



# Oconto County 4-H Beef Project

2015

## Beef Resources

### Oconto County 4-H Project

<http://oconto.uwex.edu/4-h-youth-development/4-h-projects/>

### Oconto County Youth Agriculture Programs

<http://oconto.uwex.edu/agriculture/youth-agriculture-programs/>

### Wisconsin 4-H Project Page

<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/onlinpro/beef.cfm>

### 4-H Project Literature

<http://www.4-hmall.org/Catalog/SearchResults.aspx?SearchQuery=beef+project>

### Beef Resource Handbook (Highly Recommended)

<http://estore.osu-extension.org/Beef-Resource-Handbook-P147.aspx>

### Oconto County Fair

<http://www.ocontocountyfair.org>

### Check out the Requirements

<http://oconto.uwex.edu/agriculture/youth-agriculture-programs/>

## Welcome to the 4-H Beef Project

The 4-H Beef Project provides youth a fun and hands-on learning experience that develops life skills, as well as teaches valuable information about properly caring for their livestock.

Youth participating in livestock projects learn about general care, nutrition, housing, and health of their animals through workshops and activities such as project meetings, Meat Animal Quality Assurance training, and animal judging.

Youth also have the opportunity to develop responsibility, decision-making, nurturing, and communication skills through active participation in the Beef Projects.

## Signing Up for a 4-H Beef Project

Youth in the Beef Project enroll in one or more of the following projects. To enroll in 4-H, visit the 4-H On-Line site at <https://www.4honline.com/> If you need help with the online enrollment, check with your club advisor or call the Extension Office for guidance (920-834-6845).

Beef 1 (Grades 3 -5)

Beef 2 (Grades 6 – 8)

Beef 3 (Grades 9-12)

NOTE: Animal Project sign-up is done by grade, not skill level.

## Best Place to Get Started?

Plan on attending Fall Project Kickoff (see calendar) to meet your project leader and pick up a January Thaw project challenge. You can access project challenges anytime at <http://oconto.uwex.edu/4-h-youth-development/4-h-projects/project-days/>



## Beef Leaders

Please feel free to contact your county-wide 4-H poultry leader for more information on your project.

Kathy Kasten  
920-598-2940

## Contact Us

UW-Extension Staff

Paula Huff  
4-H Youth Development Agent  
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## Looking for out-of county educational experiences\*?

Area Animal Science Days

<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/events/animalscience.cfm>

4-H and Youth Conference –For youth in 7<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup> grade

<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/events/youthconf/index.cfm>

State Fair

West Allis, Wisconsin

*\*Funding for 4-H youth may be available from 4-H Leaders Association*

### Additional Opportunities:

North East Show

DePere

World Beef Expo

Milwaukee

Valley Beef (Fitting Clinic) Seymour

Seymour Fair

Seymour

### 4-H Beef Project Calendar 2015-16

<b>Fall Kickoff</b>	October 10, 2015	Gillett School Gillett
	<i>Meet your project leaders and pick up a beef challenge for January Thaw</i>	
<b>January Thaw</b>	January 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	Washington Middle School Oconto Falls
<b>Spring Fling</b>	April 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	Washington Middle School Oconto Falls
<b>Summer Clinic</b>	TBA	Oconto County Fairgrounds Gillett
<b>Oconto County Fair</b>	August 18-21, 2016	Oconto County Fairgrounds Gillett



# 4-H Beef Project

## Getting Started with Beef

**2015**

*Hint: For a quick start in the Beef Project, attend Fall Project Kickoff, January Thaw, and Spring Fling*

### Beef Suggested Timeline (Tim Erickson, Dewey Wachholz)

Approximate Date	Management Practices: What To Do?
September – December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select a calf</li> <li>• Dehorn, castrate, de-worm, vaccinate</li> <li>• Weigh, measure calf, set a target weigh and needed daily gain (opt.)</li> <li>• Feed a starter diet</li> <li>• Treat for lice</li> </ul>
December – February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Separate show calves, if lot is available</li> <li>• Wart vaccine may be needed</li> <li>• Provide adequate, daily exercise</li> <li>• Trim hooves</li> <li>• Hand feed twice daily</li> <li>• Walk pens and spend time with calves</li> <li>• Tie calves to begin breaking</li> <li>• Brush daily during raining</li> <li>• Feed grower/finisher diet</li> <li>• Keep feed intake and medical records</li> <li>• Wash or rinse regularly</li> <li>• Keep pen clean and pest-free</li> </ul>
March - April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend county fair weigh-in</li> <li>• Re-vaccinate and de-worm</li> <li>• Body shear calves with poor hair (opt&gt;)</li> <li>• Train hair</li> <li>• Trim hooves</li> </ul>
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep calves shaded and cool</li> <li>• Attend Project Meetings, sales, activities</li> </ul>



June – July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Feed high energy, finishing diet</li><li>• Train calf to lead</li><li>• Train to stand and use show stick</li><li>• Practice showing with other calves</li><li>• Practice showing with strangers present</li><li>• Contact potential buyers</li><li>• Touch up your clipping job</li></ul>
August – September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Attend fair and provide proper animal care</li><li>• Complete and evaluate project records</li><li>• Set goals for next year’s project</li></ul>

### Disease Prevention

Biosecurity is a set of practices designed to reduce the risk of spreading disease from sick animals to healthy ones. We recommend adding these practices to your routine:

- Restrict access to your property.
- Keep a designated pair of shoes to wear around your animals, wash clothing after caring for your animals, and use disinfectants correctly.
- Clean and disinfect equipment especially after use at fairs or public locations.
- Keep new animals separate from your herd for 30 days; quarantine returning animals from the rest of your herd after visiting a fair, exhibition or other event.
- Do not share equipment or supplies with others, but if you must, disinfect it first.
- Wash hands before and after handling animals.
- Vaccinate animals regularly to increase protective immunity.
- Accurately identify and maintain current records on all your animals.
- Look for unusual signs in your herd, such as odd behavior; sudden and unexplained deaths; large numbers of sick animals; blisters around an animal’s nose, teats, mouth or hooves; difficulty rising and walking; partial to complete drop in milk production; or a large number of dead insects, rodents or wildlife. Contact your veterinarian immediately if any of these occur.



## *Enrolling in 4-H and Signing up for the Oconto County Fair -- - It's Two Different Things!*

When you enroll in 4-H at *4HOnline.com*, you are signing up to be a part of Oconto County 4-H. As part of the enrollment process, most youth choose one or more 4-H PROJECTS. You can do that right on 4-H online, and you can go back and do it now if you didn't before.

If you want to put an EXHIBIT in at the Oconto County Fair, you must be signed up in that corresponding 4-H project (through *4Honline.com*. This project signup must be completed by **APRIL 30<sup>TH</sup>**.

We share our list of 4-H youth who have signed up for projects with the Oconto County Fair. The Fair is a separate entity and has its own guidelines for exhibitors.

Each youth who is signed up in a PROJECT through 4-H, will receive a FAIR ENTRY FORM. Those Fair Entry Forms will be delivered by a Fair representative to club advisors at the 4-H Leaders Association Meeting in May.

To sign up to take an EXHIBIT to the fair, you must fill out the Fair Entry Form, using the Oconto County Fair premium book. The Fair Entry Forms are due to Stacie Pienta by the fourth Monday in June.

### *Important Dates for showing your animals at the Oconto County Fair:*

- Before April 30<sup>th</sup>: be sure you are signed up in the Beef project through 4-H Online.
- Make plans to attend one of the many Meat Animal Quality Assurance workshops in the county. This is required of all exhibitors to be eligible to sell at the Sale of Champions.
- Spring: Watch for the Weigh-In Date for Beef. This will be announced by the Livestock Committee of the Fair Board.
- July: Fair Entries due. You will get them from your Club Advisor.

Look over the Premium Book for the Fair carefully. Ask your project leader or Club Advisor for help to make sure you are entering in the correct category.

- August: Watch the Friday Notes for the announcement about the Fair.
- August: Get your show box and your show clothes ready for the Beef Show.
- Check the Fair Premium Book to find out the date and time of Beef Check-in Day at the Fair.

→ Youth who are selected to sell their animals in the Sale of Champions at the Oconto County Fair must have 3 documented Educational Points, one of which must be MAQA training, and one must be species specific. There are plenty of opportunities to get those points at the 4-H project days (either as a participant or as a youth leader), summer workshops, and other events throughout the county and state.