

Oconto Clover Connect

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.



December 2021

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Contact Us

Extension Oconto County

4h@co.oconto.wi.us

920-834-6845

<http://oconto.extension.wisc.edu>



Oconto County 4-H

Oconto County Courthouse

301 Washington St.

Oconto, WI 54153

Season's Greetings!



We are already smack dab in the middle of the most wonderful, and busiest time of the year. I hope all of you are able to step back and enjoy some of the magic of the season when you can. As the year comes to a close we have so much to reflect on. This past year we were able to hold several county-wide events to showcase the skills of our youth including: a clothing revue, a speaking and demonstration day, as well as a music day. Many of our youth were able to demonstrate their skills and talents at the Oconto County Youth Fair after a year of being unable to do so prior. The county was able to host a very successful achievement day to highlight our volunteers and members. Many of our clubs participated in community events to share the good news about 4-H. 4-H staff were able to offer a variety of programs virtually, and were also able to share the 4-H mission at several County events, along with making community connections to help share the great work of our program and promote information to new audiences. I am so proud of each and every one of our inspiring members, dedicated volunteers, supportive families, and diligent staff that have kept our amazing program going strong in the midst of uncertainty.

After we take the time to reflect we then have new beginning's to look forward to. Although the COVID-19 pandemic remains a consistent concern your County Leader's Association and local 4-H office are working hard to provide a variety of meaningful experiences and events that you won't want to miss. In addition to planning another year of many of the amazing events listed above there will also be offering's for: a Teen Winter Leadership Camp, Summer Camp, state-wide travel experiences and conferences, multiple project related county offerings, and much more. If you have any ideas about opportunities you would like to see, or if you are interested in helping out with any of the planning for these activities please reach out! Be sure to check the local FB page, and your email often for important information and updates. I am looking forward to a year filled with growth, fun, and new adventures with all of you!

Wishing you a safe, happy, and healthy holiday season and year to come!

Aimee Elkins

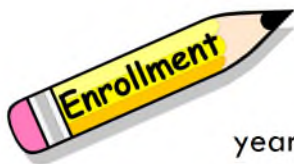
Aimee Elkins

4-H Program Educator

Marinette and Oconto Counties



Member Re-Enrollment



As of September 1st, members may go to v2.4honline.com and re-enroll in the 4-H program for 2021-2022. All 4-H members, youth and adult, must re-enroll each year in order to participate in 4-H club, county, state, national and international activities. Even if you just became a member in August, you must go back and re-enroll for the new year.

If you have any questions or need any help with the re-enrollment process, feel free to contact the Extension office at (920) 834-6845 or 4h@co.oconto.wi.us.

****MEMBERS AND LEADERS MUST RE-ENROLL EACH YEAR BY NOVEMBER 30th****

- Regular members must be in third grade or older.
- Cloverbuds (children in 5K through 2nd grade) should be listed in your club enrollment. Cloverbuds can participate in club activities. They can exhibit at the County Fair, only in the Cloverbud category, and do not receive premiums.
- New members can join at any time, but must enroll by April 30th to enter in the Fair.
- April 30th is also the deadline to add or drop projects.
- You must be enrolled in a project in order to exhibit at the Fair in that project.

Oconto County 4-H Facebook Page

Please like our Facebook page, Oconto County 4-H. We will be sharing important information on our page, and we would appreciate it if everyone could like, share, or comment on the posts so more people see it. And please, let us know if there is something that you would like us to put on our page.



Oconto County 4-H



Little Seedlings 4-H Club Decorated for Christmas in the Park

On Friday, November 19, members of Little Seedlings 4-H Club decorated a tree for Gillett's Christmas in the Park.



Oconto River Rockstars 4-H Club

The Oconto River Rockstars 4-H Club formed this past year and are off to a great start. They worked on demonstration projects at Meadow Brook Farm on County Highway J in Couillardville, including planting a pollinator garden and sunflower field on the beautiful property. They learned a lot and look forward to improving their methods this next year and sharing some of what they learned with their fellow 4-H clubs next summer. In an effort to promote the new club to the community they also hosted an open house event prior to trick or treating on October 31st at the local Oconto Riviera White Barn. The club is excited to reach new members in the area as there has not been a club in Oconto in many years. If you know of anyone who may be interested in joining this club, or any of our Oconto County clubs please have them contact the Extension Office.



Annual Leader Training



All adult volunteers and older youth are invited to join Wisconsin 4-H in a yearlong experience - Learn Together, Lead Together: Youth-Adult Partnerships! We will kick off with two sessions for the 2021-2022 Annual Leader Training. Plan for interaction and engagement, and all youth and adult leaders are invited to participate!

Leave with ideas to use right now in growing youth adult-partnerships in your club and community. We hope all youth and adult leaders join us!

Attend one or both - sessions are designed to bring together youth and adult leaders, and provide easy to use strategies, activities and ideas during your 4-H experiences. Registration details below:

Oconto County is offering this session in the virtual settings. Youth and adult participants can register using the links below. Once you register, you will receive the link for the zoom session(s), and be provided information on handouts, reference materials and supporting documents.

January 31, 2022: Learn Together, Lead Together: Equal Voices, Roles and Participation

Time: 6:30-8:00pm

Register here: <https://go.wisc.edu/vze9e3>

Attendance will be recorded. WI 4-H Club annual chartering requires one adult leader from each club or group MUST attend one of the Annual Leader Training sessions.

Have questions? Reach out to Aimee at aimee.elkins@wisc.edu or call Amy at the extension office at 920-834-6845.

Don't Forget the Virtual Learning Community

The site shows you all currently scheduled VLC events and opportunities offered through the Virtual Learning Community and our partners. If you would like to see a calendar of all 4-H/Extension opportunities, please view it at <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/virtual-learning-community/>. If you see an event you are interested in, click on it for more information.



Photography Workshop

When: December 11 from 10 AM - Noon

Where: Hillside Church, Gillett

Instructor: Keri Hicks, owner of Photos by Keri. She has done senior pictures, weddings, families, youth sports team pictures just to name a few.

What to bring: 1. Camera
2. Photo to be critiqued to help you earn a blue ribbon!
---If you cannot bring a camera, bring in a smartphone with the SnapSeed app downloaded. SnapSeed is a free photo editing app.

Topics to be covered: composition, enhancements (cropping, warmth, sharpness) and posing.

THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS WILL BE CAPPED. RSVP REQUIRED. RSVP by Wednesday, December 8 to Brooke Schaal at 920-604-2369 or brooklynn248@yahoo.com with participant's name

4-H Week Coloring Contest

We had several participants enter the coloring contest for 4-H week. Thank you very much for sharing your beautiful artwork. Winners will be contacted to collect their prizes.



Oconto County Leader's Association Update

Planning is underway for an amazing 4-H year, and the Leader's Association is looking for input and support from our membership, volunteers, and parents. Remember anyone is able to attend the meetings- we hope to see you there! A vote was held this past Monday at the meeting to decide leadership for the upcoming 4- H year. Positions will be held as follows: Brooke Schaal- Little Seedlings- President, Brigid McDowell- Little River- Vice President, Ann Sievert- Morgan Badgers- Treasurer, Secretary- OPEN, could this be you? Looking for an adult volunteer or older youth member to take this position- contact the extension office for more information.

Food-stand checks for clubs that worked shifts will be mailed from the extension office soon.

County T-shirt Order Update

Orders are currently being worked on. As is true in many cases at this time, there are some issues with shipping on some sizes. Our local vendor is working as quickly as possible to get the orders out to us. We will share more information as we have it.

Summer Camp

Save the date for an area-wide summer camp experience that is being planned for August 2-5 at Camp Bird in Marinette County. Counselor applications and more information will be available soon.



Zoom into the Wednesday Nite @ the lab Public Science Series

Come explore the unknown with researchers from UW-Madison every week at the “Wednesday Nite @ The Lab” public science talks. Talks start at 7pm Central Time every Wednesday night, 50 times a year. Join in live at the Biotech Center, 425 Henry Mall, Madison, WI, or zoom into the room at go.wisc.edu/240r59. You can even web stream at biotech.wisc.edu/webcams. Talks are free and run for about 50 minutes followed by Q&A. Park for a small fee in Lot 20 at 1390 University Avenue, Madison WI, adjacent to the Biotech Center. More information at <https://science.wisc.edu/wednesday-nite-at-the-lab/>



Limited Office Hours

The Extension office will have limited office hours from Thursday, December 23 through Friday, December 31. Thank you for your understanding, and we will return all calls and emails when we return!



Are you in 7th - 13th grade and looking for a way to heat up your winter? Join us for 24 hours of winter LEADERSHIP camp fun at Rosholt's Lions Camp.

Go to tinyurl.com/4-HWinterCamp22 to register! Registration for this event is \$75 however your Oconto County Leaders Association is willing to fully cover the cost for the first 10 youth from the county to register, and registrants beyond that will be covered at half the cost- don't delay, Sign up today!!



JANUARY 28 - 29
LIONS CAMP • ROSHOLT, WI
YOUTH IN GRADES 7 - 13

4-H TEEN LEADERSHIP WINTER CAMP



1.28.22 Registration 6:30 - 7 p.m.
1.29.22 Program concludes 7 p.m.

24 HOURS OF FUN?
Don't flake out!

Games - Prizes - Challenges - Snacks - Outdoor Recreation -
Campfire - Movies - Learning - Leading - Living LOUD
MORE COUNTIES = MORE FUN

Registration open:
tinyurl.com/4-HWinterCamp22
through Friday, January 7th or
whenever spots are filled.
Don't delay!



An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements.



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

Submissions Wanted!

Did you want to share about a successful 4-H event that you just hosted? Do you have an upcoming 4-H event that you want to promote? Do you have a fun experience or 4-H story to share? Send your news, notes, reports, and articles to us along with a photo, and we'll include in the next issue. See below for our email and mailing addresses.

Deadline: All contributions are due by the 15th of the month to make it into the next publication.

Feedback

Please do not hesitate to provide feedback, both positive and negative to us. Sharing your thoughts, ideas, and observations helps your Extension Office do the best we can to serve you. Please use the attached Care to Share form sent with the newsletter or send us an email so that we can follow up with you!

Oconto Clover Connect

How to Contact Us

Telephone: 920-834-6845

Email: 4h@co.oconto.wi.us

Website: <https://oconto.extension.wisc.edu/>



Oconto County 4-H



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

Staff

Aimee Elkins: 4-H Program E; aimee.elkins@wisc.edu

Amy Brehmer: Extension Program Assistant; amy.brehmer@co.oconto.wi.us

Oconto County 4-H Leader's Association Board of Directors

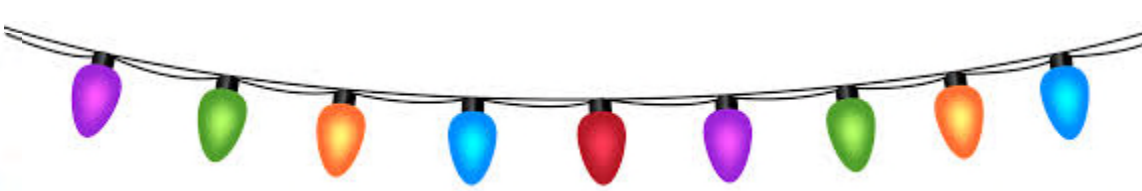
President – Brooke Schaal (Little Seedlings)

Vice President - Brigid McDowell (Little River)

Secretary – Vacant, seeking nominations

Ann Sievert - Treasurer (Morgan Badgers)

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Willing Workers Meeting Recap

Submitted by Marissa Miller

Last November's meeting for Willing Workers we talked about how we will be singing Christmas carol songs on via zoom at the next meeting Sunday, December 19th at the Town Hall in Oconto Falls off of Hwy 22 at 6pm. For residents at the nursing home that really don't get many visitors. For the residents that are going to be missing the zoom live, they can watch the zoom recording later at a different time at their convenience. Then the latest craft that we have done was we made a Christmas design wrap all over the Hershey bar that made something festive to cover over it to make it look cute. We are making them for the people at the nursing home while we sing to give them something that they can have as a nice treat. We will also be doing a gift exchange as well at the next meeting. Check back here to see what exciting things we will be doing in Willing Workers meetings. We look forward to having you as a Willing Worker if you would love to join us! Have a nice day!

