

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.



February 2022

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Happy February 4-H Families!

Even though the groundhog saw his shadow we can be sure spring will be here before we know it. The weather will get warmer and the days will get longer. If the long winter is starting to wear on you be sure to check out some of the great 4-H programs near and far- they will be sure to heat up your creativity. There has been so much going on with Oconto County 4-H that we can all be proud of, this is really going to be a great year. Be sure to look over the newsletter and mark your calendars for everything that is coming up that may interest you. If you have a special interest or talent to share we would love to hear from you!

Don't forget about these great resources to find 4-H activities to enjoy with your families of clubs!

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/virtual-learning-community/>
<https://4-h.org/about/4-h-at-home/>

Contact Us

Extension Oconto County

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920-834-6845

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Oconto County 4-H

Oconto County Courthouse

301 Washington St.

Oconto, WI 54153



Aimee Elkins
4-H Program Educator
Oconto & Marinette Counties

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2/7	Leaders Association Meeting – 6:30 pm	Oconto Falls Town Hall 8680 Hwy 22, Oconto Falls
2/26	Ceramics – 1:00 pm	Little River Town Hall 3627 Cty A, Oconto
3/27	Animal Project Day – more info to come	St. Anne's Parish Lena
4/9	Clothing Review – 1:00 pm	Location TBD
5/7	Speaking Contest – 1:00 pm	Location TBD
8/2-8/5	Summer Camp	Camp Bird

4-H Leaders Association Needs Your Help

Hello 4-H Families,

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

The Oconto County 4-H Leaders Association is made up of leaders, parents and youth ages 13 and older of all our 4-H clubs. We meet once a month. In these meetings, we discuss what educational and recreational programs that happen in Oconto County. However, for the past year, our group has been made up of just six to seven people representing five out of the ten clubs in the county. This has put a large strain on planning future events.

We would like to invite all leaders, parents and older youth to attend the next meeting on Monday, February 7 at 6:30 pm at the Oconto Falls Town Hall. Our goal is to have each club organize one educational or recreational event from September through May. These events are paid for through the county from the work that EVERYONE has put into the food stand. It's our money, we need to use it!

Please attend our next meeting on February 7th. It would be great to have two representatives from each club.

Thank you,
Oconto County 4-H leaders Association

WI State 4-H Horse Virtual Training

Join us for:

WI State 4-H Horse Virtual Training: Horse Project Policies, Concussion Protocol, and Planning a Horse Show

Feb. 9, 2022, 6:30pm

Virtual Zoom Session

Register by: February 7, 2021

Registration Link: <https://uwmadison.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJltf-ysrj4tGtVOvi3q4zCyLPARX3kBW-CZ>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. You will need to use the link provided in the confirmation e-mail to log-in and be part of the zoom. These links are specific to each registration.

Have questions you would like us to answer about policies or the concussion protocol? There is a question area in the registration form. If there is a topic or question you would like us to answer, please add it to the form. We will do our best to answer them and if we don't get to it, we will make sure that we get an answer to you after.

What is this training about?

Are you a 4-H Horse Project volunteer, guardian, or older member that would like to find out more about the statewide 4-H horse project policies and concussion protocol? Have you always wanted to know more about planning a horse show?

Join us on February 9th and we will take a closer look at each of these topics. The first hour will cover the policies and protocols and the second half will be on planning a horse show. The registration link is listed above.




The session will be recorded and posted at a later date (please note this may take some time to process and be posted.)

If you have any questions, please e-mail jill.jorgensen@wisc.edu

**WI STATE 4-H HORSE
VIRTUAL TRAINING**

Horse Project Policies,
Concussion Protocol, and
Planning a Horse Show

Feb. 9, 2022, 6:30pm
More information & registration
information is located in the e-mail



4-H Livestock and Skill-a-thon Contest and the State 4-H Meats Judging Contest

4-H Livestock and Skill-a-thon Contest and the State 4-H Meats Judging Contest

Mark your calendars for the upcoming 4-H Livestock and Skill-a-thon Contest and the State 4-H Meats Judging Contest! If you have participated in the past or this is the first time you are hearing about the contest, we would love to have you join us for this day of learning, fun, and competition.

What are the contests? These are three different contests all about livestock where you can use your knowledge about the animal species (beef, sheep, swine, meat goat) and the industry.

Livestock Quiz Bowl: Livestock Bowl is a quiz competition where all the questions are about beef, sheep, swine, and meat goat topics. Students use a buzzer to answer the questions (similar to the game show Jeopardy). Teams compete in a double elimination format by giving oral answers to questions posed by a moderator. Each match has both an individual and toss-up question round. The top team earns the opportunity to compete at the national competition.

Livestock Skill-a-thon: Everything you know about raising your animal adds up to so much knowledge of the species and the industry. The Skill-a-thon contest will help you challenge you to share that information through a written quiz and learning stations such as breed identification, feed identification, equipment identification as well as some team activities such as demonstrating evaluation skills. The top team earns the opportunity to compete at the national competition.

Meats Judging Contest: Have you been to your local meat market or grocery store lately and think you could choose the best cut of meat out of the case? Have you ever watched a live animal contest and thought you could choose what animals would provide the best meat products? This is your opportunity to put those skills to work. This contest tests the knowledge of youth in the placement of carcass and retail cut classes, carcass grading, retail cut identification, and a quiz. Top teams earn the opportunity to compete at regional and national competitions.

Who can participate? Any current 4-H members ages 8-18. Please note, there are age divisions for each of those contests. Please see the contest information in the links below for more information on the age divisions. Even if your county has not participated in the past, round-up some 4-H friends and take advantage of this fun opportunity to show your knowledge of the animal species and industry.

Looking for more information, where to register, or resources to study from? Check out the links below:

4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl and Skillathon – Saturday, April 9th

Location: UW Madison Campus

Deadline: March 25, 2022 through 4-H online (more information located in the registration materials link below)
More information and registration available at:

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/livestock-quiz-bowl-skillathon-contest/>

4-H Meats Judging – Saturday, April 30th

Location: *New* Meat Science and Animal Biologics Discovery Building, UW Madison Campus

Deadlines: (more information located in the registration materials link below):

-Estimated number of participants (needed to order PPE): Feb 4, 2022 - through Google form

-Final registration: April 18, 2022 - Through 4-H online

More information and registration available at:

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/meats-judging-contest/>

Please keep in mind, currently, mask/face coverings are mandatory on campus by all. We will be in touch as the event gets closer on any changes to COVID requirements.

If you have any questions, please contact Jill at jill.jorgensen@wisc.edu/phone at 920-39104659 or Bernie at borourke2@wisc.edu/phone at 608-263-4304.



Summer Camp – Save the Date and Camp Counselors Needed

An Area-Wide Overnight Summer Camp Experience will be offered this year at Camp Bird August 2-5th. Planning is underway and we are looking for some older youth in grades 8-13th (a year past high school) to join in on the fun as camp counselors! Please complete the application found here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1UqsPZSKewD_Si_IHIIMGILX8tW_6elQJVAU-ulQ2qsw/edit



Shooting Sports Training Dates

We have had several clubs interested in offering shooting sports, and in order to do so there needs to be 4-H trained volunteers present. It would be wonderful to have more shooting sports trained individuals in our county to support this project area. Please contact Aimee if you are interested.

There is a training coming up that will be held in Green Bay on April 30. Registration opens on March 1. Here is the link for more information

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/projects/shooting-sports/leader-certification-training-workshops/>

Limited Office Hours

The Extension office will have limited office hours the week of February 7. If you need immediate assistance you can message aimee.elkins@wisc.edu, she will get back to you at her earliest convenience. Otherwise, we will return all calls and emails when we return on Monday, February 14. Thank you for understanding and sorry for any inconvenience.

4-H Monthly Challenge

Show us your 4-H Winter Adventure Spirit! Send in a picture of your family enjoying something fun outdoors. It could be participating in your favorite winter activity, building a 4-H snowscape, or anything you can think of- be creative. All submissions will be entered for some fun prizes!



Annual Leader Training Reminder

It is required that at least 1 person from each club attends the annual leader training. If you were unable to attend either of the trainings, please contact Aimee aimee.elkins@wisc.edu.

Congratulations Isabella Rennie

Isabella recently represented Oconto County at the Wisconsin Fairest Competition during the Wisconsin Fair Convention. We are very proud of all of your accomplishments!



State Fair Corner

2022 DNA Identification Program – Wisconsin State Fair

DNA Identification technologies have proven to be instrumental in safeguarding the reputation and integrity of our State's Youth livestock programs. DNA identification must be submitted to be eligible for all 2022 Wisconsin State Fair Championship awards in the market and non-registered breeding stock shows of the Junior Beef, Sheep and Swine Divisions. Wisconsin State Fair's process for 2022 DNA identification is as follows:

840 Ear Tag Identification:

Wisconsin State Fair requires an 840 ear tag as official animal identification. 840 RFID ear tags are preferred but any official 840 ear tag is accepted. The 15-digit sequence of numbers which begin with 840 will be recognized by Wisconsin State Fair as the individual animal identification number. Wisconsin State Fair sells individual 840 RFID ear tags but 840 ear tags do not need to be purchased through Wisconsin State Fair.

DNA Identification Sample Envelopes:

Sample envelopes are used to collect and submit DNA samples for animals in the market and non-registered breeding stock shows in the Junior Beef, Sheep and Swine Divisions. Envelopes purchased from Wisconsin State Fair must be returned to Wisconsin State Fair (see submission information below).

Purchases through Wisconsin State Fair:

Wisconsin State Fair DNA identification 840 ear tags and sample envelopes are available for purchase online by credit card at entry.wistatefair.com. At the present time, due to COVID-19, walk-up orders will not be accepted at Wisconsin State Fair Park.

DNA Identification Sample Envelope: \$7.00

840 RFID Ear Tag: \$8.00

DNA Identification Sample Envelope and 840 RFID Ear Tag: \$15

Wisconsin State Fair DNA Identification Submission Date:

Wisconsin State Fair DNA identification sample envelopes must be returned postmarked on (or before) May 25, 2022*. At the present time, due to COVID-19, in-person dropoffs of DNA identification will not be accepted at Wisconsin State Fair Park. DNA identification may only be returned via mail, Fed Ex or UPS. DNA sample envelopes being sent to Wisconsin State Fair should be addressed to:

Wisconsin State Fair, Agriculture Department, 640 S 84th St, West Allis WI 53214

*PLEASE NOTE: Junior market beef, sheep and swine and non-registered breeding stock without DNA identification postmarked/delivered by May 25, 2022, are eligible to show at Wisconsin State Fair but are not eligible for champion awards.

County Fair DNA Programs:

Wisconsin State Fair recognizes and accepts DNA identification from County Fair programs which use Animal ID Inc. as their DNA service provider. Any DNA identification sample envelopes purchased through a County Fair program must be submitted back to the respective County where purchased. DNA identification samples postmarked/delivered on (or before) May 25, 2022, will be recognized as meeting Wisconsin State Fair DNA identification requirements.

Reminder!

Purchasing and/or submission of 840 ear tags or DNA sample envelopes is NOT entry in the 2022 Wisconsin State Fair. Exhibitors must enter the Wisconsin State Fair Junior Show online at wistatefair.com in a separate process in late spring.

Please contact Wisconsin State Fair at entryoffice@wistatefair.com with additional DNA identification questions.

Junior Show Volunteer Adult Contact Applications Now Available

Wisconsin State Fair strives to offer youth programs that create a safe, educational and memorable experience for participants. We are now accepting applications for:

Volunteer Adult Group Contact -

Lead, coordinate and supervise Wisconsin State Fair Junior Show exhibitors in a group format. VAGCs must be age 21 and over and submit a completed Volunteer Adult Group Contact application by March 16, 2022.

Volunteer Adult Independent Contact –

Lead, coordinate and supervise a Wisconsin State Fair Junior Show independent animal exhibitor. Junior exhibitors who choose to participate as independent must designate a Volunteer Adult Independent Contact (VAIC), age 21 and over, who must submit a completed Volunteer Adult Independent Contact application at time of entry (entry deadline May 25, 2022). The VAIC should be present at Wisconsin State Fair at all times during the respective junior show.

Application Deadlines

Volunteer Adult Group Contact (VAGC): March 16, 2022

Volunteer Adult Independent Contact (VAIC): May 25, 2022

Summer Internship Opportunities

Experience. Learn. Make a Difference!

We have summer internship opportunities for dedicated and motivated individuals! We are looking for candidates who have a passion for agriculture, enjoy working with exhibitors, want to learn how to organize competitions and livestock shows, plus experience the best 11 days of summer at Wisconsin State Fair August 4-14, 2022.

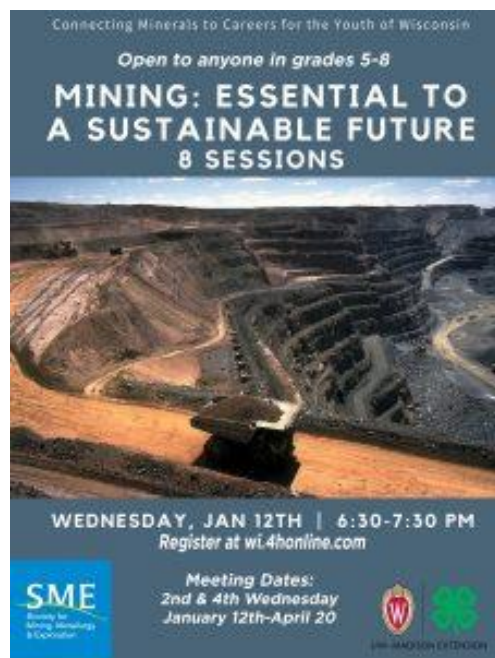
Summer Internship Positions Available:

- **Livestock Coordinator** - Assist with setting up and running livestock shows and events.
- **Exhibitor Education Coordinator** - Create and execute exhibitor educational contests and programs.
- **Fairgoer Education Coordinator** - Coordinate the Compeer Financial Discovery Barnyard along with fairgoer education exhibits and oversee the care of exhibit livestock.
- **Entry Department** - Assist with data entry, exhibitor communication and customer service initiatives.

To apply, email your cover letter and resume to entryoffice@wistatefair.com. Please include the internship position(s) for which you are applying. Ideally, candidates would be able to start in May.



Youth Opportunity (Mining: Essential to a Sustainable Future)



Area 2 4-H is partnering with the Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration to offer a statewide eight-session program to introduce participants to mining. Please invite youth in grades 5-8 to participate. Registration is via 4-H online and open to 4-H youth and other youth participants. Contact Anna DeMers with questions (anna.demers@wisc.edu).

MINING: ESSENTIAL TO A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

This virtual, eight-session evening program for 5-8 grade youth introduces participants to mining, one of Wisconsin's most important industries, through a series of activities that show how every-day aspects of the students' lives are dependent on minerals and the career paths that provide them. Students will gain inter-disciplinary

knowledge and enhanced STEAM exposure through guided instruction and experiential learning modes facilitated by industry professionals and project helpers. The curriculum is designed to recognize the impacts of mining from a social, cultural, and environmental perspective – but also show the students how to attain careers in these various professions that support the mining industry. A workbook and course materials will be provided at no cost to the participant. Begins Wednesday, January 12 from 6:30-7:30PM via Zoom and runs on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month through April 20.

Animal Project day... Save the Date!

The Lena Rocketeers 4-H club is planning to host an Animal Project Day. It is tentatively scheduled for March 27th at St. Anne's Parish and Grounds in Lena. More information will be coming. If anyone is interested in providing support around the Sheep and Goat projects please contact Aimee aimee.elkins@wisc.edu or Jo johipke@yahoo.com.



Ceramics Session

Join us on Saturday, February 26 at 1:00 pm at the Little River Town Hall for our ceramics sessions. Youth will have the opportunity to learn basic ceramics skills with instruction provided by Brigid McDowell. Space is limited, to register please contact Brigid McDowell at 920-834-9947.

Clothing Revue

The Clothing Revue will be held on Saturday, April 9 at 1:00 pm. Location TBD. Registration information will be coming soon.

What is a clothing revue?

The clothing revue is a fun event for all boys and girls in 4-H, grades kindergarten through one year post high school, to model what they have made or purchased. This event includes knitting, crocheting, sewing, consumer savvy*, or alterations*. You do not need to be enrolled in these projects. Ribbons will be awarded.

What you can do:

- ❖ Make something to wear – this can be an entire outfit or just one thing. (Ex: a hat or a hat, mittens, and scarf to match, a shirt, pajamas, etc.) Or, you can purchase an entire outfit.
- ❖ You will wear your creation before the judge and tell him/her all about it. The judge may not touch your garment at all, they will only judge on how it looks on you.
- ❖ You will then model your outfit while the Master of Ceremony reads the card that you sent in with your registration.

*What is consumer savvy? Rather than making the garment, you go out and purchase it along with accessories to make a complete outfit. (Shirt, pants, shoes, socks, belt, etc.)

*What does alterations mean? This is a changed outfit that you wear; it can be something that is too big for you and you altered it to fit you, maybe a dress of your mom's. Or, it can be a huge t-shirt that you made into a dress.

Speaking Festival

The Speaking Festival will be held on Saturday, May 7 at 1:00 pm. Location TBD. Registration information will be coming soon.

The speaking festival consists of 5 events: Speech, Storytelling, Interpretive Readings, Puppetry, and Show what you Know.



Teen Leadership Winter Day Camp

We had a great group of young ladies that represented Oconto County 4H at the multi-county Teen Leadership Winter Day Camp on Saturday, January 29. Activities of the day focused on the impact of brain science on developing leadership skills. Participants were able to try out a paint blot art gallery, practice skills that triggered different parts of their brain, and even build their own brains along with several other activities and of course enjoy some fun outdoors! It was a great day.



The Painting Project was a Success!

What an amazing night of painting, and such a talented group! Thank you Willing Workers 4-H Club for hosting such a fun project night, and a huge thank you to Kathy B. for sharing her time and talent with all of these young artists!



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 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

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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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