



Jefferson County 4-H Newsletter

UW-MADISON EXTENSION

October 2025

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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 Specialist
kbroedlow@jeffersoncountywisc.gov
920-674-7440

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

4-H Awards Banquet

Join us for our 4-H Awards Banquet to celebrate the 2024-2025 4-H year! The 4-H Awards Banquet is scheduled for Sunday, October 19 at the Jefferson County Fair Park Activity Center at 3:00pm. REGISTER HERE: <https://forms.gle/jQC7haxEPd6Xsern6> Registration for the 4-H Awards Banquet is due by October 10!

4-H Enrollment

All 4-H enrollments are completed ONLINE. All new and returning members and leaders will need to enroll online. Go to <http://wi.4honline.com> to start the enrollment process. **Enrollment is now open!**

If you need assistance with enrolling in 4-H, please contact the Ext office. We will put you in touch with resources to help make this process as smooth as possible. The resource documents that are listed below are available under the [enrollment tab on the website](#).

4-H Dues

4-H members pay dues to the Jefferson County Leader's Association and Jefferson County for programming and supplies. The Leader's Association dues are \$10 per youth. The Jefferson County dues are \$20 per youth.

NEW this year - there no longer will be a sliding scale for families. All youth members will cost a flat fee. This change was made in order to add the option of online payment—coming soon! Cash or check are still acceptable forms of payment. If there are any question about the dues, please contact the Extension Office.

**RETURNING Member & Leader Enrollment
Due November 1, 2025**

October 2025 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
October 1	7:00pm	Horse Committee Meeting	Extension Office
October 10		4-H Awards Banquet Registration Due	
October 14	7:00pm	Beef Project Kick-Off Meeting	Extension Office
October 15		Newsletter Items Due to Katelyn	Extension Office
October 15	6:30pm	Livestock Awards	Fair Park
October 16	6:30pm	Leaders Association Meeting	Extension Office
October 19	3:00pm	4-H Awards Banquet	Fair Park
October 20	6:00pm	Cloverbud Project Meeting	Extension Office
October 20	7:00pm	Dairy Committee Meeting	Extension Office
October 21	7:00pm	Horse & Pony Countywide Meeting	Fair Park
October 28	6:00pm	Lego Project 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](#))

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 year. After most of the meetings, we'll send your Cloverbud home with a few more activities to extend their learning about the topic. Registration is required—<https://forms.gle/EePUV9hkXjMuaL5s8>

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.

- Monday, October 20 - 6:00pm— Extension Office
- Monday, November 17— 6:00pm— Extension Office
- Monday, January 19 - 6:00pm— Extension Office
- Monday, March 16 - 6:00pm— Extension Office
- Monday, May 18 - 6:00pm— Fair Park

Have questions? Reach out to the Extension Office at 920-674-7295.

Dairy Project

The next Dairy Committee Meetings will be held on October 20 at 7:00pm at the Extension Office.

Dog Project

Watch for info in the 2025-2026 4-H year!

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

Horse Project

- Congratulations to Sydney, Colter, Gracie, and Celia for competing in State Gymkhana!
- Congratulations to Celia, Lilly, and Annabelle for competing in State Expo!
- October Countywide Meeting 21st at Fair Park Activity Center
- Don't forget you can now register with JCHP as a primary/stand alone club!
- 2025/2026 Youth Board Returning Members: Celia, Gracie, Kinsley, and Aubree. New members: Bea, Norah, Lilly, and Paisley....welcome!
- Stay tuned for a Fall Show date!



Lego Project

Watch for info in the 2025-2026 4-H year!

If you have questions about the Lego project, contact Charles Johnson crjohnson.51510@gmail.com or 920-342-9783.

Livestock Project

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

The next Livestock Committee Meeting will be held on November 11 at 7:00pm at the Extension Office.

Upcoming Dates:

- October 14—Beef Kick-Off Meeting—7pm—EXT
- October 15—Livestock Awards—6:30pm—Fair Park
- November 4—Rabbit Kick-Off Meeting—6pm—EXT
- November 4—Poultry Kick-Off Meeting—7pm—EXT
- November 6—Goat Kick-Off Meeting—6:30pm—EXT
- November 7—Spark Days Meats Judging—drop off at EXT by 4pm.

Natural Science Project

All 4-H members and families are welcome to attend any or all meetings, activities and events for learning and/or enjoyment.

Project meetings - Some will be specific topics others will have a broader scope that cover more than one project area. Some activity meetings are in conjunctions with area events and programs. At them everyone can learn and gain information from qualified presenters.

See contact information below if you would like more information on events listed or for participation in the event.

Review the project ideas shared last month and take advantage of the wonderful fall weather. Enjoy and watch nature living and changing by your door, down the street or along the road to your friends house.

Consider

- Trees & Flowers - Fall is a great time to gather leaves and seeds for tree or plant ID. Take beautiful fall pictures to help show the life cycle of trees or plants.
- Start a Nature Log on seasons, birds, or animals.
- Leaves are changing colors, birds are migrating, animals making dens for winter
- Consider an environmental question or problem.
- Climate changes, pollution, water quality or others
- Enjoyment and/or management of the environment - hiking, camping, fishing, boating, bird watching, hunting.
- Attend meetings and activities, county events or programs.

October 5 & 6 the RRVGS Gem and Mineral Show offers - Geology - a project possibility - Everyone is invited to check out the world of rocks at the Gem and Mineral

Show, Saturday Oct 5, 10am to 5pm & Sunday Oct 6, 10am to 4pm at the Jefferson County Fair Park. The theme of the show is Celebrating Fifty Years.

The show offers a chance to learn about the geology of the earth. See minerals, gems and crystals that play an important part in our lives. Find fossils from all over the world. Search for "Golden Stones". All these "rocks" are for viewing or purchase as specimens. There will be fun learning activities too. Try gold panning, view rock polishing, or spin the wheel to win rock specimens. **Be involved, earn clover points, get project materials**

- **Did you exhibit a rock collection at the County Fair? Or do you have one hidden in a box? You can exhibit your collection at the Gem and Mineral show. Awards are available for entries to the show. See other exhibits and get information to create an exhibit this year as a Natural Science Project. Meetings and more information available. (See contact below)**
- **Come visit with Pierre . Look through his microscope at Wisconsin rocks. See if any have gold in them.**
- **Do the Treasure Hunt for Golden Stones and receive a specimen of Pyrite- Fools Gold**

A future event will be about **"Birds of Prey"**. Watch for more information and the date.

What special activities would you like to do? Do you like adventures or experiments to answers questions? Would you like to have an activity at your club meeting?

If you have questions about the Natural Science project, contact Sharon at 920-650-7110 or rwes@idcnet.com.

Plant & Soil Science Project

Include these project areas – Crops, Vegetables, Flowers, House Plants and Plant Crafts

All 4-H members and families are welcome to attend any or all meetings, activities and events for learning and/or enjoyment.

There are many project **possibilities**. Does your family grow crops or have a garden to grow vegetables and/or flowers? Helping them and having your own house plant, flowers, vegetables or crops are project possibilities. Learning about the practices of growing and caring for the wide variety of plants would be part of your Plant and Soils Project.

In October -----Watch for date and place of a meeting activity

Learn about Saving Seeds and Exhibiting Seed Crops of corn and soybeans with Hands-On Activities.

How would you answer these questions

- "Why save seeds?" What would your answer be? Have you saved seeds? Do you like to gather seeds? What do you do with them? Come share your answers to these questions or how your family harvests corn or soybeans and do a Hands on Activity.
- When can you "pick" flower seeds to save? To save seeds you need mature seeds and they need to be dry before storing.
- What are "mature" seeds? How can you tell if a seed is mature?

- What does "ripe" mean and how can you tell if a seed crop is "ripe" and ready to harvest?
- How should seeds be stored? Are there steps to take to keep seeds viable for planting? Label seeds with name of plant, date and where they were growing.
- Plus any other details such as size and color.

Do this Hands-on Activity at your club meeting and have seeds to take home.

Or would you like to do a Plant and Soils activity on propagation at your club as a meeting? Some cuttings and other examples for propagation to start new plants are available for a hands on take home activity. Plan now.

Watch for the November scheduled activity..

Text 920-650-7110 or email, rwes@idcnet.com with question, comments or concerns.

Shooting Sports

Watch for info in the 2025-2026 4-H year!

If you have questions about the shooting sports project, contact David Saxby at jeffersonwi4hshootingssports@gmail.com

LEADER NEWS

Leaders Board Meeting

The next Leader's Board Meeting is on Thursday, November 20 at 6:30pm at the Extension Office.

Leaders Association Meeting

The next Leader's Association Meeting is on Thursday, October 16 at 6:30pm at the Extension Office.

OLDER MEMBERS

Junior Leaders

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 welcomed several new members at the September meeting, held Sept. 9 at the Farmington Town Hall.

First, members did an icebreaker activity, throwing a ball back and forth and answering the question that came out on top. Secretary Joel Mueller and Emma Sheldon gave their monthly reports.

In old business, the club earned \$217.03 in donations for the Johnson Creek Food Pantry at a recent Dairy Drive at the Johnson Creek Culvers. The club is looking for a date to visit the food pantry and present the donation in person.

Then, members recapped what they did at the Jefferson County Fair and the Wisconsin State Fair.

In new business, members reviewed the club bylaws, discussing potential changes to be voted on at the next meeting. Elections will also take place at the October meeting, with officer installation to take place in November.

The club reviewed potential activities for the next year, voting to hold a pizza party at Jelli's Market again this year at Halloween time.

- Michael Wilson, Reporter

Rock Lake Troopers

The Lucky Clover's September meeting took place at the Wisconsin State Sheep and Wool Festival. It was extremely informative for our group, as none of our current members are currently showing sheep or involved with wool or knitting projects. After the festival ended, we stayed for our monthly meeting where we elected officers for the upcoming 4H year. We will have officer inductions at our next meeting in October when we will also be doing a service project in honor of National 4H Week.

- Jael Palacios, Reporter



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!

4-H Food Stand at the Fair Park

Our next volunteer opportunities for the 4-H food stand at the Jefferson County Fair Park are listed below. Please consider volunteering and sign up for one of the following dates:

- October 4 & 5 | [Sign Up Here!](#)
- November 29 | [Sign Up Here!](#)
- December 6 & 7 | [Sign Up Here!](#)
- December 13 & 14 | [Sign Up Here!](#)

4-H State Project Guide

A 4-H project is an area you want to learn more about during the year. There are projects on just about any topic you would like to study and explore, from art to woodworking, from computers to rabbits, from sewing to mechanical science.

So how do you know what projects are available to you? This resource lists all the possible projects that 4-H offers, with a table of contents list on the first two pages and more detail in the pages that follow. In addition, your club organizational leader or county-based educator can tell you what projects and resources are available in your county.

For the upcoming 2025-2026 4-H year, use these guides:

- [Full 4-H Project Guide](#)
- [4-H Project Guide Quick Version](#)

DIRECTORY

Leader's Association Board

Name	Club	Phone
Cindy Jaquith, President	Stone School	920-723-9517
Rachel Thom, President Elect	Country Roots	920-728-5144
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
Alyssa Jaquith, Director	Stone School	920-723-9039
Lisa Small, Director	Ixonia Victory	920-285-7204
Kimberley Kreger, Director	Ideal Clever Clovers	920-723-1191
Karen Gefvert, Director	Rock River Clovers	608-617-2772

Countywide Project Leaders

Project	Name	Phone
Clothing	Kimberly Kreger	920-723-1191
Dairy	Bill Uecker	920-285-9125
Dogs	Kate Anderson	920-728-3614
Horse & Pony	Jordan Soleska	jchpchair@gmail.com
Junior Leaders	Alyssa Jaquith	920-723-9039
Lego	Charles Johnson	920-342-9783
Livestock	Justin Thom	262-490-1313
Plant & Natural Sciences	Sharon Schweitzer	920-650-7110
Poultry	Joy Brattlie	608-220-3933
Rabbits	Joy Brattlie	608-220-3933
Shooting Sports	David Saxby	jeffersonwi4hshootingsports@gmail.com

Extension Jefferson County Staff

Name	Program Area	Phone	Email
Katelyn Broedlow	Support Staff—Administrative Specialist	920-674-7440	kbroedlow@jeffersoncountywi.gov
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
Josh Kamps	Regional Crops Educator	608-673-0680	joshua.kamps@wisc.edu
Julie Hill	Horticulture Outreach Specialist	262-374-4191	julie.hill@wisc.edu