve registrants, # of youth per experience, full rooms by identified gender, ages of youth traveling together, eligibility to participate in future years
- Estimated Cost of Experience = \$1,650

December 20, 2021	Registration for American Spirit Experience is open to past/2020 Registrants in 4-H Online
January 3, 2022	Registration for American Spirit Experience Open to ALL in 4-H Online
January 14, 2022	Registration for American Spirit Experience Closes in 4-H Online
January 28, 2022	Communication Regarding Participants Selected/Able to Travel E-mailed
February 14, 2022	Committee Planning Zoom continued Planning for 2022
February 20, 2022	Payment Deadline from Counties/Participants
	Payable to 4-H American Spirit, 5 University Drive, Sheboygan, WI 53081

COVID Questions

UW Madison, Wisconsin 4-H and the American Spirit Planning Committee is committed to ensuring a solid educational program in a safe and healthy environment. As we move forward with planning and preparing for American Spirit in 2022, we will continue to utilize the latest research and information on how an educational travel experience, through several states, can happen safely; using information from the CDC, the hospitality community (PCMA, MPI, etc.) and the American Camping Association. All participants will be required to agree to and abide by COVID Safety Protocols.

Animal Sciences Education Series Announced for 2022

The Wisconsin Youth Livestock Program (WYLP) is excited to offer these LIVE Virtual Zoom educational programs for the spring of 2022. These current topics are for youth and adults alike and occur on the second Thursday of the month from January through May. Each session begins at 7 p.m. CST with a presentation followed by a question-and-answer time. Register for any or all the events to get the connection information by email.

For registration and details about each presentation, go to: <https://go.wisc.edu/tng61h> On this webpage, you can also find an educational verification form. Complete the form and turn it in to your county fair and or livestock committee to verify your participation. These activities can serve as “county educational requirements.”

These sessions will provide awareness and knowledge of animal agriculture in the challenge areas listed. They will also give details on careers and how this area connects with your animal project. There will be a case study to further develop discussion skills with a local project leader, agriculture, and/or science teacher on the discussion topic. Younger youth can learn through a take-home activity they talk about with parents and/or project leaders.

- January 13 – Grand Challenge: Animal Health & Welfare
- February 10 – Grand Challenge: Precision Agriculture
- March 10 – Grand Challenge: Food Safety Pork Carcass Evaluation, Fabrication and Cooking with Pork
- April 14 – Grand Challenge: Land and Water
- May 12 – Grand Challenge: Biomedical Advancements

For more information visit <https://go.wisc.edu/tng61h> or contact Bernie O’Rourke, UW- Madison Animal & Dairy Science Extension Youth Livestock Specialist at (608) 263-4304 or borourke2@wisc.edu. For more information, go to the Wisconsin Youth Livestock Program.

Website – <https://youthanimalsciences.wisc.edu/> and <https://livestock.extension.wisc.edu/programs/wisconsin-youth-livestock/>

YouTube – <https://www.youtube.com/c/WisconsinYouthLivestockProgram>

Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/wisconsinyouthlivestock/>

Instagram – <https://www.instagram.com/wiyouthlvstk/>



OTHER NEWS



BLAIN'S SHOW VIRTUAL EVENT

Join us for this free virtual event to help get your animals show-ready this season

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6th 2022

Time: 6:00pm - 7:30pm CST

Location: Virtual-Platform - Microsoft® Teams

RSVP is required to attend - use QR code.



RSVP HERE

Event Topics:

Let's get ready to show! Join Nutrena's show feed experts, along with Blain's Farm & Fleet and Weaver Livestock for this three-species show event.

During this virtual event we will dive into the following topics for pigs, lambs & goats:

- Animal Selection
- Preparing For New Animals
- Acclimating New Animals
- Early Feeding Strategies
- Beginning Breaking & Training
- Early Season Daily Hair & Hide Care
- Key Daily Care Products

Day of Event:

Join the meeting on January 6th via the link provided in the RSVP. We look forward to seeing you there!
Please contact Megan Pretz (megan_pretz@cargill.com) with questions.

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Consistent with the Americans With Disabilities Act, persons who need materials in alternative format or other accommodation must write or call the UW-Extension contact person for the specific program or call the main telephone number of St. Croix County UW-Extension (715) 531-1930, 1960 8th Ave., Suite 140, Baldwin, WI 54002 at least 10 working days prior to the event. Individuals who need TDD/TTY access, can call 711 for relay assistance.

The University of Wisconsin Madison, Division of Extension staff in St. Croix County thanks you for collaborating with our many educational endeavors. We appreciate your support and working relationship as we provide educational programs designed to empower the diverse citizens of St. Croix County.

St. Croix County 4-H

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Phone: 715-531-1930

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