

## 4-H FORECAST

#### **Calendar of Events**

OCT - NOV 2025

This summer was filled with a wide variety of 4-H events, activities, and project workshops. We are excited to be continuing this fall with more 4-H opportunities! See below for upcoming dates and please contact the Extension Office with any questions or if you would like more information. Also check out the next few pages for registration links.

- October 5-11, National 4-H Week, great time to promote 4-H in your school, club, and community.
- October 14, 6:00 p.m.—Small Market Animal Start Up meeting at the Municipal Building on Main Street in Weyauwega
- October 15, Youth members re-enrolled are eligible for a 4-H t-shirt drawing!
- October 20, 6-8:00 pm Project Leader Training at Manawa City Hall
- October 24, 4-6:00 p.m.—4-H booth at Waupaca's Halloween on Main Street Event
- October 30, 6-7 pm—Cloverbud workshop in Clintonville
- October 31 November 2, Fall Forum at Green Lake Conference Center
- November 1, 4-H Adult Volunteer re-enrollment due
- November 6, 6:30 7:30 pm, Officer Training Zoom (in person Officer Training will be planned over the Holiday break in December if you prefer that option)
- November 11, 6:45 p.m.—Awards Night at the Grandstand Pavilion at the Fairgrounds
- November 15, 4-H Leader Banquet at Bear Lake in Manawa, more details will be mailed to volunteer leaders.
- November 15, member re-enrollment due in 4-H online
- November 15, club promotion entries due for pizza party drawing
- November 17, Ambassador Applications Due (grades 7 & above)
- November 18, 6:00 p.m. Small Market Animal Annual Meeting
- November 27-28, Extension Office closed
- November 28 December 2, National 4-H Congress in Atlanta

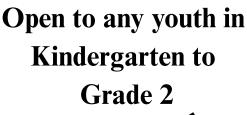




Join us for a night of fall fun! We will be doing activities from a Science in the Seasons Series and playing bingo for Halloween prizes!

- Grades: Open to 4-H and non 4-H members in grades K-2 • Date: Thursday, October 30
- . When: 6:00 7:00 p.m.
- Location: St. Paul Lutheran Church
- . Cost: Free









Register via the QR Code or follow the link: https://bit.ly/2025CloverbudWorkshop



For more information contact: penny.tank @wisc.edu (715) 258-6230 Or Visit: https://waupaca.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development/





**New training** opportunity in Waupaca County, any 4-H leaders, youth or adult invited to attend. Monday, October 20 6:00 - 8:00 pm Manawa City Hall

#### PROJECT LEADER

#### **TRAINING**

#### Participants will learn:

- All about the 4-H Thriving Model
- How to work with different Ages and Stages
- Where to find Curriculum and Resources
- How to plan a successful Project Meeting
- How to engage youth with Experiential Learning The importance of Reflection and Evaluation

A 4-H Project Leader plays an important role in youth learning and serves as a role model.

The University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming in compliance with state and federal law.

4-H members in grades 7 and above are invited to Winter Leadership Camp, January 23-25, 2026 at Spencer Lake in Waupaca! Join youth from many other counties and Level Up Your Leadership! The cost for Waupaca County campers will be \$95.00. Register in 4-H online.





### 4-H ENROLLMENT NOW OPEN!

Re-enroll or enroll as a new member through 4-H online at https://v2.4online.com/

- Adult volunteers re-enrollment deadline of November 1 (and training / background check completed by December 1)
- Youth have until November 15 to re-enroll for current members.











# Work together! Would Your Club Like To Win A Pizza Party!

Have Fun!!



Any questions contact Penny Tank at (715) 258-6230, penny.tank@wisc.edu



During the months of October-mid November, promote 4-H by making a club flyer, some posters or a window display, planning a 4-H T-Shirt day or club/school open house, etc. Submit pictures, screen shots of a facebook post, and/or detailed write-up by November 15 to Penny. Your club will be put in a random drawing to win one of 4 pizza parties (up to \$50.00 each). The pizza party will be held at a future club meeting.

Sponsored by the Waupaca County 4-H Leaders' Board. Is your club interested in winning a pizza party (up to \$50)? Be sure to send in a photo and/or write up about promotion your club did for your chance to win!

#### Waupaca County 4-H Ambassadors

<u>Mission Statement:</u> Waupaca County 4-H Ambassadors will work together as role models to grow leadership, promote involvement, and inspire learning and fun.

#### Who:

❖ 4-H youth in 7<sup>th</sup> grade or above

#### Benefits:

- Meet other members and leaders outside of local club
- ✓ Participate at a county level
- ✓ Personal development, leadership development
- Life skill development (communication, planning & organizing, responsibility, teamwork)
- More responsibility outside of club
- ✓ Wider understanding of 4-H
- Positive feelings as an individual about promoting 4-H and other accomplishments
- ✓ Increased involvement in 4-H and community



#### What do we do?:

- It is expected that each Ambassador will participate in at least two opportunities each year (in addition to ambassador meetings)
- Ambassador meetings attendance expected (meetings are planned based on the best time indicated by the current group – ideally every other month)
- Supporting county 4-H programs through a variety of assistance (planning, organizing, promoting, hosting, emceeing, teaching, etc.). Examples:
  - Promotion / 4-H programs during County Fair
  - Elementary School open house, radio program, or other 4-H promotion
  - Attend community events to promote 4-H
  - Ambassador Fundraiser (as needed)
  - Community Service with Ambassador group
  - 4-H Club visits (in addition to your own club)
  - Teach at Super Saturday, Officer Training, Day Camp, New Family Events, Cloverbud workshops, Record Book Clinic, etc.
  - Assist at a county event like Achievement Night
  - Participate in older youth/family events planned or sponsored by Ambassadors (bowling, kickball, ice skating, etc.)
  - Help with fair preparation (for example, youth building set up, painting, etc.)

#### How to apply?:

- Interested in becoming an Ambassador? Complete a county application\*\* and interview (November/December)
- Brief letter of recommendation from a club leader (1-2 paragraphs) emailed to Penny

<sup>\*\*</sup>Application is on the back of this page, due November 17.

#### Waupaca County 4-H Ambassador Application (grade 7 and above)

In addition to this application form, please ask a leader in your club to provide a brief (1-2 paragraph) recommendation about your qualifications and interest in being an ambassador. This can be emailed directly to <a href="mailto:penny.tank@wisc.edu">penny.tank@wisc.edu</a> or you can submit with your application. An interview date will be confirmed after applications are received.

Name:	Club:	
Email:		
	olled in the last year or two of 4-H:	
4-H activities and ever	nts you participated in the last year or two of 4-H (besides fair)	) <u>:</u>
	become an Ambassador?	_
What are skills you ha	ve been able to develop and / or utilize through your 4-H invol	 vement? 
What is one goal you	would set for yourself as an Ambassador for this coming year?	— ? —
Do you have any new	ideas you would like the Ambassadors to consider?	_
Explain your favorite 4	-H project or activity (what is it and why is it your favorite):	_
		_
List any activities you	are involved in outside of the 4-H program (school, church, etc	c. <b>)</b> :





Cedar Crest Ice Cream and the Wisconsin
4-H Foundation have teamed up once
again to present the "Cedar Crest Ice
Cream 4-H Flavor Creation Contest" for
Wisconsin 4-H clubs. All Wisconsin 4-H
clubs are eligible to submit their ideas for a
new ice cream flavor, along with a flavor
description and interesting flavor name.
Entries are being accepted now through
November 15! For contest information,
rules and the entry form, please visit:
https://cedarcresticecream.com/4H-FlavorContest/







#### What is 4-H?

If you have people talking to you about joining 4-H, feel free to share the following information. You are the best way to attract new members into 4-H.

4-H is an educational youth development program conducted by UW-Madison - Division of Extension. The four H's are head, heart, hands, and health. That means we are committed to providing opportunities for youth to learn life skills like decision-making, problem solving, caring for others, generosity, making healthy choices, and more.

4-H involves youth in project-based education. Through project learning, youth can explore their interests ("sparks") and master new skills. 4-H projects are meant to be hands on to create a memorable learning experience. Since 4-H started in the early 1900s, youth have learned by doing. This hands-on process allows youth to understand not only how to do something but also why they are doing it.

4-H is open to youth in grades K-13. Parents and adults are encouraged to volunteer and be leaders. 4-H is one of the largest youth organizations in Wisconsin.

By being a Waupaca County 4-H member you can enroll in projects, help organize programs, carry out community service activities, participate in club, county, state, and national events and workshops, exhibit at the fair, keep a record book, elect club officers and conduct meetings with guidance from other youth and adult volunteer leaders.

#### **4-H Online Enrollment**



Re-enrollment will be done using the 4-H Online system again this year. Go to https://4honline.com/ to re-enroll.

When you are re-enrolling, be sure to check your information to make sure all the personal and project information is correct. Please use an **email address** for your account that you check/utilize as this is a main way that information about 4-H opportunities gets to families!

Volunteer re-enrollment is due by November 1. Youth re-enrollment must be completed online by November 15, 2025. Re-enrollments completed after November 15 will NOT be eligible to show in the following Waupaca County Junior Fair as a 4-H member.

New Enrollments will be accepted at any time of the year; HOWEVER, in order to participate in the 2026 Waupaca County Junior Fair, enrollments need to be completed by February 1, 2026.

#### **County Programming Support**

The Waupaca County 4-H Leaders' Association supports numerous educational efforts for Waupaca County 4-H members and leaders. These include summer camp, project workshops, Day Camp, educational experiences, literature for club libraries, accident insurance, and much more. Due to the costs to support these efforts, the 4-H Leaders' Board/Association asks for a donation of \$6.00 per member and \$2 per leader when you enroll in the program. This is collected at the club level and one check is sent to the 4-H Leaders' Board.

#### **Needs Based Scholarships**

If families have difficulty paying for 4-H events, program fees, etc. at any time of the year they should reach out to the Waupaca County 4-H Program Educator, Penny Tank, at penny.tank@wisc.edu or 715-258-6230 to discuss the availability of needs based scholarships. Requests will be kept confidential.

#### 2026 4-H Calendar of Events

The 4-H Leaders' Association will approve the calendar in January. If you have suggestions or concerns about event dates please provide them in writing to the Extension office by November 15, 2025 so they can be considered.

#### 4-H Parents Pledge:

I pledge my head to give my children the information I can, to help them see things clearly and to make wise decisions.

I pledge my heart to encourage and support my children no matter whether they have successes or disappointments.

I pledge my hands to help my children's club; if I cannot be a leader, I can help in many equally important ways.

I pledge my health to keep my children strong and well for a better world through 4-H, for our club, our community, our country, and our world.

#### **Club and Group Charter Applications Due November 1**

The 2025-26 4-H Charter Application is available on the Wisconsin 4-H Charter Application website: https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/resources/volunteer-resources/administrative/charter/

This year it is again an online option or paper option. With just a few clicks and no signatures needed, you can complete the online form in less than 15 minutes! Ask your club or group leader how you can work together to plan for the 4-H year! Youth are encouraged to be a part of determining club goals for the year and what activities, projects, and community service events the club plans.

As a reminder, the 4-H Charter indicates that a 4-H Club or Group is organized in accordance with the objectives of the Wisconsin 4-H program. The University of Wisconsin-Madison, Division of Extension grants 4-H Charters which formally authorizes a Wisconsin 4-H Club or Group to use the 4-H Name and Emblem for educational purposes.

#### 4-H Thriving Survey - Watch Your Inbox!



This fall, Wisconsin 4-H will be encouraging members (ages 13-18) to complete a survey about their 4-H experience. The survey will help Wisconsin 4-H to learn about the quality of our programs. We also get data specific to Waupaca County that we can use locally. The survey will be sent to all Wisconsin 4-H members by e-mail in the first week of November. Youth who complete the survey will be entered into a raffle to win gift cards! For more information on the 4-H Thriving Model, visit https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/resources/volunteer-resources/4-h-foundations/4-h-thriving-model/ Please keep an eye out for messages and more information about this important survey.

#### **Educational Experience Scholarships Available**

If you are a youth in grade 6 and above and interested in traveling with 4-H watch for more information about the following opportunities for 2026 or visit: https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/

The Waupaca County 4-H Leaders Association budgets funds to support members through financial scholarships (up to 1/2 of trip cost). There is an application and interview process that will take place after registration for each experience closes.

- · National 4-H Conference grades 10-12, April 10-15, 2026 this experience is a state level application and there is a small group of youth selected from the whole state
- · American Spirit—grades 8-10, June 19-28, 2026 or July 3 12, 2026 (registration opens in 4-H online on November 1).
- · Space Camp—grades 6-8, April 23-27, 2026, Huntsville, Alabama

#### 4-H Ambassador Applications

If you are in grade 7 and above and interested in becoming an Ambassador, working with other older youth, promoting 4-H, or helping at county events, please complete an application by November 17. Included in this newsletter is an information sheet about the Ambassadors (page 5) and the application can be found on page 6 or at https://waupaca.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development/4-h-program-topics/4-h-youth-ambassadors/

Waupaca County 4-H Ambassadors work together as role models to grow leadership, promote involvement, and inspire learning and fun.

#### **Summer Camp 2026**



Mark your calendars and plan to join us for 2026 4-H Summer Camp!! The dates will be June 15-17, 2026 at Upham Woods near Wisconsin Dells. Camp will include Waupaca, Portage, and Iowa Counties. We will be accepting counselor applications in a few months, so watch for those details.

#### **Small Market Animal Meeting**

The Small Market Animal Committee annual meeting will take place on:

November 18, 6:00 p.m., Weyauwega Municipal Building (City Hall) on Main Street The bylaws and sale rules will be reviewed at the start up meeting and prepared for a formal vote at the annual meeting on November 18. In order to be a voting committee member for the coming project year, you need to be an enrolled 4-H member or 4-H volunteer and attend one of these meetings. Youth and adults involved in FFA and other youth organizations are welcome to participate in Small Market Animal, you are just not able to be voting committee members. Please note the October and November dates are NOT the mandatory meetings to sell next year, those details will come out in the spring.



#### Wisconsin 4-H Horse & Leadership Conference

November 8, 2025 at UW River Falls - Open to 4-H volunteers and 4-H members grade 7 and older. All youth members need to be accompanied by a guardian or chaperone for this experience. You will have an opportunity to go to the UW River Falls lab farm and experience sessions there with faculty from UW River Falls and other presenters and attend a number of rotating sessions on topics related to horses, developing your leadership skills, learning more about UW River Falls and so much more. Register through 4-H online by October 24. The 4-H Leaders' Association would reimburse up to ½ of the registration cost after the event for 4-H members and approved volunteers.

#### **Leader Enrollment**

All ADULTS who plan to be project and activity leaders in the county / club MUST register and complete a required leader training (annually) and a background check (every 2 years) in 4-H online to be covered by insurance and be approved in the enrollment system to be in custodial care of youth. There are numerous projects offered to members and it would be great to have more leaders to help throughout the year with project meetings and events.

#### **Leaders Association Looking for Committee Members**

The 4-H Leaders' Association has a variety of committees that have accomplished great things over the past years and continue to do excellent work for the 4-H program. If you are a youth or adult interested in things such as planning county activities (Super Saturday, county bus trip, demonstration contest), publicizing 4-H, balancing the yearly budget, planning Officer Training, reviewing record book pages, helping with the 4-H Food Stand, working with county awards and trips, and many other things call Penny at the Extension Office for more information.

#### **Accident Insurance Coverage for 4-H Events**

Enrolled 4-H members and approved leaders are covered for accident insurance. The events that are covered are planned 4-H group events/meetings with adult supervision. Meetings/Events need to be on the club, project, or county calendar or in club minutes. Two people is not a group (for instance—one project leader and one member) and therefore is not covered by the accident insurance. If you are in a club situation where you have only one member and leader in a project please contact a club near you to work together or do the project work at a monthly club meeting when there are more people involved. Please keep this in mind for the safety of all our members and leaders. Also remember that non 4-H members are not covered by 4-H accident insurance. Clubs need to take out special activity insurance for club events where there will be non 4-H members participating in order for non 4-H members to be covered by the accident insurance. If you have any questions about accident insurance ask your General Leader or call the Extension Office.

#### **Wisconsin 4-H Policy Updates Annually**

Wisconsin 4-H operates within the guidelines, policies, and procedures of the University of Madison Division of Extension and the United States Department of Agriculture. These policies are established to ensure the educational and administrative integrity of all Wisconsin 4-H programs and activities administered by 4-H staff and 4-H volunteers. Wisconsin 4-H Leadership is committed to supporting staff and volunteers by writing clear and simple policies that will standardize Wisconsin 4-H safety and risk management practices. All policies can be found here (updates are shared annually in the fall) https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/resources/wisconsin-4-h-policies/

#### **Club Meeting Tips**



<u>Seating Arrangement:</u> At 4-H Club meetings, have the members sit as a group, in front of the room near the club officer table. Parents should also be asked to sit as a group, in the back of the room or along the side and act mostly as observers. The club officers and members should be encouraged to conduct the business meeting as much as possible by themselves, with minimal assistance from adults. This is how we develop leadership and decision – making skills in youth.....by having them learn to conduct their own meetings and vote on issues. This seating arrangement encourages kids to conduct their meetings independently.

Be courteous at all times! The only person who should be speaking during 4-H business meetings is the club president OR the person recognized to speak by the club president (the person who has "the floor"). Although many meetings go well, other times there can be a "chatter" issue with members and parents during club meetings. When everyone cooperates, the president will not need to use the gavel as often and your meetings will run more efficiently, get done sooner and everyone will hear what is being discussed. Then you'll have more time for the other two parts of your meeting—education and recreation.

Accept majority rule! When a vote is taken, but doesn't go the way you wanted, do NOT react in a sarcastic, angry or sour manner. Remember, everyone has different opinions. After a vote is taken, we all have to work with the outcome and do the best we can by it. Sometimes a vote will go the way you wanted, and sometimes not.



#### **Officer Training**

Officer elections are currently happening in all clubs. **An Officer Training Zoom will be offered on Thursday, November 6 from 6:30 - 7:30 pm.** There will also be a more formal, in person Officer Training planned over the Holiday Break at the end of December. More information and a registration will be shared soon.

One reminder for club secretaries is to send a copy of monthly minutes to the Extension Office. This can be emailed to penny.tank@wisc.edu. If you have questions please ask. Below are a few club highlights:

- **Krossing Creeks 4-H** club members helped at Farm Technology Days in Clintonville and made plans for the county fair
- Norseman 4-H club members participated in the Scandinavia Corn Roast Parade, had a 4-H booth, and are planning their club Achievement Night
- Peterson Mill 4-H for a fall activity the club went to a corn maze at Feltz Dairy, got new club t-shirts, and are planning a bigger educational activity for 2026
- Sandy Knoll 4-H the club has their annual popcorn fundraiser going on and are planning make & takes, along with adopt a family for the holidays



#### fvtc.edu



#### **Farm Safety & Equipment Operation**

#### **Course Description:**

This certified course provides youth ages 12–16 with essential training in the safe operation of tractors and farm machinery, in compliance with **Wisconsin Act 455** and federal child labor regulations. The program is designed for youth who will be operating farm equipment as part of their family operation or working for a non-family farm. Through a combination of classroom instruction, hands-on activities, and practical driving experience, students will learn about equipment safety, hazard recognition, maintenance basics, and the legal responsibilities of machinery operation. The course emphasizes safe work practices around tractors and implements and prepares students to operate machinery on public roads when legally permitted.

To successfully complete the course and earn certification, students must attend all sessions (both virtual and in-person), pass a written exam, and demonstrate competency during a supervised driving test and pre-operational test. Successful completion fulfills the legal requirement for:

- Youth under age 16 to operate tractors and self-propelled implements on public roads in Wisconsin (per Wisconsin Act 455)
- Youth ages 14–15 to be employed on farms outside their family (per Federal Department of Labor regulations)

Orientation Sessions available March 30,2026 to April 2, 2026 at an FVTC Regional Centers (must attend one session) Virtual Check-Ins for all Classes: Tuesdays - 4/14, 4/21, 4/28, 5/5, 5/12, 5:00 – 6:00 pm Written Exam: May 18 – 21, 2026, at the Regional Center between 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

#### For registration details, please call a regional center.

#### **Chilton Regional Center**

In-person Class	Phone	
June 9 - June 12, 2026 from 9:00 am-3:00 pm	920-849-4416	
June 16 – June 19, 2026 9:00 am-3:00 pm	920-849-4416	

#### Wautoma Regional Center

In-person Class	Phone
June 23 – June 26, 2026 9:00 am-3:00 pm	920-787-3319

#### Waupaca Regional Center

In-person Class	Phone
July 7 – July 10, 2026 9:00 am-3:00 pm	715-942-1700

#### Clintonville Regional Center

In-person Class	Phone
July 21 – July 24, 2026 9:00 am-3:00 pm	715-823-1555

#### **Appleton Agriculture Center**

In-person Class	Phone
July 28 – July 31, 2026 9:00 am-3:00 pm	920-735-5645

#### Weekly Schedule for all Classes:

Tuesday – All Students Wednesday – Group A Thursday- Group B Friday – Testing Date by Appointment



Thank you to all of the youth and adults that worked shifts in the 4-H Food Stand at the County Fair! The Food Stand was a success again this year due to all of your help.



# 2026 PHOTO CALENDAR \$5.00

Photos were submitted by Waupaca COunty 4-H members!
Funds will be used to support our 4-H program!





PAYMENT TO WAUPACA COUNTY 4-H LEADERS ASSOCIATION

If you have questions about a project area and there are not others in your club in the project, please contact the Extension Office for contacts / leaders willing to help countywide.

Remember the physical office location for the Extension Office is temporarily:

111 W North Water Street New London

Mail can still be sent to the courthouse address and we pick it up a few times a week.



**NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION** U.S. POSTAGE PAID **WAUPACA, WI 54981** PERMIT NO. 3

#### RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



#### EXTENSION WAUPACA COUNTY STAFF

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> 4-H/Positive Youth Development Penny Tank, 4-H Program Educator penny.tank@wisc.edu Haley Nelson, Program Assistant haley.nelson@wisc.edu



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