

Wood County 4-H YOUTH CONNECTIONS



NOVEMBER 2025

400 Market Street | PO Box 8095 | Wisconsin Rapids WI 54495 | 715.421.8439



LAWN DISPLAY CONTEST

Thank you to all of the clubs who created displays and shared pictures of them for National 4-H Week!

All of the displays showed great representations of the variety of programs and opportunities that 4-H offers.

The winners of the contest were:

1. Golden Glow 4-H
2. Shady Lane 4-H
3. Snyder 4-H

Pleasant Corners and Town & Country also had displays.

Thank you to everyone for your creativity and promotion of 4-H!



CONNECT WITH US!

Wood County 4-H, WI

4hwoodcountywi

woodcounty4h@woodcountywi.gov

<http://wood.extension.wisc.edu>

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.

WOOD COUNTY 4-H STAFF

Laura Huber, 4-H Educator
Trina Bores, AmeriCorps Member
Wendy Young, Support Staff



WI 4-H THRIVING SURVEY

Every fall, Wisconsin 4-H encourages members (ages 13-18) to complete a survey about their 4-H experience. The survey will help Wisconsin 4-H to learn about the quality of our programs.

The survey will be sent to all eligible Wisconsin 4-H members by e-mail in the first week of November. Youth who complete the survey will be entered into a raffle to win a \$25 gift card! Youth who attend Fall Forum will have the opportunity to complete the survey early - right at Fall Forum!

For more information on the 4-H Thriving Model, visit [4-H Thriving Model - Wisconsin 4-H](#)

Please keep an eye out for messages and more information about this important survey.



WISCONSIN 4-H THRIVING SURVEY

Opens November 5, 2025!

Information will be sent to 4-H members
ages 13–19 using the family email address
listed in 4-HOnline

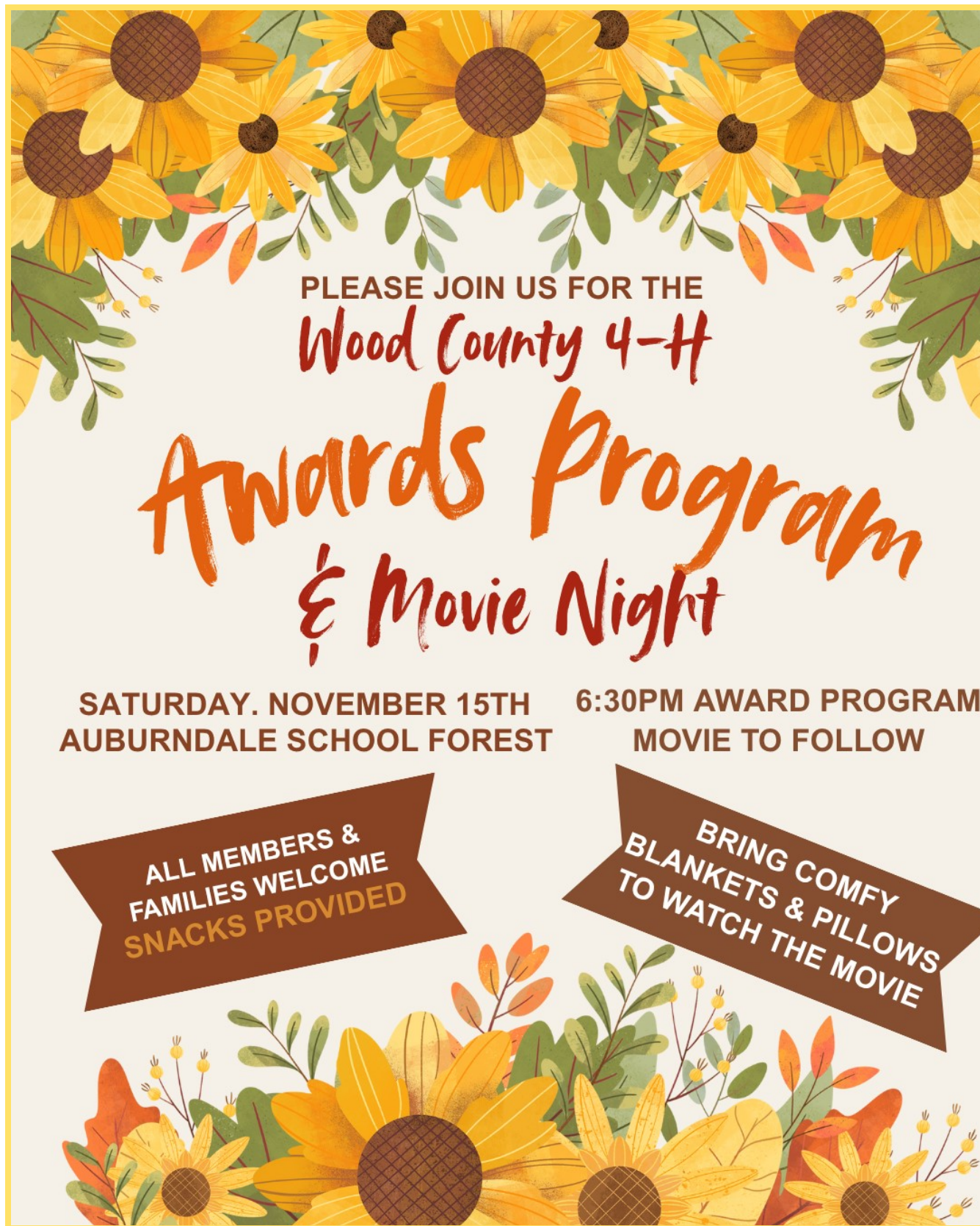


UW-MADISON EXTENSION

Design by: Jordan Blue, Chippewa County 4-H Program Educator

AWARDS PROGRAM & MOVIE NIGHT

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15 | AUBURNDALE SCHOOL FOREST, AUBURNDALE | 6:30 PM



LASAGNA LOVE: FEED FAMILIES, SPREAD KINDNESS AND STRENGTHEN COMMUNITIES

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29 | MC MILLAN LIBRARY, WISCONSIN RAPIDS | 10:30 AM - 1:00 PM

We all pledge our hands to larger services, but what does that mean? Join us on Saturday, November 29th and we'll learn by doing:

- We'll learn how to make a delicious homemade lasagna baked with love.
- We'll learn how we can spread a little sunshine for someone who's experiencing hard times.
- We'll learn how communities support one another, and where you can look for help when needed, too.
- We'll enjoy freshly baked lasagna for lunch, too!

The lasagnas prepared will be shared with families in the greater Wisconsin Rapids area who have expressed a need for help.

You can help in two ways:

1. Join us on November 29th to make lasagnas
2. Donate ingredients for us to use! [Here is a link to our wish list.](#)

Cloverbuds through adults are welcome to join us!

[Please register here by November 15th so we know how many people will join us for lunch.](#)



SPREAD THE LOVE
LASAGNA STYLE

Donate your time or supplies to help put together lasagnas for Lasagna Love!

Our Wishlist:
<https://bit.ly/4HLasagna>

Register by Nov 15!

 **10:30am-1:00pm**
 **McMillan Memorial Library**
 **Saturday, Nov 29**


<https://bit.ly/lasagnalovereg>

 
UW-MADISON EXTENSION

SAVE THE DATES—COUNTY EVENTS!



Mark your calendar now for a number of events coming up in early 2026!

- **Volunteer Retreat:** Saturday, January 10, 2026; Town of Day Hall, Rozellville
- **Project Discovery Day:** Saturday, January 24; 2nd St Community Center, Marshfield
- **Creative Arts Day:** Saturday, April 11, 2026 ; Pittsville Elementary School, Pittsville

PLAT BOOK PHOTO CONTEST

WOOD COUNTY 4-H
PLAT BOOK
Photo Contest

- open to enrolled Wood County 4-H youth and adults; one cover entry per person
- photo must be of a Wood County scene, event or location
- must have proper permission (photo release from all identifiable people in photo)
- entries must be 600 dpi resolution or greater and full color
- portrait orientation

\$25.00 PRIZE FOR WINNING PHOTO

Entries should be emailed to
Woodcounty4h@woodcountyiwi.gov

ENTRY DEADLINE: DECEMBER 1

**Photos also needed for inside pages of the plat book; these should follow the same guidelines as above, EXCEPT they need to be landscape orientation*

UW-MADISON EXTENSION

DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAMS

Youth from across Wisconsin will be coming together virtually for three awesome programs this year, and YOU could be among them!

Registration is open for each program from **October 30–November 16** in 4HOnline. Participation in the programs is free, and you have the option to purchase the materials kit or curriculum guide.

[Learn more about each program and register here.](#) Contact the Extension Wood County office for help registering in 4HOnline.

Wisconsin 4-H Distance Learning Programs



4-H Discovery Kit

Explore Head, Heart, Hands, and Health with fun 4-H activities!

Audience: Grades 5K-2

Session Dates: Jan. 13, Jan. 27, Feb. 10, Feb. 24 from 6:30 - 7:30 PM

***Fee of \$5 for the kit**

Learn more and

Register at:

<http://virtual.wi4h.org>

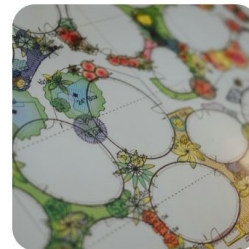
Design Your Landscape Kit

Learn how to plan, sketch, and bring your own landscape design to life!

Audience: Grades 3-8

Session Dates: Jan. 26, Feb. 9, Feb. 23 from 6:30 - 7:30 PM

***Fee of \$5 for the kit**



Exploring Careers in Agriculture Program

Explore different career options in agriculture and get inspired through conversations with professionals from across the ag industry.

Audience: Grades 7-10

Session Dates: Feb. 23, Mar. 2, Mar. 9 from 7:00-8:00 PM

***Fee of \$5 for the curriculum guide**

Registration
closes Nov. 16th
for each!



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

SHOOTING SPORTS ORIENTATION

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7 | CENTRAL WISCONSIN SPORTSMANS CLUB, MARSHFIELD | 12:00PM

Have you tried shooting sports? This program is open to youth in 3rd grade (and at least 8 years old) and up. There are many disciplines to choose from ranging from archery to air pistol and air rifle, as well as the summer shotgun program.

The Central Wisconsin 4-H Shooting Sports program is a great program for youth to gain important life skills such as self-discipline, decision-making, problem-solving and self-confidence. If you are new or returning, this program may be just what you want. When you enroll in 4-H, be sure to select the appropriate Shooting Sports project that you will be participating in, as the projects are separated by discipline (Shooting Sports – Archery, Shooting Sports – Air Rifle, etc.). This will ensure that you are included in all future communications for the program.

The open house and orientation is scheduled for December 7th at the Central Wisconsin Sportsman's Club, 11841 Stadt Rd, Marshfield.



- The open house starts at Noon, which allows new and returning members to check out the equipment and talk with instructors and get any questions answered that you may have.
- We will have a beginner orientation at 12:45 which is mandatory for all new members. This will give you a more in-depth look at the program. Sign-up will start at 1pm. We will ask all youth and adults to sign the rules and acknowledge them as read. Those that attend the 1pm sign-up will have first choice for line times.



New this year! We will have Glen's Sport Shop on site to do bow inspections. If you have archery equipment that needs to be inspected, we will have forms on hand and the cost will be \$5.

We will also have the bow rental program running, which allows youth the opportunity to rent the equipment for the season, and not only use it at practice but also practice at home and/or attend other shoots/tournaments put on by other counties. There will be NO new registrations or rentals after the 2nd practice.

We are excited for the 2026 season and can't wait to start! Reach out to Liz Knutson at jlcaknutson@yahoo.com with any questions.

WOOD COUNTY SERVICE PROJECT

"I PLEDGE MY HANDS TO LARGER SERVICE..."

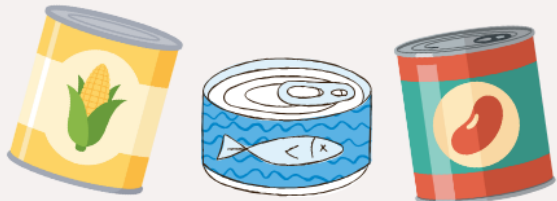
As part of the 4-H pledge, we pledge our hands to service. In that spirit, we are organizing a Wood County Service Project to collect donations that will be used to put together meal kits for FOCUS (*Feeding Our Communities with United Services*) in Wisconsin Rapids and Marshfield Area United Way.

We have selected items that can be used to make specific recipes; these items can be found on our wish list at <http://bit.ly/4-HFOCUS>. Items can be sent or dropped off at our office. Our goal is 200 meal kits!

Watch for information on a future date to help sort and pack meal kits!



JOIN THE
WOOD COUNTY SERVICE PROJECT



Support these local organizations!



Our Wish List:
Our full wish list is linked below and contains canned items, dry goods, and more.
<https://bit.ly/4-HFOCUS>



Where Do I Send My Items?
Items can be dropped off or mailed to:
Extension Wood County
400 Market Street
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Collection Deadline:
February 20, 2026

MULTI-COUNTY FLAT STANLEY PROJECT!

Cloverbuds—join the Flat Stanley Pen Pal Project to connect with 4-Hers from other counties in Wisconsin!

Registration is open **NOW** through January 9th.

4-Hers will be paired with a pen pal from a different county and get to share their Stanley or Stella's adventures!

[Register here before January 9th.](#)

Join the multi-county 4-H FLAT STANLEY PROJECT

IMPORTANT DATES:

JANUARY 6: READ ALOUD ON ZOOM

WEEK OF JANUARY 19: YOUR FLAT

STANLEY ARRIVES AND YOU MAIL IT TO

YOUR PENPAL

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 9: FLAT STANLEY

MAILED BACK TO HIS OWNER AFTER A

WEEK OF ADVENTURES

FEBRUARY 22: JOIN US ON ZOOM TO

SHARE YOUR STANLEY'S OR STELLA'S

ADVENTURES!

IN THIS PEN PAL PROJECT, YOU WILL SEND YOUR FLAT
STANLEY OR STELLA OFF IN THE MAIL, THEN GET MAIL
BACK SHOWING YOU THEIR ADVENTURE.

YOUR PEN PAL'S FLAT STANLEY OR FLAT STELLA WILL
VISIT YOUR HOME, AND WHATEVER YOU DO, STANLEY
AND STELLA WILL LOVE TO DO, TOO!



[HTTPS://BIT.LY/4-HFLATSTANLEY](https://bit.ly/4-HFLATSTANLEY)



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

SUMMER CAMP COUNSELORS NEEDED!

Recruitment for summer camp counselors and chaperones will open on December 1st.

[More information about the positions can be found here.](#)



Sign Up Opens December 1st

**Join Us for Unforgettable
SUMMER CAMP STAFF EXPERIANCE!**

**Adults and Teens (8th-13th grade)
Are encouraged to apply to the
Langlade, Marathon & Wood 4-H
Summer Camp Staff!**

Sign Up Dec 1 - Jan 7
More Information:
<https://bit.ly/summercampstaffinfo>

**~ Exciting Outdoor
Adventure Leading Youth!
~ Creating Connections and
life long memories!
~ Training for Purposeful
Roles at Camp**



WINTER CAMP IS COMING!

FEBRUARY 13-15, 2026 | WISCONSIN LIONS CAMP, ROSHOLT

Hey Teens!

Join us at camp for wintry fun, With games, snow, and cocoa for everyone!

Grow your skills to lead the way, At Winter Leadership Camp, we want you to come out and play!

Registration opens December 1st.

A winter-themed graphic for Teen Winter Camp. The background is dark blue with white snowflakes and falling snow. At the top, the text "TEEN WINTER CAMP" is written in large, bold letters, with "TEEN" and "CAMP" in orange and "WINTER" in white. Below this, the phrase "SAVE THE DATE" is enclosed in a red rounded rectangle with white text. Underneath, a paragraph invites teens in grades 6th-12th to join for games, competitions, and fun, mentioning the theme "THE AMAZING RACE!". The date "February 13-15, 2026" is displayed in orange. At the bottom, three circular photos show teens in winter gear: one on the left shows a group, the middle one shows a larger group in a snowy field, and the right one shows two boys smiling. The graphic is decorated with snowflakes and two campfires at the bottom corners.

**TEEN
WINTER
CAMP**

SAVE THE DATE

Teens in grades 6th-12th are invited to join us at
Teen Winter Camp for games, friendly
competitions, and fun! Get ready for this year's
theme... THE AMAZING RACE!

February 13-15, 2026

CLUB SPOTLIGHT: SHADY LANE 4-H!

Every 4-H club is unique - member and volunteer interests play a big part in that. This year, we'd like to shine a light on all of the great clubs and groups in Wood County 4-H! We invite youth to write a paragraph or two about their club, and include a few photos for us, too.

Many thanks to Lyra and Mya of Shady Lane for being the first to share!

As members of Shady Lane 4-H club we participate in a lot of community service projects through the year. For example we make cards for Honor Flight Veterans and cards for local Veterans for Veterans Day. Also for 4th of July we put flags up around Spencer. We also play BINGO with the participants at Memory Care Cafe and show them some of our favorite fair projects we have made. We hold a Project Day for members each year. There we make fair projects as a group, some examples this year we made stepping stones, we practiced our cupcake decorating skills, and painted welcome signs. For a fundraiser our members sell apple pies to the public and then as a club we assemble the apple pies. It is a fun afternoon! As a club we focus on hands-on activities that give back to our community.

- submitted by Lyra Van Hoof and Mya Kramp, Shady Lane 4-H members

Shady Lane meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Spencer Municipal Building. Meetings start at 7:00pm, and you can reach out to club leader Christine Jensen (cnwjensen@gmail.com) with questions.



VIRTUAL CULTURAL BAKING SERIES!

The Virtual Cultural Baking Series is back! Join us to learn new baking techniques, try new-to-us ingredients, and explore our cultural connection to food.

We will be making:

- Swedish Crackers
- Cornmeal cranberry cookies
- Helbeh (Middle Eastern Fenugreek Cake)

This series is recommended for those in 4th grade and up.

Classes will be held via Zoom on Thursdays, December 4, 11, & 18 at 6:30pm .

Families will receive a recipe book and ingredient list by email. There is no fee for this program. Your family will need to purchase ingredients and supplies.

[Register here.](#) Registration closes November 17th at 12:00pm.



THRIVENT GENEROSITY

Are you a member of Thrivent? Please consider working with Wood County 4-H to create a Thrivent Action Team. Together, we can make gather a team of youth and adult volunteers to do great work in our communities. Thrivent will donate \$250 for each event. That would go a long way in supporting the upcoming lasagna making day or our upcoming backpack meals programs.

thrivent[®]

Contact Laura for more information on how you can use your Thrivent membership to support 4-H's service learning efforts.

UPCOMING STATE EVENTS—MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Save the dates for these upcoming animal science education contests happening this winter and early spring. Watch for future posts with more information about registration and contest details.

Questions? For livestock contest connect with Bernie at borourke@wisc.edu or Jill at Jill.Jorgensen@wisc.edu. For dairy quiz bowl, connect with Jill at Jill.Jorgensen@wisc.edu or Maya at mwiltzius@wisc.edu.

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**





SAVE THE DATE

STATE 4-H DAIRY QUIZ BOWL

FEBRUARY 7, 2026

**UW GREEN BAY
STEM INNOVATION BUILDING**





SHARE YOUR EVENT IN YOUTH CONNECTIONS!

Youth Connections is a great way to let 4-H'ers around Wood County know what your club or project group is up to. The newsletter is published and emailed to all 4-H families every month.

Submit your article, photos, and fliers to woodcounty4h@woodcountywi.gov by the 25th of the month and we'll include it in the newsletter and on social media.



FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY

Now is the perfect time to plan ahead and start fundraising if you are planning to attend summer camp or a state or national travel opportunity this 4-H year. The Teen Leadership Group has an opportunity to help you raise money to offset the cost! Funds raised are good for experiences and registration costs through 2026.

For every Kwik Trip Ultimate Car Wash Card you sell, you'll receive \$15 credit toward your 2025 experience! Each card includes 5 Ultimate Car Washes and is good at any Kwik Trip car wash. What's even better? Car wash cards don't expire—they just need to be used at least once every two years.

WOW!

For more information about the car wash card sale, please contact the office at 715-421-8439.

CAR WASH FUNDRAISER

Sponsored by Wood County 4-H Teen Leadership Group

Wood County 4-H youth are selling Kwik Trip car wash cards to off-set the cost of educational experiences.



5-count ULTIMATE car wash cards **ONLY** \$36
SAVE \$14 off regular price!

The Ultimate Car Wash includes:

• Undercarriage Flush	• Triple Shine Vehicle Enhancer/Cleaner
• Presoak	• Spot-Free Rinse
• High-Pressure Wash or Soft Foam Wash	• 95-Second Super Dry

Cards are good at ALL Kwik Trip car wash stations.



Make checks payable to Wood County 4-H Leaders Association

Cards on sale now!

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, and ADA requirements.



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
WOOD COUNTY



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **NOVEMBER 1:** Re-enrollment deadline for returning youth and volunteers
- **NOVEMBER 15:** Educational Experience Scholarship Applications due
- **NOVEMBER 15:** Wood County 4-H Awards Program; 6:30pm; Auburndale School Forest
- **NOVEMBER 24:** Leaders Association Meeting; 7:00pm; TBD
- **NOVEMBER 29:** Lasagna Love; 10:30am-1:00pm; McMillan Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids
- **DECEMBER 1:** Plat Book Photo Contest Deadline
- **DECEMBER 7:** Central WI Shooting Sports Orientation; 12:00pm; Central WI Sportsmans Club, Marshfield
- **JANUARY 10:** Volunteer Retreat, Town of Day Hall, Rozellville
- **JANUARY 24:** Project Discovery Day, 2nd Street Community Center, Marshfield
- **FEBRUARY 13-15:** Teen Winter Camp; Wisconsin Lions Camp, Rosholt

STAY CONNECTED WITH WOOD COUNTY 4-H

Be sure that you are staying connected and getting all the latest information and event details!

While we try to include everything in the newsletter, sometimes we like to send reminders or something exciting comes up between issues that we want to share right away.

Follow our Facebook and Instagram pages to make sure you don't miss an update. Our web calendar is also updated in real time to look ahead at future events or to confirm event times and locations.



Wood County 4-H, WI



4hwoodcountywi

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For the most up-to-date list of events for Wood County 4-H, view our online calendar at: <https://wood.extension.wisc.edu/4-h/>



The University of Wisconsin–Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming in compliance with state and federal law. You may request an interpreter, materials in an alternative language or format, or other services to make events or documents more accessible, by contacting Extension Wood County at 715-421-8440. There's no added cost to you for these services.
