What's Happening in 4-H?

Scroll down or click on the events below to learn more about these 4-H opportunities:

FEBRUARY

- 1 4-H Food Pantry Challenge begins!
- 6 Beef Weigh-in, 10:00 a.m.-12:00, Equity
- 6 Beef Heifer Program & Mentorship Apps due
- 7 Dog Project Meeting, 2:00 p.m.
- 7 4-H Horse Project Group Meeting, 4:00 p.m.
- 10 WI 4-H Shooting Sports Leaders Meeting
- 11 WI Youth Livestock Program: Swine, 7:00 p.m.
- 12-15 4-H @ Home: Great Backyard Bird Count
- 14 Rabbits R Us Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- 15 WI 4-H Arts Team Applications Due
- 15 4-H Leaders Association Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 15 WI 4-H STEM Challenge-Design a Parachute, 6:30 p.m.
- 16 4-H Pie Workshop, 7:30-8:45 p.m.
- 20 <u>4-H Global Citizenship Pen Pal</u> Sign-up Deadline
- 21 Jr. Leaders Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 22 Jr. Leader Service Project, 5:15 p.m. Ext. Office
- 22 Feathered Friends Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 23 <u>4-H Pie Workshop</u>, 7:30-8:45 p.m.
- 24 Meat Animal Sale Committee Mtg. 7:00 p.m.
- 25 Cat and Small Pets meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 27 4-H Spotlight on the Arts, 10:00 a.m.
- 28 4-H Visual Arts Meeting, 3:00 p.m.

MARCH

1 - 4-H Enrollment & Project Sign-Up Deadline

- 1 Scholarship Applications Due
- 2 4-H Pie Workshop, 7:30-8:45 p.m.
- 2 WI 4-H: Mono-printing Techniques, 6:30 p.m.
- 5 4-H Food Pantry Challenge Points due
- 5 Livestock Lessons Entry Deadline
- 7 Dog Project Meeting, 2:00 p.m.
- 7 Horse Project Group meeting, 4:00 p.m.
- 11 WI Youth Livestock: Sheep, 7:00 p.m.
- 14 Rabbits R Us Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- 15 4-H Camp Counselor Applications Due
- 15 <u>Arts Festival Registrations Due</u>
- 15 4-H Leaders Association Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 21 Jr. Leader Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 22 Feathered Friends Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 23 Jr. Leader Service Project, Ext. Office, 5:00 p.m.
- 28 Richland County 4-H Arts Festival (tentative)
- 28 4-H Visual Arts Project Meeting







It's not too late to sign-up for 4-H!

The enrollment deadline has been extended to MARCH 1st.

Do you know anyone who might be interested in 4-H? Invite them to join your 4-H club.

Project Sign-Up Deadline is March 1^{st} – Members can add 4-H projects until March 1. Important: Youth must be enrolled in each project they plan to exhibit at the Richland County Fair.

Food Pantry Challenge: A 4-H Service Learning Program – During the month of February, 4-H members from Richland, Crawford, La Crosse, Monroe and Vernon Counties will be collecting food items to benefit local food pantries. The goal is to provide healthy food choices. Point values have been assigned to items based on food pantry needs. By filling out the Scavenger Hunt score sheet, 4-H clubs can track progress toward a club goal or challenge other clubs to see which group can accumulate the most points.

Horse Project Meetings (First Sunday, 4:00 p.m.) – It is not too late to join the Richland County 4-H Horse project! 4-H project sign-up deadline is March 1. For information about the 4-H Horse program or to request a zoom link for the meeting, contact Kathleen Schoen dkjeschoen@gmail.com

Dog Project Meetings (*Tentative-First Sunday, 2:00 p.m.*) – Do you love dogs? The 4-H Dog Project group invites you to join them. The group is currently meeting virtually (Dogs are welcome too). Here is the link for the meeting on February 7th at 2:00 p.m. https://go.wisc.edu/917jpg. Contact Kristina Weld at suffolks25@gmail.com if you are interested, but unable to attend on the first Sunday of the month. We are trying to find a date and time that works for everyone who wants to participate.

Beef Heifer Program & Market Beef Mentorship Program – The Richland County Beef Producers are sponsoring two programs to help youth get started in the Beef project. There is funding available to assist youth in purchasing an animal. For program guidelines and application forms, contact the Extension Office (608-647-6148 or karleen.craddock@wisc.edu) or a Beef Producers member (Daren Matthes - 608-553-1359; Pete Mathews - 608-963-4061; Mike Huffar - 608-542-0315; or Shelly Schweiger - 608-963-7062). Applications are due February 6.



Wisconsin Youth Livestock Programs:

Register for the following virtual Wisconsin Youth Livestock programs at https://go.wisc.edu/r3x8lh

-February 11, 2021, 7 p.m. - Feeding & Caring for Swine without Ractopamine -March 11, 2021, 7 p.m. - Lamb Live & Carcass Evaluation; Lamb Culinary Products

-April 8, 2021, 7 p.m. - Artificial Intelligence in Animal Sciences — We will be sharing some of the technology currently being used at the UW-Madison, Animal & Dairy Sciences Department, that helps predict livestock traits in livestock production systems by using the technology of cameras and sensors.

Livestock Education Requirement - Are you looking for online programs to complete your education requirement? Check out the Wisconsin Youth Livestock website at: https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/youthlivestock/anisci-educational-programs/
Don't forget to fill out the Online Education Verification Form https://richland.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development/4-h-forms/.



Livestock Lessons Contest – Check out the 2020 Livestock Lessons contest winners at

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLl3EqGUag9czA0L0m6L-9ROL0skPdaVPw

Entries for the 2021 Livestock Lessons competition are due March 5th. Contest guidelines can be found at

https://fvi.extension.wisc.edu/vouthlivestock/livestock-lessons/

Feathered Friends Meeting (Fourth Monday at 7:00 p.m.) - "Chickens & Turkeys & Ducks...Oh My!" Excuse my reference to a modified song from the Wizard of Oz, but if you have read this entire email, you are probably ready for a little comic relief. All joking aside, 4-H poultry project is a great program for kids. The Feathered Friends group meets monthly to learn about poultry. Plan to attend the meeting on February 22 at 7:00 p.m. Register to receive a link to the zoom meeting at https://go.wisc.edu/9vlex6. If your child is interested, be sure to enroll by March 1.

Cat and Small Pets Project Meeting (Tentative-Fourth Thursday at 7:00 p.m.) – It is not too late to sign-up for the Cats and Small Pets Project. In addition to the Pet Show held during the summer, this group also participates in service projects like helping out at the Ocooch Mountain Humane Society Pet Adoption Center. For more information and a link to the zoom meeting on February 25th at 7:00 p.m. contact Sandy Layer at lays@richland.k12.wi.us.

Rabbits R Us Meeting (Second Sunday at 6:00 p.m.) – Thank you to Becky & Theron Gobin who have coordinated the Rabbits R Us group for many years!! This year, they will be "retiring" from Rabbits R Us, but they are planning to continue as the Fair superintendents. The next Rabbits R Us meeting will be on February 14 at 6:00 p.m. Register to attend at https://go.wisc.edu/x0rl2l

Scholarships – Application deadline in March 1 for the following scholarships:

- -Richland County 4-H Scholarship
- -4-H Clothing Scholarship
- -Richland County Beef Producers Scholarship
- -Golden Gallon Scholarship
- -Meat Animal Sale Committee Scholarship

Additional information and application forms can be found on the Richland County Extension website at: https://richland.extension.wisc.edu/scholarships/

Richland County 4-H Leaders Association (*Third Monday, 7:00 p.m.*) – Register to receive a link to the February 15th zoom meeting at https://go.wisc.edu/5by4o4

Richland County 4-H Jr. Leaders Group (*Third Sunday, 7:00 p.m.*) – Youth in 6th grade and up are welcome to attend the countywide Jr. Leader meetings! Jr. Leader activities focus on leadership, service and FUN! For more information, contact: Wendy Layer at jwmllayer@yahoo.com or Jennifer Carter at jictlc5@gmail.com. Plan to join us on Sunday, February 21 at 7:00 p.m. Sign-up for the zoom link at https://go.wisc.edu/ljuxh2.

Upcoming Jr. Leader service project dates are: February 22nd at 5:15 p.m. and March 23rd at 5:00 p.m. at the Extension Office. Pre-registration is required. Maximum = 8 people.



4-H Spotlight on the Arts Saturday, February 27 at 10:00 a.m.

4-H has many opportunities for youth who are interested in the Arts! Whether you like performing arts or fine arts....public speaking, photography or crafts....join us for the 4-H Spotlight on the Arts to learn about the plans for the Richland County 4-H Arts Festival, monthly 4-H Visual Arts project meetings, Art Camps, the statewide 4-H Art Teams and more! Register to receive a link to the 4-H Spotlight on the Arts zoom meeting at https://go.wisc.edu/3r5529

4-H Visual Arts Project Group (Fourth Sunday at 3:00 p.m.) – Do you like Art? Tune in once a month and be creative with 4-H Art Project Leader, Tezra Menne, and other 4-H members who enjoy art. Here are the topics and zoom links for February and March meetings:

- -February 28 Create Pinch Pots (3:00 p.m.) https://go.wisc.edu/kwy8ly
- -March 28 Flowers & Butterflies (Time TBD) https://go.wisc.edu/ft64n9

During the February and March meetings we will be using the 4-H Art Kits that are available from the Extension Office (\$3.00 each) or contact Tezra at tezmenn@gmail.com for a list of supplies. If you are looking for additional art project ideas, check out the Richland County Visual Arts Project Group Facebook page.

Art Project Kits – If you missed out on the 4-H Art project kits, you are in luck! We have extra supplies. Limited quantities of the following kits can be requested by emailing karleen.craddock@wisc.edu. Please order at least one week prior to the date needed.

- -Origami & Japanese Culture Kit \$3.00
- -Murakami Marker Art \$3.00 (Limited quantity)

-Flowers and Butterflies - \$3.00

- -Model Magic Pinch Pots \$3.00 (Limited quantity)
- -How to Draw Cute Critters-Free (Instructions only) -Complete Art Project Box including all five activities \$15.00

Richland County 4-H Arts Festival

Start practicing your instrument.... perfecting your dance routine.... rehearsing your vocal solo!



Plans are underway for the 2021 4-H Arts Festival! Although the event may look a little different this year, we don't want to miss the chance to let 4-H members showcase their talents. Additional information will be available soon. Tentative dates: Entry deadline-March 15; 4-H Arts Festival-Sunday, March 28.

Wisconsin 4-H Arts Teams - Welcome to the exciting, creative Wisconsin 4-H Arts & Communication World! There are three 4-H State Teams: Art Team, Communications Team and Drama Company. Youth grades 9-12 who are passionate about the arts and sharing the arts with others, are encouraged to apply! Don't delay—Applications are due February 15th. Request your letters of recommendation now! For additional information: https://go.wisc.edu/j542s0



Mon. Feb. 15th STEM- Design a Parachute Challongo Wed, Feb. 24th Glitter Calming Jar Tues, Mar. 2nd Explore Monoprinting

Wisconsin 4-H Virtual Learning Opportunities

Join 4-H members from throughout Wisconsin for a virtual 4-H project meeting. More sessions are being added—Check out the Virtual Learning Community Calendar at

https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/vlc/

-Feb. 15 – STEM Challenge – Design a Parachute, 6:30 p.m.

-Feb. 24 - Glitter Calming Jar, 6:30 p.m.

-March 2 – Explore Monoprinting, 6:30 p.m.

Register through 4-H Online (under "Events") for all Wisconsin Virtual Learning Community events.

"Easy as Pie" Workshop

Join 100 4-H members from throughout Wisconsin as we make pies together! You will receive the recipe and list of supplies before each week's lesson. Class sessions will be on Tuesdays from February 16 through March 23 from 7:30-8:45 p.m. Registration is limited to the first 100 families. Sign-up today through 4HOnline (under the "Events" tab). You won't want to miss it! One of the sessions will cotaught by a Richland County 4-H member who is well known for her outstanding baking skills!!

4-H Global Citizenship Pen Pal Program

The WI 4-H Global Citizenship Pen Pal Program is a special opportunity for Wisconsin youth to connect with youth from around the state, country and world!! If you are interested in participating, please complete the interest form at https://go.wisc.edu/75k39i by February 20. Matches will be made by March 5. Participants will connect and make friends by sending at least two messages per month in March, April and May.



4-H At Home Activity: "Backyard Birding!"

Winter is a great time for bird watching! During the pandemic, 4-H has developed new educational programs that youth and families can do together at home. Your family can join in the Great Backyard Bird Count on February 12-15 or begin a bird watching hobby that everyone will enjoy together. Here are a few resources to get you started:

Bird Identification- https://www.allaboutbirds.org/news/building-skills-the-4-keys-to-bird-identification/
Great Backyard Bird Count - https://www.birdcount.org/

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology - https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/#

National Audubon Society - https://www.audubon.org/

Bird Crafts (Bird feeders, etc) https://www.birdl.ife.org/worldwide/news/kids-birding

For additional birding activities, check out the attached 4-H @ Home: "Backyard Birding" activity developed by Clemson Cooperative Extension.

4-H Summer Camp

Although there is snow on the ground, we are busy making plans for 4-H Summer Camp! Tentative dates for camp are July 18-20. Older 4-H members—If you enjoyed 4-H Camp, think about applying to be a counselor. For more information about being a camp counselor or to request an application form, contact karleen.craddock@wisc.edu. Applications are due March 15th. Camp counselor training will be March 27 and April 17, 2021. You can attend either session.

We hope you like the new format for "What's Happening in 4-H". THANK YOU to the 4-H Events and Activities committee for their ideas as we are updating the ways we communicate about the great things happening in 4-H. We would love to hear your feedback!

Start planning now for 4-H summer programs and the Richland County Fair! *Important: 4-H members must be enrolled in each project that they plan to exhibit at the fair. Project sign-up deadline is March 1.*

Final thoughts..... As you can see from the busy 4-H calendar, 2021 is off to a great start! Although most meetings are still being held virtually (or in groups of up to 10 people), we are looking forward to when we can get together again!!

I look forward to seeing you soon! Until then, stay safe and warm.

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