

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 2024

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Season's Greetings 4-H Families!

As winter really starts to settle in, it's the perfect time to embrace opportunities, set new goals, and explore exciting activities within the local 4-H Program and beyond. Whether you're looking for fun winter projects, skill-building workshops, or leadership opportunities, there's something for everyone in 4-H. The cold weather doesn't mean slowing down – it's the perfect season to discover something fun, make new friends, and develop lifelong skills!

We encourage all youth, and their families, to stay engaged and explore the many ways 4-H can make this winter season meaningful. From hands-on activities that spark creativity to programs that promote growth in science, agriculture, and community service, there are endless possibilities to get involved. So, grab your mittens and scarves, and get ready to dive into the many exciting opportunities 4-H has to offer this winter! Let's make the most of this season together!

Your Oconto County 4-H Team,

Aimee and Amy

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SEASONS GREETINGS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1/3-1/5	Winter Camp	More info to Come
6/23-6/27	Summer Camp	Camp Bird

NEW Horse Quiz Bowl Team – One Spot Still Available

New this year, one of our 4-H leader's, Brigid McDowell, is starting a horse quiz bowl team. She is looking for teammates and another leader or two to help her out. If you are interested or have questions please reach out to Brigid at 920-834-9947, this is a land line and doesn't receive text messages.

The 4-H Horse Bowl provides an opportunity for youth in grades 3-13 and enrolled in 4-H horse or horseless projects to demonstrate their knowledge of equine-related subject matter in a competitive setting. These contests provide an educational experience for both participants and spectators.

Youth answer questions in teams of 3 or 4 members and compete against other teams in the same class. Senior class competitors also complete a written exam on their knowledge.

These events consist of quiz-style questions about the following topics: Nutrition and Feed, Health and Diseases, History, Evolution and Breeds, Reproduction and Genetics, Anatomy, and Showmanship Basics.



Registration Update for CWF

This is a quick heads up that the registration window for CWF has been changed to December 20, 2024-January 15, 2025. Visit <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/citizenship-washington-focus/>



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.

New, Free 4-H Harmony Guide

Do you ever feel like you're running out of ideas for icebreakers or ways to help youth connect? The 4-H Harmony Guide: Meet Up, Buddy Up, is a set of hundreds of cards and activities you can use with youth of all ages.

Best of all, it's a new, [free download from Shop4-H!](#)

Three types of cards (Collaborations, Conversations, and Community Builders) are designed for two different age groups (Early Childhood and Upper Grades). All the cards are meant to build connection and community by helping youth meet up with each other and buddy up to work and play together. Make conversations a regular part of 4-H gatherings. Regular conversations, even short ones, can help young people connect to others and build a sense of belonging. Conversations can also help young people learn and develop important life skills that help them thrive! Club and Project volunteers can use these cards in meetings with youth. Camp counselors and other youth leaders

can use them in their programs. The cards can be a training tool or just for fun.

Request your [free download](#) and get started today!

Attention Adult Volunteers

There are volunteers that are in need of completing training and/or background screening. If you reenrolled but did not receive a confirmation email from UW-Madison with your role descriptions, you are not yet fully approved and need to reach out to us as soon as possible. The 4-H office will let you know what is needed and where to find the training(s). Contact the 4-H office at 920-834-6845.

If you haven't enrolled as a volunteer yet, please do so ASAP.

Registration for Camp Staff is Now Open!

CALLING ALL 4-H CAMP STAFF!



Apply Beginning Dec 1:
<https://tinyurl.com/4HMarOcoShaStaff>

We are seeking youth currently in grades 8 - 13 to serve as camp counselors and waterfront staff at 4-H camps this summer. We are intending to host 3 one-day camps and one week-long residential camp (4 days, 3 nights for campers). Youth will not need to lead at every camp offered. If you have any interest in being a part of camp staff, please apply!



The Camp Staff application will be open from December 1st - January 13th. Initial training dates are:

- Thursday, Jan. 16, 7:30 - 8:30 pm Virtual
- Saturday, Feb. 1, 9 a.m. - 1 pm In person

Summer Academy Young Adult Applications are Open

Summer academy is a program for middle-high school aged youth that will run June 16-19, on the UW-Madison Campus. Young adult leaders will serve as role models for all Summer Academy delegates while also helping to ensure that the experience runs smoothly. Follow this link to apply:

[Qualtrics Survey | Qualtrics Experience Management](#)

YOUNG ADULT LEADER POSITION
For Summer Academy 2025

Applicants Must be:

- Between the ages of 19 and 25
- Able to work cooperatively with others
- A role model and support system for youth attendees

APPLICATION DEADLINE: JANUARY 30, 2025

Young Adult Leaders also must be able to attend trainings and an on-site orientation

Thriving Survey – Extended Until December 13

In November, Wisconsin 4-H sent an email to members (ages 13-18) to complete a survey about their 4-H experience. The survey was developed by [National 4-H Leaders](#) and will help Wisconsin 4-H to learn about the quality of our programs. The information will help to show how 4-H helps young people to learn new things, develop leadership skills, manage goals, set high personal standards, create positive academic attitudes, and other skills that lead to long-term success in life.

The survey will be sent to all Wisconsin 4-H members by e-mail in the first week of November. Youth who complete the survey will be entered into a raffle to win a \$25 gift card (There is a winner from each county). For more information on the 4-H Thriving Model, please visit [4-H Thriving Model – Wisconsin 4-H](#). Please keep an eye out for messages and more information about this important survey.

Early Enrollment Winners

We are excited to announce that we had 51 4-H members sign up before October 31. We chose 5 winners to win some 4-H swag. If you were one of the winners, please contact our office to make arrangements to get your prize. You can call 920-834-6845 or email amy.brehmer@ocontocountywi.gov. Our office will be closed from December 23 – January 2.

Ryan Hanson
Kallen Schlosser
Matthew Peterson
Celdtun Zahn
Josie Holtz



Member Re-Enrollment

Our new enrollment year for 2025 began on October 1.

Members and leaders must re-enroll each year by November 30. Regular members must be in 3rd 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.

***If you aren't re-enrolled by February 1 you will no longer get our communication.**

*New members can join at any time but must enroll by April 30 to enter in the Fair.

*April 30 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.

You can register [here](#). If you have any questions or need assistance, please call our office at 920-834-6845 or email amy.brehmer@ocontocountywi.gov.

WI 4-H Program Booklet 2024-25 Now Available

This year's booklet is full of exciting opportunities for 4-H families, members, and volunteers at the state level. These state programs offer valuable educational experiences that help youth develop lifelong skills and form lasting friendships. Whether your 4-H member is ready to create something amazing at Arts Camp in Upham Woods, embark on a thrilling adventure at Space Camp in Huntsville, or showcase their talents in a State Judging Competition, we're confident there's a spark waiting for every 4-H member in this year's offerings.

If you are a volunteer interested in applying to serve as an adult advisor for one of our state or national educational experiences, you can read about the application process and [apply right now through our website!](#)

We can't wait to see all the incredible things our 4-H members will accomplish this year!

Check it out below!

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

4-H Arts Ambassadors

Don't miss the opportunity to channel your creative side while gaining valuable leadership and teamworking skills. Learn more about the Arts Ambassadors and apply [here](#).

4-H ARTS AMBASSADORS

DRAMA COMPANY COMMS TEAM ARTS TEAM

WHO Any 4-H members in grades 9-13

WHY To develop your leadership and artistic abilities

WHAT A group of arts leaders, who explore sparks, make art, and develop skills

HOW Apply to be an Arts Ambassador by Dec. 20th
<https://25artsambassadors.4honline.com>

NOTE! All Drama Company, Art Team, and Comm team members WILL be part of Arts Ambassadors
The same great teams, with more opportunities.

Learn more about WI 4-H Arts Ambassadors here:

State Communications Team is Back

It offers the opportunity for youth leaders to develop skills in mixed-media support WI 4-H Communications and Marketing throughout the year. The Comms team is a part of the WI 4-H Arts Ambassadors along with Drama Company and Arts Team.



Space Camp

May 1-5, 2025. 4-H Space Camp is an educational experience where youth from across the state take a bus down to Huntsville, Alabama, for a 4 day journey. Youth get the opportunity to venture away from home to meet new friends, develop leadership and teamwork skills, and learn all about space. Any youth in grades 6-8 may register to go to Space Camp. Register through 4HOnline for Space Camp. Registration will be open from November 15-December 15 prior to program year.

Delegates will be notified by the State 4-H Office by January 12 of the program year whether they are attending or wait-listed. After registration closes, delegates will be sent a link to register for Space Camp through the Space Camp website. All delegates must register online for Space Camp prior to March 1st.



Save the Dates!

The 4-H Meats Judging Contest will be on February 8, 2025 and the Livestock Skillathon and Quiz Bowl Competition on March 15, 2025. Watch for registration details.

SAVE THE DATES
STATE 4-H LIVESTOCK EVENTS

4-H MEATS JUDGING CONTEST
FEB. 8, 2025

SKILLATHON AND QUIZ BOWL
MARCH 15, 2025

BOTH EVENTS HELD AT THE UW MADISON CAMPUS

Wisconsin Livestock Program | 4-H | Extension UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN MADISON

More information coming soon on the Wisconsin 4-H Dairy Bowl!

WISCONSIN 4-H DAIRY BOWL

January 25, 2025

University of Wisconsin- Green Bay
STEM Innovations Center

Contest to Start at 11:30 am

UW-MADISON EXTENSION

4-H Trips

Just a reminder that our Leaders Association graciously pays for 75% of all 4-H trips for our youth members. If you have any questions about any upcoming events, please reach out!

WI 4-H Foundation Kicks off Photography Contest

The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation Celebrates the Arts Photography Contest is open to any current Wisconsin 4-H member, and the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation is awarding cash prizes. The contest will be held virtually, with photos of all entries submitted electronically. Entries are being accepted now through January 31, 2025.

The contest is broken into three categories:

1. General Photography
2. 4-H Experience Photography
3. Clovers on Film

A winner will be chosen in each category with a Best of Show award given to one entry chosen by the judging committee. Category winners will receive a \$50 cash award. The Best of Show entry will receive an additional \$100 cash award. Other photographs may be recognized but will not receive a cash award. To be eligible for the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation Photography Contest, youth must be a 4-H member enrolled in 4H Online for the 2024-2025 4-H Program Year.

Entry Information

- Entries will be accepted from Friday, November 1, 2024, until midnight on Friday, January 31, 2025.
- A photo of the entry and the completed entry form must be submitted through the contest website: [https:// wis4hfoundation.org/celebrate-the-arts/](https://wis4hfoundation.org/celebrate-the-arts/)
- Each photographer may submit up to one entry in each of the three categories but may submit only one entry in each category.

For official contest rules and requirements and how to submit, please visit:

<https://wis4hfoundation.org/celebrate-the-arts/>.

The winning photos from each category and the Best of Show will become the property of the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation. In addition, any entry may be used by the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation to promote the 4-H program and/or to raise funds for the Wisconsin 4-H program. Proceeds from any Celebrate the Arts event or sales will be split evenly with half invested in the Talen Endowment for 4-H Arts Programming and half used for arts programming in the next 4-H program year.



Tractor Supply (TSC) Paper Clover Promotion Update

The Paper Clover Campaign has been moved to: November 29 – December 15, 2024

The In-Store Promotion opportunity sign up is now open. The Tractor Supply Company (TSC) has worked with 4-H for the past several years by coordinating a paper clover campaign held twice each year. Proceeds from the sale of paper clovers at each Wisconsin TSC store go to the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation to be used for leadership programming and financial aid assistance.

The WI 4-H Foundation will provide an incentive to any 4-H club or individual 4-H member who does an in-store promotion at a TSC store during the Fall/ Winter 2024 Paper Clover Campaign.

A \$50 TSC gift card will be given to any club who completes an in-store promotion and a \$25 TSC gift card will be given to any 4-H member who completes an in-store promotion during this Paper Clover Campaign. Online registration is required.

Please read this document before signing up:

[Fall/Winter24 TSCPC Promo Offer-Info and Guidelines](#)

Guidelines include:

*Any Wisconsin 4-H club or individual member may reserve ONE promotion date.

*Promotion reservations are available for each Saturday or Sunday of the Paper Clover Campaign (Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 7, 8, 14, 15, 2024). The timing of the promotion is determined by the Store Manager.

*Only one club or individual may do an in-store promotion at any store at one time. Time slots are filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

*To reserve a date, click on the link below. Fill out the reservation form (all fields are required). *When you have confirmed your date, the club or individual MUST get Store Manager permission to do the promotion. The Store Manager will provide info about what is allowed, timing, location, etc.

CLAIMING YOUR REWARD: When the promotion is completed, in order to receive your reward, clubs/ individuals must email a photo of the activity (but several photos are appreciated!) within 30 days, and the WI 4-H Foundation will send the gift card to the address provided on the reservation form. Photos may

be used for marketing purposes and on social media.

Sign up is open now, and registration is required. Click [here](#).

**Please remember—one club per spot (if you sign up for multiple slots, only one will be accepted—save slots for other clubs to participate!)



Wisconsin 4-H is Looking for Adult Volunteers

Adult advisors are needed for programs like Space Camp, Summer Academy, Citizenship Washington Focus, National 4-H Congress, and more. Adult advisors will serve as support for all youth participants and work as a team to ensure that the experience runs smoothly. Learn more about the positions available and find the application [here](#).



Distant Learning Opportunities

The Science of the Chocolate Chip Cookie

What's your ultimate favorite chocolate chip cookie? Do you prefer your cookie to be soft or are you a crispy cookie person? Do you prefer thick or thin cookies? There are so many variables or science to making the perfect chocolate chip cookie. This distance learning program will allow youth to explore, experiment and create their perfect recipe! Registration is open December 20 – January 16 for youth grades 3-12. The program will begin February 6. There will be two zoom meetings during the program along with independent work in your own kitchen. We hope you join in the fun and explore how to create your perfect cookie. For more information and to register go to [Wisconsin Distance Learning – Wisconsin 4-H](#).

Dinosaurs and Unicorns

Get ready for a learning adventure! This at-home lesson series encourages youth grade K-2 to use their imagination while introducing science and building life skills. Dinosaurs and Unicorns will be divided into four lessons with 1-2 short zoom meetings to explore the topics of sound, color, paleontology and creativity. Registration will be open December 20 – January 13. All participants will receive program supply kits from their county offices prior to the start of the program. This program will begin on February 17. For more information and to register go to [Wisconsin Distance Learning – Wisconsin 4-H](#).

Paper Circuits

Are you ready to accept the challenge of creating a low-voltage electronic circuit? We're going to use conductive tape, a battery, LEDs, and paper to learn about electrical circuits! Get ready to learn and have fun through this hands-on introduction to electric circuits. This distance learning program will allow participants, grades 4-9, an opportunity to explore, problem-solve, think critically and be creative. Registration will be open January 2 - 24. All participants will receive program supply kits from their county offices prior to the start of the program. This program will begin on March 1 with guided lessons and tutorials. For more information and to register go to [Wisconsin Distance Learning – Wisconsin 4-H](#).

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

President – Brooke Schaal (Little Seedlings)

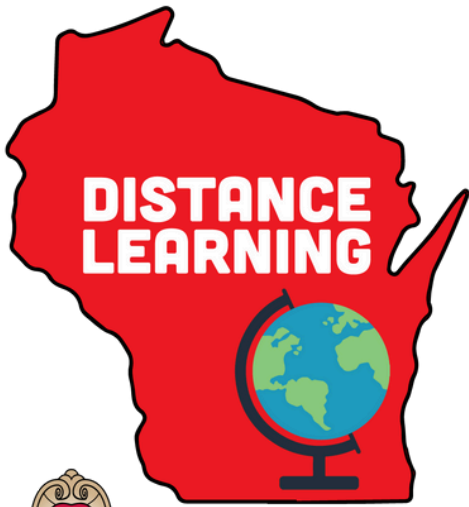
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**DISTANCE
LEARNING**



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



UPCOMING PROGRAMS



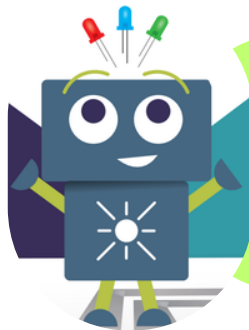
THE SCIENCE OF THE CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIE

For Youth Grades 3-12
Starts February 6



DINOSAURS AND UNICORNS

For Youth Grades K-2
Starts February 17



PAPER CURCUITS

For Youth Grades 4-9
Starts March 1



For More Information and Registration
go to [https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/wi-
distance-learning/](https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/wi-distance-learning/)