

Wood County 4-H YOUTH CONNECTIONS

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



TEEN WINTER CAMP 2026: THE AMAZING RACE

FEBRUARY 13-15 | LIONS CAMP, ROSHOLT

Join us for an exciting weekend of fun, challenges and life-sized adventures taking place both indoors and out! Experience *The Amazing Race* like never before, where you'll navigate through decisions, new activities and challenges while building friendships and leadership skills. Open to youth in grades 6-12

[Register here](#) before January 14th.

Don't miss this opportunity to play, grow, and make memories!



The poster for Teen Winter Camp 2026 features a blue and white design with a sun and clouds. The title 'TEEN WINTER CAMP' is in large, bold, yellow and blue letters, with 'THE AMAZING RACE' in smaller blue letters below it. Three circular photos show campers in various activities: one in a snowy outdoor setting, one in a group photo, and one two campers in the snow. Text on the poster includes: 'Register By Jan. 14', a QR code, the URL 'https://bit.ly/TeenWinterCamp26', 'Join us for an action packed weekend of fun, challenges, and life-sized adventures! Experience The Amazing Race like never before!', the date 'February 13-15, 2026', the location 'Lions Camp, Rosholt', and the age group 'Open to Grades 6-12'.

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



JOIN THE SUMMER CAMP STAFF TEAM

Ready to make an impact and have an unforgettable time doing it? We're looking for enthusiastic teens (Grade 8+) and awesome adults to help create an amazing camp experience for our 4-H campers!

Spend three days outdoors, build leadership skills, make new friends, and be part of a fun, supportive team that truly makes a difference. Whether you love campfires, canoeing, crazy skits, or just cheering on young campers — you belong with us!

- **Teens (Grade 8+):** Apply to be part of the youth staff!
- **Adults:** Volunteer as part of our adult leadership team!

[Sign up here before January 7th](#)

Let's make Summer Camp 2026 the best one yet!



Join Us for an Unforgettable
SUMMER CAMP STAFF EXPERIENCE!

18 USC 707

18 USC 707

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

Sign Up By Jan 7th
More Information:
<https://bit.ly/4-HCampStaffInfo26>

18 USC 707

~ Exciting Outdoor
Adventure Leading Youth!

~ Creating Connections and
life long memories!

~ Training for Purposeful
Roles at Camp



MULTI-COUNTY FLAT STANLEY PROJECT!

Get ready for an exciting mail adventure with Flat Stanley and Flat Stella! In this fun pen pal project, youth in K - 2nd grade will send their own Flat Stanley or Stella to a new friend and receive one in return.

The Flat Stanley Project is a fun and creative way for Cloverbuds to explore new places, make new friends and practice writing all through the mail! Along the way, they'll share stories, take photos, and build excitement around reading and connection. It's a great way to bring learning to life, one envelope at a time!

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



The illustration shows a pink spiral-bound notebook with a yellow pencil resting against it. The pencil has a green eraser. The notebook is open, showing a blank white page with a green border.

4-H Flat Stanley Project

Important Dates:

- Registration Opens: November
- Zoom Read-Aloud: Tuesday, January 6, 6:00 p.m.
- Registration Deadline: January 9
- Flat Stanley Mailed Out: Week of January 19
- Adventures Begin: When Stanley/Stella arrives!
- Return Flat Stanley: Week of February 9
- Zoom Share-Out Celebration: Sunday, February 22

Grades K-2
Ages: 5-8

UW-MADISON EXTENSION

MARKET SALE EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Youth interested in participating in the Central Wisconsin State Junior Fair Market Sale must meet educational requirements each year.

- Attend a Mandatory informational/orientation meeting
- Complete YQCA Training
- Earn 3 additional educational credits

Informational/Orientation Meetings

Two meetings will be offered:

- January 13 at Marshfield High School - enter at the commons
- January 26 at Auburndale High School

YQCA

One more YQCA in-person workshop is scheduled at Mid-State Technical College in Marshfield. Registration is required for this session. To register, go to cecourses.mstc.edu, click on "Search" and enter Keyword "YQCA" and find the class.

- March 4 at 7:00 pm

In-person workshops satisfy the requirements for exhibitors 18 years old and younger. Those 19+ must complete training online.

Reach out to a member of the Market Sale Committee with questions.



Photos courtesy of Becky Bauer

WINTER WILDLIFE CAMP

Join the Adventure at Winter Wildlife Camp!



Join us for an exciting day to explore the outdoors and learn about the winter wildlife of Wisconsin!

- **Includes:**
 - **Activities:** den building, animal signs hike, and crafts
 - **Food:** AM snack and lunch
- **Who:** Ages 7-11 (on the day of the event)
- **When:** Saturday, February 21, 2026, 10 AM – 3 PM
 - **Drop-off window:** 9:45 – 10 AM
 - **Pick-up window:** 3 – 3:15 PM
- **Where:** Upham Woods Outdoor Learning Center, N194 County Rd N, Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965
- **Cost:** \$45.00
- **Registration Deadline:** February 1, 2026



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



UPHAM
WOODS

WOOD COUNTY SERVICE PROJECT

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

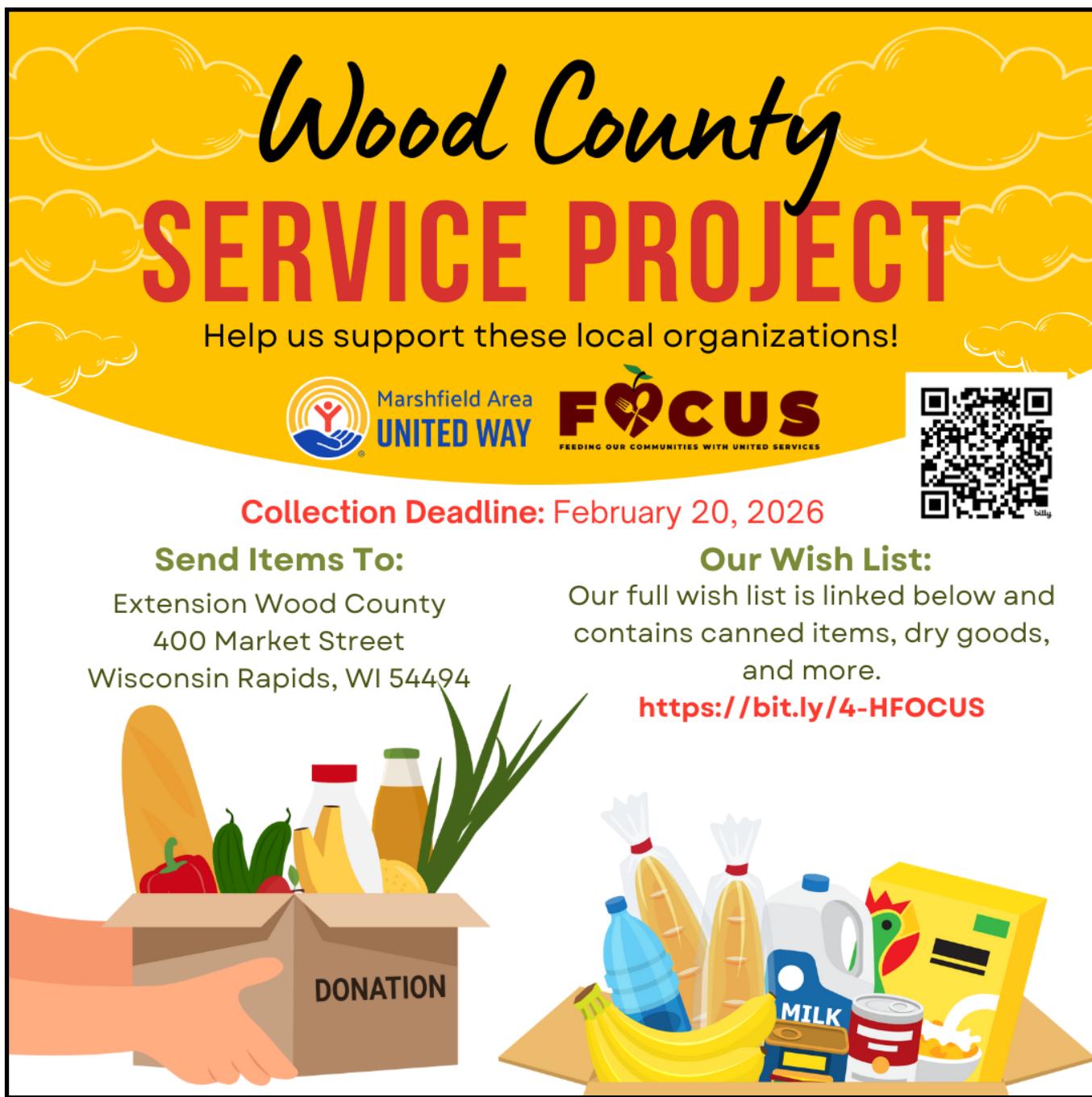
We still need your help!

We are looking for specific food items so we can create meal kits to donate to two vital programs right here in our community.

Check out the wish list, grab an item (or two!) and help us make a local impact before the **February 20th deadline**.

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!



The flyer features a yellow background with white clouds. The title "Wood County SERVICE PROJECT" is in large, bold, black and red letters. Below the title, a subtitle reads "Help us support these local organizations!" followed by logos for "Marshfield Area UNITED WAY" and "FOCUS FEEDING OUR COMMUNITIES WITH UNITED SERVICES". A QR code is on the right. The collection deadline is February 20, 2026. The "Send Items To:" address is Extension Wood County, 400 Market Street, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494. The "Our Wish List:" section links to <https://bit.ly/4-HFOCUS>. Illustrations of a hand holding a box labeled "DONATION" and a box filled with food items are at the bottom.

Wood County SERVICE PROJECT

Help us support these local organizations!

Marshfield Area **UNITED WAY**

FOCUS
FEEDING OUR COMMUNITIES WITH UNITED SERVICES

Collection Deadline: February 20, 2026

Send Items To:

Extension Wood County
400 Market Street
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Our Wish List:

Our full wish list is linked below and contains canned items, dry goods, and more.

<https://bit.ly/4-HFOCUS>

DONATION

WINTER KICKBALL TOURNAMENT

FEBRUARY 21 | CWSF FAIRGROUNDS, MARSHFIELD

WOOD COUNTY 4-H

WINTER KICKBALL TOURNAMENT

FOOD | **GAMES** | **HOT COCOA**

POT LUCK | **INDOOR YARD GAMES**

02-21-26

9:30AM

JR FAIR BUILDING AND HORSE ARENA @ FAIRGROUNDS IN MARSHFIELD

\$30/ TEAM

**FOR MORE INFO CONTACT ANN LINDOW:
CALL OR TEXT 715-819-6311
TEAMS OF 7-13 PLAYERS
ALL TEAM MEMBERS MUST BE WOOD COUNTY 4-H MEMBERS
NO LIMIT TO NUMBER OF TEAMS/CLUB**

**Hosted By:
Golden Glow 4-H**



In addition to kickball there will be games and activities in the Jr Fair building all day! Please bring a dish to pass for a meal follow burgers/hotdogs will be Provided by Golden Glow 4-H

SAVE THE DATE—K-3 PROJECT DAY

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21 | GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH, MARSHFIELD

Golden Glow will be hosting a Project Day just for our younger members in grades K-3.

The event will be open to all Wood County 4-H members in these grades. More details will be coming soon!



ROLLER SKATING NIGHT

SUNDAY, MARCH 1 | 5:00-7:00PM | MELODY GARDENS, MARSHFIELD

Roll into the fun with Wood County 4-H!

Join us for Roller Skating Night at Melody Gardens in Marshfield, WI!

- \$2 admission includes skate rental
- Music, friends and tons of skating fun

Register by February 20th: <https://bit.ly/4-Hrollerskating>

Don't miss out—lace up and roll with us!



STATE LIVESTOCK EVENTS

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



If you are interested in being on a team for the Dairy Quiz Bowl, reach out to Matt Dorshorst at matt.dorshorst@gmail.com before January 16th.

STATE HORSE EVENTS

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

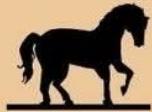


HORSE & PONY PROJECT TACK SWAP

SATURDAY, MARCH 14 | CWSF JUNIOR FAIR BUILDING, MARSHFIELD

The Wood County Horse & Pony Project is excited to host their annual tack swap at the Marshfield Junior Fair Building once again this year. What's new? Food Trucks!

Vendor space is still available. For more information, contact Kate Kohl at 715.383.2018.



**Wood County
Horse & Pony
Project**



Save the Date

**For our Annual Tack Swap
& Bucket Raffle Fundraiser**

What will we have:

- Food Trucks
- Bake Sale
- Tack Swap
- Vendors
- Bucket Raffle

**Date:
March 14, 2026**

More information to follow.

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.

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



EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES SCHOLARSHIPS

The Leaders Association Scholarship application for summer and fall educational experiences is now open. This includes 4-H National Congress and Summer Academy.

To learn more about these experiences and registration information, visit <https://wood.extension.wisc.edu/4-h/trip-applications/>

If you are considering attending one of these experiences, you should apply for a scholarship even if registration for the experience has not opened yet.

The scholarship application can be found online at <https://forms.gle/x2q4sJqDPeynCMS89>

Application deadline is March 15th.



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.



ARTBEAT REGISTRATION OPENING SOON!

MARCH 14-15 | UPHAM WOODS, WISCONSIN DELLS

What is ArtBEAT!?

ArtBEAT! is an introduction to Wisconsin 4-H Expressive Arts & Camp/Overnight Experiences, open to 4-H members in grades 3-5, parents and approved volunteer leaders.

- Participants will explore different types of art (visual arts, drama, music, STEM) led by adult volunteers while having the camp experience of staying in cabins with high school counselors and adult chaperones.
- Youth participants will rotate through a variety of hands-on sessions held at various sites throughout camp, including outdoors (be sure to dress accordingly).



The graphic features the "Art Beat" logo with a paint palette and paintbrush icon. It includes the text "REGISTRATION OPENING SOON!" and "UW-MADISON EXTENSION". It also shows a photo of children at a long table doing crafts. The graphic includes text boxes for "WHO", "WHERE", and "WHEN".

WHO Youth in grades 3-5, parents, leaders

WHERE Upham Woods Outdoor Learning Center

WHEN March 14-15, 2025

REGISTER JAN. 12TH - FEB. 8TH

Full details and more information can be found online at:

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/art-beat/>

REGISTRATION:

- Registration will be open in 4HOnline .Space is limited. Once the registration capacity is met, registrations will be placed on a waiting list in the order in which they are received.
- registration will open on January 12th and will remain open through Sunday, February 8th.

COST:

- ArtBEAT! uses a tiered pricing model that allows families to pay what they are able. The tiered pricing structure for 2026 is \$125, \$150, or \$175. \$150 most closely represents the actual cost of ArtBEAT! programming. Parents are encouraged to attend as volunteers (\$75 required to cover meals and Upham day-pass). If volunteers choose to stay on Friday night with their children, an additional \$35/person will cover overnight and breakfast costs.

Volunteers: Parents are encouraged to attend and can sign up as adult volunteers or adult helpers (non-volunteer) through 4HOnline: 26wi4hartbeat.4honline.com.

Questions: Contact Laura Pine (lpine@wisc.edu) or Jay Johnson (jay.johnson2@wisc.edu) with any questions.

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 2026 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.

KWIK TRIP

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

The Ultimate Car Wash includes:

- Undercarriage Flush
- Presoak
- High-Pressure Wash or Soft Foam Wash
- Triple Shine Vehicle Enhancer/Cleaner
- Spot-Free Rinse
- 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.

SUMMER TRAVEL EXPERIENCES

SAVE THE DATES

2026 4-H SUMMER TRAVEL EXPERIENCES



DISCOVER WI
GRADES: 6-8
July 7-9

SPONSORED BY:
LANGLADE
MARATHON
& WOOD

*OTHER 4-H
YOUTH INVITED

WISCONSIN
DISCOVERS
GRADES: 9-12
July 21-24

NEW

GET READY FOR ADVENTURE! WE ARE OFFERING TWO UNIQUE TRAVEL EXPERIENCES FOR SUMMER 2026 AND WE WANT YOU TO BE PART OF THE FUN! **DISCOVER WI** IS PERFECT FOR YOUTH IN GRADES 6-8, EXPLORING EXCITING DESTINATIONS ACROSS OUR STATE. OLDER YOUTH IN GRADES 9-12 CAN DIVE DEEPER WITH **WI DISCOVERS**, AN OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL OPPORTUNITY DESIGNED TO BROADEN HORIZONS. PACK YOUR CURIOSITY — LET'S EXPLORE TOGETHER!

More Info Coming Spring 2026



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **JANUARY 15:** Awards Committee Meeting; Hewitt Village Hall; 6:30pm
- **JANUARY 24:** Project Discovery Day, 2nd Street Community Center, Marshfield
- **JANUARY 26:** Leaders Association Meeting
- **FEBRUARY 13-15:** Teen Winter Camp; Wisconsin Lions Camp, Rosholt
- **FEBRUARY 14:** Grades K-3 Project Day; Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Marshfield
- **FEBRUARY 21:** Winter Kickball Tournament; CWSF Fairgrounds, Marshfield; 9:30am
- **MARCH 1:** Roller Skating Night; Melody Gardens, Marshfield; 5:00-7:00pm

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.

Online Calendar: <https://wood.extension.wisc.edu/4-h/>



Wood County 4-H, WI



4hwoodcountywi