

**Marinette County
4-H Newsletter
March, 2021**



Greetings 4-H Families!

Ahhhhh, can you smell it? Spring is in the air! What a special time of year, the time when we leave cold and dreary behind as warmth and beauty emerges. A time for new beginnings. This year we are in need of a new beginning more than ever before, and it seems as if we may be on the right track to getting one. The novel coronavirus numbers have been in steady decline, and the availability of vaccines is increasing, hopefully the end of this devastating world-wide pandemic is in sight. In line with the trends of the virus I am happy to announce 4-H will have updated guidance for programming effective April 1 to be in effect through June 1. More details will follow, but in summary the changes include:

- Increasing total event participants to 50 indoors (or 30% of room capacity) / 150 outdoors
- Increasing pod numbers to 20, with additional flexibility to have one large group if there is no safety reason to have participants in pods
- Increasing length of events to 4 hours

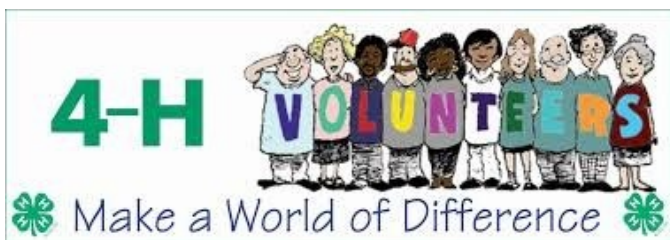
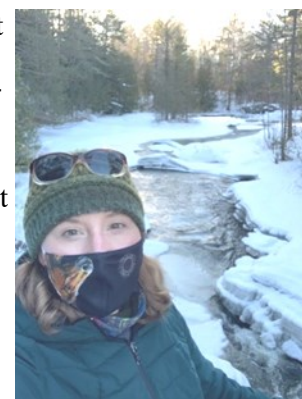
For any leaders or volunteers planning events or meetings please continue to be in touch with me to ensure guidance is being followed. The 4-H COVID 19 FAQ will be updated to reflect these changes and there will be new forms and processes in place with this new guidance. I have experience obtaining approval for many events/meetings successfully, so have plenty of tips and tricks to share to make things easier. We will also be expecting more specific guidance soon for some of our larger summer events including camps, fairs, festivals etc. I will communicate any new information as soon as I have it.

I greatly appreciate everyone's patience and perseverance as we all maneuver through these unprecedented times. I am hopeful with this new guidance, and I am very much looking forward to seeing more of you soon! We will continue to offer virtual and take and learn programming as it is available to support and supplement the 4-H experience for all, in addition to increasing our in-person hands on experiences.

This past year created a lot of opportunities for collaborations across the state. Counties have been able to share programming in creative ways with each other at a level we have not seen before. I am happy to report that two separate teams that I was involved with are receiving professional awards: the Thriving Survey Team for a Research Project, and the Clover Cookie Creations team for a Learning Series. Stay tuned for a variety of other programs to come. If you have ideas for what you would like to see offered please let us know!

Sending wishes of health, safety, sunshine, and happiness for all of you as you are able to get out and enjoy this beautiful season!

Best,
Aimee Elkins
4-H Program Educator Marinette and Oconto Counties



NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

April 18-24 is National Volunteer Week! It's time to celebrate our volunteers and all that they do. Volunteering is a big part of 4-H. We rely on a network of volunteers to provide caring and supportive mentoring to our 4-H'ers helping them learn life skills and grow into true leaders. THANK YOU for your service! We could not have 4-H without our volunteers!



TOP TEN 4-H PROJECTS IN MARINETTE COUNTY FOR 2021

1. Art (47)
2. Beef (42)
Swine (42)
3. Horse (35)
4. Dairy (32)
5. (Art-type) Crafts (28)
6. Photography (25)
7. Rabbit (24)
8. Poultry/other fowl (23)
Cloverbud (23)
9. Food & Nutrition + related (22)
10. STEM/Legos + related (20)
Sheep (20)

PROCEDURE FOR LEADER BACKGROUND CHECKS

All 4-H leaders and other enrolled volunteers who work with youth, are required to have a criminal background check done before they start volunteering and then every four years. Background checks are conducted at the state level. When needed, you will receive an e-mail to request information from you to conduct the background check.

In order to remain a volunteer with Extension 4-H, it is important that you complete the process for having your background check complete. Our staff is happy to answer any questions you may have. Thank you!

YOUTH INVITED TO ATTEND LEADERS ASSOCIATION MEETING

We are inviting youth in 6th grade or over to our leaders meetings when they resume. Looking for youth to give us ideas on the county program.

SPRING CHAIN REACTION PROJECT

Sat., May 1—Sat., May 8. You can choose a date that works for you. Just a few hours of your time helps seniors remain in their own homes. Marinette County Elderly Services is looking for commitments as soon as possible, before April 9th. Contact Lindsey Rysewyk at 715-854-7453 or e-mail lindseyr@mc.es.net



MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR:

ANNUAL V.I.P TRAINING- VIRTUAL

This is a required training for all new 4-H volunteers, and any volunteer who has not had the training previously.

MONDAY MARCH 15TH FROM 6-7:30 P.M. VIA ZOOM

A Meeting link will be sent upon registration:
tinyurl.com/ne5wh4ze



Presented By: Marinette, Oconto, Menominee, and Shawano Counties
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WHEN COVID GIVES YOU LEMONS
4-H HELPS YOU MAKE

Sunday, March 14
3:00-4:30 PM via Zoom

Registration due: March 8

LEMONADE
4-H Cafe



Participants will rotate through different breakouts, have conversations with fellow volunteers, and then harvest important information to implement in their programs.

What is 4-H Cafe?

- A gathering of fellow 4-H volunteers & leaders
- A safe environment for organic conversation
- Led & facilitated by believers in WI 4-H
- No judgement or advice needed here, just your conversation
- A place to gather resources, ideas and talk about club or project activities.

Registration

wi.4honline.com
Need help? Visit
4h.extension.wisc.edu/VLC
recommended for 4-H
leaders/volunteers



Join 4-H volunteers & leaders from all over the state for meaningful, guided conversations about what matters most: our youth!



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TREES AND SHRUBS AVAILABLE

The Menominee Co. Conservation District is again offering for sale trees & shrubs, along with other supplies. Pick up will be Friday April 30th 1-6 pm and Saturday May 1st 9-12 at the Menominee Cty Rd Commission Stephenson and Saturday May 1st 10-12 at Tractor Supply in Marinette.

To see what is for sale and to order on-line visit <http://www.menomineecd.com/> & click on 'tree sale.'

UW-MADISON SCIENCE EXPEDITIONS / ENGINEERING EXPO

19th Annual UW-Madison Science Expeditions on **April 9-11, 2021**. Connect with researchers, visit labs and field sites and grow your interests in STEM. For further information, visit science.wisc.edu/science-expeditions/

THE WISCONSIN YOUTH INSTITUTE

April 12-14, at the UW Madison. This institute is a life-changing experience at the UW where 9th-12th grade students engage with local leaders and experts on critical global challenges, participate in hands-on activities and explore exciting ways to make a difference in WI and around the world. There is no registration cost to participate in the Institute and meals will be provided during the event. To participate in the Wisconsin Youth Institute, students research a global issue and write a paper under the supervision of a teacher or mentor. However, both student and teacher/mentor participants must organize their own transportation to and from the event in Madison, WI. Registration and paper submission due online by **March 26**. More info at https://www.worldfoodprize.org/en/youth_programs/global_youth_institute/wisconsin/

NEVER TOO EARLY TO THINK ABOUT ROYALTY

Any youth, male or female, at least 14 years old and in high school, interested in becoming part of Marinette County Royalty can apply. If interested, contact Dorothy Kaminski at 920-897-2316. Applications are being mailed now with interviews to be scheduled for May.

4-H CLUB GRANT PROGRAM

The purpose of the Mutual of Wausau Insurance Corporation 4-H club grant program is to support 4-H clubs in youth development & to promote civic & leadership responsibilities. Grants will be awarded in the amount of \$400 per club. To be considered, your application must be received at the company's home office by April 1. For an application, contact the 4-H office.

WI 4-H HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS

The WI 4-H Hall of Fame was established to recognize individuals and organizations with significant contributions to the WI 4-H Youth Development program on any level. Potential recipients include 4-H volunteers, 4-H pioneers, external collaborating organizations and businesses, community leaders, and retired Cooperative Extension staff. Any group or individual is eligible to nominate one individual or external collaborating organization or business for consideration by the state level selection committee. All nominations must be submitted electronically to: lpine@wisc.edu no later than **May 20, 2021**. Recognition of those chosen will take place during Fall Forum in November. For more info and forms, click on <https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/wi4hhof/nominations/>



DON'T FORGET THE VIRTUAL LEARNING COMMUNITY

The site shows you all currently scheduled VLC events and opportunities offered through the Virtual Learning Community and our partners. If you would like to see a calendar of all 4-H/Extension opportunities, please view it at <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/virtual-learning-community/>. If you see an event you are interested in, click on it for more information.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

WI 4-H FOUNDATION 2021 SCHOLARSHIPS

The Foundation will award more than \$15,000 in scholarships to outstanding WI students pursuing higher education. Applications must be received via e-mail by **March 15, 2021**. To be eligible for WI 4-H Foundation scholarships students must have been a Wisconsin 4-H member for at least three years; have a grade point average of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale, and be enrolled or planning to enroll at a university, college or technical school during the 2021-2022 academic school year. For more info, visit <http://wis4hfoundation.org/scholarships/>

WI TOWNS ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP

The WI Towns Association, Rural Mutual Insurance Company & Scott Construction, Inc., will be awarding \$7,000 in scholarships to high school seniors graduating in 2021 from a public or private high school in WI that plan to enroll in a WI public or private college or a university in 2021. The winners are determined by judging of an essay contest. Essay topic: "What lessons can town governments take from the COVID-19 pandemic to improve their emergency management systems and prepare for and respond to future disasters?" Must be postmarked by **May 28, 2021**. For more information and an application, visit <https://www.wisctowns.com/resources/scholarship/>

GROWMARK AGRICULTURAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Foundation is offering 15 \$1,500 scholarships for students in the USA & Ontario, Canada, pursuing degrees or certification in an ag-related field. At the time of application, students must be high school seniors or equivalent, or continuing students enrolled in good standing at a college, university, or technical school. Scholarships will be awarded based on information including academic achievement, school and community involvement, and essay responses. Scholarship funds will be paid directly to the student's account at their respective school. Visit <https://www.growmark.com/about-us/corporate-commitments>. The application should be completed in full online, including submission of a current photograph and your most recent semester's transcript. No incomplete or late applications will be considered. Applications are due by midnight (Central Time) on **April 15**.

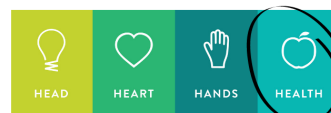
GENEX COLLEGIATE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

A minimum of four \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded. You can apply if you: will be attending a four-year college or university or two-year technical college in the fall of 2021; are pursuing a degree in an agriculture field; are affiliated with a GENEX cooperative member by having an active role on the member's dairy or ranch; are a US citizen or permanent resident; and, have not previously received the GENEX Collegiate Scholarship. Application and supporting materials must be postmarked by Friday, April 2, 2021. For more information and an application, visit genex.coop/collegiate-scholarship/



4-H VIRTUAL LEARNING COMMUNITY

VIRTUAL FITNESS CLUB



**HAVE FUN LEARNING ABOUT
ENDURANCE, MUSCLE
STRENGTH, FLEXIBILITY, AND
MINDFULNESS IN OUR
BEGINNER-LEVEL FITNESS
PROGRAM**

FREE Program Series!

Open to 3rd-6th Graders

Tuesdays at 6:30-7:30 pm

April 6, April 20, May 4, May 18

Register at:

<https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>

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**"4-H IS A COMMUNITY OF YOUNG
PEOPLE ACROSS AMERICA WHO
ARE LEARNING LEADERSHIP,
CITIZENSHIP AND LIFE SKILLS"**



Waupaca County 4-H welcomes youth to participate in virtual BioTrek project opportunities on **Sat., March 20, 2021**. Please read the

descriptions below and register at the corresponding link for each class. Email penny.tank@wisc.edu with any questions. Registration is required by **March 10**. First come first serve.

BIOTREK KITCHEN SCIENCE SAVVY (GRADES K-5)

Free. Live ZOOM at 9:00 a.m. (you need to participate at this time). Limited to the first 25 registrations. You need to register at this link to receive the zoom link and more details for the March 20 virtual class.

<https://uwmadison.zoom.us/j/92011823621>

Develop your science experimentation skills in response to some puzzle questions, leading off with “Which Makes Better Bubbles, Skim Milk or Whole?” You will also test if, as many people claim, milk fat in whole milk is essential in getting the “Milk Fireworks” effect with food dyes. Led by staff from BioTrek, of the University of Wisconsin Biotechnology Center and of UW Madison - Division of Extension. Families will need to supply some items from home like food coloring, Q-tips, a few clear plastic cups, 1 cup whole milk, 1 cup skim milk, and a few other items. The full list will be emailed after you register.

BIOTREK “DOING DNA: THE CODE OF LIFE” (GRADES 6 and ABOVE)

Cost: \$5. Live ZOOM at 10:30 a.m. (you need to participate at this time). Limited to the first 25 registrations. You need to register in advance at the below link to receive the zoom link and more details for the virtual class. The \$5 pays for a supply kit from BioTrek, in addition to the items listed below that you will need to provide. Kits will be shipped prior. <https://uwmadison.zoom.us/j/92011823621>

“Doing DNA: The Code of Life” is a variety of activities with some supplies provided to you in a kit and some your family needs to provide from common household items. Activities include testing for DNA, Extracting DNA Glop from Wheat Germ, Making a DNA Bracelet, and the Puzzle of the Color-changing Pencils, which serve as a stand-in for temperature-sensitive types of fruit flies; the pencils support our conversation and exploration of model organisms in genetics and biotech research. Led by staff from BioTrek, of the UW Biotechnology Center and of UW Madison - Division of Extension. Families will need to supply items like food coloring, a few clear plastic cups, rubbing alcohol, and a thermometer for water temperature. The full list will be emailed after you register.

**Payment to be made to the Waupaca Co. 4-H Leaders’ Association & mailed to Extension Waupaca County, attn.: Penny, 811 Harding Street, Waupaca, WI 54981.



In search of older youth and adults who are willing to get together to plan summer experiences. We are still waiting for specific guidance from the state regarding our summer programming but having some plans, and alternate plans in place as soon as we can will help ensure a successful summer. Please contact me at aimee.elkins@wisc.edu.



ANIMAL SCIENCE

COUNTY FAIR WEIGH-IN DATES ANNOUNCED

March 20, 9-11 am, at the Fairgrounds for beef.

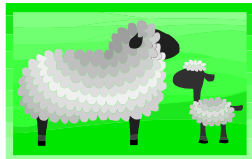
May 15, 10-11am, at the Fairgrounds for sheep/goat (no swine weigh in, but pictures will be due by this date also). Swine pictures can be e-mailed to marinettefair@yahoo.com or printed and brought to sheep/goat weigh in or given to Lisa Witak prior to that date.

Anyone needing RFID tags should contact Lisa before the weigh in date. Tags are \$2 each for beef/swine and \$1.50 for sheep/goat. There will be another livestock meeting on April 5 at 7 pm at Beaver Town Hall where people can purchase them also for swine/sheep/goat.



US TARGHEE SHEEP ASSOCIATION STARTER FLOCK PROGRAM

Program's purpose is to promote growth and visibility of the Targhee breed and to promote youth involvement and education within the breed. For youth, age 9 to 17 as of Jan. 1, 2021 whose family does not raise Targhee sheep. Application and materials due **April 1**. Winner will be awarded one ewe lamb, one yearling ewe and one brood ewe. For more information and application, visit <http://www.ustargheesheep.org/>



All About Poultry!

Join us for statewide Poultry Meetings via Zoom.
Each of the 3 meetings will have a different topic about poultry.
You may attend 1, 2 or all of them.
Register through 4-H Online and there is no cost.

Monday, March 15th - 6:30 pm (Register by March 8)

BASICS OF HATCHING CHICKEN EGGS

Join us as we discuss the process of hatching chicken eggs!! Learn the basics of incubating chicken eggs from start to finish.



Wednesday, March 31st - 6:30 pm (Register by March 24)

BASICS OF RAISING MEAT CHICKENS

Raising meat chickens can be a rewarding experience and we will show you how to get you started.



Saturday, April 17th - 6:30 pm (Register by April 10)

POULTRY TRIVIA

Test out your poultry knowledge. We will be playing a trivia game with all types of facts about poultry!!



COUNTY HORSE PROJECT

HORSE JUDGING YOUTH CLINIC

The University of Wisconsin-River Falls is offering a virtual Horse Judging Youth Clinic on **Sat., March 27**.

This virtual clinic is intended for participants of all experiences interested in learning how to evaluate horse balance, conformation, in-hand classes, as well as performance classes. Interested individuals may include students from 4-H, FFA youth members, horse owners, agricultural education coaches, as well as anyone wanting to prepare or improve their horse judging skills. Participants of all judging abilities and levels are welcome.

The clinic instructor is Casie Bass, associate professor of animal science at UW-River Falls. Bass coaches the UWRF Equine Judging Team and directs the equine breeding program.

Topics during this half-day (9 a.m.-1 p.m.) virtual program will focus on, but not be limited to, horse balance and conformation, muscling and overall quality, Western pleasure, Western riding, ranch riding, trail, hunter under saddle, hunter hack, Western horsemanship, and hunt seat equitation. Participants will also gain substantial knowledge in providing good sets of oral reasons for judging competitions.

Bass will use a judging manual with detailed descriptions, as well as photos and videos of both halter and performance classes. The manual will be emailed to registered participants as a pdf file prior to March 27.

Deadline for registration is **Wednesday, March 24, 2021**

To register, visit www.uwrf.edu/ANFS/EquineClinics.cfm.

If questions, email Bass at casie.bass@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-4769.

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Como empleador que brinda igualdad de oportunidades en el empleo y acción afirmativa (EEO/AA, por sus siglas en inglés), la University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension, proporciona igualdad de oportunidades en el empleo y en sus programas, incluyendo los requisitos del Título VI, Título IX, y de la ley federal para personas con discapacidades en los Estados Unidos (ADA, por sus siglas en inglés) y los requisitos de la Section 504 del Rehabilitation Act.