

Fond du Lac County 4-H

PROJECT

& ENROLLMENT

GUIDE

2026-2027



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
FOND DU LAC COUNTY

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Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

UW Extension Fond du Lac County
160 South Macy Street
Fond du Lac, WI 54935
902-906-4623

Dear Fond du Lac County 4-H Family:

First of all, thanks for your interest in the Fond du Lac County 4-H program! In 4-H, young people share, grow, and learn together from various projects, events, and activities in various situations under the guidance of their families and other volunteer adult leaders. Regardless of the structure, 4-H members have fun learning, working, and succeeding together in the home, neighborhood, and community.

Most 4-H members join one of our local 4-H clubs. Clubs typically hold monthly meetings plus many other events throughout the year including: parties, picnics, outings, community service opportunities, and much more! Members interested in being more involved can become club officers where they have the responsibility of planning events and programs. In addition to club meetings, 4-H members can also enroll in a variety of projects including visual arts, horses, outdoor recreation, foods and nutrition, photography, robotics, and many more. Projects are led at the club level, countywide level, or through independent study.

The 4-H Slogan, "Learning by Doing," illustrates the fact that 4-H focuses on teaching life skills through hands-on experiences and activities. These skills include the tangible, such as sewing, cake decorating, fishing, dog obedience, or raising a beef steer, which members learn through project work. Life skills, however, also encompass the more abstract abilities such as leadership, communication, teamwork, and cooperation. Members learn these through participation in their club, with project teams, or through county, state, national, or even international opportunities.

We look forward to working with you!

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What Is 4-H?

4-H is a positive youth development organization that empowers young people to reach their full potential. A vast community of more than 6 million youth and adults working together for positive change, 4-H enables America's youth to emerge as leaders through hands-on learning, research-based 4-H youth programs and adult mentorship, in order to give back to their local communities.

4-H prepares young people to step up to the challenges in their community and the world. Using research-based programming around positive youth development, 4-H youth get the hands-on real world experience they need to become leaders. Young people who are a part of 4-H have the opportunity to explore all types of science, health, and citizenship programming delivered through 4-H clubs, projects, camps, as well as state and national 4-H opportunities.

The 4-H Youth Development Program is the youth outreach program from the land-grant institutions' cooperative extension services and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. 4-H serves as a model program for the practice of positive youth development by creating positive learning experiences; positive relationships for and between youth and adults; positive, safe environments; and opportunities for positive risk taking.

In a safe and enriching environment, 4-H brings youth and adults together to learn life skills through participation in a variety of non-formal educational experiences. 4-H uses a framework based upon the 4-H Pledge to organize the delivery of experiences that support the growth and development of youth. 4-H refers to this framework as a "Targeting Life Skills Model" (Hendricks, 1998).

What Is a 4-H Project?

A 4-H project is a specific area of interest for 4-H members and volunteers. Youth choose which project(s) they want to enroll in each year. In 4-H, we believe in "learning by doing." That means project participation involves hands-on learning in the activities that spark youth interest.

Project Area Learning Opportunities

Youth may explore a project independently, or several members interested in the same subject or topic can form a project group. Some, but not all, projects have volunteers to lead youth groups in hands-on learning. Contact the 4-H educator to find out what options are available.

- **Club Project Meetings**—Volunteer club project leaders and/or youth leaders may organize project activities during club meetings.
- **County-wide Project Meetings**—County-wide education committee volunteers and/or 4-H program educators may organize educational opportunities at a county level.
- **Statewide Project Area Learning Events**—Statewide education committee volunteers and/or 4-H program educators may organize project learning opportunities for youth across the state.
- **Individual Learning**—Youth can learn at their own pace using 4-H curriculum.

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Plant & Soil Science PAGE 10	Expressive Arts PAGE 10
Family, Home, & Health PAGE 11	Leadership & Community PAGE 12
Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Page 13	

How to Get Started

Getting involved in 4-H is easy!

1. **Join a 4-H Club**—Contact a club that you're interested in joining. Then, attend a club meeting. If that club feels like a good fit for your family, enroll. If not, consider attending a different club's meeting. You can join any time of year.
2. **Create a 4-H Online account**—4-H Online is our easy tool for getting registered as a member and becoming affiliated with a club. Go to 4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/start-here/4honline-for-families/ for help on enrolling or you can always call the office at 920-906-4623 for assistance. Re-enrollment is required each year starting in September.
3. **Choose your projects**—Projects are a series of hands-on, long-term learning opportunities within an area of interest that youth select to explore throughout the year. Youth may explore a project on their own, or several members interested in the same subject or topic can form a project group. Sign up for the projects you want in your 4-H Online enrollment.
4. **Attend monthly Club meetings.**
5. **Ask questions.** If you don't understand something, email Fond du Lac County 4-H Educator Tracy Keifenheim at tracy.keifenheim@wisc.edu or call/text her at (920) 896-3360. We're here to help!
6. **Consider attending County Events** like Family Learning Day, New Family Orientation for Fair, Officer training, other workshops and camp! Check out the calendar for upcoming events.

QUICK LINKS



Fond du Lac County 4-H website:
fonddulac.extension.wisc.edu/4h



4-H Online:
wi.4honline.com

Tips for choosing a project area

- To narrow down the project list, think about:
 - ✓ Things you are passionate about
 - ✓ Causes that matter to you
 - ✓ Emotions you appreciate about yourself
 - ✓ People, places, or things that matter most to you
- Then, choose the projects you want. Consider starting with two areas:
 - ✓ One you are already familiar with and interested in
 - ✓ One you want to explore more
- Youth in grades 5K–2 may only sign up for the Cloverbud project, which is a chance for them to explore all 4-H has to offer at an age-appropriate level.
- The [Sparks Road Map](#) can help if you are unsure where to start.
- Youth wishing to exhibit in the Junior show at the Fond du Lac County Fair must be enrolled in an approved youth organization by March 1 of the fair year. If youth are not enrolled, they cannot exhibit at all in the Junior Show.
***Note this is a Fond du Lac County Fair Policy.**
- To drop a project, you must contact the Extension Office in writing by the first Friday in April. Projects may not be added after your respective enrollment deadline.



Looking for project resources?

Visit **projects.wi4h.org** for more information.



Looking for learning opportunities?

Visit **opportunities.wi4h.org** for statewide events and opportunities.



Project vs. Exhibit

Many people in 4-H tend to use the words Project and Exhibit interchangeably. However, they are two VERY different things.

- A **4-H project** is an area that you want to learn more about during the year. The project is where learning-by-doing takes place. Within the project, you will find things to learn, to do, to make, and to explore. There are projects on just about any topic you would like to explore - from art to woodworking, computers to rabbits, clothing to small engines, aerospace to horses. If you are interested in learning more about something, there is probably a 4-H project to help you!
- An **exhibit** is an item that you have made during your 4-H project learning that you take to the county fair. You will receive feedback from a judge on your exhibit.

When you are enrolling in 4-H, you are enrolling in a project, NOT selecting your fair exhibit.

Volunteer

Volunteers help make 4-H possible. Extension volunteers work with staff to deliver educational programs using University and other high-quality educational resources. Anyone who is at least 18 years old by September 1 can apply to become a Wisconsin 4-H volunteer as long as they are not enrolled in high school.

When enrolling in 4-H Online, volunteers will complete an approximately 40 minute training session that covers best practices when working with youth, prohibited behavior, and reporting procedures. This is an annual training that is completed as part of the enrollment process. To ensure the safety of all youth and volunteers, a Volunteer Behavior Expectations Agreement and background check are also required. The background check is sent via an email from HireRight and must be completed every 2 years. All adults wishing to volunteer must enroll annually.

We also provide volunteers with Grow Green training about how to work effectively with youth and what resources are available to volunteers.

Supporting Youth Mental Health is training that teaches how to support youth when they're down. This training is only required for volunteers serving as chaperones or adult advisors for overnight youth experiences. A refresher training needs to be done every 2 years following the initial training.

Volunteer Enrollment Deadlines:

- November 1, 2026 – Returning volunteers are required to re-enroll online annually by this date.
- December 1, 2026 – Training and background check must be completed by this date.
- Returning volunteers who do not meet the deadlines listed above must enroll as a NEW volunteer and complete all applicable new volunteer trainings.
- New volunteers may enroll at any time during the year.
- *IMPORTANT: A submitted application/enrollment form does not mean that an individual is an approved volunteer. Adults who are not approved 4-H volunteers cannot be in custodial care of youth.*

Leader Types

In 4-H, there are many ways to volunteer. All volunteers work with youth and adult volunteers in offering a positive youth development experience for young people.

- **Activity/Event Volunteer** - Provides leadership and organization for an activity or event and/or participate as a committee member.
- **Club Enrollment Coordinator** - Provides leadership for members and adult volunteers who are enrolling in the club or group organization.
- **Club Volunteer** - Provides leadership to the club or group organization.
- **Committee Volunteer** - Provides leadership for a committee and/or participate as a member of a committee, creating educational experiences for all youth engaged in the program.
- **Project Volunteer** - Provides leadership and organization to the project group learning about a specific topic.
- **Program Volunteer - Adult Advisor/Chaperone** - Works with a team of adult advisors and Positive Youth Development staff to ensure youth have a safe and positive educational experience. Adults interested in being a state-level chaperone and coordination responsibilities must complete an Adult Advisor Application. State-level experiences may include: Citizenship Washington Focus, Space Camp, or National 4-H Congress. Chaperones for 4-H youth development experiences must have completed the Youth Protection Process; be enrolled 4-H volunteer leaders and be over 21 years of age (for some experiences adults must be over 25).

To learn more about specific volunteer and committee opportunities within Fond du Lac County 4-H, please visit fonddulac.extension.wisc.edu/volunteer/.

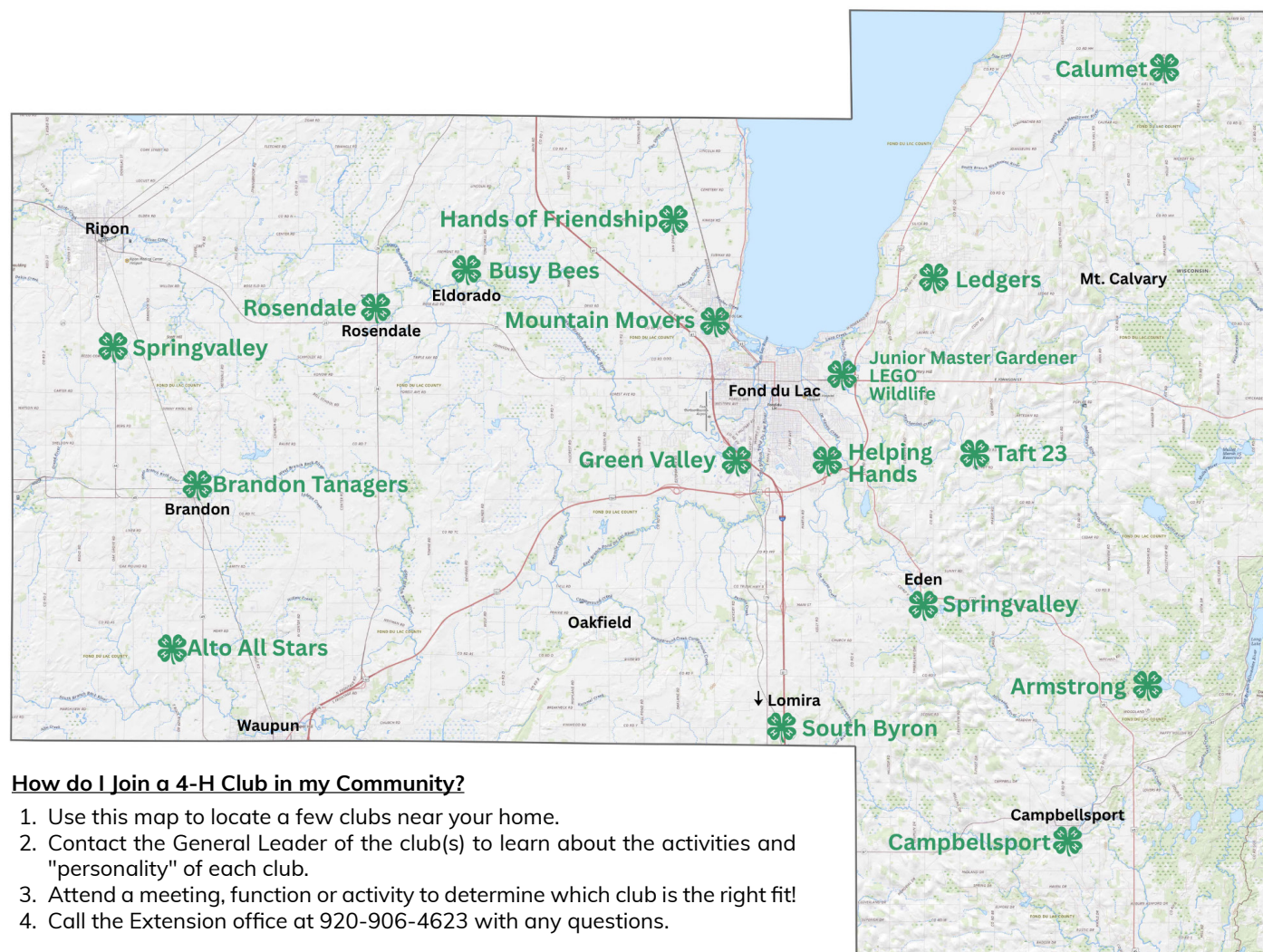


VOLUNTEERS are essential to 4-H project area learning. Adult family members, community members, and local experts can all become 4-H Project Leaders. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more, connect with your local 4-H program educator.



Club Locator

When you join 4-H, you will select one of the many clubs in the county to belong to. A club must have: five or more youth from at least three families; adult leadership that has been approved through the Volunteer In Preparation process; an educational plan which meets the purposes of the 4-H program; youth involvement in leadership and decision-making; meetings on a continuing basis; written operating guidelines, bylaws or constitution approved by members to govern the club; and open enrollment to any youth eligible for 4-H membership, regardless of race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, disability, ancestry, sexual orientation, pregnancy, and marital or parental status.



How do I Join a 4-H Club in my Community?

1. Use this map to locate a few clubs near your home.
2. Contact the General Leader of the club(s) to learn about the activities and "personality" of each club.
3. Attend a meeting, function or activity to determine which club is the right fit!
4. Call the Extension office at 920-906-4623 with any questions.

Types of Clubs

Community Clubs

Community clubs are traditional 4-H clubs that usually meet once a month and vary in size, meeting style, and project focus, so many families choose based on meeting time, location, and their child's interests. In most community clubs, youth officers are elected to guide the activities of the club.

***Youth may enroll in both a community club and a project-focused club.**

Project-Focused Clubs

Fond du Lac County also offers project-focused clubs that meet at the Fond du Lac County Campus and are a great option for youth with specific interests, including:

- Junior Master Gardener
- LEGO
- Wildlife

Classroom/After School Clubs

4-H Associate Educator Misty Jimenez leads school enrichment programs that offer dynamic, hands-on learning experiences in collaboration with schools during the school day, as well as with after school programs. These programs are designed to complement classroom curriculum while sparking curiosity, creativity, and real-world connections.

Fond du Lac County Clubs

4-H Club	Location	Meeting Date	Contact	Phone # or Email
Alto All Stars	Alto Community Center	3rd Tuesday 7:00 pm	Tricia & Michael DeJager	920-948-1162 altoallstars@gmail.com
Armstrong	Osceola Town Hall	2nd Sunday 6:00 pm	Karen Albert Gina Loehr	albertkaren55@gmail.com ginaloehr@yahoo.com
Brandon Tanagers	Bethel Church, Brandon	2nd Monday 6:30 pm	Lisa Parks Heather Hollander	920-960-8981 lparks446@gmail.com heatherhollander84@gmail.com
Busy Bees	Eldorado Town Hall Eldorado	1st Monday 6:30 pm	Deb Mess Angela Hinz	920-904-2782 justrmess@yahoo.com 920-602-6607 angelahinz0905@gmail.com
Calumet	Marytown Athletic Center Marytown	2nd Tuesday 7:00 pm	Linda Sattler	920-948-3335
Campbellsport	Campbellsport Public Library	2nd Monday 6:30 pm	Jessica Jordan Deb Senn Mary Theisen	262-689-1900 920-533-4504 csport4hleaders@gmail.com
Green Valley	Rolling Meadows Meeting Room, Fond du Lac	2nd Monday 6:30 pm	Fran Trewin	920-583-4308
Hands of Friendship	Friendship Town Hall Van Dyne	2nd Monday 7:00 p.m.	Tami Averbek Jodie Baumhardt	920-688-2863 920-948-0141
Helping Hands	Ascension Lutheran Church Fond du Lac	2nd Sunday 3:00 pm	Lori Quackenboss Faith Biermann	920-517-8172 quackenboss@sbcglobal.net 920-960-0476
Junior Master Gardener (JMG)	Fond du Lac County Campus	See website for dates & times	Tracy Keifenheim	work cell: 920-896-3360
Ledgers	Holy Family St. Peter Church Hall	2nd Sunday 3:00 pm	Sarah Kraus Melissa Costello	sarahkraus84@gmail.com costellomelissa21@gmail.com
LEGO Club	Extension Fond du Lac County	4th Tuesday 6:30-7:30 pm	Tracy Keifenheim	work cell: 920-896-3360
Mountain Movers (Classroom Club)	Spillman Public Library, North Fond du Lac	3rd Thursday 11:30 am	Molly & Jeremy Chamberlain	920-979-9663 mountainmovers4hclub@gmail.com
Rosendale	Peace Lutheran Church Rosendale	1st or 2nd Sunday 1:00 pm or 5:00 pm	Ashley Curtis	920-517-3926 rosendale4h@gmail.com
South Byron	Trinity Methodist Church Lomira	2nd Sunday 6:30 pm	Vicki Thomas Becky Alf	920-517-3362 920-948-8008
Springvalley	Metomen Town Hall Ripon	2nd Monday 6:00 pm	Mariah Zimdars	920-369-6094 mariahzimdars@gmail.com
Taft 23	Empire Town Hall Fond du Lac	2nd Tuesday 7:30 pm	Traci Hankwitz Lynn Kohlman	920-904-2281 920-602-7268
Welcome	Eden Community Center	3rd Monday 6:00 pm	Cindy Koffman	920-948-5337 cindy@koffman.org
Wildlife Club	Fond du Lac County Campus	See website for dates & times	Tracy Keifenheim	work cell: 920-896-3360

4-H Terms

4-H Grade

Some events require grade limits. In that case, grade is determined as of the current year, which begins on October 1.

4-H Membership

Members may enroll as young as kindergarten, but they must be at least 5 years old by September 1st, 2026. Youth may re-enroll in 4-H up to one year after graduation from high school and not to extend beyond the age of 19 as of December 31 of the year of enrollment.

4-H Year

A new 4-H year starts October 1 and ends September 30 of the following year.

4-H Friday E-Newsletter

The Fond du Lac County 4-H newsletter is emailed to every 4-H family weekly on Fridays. It includes important information about county and statewide 4-H activities, trainings, and general updates. They are also posted on the Fond du Lac County Extension website. If you are not receiving it, please reach out to the Extension office.

Activity

4-H activities are short-term educational and/or social experiences that all 4-H members may participate in.

Cloverbuds

Youth in grades K5-2 are often referred to as "Cloverbuds." Youth in this age group may only sign up for the Cloverbud project, which is a chance for them to explore all 4-H has to offer at an age-appropriate level while having fun with hands-on, engaging activities.

Club Guidelines/By-Laws

All 4-H Clubs have a set of written guidelines/rules for the operation of the club. Be sure you become familiar with your club's guidelines. Youth members should fulfill attendance requirements as established at the club level.

Cover Letter and Resumes

The cover letter and resume is a summary of your 4-H accomplishments. 4-H members in 7th-13th grades can submit these materials to apply for funding from the 4-H Leaders Association for educational travel experiences.

Enrollment/Re-enrollment

To enroll in a 4-H club and projects, you must complete registration via 4-HOnline annually.

Exploring Project

This project is designed for first-year members to learn about 4-H project areas or as a stepping stone from Cloverbud to other projects. Youth may enroll in Exploring for two years.

Extension

Extension Fond du Lac County is responsible for the administration of the following programs: Positive Youth Development, Human Development and Relationships, Community Development, and Agriculture.

Fair Entry/Fair Premium Book

The Fair Premium Book is located on the Fair website: www.fonddulacountyfair.com/p/exhibitor-information

This contains the list of departments and classes in which youth can exhibit at the Fond du Lac County Fair. Youth need to be enrolled in the project to enter an exhibit in the corresponding class. All entries must be submitted online in June through the Fond du Lac County Fair website. Youth must be in at least 3rd grade to show animals at the fair.

Grow Green Training

Grow Green is additional training and orientation for 4-H volunteers. Learn more about Wisconsin 4-H, roles & responsibilities, best practices, and how to create positive and safe learning environments for youth.

Leader

A youth or adult who has taken on the responsibility for conducting club, project, or county meetings or programs.

Project Discs

Project Discs are awarded to 4-H youth at the county level based on their accomplishments in their projects and activities. Record Books are used to select the award winners. The recipients of county awards are announced at the Achievement and Recognition Program held in the fall.

Project Literature

High-quality, research-based literature is provided for many project areas. It's a valuable resource to guide youth through their hands-on project learning experiences and provides teaching resources for youth and adult volunteer leaders. A reliable source for project literature is the Extension Learning Store or 4-H Mall. Some literature is available at the office.

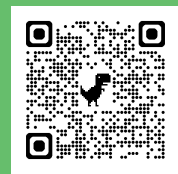
Record Book

A white/green binder/book in which a youth documents their 4-H experience for the year including setting project goals, recording accomplishments and participation in activities, and reflecting on their experience that year. The record book can be submitted at the club and county level for review and recognition of the youth's work.

Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development Policies

Policies established by Wisconsin 4-H are available at 4h.extension.wisc.edu/resources/wisconsin-4-h-policies/ or by contacting Extension Fond du Lac County. Be sure to check policies, as they will be updated frequently.

Agriculture and Animal Science



Beef • Cats • Cavies • Dairy • Dogs • Exotic Animals • Goats • Horse • Model Horse
Llamas/Alpacas • Pocket Pets • Poultry • Rabbits • Sheep • Swine • Veterinary Science

Beef

The 4-H Beef project allows you to learn about breeds, selection, grooming, production, management, showmanship, marketing, and careers through a breeding or market animal.

Cats

Cats can be wonderful companions to individuals and families. The 4-H Cat project helps you explore what kind of cat fits your family's lifestyle. Then, you'll learn about nutrition, health needs, and how to be a responsible owner.

Cavies

Did you know that a cavy is what we commonly know as a guinea pig? In the 4-H Cavy project, you can learn about selecting and raising your animals.

Dairy

The 4-H Dairy project teaches you about breeds, selection, grooming, production, management, showmanship, marketing, and careers through a dairy animal.

Dogs

The Dog project will help you explore what kind of dog fits into your family's lifestyle and how to be an excellent trainer and caretaker of your dog. You will learn about dog breeds, dog ownership, and dog care and management, such as feeding, handling, record-keeping, grooming, and fitting.

Exotic Animals

In the Exotic Animals project, you will explore what kinds of animals fit your family's lifestyle. Some examples include ostriches, emus, zebras, or zedonks.

Goats

Do you want to be part of the country's fastest-growing livestock and dairy industries? The 4-H Goat project can teach you about selection, management, health, marketing, and careers in the goat industry.

Horse

Love horses? Want to learn more? Whether you have a horse or not, in this project, you can take your love of horses to the next level—the 4-H level.

Model Horse

Anyone who has an interest in horses can find a niche in the world of model horses. This project provides an opportunity for youth to learn horse conformation, anatomy, proper tack and attire, horse movement, breeds and colors.

Llamas/Alpacas

Llamas and alpacas can be excellent additions to a family farm and make great pets. This project helps you find the kind of llama or alpaca that fits your family's lifestyle. It will help you learn to be an excellent trainer and caretaker of your animal.

Pocket Pets

The 4-H Pocket Pet project will help you explore what kind of pet fits into your family's lifestyle and how you can be an excellent caretaker. Pocket pets may include cage birds, reptiles, tropical fish, hamsters, gerbils, chinchillas, and more (but don't really put them in your pockets).

Poultry

Explore the poultry industry, including turkeys, chickens, ducks, geese, pheasants, guinea hens, pigeons, or quail. Learn about species and breeds, eggs, feather features, health, feeding, handling, washing, managing a flock, ethics, showing, and careers.

Rabbits

Whether you see rabbits as soft and cuddly pets or as a business opportunity, the Rabbit project is flexible for your interest through hands-on activities, learn about selection, care, breeding, and more.

Sheep

The Sheep project introduces you to various fun and challenging activities, including identifying the parts of a sheep, selecting a project lamb, preparing for lambing season, identifying lamb meat products, and feeding and showing sheep.

Swine

This project helps you learn about swine breeds, health care, production, management, showmanship, marketing, and careers in the swine industry. Learn principles of animal science and gain life skills, like responsibility, by owning, caring for, and keeping records.

Veterinary Science

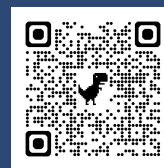
Project activities will help you learn about veterinary equipment, diseases and health problems, and career opportunities as a veterinarian or volunteer. You do not have to own an animal to be part of this project!

AGRICULTURE AND ANIMAL SCIENCE

Learning Opportunities

- Visit the University of Wisconsin Animal Science Department, Veterinary Lab, or Meat Lab.
- Job shadow an animal trainer, veterinarian, researcher, farmer, feed mill operator, or any other career you might be interested in.
- Take part in [statewide learning and judging events](#).
- Design and create the perfect home for your animal's health.
- Attend a conference or show about the species you are interested in.
- Give a demonstration about your animal or species.
- Volunteer with a local animal shelter or rescue organization.
- Get involved with [Fond du Lac County Market Livestock](#).

Environmental/Outdoor Education



Astronomy • Birds • Conservation • Entomology (Insects) • Geology • Maple Syrup
Outdoor Recreation • Safety • Shooting Sports • Taxidermy • Wildflowers • Wildlife & Habitat

Astronomy

The sky's the limit! The Astronomy project is your chance to explore stars, planets, comets, and more as you learn how we view and study the universe.

Birds

Become a careful observer of wild birds in your area and around the state. Find out about their habitats, migratory patterns, what they eat, and more.

Conservation

The Conservation project includes weather and climate, water science, recycling, exploring your environment, and more. Get involved to learn about the natural world and how to help protect it!

Entomology (Insects)

Insects (including bees) are everywhere! Learn about different types of insects, the largest group of animals on earth, and why they are essential in our natural world. This project is your chance to collect, study, and display insects you find and learn about forensic entomology.

Geology

Have you ever found a rock or fossil at a park and wanted to know what it was? Discover the types of minerals, rocks, and fossils found in Wisconsin. Dig into the Geology project!

Maple Syrup

Youth will learn about the tools, trees, and techniques for the process of maple syrup, all while learning to care for the environment.

Outdoor Recreation

Let's get active outdoors! This project is for anyone who likes outdoor adventures, including backpacking, hiking, bicycling, camping, canoeing, fishing, rock climbing, winter travel, cross-country skiing, and downhill skiing. The sky is the limit, and adventures are waiting for you!

Safety

Safety is essential when anyone uses motorized equipment! In this project, learn about water, fire, electricity, winter, tractor, recreational vehicle safety, and more.

Shooting Sports

Discover the fun and challenge of learning to shoot archery, air rifle, air pistol, shotgun, muzzleloader, .22, or rifle. The objective is to teach kids safety, responsibility, discipline, and good sportsmanship.

Taxidermy

The Taxidermy project combines an understanding of wildlife and habitat with art and creativity. Learn to mount animals, create a habitat for the mount, and display your work so it still looks alive.

Wildflowers

Unlike flowers you might plant and grow, wildflowers grow wherever they find the right conditions. In Wisconsin, there might be prairie, woodland, and wetland flowers. Learn about what flowers grow where and why.

Wildlife & Habitat

In this project area, you will learn about the different types of wildlife groups, their habitat needs, conservation, and interactions between humans and wildlife.

ENVIRONMENTAL/ OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Learning Opportunities

- Take part in [Wildlife & Woods virtual classes](#).
- Compete in [statewide art, wildlife, and forestry contests](#).
- Visit a natural history or geology museum.
- Learn about and build skills to stay safe in the outdoors.
- Join the [Wisconsin National 4-H Shooting Sports Team](#).
- Volunteer with a nature restoration project in the community (e.g., prairie, park, trail).
- Plan a hiking, biking, or camping outing for your club or group.
- Visit a park or other public place that is known for something you are interested in (e.g., mountain biking, prairie flowers, wildlife, fishing, rockhounding).
- Join the Fond du Lac County [Wildlife Club](#).



Expressive Arts

Art Appreciation • Computer Graphic Design • Creative Writing • Drawing & Painting • Fiber & Textile Arts
Folk Arts & Crafts • Performing Arts • Photography • Upcycling • Videography • Visual Arts



Art Appreciation

Discover various art forms, grow their understanding of historical and cultural contexts, and develop their own creative expressions. Cultivate your creativity, critical thinking, and cultural awareness.

Computer Graphic Design

Learn to use graphic design software, develop their artistic skills, and create visually appealing projects.

Creative Writing

Explore various forms of creative writing, including short stories, poetry, and personal narratives. Enhance writing skills, boost confidence, and encourage self-expression.

Drawing & Painting

Learn drawing and painting techniques using different materials, how to blend and shade, and how to mat and frame artwork.

Fiber & Textile Arts

Explore techniques, including weaving, knitting, crocheting, felting, and embroidery. Develop fine motor skills, creativity, and an appreciation for fiber arts.

Folk Arts & Crafts

Youth will explore various folk arts, learn traditional techniques, and understand their cultural significance. Develop artistic skills, cultural awareness, and an appreciation for the rich heritage of folk arts.

Performing Arts

Delve into the dynamic and expressive world of performing arts. Participants will learn various performance techniques, understand the cultural significance behind different performance styles, and create their own performances.

Photography

Explore the world through the lens of a camera. Learn about equipment, capturing great images, and sharing your knowledge with others.

Upcycling

Learn the importance of sustainability and creativity by transforming old or discarded items into new, useful products through various techniques, developing crafting skills, exploring the business of upcycled products, and contributing to environmental conservation.

Videography

Learning to make videos teaches media literacy—the ability to fully understand media messages that come at us daily. Videography is art, communications, and technology all at once.

Visual Arts

Is art your Spark? Cutting and pasting, painting, sculpting, drawing, printing, and construction with various materials are all exciting hands-on activities. You can share your thoughts, explore your emotions, find a career, or change the world.

EXPRESSIVE ARTS

Learning Opportunities

- Go to [Art Beat!](#) or [Arts Camp](#).
- Take part in Fond du Lac County workshops or [Art Day Camp](#).
- Join a state arts team— State 4-H Arts Team, Communications, Media, and Marketing (COMM) Team, or Drama Company.
- Submit entries to the statewide Photography Contest.
- Attend a community art workshop.

Plant and Soil Science

Crops • Horticulture & Gardening • Indoor Plants • Landscaping & Design • Plant Crafts • Soil Science



Crops

Learn about different crops grown locally, regionally, and nationally to feed our world. The focus is on crop growth, diseases, and pests impacting agriculture production.

Horticulture & Gardening

Growing food, flowers, fruit, and herbs is gardening. Horticulture, the science of growing, helps us understand what we produce, how and where to grow it, and more. Youth in this project may choose to grow plants to eat, look at, or both.

Indoor Plants

Indoor plants add beauty and design to any space. Learn about indoor plant varieties and propagation suitable for your home environment. Youth may explore flowering and non-flowering plants.

Landscaping & Design

Plants can produce food for your family and add beauty to the earth's landscape or your bedroom. Discover landscaping plants and design fundamentals to create a functional and beautiful environment year-round.

Plant Crafts

Plant crafts such as flower arranging, pressed flowers, evergreen arrangements, and more can add beauty to a room, an event, or someone's day. Youth in this project will explore ways to be creative with plants.

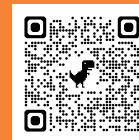
Soil Science

Soil is more than just "dirt." Soil is alive with plants and animal life. Grow your understanding of soil types, what plants need, and how seeds grow into plants. Then, explore how to support the soil by keeping it healthy and preventing erosion.

PLANT AND SOIL SCIENCE

Learning Opportunities

- Measure the soil's health over time when you make changes to it.
- Visit a local florist, garden center, community garden, or tree farm to learn more about their work.
- Grow food or plants for a local non-profit organization that can use them.
- Interview a Master Gardener to explore volunteer opportunities.
- Plant your own garden or crop. Experiment with different techniques for growing plants.
- Join the Fond du Lac County [Junior Master Gardener Club](#).



Candy Making

Youth in the 4-H Candy Making project will explore tools, techniques, safety precautions, ingredients, and more as they develop their skills. Based on specific skills, candy making is a chance to bring art and science into the kitchen!

Child Development

Learn about children's ages and stages, age-appropriate toys, healthy snacks, and how to create games or stories for children. Learn what it means to be responsible for children and how to be a good babysitter.

Consumer Savvy

Mastering consumer skills will help you succeed in many areas of life. Set personal goals, communicate clearly, and make smart decisions with money.

Entrepreneurship

Investigate what it means to be an entrepreneur by learning about community businesses, exploring business ideas, and determining your skills to make career choices.



Food Decorating

Creativity can be a piece of cake (or bread or other food)! This project teaches youth how to start making food for parties and events. It may start with knowing and practicing cake decorating skills and advance to creating beautiful works of food art. The only limits are ingredients and imagination!

Food Preservation

Does your garden produce more tomatoes than you know what to do with? In the Food Preservation project, youth learn to freeze and dry foods. Then, learn what to do with those tomatoes, cucumbers, and other produce with advanced food preservation techniques.

Foods & Nutrition

If you enjoy cooking or like good food, this project could be for you. Youth will have fun learning cooking basics and then advance over time to making gourmet meals. This project also focuses on nutrition and using MyPlate to guide eating, meal preparation, and planning.

Health

The Health project helps youth explore health and wellness. Youth learn to assemble a first aid kit and treat minor injuries. They also learn to stay healthy and develop a personal fitness plan that includes physical, mental, emotional, social, and other aspects of health.

Home Environment

Get creative with design, organization, and upcycling! Use decision-making skills, great taste, and big heart to make a difference through fun and meaningful activities that improve your room, home, and community.

Personal Finance

Master money management skills! Learn how to save, budget, and make smart financial choices. Get ready to take control of your finances and build a bright future!

Sewing

Have you ever wanted an outfit in a different color or style? Youth in the Sewing project learn basics like sewing a shirt or putting a zipper on a pair of pants. As youth advance, they may learn to choose and customize a design for the perfect look.

Sports & Fitness

4-H members in this project will boost their sports skills and fitness! Learn fun ways to build flexibility, strength, and endurance while staying active and healthy. Let's get moving together!

FAMILY, HOME, AND HEALTH Learning Opportunities

- Go to a Fond du Lac County workshop or attend [Foodie Day Camp](#).
- Enter your project work in a county-wide event like Fashion Revue, Foods Revue, or the county fair.
- Interview a professional in a career you are interested in.
- Keep a journal about what you are learning and practicing in your project.
- Visit a local business related to your project.
- Volunteer with a local organization related to your project (e.g., community garden, food pantry, thrift store, or childcare center).
- Create a business plan to sell something you have created.

Leadership and Community



Civic Engagement • Cloverbud • Communications • Community Service • Exploring
Global & Cultural Education • History & Heritage • Intergenerational • Workforce Readiness • Youth Leadership

Civic Engagement

Discover what is important to you and others, set goals, take action, and build a stronger community. Through this project, you can become an active community member, investigate a public issue, learn about the roles of governing officials, and carry out a plan to solve a problem.

Cloverbud

Cloverbud project activities involve youth in grades 5K–2 in learning at an age-appropriate level while having fun with hands-on, engaging activities. It's their chance to explore what 4-H has to offer.

Communications

Communication is all about how we connect with others. That might be through listening, sharing information, telling stories, or giving a speech, American Sign Language (ASL) and other languages, giving a presentation or demonstration, writing, or body language.

Community Service

In 4-H, we pledge our “hands to larger service.” Community service is an essential part of 4-H clubs and groups. Service learning goes deeper by bringing together community needs, knowledge, and time to reflect. Youth may choose community service as their project focus, or it could be an activity they help with in other club or project spaces.

Exploring

This project is designed for first-year members of any age to learn about the many 4-H project areas or as a stepping stone from Cloverbud to other projects. Explorers complete a mini-project, learn about your club, and involve your family and friends in 4-H.

Global & Cultural Education

Lessons on global citizenship are as close by as your local grocery store, library, highway, or school. In this project, you'll gain self-awareness, explore the beliefs and views of others, and develop skills for talking with people who are different from yourself.

History & Heritage

Finding out about family history can be like going on a treasure hunt. Heritage is the history of a family, including the traditions, customs, foods, and more passed from one generation to the next.

Intergenerational

Do you know someone from another generation? Who are they? What do they care about? The Intergenerational project is your chance to connect with an older adult and make a difference in their life while they make a difference in yours.

Workforce Readiness

In these changing times, youth must prepare for careers and jobs that don't currently exist. Young people will need well-rounded skills to apply to any career and a willingness to learn about and try exciting new careers. This project will help equip youth with the soft skills to apply and interview for their first job during and after high school.

Youth Leadership

Youth of any age can learn to be leaders—in their club, community, country, and world. Build teamwork, communication, organization, goal management, meeting management, decision-making, and problem-solving skills in this project.

LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY Learning Opportunities

- Volunteer at a 4-H summer camp as a youth leader.
- Go to project workshops to try something new.
- Plan and conduct a local community service project with help from your 4-H club or group members.
- Take part in state and national leadership conferences such as [Youth as Partners in Civic Leadership](#), [Summer Academy](#), [Citizenship Washington Focus](#), [National 4-H Conference](#), or [National 4-H Congress](#).
- Join the [4-H COMM Team](#).
- Become a youth leader in a club or project. Teach others about something you know.
- Participate in statewide 4-H youth leadership through [Fall Forum](#), [Wisconsin 4-H Leadership Council](#), or [Collegiate 4-H](#).
- Interview an adult about their career, community, or life.



Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math

Aerospace • Coding & Computer Science • Energy & Electricity • GPS & Mapping • LEGO®
Mechanical Sciences • Model Building • Robotics • Welding • Woodworking



Aerospace

Explore the science of flight! Flying objects from kites to rockets have been studied for centuries. In this project, you will discover the science behind moving objects through the air.

Coding & Computer Science

Our world is based on technology. Explore machine learning, computer coding, and applications using software tools. Investigate hardware, software, networks, and data management.

Energy & Electricity

The Energy & Electricity project offers opportunities for hands-on exploration of how energy is transferred and transformed. Build simple to complex electric circuits to understand how we harness energy safely and efficiently.

GPS & Mapping

Youth discover the world of orienteering using maps and global positioning system (GPS) technology to explore the world around them or plan an adventure.



LEGO®

Youth use LEGO® bricks to build simple and complex structures with creativity and imagination. Youth can build structures and landscapes using various bricks to practice engineering, design, and construction skills.

Mechanical Sciences

Youth will learn about manual and fuel-powered machines, tools, safety, and maintenance. They will get hands-on experiences that will help them understand how machines, such as lawn mowers, ATVs, and model airplanes, operate and how to keep them running.

Model Building

In the Model Building project, youth will explore designing items in a three-dimensional space using architecture and engineering principles. Youth can express their creativity by creating small-scale models like planes, cars, trains, and more!

Robotics

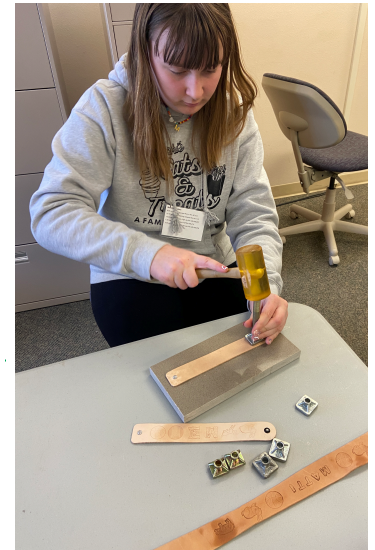
Through hands-on activities, youth will learn the basics of robotic systems, structures, sensors, control, and programming.

Welding

Youth will explore several techniques for joining metal safely and efficiently. Learn how to repair a metal item or create amazing art with this useful skill.

Woodworking

Youth enrolled in the Woodworking project will explore basic wood types and woodworking techniques. Topics include accurate measurements, the use of basic hand tools and power tools, and creating joints.



STEM

Learning Opportunities

- Plan and lead a project workshop for younger members.
- Visit a local business that works in a STEM-related field. Ask to job shadow someone who works there.
- Explore different techniques for building or creating things in your project area.
- Identify the essential tools needed for your project and assemble your own toolkit.
- Start a small business related to your project area.
- Attend [Space Camp](#) or [STEAM Gaze](#).
- Volunteer to help a local organization using your project skills.
- Attend a Fond du Lac County summer day camp such as [STEM Camp](#), [LEGO Camp](#), or [Cardboard Camp](#).

Events

There are numerous county, state, and national activities and events that 4-H members may participate in. The listing below is only a partial listing. Additional countywide events can also be found at:

fonddulac.extension.wisc.edu/events-activities/

Additional state and national events can be found at: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/>

National 4-H Week

A week in October is set aside each year to recognize and promote 4-H across the country. Each year a theme highlights the week. Many clubs have window displays or some special promotion of 4-H in their community. Clubs, leaders and members use this time to recruit members for the coming year. (First full week in October)

4-H Fall Kick-off

Join us in planning out the new 4-H year during the first week in October! Clubs will get a chance to plan out the year, get new ideas, share with other clubs, collaborate, play games and fun activities, and win some prizes! All clubs participating will receive a club takeaway!

Cloverbud Pumpkin Contest

This is a fun-filled day for all Cloverbuds. Youth can enter their pumpkin in categories such as: most unusual shape, largest, smallest, etc. They can also be creative and enter in the painted categories: scariest, funniest, most colorful, etc. There are many opportunities to win and interact with other Cloverbuds across the county.



Fall Forum

Fall Forum, held in November, is an opportunity for youth and adult leaders to attend the statewide training weekend with county and state staff. It is planned by a team of youth and adult volunteers from WI 4-H Leader Council with the support of county and state staff. We hope you will promote it to youth and adult leaders in our county!

Officer Workshop

All officers are invited to participate in the annual training. Participants will learn the responsibilities of the officer positions. Participants will also meet other 4-H members from throughout the county, and this will give them a chance to exchange ideas and build new relationships.

Family Learning Day

With over 150 attendees, the annual 4-H Family Learning Day is one of the most exciting local events of the year usually held on the 4th Saturday in February. 4-H and other community youth are able to learn a new skill or to gain fresh ideas through a variety of sessions: sewing, cooking, arts and crafts, woodworking, etc.



Tri-County Science Expedition

Youth in grades 6 and up will experience an unforgettable day of hands-on science exploration at UW-Madison featuring workshops, tours, and demonstrations in fields like astronomy, biology, geology, engineering, and sustainability. Participants will visit cutting-edge research labs, vibrant greenhouses, and fascinating museums, and engage directly with scientists and researchers. This in-person opportunity held in the fall offers a unique glimpse into college life while sparking curiosity in future STEM careers through interactive, age-appropriate activities.

New Family Orientations

Families in their first or second year of 4-H are invited to new family orientations a few times each year. At the January orientation, they can meet new families, have questions answered, learn about projects, general meetings, 4-H Structure, & different county opportunities. The June orientation is all about the Fond du Lac County Fair - how to enter exhibits, important dates to remember, and how judging works at the fair.

Foods Revue

All members enrolled in the foods and nutrition project or the Cloverbud project can participate in the Foods Revue. Youth make a food item using the ingredient theme selected by the committee. Youth set one place setting, to include a recipe card for the item made, placemat or tablecloth, and centerpiece. Awards are given for each age group and each category and it is eligible for a fair premium.





FOND DU LAC COUNTY 4-H IMPORTANT DEADLINES & DATES

For dates/times and the most current info, visit fonddulac.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-calendar/

SEPTEMBER

- ✿ Enrollment for new year
- ✿ Record Books due
- ✿ Educational Experiences Funding Applications due
- ✿ Award Applications due
- ✿ Annual Authorization due
- ✿ Teen Leaders Assoc. (TLA) (4th Monday)
- ✿ LEGO Club (4th Tuesday)
- ✿ Club Activities

OCTOBER

- ✿ National 4-H Week
- ✿ Fall Kick-Off
- ✿ Cloverbud Pumpkin Contest
- ✿ TLA (4th Monday)
- ✿ LEGO Club (4th Tuesday)
- ✿ Club Activities
- ✿ Re-Enrollment Deadline- Oct. 31

NOVEMBER

- ✿ Fall Forum (state)
- ✿ 4-H Recognition Event
- ✿ Officer Training
- ✿ Fall Leaders Assoc. Meeting
- ✿ TLA (4th Monday)
- ✿ LEGO Club (4th Tuesday)
- ✿ Club Activities
- ✿ Tri-County Science Expedition

DECEMBER

- ✿ Proposals due for Family Learning Day Sessions
- ✿ Registration for Family Learning Day Opens
- ✿ Club Activities

JANUARY

- ✿ Winter Leadership Camp
- ✿ New Family Orientation
- ✿ TLA (4th Monday)
- ✿ LEGO Club (4th Tuesday)
- ✿ Club Activities

FEBRUARY

- ✿ Family Learning Day (4th Saturday)
- ✿ TLA (4th Monday)
- ✿ LEGO Club (4th Tuesday)
- ✿ Club Activities

MARCH

- ✿ Dog Project Meetings start
- ✿ TLA (4th Monday)
- ✿ LEGO Club (4th Tuesday)
- ✿ Club Activities
- ✿ Enrollment Deadline for New Families - Mar 1

APRIL

- ✿ Summer Day Camp Registration Opens
- ✿ Spring Leaders Assoc. Mtg
- ✿ TLA (4th Monday)
- ✿ LEGO Club (4th Tuesday)
- ✿ Club Activities

MAY

- ✿ Foods Revue Registration Opens
- ✿ Shooting Sports starts
- ✿ FDL 4-H Scholarships due May 15
- ✿ Graduation RSVP due
- ✿ TLA (4th Monday)
- ✿ LEGO Club (4th Tuesday)
- ✿ Club Activities

JUNE

- ✿ Foods Revue
- ✿ New Family Orientation (fair)
- ✿ Fair Entry Deadline
- ✿ Area Animal Science Days (state)
- ✿ Summer Day Camps
- ✿ TLA (4th Monday)
- ✿ LEGO Club (4th Tuesday)
- ✿ Club Activities

JULY

- ✿ Summer Day Camps
- ✿ FDL County Fair
- ✿ 4-H Graduation
- ✿ Club Activities

AUGUST

- ✿ Summer Day Camps
- ✿ Alto Fair
- ✿ Adult Leaders Assoc. Mtg
- ✿ WI State Fair
- ✿ TLA (4th Monday)
- ✿ Club Activities

Camps

Several day camps are offered over the summer for youth 3rd grade and above. These camps typically take place at Fond du Lac County Campus. While at camp, youth develop a sense of independence as they try new adventures away from home. Summer camps provide an environment where children gain self-confidence as they learn new skills and build new relationships. These camps are open to 4-H youth as well as community youth, so feel free to bring a friend along!

Cloverbud Day Camp

Children from kindergarten through 2nd grade are invited to participate in 3 day camps offered through the summer. Youth participate in activities such as crafts, group games, outdoor activities, snacks, and more. There are different themes that provide a brief introduction to various project areas for the youth to explore. All the activities are facilitated by youth leaders and adult volunteers. Various themes from the past were Fun on the Farm, Outer Space, Outdoor Survival, and Buzz, Flutter, Crawl. These camps are open to 4-H youth as well as community youth, so feel free to bring a friend along!

Foodie Camp

Foodie Camp is a camp for youth to learn different cooking and baking skills. Youth will try different recipes and compile a recipe book at the end of camp. Each day youth will have the chance to practice different skills while cooking in the kitchen. This camp is a duration of 3 days. Youth will also bring home items they made each day during camp. They won't leave this camp hungry!



Cardboard Camp

Have you ever wanted to design your own city? Join us to do just that at Cardboard City Day Camp. Youth will have the opportunity to create different parts of a town, whether it is the post office, library, grocery store, or a school. Youth will learn how to plan, design, and multiple ways to connect cardboard. The town will be constructed using various materials such as cardboard boxes, paper towel tubes, paper plates, and more. Youth will work as a team to complete a challenge, so let's get building!



Art Camp

ART-RAGEOUS 2-D CAMP- Calling all youth artists! From clay to oil pastels, youth will explore art by channeling their creativity while learning about different artists, techniques, and media. Youth will explore visual arts such as drawing, painting, print making, photography, and more. Bring your paint clothes and creative minds and we will supply the rest!
SUPER SCULPTURES 3-D CAMP- Youth will explore various 3-D forms of art such as macramé, sculpting, hand-built clay pottery, weaving, soap carving, and recycled art. Youth will work with various materials such as clay, wood, paper, yarn, soap and more.
CREATIVE CULTURAL ARTS CAMP- Youth will learn about different cultural arts which might include origami, braiding, dream catcher making, weaving, piñata making, and more.

LEGO Camp

LEGO Camp is a camp for youth to learn different LEGO building skills. Youth will build different creations with the LEGO bricks at camp; no need to bring any from home. Youth will learn about different building and engineering techniques and make LEGO crafts they can take home. Youth will also work as a team to complete a challenge, so let's get building!

STEM Camp

Curious minds will thrive at STEM Camp, where youth explore science, technology, engineering, and math through hands-on discovery and creative problem-solving. Each session features a unique theme — such as CSI investigations, Mythbusters- style experiments, Art of Science, and Things in Motion — offering fresh opportunities to tinker, build, and explore. Activities may include circuit design, engineering challenges, forensic science, and more. Campers will strengthen critical thinking skills while having fun with real-world applications of STEM.

Around the World Camp

Get ready for an exciting global adventure! Campers will engage in a variety of activities, including sports and geography games, listening to music from different countries, creating cultural crafts, and savoring traditional foods. In addition to these activities, campers will learn about the history, customs, and languages of the countries they visit.

Educational Travel Experiences

4-H Art Beat (Grades 3-5)

This introductory program for Wisconsin 4-H Arts and Communication is typically held in March at our State 4-H Camp, Upham Woods in the Wisconsin Dells. The weekend features a look at a variety of arts projects including music, drama, visual arts, and more!

4-H Arts Camp (Grades 6-8)

Youth explore different types of art including theater, music, visual arts, dance, and photography while making new friends, developing skills, and enjoying new experiences at Upham Woods in Wisconsin Dells.

Space Camp (Grades 6-8)

Participants will complete a simulated Space Shuttle mission, experience training simulators, tour the U.S. Space & Rocket Center and learn about becoming an astronaut at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama during this fun-filled weekend.

Beyond Wisconsin: Exploring the Midwest (Grades 6-8)

Youth will travel to St. Louis for an exciting adventure featuring science museums, art centers, live performances, cultural experiences, and opportunities to build friendships with peers from across the state. This unforgettable journey combines hands-on learning in STEM, art, music, and regional culture while inspiring curiosity, connection, and lifelong memories.

Summer Academy (Grades 7-10)

A four-day 4-H conference held each June on the UW-Madison campus for members to participate in a variety of workshops and tours. Fond du Lac County selects up to 12 members to receive partial funding to attend the conference.

Winter Leadership Camp (Grades 7-12)

Youth throughout the Eastern Region of Wisconsin come together each winter to work on improving their leadership skills through hands-on, interactive sessions. Youth will gain a better understanding of what it means to be a leader and how to apply being a youth leader in their club, county, and school.



Fall Forum (Grades 7-13)

The forum provides an educational opportunity for youth and adult volunteers to develop partnerships, facilitate discussions between counties, and provide an opportunity for youth and adult volunteers to get involved with planning and evaluating statewide 4-H programs.

American Spirit Opportunity (Grades 8-10)

Learn about the steps to independence & freedom on a journey through American Heritage. Visit historical sites in Philadelphia, Boston, NYC and Niagara Falls.

National 4-H Congress (Grades 9-12)

A five-day experience held in Atlanta, GA, Congress is the premiere nation-wide event for youth to network with others from around the country, Canada, and Puerto Rico. While at Congress, 4-Hers engage in leadership, citizenship, global awareness, & inclusion.

Ignite by 4-H (Grades 10-12)

For four days, teens from all over the country come to Washington D.C. to collaborate, connect, and cultivate a passion for expanding their minds and their world – becoming resilient and ready for everything life has to offer. Teens will immerse themselves in hands-on workshops, experiences, activities in their key programming areas.

Citizenship-Washington Focus (Grades 10-12)

A week-long citizenship and educational experience held at the National 4-H Center, Washington, D.C. Experience the city of Washington D.C., while learning about America's heritage, government, and civic responsibilities.

National 4-H Conference (Grades 10-12)

National 4-H Conference annually brings 4-H youth and adults from around the nation to work towards strengthening and expanding the 4-H Youth Development Program at the local, state, and national levels held in Washington D.C.

County Funding for Educational Experiences

County Funding is available for educational experiences. Applications are due Sept. 15. For more information please visit:

fonddulac.extension.wisc.edu/4h/travel-experiences

Scholarships

Fond du Lac County 4-H annually awards scholarships for youth participating in educational travel opportunities. Typically, youth that are awarded scholarships pay 50% of the participant registration fee. Youth who are awarded scholarships will be responsible for sharing their experience, writing thank you notes to sponsors, and taking on a new leadership responsibility.

Fond du Lac County 4-H also awards higher education scholarships to Fond du Lac County 4-H members. Applications are due May 15. Youth who are selected to receive scholarships are recognized at the annual 4-H Graduation and Recognition Ceremony at the Fond du Lac County Fair in July. For more information on higher education scholarships visit:

fonddulac.extension.wisc.edu/4h/awards-scholarship

Awards

4-H awards are one way to recognize members, volunteers, and clubs for the outstanding work they do in their club, community, country, and world. Youth can find more information on Awards and Scholarships at: fonddulac.extension.wisc.edu/4h/awards-scholarships/

YOUTH RECOGNITION

Community Service Award (Individual)

Service to the community is a fundamental principle of 4-H because involvement in service helps shape lifelong values. Two members in grades 5-8 and two members in grades 9-13 are eligible to receive this award. **Application is due Tuesday after Labor Day.**

Community Service Award (Club)

Service to the community is a fundamental principle of 4-H because involvement in service helps shape lifelong values. One small club and one large club are eligible to receive this award. **Application is due Tuesday after Labor Day.**

Citizenship Award

Recipients have contributed back to 4-H at several levels such as: project, club, county, district, state, or beyond. They will also have high participation, strong achievement, and various leadership and community service roles. Two members who have completed at least grade 11 are eligible to receive this award. **Application is due September 15***

Growth Achievement Award

Recipients have shown accomplishments in 4-H overall for an extended period of time. They show a positive attitude, involvement, growth, breadth and depth in projects, and in activities on the club and county level. Up to 10 members who have completed at least grade 9 are eligible to receive this award. **Application is due September 15***

Leadership Award

Recipients display outstanding work as a youth leader on the club and county level, with emphasis on leadership, teaching, and sharing knowledge. Up to 10 members who have completed at least grade 9 are eligible to receive this award. **Application is due September 15***

4-H Key Award

The 4-H Key Award is the highest award available to members in 4-H. The Wisconsin 4-H Key Award Program recognizes a select group of 4-H participants who have demonstrated consistent growth in their 4-H involvement, developed and applied their leadership skills and actively participated in the functions of their 4-H club and community. **Application due September 15***

***All awards due September 15 also have an interview process as part of the application.**

Officer Awards

Officer awards are determined based on the Officer Record Books, which are due to the Extension Office at the same time as member record books. Officer Record Book forms and award info can be found here: fonddulac.extension.wisc.edu/4h/club-leadership/

The following positions are eligible for officer awards:

- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Reporter or Historian

Project Awards

A 4-H member is given a project award for excellent work in a specific project. Members who are successful in two or more related projects are eligible for additional recognition and might receive an agriculture, arts & communication, home & family, mechanical science, or natural science award.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

Any individual involved with Fond du Lac County 4-H may nominate an adult, business, or group who has provided continued support to the county 4-H Program for special recognition. Awards are presented at the annual Achievement Program. **Nominations due September 15.**

- **4-H Alumni Award** - This recognizes an individual who, at one time, was a 4-H member and currently shows support for the 4-H program.
- **Friend of 4-H** - This recognizes an individual, business, or group from the community that has shown support for the 4-H Program in a variety of ways.
- **Meritorious Leader** - This recognizes an individual who was never a 4-H member and currently shows concern and responsibility as a 4-H Leader.
- **4-H Volunteer of the Year** (less than 10 years of service) and **Lifetime Volunteer of the Year** (10 or more years of service) - Recognizes individuals who have done an outstanding job of volunteering.



Teen Leaders Association (TLA)

What is TLA?

Members of the 4-H Teen Leaders Association (TLA) provide and promote leadership, service, and recreational activities for 4-H teens, in addition to promoting 4-H to potential new 4-H members.

Who can join?

Any 4-H member who has completed the 6th grade can join. Members are expected to attend at least 10 activities per program year, which includes:

- Meetings
- Leadership Roles for TLA events
- Community Service Projects
- Committee Meetings
- Coordinating Recreational Activities



Meetings

Meetings are held on the 4th Monday of every month at Rolling Meadows Meeting Room except in July & December. Meetings begin at 6:45pm and generally end by 8:15pm. Snacks or meals are provided at most meetings.

2025-2026 TLA Officers

President - Tim K.
Vice President - Austyn M.
Secretary - Christina K.
Treasurer - Bryce H.
Reporter - Lillian C.
Attendance Taker - Nikita L.

Activities

TLA plans various activities throughout the year including community service, recreation and educational opportunities each month. Some of these take place during the monthly meetings, and other activities are scheduled outside of the normal group meeting time. Some activities include:

- Fondy Sports Park
- Making blankets for Project Linus
- Bowling
- Roller skating
- Dock Spiders Game
- K-9 Unit Demonstration
- Meal Making for Loaves and Fishes

Adult Leaders Association

The 4-H Adult Leaders Association represents all registered adult volunteers in Fond du Lac County 4-H, and provides financial support for youth programming and leader development. Currently, there are over 100 registered adult volunteers that support the 4-H program by volunteering as a project, club, activity or county leader.

Full leader meetings are open to all adult and youth 4-H leaders. Meetings are held at the Fond du Lac County Campus (400 University Dr) in room 205/206 three times a year, in March/April, August & November.

2025-2026 Executive Board

President - Cindy Holzman
Vice President - Deb Senn
Secretary - Judy Bertram
Treasurer - JoAnn Maedke
Directors - Kate Miller, Beth Schaefer, Ryan Stommel

Purpose of Leader Meetings

- Provide professional development opportunities
- Report on 4-H activities, opportunities & events
- Present new ideas for the future of the 4-H program
- Provide a platform for raising questions or bringing forth issues
- Opportunities to socialize & network with fellow leaders



Friends of 4-H

Members & Families, please support and thank these contributors:

Platinum (\$1,000 - \$2,499)

Beck's Meats, Oshkosh
Compeer Financial, Fond du Lac
Koffman Tool & Machining LLC, Eden
James & Deborah Senn, Campbellsport
(In memory of Peter & Leverne Senn)

Gold (\$500 - \$999)

Bristol Morgan Bank, Oakfield
J.F. Ahern Co, Fond du Lac
Schraufnagel Implement, Lomira

Silver (\$250 - 499)

Mark & Karen Albert, Fond du Lac
(In memory of Norman & Dan Loehr)
Drexel Building Supply, Campbellsport
Michel's Corporation, Brownsville
Oakfield Elevator Company, Oakfield
Quality Roasting Inc, Valders
Denise Retzlaff, Fond du Lac
Rosendale Dairy, Freedom
Ruedinger Farms Inc, Van Dyne
Waupun Veterinary Services, Waupun

Bronze (\$100 - \$249)

Louis, Jenny & Garen Averbek, Fond du Lac
Central Ag Supply Inc, Juneau
Scott & Laura Franke, Oakfield
Gallery & Frame Shop, Fond du Lac
(In memory of Bev & Dave Balson)
Stefanie Gutermann, Brownsville
(In memory of Edwin Gutermann)
Hundertmark Seed LLC, Fond du Lac
Immel Insurance & Financial Services
Pauline Kussart, Verona
(In memory of Katherine & Bernard Halbur)
Larry & Deb Pollack, Ripon
Schmitz East Branch Dairy LLC
(In memory of Dave Schmitz)
Stanley Schmitz Inc, Chilton
United Cooperative, Beaver Dam
John & Lynn Wehner, Malone



Supporter of 4-H (Up to \$99)

Albrecht Trucking, Eldorado
Dean & Lori Bauer, Brownsville
Mary Costello Mischo, Fond du Lac
Lila Ebert, Lomira
(In memory of Leverne Senn)
Rick Goebel, Mt Calvary
Regina Koffman, Falls Church, VA
Al Messner, Oakfield
Marilyn O'Brien, Eden
(In memory of Pat O'Brien)
Stan Ruplinger, Oakfield
Dale & Laurie Schraufnagel, Brownsville
Silica for Your Home, Fond du Lac
Shirley Simon, Campbellsport
Amy Thomas, Brownsville
Van Loo Family, Oshkosh
Richard & Gail Wetzel, Waupun



**It's not too late to become a
Friend of 4-H. Send your gift to:**
UW Extension

**Attn: Friends of Fond du Lac County 4-H
160 South Macy St
Fond du Lac, WI 54935**

**Make checks payable to:
Fond du Lac County 4-H Leaders Association**

**Your investment positively
impacts young people.**

Contact Us

We like to hear from you! Here are a few tips to help us communicate effectively.

Emailing - Type "4-H" and the topic that you are communicating about in the subject line.

Calling - (920) 906-4623

The program assistant can answer many 4-H questions or can connect you with the best person. They can also tell you if someone is out of the office, so that you have a better sense of when to expect a reply. Because educators are often at meetings or programs, your question might be answered faster by calling the office. Messages may also be left on the voicemail in the evening, weekends, or when a staff member isn't available.

In Person - Office Hours: 8 am - 4:30 pm Monday through Friday

Please schedule an appointment if you would like to talk to a specific person to ensure that we are available. Let staff know ahead of time if you need to pick up items so materials can be ready. The Extension office is located inside the Fond du Lac County Government Center. Visitors will need to use the north entrance and go through security, then take the elevator in the lobby to the 2nd floor. The Extension office is all the way down the hallway past the courtrooms.

Contacting the Office for Supplies

Please give us at least two business days' notice if you need supplies, equipment, or photocopies. This allows us time to prepare the materials you need without disrupting regularly scheduled programming.

Mailing - Address mail to: UW Extension
160 S Macy St
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

Contact 4-H Program Educator Tracy Keifenheim for 4-H programming and volunteer questions.

tracy.keifenheim@wisc.edu

Office: (920) 906-4625

Work Cell: (920) 896-3360 text or call

Contact 4-H Associate Educator Misty Jimenez for after-school & in-school programming.

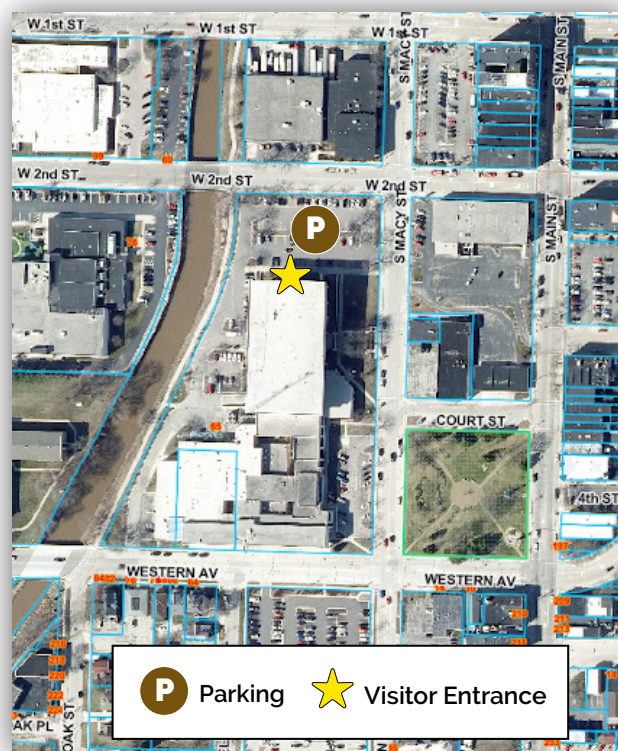
misty.jimenez@wisc.edu

(920) 906-4633

Contact 4-H Program Assistant Sarah Stevenson for general 4-H information & 4-H Online questions.

sarah.stevenson@wisc.edu

(920) 906-4623



UW-MADISON EXTENSION



UW Extension Fond du Lac County

160 South Macy St, Fond du Lac, WI 54935

<https://fonddulac.extension.wisc.edu/4h/>

Facebook: [Fond du Lac County 4-H](#) | Instagram: [fdl4h](#)



The Wisconsin 4-H MOVEMENT

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.

In Wisconsin 4-H we value:

Being Yourself



Find and share your authentic sparks and interests;

Belonging Together



Recognize, understand, respect, and appreciate each other;

Building Connections



Grow positive relationships with peers and adults;

Discovering Skills



Develop skills through hands-on learning to help you succeed and thrive;

Exploring New Opportunities



Open the door to new experiences, projects and places;

Giving Back to Your Community



Make meaningful contributions through community service and leadership.

BELONGING

MASTERY

INDEPENDENCE

GENEROSITY

To Make The
Best Better.



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

FOND DU LAC COUNTY 4-H MISSION

**Enriching youth, families,
and communities through
citizenship, leadership, and
life skill experiences.**



4-H MOTTO

To make the best better



4-H PLEDGE

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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The Wisconsin 4-H Project Guide was developed by Julie Diepenbrock, Jay Johnson, Monica Lobenstein, and Joanna Skluzacek with feedback from the Project Leader Support Work Group and educators across the state.

The youth case examples listed under “Benefits of Getting Involved” were adapted from the Wisconsin Thriving Guide from the University of Wisconsin–Madison Division of Extension.

The “Sparks Road Map” was adapted by Dan Brandt, Lindsay Spindler, and Sara Waldron from the “Find Your Spark Guide” from the University of Illinois Extension.

Project descriptions and learning outcomes were adapted from those provided by the University of Illinois Extension, University of Minnesota Extension, and K-State Research and Extension.

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