



Jefferson County 4-H Newsletter

UW-MADISON EXTENSION

January 2024

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Jefferson County Extension Office

Open Monday – Friday:
8:00am - 4:30pm

Jerry Wilcenski

4-H Program Educator
wilcenski@wisc.edu
920-674-7299

Katelyn Broedlow

Administrative Assistant
kbroedlow@jeffersoncountywisc.gov
920-674-7440

864 Collins Road
Jefferson, WI 53549
Phone: 920-674-7295
Fax: 920-674-7200

Jefferson County Project Learning Day



Save the Date! Jefferson County Project Learning Day will take place on Saturday, February 17, 2024 at Rockwell Elementary School in Fort Atkinson starting at 9:00am.

What is Project Learning Day?

Project Learning Day is a countywide 4-H Event where 4-H members, leaders and parents are welcome to take a class on various topics. This is an educational event that kids and parents can learn many new things - from animals to sewing and many other projects. Project Learning Day is scheduled for **February 17 at Rockwell Elementary School in Fort Atkinson**. Classes that will be offered and registration details will be forwarded in future communications.

Some of the many classes that will be offered are:

- Food History
- Worming Around
- Gem Trees
- Legos
- Poultry
- Friendship Bracelets
- Succulent Dish Garden
- Rabbits
- Scrapbooking
- Dehydration of Food
- Cookie Decorating
- And More!



January 2024 4-H CALENDAR

For a complete list of dates and events please visit the online 4-H Calendar. ([Click here for calendar](#))

Date	Time	Meeting	Location
Jan 1		Extension Office Closed	
Jan 2	6:30pm	Rabbit Project Meeting	Extension Office
Jan 2	7:00pm	Horse Committee Meeting	Extension Office
Jan 4	6:30pm	Poultry Project Meeting	Extension Office
Jan 5-Jan 6		WI State 4-H Association Meeting	
Jan 6-Jan 7		Windy Kitty Cat Show	Fair Park
Jan 8	6:00pm	Meats Judging Meeting	Extension Office
Jan 9	6:00pm	Carcass Meeting	Extension Office
Jan 9	6:00pm	Cat Project Meeting	Extension Office
Jan 9	7:00pm	Livestock Committee Meeting	Extension Office
Jan 11	6:30pm	Rocketry Project Meeting	Extension Office
Jan 14	12:30pm	Bake-Off Meeting	Extension Office
Jan 15		Newsletter Items Due to Katelyn	
Jan 15	6:00pm	Meats Judging Meeting	Extension Office
Jan 16	7:00pm	JCHP Countywide Meeting	Fair Park
Jan 21		JCHP Tack Sale	Fair Park
Jan 22	6:00pm	Meats Judging Meeting	Extension Office
Jan 22	6:00pm	Cloverbud Project Meeting	Extension Office
Jan 23	7:00pm	Junio Leaders Meeting	Extension Office
Jan 25	6:30pm	Rocketry Project Meeting	Extension Office
Jan 29	6:00pm	Dog Project Orientation	Extension Office
Jan 29	6:00pm	Meats Judging Meeting	Extension Office
Jan 29	7:00pm	Dairy Committee Meeting	Extension Office



PROJECT NEWS

Information for specific projects is listed in this section. If you need help with a project not listed please call the EXT Office at 920-674-7295. Projects are listed in alphabetical order. If you want to lead a countywide project please contact the Extension Office for more information.

(Click here for online 4-H calendar)

Cat Project

The next Cat Project meeting of the year will be held on January 9 at 6:00pm at the Extension Office.

Meetings will be held:

- January 9 - 6:00pm - Extension Office
- March 5 - 6:00pm - Fair Park
- May 7 - 6:00pm - Fair Park
- June 4 - 6:00pm - Fair Park

If you have questions about the cat project, contact Emilie Shoop at eshoop@gmail.com or (309) 473-3083.

Cloverbud Project

Are you in 5K-2nd grade and interested in seeing what 4-H is all about? Join our Cloverbud Project! We will explore different areas of what 4-H has to offer.

We're so excited to be hosting Cloverbud meetings again this 4-H yea. Registration is required! [Register here for the Cloverbud Meetings!](#) After most of the meetings, we'll send your Cloverbud home with a few more activities to extend their learning about the topic.

The total cost for the meetings is \$50 which includes 5 project meetings, take home activities and a project material kit. If you are a returning member you can use your material kit from last year and your cost would be \$40.

Cloverbud Meetings will be held at 6:00pm at the Extension Office one Monday a month during the months of October, November, January, March and May.

- January 22, 2024 - 6:00pm - EXT Office
- March 25, 2024 - 6:00pm - EXT Office
- May 20, 2024 - 6:00pm - Fair Park

Dairy Project

Watch for details on the dairy project!

Dog Project

Jefferson County 4-H Dog Project will have its first meeting for 2024 on January 29th at the Extension Office in rooms 8 & 9 at 6:00pm. This meeting will be our Orientation Meeting for New Members, we will go over our rules, 2024 Calendar and equipment you will need for training your dog. Returning Youth may attend to fill out their paperwork and give a copy of their dogs Rabies Certificate. All paperwork and shot records have to be handed in on/before our first night of training.

Training will start February 12th at the Fairgrounds. If it's your first year of training or starting with a new dog, your training time will be at 6pm. If you are a returning youth your training time will be 7pm. Each class will be a 45 minute training session.

In case of bad weather and we cancel the meeting it will be on our Facebook page Jefferson Co. 4H Dog Project and will email your 4H listed email account. I would suggest liking our Facebook page most updates are posted on this page.

If you have questions about the dog project, contact Kate Anderson at (920) 723-3614 or 2mtmanderson@gmail.com.

Horse & Pony Project

The next Horse Committee Meeting is on January 2 at 7:00pm at the Extension Office.

The next JCHP Countywide Meeting is on January 16 at 7:00pm at the Fair Park.

If you have questions about the horse project, contact the JCHP Committee at jchpchair@gmail.com.

Lego Project

The next Lego Project Meeting is February 23 at 6:00pm at the Extension Office.

If you have questions about the Lego project, contact Cheryl Mierendorf at 920-723-5138 or candshorsemanship@yahoo.com

Livestock Project

Includes: beef, dairy, goat, poultry, rabbit, sheep and swine.

The next Livestock Committee Meeting is on January 9 at 7:00pm at the Extension Office.

Upcoming Meetings:

January 4 - 6:30pm - Poultry Project Kick-Off Meeting - EXT
January 9 - 6:00pm - Carcass Meeting - EXT

Meats Judging Practice dates are January 8, 15, 22, 29 at 6:00pm at the Extension Office.

Natural Sciences Project

Natural Science Projects include Beekeeping, Birds, Insects, Fishing, Forestry, Wildflowers, Hunting & Wildlife, Adventures, and Environmental projects.

Each of these project areas have a variety of possibilities. What are you interested in ? Do you like wildlife, wildflowers, or adventures? **Chose what you are interested in doing ? List the one** you want to learn more about. **Plan an adventure** activity or trip that is about fishing, camping, hiking or skiing. **Make** a survival or first aid **kit** for an adventure activity. Check listings for the items you will need and the kind of case to put them in. **Create a walking stick** for hiking or a poster showing how you would clean a fish. **Create a "log"** or **poster/display** with pictures and comments about your **adventure experience** or an **environmental topic**. **What**

PROJECT NEWS

winter activities do you enjoy? Making a Snow Fort, Skiing, sledding, snowmobiling? All these depend on the weather. **Will we have snow? It is said our climate is changing.** Illustrate weather conditions is an Environment project. You can **make** a weather instrument or weather calendar recording the weather conditions.

Take a winter walk or hike and observe what's around you. What trees do you see? Look for tracks or birds. Record your observations with pictures and notes, providing information for projects on Forestry, Wildlife and Birds. Or **do observations at home**. Put out a bird feeder and record how many different birds you can list. Watch for squirrels, look for his tracks in the snow. These enjoyable activities can be a part of Natural Science projects. **Practice winter safety, dress for your activity** and keep your **first aid kit** with you at all times. **Enjoy winter activities.** Don't get cabin fever.

Check out more **adventure ideas and information** listed in the *Wisconsin Natural Resources magazine* at **WNR.MAG.COM** and more in the **Winter 2023 Issue**.

Look for NEW In 2024:K.I.D.S. ADVENTURE CHALLENGE . It's about doing activities at Wisconsin state parks, forests, trails and recreation areas in 2024. Get information at dnr.wi.gov/tiny/1991.

Also see **Free Fishing Weekend**, Jan. 20-21, that is all about ice fishing and the clinics that can help you get started. Most state waters require no license on those dates. For more information visit dnr.wi.gov/tiny/2006.

If you do **Mountain Biking** go to dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks and learn about new trails at Willow River and Kinnickinnic State parks.

Enjoy our Wisconsin Winter Time with an adventure to record as your 4-H project.

Club Leaders, do you want ideas for a club meeting indoor activity? Would you like me to join you for a meeting? Let's talk.

If you have questions about these projects, contact Sharon Schweitzer at 920-650-7110 or rwses@idcnet.com.

Plants & Soils Project

Plant & Soils Projects include these project areas – Crops, Vegetables, Flowers, Houseplants and Plant Crafts.

Winter, a time to gather information and plan what you would like to grow this year as a project . A new **houseplant? Vegetables or flowers** or both? Does your family grow **crops**? Will you be helping with the crops or have a plot of your own? Would you like to exhibit them at the county fair? No place to grow a patch of corn or sunflowers? Ask for the possibility to plant them at or with another club member at their home or farm.

Seed catalogs will be arriving in the mail. No catalogs, go to the websites of seed companies. Talk with your family and make a list of your choices. **List plants or seeds that are interesting, or ones you would like to grow or to eat.** Find vegetables or flowers **with funny or strange names. Think**

about growing one of them.

It could be **fun** to grow some “**Easter Egg**” Radishes or “**Yin Yang**” Beans. Or plant some **Teddybear Sunflowers** for Birds, Bees and Butterflies, the **Pollinators** we need. Maybe you would like some **Edible** flowers along with your vegetables. **Giant or tiny** vegetables might make an interesting fair exhibit.

Check out what classes for Plants and Soil Sciences are listed for **Project Day, February 17, 2024**. Choose ones you are interest in and **Sign Up**.

Call or email, 920-650-7110 or rwses@idcnet.com with question, comments or concerns.

Poultry Project

The next Poultry Project meeting of the year will be held on January 4 at 6:30pm at the Extension Office.

Meetings will be held:

- January 4 - 6:30pm - Extension Office
- February 1 - 6:30pm - Extension Office
- March 7 - 6:30pm - Extension Office
- April 4 - 6:30pm - Extension Office
- May 2 - 6:30pm - Extension Office

If you have questions about the poultry project, contact Joy Brattlie at 608-220-3933.

Rocketry

The rocketry (aerospace) project will meet the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Extension Office (January-May). The first rocketry project meeting will be at 6:30pm on January 25.

Youth must be able to safely use an X-acto type knife or be accompanied by an adult who can assist them. In addition to making rockets from kits, youth will have the opportunity to make rockets from scratch.

Project Leaders will be Roald Ager-Hart and Brett Hart. Please call 920-674-4963 with any questions!

Shooting Sports

All youth in the Shooting Sports project – specifically archery – should have received an email regarding shooting sports dates. If you didn't receive an email, please send an email to jeffersonwi4hshootingports@gmail.com

If you have questions about the shooting sports project, contact David Saxby at jeffersonwi4hshootingports@gmail.com

LEADER NEWS

Leader's Board Meeting

The next Leader's Board meeting is Thursday, February 15 at 6:30pm at the Extension Office.

Leader's Association Meeting

The next Leaders Association meeting is Thursday, March 21 at 6:30pm at the Extension Office. All leaders (certified volunteers) are highly encouraged and welcome to attend! Parents and youth are also welcome!

Countywide Project Leadership Needed

There are many projects that are offered by the Jefferson County 4-H Program - 70 to be exact! Please refer to Page 12 to see which projects have Countywide Leaders. All other projects do not. If you are interested in becoming a Countywide Project Leader, there are many opportunities that exist. If you are interested, please contact the EXT Office for more details. Thank you in advance for your consideration!

OLDER MEMBERS

Junior Leaders

The next Junior Leaders meeting is on January 23 at 7:00pm at the Extension Office! Junior Leaders is for youth in 6th - 12th grades. Any 4-H member in those grades is welcome to join our group!

If you have any questions, please contact Alyssa at 920-723-9039 (call/text) or jakewith07@yahoo.com.

CLUB NEWS

Farmington All Stars

The Farmington All-Stars 4-H Club held two meetings in the last month, one a business meeting at the Farmington Town Hall and the next a bowling party at Watertown Bowl 18.

The business meeting took place in mid-November. At that meeting, the club learned that the Farmington All-Stars had won a Culvers Custard Party in connection with our participation in 4-H week activities. Everyone enjoyed the make-your-own sundae bar with a choice of lots of toppings.

In new business, the club is working to set up two community service events, one a volunteer activity at Alden Estates and the other a tour of the Humane Society of Jefferson County combined with making dog toys.

The bowling party took place Dec. 5, with bowling, pizza and nachos.

The next meeting will take place on the second Tuesday of January at the Farmington Town Hall.

- Michael Wilson, Reporter



Ixonia Victory

There was great attendance at Ixonia Victory's 4-h meeting. We all arrived early to tie fleece blankets and donate them to capitalize Warm-Up and Watertown. We participated in a club wreath fundraiser and had the pick up on November 21. We are looking forward to our club holiday party on Sunday December 3 from 12-2 pm at Watertown north bowl. At our holiday party we will be collecting non perishable food items for the Ixonia Food Pantry. We are also excited to go caroling at heritage homes in Watertown and cheer up the residents there on December 4. Another thing our club voted on was sponsoring a family with three children for this Christmas and supporting them with winter clothing and food.

- Addison Strobel, Reporter



Jefferson Boosters

December 10th 2023 The Jefferson Booster held their monthly club meeting. For this meeting club members brought donations of books and hand made fleece blankets for Christmas Neighbors. Isaac and Avalee Auer gave demonstrations. Boosters members had a pizza party as a prize for doing well in the county wide fundraiser. And the social committee provided members the opportunity to make their own Christmas Ornaments.

- Isaac Auer, Reporter

Lake Ripley

The November meeting for Lake Ripley 4-H club was held on November 19 at the Amundson Community Center in Cambridge. We started with a potluck Thanksgiving dinner. Everyone went around and introduced their families since we have many new members joining our club. Members brainstormed ice cream flavors to submit for the Cedar Crest ice cream flavor contest. Members have two upcoming community service projects coming up. They can help kids do the free craft for attendees at the Cambridge Christmas event at the library on December 2, and they can help at the Jefferson County Christmas Neighbors event on December 13. Club members learned about ways to get involved in the fiber arts project. For the member activity, members tied fleece blankets to donate to the Jefferson County Christmas Neighbors. (Pictured are the members and their family members that helped at the Jefferson County Christmas Neighbors event).

- Scott Mehringer, Reporter



Lucky Clovers

On Monday, December 11th, the Lucky Clovers met at Marquardt Manor and Christmas caroled to the residents. We even had one resident jump in and sing/walk along! In addition to singing, our club members handed out little Christmas trees that they made and decorated for the residents at our prior meeting in November.

- Jael Palacios, Reporter



Rock River Clovers

On December 3 the Rock River Clovers participated in the Fort Atkinson Holiday Parade with their float themed "Polar Express". Club members rode on and walked next to the float. They played music from The Polar Express movie, passed out candy and helped spread holiday cheer.

- Fynnley Gefvert, Reporter



Stone School

Stone School has had a busy couple of months. At our November meeting we package candy we collected for Treats for Troops. Thanks to generous donors we collected just over 150# of candy. We were able to send candy to Tomah VA Medical Center in Tomah, WI and Royal C. Johnson Veterans' Memorial Hospital in Sioux Falls, SD. At our December meeting we collected wrapping paper for Christmas Neighbors and talked about a fun winter activity we could do in January

- Haylie Reu, Reporter



Twin Rivers

Twin Rivers met on Sunday, December 10th. We discussed old business, then Autumn Jacobson talked about her adventures in the monthly 4-H baking contest and how the December Challenge was baking a sugar cutout cookie recipe that was provided by 4-H and then she was able to also do a cookie of her own choice. She had so much fun learning something new with her mom!

We also talked about new business and greeted a few new members. We mentioned that the general sign up for fair projects is due April 15th and as a 4H group we were looking forward to trying new projects for fair and learning new things. Following our meeting we decorated cookies and made cards to donate to police and fire depts for the holiday, thanking them for protecting us even as we spend holidays with our families. We appreciate that they are out there working hard keeping us safe. Many Holiday Cards went to Alden Estates Nursing home, and a Thank you card went with each cookie tray to Johnson Creek Police Dept, Jefferson County police dept, Lake Mills Police Dept, Jefferson Fire dept and Jefferson Police Dept. A final cookie tray and thank you card went to FS for donating wood shaving for the 4H kids that took pigs to fair.



OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

Statewide Events & Opportunities

See all the amazing programs and educational experiences that WI 4-H has to offer this year! Learn more about trips, camps, animals and more! Find the 2023-24 Wisconsin 4-H Program Booklet [here!](#)

Need-based Statewide Scholarships are available for State Educational Experiences, which are made possible through donations to the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation. [You can find more information and apply for a scholarship here.](#)

Jefferson County Agri-Business Club Scholarship

The Jefferson County Agribusiness Club members fundraise through the annual meat and cheese sale and the Jefferson County Fair. We are pleased that these fundraising events provide scholarship money to residents of Jefferson County or students attending Jefferson County school districts for the 2023-24 school year. Deadline is **February 1, 2024** and applicants are invited to the April meeting to be recognized.

[Find the application and guidelines here!](#)

4-H COMMUNICATIONS

4-H Family Newsletter

The 4-H Family Newsletter is a source of information for families to learn about opportunities, activities, workshops, deadlines and other information about Jefferson County 4-H. Leaders and members may submit articles. The newsletter is assembled and distributed through the EXT Office. The newsletter also serves as the essential source of information for Jefferson County Fair, Meat Animal Project Committee (MAP) and other important project and activities.

If you are hosting a project meeting, activity or event that the entire county would benefit from, please be sure to submit your article to the EXT Office by the 15th of each month. This includes any project meeting dates, community service or fundraisers that might be relevant to members outside your club. This is an easy way to help grow your programs and events. Spread the word! Please note the EXT Office may edit submissions based on newsletter space.

Weekly Clover Connection

The Clover Connection is sent via email through 4honline each week usually on Mondays. The Clover Connection

includes important information for the upcoming week. Please watch your email each week for important news and changes. *Note: If you "unsubscribe" to these emails, you will NOT receive any emails through 4honline.*

4-H Calendar

For up to date information on what is happening in 4-H, check out the [4-H Calendar](#). Dates are being added, changed, or cancelled all the time. Watch the calendar for updates!

JEFFERSON CO. FAIR NEWS

Are you a new family in the Jefferson County 4-H program? Are you a returning family but not receiving updates from the Jefferson County Fair Park? If you answered yes to either of these questions, please contact the Jefferson County Fair Park to make sure you are on their Information Receiving List. [Sign up for updates here!](#) This ensures that you will receive the most up-to-date information on the 2024 Jefferson County Fair and the exhibiting requirements. The Jefferson County Fair Park can be reached at 920-674-7148 or info@jcfairpark.com Jefferson County Fair Park Website: <https://www.jcfairpark.com>

Cookie Decorating Class

February 4th ~ 1:00-3:30pm

UW-Extension Office

\$25 for 6 cookies or \$15 for 3 cookies



Open to all 4-H Families
Pre Registration is required by 1/26

<https://forms.gle/v41QyYZZ7ijuzuDB7>

Jessica from FarmHouse
Sweets will be teaching us
how to decorate our own
cookies using flood icing!





5K-2ND GRADE

Audrey Johnson



3RD-7TH GRADE

Melanie Hainer

ORNAMENT CONTEST WINNERS



8TH-13TH GRADE

Anna Litwiller



ADULT

Megan Lundy

JEFFERSON CO
CAT PROJECT
TRIP TO THE CAT SHOW
JAN 6 & 7
MEET [AT] 9AM
[AT] THE JEFFERSON CO
FAIRGROUNDS





Get ready for...

JEFFERSON CO. 4-H BAKE OFF

Roll up your sleeves and get ready to bake! Each month we will crown a star baker in each of three divisions: Cloverbuds (K-2nd), Junior (3rd - 6th) and Senior (7th-12th) ultimately crowning our 4-H Bake Off Champion. Each month will feature a creative and technical challenge

Nov 12th-Breads

Dec 10th-Cookies

Jan 14th-Pastry

Feb 11th-Cakes

Held @12:30

@ the Extension Office



For more information and to receive the first month's challenge email: wilcenski@wisc.edu by Oct 31st with the Subject- 4-H Bake Off

Youth will bring a creative signature bake and a technical bake each month to be judged. Star Bakers will be awarded each month in each age division



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

JEFFERSON
COUNTY 4-H

CLOVERBUD PROJECT



\$50

Per Youth



**Jefferson Co.
Extension Office**

864 Collins Road
Jefferson, WI 53549



Monday, Oct. 23 | 6:00pm
Monday, Nov. 20 | 6:00pm
Monday, Jan. 22 | 6:00pm
Monday, Mar. 25 | 6:00pm
Monday, May 20 | 6:00pm

Join our
Cloverbud Project!
We will explore
different areas of what
4-H has to offer!

GRADES 5K-2

REGISTER NOW

<https://forms.gle/FtvxtUVkLEAowqAj6>

Questions? 920-674-7295

DIRECTORY

Leader's Association Board

Name	Club	Phone
Melissa Gerner, President	Lake Ripley	920-723-8660
Susie Schuld, Past President	Twin Rivers	920-988-8166
Cindy Jaquith, President Elect	Stone School	920-723-9517
Deb Ebel, Secretary	Jefferson Boosters	715-563-2986
Becki Durkee, Treasurer	Lake Ripley	608-444-4509
Angie Greving, Director	Farmington All Stars	608-295-4959
Heather Reu, Director	Stone School	262-812-3236
Lisa Small, Director	Ixonia Victory	920-285-7204
Rachel Thom, Director	Country Roots	920-728-5144
Karen Gefvert, Director	Rock River Clovers	608-617-2772

Countywide Project Leaders

Project	Name	Phone
Cats	Emilie Shoop	309-473-3083
Clothing	Kimberly Kreger	920-723-1191
Dairy	Zach Tolzman	
Dogs	Kate Anderson	920-728-3614
Foods	Monica Gerner	920-723-2663
Goats	Contact the Extension Office	
Horse & Pony	Jenn Olson	jchpchair@gmail.com
Junior Leaders	Alyssa Jaquith	920-723-9039
Lego	Cheryl Mierendorf	920-723-5138
Livestock	Justin Thom	262-490-1313
Plant & Natural Sciences	Sharon Schweitzer	920-650-7110
Poultry	Joy Brattlie	608-220-3933
Rabbits	Contact the Extension Office	
Rocketry (Aerospace)	Brett/Roald Ager-Hart	920-674-4963
Shooting Sports	David Saxby	jeffersonwi4hshootingsports@gmail.com

Extension Jefferson County Staff

Name	Program Area	Phone	Email
Jerry Wilcenski	4-H Program Educator	920-674-7299	wilcenski@wisc.edu
Steven Chmielewski	Community Development Educator	262-548-7781	steven.chmielewski@wisc.edu
Alison Pfau	Regional Dairy Educator	920-674-7298	alison.pfau@wisc.edu
Lisa Krolow	FoodWise Program Coordinator	262-741-4957	lisa.krolow@wisc.edu
Chrissy Wen	Area Extension Director	262-741-4951	Christine.wen@wisc.edu
Katelyn Broedlow	Support Staff—Administrative Specialist	920-674-7440	kbroedlow@jeffersoncountywi.gov
Josh Kamps	Regional Crops Educator		joshua.kamps@wisc.edu