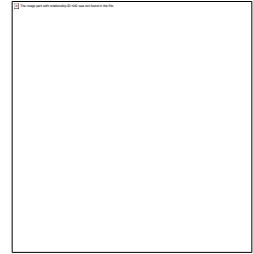




UW-MADISON EXTENSION

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October 31, 2024

Dear 4-H Leader,

• **2024-2025 4-H Enrollment** - Families can enroll in [4HOnline](#) for this year. Included in this mailing is a list of your club's current membership based on who has enrolled in 4-H online. The **re-enrollment deadline is October 31!** **Reminder:** *Youth wishing to show in the JR show at the fair must be enrolled in an approved youth organization by 2/1 of the fair year. Note that this is to show. If they are not enrolled, they cannot show at all.* **This is a Fond du Lac County Fair Policy.**

Last year we had over 525 youth and 150 adult volunteers; let's see if we can beat that! We are **currently at 510 youth members and 57 volunteers. Over 100 members have not re-enrolled** as of Friday, November 1, 2024.

• The fall annual **Adult Leaders Association Meeting** will be held **6:30 pm Wednesday, November 6** at Fond du Lac County Campus. The association will be holding elections of board members and will discuss plans for the 2023-2024 4-H year. Districts up for election are **District 3 and District 5**. District 3 rep is Cindy Holzman who has only served 1 term, so she is eligible to run again. *Clubs in district 3 are **Busy Bees, Green Valley, Hands of Friendship or County.*** District 5 rep is Deb Senn, who is currently serving her 2nd term and wouldn't be eligible to run again. *Clubs in district 5 are **Armstrong, Campbellsport, Welcome or County.*** Please keep that in mind for the next Adult Leaders Meeting.

ALL adult leaders and **youth** are invited to attend. **Please mark your calendar for this important date. Also if you do not have your required trainings completed for volunteer enrollment, we will do this at the beginning of the meeting!**

• **4-H Project Leader Training**

We invite anyone interested in becoming a project leader and current project leaders, both youth and adults, to the 4-H Project Leader Training. This training will include hands-on activities and resources available for project leaders. Youth and adult volunteers in Fond du Lac, Ozaukee, and Washington Counties are welcome to attend.

Register here: <https://forms.gle/5Lvhh61AiQeuXUK6>

Please indicate below which date you will be joining us:

- **Tuesday, November 12, 2024.** 6-8 pm Ozaukee County
- **Saturday, February 22, 2025.** 1-3 pm Fond du Lac County

• Officers are being elected for the 2024-2025 4-H year. Please send a list of the names and officer positions to the Extension Office. I would like to reach out and support the officers. I will need to know their contact information, so I can personally invite them to the county-wide officer training. **Save the Date for Officer Training on Saturday, December 7th. Register here <https://go.wisc.edu/2024officertaining>.**

• **Charter Application** - The 2024-2025 4-H Charter Application is now available on the Wisconsin 4-H Charter Application website: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/resources/volunteer-resources/administrative/charter/>. This new version of the 4-H Charter Application has been converted into an online format making the process easier. With just a few clicks and no signatures needed, you can complete the online form in less than 15 minutes! Ask your club or group leader how you can work together to plan for the 4-H year! Wisconsin 4-H Clubs and Groups Charter Applications are submitted online and are **due by November 1, 2024**. If you have questions, please contact Tracy Keifenheim.

SHOUT OUT TO the clubs who have already submitted their charters:

- Adult leaders
- Alto All Stars
- Armstrong
- Busy Bees
- Calumet
- Green Valley
- Helping Hands
- Ledgers
- LEGO
- Mountain Movers
- Rosendale
- South Byron
- Springvalley
- TLA

• **Club Bylaws** - As the 4-H Educator for Fond du Lac County I need to review and approve by-laws, policies, and handbooks for all 4-H Clubs, 4-H Groups, and 4-H Associations before they are voted on. Bylaws and policies should be reviewed annually by club members and all changes or additions voted on. New members should be given copies and expectations shared when joining a Club, Group, or Association. A copy of the most recent bylaws should be submitted to the office by **November 1st**. If you have recently updated them and there is no change please let the office no, so we can check that we have the most updated copy on file. Here is a link for resources on updating the club bylaws if you need to update them.

Link: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/resources/volunteer-resources/administrative/>.

• On occasion, we have received requests for a **certificate of insurance**. This often happens because a 4-H club or group is using someone else's facilities (i.e. school, church), and the facility wants proof there is insurance coverage. Contact Tracy and provide the following information:

- What is the event
- The date of the event
- Location/address of the event
- The name, address, and e-mail of the person to send the certificate to

We will send this information to the UW-Madison risk manager. They will send the certificate to me. You need to allow plenty of time for this chain to be followed when asking for a certificate. We suggest a **minimum of 3 weeks for process time**. Separate certificates are needed for each location of an event.

• **Holiday Parades**

With the Holiday parade season around the corner, please take time to read through the Wisconsin 4-H Parade Policy. The policy can be found at the link below. Wisconsin 4-H is committed to providing safe and healthy environments for youth and adults participating in 4-H programs and activities. Preparing floats and participating in parades can be a fun way to promote 4-H, AND there are risks associated with these activities. The [4-H Parades Policy](https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/files/2020/10/4-H-Members-Participating-in-Parades-) (<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/files/2020/10/4-H-Members-Participating-in-Parades->

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements.

[FINAL.pdf](#) outlines expectations for managing risk associated with vehicles used in parades, as well as youth and adults riding on vehicles or walking in the parade. If you have any questions, please reach out to Tracy at tracy.keifenheim@wisc.edu or 920-906-4623. **You do need approval if a vehicle is being driven in the parade!**

• 4-H Family Learning Day

We are seeking volunteers and youth to be **Family Learning Day Presenters**. We are seeking volunteers and youth who have creative ideas! If interested in helping plan Family Learning Day 2024, please contact Tracy at tracy.keifenheim@wisc.edu or 920-906-4623. Please share that anyone interested can fill out to lead a session on the electronic form: <https://go.wisc.edu/2024familylearningdaypresenter> or a paper copy that is included. The goal is to offer as many different projects as we can. We also need help recruiting presenters. Getting them in earlier the better! Thanks.

• **Youth and Adult Partnerships:** We are currently seeking youth and adults to join the following countywide committees:

- 4-H Promotion (throughout the year)
- Cloverbud Day Camp (summer)
- Tri-County Visual Arts Festival (October-March planning, actual event in March) Might meet once a month or less until Feb.
- Family Learning Day (October - Feb planning, actual event in Feb.) might meet once a month or less until Jan.
- Fashion Revue (planning in Feb/March, event in June)
- Foods Revue (June)
- New Family Orientation (throughout the year)
- Summer Day Camp (Dec-May planning, actual dates TBD)
- STEM Day (Late Spring)

If you are **interested in any** of these opportunities or would like more information, please contact Tracy Keifenheim at tracy.keifenheim@wisc.edu. Please note there will be an electronic survey sent out as well! If you know of a parent or another volunteer who would be a good fit for any of the above committees, please share that with me and I can follow up with them!

• **4-H Thriving Model** - Wisconsin 4-H is inviting members (ages 13-18) to complete a survey about their 4-H experience. The survey developed by National 4-H Leaders: <https://helping-youth-thrive.extension.org/> will help Wisconsin 4-H learn about our programs' quality. The information will help 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.

An email with instructions for completing the survey online will be **sent directly to the 4-H members' addresses in 4-H Online**. Any potentially identifying information will be removed and not released publicly. The individual answers that the youth provide will be kept confidential. We are hopeful that youth will participate in this important evaluation. There is no requirement to complete the survey, and it will not affect their 4-H membership. Please encourage youth ages 13-19 to participate. The survey will be sent to all Wisconsin 4-H members by e-mail in **early November**. Youth who complete the survey will be entered into a raffle to win a \$25 gift card!

• **Club activities** are highlighted in the *Club News* section of the newsletter. It's easy to have your **club news** included. Just have your secretary or reporter mail or e-mail their secretary minutes or report (and photos) to tracy.keifenheim@wisc.edu or fill out the [Google Form](#) to submit an article. With new youth taking office, this is a good time of the year to get them into the habit of sending the notes in. Highlights and pictures are also

shared on the 4-H Facebook page! Please encourage the officers to send the updates and photos each month.

• Visual Arts Festival

We are seeking volunteers and youth for the **Visual Arts Festival committee**. We are seeking volunteers and youth who have creative ideas! If interested in helping plan the Visual Arts Festival 2025 or have any questions, please contact Tracy at tracy.keifenheim@wisc.edu or 920-906-4623. The committee will be meeting after November 15. The first meeting date will be determined by the youth and volunteers on the committee. The committee would meet a couple of times between November and March.

• Cedar Crest Ice Cream 4-H Flavor Contest

Who: All 4-H members in the State of Wisconsin

What: Develop and name an ice cream flavor

When: Entries must be submitted to Cedar Crest Ice Cream no later than **November 15, 2024**, via the online entry form or email.

How: Submit entries using the [online form](#) or [downloadable entry form](#).

They will select five top finalists with one finalist chosen as the grand prizewinner. The grand prize winner will receive a Cedar Crest Ice Cream Party and a \$500 prize. The winning flavor will also be produced in 2023 as a Feature Flavor for July. The four additional top finalists will receive a Cedar Crest Ice Cream Party. More information and the entry form are available at <https://cedarcresticecream.com/4h-flavor-contest/>. **Entries are due by November 15, 2024.**

• **New Family orientation** will be held on **Thursday, December 5, 2024 6:00 - 8:00 pm**. We are asking that you encourage new families to attend this event. New families would include families who have been enrolled for 2 years or less in the 4-H program. We know that 4-H has so many great opportunities available, that it is hard to know about them all. We don't want our members to miss out! Sometimes it can seem overwhelming, so we will go through the many aspects of 4-H and answer questions. Learn how to find resources available to our members, who to ask for help, and how to get the most out of your 4-H membership!

New families can expect to meet other new families, have questions answered, and learn about various topics such as projects, general meetings, 4-H Structure, and different opportunities at the **December 5** orientation. There will be two other orientation meeting dates held in the spring/early summer with other various topics. Please have families RSVP here: <https://go.wisc.edu/2024newfamily>.

We are seeking help to facilitate stations during the New Family Orientation. If you are interested or someone in your club would be interested please reach out to Tracy at tracy.keifenheim@wisc.edu or 920-906-4623.

Idea Corner

The "Idea Corner" can be a regular article in our Leader Letter where leaders share new ideas that were successful and/or a helpful resource where you found that idea! You can submit a paragraph yourself or you can ask a youth to write it up. Your idea doesn't have to be a huge, groundbreaking idea, just something that you feel that other leaders might appreciate. Please submit ideas to Tracy at tracy.keifenheim@wisc.edu.

RESOURCE OF THE MONTH

Land and Water Conservation is Extension new neighbor in the Fond du Lac County Campus. Land and Water Conservation is now located on the first floor just to the left when coming in the main entrance. This department has some contests going on right now that 4-H youth could participate in. Check them out below.

The Land and Water Conservation Department is committed to serving the county school districts in teaching valuable conservation and environmental classes to students of all ages. Through a variety of classroom presentations and contests, students in Fond du Lac County will be exposed to and learn about our environment and how to preserve it for many generations to come.

Educational Opportunities

Natural Resources Classroom Presentations	County staff come into the classroom and provide hands on educational sessions to students regarding conservation and the environment.
Poster Contest	Sponsored by the County Land and Water Conservation Committee, this poster contest is open to all students grades K-12 on a different theme each Fall.
Speaking Contest	Sponsored by the County Land and Water Conservation Committee, this speaking contest is open to all students grades 5-12 on conservation theme of choice.
Photo Contest	Sponsored by the County Land and Water Conservation Committee, this contest is open to all students grades 4-12 based on three different categories.

Calendar of Events

November

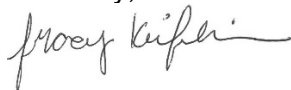
- 1** Club Charters DUE to Extension Office or submitted online
- 2-3** Fall Forum, Stevens Point, Register through 4-H Online
- 3** 4-H Recognition Program- FDL County Fairgrounds- EXPO Center
- 6** Adult Leaders Association Meeting, at Fond du Lac County Campus, 6:30 pm
- 12** 4-H Project Leader Training- Port Washington, 6-8 pm
- 15** Cedar Crest Ice Cream Contest Entries Due
- 25** Teen Leader Association Meeting, 7:00 pm at Rolling Meadows Meeting Room
- 26** Lego Club Meeting, 6:30 pm at Fond du Lac County Campus
- 29- Dec 3** National 4-H Congress

December

- 1** Volunteer Enrollment Deadline
- 1** Proposals due for Family Learning Day Sessions
- 5** New Family Orientation, 6:00-8:00 pm at Fond du Lac County Campus
- 7** Officer Training, Fond du Lac County Campus, 9:30 am – 11:30 am Register via Google form

***Note NO TLA or LEGO Club meetings in December**

Sincerely,



Tracy Keifenheim

4-H Program Educator

UW-Madison Division of Extension, Fond du Lac County

cc: Executive Board, TLA Advisor, Horse Project President

enc: Club enrollment tracker, Family Learning Day presenter form