



Pepin Pacer

Pepin County 4-H Newsletter



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
PEPIN COUNTY

January, 2026

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Extension Pepin County Staff

Extension Pepin County provides educational programs and information in 4-H, youth development, and human development and relationships.

Sky Holt

4-H Program Educator
Email: sky.holt@wisc.edu

Mary C. Wood

Human Development and Family Relationships Educator
Email: mary.campbellwood@wisc.edu

April Duval

FoodWise Coordinator
Email: april.duval@wisc.edu

Gwen Prom

Office Coordinator
Email: gwen.prom@wisc.edu

Payton Freund

4-H AmeriCorps
Email: payton.freund@wisc.edu

Sarah Torbert

Area 9 Extension Director
Email: sarah.torbert@wisc.edu

Address:

740 7th Avenue West
PO Box 39
Durand, WI 54736
Phone: 715-672-5214

Extension Pepin County website:

<http://pepin.extension.edu/>

4-H Online:

<http://wi.4honline.com/>

Let's take a look back at some highlights of 4-H's history ...

In the 1930s 4-H clubs grew to offer a wider variety of projects that kids could participate in. Girls could participate in subjects related to home economics such as clothing, food & nutrition, and home management & improvement. For boys, field and trade subjects like soil conservation, electricity, tractors & machinery, and ag production projects were added.

With the outbreak of United States involvement in World War II in 1941 the focus of 4-H turned to supporting the war effort. Much of the organization's efforts revolved around increasing food production. In its "Feed a Fighter" campaign and similar campaigns 4-Hers were encouraged to use their projects to grow larger yields or raise more livestock. 4-H played a big role in the Victory Garden movement which planted home and community gardens to produce more home-grown food. Other efforts from 4-H club members included participating as Victory Farm Volunteers, conducting recycling drives, clothing making, increasing canning efforts, and purchasing war bonds. With its war-related activity 4-H membership grew from 650,000 members in 1942 to over 1.6 million through the course of the war.

In the post-war years 4-H continued to grow both domestically and internationally. The National 4-H Center opened in Washington, D.C. in 1959 serving as a national headquarters for the group and offering trainings and experiences for youth, leaders, and volunteers. President Dwight Eisenhower attended the Center's dedication ceremony. In 1948 the first International Youth Farm Exchange occurred with a group of American 4-Hers visiting Europe and a group Europeans coming the United States. This program enabled farm youth to experience the culture and agriculture of a foreign country, and it still exists today. By 1953 4-H clubs were established in 23 countries in Europe, Asia, and Latin America. By 1965 this number grew to 76 countries on five continents.

Every month we will hide a special symbol somewhere in that **month's Pacer**. **If you are the first person to call (715) 672-5214 or email (gwen.prom@wisc.edu) the Extension Pepin County and tell us where that symbol is found you will win \$5 and be named in next month's Pepin Pacer as the "4-H Fast Finder".**

Good Luck Hunting!

This is this month's symbol :





Pepin/Buffalo 4-H Shooting Sports Club

Typically meets Monday & Tuesday nights
@ 6:30 p.m. in Pepin Sportsman's Club,
January-March. For 3rd Graders and older.

Contact Nicole Schonke @
612-644-7525

Chippewa 4-H Club
Typically meets 2nd Sunday of month.
Contact Nicki Moline @
715-442-5371

Lima Lads & Lassies 4-H Club
Typically meets 3rd Sunday of month.
11:00 a.m., Durand City Hall
Contact Wendy Brantner @
715-495-4472

Community Health Youth Leaders (CHYL)

Durand /Arkansaw In-School Club

6th - 8th Graders

Typically meets (2) Fridays a month
in Room #009 during lunch

Contact Sky Holt @
715-279-7677



Pepin County 4-H Parent/ Leader Federation Meeting

January 10, 2026 @ 6:00 pm

Hide-A While, Mondovi

Volunteer in Pepin County 4-H and help make our 4-H program stronger.

**Typically, meetings are held in February, April, June, August,
October and December, normally held in the Boardroom at the
Government Center in Durand.**

Call the Extension Office for more information.



4-H Fast Finder for the Month:

OAKLEY HURTGEN

Congratulations for being our
4-H Fast Finder this month!

We hope you enjoy the
Pepin Pacer !



TINY SNOWFLAKES EXIST

The smallest snowflakes are called diamond dust and can be no larger in size than the diameter of a human hair.



GIANT SNOWFLAKES

The largest snowflake ever reported was in Montana, USA, in 1887. It was supposedly 15 inches wide (bigger than a dinner plate!) and 8 inches thick!





The Chippewa Club has been busy the past few months. In September we had a wonderful group of kids and parents that walked during the Laura Days Parade to help promote 4H in Pepin County. In October the Moline Family assisted Deb Fisher with some garden clean up at the Frankfort Town Cemetery. In the month of November we inducted our new club officers for the 2025-2026 year. President, Alliah Sterry; Vice President, Nolan Seifert; Treasurer, Dominic Moline; and Secretary Amelia Ingli. We also created some Thankful trees to share with our friends and family at Thanksgiving! Finally, in December we had several club members and their families volunteer time to ring bells and raise funds for the Salvation Army.



3D PENS

Join Pepin
County 4-H and
the Durand
Community
Library to make
art with 3D
Pens!

January 5
3:45-4:45 PM
At the library

**All youth in grades
K-5 welcome!**

**Test your
creativity!**

**Build amazing
creations!**



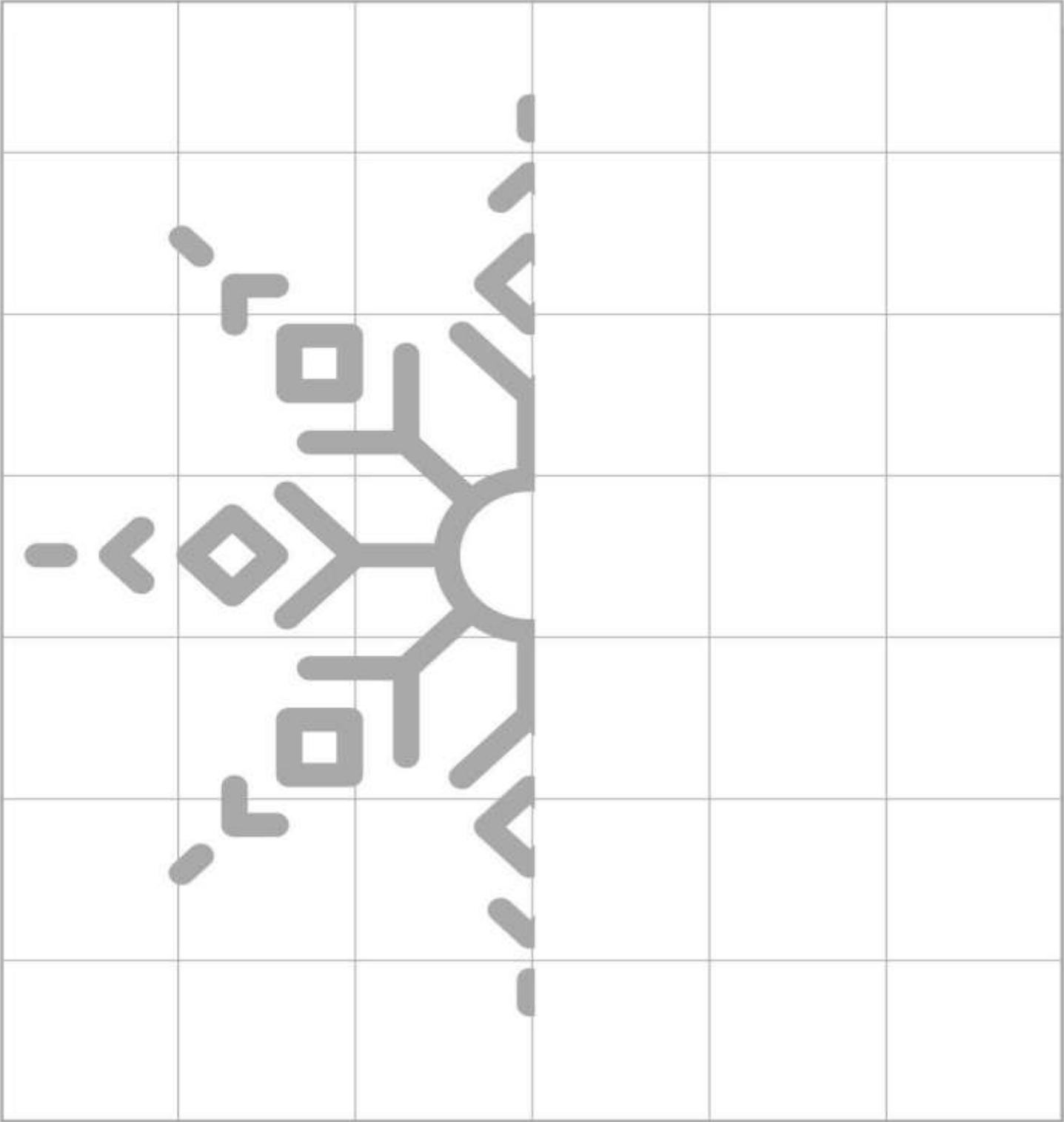
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UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



AmeriCorps

Snowflake Symmetry

Use the grid to draw the other side of the snowflake.



Dazzle Day is the time of the year for the Lima Lads and Lassies annual Christmas Cookie Bake Sale. As in past years each family bakes 12 dozen **cookies and brings them to Wendy's** house on Black Friday. We proceed to tray up all the cookies on real festive Christmas dishes and wrap them in plastic. We have a great crew of families that help with this every year and they know how the process goes so we are able to accomplish this task in **quick order. Even though Dale and Mary Heck's children graduated out of** 4-H seven years ago they still donate about 17 dozen rosettes to our bake sale. We ended up with 18 tins of rosettes to sell. Thank you Dale and Mary for continuing to support 4-H!!

Dazzle Day started out snowy but that didn't deter people from coming to shop at the HOHOHO Expo at the Durand-Arkansaw High School where we held our bake sale. We are so fortunate to have such great support from our community and we sold out of our goodies in 2 hours. That was 100 trays of cookies and 18 tins of rosettes that found their way to many homes in our area. Thank you for all our repeat customers and all the new people that bought from us for the first time!!

Our next community service activity is getting tags off the Christmas Wish tree at the Durand Police Department to help out families in our community have a better Christmas. We took 8 tags off the tree and 8 of our families set about fulfilling the wishes on the tags. We are able to do this because of all the people that purchase our trays of cookies. Thank you again!!

The National Honor Society from the Durand-Arkansaw High School volunteered to decorate Tarrent Park for our club. They had a huge group of kids show up to get the job done and they did a superb job!! They even purchased some decorations to add to what we already had. We really want to increase our deer herd of decorations and have a reindeer park again at Tarrent Park to greet people as they come into Durand. If anyone has any lighted deer that they will not use any more for their own yard please consider donating them to our club to use them in the park. Contact the Pepin County Extension office and a pick up can be arranged. Thank you.

Submitted by Wendy Brantner



It's Christmas party time and the Lima Lads and Lassies held their party on Sunday Dec. 14th at the Durand City Hall. First we conducted some business of updating our Treasurer report, the success of our bake sale in November and catching up on handing out birthday cards with Durand Dollars in side to celebrate with. We welcomed another new family to our club, Courtney Bauer and her daughter, Cheyenne. Harper Biederman's brother and sister, Owen and Brinley, decide to join our club as well. They came for the first time last month when we decorated the parks for the holiday season. We are so excited for all the families that have recently joined our club. Then we played our Chinese gift exchange game. There was a fair amount of swapping of gifts this year but it was all in fun. Next we broke down into 5 teams and played Christmas word themed Pictionary. All 5 teams draw the same word each time. I had a total of 30 words to draw and the winning team got 10 **words correct. Looking at the photo from the winning team's paper how** many words can you figure out from their drawings??? Lastly we shared a delicious pot luck lunch. We did a last minute food drive for the Pepin County Food Pantry and this is what our families brought to our Christmas Party and I will drop off at the food pantry on Wednesday. Thanks for following along on our 4-H adventures in 2025. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Winning team's Pictionary drawings.

Submitted by Wendy Brantner



EVERYTHING'S BUTTER WITH FOOD!

*JOIN PEPIN COUNTY 4-H AND
THE DURAND COMMUNITY
LIBRARY FOR A FUN-FILLED
FOOD PROGRAM. MAKE YOUR
OWN BUTTER AND NO-BAKE
COOKIES!*

*JANUARY 10
10:00 - 11:00 AM*

*ALL YOUTH GRADES K-5
WELCOME!*

**ACTIVITY WILL USE
PEANUT BUTTER & MILK**



Extension
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AmeriCorps



DISCOVER PEPIN/BUFFALO SHOOTING SPORTS CLUB!

We are very excited to continue the Pepin/Buffalo Shooting Sports Club! Thank you, Nicole and Jim Schonke for your continued leadership in the shooting sport project!



What's the same:

Same great practices at the Pepin Sportsman's Club - N 10076 Sand Ridge Rd, Pepin WI
3rd grade and 8 yro and older
No experience necessary
Equipment provided
Fee: \$10-



What's different:

Shooting sports is now an official club. You can enroll in the Shooting Sports Club as your main club in 4honline 2.0 or inform our office and we can put it as your secondary club.



Club and Practice Schedule:

Monday and Tuesday nights,
January 12- March 31
Prac: 6:00-7:30 pm
Meeting: 7:30-8:00 pm

QUESTIONS



Pepin County 4-H



(715) 672-5214



sky.holt@wisc.edu



LEGO CLUB JANUARY DATES:

JANUARY 16, 30

3:45 – 4:45 PM
IN THE DURAND LIBRARY

ALL YOUTH GRADES K-5
WELCOME!



BRIDGE BUILDING

JOIN PEPIN COUNTY 4-H AND THE PEPIN PUBLIC
LIBRARY FOR THIS AWESOME STEM ACTIVITY!
ALL YOUTH WELCOME.

JANUARY 17
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
PEPIN PUBLIC LIBRARY



AmeriCorps

THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF STEM PROGRAM SIERES

**JOIN PEPIN COUNTY 4-H AND THE
DURAND COMMUNITY LIBRARY FOR
MULTIPLE STEM PROGRAMS THIS
JANUARY!**

ALL YOUTH GRADES K-5 WELCOME!

**JANUARY 13: 3:45-4:45 PM
JANUARY 20: 3:45-4:45PM
JANUARY 31: 10:00-11:00 AM**



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AmeriCorps

Become a Sparks Champion



Make a difference!

Why become a Sparks Champion?

- Help youth discover their “sparks” - their interests that give them meaning and joy.
- Build confidence, resilience, and life skills in young people.
- Be part of a supportive 4-H community that changes lives.



What does a Sparks Champion do?

You don't have to be an expert. It's enough to care and encourage youth as they grow and thrive in something they feel passionate about. You can:



Notice & Affirm

Spot what excites youth and ask questions.



Listen & Encourage:

Validate interests and celebrate effort. Be present.



Provide Opportunities:

Connect youth with projects and events when available.



Model & Mentor:

Share your own passions and guide through challenges.



Support Growth:

Help set goals and reflect on progress.



What's involved in being a Sparks Champion?

- Attend a Sparks Champion Orientation (1.5 hr session in Jan)
- Host a 4-H educator to teach a Sparks Lesson at your club (Feb - May)
- Complete an evaluation (Aug)



Sign Up Today

<https://go.wisc.edu/99pje3>

Benefits for You –

- Make a lasting impact on youth.
- Share your skills and passions.
- Join a network of caring adults committed to youth development.



NEW

WINTER ACADEMY

Registration now open

FREE!

Register now until January 11, 2026

Grades 8-10

VIRTUAL

January 21, 2026
January 28, 2026
February 4, 2026

Positive Youth Development Institute
DIVISION OF EXTENSION
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Registration will be available soon for our NEW Winter Academy. The Winter Academy is open to grades 8-10 and is an opportunity for youth to gain experience in problem solving strategies and to prepare for successful career pathways. Completion of the 2026 Winter Academy grants a coupon code for the 2026 Summer Academy! Keep an eye out for more registration details and program information on our website:

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/winter-academy/>

WONDERS WITHIN WOOD

Carving and Design Distance Learning Kit

Audience: 5th Grade and Up

Register By: Jan 5th in 4HOnline

Cost: \$5

Participants will get to:

- Explore how people first began thinking about and making carvings by using several different art mediums
- Connect with carving traditions, and head outdoors to observe and journal.
- Begin building green wood carving skills by shaping a flower from fresh wood

What's Included

Included in the kit:

- Interactive curriculum guide with links to an online learning video and a sharing community just for this project
- Informational insert on selecting a good carving knife and care (carving knife not included)
- Art supplies



The Artist In Residence

This program was made possible through "Culture, Community, and the Classroom Residency." We are honored to host Derek Brabender, an artisan green wood worker. We will host a Zoom with Derek where youth can display his carving work, ask questions, and learn about the green wood carving community as it exists today. This event will take place in March.

Please note that due to the nature of this activity, youth will need to be supervised and assisted by a trusted adult during carving. This is an independent learning activity.



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Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H & Wisconsin 4-H Forestry Contests

Registration Form



(4-H Wildlife & Forestry Art Contest is on a separate registration form. Please request it.)

Friday, March 27, 2026 OR Saturday, March 28, 2026

Washington County Fair Park, 3000 Hwy. PV, West Bend, WI (Hwy 45 South of West Bend)



All Wisconsin 4-H club members are encouraged to participate. To be eligible to take part in this contest you must be registered as a Wisconsin 4-H Club member in any project area. This contest is an opportunity for you to become familiar with the wildlife habitat education program competition and the forestry program competition. Most of the questions will be multiple choices. All test questions come from material covered in the study guides.

WHEP Ecoregion: Eastern Deciduous Forest (Study Guides are available – Please email your request.)

Junior 4-H Wildlife WHEP Contest

Wisconsin Wildlife ID – WI Mammals, birds, waterfowl, reptiles, raptors, silhouettes, etc.

Wildlife Terms – Basic wildlife related terms list. Wildlife Foods ID – Basic wildlife related foods list

Intermediate & Senior Wildlife WHEP Contest

(5 sections/ 10 each): Concepts; Management Practices; Wildlife Identification; Foods Identification; WHEP Terms.

Forestry: Wisconsin Woodlands & Forests

(Study Guides are available – Please email your request.)

Junior 4-H Forestry Contest (30 multiple choice questions)

Wisconsin Trees & Shrubs ID – Trees & shrubs, leaves, bark, mast, silhouettes, etc. Forestry Terms – Basic forestry related terms

Intermediate & Senior Forestry Contest – Wisconsin Woodlands & Forests

(5 sections - 10/each): Compass & Topo Maps; Tree Identification; Tree Health - Insects/Diseases; Tree Measurements; and Forest Evaluation.

Wildlife & Forestry contest information on website: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/projects/outdoor-education/>

Additional WHEP information is at: www.whep.org Additional Forestry information: <http://4hforestryinvitational.org/>

Questions: w4hwildlife@forestry@gmail.com

Friday: Wildlife WHEP & Forestry Contests

Approx. 40 minutes

Approx. 40 minutes

WHEP 4:00-8:30

Forestry 4:00-8:30

Saturday: Wildlife WHEP & Forestry Contests

Approx. 40 minutes

Approx. 40 minutes

WHEP 7:00-12:00

Forestry 7:00-12:00

Your Grade as of January 1st

Junior (3-6 grade) _____ Intermediate (7-9 grade) _____

Senior (10-13 grade) _____

Registration Fees: (No Refunds) - \$12.00 per person. You can enter one contest or both contests for the same fee.

Each PARTICIPANT receives one WHEP/FORESTRY Contest T-Shirt. Adult sizes: _____ Small _____ Medium _____ Large _____ X Large _____ XXL

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Postmarked Saturday, March 7, 2026.

Name _____ Birth Date _____ Grade _____ Phone _____
Address _____ City, State, Zip _____
4-H Club _____ County _____ E-mail _____

Permission Statement: I grant permission for my child to participate in the Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H Contest, Wisconsin 4-H Forestry Contest, and Tri-County 4-H Invitational and related activities. I release the Washington County Agriculture and Industrial Society & Washington County Fair Park, their employees, UW Extension employees, volunteers, and donors from any financial responsibility. I agree to pay all expenses not covered by insurance. I authorize the use of photographs of our family at this event for educational or media purposes. I have read and understand the rules regarding participation.

Signature: Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____ Participant's Signature: _____

Program support is provided by Northern Kettle Moraine Whitetails Unlimited Chapter, Washington County Whitetails Unlimited Chapter, Wisconsin Wild Turkey Federation Chapters, Friends of Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H, and Friends of Wisconsin 4-H Forestry. THANK YOU EVERYONE.

Total fees: _____ Check Number _____ Make checks payable to: **Washington County 4-H Shooting Sports**

Mail to: Barb/Norb Yogerst, 2401 Western Avenue, Jackson, WI 53037 PH: 262-677-2379

EM: washingtonco4hshootingssports@gmail.com

Please return this form with payment.

Keep a copy for your records. Copy as needed.

WHEP/Forestry20260090125

Contest Rules:

- Your youth division is determined by your grade at date of the contest. As of January 1st Junior 3-6 grade, Intermediate 7-9 grade, Senior 10-13 grade.
- Parents, friends & coaches are not allowed in the contest area.
- Reading assistance will be provided.
- I acknowledge that this youth has reviewed and understands the rules and guidelines for the Contest.
- I acknowledge that this youth is currently enrolled in 4-H and is entered in the correct class.
- Individual awards will be presented.
- This is a national WHEP & FORESTRY qualifying event.
- Adult 4-H Leader or 4-H Youth Development Educator

Signature _____ Ph# _____
+++ An incomplete registration form will not be accepted. +++



ART CONTEST: 4-H Wildlife & Forestry Registration

(4-H Wildlife WHEP & Forestry Contests are on a separate registration form. Please request copies.)

Friday, March 27, 2026 and Saturday, March 28, 2026
 Washington County Fair Park, 3000 Hwy. PV, West Bend, WI (Hwy 45 S. of West Bend)



This 4-H activity is open to all Wisconsin 4-H Club members. You may be enrolled in any 4-H project and participate in Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H & Wisconsin 4-H Forestry activities. See additional guidelines and wildlife/forestry art contest rules on page 2.

"Brief Description" – All items must have a 3" X 5" card attached explaining your wildlife item and its wildlife-forestry connection on one side and your name, club, and county on the other side. See examples in guidelines on page two. Items must be made in the current 4-H project year and after September 1st of the previous year. No face to face judging. Judges will give TEN awards in each age group and in each class.

Grade as of Jan. 1st: K-5-2nd grade; 3rd-4th grade; 5th-6th grade; 7th-8th-9th grade; 11-13 grade

Check the box with your choice of entries – 6 ENTRIES TOTAL (One entry per class.)

- ☐ **1-Nesting Structure or Feeder for Bird, Bee, Butterfly, or Bat House, etc.** – The structure meets specific requirements for the named critter. Include - overall size, shape, and hole diameter or opening, etc. (Ornamental bird houses, etc. must be entered in crafts.) Include your story telling description.
- ☐ **2-Craft** – Craft item has wildlife or forestry connection. Examples: leather craft, stitchery, clothing, sculpture, wildlife folk art, plaster tracks, quiver, etc. Craft items must be made by exhibitor during the current 4-H year. (Do not use "put together craft kits" or similar items.)
- ☐ **3-Drawing** – Drawing can be any size, (does not need to be mounted) that has a wildlife, forestry, or wildlife habitat connection. Drawing can be pencil, ink, charcoal, chalk, pastel, colored pencil or similar on any surface. Drawing will be judged on "story telling ability", neatness, and your description.
- ☐ **4-Invasive Plant or Weed** – Poster, display, or dried example of an invasive plant or weed (immature and mature if possible). Include item name, your description, and control measures. Also, include date & location where found for each item for actual collections. This entry may include items from the entire preceding calendar year. Examples: purple loosestrife, ragweed, etc. Include your story telling description.
- ☐ **5-Orienteering & Geocaching** – Poster or display on Compass, GPS, or Topographic Map Use. Items will be judged on their relationship to wildlife or forestry applications. Poster or display related to geocaching. Include your story telling description.
- ☐ **6-Painting** – Your painting can be any size and does not need to be mounted that has a wildlife or forestry connection. Painting can be acrylic, watercolor, oil, or similar on any surface. Painting will be judged on "story telling ability", neatness and your description.
- ☐ **7-Photo Black & White** – Your black & white photo or silhouette photo (one photo only) can be any size and does not need to be mounted that has a Wildlife or forestry connection. Photo will be judged on "story telling ability", neatness, and your description. No people allowed.
- ☐ **8-Photo Color** – Your color photo (one only), any size, and does not need to be mounted that has a wildlife or forestry connection. Photo will be judged on "story telling ability", neatness, and your brief description. No people allowed.
- ☐ **9-Recycle** – Any item related to wildlife, forestry, or for wildlife use. Example – Items that birds use to make nests: bird feeders, etc.. Item will be judged on "story telling ability", practical usefulness, neatness, and your brief description.
- ☐ **10-Taxidermy** – Item or display made 4-H member during the current 4-H year. Include date, location, and county where critter was obtained. Also, include a description of the critter and of your taxidermy work.
- ☐ **11-Trail Camera Photo – Large / Small Mammal** – Photo from a trail camera can be any size and does not need to be mounted. Include animal name, date, location (county), and brief description of the picture. Also include the relationship of the camera's owner. Picture must have been taken with your immediate family/grandparents trail camera after September 1st of the previous year. Photos will be judged on "story telling ability", neatness, and your description.
- ☐ **12-Trail Camera Photo – Upland Bird, Backyard Bird, Waterfowl, or Raptor** – Photo from a trail camera can be any size and does not need to be mounted. Include animal name, date, location (county), and brief description of the picture. Also include the relationship of the camera's owner. Picture must have been taken with your immediate family or grandparents trail camera after September 1st of the previous year. Photos will be judged on "story telling ability", neatness, and your description.
- ☐ **13-Tree or Shrub** – Item, poster or display of a tree or shrub, parts, measurements, related insects or diseases, etc. Include the tree/shrub name and description. Also, can be with an animal, insect, bird, or critter that makes their home in, on, or near a particular tree or shrub species. This entry may include items from the entire preceding calendar year.
- ☐ **14-WHEP Wildlife or Forestry Concept** – Item, diorama, poster, or display of a WHEP or forestry Concept (or part of a concept) from the current national manuals. Include the concept name and a description. Examples: habitat requirements, stages, food chain, etc. E-mail us with your questions.
- ☐ **15-WHEP Wildlife Foods** – Item, diorama, poster, or display of a WHEP foods (or part of a food group) from the current national WHEP manual. Include the food group name and a description. Examples: aquatic plants, grains, soft mast, hard mast, etc. E-mail us with your questions.
- ☐ **16-WHEP or Forestry Management Practice** – Item, diorama, poster, or display of a WHEP Management Practice (or part of a management practice) from the current national WHEP Manual. Include management practice name and your description. Examples: planting trees, fish or wildlife survey, creating snags, wildlife damage management, recreational uses, products, tools used, etc. E-mail us with your questions.
- ☐ **17-Wildflower** – Dried or pressed wildflowers, poster or display of wildflowers or parts of a wildflower. Include name, date, location (county) where found and your description. This entry may include items from the entire preceding calendar year.
- ☐ **18-Wildlife or Forestry Game** – Individual or group game or learning activity related to wildlife or forestry. Include name of game, supplies, rules, and ages for participation. Also, briefly describe what will be learned by the participants. Include a picture of the game being used if possible. Your item can be a 4-H youth leader activity from the entire preceding year.
- ☐ **19-Wildlife Art Celebration - 25th Anniversary** – Details coming soon.

4-H WILDLIFE & FORESTRY ART CONTEST ENTRY FEES: (Reminder: 1 entry per class.)**Youth entered in 4-H Wildlife/Forestry Art Contest only (Includes a Tri County T-shirt)**

___ \$10.00 First item; ___ \$3.00 second item; ___ \$3.00 third item; ___ \$3.00 fourth item; ___ \$3.00 fifth item; ___ \$3.00 sixth item

Youth entered in the Tri County Tournament and in the 4-H Wildlife/Forestry Art Contest:___ \$3.00 First item; ___ \$3.00 second item; ___ \$3.00 third item; ___ \$3.00 fourth item; ___ \$3.00 fifth item; ___ \$3.00 6th item

Can't Attend the Wildlife & Forestry Art Contest. Please make arrangements with a friend to bring your items and take them along home after the event. If that is not possible, please mail/ship your entry in an "acceptable, returnable, and reusable packaging". Your items will be return shipped after the contest. We are not responsible for lost or damaged shipments. Please include the proper applicable shipping cost for the return shipment (nearest dollar value) with your registration fee. See your local Post Office or UPS Store for applicable shipping rates. Your General Club Leader or Extension Youth Development Educator or Project Leader must acknowledge that your entry is your work and that it was made during the current 4-H project year. Contact us with questions.

Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H Art Contest Rules

- Only North American wildlife (including migratory critters), plants, etc., **especially those in found in Wisconsin will be ranked higher.**
- Items must be made in the current 4-H project year and after September 1st of the previous year. (See listed exceptions.)
- All 4-H wildlife artwork must be done by the participant and not previously exhibited at a Wildlife WHEP -Forestry 4-H Art Contest.
- Mountings or frames on photos, drawings, and paintings are not required. Items will be judged on their "story telling ability", neatness, and your brief description.
- Diorama, displays, pictures, and posters can be any reasonable size as long as it is easy to handle and display
- **"Brief Description- Required" – All items must have a 3" X 5" card attached with your name, club, & county on one side and description. See examples below.**
- **Your Wildlife or Forestry Description is Required and counts 30% toward an award" - 75 words maximum.**
Your description includes the correct critter name or names. You can include habitat information (diet, water & cover), and other interesting comments that tells the story about your item.
Brief example for "Photo, Drawing, or Painting": (Your picture of deer) so your description is as follows:
 "White-tailed Deer - This is a large mammal. Habitat: forest & prairie areas. Foods sources: grass, acorns, browse"
Brief example for "Wildlife WHEP Concept" poster: (Your concept is a food web) so your description is as follows:
 "Food Web - A food web is a network of interconnected food chains. A food chain starts with primary producer (example), and next is primary consumer (example). Next is secondary consumer (example) and tertiary consumer (example) follows next".
- Youth are limited to **one entry in a class for your age and six entries total.**
- Make sure your project will withstand being handled. Projects will be on display for others to view and to examine.
- **No face to face judging. Judges will give TEN awards (and honorable mention as determined) in each age group and each class.**
- Any entry not meeting all contest rules will not be eligible for an award.
- Items are entered on Friday evening or Saturday morning. **Items must be registered and on display by 10:00 A.M. Saturday. Late items will not be judged. Items are on display until 1:00 P.M. Please make arrangements for pick-up of your entries if you leave early.**
- +++ An incomplete registration form will not be accepted. +++

I acknowledge that this youth is currently enrolled in 4-H and is entered in the correct classes and projects are from the current year.

General Club Leader, Shooting Sports Leader, 4-H Project Leader, or Extension Educator

- Signature _____ PH# _____ Project Leader for _____

Tri-County Wildlife Contest: Friday night & Saturday to 1:00PM. **Separate age classes: (K-5, Ages 6-7 for fun ONLY) 8-9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17-19.** Different tests will be used in various age divisions. There are 40 each (K-5 & 6-7 = 15) multiple choice questions. No parents can help. Reading assistance provided. **No fee required and you are automatically entered.** See the wildlife team entry form for details. **(This contest is not the Wildlife WHEP & Forestry Statewide Competition. See the separate registration form.)** No registration required for K-5 -ages 6-7. Just come to the contest table. I'm entered on a tournament wildlife team, (K-5 ages 6-7 not eligible.) Team Name: _____

See Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H website for details on wildlife contest topics: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/projects/outdoor-education>.
 See 4-H Shooting Sports website for more details on wildlife contest topics: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/projects/shooting-sports/>.
 Each PARTICIPANT receives only one Tournament T-Shirt. Adult sizes: ___ Small; ___ Medium; ___ Large; ___ XL; ___ XXL

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Postmarked Saturday, March 7, 2026. No late entries accepted.

Name _____ Birth Date _____ Grade _____ Phone _____
 Address _____ City, State, Zip _____
 4-H Club _____ County _____ E-mail _____

Program support is provided by Northern Kettle Moraine Whitetails Chapter, Washington Co. Whitetails Chapter, Wisconsin Wild Turkey Federation Chapters, Friends of Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H, and Friends of Wisconsin 4-H Forestry. THANK YOU.

Permission Statement: I grant permission for my child to participate in the Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H Wildlife & Wisconsin 4-H Forestry Art Contest and related activities. I release the hosting facility, their employees, UW Extension employees, volunteers, and donors from any financial responsibility while participating or in attendance. I agree to pay all expenses not covered by insurance. I authorize the use of photographs of me & our family at this event for educational or media purposes. **I have read and understand the contest rules regarding participation.**

Signature: Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____ Participant's Signature: _____
 Total fees: _____ Check Number _____ Make checks payable to: **Washington County 4-H Shooting Sports**

Mail to: Barb/Norb Yogerst, 2401 Western Avenue, Jackson, WI 53037 PH: 262-677-2379 **Keep a copy of this form.**
 EM: washingtonco4hshootingsports@gmail.com **Please return this form with payment. Keep a copy for your records.**



Art Beat

REGISTRATION OPEN JANUARY 12— FEBRUARY 8

4-H members in grades 3-5, along with parents and leaders, can explore visual arts, drama, music, and STEAM through hands-on activities led by adult volunteers. Participants will also enjoy an overnight camp experience, staying in cabins with support from high school counselors.

| WHEN | WHERE | COST |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| March 14-15, 2026 | Upham Woods Outdoor Learning Center | \$150 for Youth Members, \$75 for Adult Volunteers |




UW-MADISON EXTENSION

[LEARN MORE](#)



STEAM GAZE: A Creative Fusion of Art & Science!



Wisconsin 4-H proudly presents STEAM GAZE, a dynamic, full-day experience designed for curious and creative youth in grades 3-5. Whether your spark is chemistry, theater, visual arts, environmental science, music, or something in between, STEAM GAZE offers multiple interactive tracks to ignite imagination and innovation. Youth must attend with an adult. Adult attendance is free. \$ 10.00 per youth participant. Registration will open through 4-H Online at the end of February.

Event Details:

- Wausau: April 25, 9:30 AM – 3:00 PM
- Milwaukee: May 16, 9:30 AM – 3:00 PM

Buffalo County Fair in Affiliation with Pepin County
 Invite you to
Building a Better Fair Gala
 Inaugural Winter Fundraiser to support Capital Improvements for the fair

February 28, 2026
5:00 – 11:00pm

Walker's SILVERMOON
 51582 State Road 35
 Alma, WI 54610

General Admission

- 1 Meal Ticket
- Complimentary tap beer & specialty drinks until gone

\$50

Reserved Table

- Reserved Table for 8
- 8 Meal Tickets
- Complimentary tap beer & specialty drinks until gone
- Table Price

\$500

Sponsor Table

- Reserved Table for 8
- 8 Meal Tickets
- Complimentary tap beer & specialty drinks until gone
- Table Price
- Personal Table Walker
- Recognition throughout the evening
- Recognition at the 2026 Fair

\$700

Register by December 31 for a chance to win an Early Bird Prize!

Join us for a night of fun!

Raffles, Auctions, 50/50, Food & Drinks
 21+ ONLY

Visit our website for additional information and registration details.
www.buffalopepincountyfair.com

Announcing the first-ever Building a Better Fair Gala on February 28, 2026 at Walker's Silvermoon in Alma!

This special evening is all about coming together as a community to help shape the future of the fairgrounds. From updated buildings to improved spaces for exhibitors, volunteers, and fairgoers—this Gala will kick off a new chapter for our fair, and you can be part of it!

Enjoy a night filled with:

- A delicious meal
- Live auction
- Raffles & prizes
- Great conversations and community fun

Every dollar raised goes directly toward capital improvements to benefit the fair for years to come. This is more than just an event... it's the beginning of something long-lasting and meaningful!

Tickets & details:



upcoming
MEAT ANIMAL
EVENTS

2/21/26

Market Beef Weigh-In @ Independence NFO

2/28/26

Back up Beef Weigh-In date if there are poor road conditions the Saturday before

4/11/26

Hog Tag Pick-up @ Fairgrounds, Mondovi

4/25/26

Market Sheep & Goat Weigh-In @ Fairgrounds, Mondovi

Registration link and specific times to come!



SAVE THE DATES

STATE 4-H HORSE EVENTS

HORSE EDUCATION DAYS
MAY 2 & 3, 2026

STATE HUNT AND DRESSAGE SHOW
JUNE 26, 27, & 28, 2026

STATE GYMKHANA SHOW
SEPTEMBER 12, 2026

STATE HORSE EXPO SHOW
SEPTEMBER 18, 19, & 20, 2026

STATE 4-H LIVESTOCK EVENTS

**4-H MEATS
JUDGING
CONTEST**
JANUARY 31, 2026



EVENT HELD AT THE MEAT SCIENCE & ANIMAL BIOLOGICS
DISCOVERY BUILDING, UW MADISON CAMPUS

More Info:

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/.../meats-judging-contest/>



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



**REGISTRATION
OPEN**

Dennis Bangart Memorial Calf Grant

Dennis Bangart had pure passion for agriculture and poured his heart into volunteering to serve the next generation. His commitment to agriculture, his community and youth lives on through this grant. The Purple Ribbon Classic is offering a \$1000 calf grant awarded to a junior that lives in the state of Wisconsin. This grant will be used to purchase a Registered Holstein heifer by a 4-H, FFA or Junior Holstein Association member. Winner will be notified before the 2026 Purple Ribbon Classic Sale on March 7, 2026. Dennis felt that “you just need to plant the seed and youth would grow.” In his name the Purple Ribbon Classic aim to help youth passion and project grow. This calf grant is available for use at the 2026 Purple Ribbon Classic Sale. The intentions of the grant are to help an individual purchase a calf to be shown at the district show, county fairs and to expand the individual’s registered Holstein herd.



For more information and to apply see
<https://forms.gle/Pbvtwsd4RKE2iC6y6>

SAVE THE DATES STATE 4-H DOG EVENTS

DOG 4-H QUIZ BOWL

APRIL 25, 2026

STEM INNOVATION BUILDING, UW - GREEN BAY

STATE 4-H DOG OBEDIENCE, SHOWMANSHIP, AND RALLY; SPEAKING, PHOTO, AND POSTER CONTESTS

SEPTEMBER 26 & 27, 2026

LANGLADE CO. FAIRGROUNDS, ANTIGO

STATE 4-H DOG AGILITY SHOW

OCTOBER 11, 2026

OVERDALE CANINE SPORTS, SPRING VALLEY



More Information:

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/.../agriculture.../dogs-project/>



REGISTRATION OPEN

STATE 4-H DAIRY QUIZ BOWL

FEBRUARY 7, 2026

**UW GREEN BAY
STEM INNOVATION BUILDING**

PEPIN COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION

Materials Due: January 9, 2026

Pepin County Contest: January 16, 2026

Poster Contest:

- Grades K-12
- Theme must be written ("Soil. Where it all Begins.")
- Size either 12" x 18" or 14" x 22"
- Any media allowed except computer generated

Speaking Contest:

- Grades 5-12
- Must stay within time limit to place
- Can be on any conservation topic



To register, submit, or for more information, contact Emilie at
ebonnerup@co.pepin.wi.us or 715-672-7242 x146



Youth who join 4-H are often excited about the many, many projects they can choose to explore. There are so many Sparks (or things they want to learn about)! Yet, if their Spark doesn't have a local project leader to support their learning, that excitement can turn to questions. They may not know how to get started on their own. Clover to the rescue!! Clover is an online smorgasbord of sparks, interactive activities, and fun. It was created by the National 4-H Council in collaboration with more than 100 universities throughout the United States. And it's FREE and ready for youth, parents, and educators to dive into. **Go to 4-h.org/clover**

4-H Volunteer Information and Resources - we have provided loads of great information to help you feel comfortable and confident about the basics of 4-H . Explore the Volunteer Resources website at:

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



**SCAN THE QR CODE
AND SHOW YOU ARE
4-EVER GREEN**



Check Out These Event Calendars

The calendars below show events available in surrounding areas and statewide. To filter by county or event type, use the check boxes on the left to narrow the results.

* To find 4-H specific events see this site

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/calendar/>

* To find workshops, classes and other events hosted by University of Wisconsin-Extension see this site:

<https://extension.wisc.edu/events/>

Badger Talks is pleased to present a LIVE series of talks on topics that intend to inspire, delight, and pleasantly distract in a time we are all needing positive experiences. Tune in to hear experts on a variety of interesting and engaging topics. For more information see:

<https://badgertalks.wisc.edu/badger-talks-live/>





Raising Wisconsin's Children Conference 2026

For parents, professionals, and anyone caring for Wisconsin's kids



Free & Online – Join live or watch later!

Helping Children Thrive When Life Gets Tough



February 4th, 2026
9 am to 4:30 pm



6 hours of continuing ed.
available for Wisconsin childcare providers and social workers

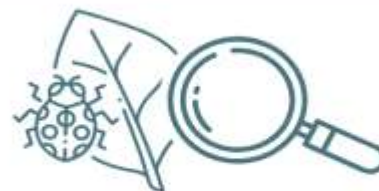


Human Development & Relationships Institute
DIVISION OF EXTENSION
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Learn More: <https://go.wisc.edu/raisingwi>



Horticulture Program
DIVISION OF EXTENSION
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



Plant Diagnostics

The Step-by-Step Approach to Identifying Plant Problems

Feb. 1–April 30, 2026 | 100% Online | Self-Paced

Learn more and register
go.wisc.edu/ExtPlantDiagnostics

Early Bird registration: Dec. 9–Jan. 19 | Registration closes: Jan. 29, 2026

