



Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H Wisconsin 4-H Forestry

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“TRACKS” – December 2020

Participation in Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H & Wisconsin 4-H Forestry activities are open to all Wisconsin 4-H club members interested in wildlife and forestry. You can be enrolled in any 4-H project and participate in the activities.

“Season’s Greetings”

Wildlife WHEP & Forestry 4-H Friends,

The year is wrapping up and hopefully many of you were able to use some unexpected free time to pursue your wildlife interests!

There is already a thin layer of ice on the pond down the road. I often see turtles sunning themselves on logs throughout the year but I wondered what they do as the weather turns. Turtles instinctively know how to prepare for winter. When air and water temperatures start to drop, turtles will slow their metabolisms and look for a place to hole up for winter. Different types of turtles prefer different types of homes: water-loving turtles will swim to the bottom of the pond while land-based turtles, like a box turtle will burrow in the dirt or mud at or near the pond surface. Just like fish, turtles will stop eating as their metabolism naturally slows to a cold-weather crawl. They'll start to hibernate - or brumate, as termed in herpatology - when they'll require very little oxygen, their heart rate will slow to just a few beats per minute and they'll sleep the winter away. Source: thepondguy.com



Drawing by Hannah Kloehn
Wildlife WHEP WI 4-H State Committee Member
& previous National 4-H WHEP Team Member

Did you read about the bears spotted in Richfield on November 17? (HOMEWORK - Where is Richfield?) Wisconsin's occupied bear range is expanding, which means residents can expect to see black bears in areas outside of the bear's traditional range. Wisconsin's black bear population is considerably higher than it was 30 years ago. The female black bear can weigh up to two hundred pounds. The male is larger weighing in at around four hundred pounds. Their height and length are around the same amount for both sexes. The height averages around three feet up to the shoulders and the length is approximately four to six feet. They typically hibernate from September through April. Black bears have excellent vision and are good swimmers. They can live to be thirty-three years old. Source: [Black bear population status and distribution | Wisconsin DNR](#)

The Winter Wildlife WHEP & Forestry 4-H Art Contest is right around the corner. Check out the 18 different classes and find your favorite three entries. You will compete in your own grade division. Attached is a copy of the registration form. Mail in your registration form with fees and you will receive a contest submission form. After receiving the submission form by email, follow the instructions and email the completed form to us. Good Luck.

“Backyard & Back 40” Wildlife & Forestry Activities – We have topic suggestions for you.

- 1.) Purple Loosetrife Beetle Growing Program,
- 2.) Building Bat Houses,
- 3.) Improving Habitat for Pollinators,
- 4.) Building Butterfly/Rain Gardens & Project Milkweed,
- 5.) Improving Habitat for Migrating Land Birds,
- 6.) Improving Upland Bird Habitats,
- 7.) Water & Riparian Areas Improvements,
- 8.) Forestry Fundamentals & Management Practices,
- 9.) Trees for Wildlife, Recreation, & A Renewable Resource,
- 10.) Understanding Distance, Directions, & Lay of the Land.
- 11.) And more.

Kerri, “TRACKS” Editor

Special Thanks” are extended to the following for making the “Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H” & “Wisconsin 4-H Forestry” programs possible: Wisconsin Chapter of National Wild Turkey Federation; Mad City Gobblers; Safari Club International (SCI) Wisconsin Chapter, Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H & Wisconsin 4-H Forestry Friends; Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H & Forestry – Washington County; Northern Kettle Moraine Chapter of Whittails Unlimited, Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H & Wisconsin 4-H Forestry State Committee Members
Advisor: Kevin Palmer



Winter Wildlife WHEP & Forestry 4-H Art Contest 2021 Registration Form

Just take a picture of your entry for this contest.



Registration is required by mailing this form & payment by February 15th, 2021. We will email you a photo submission form upon receipt of your registration & payment. Your completed submission form must be emailed by February 28, 2021.

This 4-H activity open to all Wisconsin 4-H Club members. You may be enrolled in any 4-H project to participate. See additional guidelines and wildlife/forestry art contest rules for all classes.

“Brief Description Required – on your submission form” – All items must have completed the “story telling” description area (counts 30% toward award) explaining your item and its wildlife or forestry connection. Items must be made in the current 4-H project year and after September 1st of the previous year. No commercial craft kits or similar are allowed. Judges will use their own discretion and no challenges are allowed.

Limit - THREE ITEMS.

Separate Classes & Current Grade (January 2021): K5, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13

1-Nesting Structure or Feeder for Bird, Bee, Butterfly, or Bat House, etc. – The structure meets specific requirements for the named critter. Include - overall size, shape, and hole diameter or opening, etc.. (Ornamental bird houses, etc. must be entered in crafts.) Include your story telling description.

2-Craft – Craft item has wildlife or forestry connection. Examples: leather craft, stitchery, clothing, sculpture, wildlife folk art, plaster tracks, quiver, etc. Craft items must be made by exhibitor during the current 4-H year. (Do not use “put together craft kits” or similar items.)

3-Drawing – Drawing can be any size and does not need to be mounted that has a wildlife, forestry, or wildlife habitat connection. Drawing can be pencil, ink, charcoal, chalk, pastel, colored pencil or similar on any surface. Drawing will be judged on “story telling ability”, neatness, and your description.

4-Invasive Plant or Weed – Poster, display, or dried example of an invasive plant or weed (immature and mature if possible). Include item name, your description, and control measures. Also, include date & location where found for each item for actual collections. This entry may include items from the entire preceding calendar year. Examples: purple loosestrife, ragweed, etc. Include your story telling description.

5-Orienteering & Geocaching – Poster or display on Compass, GPS, or Topographic Map Use. Items will be judged on their relationship to wildlife or forestry applications. Poster or display related to geocaching. Include your story telling description.

6-Painting – Your painting can be any size and does not need to be mounted that has a wildlife or forestry connection. Painting can be acrylic, watercolor, oil, or similar on any surface. Painting will be judged on “story telling ability”, neatness and your description.

7-Photo Black & White – Your black & white photo or silhouette photo (one photo only) can be any size and does not need to be mounted that has a wildlife or forestry connection. Photo will be judged on “story telling ability”, neatness, and your description. No people allowed.

8-Photo Color – Your color photo (one only), any size, and does not need to be mounted that has a wildlife or forestry connection. Photo will be judged on “story telling ability”, neatness, and your brief description. No people allowed.

9-Recycle – Any item related to wildlife, forestry, or for wildlife use. Example – bird nesting material. Item will be judged on “story telling ability”, practical usefulness, neatness, and your brief description.

10-Taxidermy – Item or display made 4-H member during the current 4-H year. Include date, location, and county where critter was obtained. Also, include a description of the critter and of your taxidermy work.

11-Trail Camera Photo – Large / Small Mammal – Photo from a trail camera can be any size and does not need to be mounted. Include animal name, date, location (county), and brief description of the picture. Also include the relationship of the camera’s owner. Picture must have been taken with your immediate family or grandparents trail camera after September 1st of the previous year. Photos will be judged on “story telling ability”, neatness, and your description.

12-Trail Camera Photo – Upland Bird, Backyard Bird, Waterfowl, or Raptor – Photo from a trail camera can be any size and does not need to be mounted. Include animal name, date, location (county), and brief description of the picture. Also include the relationship of the camera’s owner. Picture must have been taken with your immediate family or grandparents trail camera after September 1st of the previous year. Photos will be judged on “story telling ability”, neatness, and your description.

13-Tree or Shrub – Item, poster or display of a tree or shrub, parts, measurements, related insects, or diseases, etc. Include the tree/shrub name and description. Also, can be with an animal, insect, bird, or critter that makes their home in, on, or near a particular tree or shrub species. This entry may include items from the entire preceding calendar year.

14-WHEP or Forestry Concept – Item, diorama, poster, or display of a WHEP or forestry Concept (or part of a concept) from the current national manuals. Include the concept name and a description. Examples: habitat requirements, stages, food chain, etc.

15-WHEP Foods – Item, diorama, poster, or display of a WHEP foods (or part of a food group) from the current national WHEP manual. Include the food group name and a description. Examples: aquatic plants, grains, soft mast, hard mast, etc.

16-WHEP or Forestry Management Practice – Item, diorama, poster, or display of a WHEP Management Practice (or part of a management practice) from the current national WHEP Manual. Include management practice name and you. description Examples: planting trees, fish or wildlife survey, create snags, wildlife damage management, recreational uses, products, tools used, etc.

17-Wildflower – Dried or pressed wildflowers, poster or display of wildflowers or parts of a wildflower. Include name, date, location (county) where found and your description. This entry may include items from the entire preceding calendar year.

18-Wildlife/Forestry Game – Individual or group game or learning activity related to wildlife or forestry. Include name of game, supplies, rules, and ages for participation. Also, briefly describe what will be learned by the participants. Include a picture of the game being used if possible. Your item can be a 4-H youth leader activity from the entire preceding year.

Winter Wildlife WHEP & Forestry 4-H Art Contest Entry Form:

My current (January 2021) grade is _____

1st Item _____ Class # _____ Grade _____ Class Item _____ \$3.00

2nd Item _____ Class # _____ Grade _____ Class Item _____ \$2.00

3rd Item _____ Class # _____ Grade _____ Class Item _____ \$2.00

EXAMPLE: Class # 2 Grade 5 Class Item Craft

\$3.00 registration fee for each item is required.

Total _____ Check # _____

Remember to mail your registration & payment by February 15, 2021.

We will email you a submission form upon receipt of your registration & payment. Your completed submission form must be emailed back to us by February 28, 2021.

Washington County 4-H Wildlife WHEP & Forestry Art Contest Rules

- All entries are the property of Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H and Wisconsin 4-H Forestry and may be used for promotional purposes.
- No people are permitted in any entry in this contest. Such entries will be rejected.
- Only North American wildlife (including migratory critters), plants, habitat, etc., especially those in found in Wisconsin can be used in this contest.
- Items must be made in the current 4-H project year and after September 1st of the previous year. (See listed exceptions.)
- All 4-H wildlife artwork must be done by the participant and not previously exhibited at a Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H & Wisconsin 4-H Forestry Art Contest.
- Mountings or frames on photos, drawings, paintings, etc. for the submission photo is not required.
- No composed or altered pictures are permitted. Judges will use their own discretion and no challenges are allowed.
- No commercial craft kits or similar are allowed. Judges will use their own discretion and no challenges are allowed.
- **Your Wildlife or Forestry Description is Required and counts 30% toward an award” - 75 words maximum. Your description includes the correct critter name or names. You can include habitat information (diet, water & cover), and other interesting comments that tells the story about your item.**
- Youth are limited to one entry in a class for your grade and three entries total.
- Your division is determined by your current (January 2021) grade.
- Judges will award: blue, red, white, or green ribbon certificates in each class and in each age division.
- Any entry not meeting all contest requirements and rules will not be eligible for an award.
- Check your email for award listings after March 31, 2021.
- +++ An incomplete registration form will not be accepted. +++

Mail in REGISTRATION DEADLINE: February 15, 2021

Name _____ Grade _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

4-H Club _____ County _____

E-mail -----(print clearly) _____

Program support is provided by: Wisconsin Wild Turkey Federation Chapters, Mad City Gobblers, Northern Kettle Moraine Whitetails Unlimited, Friends of Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H, Friends of Wisconsin 4-H Forestry, Washington County 4-H Shooting Sports, Washington County 4-H Wildlife WHEP & Forestry Volunteers, THANK YOU.

Permission Statement: I grant permission for my child to participate in the Winter Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H & Wisconsin 4-H Forestry Art Contest. I release the hosting facility, their employees, UW Extension employees, volunteers, and donors from any financial responsibility. I authorize the use of my name and photographs at this event for educational or media purposes. I have read and understand the contest rules regarding participation.

Signature: Parent/Guardian _____ Participant’s Signature: _____

Mail registration form & payment to: Barb/Norb Yogerst, 2401 Western Avenue, Jackson, WI 53037 PH: 262-677-2379