



Pepin Pacer

Pepin County 4-H Newsletter



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
PEPIN COUNTY

May, 2026

Inside this issue:

Clubs/ Meetings	2
Drawing/Photo Prompts	4
Local Activities	5
4-H State Activities	8
Fair	9
Animals	10
Activity Page	19



Extension Pepin County Staff

UW- Madison Division of Extension Pepin County provides educational programs and information in 4-H, youth development, and human development and relationships. Our research based resources are available and open to all people.

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Extension Pepin County website:

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

4-H Online:

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

Interesting fact to highlight about 4-H is that on December 10, 1951 to mark the 50th anniversary of 4-H, a commemorative 3 cent stamp was produced and distributed by the United States Post Office Department!



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 :





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
June 17, 2026 @ 5:30 pm
Administrative Conference Rm, 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:
KRIS WAYNE
Congratulations for being our
4-H Fast Finder this month!
We hope you enjoy the
Pepin Pacer !



The Lima Lads and Lassies 4-H Club had their monthly meeting on April 19th at the Durand City Hall. We had a big project for this meeting. A friend of mine, Marcia Kannel, was a vendor at a craft fair that I had and we got to talking about the different crafts that she does. One of them was painting barn quilts. I asked her if she would be willing to show my 4-H members how to paint one. Our club purchased the MDO board and painters tape. Marcia cut the board to size, primed and painted it white, and drew on the base scale markings. She provided print outs of 4 different patterns for the kids to chose from along with all the different colors of paint and the brushes. The kids loved this project and I'm hoping some of them enter them into the fair this summer. Our club also participated in the community service project of decorating grocery bags to be used at Durand Fresh Market honoring Earth Day.





May Photo Challenge

This month's categories:

- Wrinkles
- 12 O'Clock
- A Smell You Like
- The Weather Today

Send up to 4 photos with a brief description of the photo and how it fits in the category to gwen.prom@wisc.edu by June 10.



Join us for our next LEGO Challenge!

**WI 4-H Youth Development
LEGO Challenge: Vehicles**

Let your imagination take the wheel!
Deadline to submit: June 1
Virtual Watch Party: June 7
Submission Link:
<https://go.wisc.edu/96x8z9>



Show us your VEHICLE creations

Submissions due June 1st
 Watch Party June 7th @ 6:00 pm!

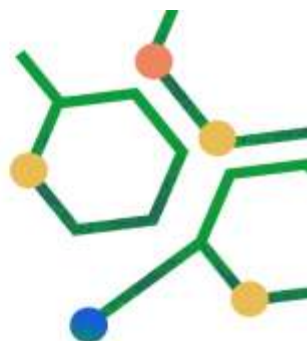
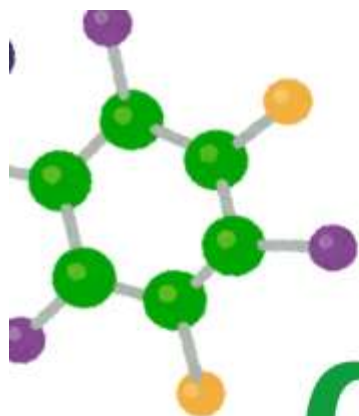


GRATITUDE DRAWING PROMPT:

Use this as 4-H Project Practice?

Draw something you take for granted.

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



STEM CHALLENGE

JOIN PEPIN COUNTY 4-H AND THE PEPIN PUBLIC LIBRARY FOR A STEM CHALLENGE!
ALL YOUTH ARE WELCOME!



MAY 23
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
PEPIN PUBLIC LIBRARY



LEGO CLUB MAY DATES:

MAY 2, 9, 23

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

ALL YOUTH GRADES K-5
WELCOME!



[Register Today!](#)

[4-H Cloverbud
Exploration
Day Camp –
Extension
Buffalo County](#)

SAVE THE DATE!
**4-H CLOVERBUD
EXPLORATION DAY CAMP
AT NUGGET LAKE**



REGISTER TODAY!

Searching for
camp counselors
in grades 8-12

Register by
June, 1st 2026



Location: Nugget Lake, Plum City, WI

Date: June 16th, 2026

Time: 9:30 AM – 3:30 PM

Who: Buffalo, Pierce, and Pepin County
Youth in Grades 5K-2

Cost: \$10.00 for non 4-H members

**HAVE QUESTIONS? REACH OUT TO BIANCA MULLEN OR
APRIL DANIELS**



**4-H OUTDOOR EXPLORERS:
NUGGET LAKE**

Canoeing, Fishing, Outdoor Discovery, and Arts & Crafts



Location: Nugget Lake, Plum City, WI

Date: July 14-15

Time: 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Who: Buffalo, Pierce, Pepin County Youth
in Grades 3-6

Cost: \$10.00/ Day for Non-4-H Members



Searching for
camp counselors
in grades 8-12

Register by
July, 1st 2026

REGISTER TODAY!



[Register Today!](#)

[4-H Outdoor
Explorers:
Nugget Lake
2026 –
Extension
Buffalo County](#)

Have questions? Reach out to
Bianca Mullen or April Daniels

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

**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

**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



2026
PRE-FAIR EVENTS

June 24, 2026 - Foods Revue & Decorated Cakes Contest - Marten Center, Mondovi

July 15, 2026 - Clothing Revue - Marten Center, Mondovi

July 18, 2026 - 4-H Horse Show - Midnight Riders Arena, Mondovi

July 25, 2026 - Small Animal Extravaganza - Buffalo County Fairgrounds, Mondovi

Buffalo County Fair in Affiliation with Pepin County

YQCA Online options – a youth exhibitor will annually complete 3 interactive online training modules and corresponding quizzes. Then they will complete an online exam. The cost is \$12/person/year for the online modules. **Login** to access the Trainings. **Upon completion of the online training, please submit the proof of completion certificate to gwen.prom@wisc.edu**

MEAT ANIMAL EDUCATIONAL CREDIT

All meat animal exhibitors planning to exhibit at the Buffalo/Pepin County Fair must earn one meat animal educational credit in addition to the YQCA training during the project year. Following the session, exhibitors must complete the Meat Animal [Educational Credit online form](#). Submission of this completed form is due by the Friday before the Fair begins. Check out the [Rules & Forms](#) under Exhibitor Info on the [Buffalo County Fair website](#). Educational sessions may be approved in-person events or online courses. Some online options are available on the [Wisconsin Youth Livestock Program's YouTube channel](#), [Prepare 2 Respond \(P2R\)](#), and [4-H Meat Judging](#).

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. 1st

July 9th - 12th 2026

OUR PROGRAM

Thursday July 9th

- 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 10th

- 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 11th

- 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 12th

- 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



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/>



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/>



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.**

Pepin County Land Conservation hosted a successful Earth Day educational event for junior high students at YMCA Camp Pepin, providing hands-on learning opportunities for young people.

The event welcomed approximately 160 students from Pepin County schools, offering them the chance to explore conservation concepts through interactive, outdoor activities.

As part of the event, the 4-H learning station featured a Recycling Minute to Win It game. This station was supported through collaboration between Pepin County and Buffalo County 4-H staff, who worked together to facilitate the activity.

The Earth Day event highlighted the value of community partnerships and cross-county collaboration in providing meaningful educational experiences for youth.




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

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

Free Online Programs

Apple Insect Webinar Online Series: May 1, May 15, June 12, Noon-1:00 PM.

Rhubarb Not Just Your Grandma's Favorite Plant online, May 14, 6:00 PM.

Ask Your Gardening Question: LIVE monthly webinar - Click to learn more about upcoming sessions, and to register. New evening sessions this year.

Horticulture Help Desk Hours

For more in-depth questions that go beyond quick answers, we suggest that you or your client **book a one-on-one session with the Horticulture Help Desk.**

Appointments are available in **15 or 30 minute time slots from 1:00 to 3:00 PM on Mondays and Thursdays** (and **Fridays 10 to Noon** if needed.)

During the booking process, **you may choose to meet via zoom** or request a **phone call follow up.**

Book your appointment at go.wisc.edu/HortHelpDesk

WI Horticulture Website

Want to know “**What’s Happening in Horticulture?**” Sign up for the Wisconsin Extension Horticulture email newsletter.

Wisconsin Yard & Garden - Timely articles published weekly.

MAY

