



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

# 4-H FORECAST

MAY 2026-JUNE 2026

Whether this is your first year in 4-H or your tenth, I encourage all of you to ask questions, try new things, set goals for yourself, make new friends, work together, learn, and have fun!

- May 5 - Summer Camp Counselor Training Zoom
- May 7 - Record Book Clinic at 6:30 pm at Manawa City Hall
- May 8 - Summer Camp registration due for campers (flyer enclosed)
- May 11 - NEW member dog project training
- May 14 - 4-H Leader Board meeting
- May 17 - Rabbit Hopping Practice starts
- May 18 - ALL member dog project training
- May 19 - 4-H Ambassador meeting
- May 25 - Memorial Day, Extension Office Closed
- May 31 - Summer Camp Counselor & Adult Zoom
- June 6 - King Veterans Home Petting Zoo (flyer enclosed)
- June 7 - Summer Camp orientation zoom for campers & families
- June 13 - Small Animal Fun Show (flyer enclosed)
- June 14-18 - Summer Academy, Madison
- June 15-17 - Summer Camp at Upham Woods
- June 20 - Large Market Animal Education Day
- June 30 - Area Animal Science Day, Clark County
- July 1 - County Fair entries due online through the County Fair website
- July 3 - Extension Office Closed in observance of July 4<sup>th</sup> Holiday
- July 8 - Explore 4-H Day Camp - grades K-4
- July 21 - Large & Small Market Animal pre-fair meetings

## Calendar of Events

National Volunteer Week was April 19-25 - be sure to thank your 4-H volunteers

### Record Book Clinic



Thursday, May 7, 2026  
from 6:30 - 7:30 pm

at Manawa City Hall (500 S Bridge St)

- Anybody is welcome to attend.
- We will cover getting started with a 4-H record book all the way to seeing completed record books.
- We will also briefly talk about the opportunity for Cloverbud members to complete a simplified record book.

Register for the Record Book Clinic at this link:  
<https://bit.ly/RecordBookClinic2026>  
or scan the QR Code



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

Thank you Waupaca County volunteers for helping our youth become Beyond Ready for life and work!



**4-H VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED!**

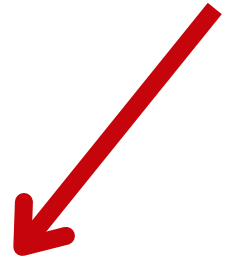


**Do you have an interest in helping young people learn about the trade of welding?**

- Become a 4-H volunteer by enrolling in 4-H online.
- You will need to complete an online training and a background check.
- Or reach out to Penny at penny.tank@wisc.edu for more information.

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**4-H volunteers are needed for a variety of project areas (sparks) that youth are interested in learning more about. Welding is just one of those projects. Contact Penny if interested.**



**Summer Camp  
Registration  
closes May 8**



**4-H members in grades 3-7 are invited to register for 4-H Summer Camp, June 15-17, 2026. Join youth from Portage, Iowa, and Waupaca County. 4-H Camp is your chance to try new things, make lifelong friends, and discover what excites you, from water fun and hiking to team challenges and exploring nature! Registration is now open and closes May 8\*\*. \*\*Please note that camp registration is on a first come first serve basis and based on staffing quotas, registration may be limited and a waiting list formed. Sign up and register online at: <https://forms.gle/WfjfyX8AhbSaUxk86>**

IOWA, PORTAGE, AND WAUPACA



**4-H SUMMER  
CAMP**

JUNE 15-17, 2026	UPHAM WOODS, WISCONSIN DELLS
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SIGN UP AND REGISTER ONLINE AT:  
[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/WFJFYX8AHBSAUXK86](https://forms.gle/WfjfyX8AhbSaUxk86)



**Camp Cost  
\$100\*\*/per  
youth**

EXPLORE NATURE  
MAKE NEW FRIENDS  
TEAM BUILDING ACTIVITIES  
HANDS ON PROJECTS  
SLEEP IN CABINS  
HIKING  
CAMPFIRE & SMORES






**\*\*The total camp cost is \$175 per camper and the Waupaca County 4-H Leaders Association will provide financial support for the remaining \$75 per camper.**



Requests for reasonable accommodations for disabilities or limitations should be made prior to the date of the program or activity for which it is needed. Please do so as early as possible prior to the program or activity so that proper arrangements can be made. Requests are kept confidential.

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# TOP 10 4-H PROJECTS ENROLLED IN WAUPACA COUNTY 2025-26

		
✓ Photography - 127 youth	✓ Poultry - 93	
✓ LEGO - 121	✓ Cloverbuds - 91	
✓ Visual Arts - 120	✓ Foods - 90	
✓ Woodworking - 112	✓ Hort & Gardening - 86	
✓ Home Environment - 101	✓ Rabbits - 70	



## EXPLORE 4-H DAY CAMP

Save the date!!

Wednesday, July 8, 2026

**ACTIVITIES :**

- Four Activity Stations
- Games
- Tie-dying!
- Open to all youth grades K-4
- Held Rain or Shine



**WATCH FOR MORE DETAILS**  
 Location: Fairgrounds in Weyauwega  
 Typically 4:00 - 8:00 pm

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Save the date for Explore 4-H Day Camp, July 8, 2026. This event is open to all young people grades K-4 and older youth are invited to register as group counselors. Registration will open towards the end of May.

The Veterans Home in King is looking for young people to bring animals for a petting zoo on June 6<sup>th</sup>. You will need to bring your own fencing or carrier. Contact Tina at 715-258-5586 if you are able to attend. We heard people had a great time last year!

## Petting Zoo at the VETERANS HOME PARK IN KING

JUNE 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM



We are looking for people who would like to show their animals at our Petting Zoo!

RSVP by June 1st to Tina Ewing  
715-258-5586 EXT 22630 OR  
[tina.ewing@dva.wisconsin.gov](mailto:tina.ewing@dva.wisconsin.gov)

## WAUPACA CO. SMALL ANIMAL FUN SHOW

**WHEN:**  
June 13, 2026

**WHERE:**  
Waupaca County Fairgrounds  
602 E. South St, Weyauwega, WI



Poultry and Rabbit Fun Show

Awards will be provided



Food and drinks will be available for purchase

All proceeds benefit the Waupaca Co. Small Market Animal Projects

## Open to All Youth 3rd-13th Grade

**ENTRY:**  
\$1 per animal

Classes are based on the Waupaca County Premium Fair Book

Pullorum testing will be available before the show. A \$1 per bird donation is suggested for testing.

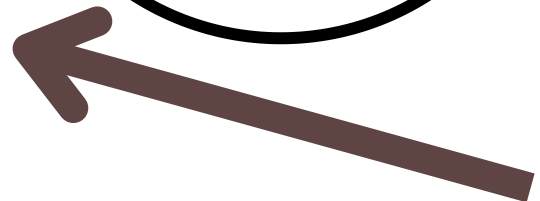
**SCHEDULE:**  
Registration 9am-9:30am  
Show 10am-approx. 1:30pm

**CONTACT INFO:**  
Crystal Retzlaff  
920-604-2581  
[cretzlaf@newlondon.k12.wi.us](mailto:cretzlaf@newlondon.k12.wi.us)

**VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR:**  
Kari Riley  
715-281-7003  
[kaririley1777@gmail.com](mailto:kaririley1777@gmail.com)

**Equipment:**  
Moeller Equipment  
920-505-8070

Sat., June 13  
Rabbit & Poultry  
Fun Show



# 2026 Fairest of the Fair Applications

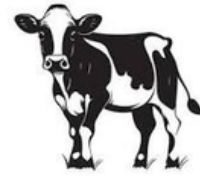
## 2026 Waupaca County Fairest of the Fair Applications Available

The Waupaca County Fair is seeking candidates for the position of the 2026 Waupaca County Fairest of the Fair! Applications must be submitted by **Friday, May 15, 2026**. Applicants must be 18 years of age. The selection process will include each, a written application, individual and group interviews, on-stage questions, and interactions with the judges during the Fairest of the Fair Competition in June. Attendance is mandatory for the competition with a finalized date being shared with all applicants.

The Waupaca County Fairest of the Fair serves as the official ambassador of the Waupaca County Fair, representing and promoting the Fair at events across the county throughout the year. The Fairest also makes daily appearances during the week of the Fair and will be responsible for speeches, other community interactions and promotional events.

The Fairest program provides an opportunity for applicants to grow in public speaking, etiquette, confidence, presentations, interviews and more. To find the application for the Waupaca County Fairest of the Fair position visit <https://forms.gle/XFZVQQnDUQ4dW7xR6>, email [wcfairstcoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:wcfairstcoordinator@gmail.com) or call Katie Loehrke, Coordinator at (715) 281-0168 with any questions.

## Dairy Judging



Dairy judging is an excellent opportunity to increase your knowledge of dairy cattle and practice life skills such as communication, critical thinking, and decision making. Members have the opportunity to participate locally in practice sessions and then compete at Area Animal Science Day. Please contact Penny at the Extension office to let us know of your interest in participating in Dairy Judging.

## Area Animal Science Day

**June 30 in Clark County** - Area Animal Science Day is a day-long event where youth in the beef, dairy, horse, sheep, and swine projects increase their decision-making skills and knowledge of animals through judging and grading experiences. Events include evaluation of dairy cattle, horses, and meat animals; dairy showmanship contests; and oral reasons workshops. In addition, some sites may offer a variety of workshops for small animal projects too. <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/area-animal-science-days/> Contact Penny if interested in getting more information when it is available.



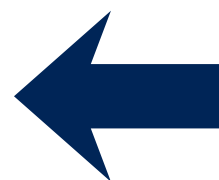
Thank you Abbey for leading the bunny cake zoom!

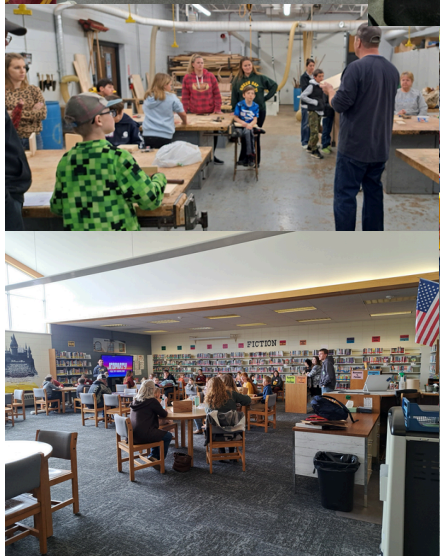
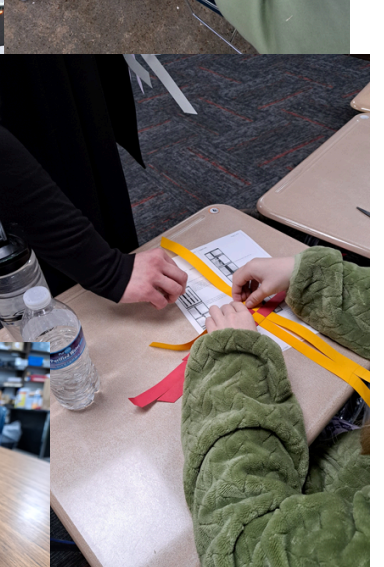
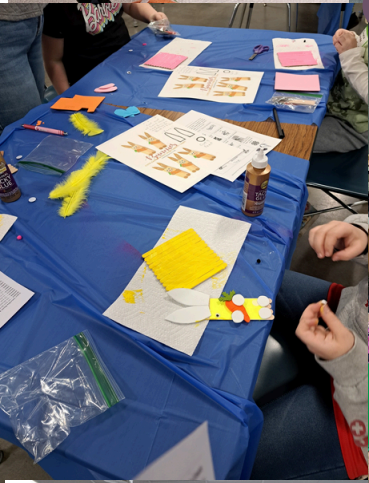
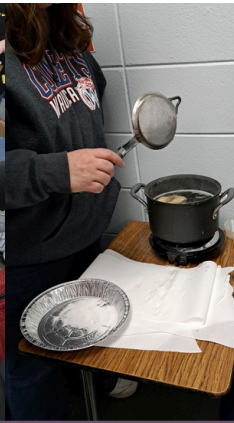
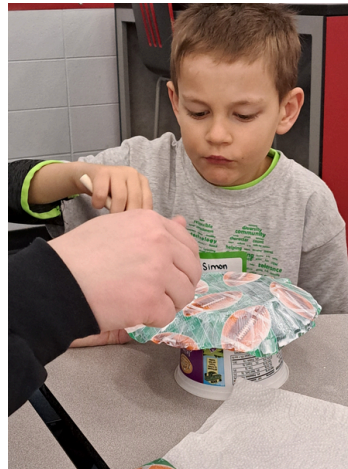


We had a fun time at Winter Leadership Camp, hope to see you next year!



**Congratulations to all participants in the speaking and demonstration contest!**





## 4-H Food Stand

The 4-H Food Stand Committee will have a meeting soon to make plans for the upcoming County Fair Food Stand. The food stand is a valuable fundraiser for the Waupaca County 4-H Program and help is appreciated. If you are interested in helping on this committee contact Penny for meeting details.



## 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.



## Record Book Pages

Printed record book pages are available! Let us know if you want printed record book pages. For members, record books are a valuable part of the 4-H experience. They are intended to help you develop lifelong skills such as

- Setting goals
- Planning & organizing
- Communicating in writing
- Evaluating effort and progress

Once completed, you have a valuable record of accomplishments that can be used when applying for awards, scholarships, college or a job! Remember to begin saving information for your record books throughout the year and to start filling out the record book pages early. Refer to the guidelines you receive with the record book pages for details about completing your book.

Record book pages are also available online as fillable forms  
<https://waupaca.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development/4-h-program-topics/record-book-pages/>

## Leaders' Board & Association

The next Leaders' Board meeting will be Thursday, May 14 at 6:30 pm at Manawa City Hall. The next Leaders' Association meeting will be Tuesday, July 28 at 7:30 pm at the Manawa City Hall.

## 4-H Leaders Board Election Results



Thank you to all of the outgoing 4-H Leader Board members. Thank you also to all who were willing to add their name to the ballot this year for the 4-H Leaders' Board. Board members include:

- President: Sara Knoespel
- Vice President: Deb Schneider
- Past President: Amanda Pockat
- Secretary: Karen Acker
- Treasurer: Jenny Heise (*outgoing*)
- District I: Stacy Havlik & Sarah Burmeister
- District II: Virginia Zemple & Erikka Flowers
- District III: Lora Korth & Janet Wiechert
- District IV: Sue Berrig & *appointment in May*
- District V: Wayne Acker & Abbey Acker
- Youth Representatives: Bella Havlik & *appointment in May*

## County Fair



### 2026 Waupaca County Fair Dates:

The Waupaca County Fair dates are August 25-30. The Waupaca County Fair website address is <https://www.waupacacountyfair.com/>. The updated fairbook should be posted soon and online entries are due July 1.

### 4-H Projects vs. County Fair Exhibits

What's the difference between 4-H projects and fair exhibits? A 4-H "Project" is an area of interest you want to learn more about (like a hobby). This is what you sign-up for during enrollment in 4-HOnline (i.e. horse, electricity, dogs, photography, etc.). A project is intended to help you explore, learn, and practice skills in your areas of interest. Youth must choose their projects at the time of enrollment so they have plenty of time to learn about or practice with their project area before the fair.

A County Fair "Exhibit" is what you actually take to the fair – like the cabbage you grew, the animal you trained, or the rocket you built while exploring and learning about your projects. There may be some things you do while exploring your project area that you do not take to the fair as exhibits and that is ok. Youth sign up to exhibit at the County Fair during June/early July based on the exhibits and rules listed in the Waupaca County Fair Premium book.

SAVE THE  
DATE

## Market Animal

Both large and small market animal committees will have their pre-fair meeting on Tuesday, July 21 at the Fairgrounds in Weyauwega. All sale participants are encouraged to attend. This is also where members will pick up their raffle tickets. Watch for more details.

## Small Animal



**Rabbit hopping** will begin practices on Saturday, **May 17** (all project members received an email)



- Monday, **May 11** - first night of dog training for **NEW** members.
- Monday, **May 18** - first training for **ALL** project members



YQCA is required for all beef, sheep, and swine project members to sell in the large market sale. It also counts as an educational point for those wishing to sell in the small animal sale. This can be completed online or in person. Go to <https://yqcaprogram.org/> to complete the course online or register for an in person course.

- Saturday, **June 20** during the Large Market Education Day. Registration is now open for YQCA on June 20th.

## 4-H Shooting Sports

To the right is the Shawano County 4-H Shooting Sports schedule. If you are a Waupaca County 4-H member, enrolled in shooting sports, and interested in participating, please go to the Shawano County 4-H Shooting Sports facebook page or reach out to Penny for contact information so you can get all of the details.

**SHAWANO COUNTY 4-H  
SHOOTING SPORTS SCHEDULE  
2026**



Practice Times: (Age as of 1/1/2026)  
Juniors (Ages 8 - 11) 9:00 a.m. - 10 yards  
Intermediates (Ages 12 - 14) 10:00 a.m. - 15 yards  
Seniors (Ages 15 - 19) 11:00 a.m. - 20 yards

**BUTCH'S ARCHERY**  
N2885 PIONEER ROAD  
CLINTONVILLE WI 54929

<b>January</b> 1.10.26 Practice Butch's Archery 1.24.26 Practice Butch's Archery	<b>May</b> 5.7.26 Shawano Shoot Set Up, Crawford Center 5.8.26 Shawano Shoot, Crawford Center 5.9.26 Shawano Shoot, Crawford Center 5.29.26 Brown County Shoot 5.30.26 Brown County Shoot
<b>February</b> 2.7.26 Practice Butch's Archery 2.21.26 Practice Butch's Archery 2.28.26 Leader, Training Richland Center	<b>June</b> 21-26 4-H Nationals Shoot
<b>March</b> 3.7.26 TBD 3.21.26 Practice Butch's Archery	<b>July</b> 7.11.26 Shawano 4-H Shoot, 7.12.26 Shawano 4-H Shoot
<b>April</b> 4.11.26 Practice Butch's Archery 4.25.26 Practice Butch's Archery 4.25.26 Leader, Training New Franken	<b>August</b> 8.29.26 Fair Shoot, Crawford Center



## 4-H Shooting Sports, Competitive Shoots

Eligibility to participate in competitive events.

All 4-H members must be:

1. Currently enrolled in a 4-H Shooting Sports project.
2. Actively participating in 4-H Shooting Sports training or having successfully completed 4-H Shooting Sports training.
3. Participating with the approval of their 4-H Shooting Sports certified instructor.

### Upcoming Competitive Shoots

- Brown County Statewide Shoot, May 29-30
- Shawano County 4-H All Star Summer Archery Shootout, July 11
- Triple Crown Invitational, Marshfield, July 17-18

See website for more details:

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/projects/outdoor-education/shooting-sports/competitive-shoots/>

# Congratulations!!

At the 4-H Club General Leader meeting at the end of March, 5 clubs were recognized with certificates. Join us in congratulating Baldwins Mill 4-H Club as the longest running club in Waupaca County, 92 years; Norseman 4-H Club as the newest 4-H Club, 2 years; Peterson Mill 4-H Club, 80 years; Town & Country 4-H Club, 45 years; and Dayton Community 4-H Club, 15 years. Each year we will continue to recognize clubs at 5 year increments.



## Financial Reminders

As we continue another 4-H year, I want to remind everyone of the financial guidelines.

- Regardless of the source, all 4-H funds are public funds
- Keep receipts and copies of any bills! You should only be paying for things when there are receipts and/or utilize payment vouchers as needed.
- Do not keep “petty cash” or “cash boxes” with money on hand. Run all money through an approved account.
- Budgets help clubs and groups plan. If your club would like help creating a budget please contact the Extension office.
- Club fundraisers should be conducted to reach a certain goal; there should be a plan and reason for raising a certain amount of money.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me. Or go to the state financial website <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/resources/wisconsin-4-h-policies/financial-management/>



## Icebreaker - Beach Ball Toss

Most beach balls have six sections. Write six questions on a flip chart, one for each color (even better if you can write them in the corresponding color right on the beach ball). Toss the beach ball around the circle, giving everyone a chance to introduce themselves and, using the color underneath a certain thumb when they catch the ball, answer a question (for example - what is your favorite 4-H project, would you rather live in a castle or at a ski resort, what is your favorite season, tell us the name of one of your pets or a relatives pet, etc.). A variation on this would be to have six different actions, such as “Walk like a crab,” “Jump like a frog three times,” “Swim like a fish,” “Move like an elephant,” “March in place” and “Do three jumping jacks.”

## Thank you...

- Violet, Bella, Aubrey, and Sara for helping with New Family Night
- Winter Camp participants and Miranda for serving as the First Aid Coordinator
- All volunteers who helped plan and teach at Super Saturday! About 165 youth and adults registered with another 100 parents and teachers in attendance!!
- Outgoing Leader Board Members and those elected for the Leaders' Board
- 38 youth who participated in the 6th Annual Lego Contest
- Abbey Acker for leading the bunny cake zoom for 20 families
- General Leaders who participated in the annual General Leader Meeting
- Participants in the 4-H Speaking and Demonstration Contest.

## Club Highlights

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.

**Baldwins Mill 4-H** - Club members are planning to make something for residents of the Weyauwega nursing home. They had a club outing of skating!

**Casey Lake 4-H** - Members went bowling and ice skating. They also played BINGO during their club meeting.

**Krossing Creeks 4-H** - For a service project, the club continued their tradition of making B for Baby Bags for the hospital. They planned a club trip to the Food + Farm Exploration Center in Plover.

**Norseman 4-H** - The club planned a pizza and pool party, along with a Valentine's party and a service project of making Valentine's wreaths.

**Peterson Mill 4-H** - Club members gave project updates and planned a club ice skating party.

**Sandy Knoll 4-H** - The club enjoyed their annual Valentines Soup Delivery, went bowling, and made plans for a club ceramics activity and Easter Egg Hunt.

**Tri-County 4-H** - The club planned their annual Soup Luncheon in January. Members helped with a plant bingo fundraiser and made plans for their summer bus trip.

**Wolf River Rascals 4-H** - Club members ordered new club t-shirts, had a game night with Lebanon Cedars, and made tie blankets to donate.

# Let's Vote!

**Make your 4-H meetings more fun and engaging with these creative voting methods**



**Show of Hands.** The president says, "Raise your hand to vote 'yes'". After counting, members lower their hands. The president then asks members to raise their hand if they want to vote "no".

**Vote with Your Feet.** Invite 4-H members to move to one side of the room to vote "yes" or go to the other side of the room to vote "no".

**Voice Vote.** The president says, "If you are in favor of the motion, say 'aye' or 'yes'". After a brief pause, "If you are opposed, say 'nay' or 'no'". *Variation: Add a fun twist like-- "All in favor 'Quack' once"*

**Standing Vote.** All members who agree with the motion stand up. After counting, they sit down. The president asks everyone who disagrees with the motion to stand.

**Roll Call Vote.** Members verbally respond when their name is called to say whether they agree or disagree with the proposed motion.

**Secret Ballot.** Members write their vote on a slip of paper which is collected and counted. This form of voting is most often used for elections and difficult topics.

**Heads Down; Thumbs Up.** Members put their heads down (or close eyes). Thumbs up to agree, thumbs down to disagree.

**Team Vote.** Members form small groups of 3-4 youth. You can assign groups or encourage mixing with both younger and older youth. Give the team a minute to discuss the pros/cons of their voting options. Each team designates a leader and gets one vote per group.

**Phone a Friend.** Give members a minute to move around the room to discuss options with either a friend or an adult before they decide how to vote. This is helpful when deciding dates that may work best for a family, or to get input to help with their decision-making process.

**Sticker Voting.** Write the choices on sheets of paper and hang them around the room or use a flip chart. Provide each member with 1-3 stickers and have them place their sticker(s) on their preferred choices.

**Drop a Coin.** Members are given a coin or small object. They vote by dropping it in the "agree" container or the "disagree" container.

**Shoe Pile.** Members take off one shoe and put it in the "agree" pile or "disagree" pile. The largest pile of stinky shoes wins!

*Adapted from: Tips for Voting in a 4-H Club Meeting, Wisconsin 4-H, 2020; and 4-H In and Out of School: Integrating Youth Voice, Developed by Melinda Pollen, 4-H Youth Development Educator, Brown County, Wisconsin, 2025*

Visit the Wisconsin 4-H Policies webpage for policy details during the year:  
<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/resources/wisconsin-4-h-policies/>



County Fair website -  
<https://www.waupacacountyfair.com/>

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.

Check your email inbox for the Wisconsin 4-H Newsletter every few months. This is a good source of information across the state and includes announcements, highlights, and more.



**Positive Youth Development Institute**  
DIVISION OF EXTENSION  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Wisconsin 4-H State Newsletter

February-March 2026



**Wisconsin 4-H  
Newsletter**



**Extension**

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON  
WAUPACA COUNTY  
811 HARDING STREET  
WAUPACA WI 54981

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UW-MADISON EXTENSION

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

Events will be conducted in English. You may request an interpreter, materials in an alternative language and/or format, and/or other services to make events more accessible. Contact us at [penny.tank@wisc.edu](mailto:penny.tank@wisc.edu). Make your request at least 25 days before an event so there is enough time to make sure everything is ready for you. There is no added cost to you for these services.