



# Pepin Pacer

Pepin County 4-H Newsletter



Extension  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON  
PEPIN COUNTY

April, 2026

Inside this issue:

Clubs/ Meetings	2
Drawing/Photo Prompts	6
Local Activities	7
4-H State Activities	11
Fair	14
Animals	16
Activity Page	24



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#### **Extension Pepin County website:**

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

#### **4-H Online:**

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

4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

## CELEBRATING OUR HEART! NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

April 19-25, 2026

✦ Join us in **THANKING** our incredible  
**4-H LEADERS & VOLUNTEERS!**  
Your dedication makes all the difference  
in empowering our youth.  
**A heart-felt THANK YOU** to all those who  
give their time, talent, and energy.  
**We appreciate you!**

**4-H HEAD • HEART • HANDS • HEALTH**

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](mailto: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 :**



**DISCOVER  
4-H CLUBS**



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

**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

**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**  
**April 15, 2026 @ 5:30 pm**  
**Boardroom, Pepin Co. Government Center**

**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:  
**TRINITY LOEWENHAGEN**  
Congratulations for being our  
4-H Fast Finder this month!  
We hope you enjoy the  
Pepin Pacer !

**In February, Chippewa 4H Club visited the National Eagle Center in Wabasha. They have three resident Eagle Ambassadors that we were able to meet and learn more about. The kids were able to experience an eagle simulation game and some brave members treated us to a play! Afterwards we enjoyed an ice cream treat.**



**In March, Chippewa 4H Club volunteered at The Community Table in Eau Claire. The group was in charge of prepping, cooking, serving and cleaning up after the meal. The Community Table serves a free meal 365 days a year. This was a very worthwhile event that left us all with a greater appreciation for what we have.**





# LIMA LADS AND LASSIES



**BAKE SALE FUN!**



**LOYAL VOLUNTEERS!**



**PACKING WITH CARE!**



**50 EASTER BASKETS!**

February's meeting for the Lima Lads and Lassies consisted of taking down the Christmas decorations in the 3 parks in town. There are still a few items stuck in the frozen ground but hopefully soon I can pull them up soon.

The last Saturday in February is the Humane Society Craft Sale Fundraiser at Caddie Woodlawn. Our club was asked to serve the concessions again this year. Our loyal volunteers, Nick, Leah, Jacey and Cayden, stepped up and took on the task.

March means Easter is fast approaching. Our club continued our community service project of donating 50 filled Easter baskets to the Pepin County Food Pantry. Our crew has this job down pat and we had it completed in about 20 minutes. We greatly appreciated it that Mike Baier from the food pantry opens up the door and let's us carry over the baskets from the city hall were we assemble them.



To our awesome Leaders, Jim & Nicole Schonke

# Air Rifle

SHOOTING SPORTS

## BIG THANKS!

We are so grateful for all you do for the Pepin/Buffalo 4-H Shooting Sports program. Your energy and fun approach truly embody 'LEARN BY DOING'. Thanks for being great role models!

**AND A HUGE SHOUT-OUT TO ALL PARTICIPANTS!**  
Your enthusiasm and awesome attitude make every event a blast! Keep it up!



## April Photo Challenge

This month's categories:

- Looking Down
- Vibrant Colors
- Something Growing
- Egg

Send up to 4 photos with a brief description of the photo and how it fits in the category to [gwen.prom@wisc.edu](mailto:gwen.prom@wisc.edu) by May 10.



## GRATITUDE DRAWING PROMPT:

Use this as 4-H Project Practice?

**Draw something that makes you smile.**

We'd love to include your drawing in the next Pepin Pacer! Just email a photo of it to [gwen.prom@wisc.edu](mailto:gwen.prom@wisc.edu).



**Pepin County 4-H  
Award Trip Applications  
can be found on our  
website under  
4-H FORMS**

**APPLY NOW!**

**APPLY NOW!**



**WI 4-H Apparel Store Now Open through April 15!**

Proceeds from this fundraiser benefit the Wisconsin Association of Extension 4-H Youth Development Professionals, supporting the professionals who strengthen 4-H programs across the state. Orders can be shipped directly to your home, or save shipping by selecting delivery to your county Extension office, with pick-up at the end of May. Don't miss this opportunity to support 4-H and look great doing it! Store link for 4-H families:

[https://madebymetshirts.org/wisconsin-4-h/shop/home\\_!!Mak6IKo!JCTbUx-T97WtUcvNSgUMUi-oZmKXx0U12E7I5s5\\_gOPsJm5AsqcmoDSBcB\\_Xiit3PFhxC6CdieXwQ5WO7i9J\\$](https://madebymetshirts.org/wisconsin-4-h/shop/home_!!Mak6IKo!JCTbUx-T97WtUcvNSgUMUi-oZmKXx0U12E7I5s5_gOPsJm5AsqcmoDSBcB_Xiit3PFhxC6CdieXwQ5WO7i9J$)

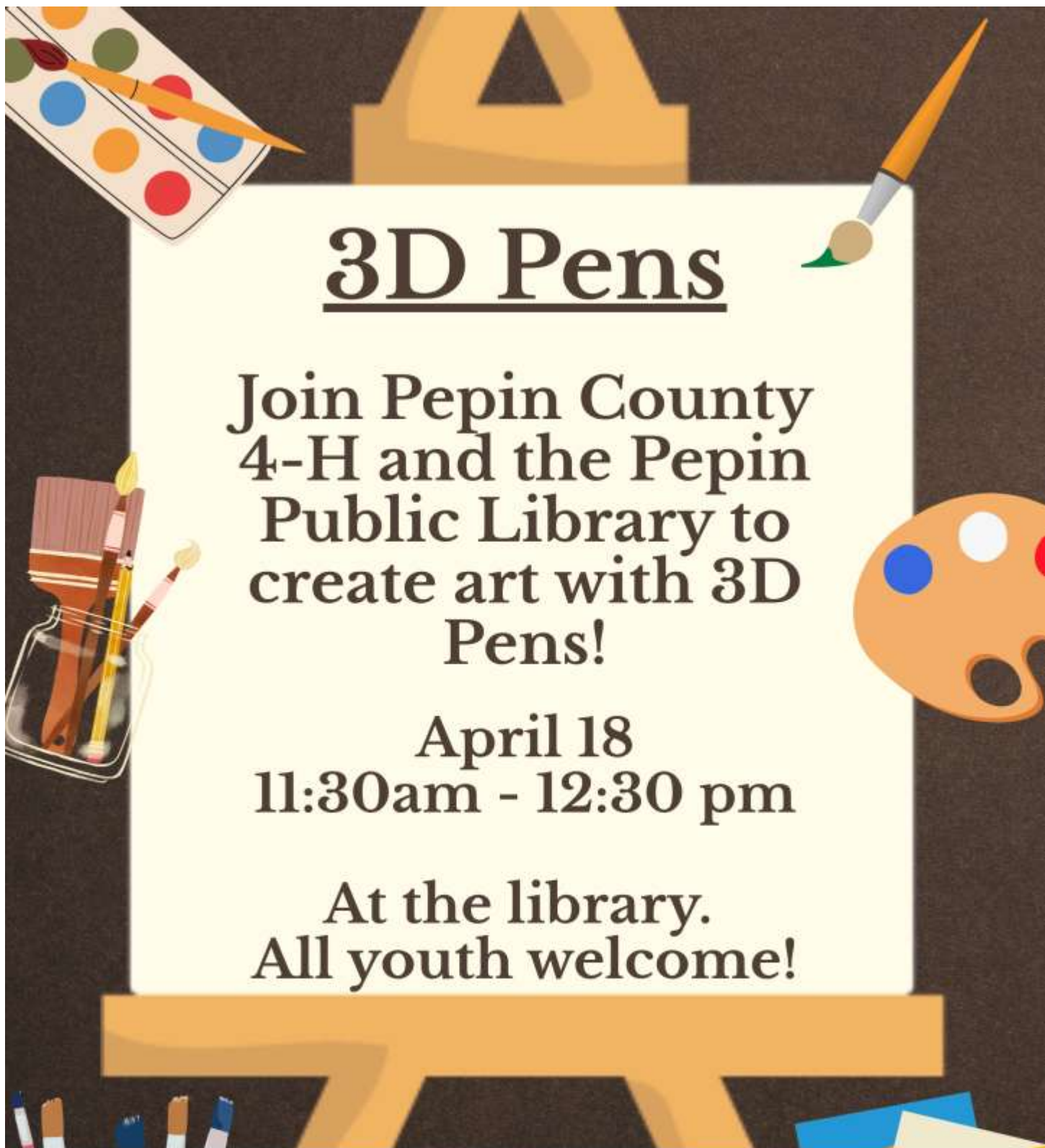
# LEGO CLUB APRIL DATES:

APRIL 11, 18, 25

10:00-11:00 AM  
IN THE DURAND LIBRARY

ALL YOUTH GRADES K-5  
WELCOME!





# 3D Pens

Join Pepin County  
4-H and the Pepin  
Public Library to  
create art with 3D  
Pens!

April 18  
11:30am - 12:30 pm

At the library.  
All youth welcome!



# STEM PROGRAM

Join the Durand Public Library  
and Pepin County 4-H for this  
awesome STEM program!



April 2  
3:45–4:45 pm  
Durand Library



**AmeriCorps**

The graphic features a green background with a white banner at the top containing the text "SUMMER ACADEMY" in green. Below this is an orange banner with "Voyage Track" in white. The central part of the graphic is a white-bordered area containing a photograph of a classroom with students at desks and a teacher at the front. To the left of the photo is a white box with a red and white checkered border containing the text: "The voyage track is an exploratory track where youth will learn about agriculture, gaming development, and science". To the right of the photo is another white box with a red and white checkered border containing the text: "June 14-18, 2026". Below the photo is a white box with a red and white checkered border containing the text: "UW-Madison Campus" and a small icon of the Wisconsin State Capitol dome. At the bottom of the photo area are the logos for the University of Wisconsin-Madison and UW-Madison Extension, with the text "UW-MADISON EXTENSION" below them. The entire graphic is decorated with colorful leaf patterns at the bottom.

**In the Voyage Track at 4-H Summer Academy on the UW-Madison Campus, youth in grades 8-10 can explore Agriculture, Gaming, and Science through experiential learning around: \* Dairy animal science and agriculture \* Esports \* Science labs \***

**At Summer Academy, June 14-18, young people from across the state will be empowered on their quest to be ready for life and for work. They'll: Experience life in a residence hall \* Explore Campus \* Learn from experts and professionals**

**Registration \$150 – is open through April 26! Bus transportation is available.**

**Learn more at [go.wisc.edu/4HSummerAcademy!](https://go.wisc.edu/4HSummerAcademy!)**

## **2026 Wisconsin Towns Association Scholarship Program**

**Application Deadline: May 22, 2026**



**Wisconsin Towns Association, in partnership with Scott Construction, Inc., and Rural Mutual Insurance Company, is excited to announce the 2026 WTA Scholarship Contest. We invite Wisconsin's graduating high school seniors to participate by innovatively writing an essay answering this year's question for a chance to win one of ten \$1,000 scholarships.**

### **2026 Essay Question:**

**"What strategies can be implemented by local government officials in collaboration with citizens to encourage and maintain civility?"**

### **GUIDELINES & REQUIREMENTS**

<https://www.wisctowns.com/resources/scholarship/>

#### **Candidates Must:**

- **Be a resident of Wisconsin, graduating from a Wisconsin public or private high school in 2026, and plan to attend a Wisconsin public or private college or university.**
- **Proof of enrollment in a Wisconsin public or private college or university will be required to receive a scholarship.**

#### **Important Information:**

- **Essays will be independently judged on originality and overall writing quality, relevant only to the 2026 question noted above. Essays must demonstrate correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation.**
- **Judging will be completed by August 10, 2026.**
- **Winners will be announced by August 24, 2026, and only the Scholarship Award recipients will be contacted.**
- **Scholarships will be awarded to the top 10 applicants with the highest-ranking essay scores as follows:**
  - **Eight (8) \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to eight applicants with the highest-ranking essay scores.**
  - **Two (2) \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to two students with the highest-ranking essay scores currently residing in a town or village insured by Rural Mutual Insurance Company (insured as of May 1, 2026).**
    - *Please note: Students do not need to know if their town is insured.*

#### **Essay Requirements:**

- **Essay must be written by the student submitting. **NOT AI GENERATED****
- **Essay must only address the WTA 2026 Scholarship Contest question, noted above.**
- **Essay must be typed, double-spaced, and between 500 and 1,000 words.**
- **Bibliographic listing of all sources used must be included.**
- **Submit your essay as a (.doc or .docx) WORD document file.**

**UPHAM WOODS PRESENTS**

# SUMMER CAMP 2026



Camp (grades 3-7): August 1-4,  
Outpost (grades 7-9): July 19-22

**REGISTER**

*Wildlife & Woods*

Register via  
4HOnline  
wi.4honline.com

**EXPLORATIONS VIRTUAL  
SERIES**

FREE SERIES: FOR YOUTH GRADES K-5  
7:00PM-7:45PM



**APRIL 29, 2026  
MAY 20, 2026**

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

*Wildlife & Woods*

Register via  
4HOnline  
wi.4honline.com

**CAREERS & COMPETITION  
VIRTUAL SERIES**

FREE SERIES: FOR YOUTH GRADES 6-13  
7:00PM-7:45PM



**APRIL 27, 2026  
MAY 18, 2026**

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

**Wildlife & Woods Explorations** are suggested for grades K-5 through elementary school youth and their families. The sessions will be interactive and will include wildlife, forestry, wildlife art and more. Register here: <https://26wildlifeexplorations.4honline.com/>

**Wildlife & Woods Careers & Competitions Series** are suggested for middle school through high school youth and their families. The sessions will be interactive and will include guest speakers talking about careers, information about wildlife and forestry competitions and resources available to learn more. Register here: <https://26wildlifecareers.4honline.com/>

**You can also find the registration in your 4HOnline profile on the events tab.**



The Fair  
Theme for  
2026 :

**“Where  
Town  
and  
Country  
Come  
Together”**

The 2026 Fairbook is LIVE  
on the Fair website:

<https://www.buffalopepincountyfair.com/exhi.../premium-books>

# FAIR ENTRY

## 2026 Registration

### MAY 10 — JUNE 12

# upcoming MEAT ANIMAL EVENTS

4/11/26

Hog Tag Pick-up @ Fairgrounds, Mondovi

4/25/26

Market Sheep & Goat Weigh-In @ Fairgrounds, Mondovi

ATTENTION ALL FAIR PARTICIPANTS:  
Remember that you MUST be enrolled in ALL the your 4-H projects you are entering into the fair on 4HOnline by APRIL 1, 2026.

## ***Animal Identification on 4-HOnline for all Animals***

- 4-H Online Animal Identification must be complete by **May 1st**. 4-H exhibitors must identify and activate all animals in 4-H Online. 4-H Swine Exhibitors will upload their photos on 4-HOnline along with their animal identification.

### **Member Animal Identification Guide**

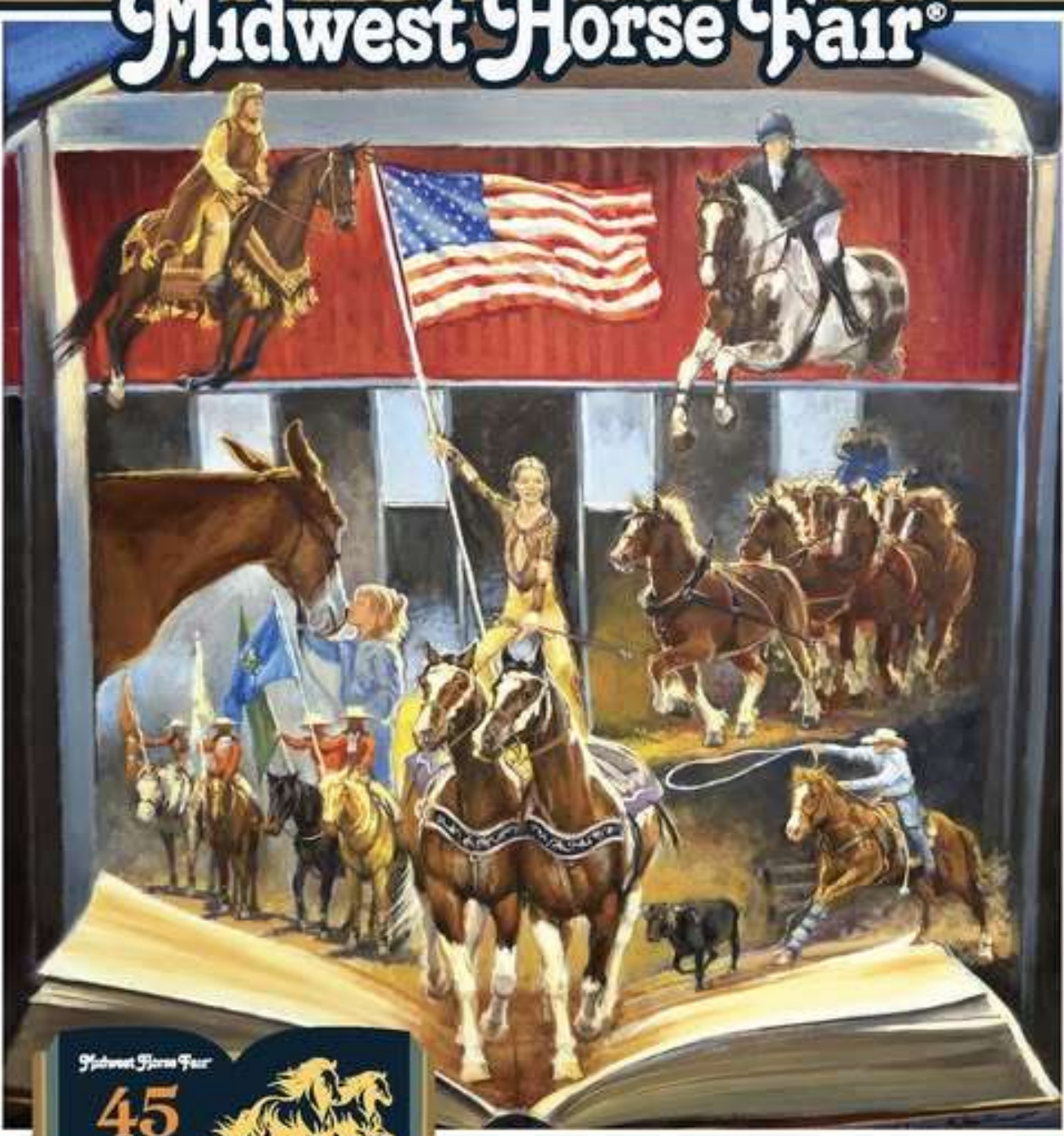


Registration is open for the 2026 swine tag pick up held on April 11, 2026, at the Buffalo County Fairgrounds in Mondovi, from 7am - 11am. Please register ahead, so we can have paperwork ready, to make the process more efficient for all.

[Registration link](#)



The Wisconsin Horse Council Is Proud To Present




# Midwest Horse Fair®



**Midwest Horse Fair**  
**45**  
Years of  
Making Memories  
1979 2026

**APRIL 17, 18, & 19 - 2026**  
Alliant Energy Center Madison • Wisconsin  
[www.MidwestHorseFair.com](http://www.MidwestHorseFair.com)

Blain's FARM & FLEET      

# BADGER DAIRY CAMP

University of Wisconsin-Madison Campus



Engage in hands-on, dairy-focused workshops  
Prepare for college and a career of interest  
Meet new friends with similar interests

12 to 17 years old by Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>

July 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> 2026

## OUR PROGRAM

### Thursday July 9<sup>th</sup>

- 3 to 5 pm Registration
- 5 to 6 pm Orientation and Pizza Party
- 6 to 8 pm Campus tour and Scavenger Hunt
- 8 to 10 pm Games and Movie Night
- 11 pm Lights Out

### Friday July 10<sup>th</sup>

- 8 to 9 am Breakfast
- 9 to 11 am Linear Evaluations and Dairy Judging Workshop
- 11 to 12 pm College Preparation Workshop
- 12 to 1 pm Lunch
- 1 to 3 pm Animal Health and Welfare Workshop
- 3 to 4 pm Ice Cream Social/CALS Org Fair
- 4 to 6 pm Farm Business and Community Workshop
- 6 to 7 pm Dinner
- 7 to 10 pm Bowling or Volleyball
- 11 pm Lights Out

### Saturday July 11<sup>th</sup>

- 8 to 9 am Breakfast
- 9 to 11 am Tours of Meat Science Animal Biologics Discovery Building and School of Veterinary Medicine
- 11 to 12 pm College Preparation Workshop
- 12 to 1 pm Lunch
- 1 to 3 pm Land and Water Workshop
- 3 to 4 pm Ice Cream Social/Alumni Mentor Panel
- 4 to 6 pm Human Health and Nutrition Workshop
- 6 to 7 pm Dinner
- 7 to 10 pm Bonfire at Picnic Point
- 11 pm Lights Out

### Sunday July 12<sup>th</sup>

- 8 to 9 am Breakfast
- 9 to 12 pm Skillathon/Contests for Workshops
- 12 to 1 pm Lunch, Awards, and Closing Remarks
- 1 pm Check Out of Dorms



## JOIN OUR MAILING LIST FOR APPLICATIONS



Applications open beginning of April  
\$175 per camper

[badgerdairycamp@ansci.wisc.edu](mailto:badgerdairycamp@ansci.wisc.edu)



WI 4-H HORSE ASSOCIATION

# HORSE EDUCATION DAYS

## MAY 2 - 3, 2026

### EXCITING CHANGES!

#### EVENTS INCLUDE:

- ✓ Horse Bowl
- ✓ Hippology
- ✓ Speaking and Demonstration
- ✓ Photography
- ✓ Model Horse
- ✓ Art
- ✓ Team Problems
- ✓ Creative Communication

#### QUESTIONS?

☎ (920) 757-5167, Sharon, Education Chairperson



Exciting changes, several contests will now be held at Education Days in May. More descriptions about the event can be found in the [Wisconsin 4-H Horse Association Handbook](#) (Chapter 5, Statewide Events, Education Days).

### 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

# WI 4-H AREA ANIMAL SCIENCE DAYS

*Save the Date*

**GRANT COUNTY  
JUNE 19TH**

**CLARK COUNTY  
JUNE 30TH**

# 4-H DOG BOWL CONTEST

SPONSORED BY THE WI 4-H DOG ASSOCIATION

**APRIL 25, 2026  
STEM INNOVATION BUILDING  
UW - GREEN BAY**



For More Information:  
<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/.../statewid.../dog-quiz-bowl/>

# SAVE THE DATES

## STATE 4-H DOG EVENTS

**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/.../agricultu.../dogs-project/>

# Parasite Patrol *plus* FAMACHA Certification

Mastering Fecal Egg Counts and FAMACHA for Healthier Herds and Flocks

## GASTROINTESTINAL PARASITE MANAGEMENT

Understanding and Managing Gastrointestinal Parasites of Sheep and Goats

Join the University of Wisconsin–Madison Division of Extension Agriculture Educators for a comprehensive session on internal parasites. The event provides an in–depth look at:

- **Parasite Life Cycles:** Learn the life cycles of internal parasites.
- **Management Strategies:** Discuss methods for controlling parasites
- **Fecal Egg Counts (FECs):** Discover the importance of FECs and how they can be used to improve herd health management.
  - Bring a fecal sample from your small ruminant flock/herd for examination
- **FAMACHA Certification Training:** Complete the educational training and demonstrate proper technique to earn FAMACHA certification.

This educational opportunity is perfect for those looking to enhance their knowledge and practical skills in managing internal parasites in small ruminants. Don't miss out on this chance to learn from experts in the field.



April 25, 2026 | 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Govin's Farm | N6134 670th St, Menomonie, WI 54751



**REGISTER HERE**



<https://go.wisc.edu/2u3u11>

For more information contact Ryan Sterry



715-308-6423



[ryan.sterry@wisc.edu](mailto:ryan.sterry@wisc.edu)



The University of Wisconsin–Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming in compliance with state and federal law.

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
Extension and Outreach



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](https://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/>




# WI LAND+WATER

## 2026 CONSERVATION CAMPS

Our camps combine outdoor adventure, hands-on learning, and leadership development, giving students the opportunity to develop conservation skills and explore environmental careers.



**Middle School (Grades 6-8):**

June 28 - July 1 at 

**High School (Grades 9-12):**


June 15-18 at 





Scan for more details, or visit [wisconsinlandwater.org/camps](https://wisconsinlandwater.org/camps)


**UW-Madison Division of Extension Horticulture Program**


# Have a gardening Question?


 Lawn and garden questions


 Plant diagnosis

 Soil testing information

 Landscape and gardening information

 Plant identification

 Plant disease testing information

 Insect identification

[hort.extension.wisc.edu/ask-a-gardening-question](http://hort.extension.wisc.edu/ask-a-gardening-question)

## ARTICLES:



### [What's All the Buzz? Woody Plants for Bees, Butterflies, and Other Bee-t-full Pollinators](#)

Learn which floral traits attract different pollinators and explore a long list of woody plant recommendations — including trees, shrubs, evergreens, and vines — that serve as critical pollen and nectar sources throughout the growing season.



### [Planning and Designing Your Home Landscape](#)

This multi-part article series offers guidance on sketching plans, choosing a landscape style, understanding design principles, selecting plants, incorporating garden structures and more. Whether you're starting from scratch or re-vamping an existing yard, follow these steps to craft a cohesive landscape.



### [Planting and Managing Your Own Prairie](#)

Establishing a native plant community is as much an art as it is a science. It involves careful planning, planting, and managing the plot long term. Learn the history of prairies in North America and how to create your own prairie landscape. Plus, find helpful plant descriptions of popular forbs, shrubs, and grasses featured in this extensive publication.

# APRIL

