

The Lafayette Marquee

4-H Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2026

As we step into a new season of learning, leading, and discovering, it's the perfect time to reflect on what truly makes 4-H such a powerful force in the lives of young people. At its core, 4-H is built on four simple but transformative ideals: **Head, Heart, Hands, and Health**. These aren't just words or symbols on a clover—they're a way of living, growing, and giving back.

In 4-H, we challenge youth to **think with their Head**, nurturing curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking. We encourage them to **care with their Heart**, developing empathy, leadership, and the confidence to work with and support others. We inspire them to **serve with their Hands**, learning practical skills and discovering how capable they really are. And we empower them to **live with Health**, making choices that strengthen their well-being and build a foundation for a strong future.

While many people naturally associate 4-H with the excitement of the county fair, the truth is—**4-H is so much more**. Here in Lafayette County, we are proud to be building a 4-H experience that reaches far beyond the "traditional" project or exhibit. We are committed to offering youth opportunities that spark new interests, build lasting connections, and open doorways to pathways they may not have discovered otherwise.

This year, our county is buzzing with **new and impactful programming** designed to meet young people where they are and invite them into meaningful hands-on learning:

□ **Monthly SPARK Days** give youth a chance to explore brand-new topics, try fresh skills, and dive into experiences that ignite passions they didn't even know they had.

□ **Explore: 4-H Edition**, our growing collaboration with county libraries, brings 4-H learning directly into the community—making it accessible, welcoming, and fun for youth and families.

□ **The 4-H Experience Series** connects young people to the vibrant world of local agriculture entrepreneurs and small businesses. Through real-world conversations and on-site experiences, youth not only learn about local ag, business ownership, and innovation—they get to see themselves in those spaces.

These programs, along with the traditions we hold dear, help us build a 4-H community where every young person can find their place, discover their strengths, and grow into who they are meant to be.

As we look ahead, I'm excited for all that is yet to come. Thank you for being part of the 4-H story here in Lafayette County—and for helping show our youth that **4-H truly is so much more**.

Inside this issue:

Calendar	2
4-H Pledge & Creed	3
Lafayette County Offerings	4
4-H Thriving Model	5
WI 4-H Opportunities	6
Explore: 4-H Edition (Feb)	7
YQCA	8
SPARK Day (Feb)	9
Explore: 4-H Edition (Mar)	10
SPARK Day (Mar)	11
WI 4-H Opportunities	12-15
WI 4-H Movement	16
WI State 4-H	17
Contacts/Office Hours	18

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Find Lafayette County UW

Extension on Facebook!

Hailee Kammerud,

4-H Youth Development Educator



Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY 2026	07	State 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl—UW Green Bay
	08	4-H Archery Clinic—Gratiot 1:00-3:00 PM
	13	4-H Air Rifle Clinic
	20	Explore: 4-H Edition @ Johnson Public Library
	20	4-H Air Rifle Clinic
	22	4-H Archery Clinic—Gratiot 1:00-3:00 PM
	25	Explore: 4-H Edition @ John Turgeson Public Library
	27	Explore: 4-H Edition @ McCoy Public Library
	27-28	4-H Air Rifle Clinics
	28	YQCA @ MPB—8:30 AM
	28	Watercolor - SPARK Day @ MPB - 10:00 AM
	28	4-H Record Book Recognition
MARCH 2026	01	WI State 4-H Scholarships DUE
	01	Young Adult Leader Position - Summer Academy App DUE
	07	WI State 4-H Dog Project Agility Learning Day - Wausau
	08	4-H Archery Clinic—Gratiot 1:00-3:00 PM
	13-15	Art Beat! @ Upham Woods
	20	Explore: 4-H Edition @ McCoy Public Library
	22	4-H Archery Clinic—Gratiot 1:00-3:00 PM
	20	Explore: 4-H Edition @ Johnson Public Library
	21	State 4-H Livestock Skillathon & Quiz Bowl –UW-Madison
	28	Seed Starting - SPARK Day @ MPB - 10:00 AM
APRIL 2026	12	4-H Archery Clinic—Gratiot 1:00-3:00 PM
	17	Explore: 4-H Edition @ McCoy Public Library
	22	Explore: 4-H Edition @ John Turgeson Public Library
	25	State 4-H Dog Quiz Bowl - UW Green Bay
	26	4-H Archery Clinic—Gratiot 1:00-3:00 PM
MAY 2026	2-3	State 4-H Horse Education Days
	08	Explore: 4-H Edition @ JPL
	27	Explore: 4-H Edition @ John Turgeson Public Library

4-H Pledge & Creed



HEAD



HEART



HANDS



HEALTH

4-H PLEDGE

I pledge my head to clearer thinking,
My heart to greater loyalty,
My hands to larger service,
And my health to better living,
For my club, my community, my country, and
my world.

4-H Creed

I believe in 4-H Club work for the opportunity it will give me to become a useful citizen.

I believe in the training of my HEAD for the power it will give me to think, plan and to reason.

I believe in the training of my HEART for the nobleness it will give me to be kind, sympathetic and true.

I believe in the training of my HANDS for the ability it will give me to be helpful, skillful, and useful.

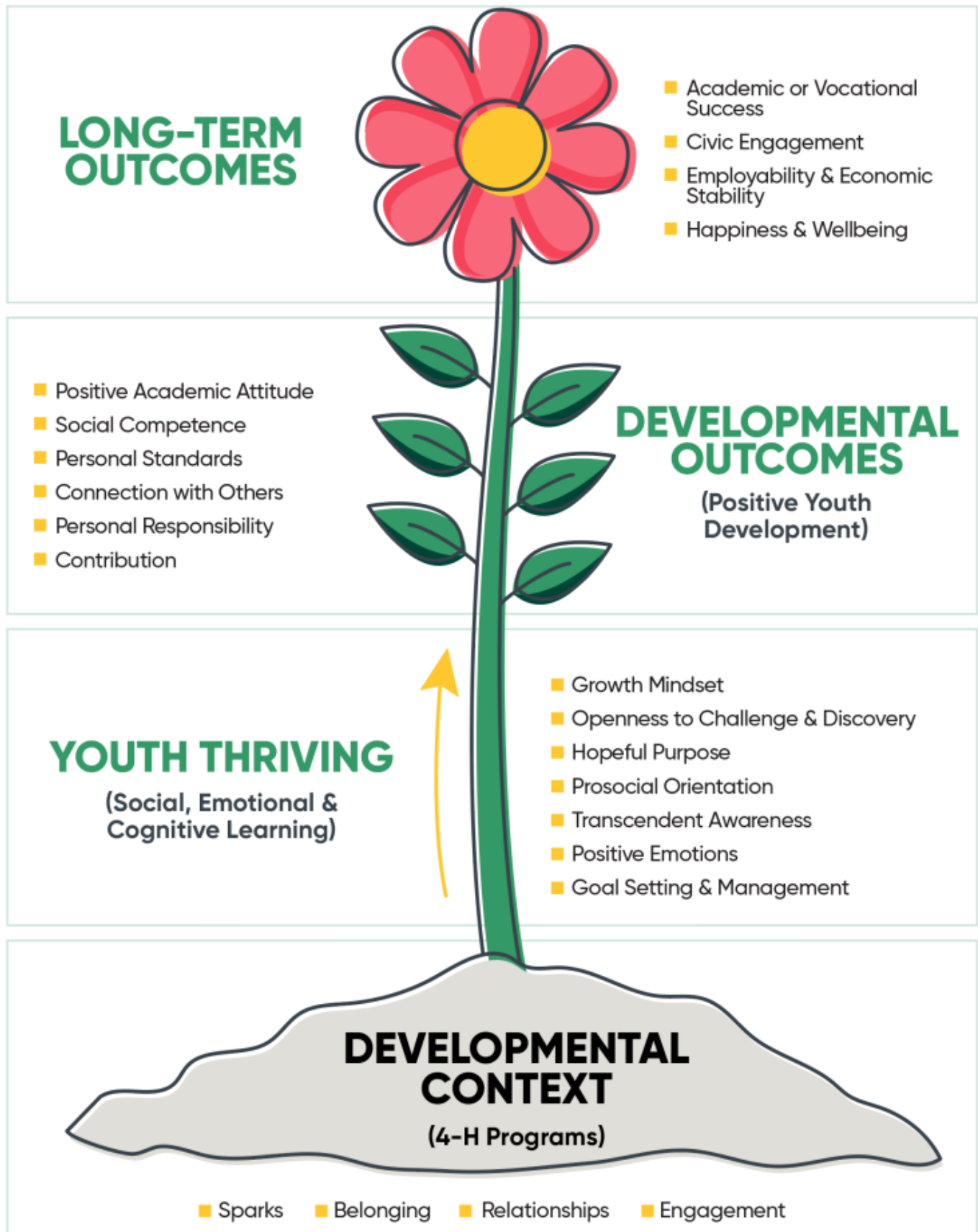
I believe in the training of my HEALTH for the strength it will give me to enjoy life, to resist disease, and to work efficiently.

I believe in my county, my state, and my community and in my responsibility for their development.

In all these things I believe, and am willing to dedicate my efforts to their fulfillment.

<u>What counts?</u>	<u>Participation?</u>	<u>How do they count?</u>
Monthly Club Meetings	County-level	Each meeting = 1 educational experience
Record Book	County-level	Completion = 1 educational experience
County Shooting Sports Clin-	County-level	3 clinics = 1 educational experience
4-H Camp	County-level	Attendance = 2 educational experiences
Day in the Arts	County-level	Participation = 1 educational experience
4-H SPARK Days	County-level	Participation = 1 educational experience/event
4-H SPARK Day Presenter	County-level	Leading the Event = 2 educational experiences
4-H Ambassadors	County-level	Attendance & Participation = 3 educational experiences
Discovery Days (Cloverbud/	County-level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experience/event
"Experience Series" Events	County-level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experience/event
County 4-H Horse Clinics	County-level	3 clinics = 1 educational experience
County Dog Project Clinics	County-level	3 clinics = 1 educational experience
YQCA	County-level	In-person or Online = 1 educational experience
4-H Camp Counselor	County-level	Participation = 3 educational experiences
Library Collaborations w/4-H	County-level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experience
Youth Project Leader	County-level	Participation = 1 educational experience/project area based on
4-H Adopt A Cow	County-level	Participation = 1 educational experience
Area Animal Science Days	County/State level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experience
State Shooting Sports Events	State level	Each day = 1 educational experience
WI 4-H Arts Camp	State level	Attendance = 2 educational experiences
Art Beat!	State level	Attendance = 2 educational experiences
State Arts Ambassadors	State level	Participation = 3 educational experiences
State Dog Agility Show	State level	Attendance & Participation = 2 educational experiences
State Dog Obedience &	State level	Attendance & Participation = 2 educational experiences
State Dog Quiz Bowl	State level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experiences
State 4-H Gymkhana	State level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experiences
State Horse Expo	State level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experiences
4-H Hunt & Dressage Show	State level	Attendance & Participation = 2 educational experiences
Fall Forum	State level	Attendance & Participation = 3 educational experiences
Ignite by 4-H	State level	Attendance & Participation = 3 educational experiences
Summer Academy	State level	Participation = 3 educational experiences
National 4-H Congress	State level	Participation = 3 educational experiences
WI 4-H Leadership Council	State level	Attendance & Participation = 3 educational experiences
State 4-H Horse Education	State level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experiences/event
American Spirit East	State level	Participation = 3 educational experiences
CWF (Citizenship Washington	State level	Participation = 3 educational experiences
YPCL	State level	Attendance & Participation = 2 educational experiences
Restorative Justice Summit	State level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experience
Dairy Quiz Bowl	State level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experience
State Dairy Judging Contest	State level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experience
State Livestock Judging Con-	State level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experience
4-H Meats Judging Conest	State level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experience
4-H Livestock Skill-a-thon	State level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experience
4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl	State level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experience
Space Camp	State level	Attendance & Participation = 3 educational experiences
Advanced Space Camp	State level	Attendance & Participation = 3 educational experiences

4-H Thriving Model



WI 4-H Opportunities

SAVE THE DATES

STATE 4-H LIVESTOCK EVENTS

4-H MEATS JUDGING CONTEST
JANUARY 31, 2026

SKILLATHON AND QUIZ BOWL
MARCH 21, 2026

**BOTH EVENTS HELD AT THE
UW MADISON CAMPUS**



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



SAVE THE DATE

STATE 4-H DAIRY QUIZ BOWL

FEBRUARY 7, 2026

**UW GREEN BAY
STEM INNOVATION BUILDING**



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Explore: 4-H Edition—February 2026

Explore 4-H Edition



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

FEATHERED FRIENDS

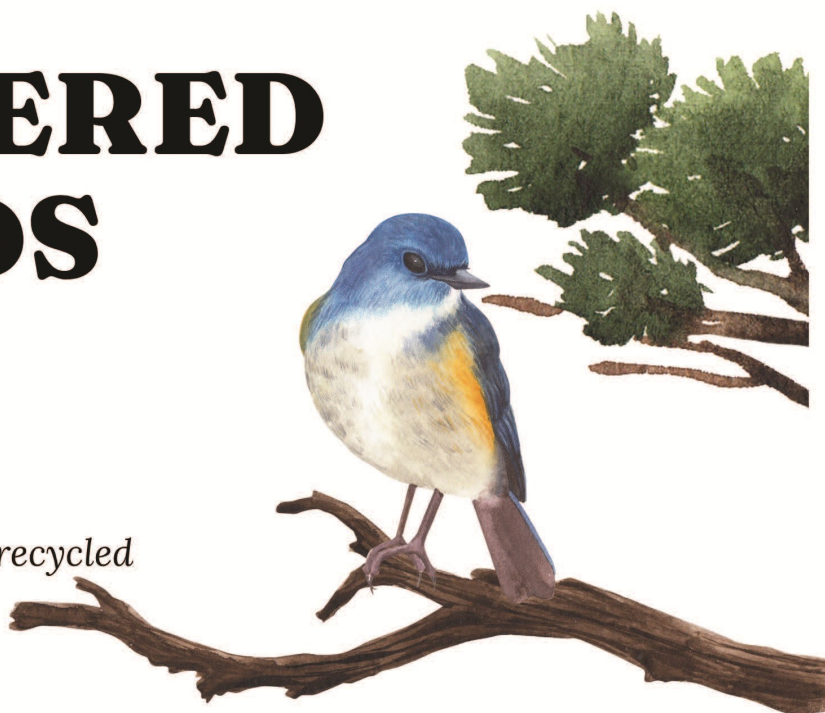
**EXPLORE MORE.
DISCOVER 4-H.**

National Bird Day

Create Bird Feeders using recycled materials

Bird Trivia Challenge

Bird Bingo



Johnson Public Library

131 E Catherine St Darlington

Friday, February 20, 2:00 p.m.



John Turgeson Public Library

220 S Mound Ave Belmont WI

Wednesday, February 25 3:45 p.m.



McCoy Public Library

190 Judgement St Shullsburg

Friday, February 27, 1:30 p.m.



AN EEO/AA EMPLOYER, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON DIVISION OF EXTENSION PROVIDES EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IN EMPLOYMENT & PROGRAMMING, INCLUDING TITLE VI, TITLE IX, THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) & SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT REQUIREMENTS.

YQCA

YQCA Instructor Led Training

Saturday, February 28 at 8:30am
Please arrive by 8:200am

**Lafayette County Multipurpose Bldg,
11974 Ames Rd., Darlington**

You must register online, pay the \$3 fee, and complete the pre-test.
Any questions please contact Jackie McCarville at 608-576-0147



The University of Wisconsin–Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming in compliance with state and federal law.
If you need an accommodation to attend this event, please contact Jackie McCarville by 10 business days before the event.

Register at: <https://yqcaprogram.org>

SPARK DAY—FEBRUARY 2026



UW-MADISON EXTENSION



Spark Days! WATER colors

IGNITING IMAGINATION.
ONE SPARK AT A TIME.

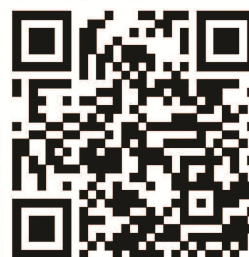


Multi-Purpose Building
11974 Ames Rd, Darlington, WI



FEBRUARY 28, 10 A.M

Registration
Required



[https://forms.gle/
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8PbA](https://forms.gle/FyzTbU9LiTcvV8PbA)



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EXPLORE: 4-H Edition—MARCH 2026

Explore 4-H Edition



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

EXPLORE MORE.
DISCOVER 4-H.

Explore POLLINATORS



McCoy Public Library

190 Judgement St Shullsburg

Friday, March 20, 1:30 p.m.

Johnson Public Library

131 E Catherine St Darlington

Friday, March 20, 2:00 p.m.

John Turgeson Public Library

220 S Mound Ave Belmont WI

Wednesday, March 25 3:45 p.m.

SPARK DAY—MARCH 2026



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

Spark Days! **SEED STARTING**

IGNITING IMAGINATION.
ONE SPARK AT A TIME.

**MARCH 28
10:00 AM**

**Multi-Purpose Building
11974 Ames Rd, Darlington, WI**

**Registration
Required**



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Jng7](https://forms.gle/zPedvdUNdA2JUJng7)



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WI 4-H Opportunities



ART BEAT

REGISTRATION CLOSING SOON!**Positive Youth Development Institute**
DIVISION OF EXTENSION
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON**WHO****4-H Members in
Grades 3-5****WHEN****March 13-15, 2026****WHERE****Upham Woods Outdoor
Learning Center****COST****\$150 for Youth Members,
\$75 for Adult Volunteers****REGISTER BY
FEB 8TH!**

4-H Scholarships



APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

Eligibility:

- Must have been a Wisconsin 4-H member for at least 3 years
- GPA of 2.5/4.0
- Enrolled or planning to enroll in a university, college, or technical school during the following academic year

Applicants will submit an online application form with their cover letter and résumé

Learn more!

UW-MADISON EXTENSION

DUE: March 1 at 11:59 p.m.

WI 4-H Opportunities



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

YOUNG ADULT LEADER POSITION

For Summer Academy 2026

Applicants Must be:

- ☒ Between the ages of 19 and 25
- ☒ Able to work cooperatively with others
- ☒ A role model and support system for youth attendees

**APPLICATION
DEADLINE: MAR. 1ST**

Young Adult Leaders also must be able to attend trainings and an on-site orientation



WI STATE 4-H DOG PROJECT AGILITY LEARNING DAY

SPONSORED BY THE WI STATE DOG ASSOCIATION**PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED
TO ATTEND****SAT., MARCH 7TH****9AM – 2PM****WAUSAU, WI****SEE POST FOR MORE DETAILS**Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

WI 4-H Opportunities

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

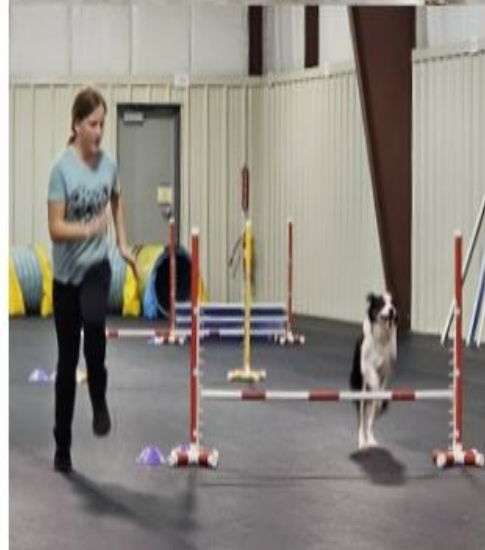
STATE 4-H DOG AGILITY SHOW

OCTOBER 10, 2026

OVERDALE CANINE SPORTS, SPRING VALLEY



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



WI 4-H Opportunities

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






Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

WHY 4-H?

#wi4hmovement



The Wisconsin 4-H MOVEMENT

I pledge my  head to clearer thinking, my  heart to greater loyalty, my  hands to larger service, and my  health to better living, for my club, my community, my country and my world.

In Wisconsin 4-H we value:

Being
Yourself



Find and share your
authentic sparks
and interests;

Belonging
Together



Recognize,
understand, respect,
and appreciate
each other;

Building
Connections



Grow positive
relationships with
peers and adults;

Discovering
Skills



Develop skills
through hands-on
learning to help you
succeed and thrive;

Exploring
New
Opportunities



Open the door to
new experiences,
projects and places;

Giving Back
to Your
Community



Make meaningful con-
tributions through
community service
and leadership.

BELONGING

MASTERY

INDEPENDENCE

GENEROSITY

To Make The
Best Better.



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

WI State 4-H

What ELSE does 4-H have to offer?

WI 4-H Arts Ambassadors:

Dairy & Animal Science Program:

- * [Area Animal Science Days](#)
- * [Dairy Quiz Bowl](#)
- * [State Dairy Judging Contest](#)
- * [James W. Crowley Dairy Leadership Award](#)

Dog Program:

- * [State Dog Agility Show](#)
- * [State Dog Obedience & Showmanship Show](#)
- * [State Dog Quiz Bowl](#)

Horse Program:

- * [State 4-H Gymkhana](#) -
- * [State 4-H Horse Education Days, Horse Bowl, & Hippology Contest](#)
- * [State Horse Expo](#)
- * [State 4-H Horse Leader's Conference](#)
- * [4-H Hunt & Dressage Show](#)
- * [Midwest Horse Fair Tack Sale](#)

Leadership:

- * [WI 4-H Leadership Council](#)
- * [Youth as Partners in Civic Leadership](#)
- * [Restorative Justice Summit](#)
- * [Fall Forum](#)
- * [Summer Academy](#)

Livestock Program:

- * [Area Animal Science Days](#)
- * [State Livestock Judging Contest](#)
- * [Meats Judging Contest](#)
- * [Livestock Quiz Bowl & Skill-a-Thon Contest](#)

Global Citizenship:

- * [International Exchange](#)
- * [Summer Outbound Travel Program](#)
- * [Summer Inbound Hosting Program](#)

Shooting Sports:

- * [Competitive Shoots](#)

Travel Experiences:

- * [American Spirit East](#)
- * [Citizenship Washington Focus](#)
- * [Space Camp](#)
- * [National 4-H Conference](#)
- * [National 4-H Congress](#)

Awards & Scholarships:

- * [Key Awards](#)
- * [Crowley Dairy Leadership Award](#)
- * [WI 4-H Foundation Scholarship](#)



Lafayette County Agriculture & Extension Education Committee:

Lee Gill
Rita Buchholz
Mark Pinch
Donna Flannery
Joe Schutte

4-H PLEDGE

I pledge my head to clearer thinking,
My heart to greater loyalty,
My hands to larger service,
And my health to better living,
For my club, my community, my country, and my world.

THE LAFAYETTE MARQUEE—4-H NEWSLETTER

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN EXTENSION

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