

The Lafayette Marquee

4-H Newsletter

APRIL 2026

Growing Through 4-H in Lafayette County

For more than a century, 4-H has been rooted in a simple but powerful idea: helping young people learn by doing. What began as a way to connect youth with hands-on learning in their communities has grown into a nationwide movement that supports curiosity, leadership, and personal growth.

Here in Lafayette County, our 4-H program continues that tradition by offering youth a wide range of opportunities to explore their interests—whether in agriculture, the arts, STEM, community service, or outdoor education. Each project area gives young people a chance to discover their *sparks*—the passions that motivate and excite them.

But strong youth programs don't happen on their own. They grow because caring adults step forward to guide, encourage, and create spaces where young people feel they belong. Our volunteers play a vital role in helping youth build positive relationships, gain confidence, and stay engaged in meaningful learning experiences. When adults share their time and talents, they help shape environments where young people feel supported, valued, and inspired to try new things.

As we move into spring and look ahead to another year of learning and growth, we want to extend our sincere appreciation to every volunteer, leader, and community collaborator who makes Lafayette County 4-H possible. Your impact reaches far beyond any single meeting or event—you are helping build the next generation of capable, caring, and connected young people.

Thank you for all you do to support our youth and strengthen our 4-H community.

Inside this issue:

Calendar	2
4-H Pledge & Creed	3
Spark Day! April 2026	4
4-H Experience Series	5
WI DATCP	6
Dairy Award	7
Horse Project Registration	8
WI 4-H Horse Days	9
Explore: Birdie Bingo	10
WI 4-H Opportunities	11-13
I SPY...	14
WI 4-H Movement	15
Lafayette County Offering	16
WI State 4-H	17
Contacts/Office Hours	18

CONTACT US:

Lafayette County Extension Office

700 Main Street, Suite #2

Darlington, WI 53530

608-776-4820

<https://lafayette.extension.wisc.edu>

Find Lafayette County UW

Extension on Facebook!

Hailee Kammerud,

4-H Youth Development Educator



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Calendar of Events

APRIL 2026	12	4-H Archery Clinic—Gratiot 1:00-3:00 PM
	15	Explore: 4-H Edition @ Gratiot Annex Library
	17	Explore: 4-H Edition @ McCoy Public Library
	17-18	4-H Fair Shoot—Air Disciplines @ DGC
	18	SPARK DAY: Terrariums @ MPB
	18	4-H Experience Series: Photography Shoot-Out #2
	25	State 4-H Dog Quiz Bowl - UW Green Bay
	26	4-H Archery Clinic/FAIR SHOOT—Gratiot 1:00-3:00 PM
	27	James W. Crowley Award Application DUE
	30	4-H Horse Project Registration DUE
MAY 2026	2-3	State 4-H Horse Education Days
	08	Explore: 4-H Edition @ JPL
	16	SPARK DAY: Burlap Flowers @ MPB
	23	4-H Experience Series: Photography Shoot-Out #3
JUNE 2026	19	Area Animal Science Day—Grant County
	26-28	State 4-H Horse Hunt & Dressage Show
JULY 2026	04	Independence Day—Office Closed
	8-12	Lafayette County Fair
	9-12	Badger Dairy Camp @ UW-Madison
AUGUST 2026	6-16	WI State Fair ~ West Allis, WI
SEPTEMBER 2026	7	Labor Day—Office Closed
	12	State 4-H Gymkhana ~ State Fair Park, West Allis, WI
	18-20	State Horse Expo Show
	26-27	State 4-H Dog Obedience, Showmanship, and Rally
OCTOBER 2026	10	State 4-H Dog Agility Show
	24	WI State 4-H Dog Project Obedience & Rally Learning Day

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.



SPARK DAY—APRIL 2026

Spark Days!

TERRARIUM

IGNITING IMAGINATION.
ONE SPARK AT A TIME.



Step into a tiny world of creativity at Spark Days! In this hands-on activity, participants will design their own miniature ecosystem using glass containers, natural materials, and a selection of low-maintenance plants.

April 18
10:00 AM

Multi-Purpose Building
11974 Ames Rd, Darlington, WI

**COST PER
PERSON**
\$15

Registration
Required by
April 2



<https://forms.gle/kTufTBuqWWS9bTpp9>

4-H EXPERIENCE SERIES—APRIL-MAY 2026

4-H Experience Series

BUILDING SKILLS, IGNITING FUTURES.



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP SERIES BY FAYE PHOTOGRAPHY



**BASICS & STILL
PHOTO
PHOTOGRAPHY**



**PORTRAIT
PHOTOGRAPHY**



**LANDSCAPE OR
MOVEMENT
PHOTOGRAPHY**

**REGISTRATION
REQUIRED**



**[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/JNP
ZFHTJID43QKGNA](https://forms.gle/JNPZFHTJID43QKGNA)**

DATES: 3/28, 4/18, AND 5/23

MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING

Join us for a three-part Photography Series designed to help young photographers build confidence and creativity with each session. Whether you're brand-new to photography or already love taking pictures, this series will guide you from understanding your camera to creating photos with purpose and style.

Each workshop builds on the one before it—so participants must attend all three dates.

WI DATCP Poultry Update 3/13/2026

NEWS RELEASE

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

datcp.wi.gov



Poultry Shows, Exhibitions in Southern Wisconsin Counties Suspended Due to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 13, 2026

Contact: Sam GO, Communications Director, (608) 334-0220

sam.go@wisconsin.gov

MADISON, Wis. – In an effort to prevent the spread of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI), the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) is suspending all poultry shows, exhibitions, swap meets, and movement of poultry to other events in the following southern Wisconsin counties: Columbia, Crawford, Dane, Dodge, Grant, Green, Iowa, Jefferson, Kenosha, Lafayette, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Richland, Rock, Sauk, Vernon, Walworth, Washington, and Waukesha.

The suspension of events will continue through May 10, 2026. DATCP is closely monitoring cases of HPAI nationally and wild bird migration. The suspension of poultry exhibitions may be extended or expanded to include additional counties if further HPAI cases are identified. The full order, including a map of affected counties, can be accessed on DATCP's HPAI in poultry website at https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/HPAIWisconsin.aspx.

Poultry owners and those working with poultry are strongly encouraged to continue practicing [strict biosecurity](#) to protect their flocks. When possible, poultry owners are asked to keep their flocks indoors to prevent contact with wild birds.

Signs of HPAI in infected birds include:

- Sudden death without clinical signs
- Lack of energy or appetite
- Decrease in egg production; soft, misshapen eggs
- Purple discoloration of wattles, comb, and legs
- Difficulty breathing
- Runny nose, coughing, sneezing
- Stumbling or falling down
- Diarrhea

To report increased mortality or signs of illness among domestic birds, follow the instructions on DATCP's Reporting Animal Disease webpage at https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/AnimalDiseases.aspx.


###

Find more DATCP news in our [newsroom](#), on [Facebook](#), [X](#), and [Instagram](#).

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/projects/agriculture-and-animal-science/dairy-project/james-w-crowley-dairy-leadership-award/>

James W. Crowley Dairy Award

JAMES W. CROWLEY DAIRY AWARD



Due April 27, 2026

Application Components:

- Application
- Cover Letter
- 4-H Resume w/References
- Letter of Recommendation



<https://lafayette.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development/4-h-awards/>

"The University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provided equal opportunities in employment and programming in compliance with state and federal law."

Lafayette County 4-H Horse Project Registration

Please attach a photograph of your horse or draw the markings below.

4-H HORSE PROJECT REGISTRATION

Member's Name _____ Club _____

Birth date _____ / _____ / _____
 Mo. Day Year

Address _____ Phone _____

Date of ownership or management of project _____

If management, who owns animal _____

Breed/Type _____

Registered Grade
(circle one)

Foaling Date _____

Mare Gelding
(circle one)

Body Color _____

Name of Animal _____

Height _____

Indicate all markings, scars and brands on diagrams below.

Signature of Parent or Guardian _____

- A. LEFT FORE LEG
- B. RIGHT FORE LEG
- C. RIGHT HIND LEG
- D. LEFT HIND LEG

This form must be submitted for each animal (horse/pony) you intend to show at the Fair.

Please mail to: **KATRINA GLEASON**
23111 Dry Bone Rd.
Shullsburg, WI 53586-9783

This form must be on file by April 30th. Failure to do so will eliminate the animal from showing in the 4-H Youth Horse Show during the Fair.

Approved by the Horse Project Leaders and 4-H Office.

A.	FORE LEGS		C.	HIND LEGS
R		L	R	L
I		E	I	E
G		F	G	F
H		T	H	T
T			T	
B.	FORE LEGS		D.	HIND LEGS
L		R	L	R
E		I	E	I
F		G	F	G
T		H	T	H
		T		T

Reminder: In order to qualify for the Fair Horse Show, youth need to be signed up for the 4-H Horse Project, as well as attend 3 Horse Project meetings (2 without a horse and 1 with a horse, once warmer weather is here). Registration paperwork needs to be completed by April 30, 2026. If you have any questions, please contact Katrina Gleason, 4-H Horse Project Leader, at (608)482-3291 or ck_gleason@hotmail.com

4-H Horse Project information can be found at:
<https://lafayette.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development/projects/4-h-horse-project/>

WI 4-H Horse Education Days



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

🌐 See the WI 4-H Horse Association Handbook link in the post



Explore: 4-H Edition—2026

Hey Bird Detective! Ready for an Outdoor Challenge?

We're excited to share our Birdie Bingo sheets and the awesome Wisconsin Bird Fact Sheets—made to help you explore, learn, and have fun spotting birds all around you!

Get outside, look up, and see how many incredible feather friends you can find. From tiny hummingbirds to soaring eagles, each bird comes with cool facts and amazing abilities waiting to be discovered.

How to Play Birdie Bingo:

- * Find a bird
- * Write down where you find it
- * Cross it off
- * Get 4 in a row for a prize...or complete the entire sheet for a BIG prize!

Reminder!

If you participated in any Explore 4-H Bird Events at the local libraries, don't forget to turn in your completed Bingo cards for your prize! **If you need a card, reach out to the office!!**

Bring or scan your completed cards to the Extension Office:
700 Main St., Darlington, WI 53530

Jenna.phillips@wisc.edu or hailee.kammerud@wisc.edu

Let the bird-spotting adventure begin!

#BirdieBingo#Explore4H#4HFun#WisconsinBirds#YouthActivities#Get Outside

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

State Opportunities



BADGER DAIRY CAMP

*University of Wisconsin-Madison
Department of Animal and Dairy Sciences
Dairy Innovation Hub*

REGISTER TODAY!

**Limited to 100 campers.
First-come, first-served basis.**

andysci.wisc.edu/badger-dairy-camp

andysci.wisc.edu/badger-dairy-camp

I SPY...**I SPY....SOMETHING GREEN!**

Ready for a new outdoor adventure? Our "I SPY Something GREEN" game will be LIVE soon...It's the perfect way to explore nature, learn cool plant facts, and win prizes!

From chicory to milkweed, maple trees, to black-eyed Susans, there are 18 plants waiting to be found. Each one has its own special facts—some attract monarch butterflies, some are edible, and one of them you definitely shouldn't touch!!

****How to Play "I SPY Something GREEN":**

- * Find a plant on the sheet
- * Write down where you find it
- * Check the box
- * Keep going until you find ALL 18!

Finish the sheet and earn a prize!

Bring or scan your completed cards to the Extension Office:

700 Main St., Darlington, WI 53530

Jenna.phillips@wisc.edu or hailee.kammerud@wisc.edu

*Get outside, explore your surroundings, and see how many green things you can spy!






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:

<p>Being Yourself </p> <p>Find and share your authentic sparks and interests;</p>	<p>Belonging Together </p> <p>Recognize, understand, respect, and appreciate each other;</p>
<p>Building Connections </p> <p>Grow positive relationships with peers and adults;</p>	<p>Discovering Skills </p> <p>Develop skills through hands-on learning to help you succeed and thrive;</p>
<p>Exploring New Opportunities </p> <p>Open the door to new experiences, projects and places;</p>	<p>Giving Back to Your Community </p> <p>Make meaningful contributions through community service and leadership.</p>

BELONGING	MASTERY	INDEPENDENCE	GENEROSITY
-----------	---------	--------------	------------

To Make The Best Better.



<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

WI State 4-H**What ELSE does 4-H have to offer?****State 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](#)
- * [Dog Learning Days: March & October](#)

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](#)
- * [Ignite by 4-H](#)

Livestock Program:

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

Shooting Sports:

- * [Competitive Shoots](#)

College & Career Readiness:

- * [Summer Academy](#)
- * [Winter Academy](#)

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

700 Main Street, Suite #2
608-776-4820
www.lafayette.uwex.edu

Office Hours:

Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Lafayette County University of Wisconsin Extension Office Staff:

Jenna Phillips, Administrative Assistant, jenna.phillips@wisc.edu
Hailee Kammerud, 4-H Youth Development Educator, hailee.kammerud@wisc.edu
Bob Wiegel, Human Development & Relationships Educator, rwiegel@wisc.edu
Jordyn Sattler, Agriculture Educator - Crops & Soils, jordyn.sattler@wisc.edu
Jackie McCarville, Agriculture Educator - Dairy, jackie.mccarville@wisc.edu
Casey Lobdell, Agriculture Educator - Livestock, clobdell2@wisc.edu
Lynn Perkins, Area 17 Extension Director, lynn.perkins@wisc.edu