

DECEMBER, 2025

# 4-H Newsletter



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

## BAYFIELD COUNTY

### New Bayfield County 4-H Program Educator!

Clair Emmons started working as the UW-Madison Extension Bayfield County 4-H Program Educator on October 20, 2025!

Clair worked for Extension this past summer co-planning and implementing Superior Adventures programming and 4-H Summer Camp. She is a graduate of Northland College and previously worked as the Youth Programs Coordinator at the Sigurd Olson Environmental Institute.

Clair will be supporting volunteers in building the capacity of the county's 4-H program and providing learning and leadership opportunities for county youth. Does your club have any upcoming meetings? Let her know! Reach her with partnership ideas or just to say hello at, [clair.emmons@wisc.edu](mailto:clair.emmons@wisc.edu) or 715-373-3289.



### Join 4-H!

4-H is the nation's largest youth development and empowerment organization.

In Wisconsin, **more than 26,000 youth** are members of 4-H. The 4-H programming aims to engage youth in activities to increase their leadership, communication, and critical thinking skills. Our programs center on the 4-Hs— **head, heart, hands, and health**. This is the foundation for everything we do.

Wisconsin 4-H has **over 5,600 volunteers** who serve as mentors for 4-H youth. They help provide a safe, engaging place for youth to take risks, practice independence, and master new skills.

To all our members, thanks for being here! Know someone who would be a good fit for 4-H? Encourage them to enroll today!

# Enroll in 4-H

4-H is open to all youth from Kindergarten (age 5 as of September 1) through Grade 13 (1 year post high school graduation), and we offer activities for everyone! Returning families should enroll yearly to not miss out on programs or communication. New families can enroll anytime!



## Upcoming Events!



### CANSKI

The Chequamegon Area Nordic Ski club for youth in K-8<sup>th</sup> grade! Registration is open. Visit <https://bayfield.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-canski/> for more info.

### Statewide Opportunities:

#### ArtBEAT!

Audience: Grades 3-5

When: March 13-15, 2026 at Upham Woods, Wisconsin Dells

Registration in 4Honline open January 12- February 8, 2026  
For more info visit: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/wi-distance-learning/>. Space is limited!

### 2026 Shooting Sports Training Workshops

For Volunteers! A Wisconsin 4-H Shooting Sports Leader may be certified in archery, coordinator, muzzleloader, pistol, rifle and shotgun disciplines. Leaders may only teach in the discipline in which they are certified.

For more info visit:

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/projects/outdoor-education/shooting-sports/leader-certification-training-workshops/>

### 2026 National 4-H Congress

Audience: Grades 9-12

When: November 27- December 1st, 2026, Atlanta, GA

Registration in 4Honline opens in June, 2026. National 4-H Congress is a five-day educational experience, and is the premiere nation-wide event for 4-Hers to network with others from around the country, Canada, and Puerto Rico, engaging in leadership, citizenship, global awareness, and inclusion.

Want to help out? Volunteers make 4-H possible and we need you too! There is an updated training to be completed for Volunteer Enrollment that can be found under the Training tab on 4-H Online. Re-enroll at [wi.4honline.com](http://wi.4honline.com)!

It's not too late to join. We encourage members and volunteers to double check their enrollment status on 4-H Online. There may be steps you need to take before getting approved!

Questions?

Contact Clair at the Bayfield County Extension Office.  
[clair.emmons@wisc.edu](mailto:clair.emmons@wisc.edu)  
715-373-3289



## Club Reminders

### Charters

To be authorized to use the 4-H Name and Emblem, all 4-H Clubs and Groups must complete the 4-H Charter Application each year. [2025-2026 Charter Application](#)

### Dues

Dues requests are coming soon. Club Leaders, be on the lookout for more information.

### Driver Authorizations

Applications must be submitted by approved volunteers to be considered for volunteer driver authorization. It can take up to three weeks for central campus to process requests, so please plan accordingly based on the timing of your events.



117 E 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Washburn, WI 54891

# SAVE THE DATE!

## 4-H Camp June 27-29, 2026 Mason, WI

Save the date for 4-H Camp! Registration info, camp counselor applications, training dates, and volunteer info coming soon.



## Distance Learning

### Winter Academy

Registration is now open for the first ever Winter Academy! Winter Academy consists of three virtual sessions which provide youth with tools and skills for career and college readiness.

For youth grades 8-10. It's free! Registration closes Jan. 11<sup>th</sup>. For more info visit: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/winter-academy/>

### Wonders Within Wood

Audience: 5th grade and older

When: Zoom meeting on March 24, 6:30-7:30 PM

Ready to carve out some creativity? Join us for an exciting hands-on series designed for youth in 5th grade and up. You'll dive into the art of green wood carving, exploring history, culture, and sustainability while building real-world skills.

Registration closes Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>. For more info visit: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/wi-distance-learning/>

### Wildlife & Woods Virtual Series

Audience: All grades

When: Begins January 2026

Wildlife and Woods is Wisconsin 4-H's statewide natural sciences, wildlife, and forestry monthly, virtual event. Outdoor enthusiasts connect with other 4-H youth of all ages from around the state. Together, we explore the natural world with a special focus on wildlife, wildlife habitats, and trees. Materials are designed for all ages and knowledge levels, so everyone can benefit.

For more info or to register visit: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/projects/outdoor-education/wildlife-and-habitat/wildlife-woods-virtual-classes/>

## Attention all 4-H Members!

Help us make this newsletter great!

We are looking for club updates, meeting minutes, pictures, stories. Tell us what you or your club has been doing in 4-H! Any fun upcoming projects or events? We want to know about it! We will welcome your submissions at any time.

Submissions can be typed, hand written, drawn, anything you want! Get creative!

Please send submissions to [clair.emmons@wisc.edu](mailto:clair.emmons@wisc.edu) or mail them to:  
Bayfield County Extension  
P.O. Box 218 - 117 E 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Washburn, WI 54891

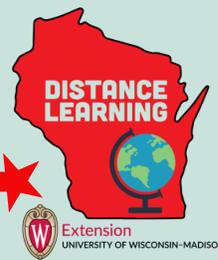
## Summer Academy

Audience: Grades 8-11

When: June 14-18, UW-Madison Campus

Attend Winter Academy and get 30% off Summer Academy registration! This Positive Youth Development program helps youth explore career and hobby pathways in various fields like agriculture, STEM, leadership, arts, and more.

Visit: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/summer-academy/>



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**PO Box 218**  
**117 E 5<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Washburn, WI 54891**

## Letter to Families

Dear 4-H Families:

Thank you for being a part of the 4-H community! Now that you've enrolled for the new 4-H year, you may be wondering, "What comes next?" The answer varies depending on your role in the 4-H program.

### For Project Leaders:

Thank you for volunteering your time and talents! As you begin the new year, please start by choosing a date for your first project meeting. Most leaders aim to hold 4-6 meetings throughout the year. Next, connect with the youth who are excited to learn from you. Your club organizational leader or the 4-H office can provide a list of members enrolled in your project, and you're welcome to invite interested members from neighboring clubs as well. Keep the 4-H Office in the loop with your project plans!

Once your group is set, share your meeting date, time, and location, and work with your members at the first gathering to set clear goals for what they want to learn and accomplish. To support your planning, the 4-H office provides project literature free of charge. You can browse available materials in the 4-H Enrollment and Project Guide on our website. If you need help printing online resources or have questions of any kind, our Extension office is here for you. We also have access to additional University resources, including lesson plans and videos.

### 4-H Members and Parents:

Thank you for staying engaged and supporting your youth in their 4-H journey. If you are unsure who the project leader is for a project your child enrolled in, please ask your club leader. If your club does not currently have a leader for that project, contact the Extension office—we may be able to connect you with a leader in a nearby club. If no leader is available, consider whether someone you know in the community might be willing to share their skills with 4-H youth. Community adults do not have to be certified 4-H leaders as long as a certified project leader is present at meetings.

### For Everyone:

We are grateful for your involvement! By staying connected and participating in club meetings and events, you help create the heart of the 4-H experience. Building community, sharing, and supporting one another with the talents and gifts each of us has to offer.

If you have questions at any point, please reach out. All of us here at the 4-H and Extension office appreciate you, and we wish you and your family a warm and wonderful holiday season.

Sincerely,  
Clair Emmons  
4-H Program Educator - Bayfield County



117 E 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Washburn, WI 54891

Contact: Clair Emmons  
clair.emmons@wisc.edu  
715-373-3289

## Stay Connected!

[www.bayfield.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development](http://www.bayfield.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development)

/bayfieldcounty4H

@bayfieldco4h