

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON EAU CLAIRE COUNTY



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WELCOME LETTER



Welcome to Eau Claire County 4-H!

Thank you for your interest in the Eau Claire County 4-H program. We are excited to have you join us and the over 8 million young people around the world who participate in 4-H. We hope that the information in this packet will answer your questions, but if it doesn't, please don't hesitate to contact the Extension Office and speak with Andy Heren, support specialist, or Rachel Hart-Brinson, the 4-H Program Coordinator.

In this packet you will find lots of information about 4-H and how to join a club. What is a club, you ask? You'll find that information in here, too! (Look in the Frequently Asked Questions section or the brochure.)

All the clubs have a little bit different feel so you might want to try a few out before you choose one. If it doesn't feel right, try another one. See the club meeting list for locations and times to help you find the right fit for your family.

4-H is an outstanding, evidence-based, positive youth development program. It uses the experiential learning model to help build strong leaders, generous citizens, and capable people. 4-H builds life-skills and allows youth a safe place to try new things and learn from their mistakes. We accomplish this program with the help of outstanding 4-H Volunteers and family involvement.

The 4-H year starts in the fall to match the school year. New members can enroll at any time, but must be enrolled online by May 1 to exhibit at the fair. (See the Frequently Asked Questions for an explanation of "the fair.") 4-H members and adult volunteers re-enroll every year.

Again, please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions.

All the Best.

Rachel Hart-Brinson 4-H Program Coordinator

General Information

4-H MEMBERS

Cloverbud: Members in kindergarten or 1st grade participating in an introductory 4-H program can be a part of a 4-H club.

Explorer: Members in 2nd grade participating in this introductory 4-H program have a few more opportunities than Cloverbuds, but not quite as many as a regular 4-H member.

'Regular' 4-H Member: Youth in 3rd grade through one year past high school (grade 13).

Parents/Guardians: Parents/guardians and families are very important to the success children will have in the 4-H program. Parents/guardians are encouraged to attend monthly meetings, project meetings and countywide events with their children.

4-H LEADERSHIP ROLES

Older Youth Council (OYC): Any 4-H member in 6th grade or above that is enrolled in 4-H. OYC has their own meetings and emphasizes the development of leadership skills, community service projects and camaraderie with the help of adult advisors.

General Leader: A volunteer adult (or team of adults) that takes on the main leadership responsibilities for each local 4-H club. These leaders assist in organizing club meetings and distributing information to members and parents.

Project Leader: An adult volunteer with knowledge in a specific area who helps 4-H members as they learn, make, or do a project. This person can be a 4-H parent, older 4-H youth, or community member. If you would like to be a "project leader," please contact the 4-H Program Coordinator to discuss the possibilities.

4-H Program Coordinator: The professional who guides and administers the 4-H program. This person is an employee of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Extension. Eau Claire County's 4-H Program Coordinator is **Rachel Hart-Brinson**. You can reach her at 715-839-4712 or rachel.hartbrinson@wisc.edu.

General Information Cont.

CLOVER LEAVES

The monthly Eau Claire County 4-H newsletter provides information about the county, state, and national-level events, 4-H meetings and activities offered to 4-H members, leaders and parents. It is emailed to all families and placed on our website (https://eauclaire.extension.wisc.edu/) and is a great source of information.

FAIR BOOK

The book that lists the Eau Claire County Fair classes and rules for entry. A new Fair Book is published annually. The projects you sign up in on 4honline, affect what projects you can enter in the Fair. Ask you club leader or the Extension office if you have questions.

RECORD BOOKS

The record book is an individual report of the 4-Her's accomplishments in projects and activities during the previous year. It provides a way to reflect on what went well (or didn't) and how you might apply that learning in the future. Record books are submitted to club leaders in August. Some county-level awards require a completed record book.

4-H EVENTS

To find a list of events, visit our website (https://eauclaire.extension.wisc.edu/), check the Clover Leaves newsletter, the UW-Madison Extension website: https://extension.wisc.edu/ or follow Eau Claire County 4-H on Facebook. https://extension.wisc.edu/ or follow Eau Claire County 4-H on Facebook.

ACTIVE COUNTY-WIDE 4-H PROJECT GROUPS

LIVESTOCK PROJECT

Jill Welke (Adult Leader)
715-586-8048
jillwelke2@gmail.com
Scot Zimmerman (Fair)
715-586-0058
slzimmerman3@gmail.com
Wyatt Wathke (Auction)
715-577-0248
wdtwatchke@gmail.com

HORSE & PONY PROJECT

Janell Schulner 715-877-1655 janellhass@vahoo.com

SHOOTING SPORTS

Darren Schlewitz 715-456-6117 schlaysows@wwt.net Jim Stone 715-271-2854 jstone2854@gmail.com Brent Heldstab 715-828-5345

bheldstab@ais.insure

DOG PROJECT

Stephanie Sorensen 715-829-2514 soren1532@aol.com

DAIRY PROJECT

Charlene Deetz 715-491-6798 deetzer@gmail.com

POULTRY PROJECT

Brian Antczak 715-877-3700 bluehillsbucksaw@yahoo.com

CERAMICS PROJECT

Vickie Nimmo 715-878-4700 nimmokvj@aol.com

4-H Enrollment

GENERAL ENROLLMENT

Visit http://4honline.com/ to fill out an online form at the beginning of every 4-H year to join or re-enroll. The individual 4-H project categories you select for the year are listed in 4honline in the "projects" tab under the "participation" section.

New members and leaders can join at any time but to exhibit at the County Fair, you must be enrolled by May 1. Please contact 4-H Program Coordinator, Rachel Hart-Brinson at rachel.hartbrinson@wisc.edu or 715-839-4712 for more information or questions about enrollment.

HELP FOR NEW ENROLLMENTS

- 1. Find a 4-H Club. Contact a club leader about your interest in joining. Check out clubs and attend club meetings to find the best fit for your family. Contact the UW-Madison Extension Office at 715-839-4712 or go online to (https://eauclaire.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-clubs/) to see a listing of active clubs in Eau Claire County. Contact information and club locations are also located on pages 8-9 in this welcome packet.
- 2. Members should complete all personal information during enrollment. Health information for camp enrollments and other travel experiences are taken from 4honline. And, contact information that you provide at this time is how we will contact you to let you know about program opportunities. ALL INFORMATION IS KEPT CONFIDENTIAL.
- **4. Accurately fill out projects.** You can add projects until May 1st. Remember that you must be enrolled in the project to be able to exhibit in that department at the fair. Youth leader enrollment for grades 7-13 is optional.
- **5. Complete release of information section** (photo release, disability accommodation and public record) during online enrollment.

4-H Enrollment Cont.

LEADER/VOLUNTEER ENROLLMENT

- **1.** Go to https://4honline.com/. Log into your profile. (Only create a new profile if it is the first time enrolling.) Check the box next to 'volunteer' in the roles column and choose the volunteer description that fits you.
- **2.** After 7-10 days, you will be sent an e-mail requesting that you provide personal information to a company that performs a background check. Please reply to that e-mail!
- **3.** Contact the 4-H Program Coordinator and arrange to take the Volunteer in Preparation training.
- **4.** In your 4honline profile, look under the "trainings" tab in the Participation section and take the "Mandated Reporter" training.

PROJECT ENROLLMENTS

Cloverbud Enrollments: Children in kindergarten through 2nd grade are part of the 'Cloverbud' project category. You will enroll in "Cloverbuds" and not specific projects.

Explorer Enrollments: 3rd graders MAY enter the 'Exploring' project category during online enrollment or you may enter specific projects depending on individual readiness.

Other Project Enrollments: Youth grades 3-13 choose project categories from the list in 4-H online. First year members are encouraged to enter only 1 or 2 project categories.

Junior Leader Enrollments: Members should enter "Youth Leader" for a project if they are going to lead project meetings or it is part of a Youth Leadership project.

ENROLLMENT DEADLINES

September 5: Enrollment opens

May 1: Last day for members to change or add projects June 1: All fair entries are due to the Extension Office to be eligible for premiums at the fair

RE-ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

Re-enrollment is required each year. Over Labor Day Weekend, the state office re-sets 4honline. This allows us to make changes to project listings, ensures we have a clean start on our volunteer lists, and makes sure that we only have active members in our records for the year. **After September 5**, please login with the same family profile as the previous year and re-submit your enrollment and choose the projects your child wishes to enroll in that year. (They can be the same or different as previous ones.)

4-H Club Information

GENERAL & ASSISTANT LEADERS CONTACT INFORMATION

BEEF RIVER PACESETTERS

Renee Marino

715-577-1134 rjmarinao5@gmail.com

COUNTRY COUSINS

Yvonne Addie

715-829-0934 yvonneaddie@gmail.com

EAU CLAIRE ADVENTURERS

Katie Venit

ecadventurers.4h@gmail.com

EAU CLAIRE CLOVERS

Francine Clark

715-830-5277 fmcskc@gmail.com

Cindi Syverson

715-864-7307 csyverson@charter.net

FOSTER TOWN & COUNTRY

Linda Rauter

715-597-2185 lindarauter66@gmail.com

Sara Potter-Melsness

715-533-3861 spotness87@gmail.com

LITTLE RED CARDINALS

Penny Helwig

715-839-9180 jphelwig@netzero.net

MAPLE DRIVE BOOSTERS

Lisa Roettger

715-875-4409 mightymom135@gmail.com

PLEASANT HILL GO-GETTERS

Jodi Thesing-Ritter

715-828-7221 thesinim@uwec.edu

Anna Brandner

715-563-6236 anna.brandner@yahoo.com

Jolene Sarauer

715-559-5581 jms0710@wwt.net

Tammy Schlewitz

715-456-6119 schlavsows@wwt.net

PLEASANT VALLEY

Sheila Topper

715-456-2444 bstopper@hotmail.com

Heather Iverson

715-514-7979 heathermarie 7@hotmail.com

Anne Berg

608-606-1180 anne.berg@badgerlandfinancial.com

PLEASANT VALLEY CLOVERS

Wendy Duerkop

715-878-9527 wduerkop74@gmail.com

Tricia Friederichs

715-834-2426 <u>tricia221@me.com</u>

RODELL BUSY BEES

John Bohl

715-579-2822 bigjohn1800@gmail.com

Amanda Robinson

715-563-2984 amandar62@yahoo.com

Debbie Kitchen

715-579-4703 ctfloral@centurytel.net

RUSSELL CORNER BADGERS

Jill Welke

715-586-8048 jillwelke2@gmail.com

SUGARBUSH

Lillian Hadorn

715-286-2619 no email address

TRUAX EAGLES

Barb Black

715-835-9114 mail2blacks@yahoo.com

Leslie Steinke

715-450-6853 hadtles@aol.com

OLDER YOUTH COUNCIL

Kristin Haworth

715-835-1655 jkhaworth@sbcglobal.net

Cindi Syverson

715-8647-307 csyverson@charter.net

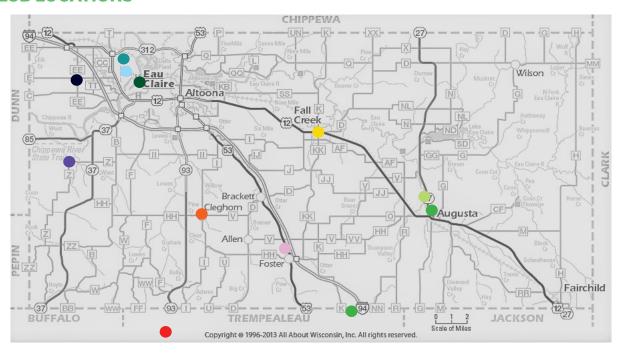
Tammy Schlewitz

715-456-6119 schlaysows@wwt.net

Angelina Schnook

4-H Club Information

CLUB LOCATIONS



BEEF RIVER PACESETTERS

Albion Town Hall N50005 Co Rd Y, Eleva, WI 54738

Meeting Time: 6:00pm Date: Second Sunday of the Month

COUNTRY COUSINS

Fall Creek Village Clerk 122 E Lincoln Ave, Fall Creek, WI 54742

Meeting Time: 7:00pm Date: Third Monday of the Month

EAU CLAIRE ADVENTURERS

Eau Clair Public LIbrary (and others) 400 Eau Claire Street, Eau Claire, WI 54701

Meeting Time: 4:30pm Date: Fourth Monday of the Month

EAU CLAIRE CLOVERS

Lutheran Church-Good Shepherd 1120 Cedar St, Eau Claire, WI 54703

Meeting Time: 4:00pm

Date: Second or Third Sunday of the month

FOSTER TOWN AND COUNTRY

St. Luke Luteran Church, Foster S12860 Coon St, Osseo, WI 54758

Meeting Time: 6:00pm

Date: Second Monday of the Month

MAPLE DRIVE BOOSTERS

Brunswick Town Hall W5465 Co Rd Z, Eau Claire, WI 54701

Meeting Time: 6:15pm

Date: Second Monday of the Month

● PLEASANT HILL GO-GETTERS

Union Town Hall 1506 N Town Hall Rd, Eau Claire, WI 54703

Meeting Time: 6:30pm

Date: Second Monday of the Month

■ PLEASANT VALLEY CLOVERS

Pleasant Valley Community Center S10414 County Rd HH, Eleva, WI 54738

Meeting Time: 6:30pm

Date: Third Monday of the month

PLEASANT VALLEY

Pleasant Valley Community Center S10414 County Rd HH, Eleva, WI 54738

Meeting Time: 6:30pm

Date: Third Thursday of the month

RODELL BUSY BEES

Bridge Creek Town Hall S9515 State Road 27, Augusta, WI

Meeting Time: 6:30pm

Date: Second Wednesday of the Month

RUSSELL CORNER BADGERS

Even Months: Osseo Ev. Lutheran Church 50351 Harmony St, Osseo, WI 54758 Odd Months: Grace Lutheran Church 814 Hudson St, Augusta, WI 54722

Meeting Time: 6:30pm

Date: Second Thursday of the month

SUGARBUSH

Various Locations

Call for more information: 715-286-2619
Date: Second Saturday of the month

TRUAX EAGLES

Dove Healthcare West 1405 Truax Blvd, Eau Claire, WI 54703

Meeting Time: 6:00pm

Date: Third Tuesday of the Month

LITTLE RED CARDINALS

Brunswick Town Hall W5465 Co Rd Z, Eau Claire, WI 54701

Meeting Time: 6:45pm

Date: Fourth Monday of the Month

FAQ

WHAT IS 4-H?

4-H is a non-profit youth development organization delivered by Extension professionals across the United States and around the world. Youth complete hands-on projects in areas such as health, science, agriculture, and civic engagement, guided by adult mentors. Youth are encouraged to take on leadership roles, developing self confidence and communication skills. 4-H gives youth the opportunity to explore and pursue their passions.

WHO CAN JOIN 4-H?

You can join 4-H whether you live in the city, a suburb, or in the country. Membership is open to youth and young adults from grades kindergarten through one year past high school graduation. The University of Wisconsin Division of Extension provides affirmative action and equal opportunity in education, programming and employment for all qualified persons regardless of race, color, gender/sex, creed, disability, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, sexual orientation, pregnancy, or parental arrest or conviction record or veteran status.

WHO PROVIDES LEADERSHIP FOR 4-H IN EAU CLAIRE COUNTY?

Eau Claire County 4-H is sponsored by the University of Wisconsin Madison Division of Extension. There is a National 4-H office that provides some program curriculum. Each state has their own state office that supports their program and counties have a 4-H Program Coordinator or Youth Development agent. Eau Claire's 4-H Program Coordinator is Rachel Hart-Brinson and she has been in the position since April, 2019.

WHAT IS A 4-H ADULT LEADER?

Adults who volunteer their time and talents with 4-H youth through various youth development programs and activities are crucial to the 4-H program. They impart knowledge, bond with youth, and provide leadership for 4-H project areas. Please see below for more details.

WHAT KIND OF LEADERS ARE THERE?

General Leader: Serves as an advisor to a community 4-H club **Project Leader:** Helps youth learn about a particular project by sharing interests, knowledge, talents, or just an enthusiasm for learning through leading project-specific meetings.

Activity Leader: Short term commitment to help 4-H members with an activity. Possibilities include for example: coaching a team sport, directing a play, or leading a community service activity.

Workshop Teacher: Offers a workshop on a particular topic or project **Youth Leader:** Older 4-H members who work with their fellow 4-H members and adults. Older youth assist club leaders and members with club program and activities, projects, and events. Youth leaders also hold office in 4-H clubs, such as president or secretary of their 4-H club.

HOW DO I VOLUNTEER TO BECOME A 4-H LEADER OR VOLUNTEER?

Contact the 4-H Program Coordinator, Rachel Hart-Brinson at:

Division of Extension phone number: 715-839-4712

Email address: rachel.hartbrinson@wisc.edu

Website: https://extension.wisc.edu/

Address: Extension Eau Claire County

227 1st Street West Altoona, WI 54720

8:ooam-4:30am, Monday-Friday

WHAT IS A 4-H CLUB?

A club is your local 4-H community. Clubs organize community service projects, social activities, and hold meetings once a month. Meetings are run and organized by youth with adult support. There are currently 15 clubs to choose from in Eau Claire County, or you can start your own with 2 other families! See a map of club meeting locations and times at http://eauclaire.extension.wisc.edu/.

WHAT DO 4-H CLUBS DO AT MEETINGS?

In general, club meetings usually include an activity, club business, and member demonstrations. Club business might include planning community service projects, social activities, or fundraising.

WHO RUNS 4-H CLUBS?

The club's general leaders are present at club meetings and events to serve as an advisor to the 4-H club. Youth officers facilitate the meeting. The 4-H club offices include president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. Officers should plan the agenda and activities with adult guidance. Youth vote on decisions regarding activities and how to spend money.

HOW ARE 4-H CLUB OFFICERS CHOSEN?

Youth interested in running for office nominate themselves and club members vote on who should be in each office.

WHEN AND HOW LONG DO CLUBS MEET?

This depends on the club. Most clubs meet for 1-2 hours, and most meetings are held once a month. Club meeting location varies by club. Check out https://extension.wisc.edu/ for a list of times and locations.

WHAT ARE 4-H PROJECTS?

A 4-H project may refer to two separate things. A project is an area of interest that the 4-H member wants to learn more about. You choose from a list of "projects" to enroll in on 4-H Online. These could also be thought of as "project areas." A 4-H project could also refer to the specific item that the 4-H member worked on. So you might hear, "I finished my sewing project," in reference to the skirt that child made. Youth sign up for one or more project areas and practice related skills throughout the year. There are many areas to choose from including dog training, foods & nutrition, sewing, photography, gardening, wood working, rocketry, creative writing, music, nature, computers, and livestock. Many 4-H members bring their completed

projects as an entry to the Eau Claire County Fair. To find out more about 4-H projects, contact the Extension Office or check the list on 4honline.

WHAT COUNTY-WIDE PROJECTS DO WE HAVE?

Eau Claire County has several project groups that members can get involved in. These include: Livestock Project, Horse and Pony Project, Poultry Project, Ceramics Project, Dog Project, Dairy Project, and Shooting Sports. They projects meet on a regular basis, but are separate from a club.

ARE 4-H MEMBERS EXPECTED TO DO THEIR OWN PROJECTS?

4-H is a learning-by-doing program. Therefore, youth are expected to complete the project. Oftentimes youth leaders, parents, or club leaders assist and guide youth, but members are to complete their own projects.

HOW DO I JOIN EAU CLAIRE COUNTY 4-H?

Visit http://4honline.com/ to fill out an online enrollment. You will fill this out at the beginning of every 4-H year in September to join or re-enroll. Project categories you may select from are listed on 4-H Online under 'Projects' in the 'Participation' section. New members and leaders can join at any time but to exhibit at the Eau Claire County Fair, you must enroll by May 1st. For more info about enrollment or the 4-H program, Please contact our 4-H Program Coordinator, Rachel Hart-Brinson at: rachel.hartbrinson@wisc.edu, or 715-839-4712.

WHY IS 4-H A GREAT PROGRAM FOR YOUTH?

4-H is open to anyone of any ability or gender and includes a wide range of ages in its activites, making it a great choice for busy families. Plus, 4-H is the largest youth development organization in the world, based upon the four elements of positive youth development foundations. Research has determined these elements are: Belonging, Mastery, Independence, and Generosity. 4-H is a great opportunity for youth to develop lifelong skills, and to play an important role in their community. Youth will develop lifelong friendships, as well as improve and develop skills such decision making, problem solving, planning, organizing, teamwork, leadership, and much more.

HOW DO I START A 4-H CLUB?

You need 3 families with a total of 5 kids to start a club. Contact our **4-H Program Coordinator**, **Rachel Hart-Brinson** at rachel.hartbrinson@wisc.edu or call the Extension Office at 715-839-4712 for information on how to get your club started! It's a great idea to invite the 4-H program coordinator or an experienced 4-H general (club) leader to talk about club logistics and to answer any questions club members might have about starting a club. You should decide basic details such as when, where, and how often you will meet.

WHAT DO THE "H'S" STAND FOR?

Head: Critical thinking, problem solving, learning by doing **Heart**: Respect for self, others, environment, and community **Hands**: Serving others, career preparation, hands on learning

Health: Living out a healthy lifestyle, managing change and challenges

WHAT IS THE 4-H PLEDGE?

Many club meetings start with the pledge of allegiance and the 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.

HOW MUCH DOES 4-H COST?

It costs \$10.00 to join 4-H for the entire year. Each club may set a cap per family to join. Individual 4-H clubs may have small dues to pay for their activities. Some project areas may require small investments for supplies and equipment. 4-H is a non-profit organization. Any funds raised by the club are considered "public" funds and must be used for youth development.

WHAT IS THE FAIR?

"The Fair" is the Eau Claire County Fair. 4-H members are a huge part of the Eau Claire County Fair, as youth are able to present their project entries for judging, show livestock, volunteer, interact with other youth, and much more. 4-H families help set up the fair, take down the fair, run kids' day activities, and staff the food stands as a fundraiser. Ours is a unique fair with free admission, free parking, no midway or alcohol tent. Kids' games, petting zoo, inflatables, and Safety Day are organized and staffed by 4-H families.

4-H Year Overview

SEPTEMBER:

- -September 5 enrollment opens on 4-H Online.
- -New 4-H members explore clubs and find a good fit.
- -Awards committee reviews record books and nominates youth for awards.

OCTOBER:

- -County-wide Awards Banquet organized by Older Youth Council and Leaders
- -Club and group Charters due to the Extension Office October 15.

MAY:

- -Enroll in 4H Online by May 1. Choose a club and 'project categories' so you can show or exhibit at the EC County Fair.
- -Check out the Fair Book and decide on project entries

JUNE:

- -June 1 deadline for EC County Fair entries
- -4-H Summer Camp (1st week out of school)

JULY:

-Eau Claire County Fair

AUGUST:

-Make record books to reflect on and process the 4-H year. Send record book to the County for review (for 3rd graders and up).

Get in Touch

CONTACT INFORMATION

4-H Program Coordinator Rachel Hart-Brinson

<u>rachel.hartbrinson@wisc.edu</u>

Division of Extension: 715-839-4712

Wisconsin Relay: 711

EXTENSION EAU CLAIRE COUNTY

Website: https://eauclaire.extension.wisc.edu/ Address: 227 1st Street West Altoona, WI 54720 Hours: 8:00am - 4:30pm, Monday - Friday

Division of Extension: 715-839-4712

Wisconsin Relay: 711

IMPORTANT LINKS

Enrollment Info: 4honline.com

UW-Madison Extension: https://extension.wisc.edu/

4-H National Web Portal: 4-h.org







Visit us on Facebook! Eau Claire County 4-H