## Clover Connection

Sept/Oct 2025

**Editor**: Julie Diepenbrock — **Production**: Kelly Phillips

Dear 4-H Families and Friends:

Wow! Another 4-H year is about to begin. Enrollment for the 2025-2026 4-H year begins Thursday, September 4 - see inside for more information. I enjoyed seeing many of you and your exhibits at the Taylor County Fair - see inside for pictures from the fair. The fair is a great venue for showcasing the work 4-H members have done and what they have learned throughout the past 4-H year.

Now it is time to get those record books completed. Part of the learning process is reflecting on what goals you reached, what you learned and what you would like to do different next year. Record keeping is a valuable life skill and can earn you 4-H awards and financial scholarships for 4-H travel experiences. Talk to some of our older 4-Hers about their experiences and start writing your own 4-H Story.

Lots of opportunities are available in the coming 4-H year! Choose what works for you, get involved, and enjoy the journey!

Julie Diepenbrock 4-HProgram Educator





#### 2025-26

## 4-H ENROLLMENT BEGINS SEPTEMBER 4TH!

#### FOR MORE DETAILS, VISIT:

taylor.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-clubs/

TO REGISTER, VISIT:

v2.4honline.com



#### **Enrollment Deadlines:**

**November 1**—Deadline for 4-H re-enrollments. Youth who have been absent/inactive for more than 12 months are considered a new member upon joining 4-H again.

**March 1**—Deadline for 4-H members to sign up for all 4-H projects if they plan on exhibiting at the county fair.

**After March 1**—Youth may still join 4-H, but will not be allowed to exhibit at the Taylor County fair. Youth enrolling after March 1 may still participate in 4-H programs and activities as a member.

#### **4-H Enrollment**



**Current Members:** As soon as the system performs year end and rolls over our data to the new year, families can go in and start re-enrolling. The system processing shouldn't take much time at all, so Thursday, September 4th the system will be ready to start accepting re-enrollments.

Returning members and leaders: we suggest logging in as soon as possible to re-enroll so you don't forget. Re-enrollment will go through Saturday, November 1st. When you log in to re-enroll, follow these steps:

- · Update your contact information if anything has changed
- · Update project areas (delete old or add new)
- · Review and confirm the waivers and agreements
- · Update your health information.

Once you have completely updated your profile, click submit. If you need assistance with enrollment or access to internet, you can stop by the Extension Office during office hours, but remember to bring your 4HOnline password.

It is imperative that members enroll or re-enroll on time **by November 1.** These deadlines are set by the State Office for grant reporting information. Please make sure to give yourself enough time to complete your enrollment so we can have a great 2025-26 4-H Year!

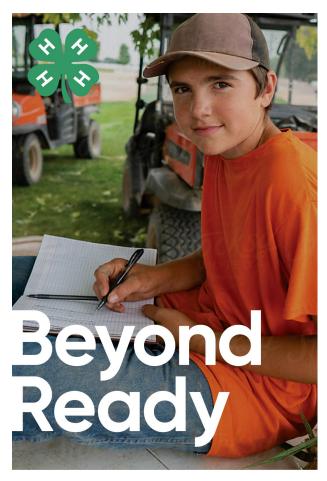
**New members:** To enroll in 4-H for the first time, please go to v2.4honline.com and create a family profile. It is suggested that you also visit or contact the Extension Office to learn more about 4-H, and/or go to <u>taylor.extension.wisc.edu</u> and look under the 4-H tab to view helpful information for new members, including choosing a club.



#### Theme:

### **Beyond Ready**

October 5-11, 2025



Join 4-H today at 4-H.org

#### **Federation**



#### What is the Federation?

#### **Federation of Taylor County 4-H**

The Federation of Taylor County 4-H is a board of members who provide assistance to the Taylor County 4-H program and its clubs in various ways including:

- Making decisions affecting Taylor County 4-H
- Offering County-wide Activities for 4-H Members and their families
- Supplement County 4-H Programs
- Providing 4-H Clubs with Literature
- Supplying the Food Stands and materials for Plat Books
- Provide Scholarships to outstanding 4-H Members
- Supplement Camp Fees
- Provide Award Trips for Members
- Reimburses the 4-H for State Trips

Any 4-H Volunteer is eligible and welcome to be a part of the Federation. Each club also has one standing spot on the Board of Directors for the Federation.





#### **New Family Festivities**



## Youth Opportunity/Help Wanted



# TRICK OF TREAT FOR THE HUNGRY

TOR THE HONGET

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19TH AT 3 P.M., MEET AT EXTENSION

YLD: WE WILL HAND OUT DOOR HANGERS

PARKING LOT - 925 DONALD STREET, AND PICK UP

DONATIONS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26TH AFTER THE PARADE.



4-H Discovery Days
Saturday, October 25th

Please contact Julie if you would be willing to help with activities for 4-H Discovery Days at Huey's Children's Museum.

Interested? Send an email to Julie Diepenbrock at Julie.diepenbrock@wisc.edu or text 608-381-2435



#### **Project Information**



The Wisconsin 4-H Project Guide helps 4-H members find their spark!

This guide includes a new **Sparks Roadmap** that helps youth find projects that align with their interests!

See your Club Leaders or view the Guide online at:

tinyurl.com/4hprojguide

#### **Project Information**





#### Requirements for Attending an Adult Certification Workshop

Volunteers planning to be shooting sports 4-H leaders and current 4-H leaders may attend. (Those completing a certification workshop with pending 4-H leader status must not instruct 4-H youth until 4-H leader status is approved in the county.)

2024 Central Workshop, Marshfield, WI

Date: September 13, 2025

Time: 8AM - 5PM

Disciplines: Archery, Coordinator, Muzzleloader, Pistol/Air

Pistol, Rifle/Air Rifle, Shotgun

Registration Information: Registration deadline is

September 12, 2025.

Register at: tinyurl.com/25shootingsports

Location: Central Wisconsin Sportsmen's Club, 11841 Stadt

Rd, Marshfield, WI 54449



Jul/Aug Callie Cat Winner: Sam Nitz

#### **Youth Opportunity**





Hey 4-H Youth Members! Callie Cat wants you to read the 4-H newsletter so you can have the opportunity to **win a prize** each newsletter! All you have to do is complete the Callie Cat 4-H Newsletter questions and submit them by the last day of the month the newsletter comes out. If you are in K-5 and submit at least 2/3 correct answers OR in grade 6-13 and submit at least 13/15 correct, while following all submission directions, your name will be put into a drawing for a \$10 gift certificate! There will be 1 winner from each grade group per newsletter. Participants must be 4-H youth members.

#### Callie Cat 4-H Newsletter Questions:

#### Grade K-5 Questions:

- 1) When are record books due?
- 2) Where is the New Family Festivities held?
- 3) What are the dates of National 4-H Week?

#### Grade 6-13 Questions:

- 1) When are record books due?
- 2) When are Educational Experience Applications due?
- 3) Is CWF at Ignite this year?
- 4) What is the deadline date for 4-H re-enrollments?
- 5) Give one advantage of creating a Record Book?
- 6) What will YLO hand out on October 19th?
- 7) Which 4-H Educational Experience are you most interested in?
- 8) When is National 4-H Week?
- 9) When is the Central Workshop in Marshfield?
- 10) Where and when is the New Family Festivities being held?
- 11) What is Federation of Taylor County 4-H?
- 12) Where is the Wisconsin 4-H Fall Forum held?
- 13) Where is Discovery Days held?
- 14) Which is your favorite pic from 4-H Happenings?
- 15) When does 4-H enrollment begin?

#### Instructions for submitting your entry:

- Answer questions on an 8.5x11 piece of paper. Write you full name and club name in the upper right hand corner of your entry page.
- Submit to: 4-H Agent Attn: Callie Cat Contest, Taylor County Extension, 925 Donald St. Room 103, Medford, WI 54451

#### **Youth Opportunity 7th-13th**



Fall Forum is a statewide conference that brings 4-H youth and adult leaders together to connect, collaborate, celebrate, and build excitement and energy for a new year of 4-H. It is for youth in grades 7-13, adult volunteers, and staff. It's a great opportunity for youth and volunteers to discover and explore their sparks and make new friends from all across the state. Everyone will leave inspired and ready for a great 4-H year!

We anticipate that registration will open early September in 4-H Online. Stay tuned for more details on registration.



SAVE THE DATE

Oct. 31-Nov. 2

**Grades:** 7-12 &

4-H Volunteers

Location: Green Lake

More information to come!









#### **Educational Travel Experiences and Record Books**

As a 4-H member, you have many opportunities to find your "spark" through experiences at the club, county, state and national level. Sometimes, there are so many choices it can be difficult to learn about them all or reach out and try something new. Are you ready to take the next step in 4-H? Attending a 4-H travel experience might be just what you are looking for.

The Federation of Taylor County 4-H is willing to help fund your 4-H Educational Travel Experience (up to half the cost). To earn an Educational Travel Experience Sponsorship, you need to complete a 4-H Record book, Educational Travel Experience application, and an interview. Check out some of the great opportunities listed in this newsletter and get that record book and application submitted by Monday, September 22nd. Not planning to go on a travel experience? Do a record book anyway! Record books help you set goals for yourself and keep track of all the things you are accomplishing in 4-H.

You can learn more about record books at:

taylor.extension.wisc.edu/record-books/ and you can find the Educational Travel Experience application at tinyurl.com/
TravelExperiences

More info about Statewide Travel Experiences can be found at 4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities





4-H Members grades 10-12

Date: February

Location: Hunstville, AL

**Advanced Space Academy** explores college and career preparation through an immersive experience in science, technology, engineering, and math. Trainees undergo a variety of astronaut training exercises, engineering challenges, and teambuilding activities, all culminating in an extended duration simulated space mission. Registration opens in September.

#### SPACE CAMP

Space Camp is back! Learn about and experience the different aspects of life as an astronaut, working for NASA, and exploring places beyond Earth!

4-H Members grades 6-8

Date: April/May

Location: Hunstville, AL

Registration opens in November.





**CWF (Citizenship Washington Focus)** in 2026 is moving to March to be a part of the Ignite by 4-H conference. The state office is supporting a delegation to both Ignite (STEM and Animal Science Tracks) and CWF this year. We have 20 slots for each which will be filled through an application process in 4HOnline. Both applications will be live from September 4-29, 2025. Both experiences are open to youth in grades 10-12. The cost is \$2,800 per youth for CWF and \$2,500 per youth for Ignite. We realize this is a quick turnaround for registration – this is because of deadlines National has set for the programs.

#### CWF (Citizenship Washington Focus) @ Ignite - March 24-29, 2026

This track remains our cornerstone leadership experience for teens passionate about civic engagement, public policy, and advocacy as pathways to community change. Participants will strengthen their understanding of the democratic process and cultivate leadership skills rooted in civic responsibility. With this foundation, they'll discover how local action can spark impact on national and global levels.

#### Ignite by 4-H - March 25-29, 2026

**STEM** - In the STEM track, teens will experience innovation in action through hands-on challenges in robotics, engineering, coding, and emerging technologies. They'll dive into fields like artificial intelligence (AI), computer science, physics, and chemistry—developing the technical and analytical skills to thrive in a technology-driven world. This track encourages experimentation, creative problem-solving, and future-

Animal Science - The Animal Science track is for teens passionate about animals, biology, and their impact on food systems and communities. This immersive experience focuses on the science and care of animals through hands-on learning in fields such as veterinary science, meat science and production, ranching, livestock management, and equine science. Teens will gain practical knowledge in animal health, nutrition, and agricultural practices that support ethical, sustainable animal care.





Date: March 24-29, 2026 Location: Washington D.C.

**CWF** @ **Ignite** This track remains our cornerstone leadership experience for teens passionate about civic engagement, public policy, and advocacy as pathways to community change. Participants will strengthen their understanding of the democratic process and cultivate leadership skills rooted in civic responsibility. With this foundation, they'll discover how local action can spark impact on national and global levels.

4-H Members grades 10-12 Date: March 25-29, 2026 Location: Washington D.C.



**Ignite by 4-H** Teens from all over the country come to D.C. to collaborate, connect, and cultivate a passion for expanding their minds and their world – becoming resilient and ready for everything life has to offer. Teens will immerse themselves in hands-on workshops, experiences, activities in their key programming areas of AgriScience, Animal Science, Community Accelerators, Healthy Living (featuring soccer), or STEM to continue to find their spark.





4-H Members grades 10-12

Date: April

Location: Arlington, VA

**National 4-H Conference** annually brings 4-H youth and adults from around the nation to work towards strengthening and expanding the 4-H Youth Development program at the local, state, and national levels. National 4-H Conference is the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture's premier youth development opportunity to engage youth. Applications due December 1, 2025.



4-H Members grades 8-11

Date: June 14-18 Location: Madison, WI

**Summer Academy** will help you discover pathways to your future, and learn what it takes to have a career, or a hobby in several SPARK areas including agriculture, STEM, service, leadership, arts, trades, and many more. Also, fun opportunities to build networks and friendships with folks from all over the state of WI.

Registration opens in March.





4-H Members grades 8-10

Date: June

Location: East Coast

American Spirit East provides the opportunity for youth to experience history and heritage through a 10-day bus journey to the East Coast! Participants increase their knowledge of American history while experiencing where it occurred, have dynamic exposure to diverse cultural experiences and perspectives of the foundation of our nation, and further develop skills in leadership and personal expression of values.



Youth Ages 14-18
Date: November
Location: Wisconsin

The mission of **YPCL** is to advance youth voices in Wisconsin by increasing the capacity for youth and adults to share civic leadership in local schools, communities, and organizations.



## **4-H FALL FORUM**

4-H Members grades 7-13

Date: November Location: Wisconsin

**4-H Fall Forum** is an opportunity for youth and adult leaders to attend the statewide training weekend with county and state staff. 4-H youth and adult leaders will come together to connect, collaborate, celebrate, and continue building excitement and energy for a new year of 4-H learning.



4-H Members grades 9-12

Date: November Location: Atlanta. GA

**National 4-H Congress** is a five-day Educational Experience held in Atlanta, GA. Congress is the premiere nation-wide event for 4-Hers to network with others from around the country, Canada, and Puerto Rico. While at Congress, 4-H'ers engage in leadership, citizenship, global awareness, and inclusion.

#### Calendar of Events



September

1—UW Extension Office Closed for Labor Day Observation

1-4-H Clubs Annual Financial Reporting Due to UWEX

4-4-H Enrollment Begins

4-29—CWF & Ignite Registrations open 6—Annual WI State 4-H Gymkhana—West Allis

22—Record Books due to Extension

22—Travel Experiences Applications due to Extension 22—Federation Meeting 7:15 p.m. at UWEX

13—Shooting Sports Central Workshop in Marshfield

27-28—State 4-H Dog Obedience

October

<u>5—11 N</u>ational 4-H Week 2025

11—State 4-H Dog Agility Show—Oshkosh

19—YLO: Trick or Treat for the Hunger—door hanger drop off

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20-New 4-H Family Festivities 7:00 p.m. at UWEX

25—Discovery Days @ Huey's Hideaway Children's Museum 26—YLO: Trick or Treat for the Hungry—donation pick up

27—Federation Meeting 7:15 p.m. at UWEX

November

American Spirit Registration opens in November

24—Federation Meeting 7:15 p.m. at UWEX

27-28—UW Extension Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday



**TC Newsletter Deadlines** 

October 17—November/December

December 19—January/February

Clubs are welcome to share events or meetings by these dates.

If you have any questions please contact the office 715-748-3327 or

phillips32@wisc.edu



#### **4-H Happenings**

2025 Taylor County Fair





#### **4-H Happenings**









#### **4-H Happenings**

2025 Taylor County Fair Goosechase



#### **Volunteer Training**



#### **☑** New Volunteer Training Process:

This year, when you log in to re-enroll, you'll be able to complete your **2025-26 Volunteer Training** right in your 4-H Online profile — no extra links or websites needed! Prefer a paper version? No problem — just reach out to your local Extension office, and they'll get one to you.

#### Background Checks:

Background checks are required every two years. If you're due, 4-H Online will prompt you to start the process when you re-enroll. After you submit your enrollment, keep an eye on your inbox for an email from **HireRight** to complete your background check. (Be sure to check your spam folder.)

#### Important Deadlines:

According to our updated Wisconsin 4-H volunteer reenrollment policy:

Enrollment is due by November 1
Complete your training and background check (if needed) by December 1

These steps are <u>required</u> for you to be an approved volunteer. If they're not completed on time, you will not be allowed to lead programming with 4-H youth until everything is up to date.

We truly appreciate your commitment to creating safe, positive spaces for our youth. Getting your re-enrollment done early helps make sure all our programs are supported by approved, ready-to-go volunteers like you!



JW-MADISON EXTENSION aylor County 4-H

#### Taylor County 4-H is on Facebook & Instagram!

This will be another way to communicate information, event details and learn more about Taylor County 4-H



Facebook: Taylor County 4-H

Link: https://www.facebook.com/4h.taylorcounty



Instagram: uwextaylorcounty4h

Link: https://instagram.com/taylor.uwex.edu

#### Purpose Statement

"We teach, learn, lead and serve, connecting people with the University of Wisconsin, and engaging with them in transforming lives and communities."



An EEOAffirmative Action employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and ADA requirements. Requests for reasonable accommodations for disabilities or limitations should be made prior to the date of the program or activity for which it is needed. Please do so as early as possible prior to the program or activity so that proper arrangements can be made. Requests are confidential.