# 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.



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# March 2024

Hello 4-H Families!

I hope this month's newsletter finds you all well.

This Wisconsin weather lately has been enough to give a person whiplash with the highs and lows!

As Mother Nature works on sorting herself out I know many of you are already working hard on your fair projects for this summer. Be sure to check out the newsletter for many different project learning opportunities, recreational activities, and educational experiences. Some of these include an Oconto

educational experiences. Some of these include an Oconto County 4-H Skating Night, Regional Communication Arts Festival, MarOcoSha Summer Camp 2024 registration, ArtBeat, Oconto County 4-H Clothing Revue, Oconto County 4-H Spring Project Day, Summer Academy registration, and so much more! Just as spring arrives and we see plants and flowers bloom these opportunities are an amazing way to see our youth members learn, grow, and thrive. 4-H really does have something for everyone! If you have any questions about any upcoming event or opportunity, please be sure to reach out to our office. Looking forward to seeing you all soon!





#### **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

Aimee Elkins

4-H Positive Youth Development Educator Oconto and Marinette Counties

WI 4-H Program Delivery Project Manager

#### 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	St. Anne's	
	info to Follow	Lena	
4/13	Clothing Revue – 1:00 pm	The Shop on Main, Oconto	
4/27	Sheep/Goat Weigh In	Oconto County Fairgrounds	
4/27	Swine Tag Pickup	Oconto County Fairgrounds	
4/28	Horse Project Meeting – 1:00 pm	Kathie Beschta's house	
		6401 Kriescher Ln, Lena	
5/14	YQCA Training for 1st-3rd Year Members 6-8 pm	Oconto Falls High School Ag Room	
6/2	<b>Animal Project Education Point Day Covering</b>	Oconto County Fairgrounds	
	Beef, Dairy, Goat, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep and		
	Swine		
6/14-16	Summer Camp	Camp Bird	
8/17	Oconto County Youth Fair - Cat, Dog, Horse,	Oconto County Fairgrounds	
	Small Animal Day		
8/22-25	Oconto County Youth Fair	Oconto County Fairgrounds	

#### **Member Re-Enrollment**

As of September 1<sup>st</sup>, members may go to <u>v2.4honline.com</u> 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 <a href="mailto:amy.brehmer@co.oconto.wi.us">amy.brehmer@co.oconto.wi.us</a>.

- Regular members must be in third grade or older
- Cloverbuds (children in 5K through 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 30<sup>th</sup> is the deadline to add projects for the fair
- 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

<sup>\*</sup>If your child has their own email address, please be sure to update their profile with that information so they receive all the emails that are sent out\*

# Fair Updates — Watch for More Updates

- March 16th Beef weigh in at the fairgrounds
- April 27<sup>th</sup> Sheep/Goat weigh in at the fairgrounds
- April 27<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Animal project education point day at the fairgrounds multiple sessions will cover Beef, Dairy, Goat, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep and Swine
- August 17<sup>th</sup> Cat, Dog, Horse, and Small Animal Day at the fairgrounds
- August 22<sup>nd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> Oconto County Youth Fair

# **Oconto County Spring Fling Project Day**

Oconto County Spring Fling Project Day will be held Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 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 <u>here</u> to view the newsletter.

# Reminder for 4-H Events and Experiences

As a reminder: a portion of costs for camps, events, and experiences are often generously covered by the Oconto County 4-H Leaders Association utilizing funds obtained through the 4-H food stand and other fundraising efforts. There are also state scholarships available <a href="here">here</a>. We never want finances or the need for special accommodations to be a barrier for our members participating in any 4-H events. Please reach out to Aimee at aimee.elkins@wisc.edu if you have any requests, needs, or questions.



### **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!



# **Clothing Revue**

The Clothing Revue will be held on Saturday, April 13 at 1:00 pm at the Shop on Main, 821 Main St., Oconto. Please utilize curbside parking only!

#### 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.

\*You will be judged on: Overall look, construction of garment, knowledge, and presentation.

#### WI 4-H Area Animal Science Days — Save the Dates



#### Save the Date! 2024 WI Restorative Justice Summit

Save the date for our 5th annual Wisconsin Restorative Justice Summit, July 11 in Madison. The Wisconsin Restorative Justice Summit (WRJS) is a chance for youth people and adults to convene, connect, and network. The WRJS is known for inspiring restorative practices in an inclusive setting, where you can learn from diverse lived experiences and engage in innovative discussions from restorative justice practitioners from across the state of Wisconsin. Come connect and network; engage with our keynote speaker; share your experiences with restorative practices; and take part in authentic, interactive breakout sessions.

Don't miss the 2024 Wisconsin Restorative Justice Summit on July 11!



#### **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.

April 28th, 1:00 pm Horse Project Spring Meeting at Kathie Beschta's house. 6401 Kriescher Rd, Lena, WI 54139. Please call 920-829-5417 with questions. Attendance is highly recommended. Have your horse's birthdate (if known) and other information handy to fill out the Horse Information Sheets at the meeting.

May 1st, Horse Information Sheets and Code of Conduct forms due to Kathie Beschta. Fill them out at the meeting or email them to Kathie. <u>paintingsbykathie@gmail.com</u> or text 920-829-5417.

May 19th, Oconto County Fairgrounds, 1:00 PM, Grooming, Tack Prep and other useful demonstrations and information. If you would like to earn an Education Credit to go towards your Sale of Champions requirement, consider doing a demonstration for the group. Contact Kathie Beschta with your idea.

#### **Horse Practice Ring Nights**

\*Negative Coggins Required at your first practice\*

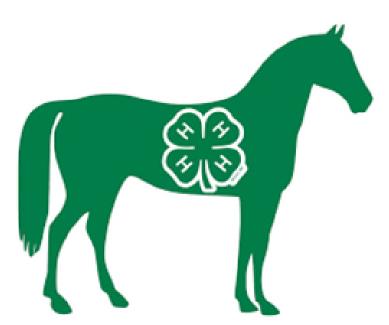
You must attend at least 1 Ring Night to participate in the horse show. More than 1 is recommended.

Tues. June 11 6:00 PM Fairgrounds
Thurs. June 27 6:00 PM Fairgrounds
Thurs. July 11 6:00 PM Fairgrounds
Tues. July 23 6:00 PM Fairgrounds
Thurs. Aug. 1 6:00 PM Fairgrounds
Thurs. Aug. 8 6:00 PM Fairgrounds

Wed. Aug. 7, all remaining paperwork is due to Kathie Beschta. Horse Health Record, Horse Project Record, Educational Points and Credits Record. Email, text or snail mail to Kathie Beschta.

Oconto County Youth 4H Horse Show

Sat. August 17th, 2024. 9:00 AM. Please do not arrive before 8:30.



## **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 <a href="https://v2.4honline.com">https://v2.4honline.com</a>

**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



### 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 <u>Neighborhood Forest's</u> 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: <a href="https://www.neighborhoodforest.org/parent-registration/?school=26435">https://www.neighborhoodforest.org/parent-registration/?school=26435</a>

\*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 <u>Parent FAQs</u>.

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!



# The Oconto County Extension Office is Hiring!!

We are seeking an energetic, friendly, motivated individual to support the Extension office and Educators throughout the summer. There will be an emphasis on youth programming: including camps, summer school, and community events. The ideal candidate will have reliable transportation, enjoy working with youth, and appreciate flexibility and variety in their day. For more information and to apply click here by April 1st, 2024. We look forward to working with you!



# MarOcoSha Summer Camp 2024 Registration Opens March 1st

We are excited to be offering a three-day, two-night 4-H Camp for Marinette, Oconto, and Shawano Counties to be held at Camp Bird near Crivitz, WI from June 14th-16th this year!

We have a great staff of teens and adults that have already spent many hours in training and preparation for your child to arrive. This is a great chance to spend time outdoors, make new friends, and even learn a bit! Activities already in the schedule are swimming, Raccoon Circles (team building), campfires, hikes, lots of games, and canoeing or kayaking! Our camp food is awesome, just ask former campers. This will be a week of actively enjoying nature, the outdoors, and the fellowship of new friends while learning. We also have a health supervisor and lifeguard on staff.

Campers can choose to be transported by bus from one of several stops. The location of these stops will be determined where campers are registering from. We will contact you closer to camp to confirm which location your youth would like to board. If a bus option is not chosen, a scheduled drop off time at Camp Bird can be arranged.

Registration opens for 4-H Members on March 1, 2024. If there are spots available, youth not enrolled in 4-H may register beginning March 4, 2024.

- 4-H members cost \$125 camp payment. Due to the generosity of the Oconto County 4-H Leaders Association, and funds primarily obtained through the annual 4-H fair food stand and raffle, Oconto County 4-H Members are only responsible for \$31.25 (per camper registered to attend). Money must be sent to the Oconto County Extension Office prior to May 10th or your spot may be given to a wait list camper.
- Non 4-H members will be responsible to submit \$150 camp payment (per camper registered to attend). Money must be sent to the Marinette County Extension Office prior to May 10<sup>th</sup> or your spot may be given to a wait list camper.

**CANCELLATION POLICY (New in 2024)** - If you need to cancel your registration, you may do so, without penalty prior to June 1, 2024. If cancelling your registration on, or after June 1, 2024, a \$50 per camper late cancelation fee will be assessed. Please contact the Shawano County Extension Office (715-526-6136) if you need to cancel for any reason.

**REGISTER HERE:** <a href="http://tinyurl.com/MarOcoSha24">http://tinyurl.com/MarOcoSha24</a> \*\*More than one youth to register? Please submit a new form for **EACH youth**.

If we reach our maximum number of campers, we will start a waitlist.

If you have questions or are needing financial assistance, please reach out to your 4-H Educator: Aimee Elkins (aimee.elkins@wisc.edu)

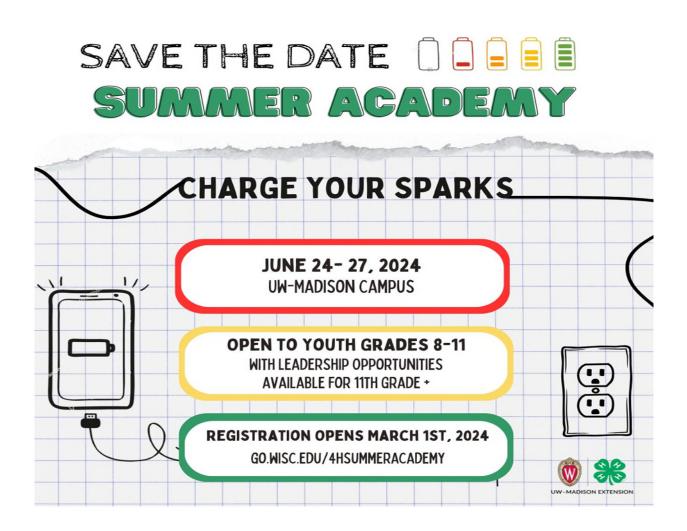


# **Summer Academy**

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 dis-cover 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: <a href="https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/summer-academy/">https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/summer-academy/</a>



#### **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: <a href="https://oconto.extension.wisc.edu/">https://oconto.extension.wisc.edu/</a> Oconto County 4-H



#### Staff

Aimee Elkins: 4-H Program Educator; <u>aimee.elkins@wisc.edu</u>

Amy Brehmer: Extension Program Assistant; <a href="mailto:amy.brehmer@co.oconto.wi.us">amy.brehmer@co.oconto.wi.us</a>

#### **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.



open to EVERYONE!

snacks and refreshments will be provided by our club



# SAVE THE DATE

# oconto county



Spring Project Day



04/07/24



92M-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

#### 4th Annual Tyler Thiel Memorial Meat Goat Essay



#### Due April 5th, 2024

NAME:

**ADDRESS:** 

4-H CLUB:

Tyler Thiel Memorial will be gifting a commercial Boer goat doeling to a 4-H member in Shawano, Marinette, Oconto, Outagamie, or Waupaca county. To qualify for this goat, you must show it in your local 2024 county fair. When old enough, doe must be bred to a meat breed buck. One of its kids must be shown at the first fair that it is eligible for.

AGE:

**PHONE:** 

**EMAIL:** 

**COUNTY:** 

The essay may be handwritten or typed, 1 - 2 pages long, and postmarked by April 5th, 2024

Mail the essay to: Mike and Shirley Thiel W4933 Cty Rd G Black Creek, WI 54106

Please answer the following in your essay					
Tell about other livestock that you, and your family raise					
Do you have goats now? IF YES, tell us more (breed, age, how many, how you care for them, and what is your plan with your herd)					
Why are you interested in goats?					
Why do you want to show goats at the fair?					
Explain your facility					
Explain how you will take care of this goat (Feed, water, shelter, medications, dewormer, etc.)					
4-H Member Signature: Date:					
Parent or Guardian's Signature:Date:					

\*Winner must make arrangements to pick up goat in Shawano between April 15-30th

# Clothing Revue April 13, 2024 1:00 P.M.

#### The Shop on Main – 821 Main St, Oconto WI 54153

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 4<sup>th</sup> to:

Extension Oconto County Attn: Amy

301 Washington St

Oconto, WI 54153

Or email <a href="mailto:amy.brehmer@co.oconto.wi.us">amy.brehmer@co.oconto.wi.us</a>

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





Name	mme Club				
Grade	Age (a	Extension UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MAD			
Date of competition Ap					
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					

2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> Placing (please circle): 1<sup>st</sup>