

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 2024

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Hello 4-H Families,

I hope your winters are going well so far. This unseasonably warm weather has us thinking ahead to spring and summer activities. Planning is well underway for some great events and opportunities that I hope you can take advantage of. In order not to miss out on anything it is important to make sure that you have gone in to 4-H online to re-enroll for the year. Our monthly newsletter, along with our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ocontocounty4h> are great ways to stay in tune to all the fun things ahead. We would also love to hear from you if you have any ideas, suggestions, or talents to share for upcoming projects or events. Wishing you a warm and healthy February with all the people and things that you love!

Kindly,

Aimee Elkins
4-H Positive Youth Development Educator/WI 4-H Program
Delivery Project Manager
University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension Oconto
and Marinette Counties

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



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

3/3	Ice Skating – 3-5 pm	Crawford Center Shawano, WI
3/16	Beef Weigh In	Oconto County Fairgrounds
3/15-17	Art Beat!	Upham Woods
4/7	Oconto County Spring Fling Project Day – More info to Follow	St. Anne's Lena
4/13	Clothing Revue – 1:00 pm	TBD
4/27	Sheep/Goat Weigh In	Oconto County Fairgrounds
4/27	Swine Tag Pickup	Oconto County Fairgrounds
5/14	YQCA Training for 1 st -3 rd Year Members 6-8 pm	Oconto Falls High School Ag Room
6/2	Animal Project Education Point Day Covering Beef, Dairy, Goat, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep and Swine	Oconto County Fairgrounds
6/14-16	Summer Camp	Camp Bird
8/17	Oconto County Youth Fair – Cat, Dog, Horse, Small Animal Day	Oconto County Fairgrounds
8/22-25	Oconto County Youth Fair	Oconto County Fairgrounds

Member Re-Enrollment

As of September 1st, members may go to v2.4honline.com and re-enroll in the 4-H program for 2023-2024. All 4-H members, youth and adult, must re-enroll each year in order to participate in a 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 questions or need any help with the re-enrollment process, feel free to contact the Extension office at 920-834-6845 or amy.brehmer@co.oconto.wi.us.

- 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 the deadline to add or drop projects
- You must be enrolled in a project in order to exhibit at the Fair in that project
- **Leaders must re-enroll, complete all required trainings, and receive their confirmation letter from the state before they are active and able to hold 4-H club meetings or events**

If your child has their own email address, please be sure to update their profile with that information so they receive all of the emails that are sent out

Please note, this is the last month that you will receive the newsletter if you are not registered for 2024

Fair Updates – Watch for More Updates

- March 16th – Beef weigh in at the fairgrounds
- April 27th – Sheep/Goat weigh in at the fairgrounds
- April 27th – Swine tag pickup at the fairgrounds
- May 14th – YQCA training for 1st-3rd year members at the Oconto Falls High School Ag room 6-8 pm
- June 2nd – Animal project education point day at the fairgrounds – multiple sessions will cover Beef, Dairy, Goat, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep and Swine
- August 17th – Cat, Dog, Horse and Small Animal day at the fairgrounds
- August 22nd-25th – Oconto County Youth Fair

Save the Date!! Oconto County Spring Fling Project day

April 7th 2024 at St. Anne's in Lena hosted by the Lena Rocketeers 4-H Club and Oconto County 4-H Leader's Association. An entire day of project learning is being planned with focus areas on animal and non-animal projects. More information to come as it is available. If you have a specific project or talent you would like to see or share that day please contact the 4-H office!

Leaders Association Meeting

The next Leaders Association meeting will be held on Sunday, March 10 at 6 pm at the Oconto Falls Town Hall. Please come and share your ideas and learn about upcoming events that are being planned.

New Family Newsletter

There is a state resource available for new families, each month we will include a link to the newsletter for new families to check out. This month is information on 4-H projects. Click [here](#) to view the newsletter.

Office Hours

Our office will be closed beginning at noon on Friday, February 2 until Monday, February 12. You can contact Aimee at aimee.elkins@wisc.edu, or leave a message on our office phone and I will return your call when I return. Thank you for your patience!



4-H Volunteer Impact Study

Volunteers in 4-H make a difference! We are excited to share that our state will be participating in the 4-H Volunteer Impact Study of volunteers in the North Central Region.

This survey is being conducted as a part of 12 state effort to document the impact of volunteering.

It will focus on three areas:

- the personal benefits of your volunteer experience;
- the impact you have on the organization by volunteering; and
- how your volunteer efforts contribute to your community in which you live and work.

A random sample of volunteers of 1000 volunteers from each state will be surveyed. This study will be conducted through an electronic survey. If you are selected, you will receive an email to let you know you have been selected to participate.

You may be picked! If you are, please respond. We want to hear from you and learn from your volunteer experiences.

Your comments will be used to quantify the personal, organizational, and public impacts of volunteers involved with 4-H Youth Development Programs in our twelve-state region.

Your impact is great and we want to hear from you!

RESPOND TO THE

4-H VOLUNTEER IMPACT STUDY

WHAT YOU DO MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

Wisconsin is participating in the North Central Region 4-H Volunteer Impact Study! A random sample of 1000 volunteers from each of 12 states will be surveyed to learn more about volunteer impact in our state.

YOU MAY BE PICKED!!!
If you are, please respond. We want to hear from you and learn from your volunteer experiences!!!

'Ketching' up with Tomatoes – Project Box Kit

Did you know tomatoes originated in the Andes Mountains deep in South America? This fascinating fruit (or vegetable, we'll let you decide) has a unique story to share. It's traveled around the world and has become an important food in many cultures.

Open to 3-6th graders, our tomato project box will dive into tomatoes, specifically focusing on planting, cooking, and storytelling. Youth will be able to experiment with planting in different light conditions, try international recipes, and connect with other participants. Three special Zoom sessions will take place on Thursdays, 6-7 PM, in April and May.

Don't miss out, register here: https://uwmadison.co1.qualtrics.com/.../SV_cNoCSdwZd1PuPMa

The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation and the UW-Madison Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic are sponsoring this distance learning series.



'KETCHING' UP WITH TOMATOES *Project Box Kit*



THE TOMATO STORY

- 🍷 Jump into tomato history and folklore
- 🍷 Tell your best tomato jokes while learning how to plant seeds on Zoom

COOKING WITH TOMATOES

- 🍷 Try several different international recipes and learn how different countries cook with tomatoes--several will be taught on the Zoom

WORKING WITH TOMATOES

- 🍷 Explore an exciting career path with Plant Disease Diagnostician, Dr. Brian Hudelson, who loves hunting down the nasties that make plants sick. He enjoys it so much, he even writes plant disease limericks and designs building block kits of actual plant diseases! We will build one together using LEGO® pieces!

About

3-6th graders in any county will have an opportunity to learn both independently with the box's interactive lessons and together as a community, online and on Zooms. Zooms will be announced at a later date, but will be Thursdays at 6:00 PM.



Register Here:



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.

WI 4-H Area Animal Science Days – Save the Dates

WI 4-H AREA ANIMAL SCIENCE DAYS

Save the Dates

**SHAWANO COUNTY
JUNE 18TH**

**GREEN COUNTY
JUNE 20TH**



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

**WATCH INBOXES AND SOCIAL MEDIA FOR
FUTURE REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

Horse Project Updates

The WI 4-H Horse Association has updated their handbook for the year. Link:

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/projects/large-animals/horse-project/wisconsin-4-h-horse-association/>

This is where you will find the calendar of events, information about specific state horse activities and rules, and much more.

Save the Dates:

2024 Ring Practice Nights 6:00 pm at the Fairgrounds

June 11 & 27

July 11 & 23

August 1 & 8

2024 Regional 4-H Communication Arts Contest

DATE/TIME: Saturday, April 6, 2024, 9:00 a.m. - Noon
8: 30 a.m. Check-in and Welcome

ENTRY DEADLINE: March 22, 2024

All entries accepted <https://v2.4honline.com>

AGE: Open to all youth in grades K – 13 who are members of an organized youth group under adult leadership.

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

- The Creative Arts Festival is a family event. Family and friends of all ages are welcome to attend.
- Watch your email for more information regarding the 4-H Regional Communication Arts Contest
- Each participant will be judged face-to-face immediately following the presentation.
- All entries must have a title.

For more information regarding this opportunity please call Sarah Tarjeson, sarah.tarjeson@wisc.edu or 920-459-5915



2024 EASTERN REGION COMMUNICATIONS CONTEST

SAT APRIL 6 TH 2024 | 9:00 am - 12:00 pm | UW Green Bay Sheboygan Campus

5 options to choose from!

- ORIGINAL SPEECH 
- INTERPRETIVE 
- READERS THEATER & STORYTELLING 
- DEMONSTRATION 
- INTERVIEW 

Register in 4-H online
FEB 1ST through **MARCH 22ND**



Register for a FREE Tree!!!!



Join Us in Celebrating Earth Week: Register for a Free Tree for Your Child!

This spring, we are thrilled to once again announce our participation in [Neighborhood Forest's](#) 15th Annual Free Tree Program as part of our Earth Week celebrations from April 22nd to 26th!

We are excited to be participating in this wonderful program that teaches youth about the importance of environmental stewardship through the magic and wonder of planting and watching trees grow.

Please fill out the following online registration form by March 15th and receive a free tree (6-12 inches in size) during Earth Week (April 22-26). The tree species will be announced in early April. Neighborhood Forest aims to provide native trees in all regions they serve.

Register to receive a free tree for Earth Day to plant with your child:

<https://www.neighborhoodforest.org/parent-registration/?school=26435>

For the purpose of the program please indicate your child's teacher to be the 4-H Program Educator, and Neighborhood Forest Coordinator Aimee Elkins

Trees will be delivered to us and we will arrange to get the trees in the hands of your children on or around Earth Day (April 22nd) via pick up.

Instructions on planting and caring for the trees, along with species details, will be emailed a few days before the tree delivery and will also be accessible in the "[Resources](#)" section on the Neighborhood Forest website. For further questions, please check out the [Parent FAQs](#).

Thank you for your support and participation. For more information about this program, please visit www.neighborhoodforest.org or www.facebook.com/neighborhoodforest.

Wildlife & Woods Series

Join us for virtual opportunities to explore Wildlife & Woods! This virtual series is returning for 2024 and is open to youth in grades K-5, their parents/guardians, and adult leaders. Register today to explore and learn about Wildlife & Woods! Registration is open now in 4HOnline for this virtual series. You may participate in as many hour long sessions as you like!



Wildlife & Woods

EXPLORATIONS VIRTUAL SERIES

FOR YOUTH GRADES K-5

JAN. 24, 2024

FEB. 28, 2024

MAR. 27, 2024

APRIL 24, 2024

MAY 22, 2024

Register via 4-H Online
wi.4honline.com

The poster features a green background with a circular illustration on the right side. The illustration depicts a forest scene with a large tree, a deer, two rabbits, and a butterfly. The text is arranged in a vertical column on the left side of the poster.



To learn more about virtual learning opportunities, please visit 4h.extension.wisc.edu/vlc



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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.

Art Beat!

Art Beat! will be held March 15-17, 2024 at Upham Woods. The cost is \$110 for youth and \$60 for chaperones. Registration is coming soon!

4-H Art Beat is the introductory program for Wisconsin 4-H Communication Arts and was created for 4-H members in grades 3-5, their parents and leaders. Art Beat! provides an opportunity for youth and their parents to experience five different art forms in a camping environment at Camp Upham Woods in WI Dells. The weekend features a look at a variety of arts projects including music, drama, visual arts, art in nature, and more! Camp begins Friday evening at 6:30 pm and ends Sunday morning at 11:00 am.

Both youth and adult participants stay in the cabins on cabin hill. Parents are not required to attend but are invited. Adult applicants, please note: All adults will be considered Adult Advisors (chaperones) for the camp – if you are not already an active 4-H volunteer you must complete the requirements to become one before camp – contact your county UW-Extension 4-H Office for assistance. Please do so as soon as possible to allow enough time to complete the required training and for a background check to be completed before camp.

The registration fee (both youth and adults must pay the registration fee) will include all materials and supplies, overnight lodging, meals, and snacks. Why not get a whole carload of youth and adults together from your county for some genuine 4-H bonding time? Transportation is NOT provided by the State 4-H Office.

For more information about registration and possible state scholarship funding, visit:

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/art-beat/>



Summer Academy

SAVE THE DATE. June 24-27, 2024. Hosted by Wisconsin 4-H and Community Youth Development of UW-Madison Extension.

Join us on the UW-Madison Campus for the new Summer Academy, June 24-27, 2024. This new Positive Youth Development program will help you discover pathways to your future. Signup to learn what it takes to have a career, or a hobby in several SPARK areas including agriculture, STEM, service, leadership, arts, trades, and many more. There will be fun opportunities to build networks and friendships with folks from all over the state of WI.

Track offerings for 2024 Summer Academy are still being determined. Check back here soon for more information: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/summer-academy/>

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

Staff

Aimee Elkins: 4-H Program Educator; 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 – Riley Windus (Lena Rocketeers)

Secretary – Amber Seitz (Morgan Badgers)

Ann Sievert - Treasurer (Morgan Badgers)

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.

Como empleador que brinda igualdad de oportunidades en el empleo y acción afirmativa (EEO/AA, por sus siglas en inglés), la University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension, proporciona igualdad de oportunidades en el empleo y en sus programas, incluyendo los requisitos del Título VI, Título IX, y de la ley federal para personas con discapacidades en los Estados Unidos (ADA, por sus siglas en inglés) y los requisitos de la Section 504 del Rehabilitation Act.

PLEASE JOIN US

Ice Skating

hosted by:

Northern Riders 4-4



- **CRAWFORD CENTER**
251 S Waukechon St,
Shawano, WI 54166
- **SUNDAY, MARCH 3**
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
- **\$5 A PERSON**
skate rental included

open to EVERYONE!

- **snacks and refreshments will be provided by our club**



UW-MADISON EXTENSION
OCONTO COUNTY

SAVE THE DATE

OCONTO COUNTY

4-H

Spring Project Day



04/07/24

St.
Annes
Church
Lena

9am-4pm

ANIMAL AND NON-ANIMAL PROJECT FUN!!

More information will be coming soon!

Contact Aimee to request accomodations for this event
aimee.elkins@wisc.edu

Clothing Revue

April 13, 2024

1:00 P.M.

Location TBD

Name: _____

Address: _____

Male Female Age: _____ Phone: _____

Garment: _____

Garment Category: _____

Each participant must include a 3x5-index card with information about himself or herself. Please include this card with your registration form. Please include your name, age, fiber content, and things you like to do. Below is an example.

Watch out! Here comes 9-year-old John Doe looking cool and ready for the beach in his 100 % cotton button down shirt with a snazzy Hawaiian print and pocket. In this shirt, John is ready for all his favorite things, whether it be the church picnic, playing ball with his friends or riding his bike, he is sure to stay comfy!

Please return registration form by April 4th to:

Extension Oconto County Attn: Amy

301 Washington St

Oconto, WI 54153

Or email amy.brehmer@co.oconto.wi.us

Please call the office with questions 920-834-6845.

Oconto County Clothing Revue Judging Sheet

2024 Clothing Revue



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Name _____ Club _____

Grade _____ Age (as of January 1, 2024) _____

Date of competition April 13, 2024

Article Shown _____

	WELL DONE	ACCEPTABLE	NEEDS WORK	COMMENTS
OVERALL LOOK:				
Retains Fresh Appearance				
Color & Style				
Good Fabric Choice				
Accessories				
Appropriate Undergarments				
INDIVIDUAL:				
Grooming				
Posture				
Poise				
FIT:				
Neck Area				
Armholes				
Sleeves				
Bodice				
Waist				
Hips				
Hang of Garment				
CONSTRUCTION:				
Overall Sewing				
Hem Length				
Knowledge				

Placing (please circle):

1st

2nd

3rd