



JEFFERSON COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER

UW-MADISON EXTENSION

APRIL 2026

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UW-Madison Extension Office:

864 Collins Road
Jefferson, WI 53549

920-674-7295

Open Monday - Thursday:
9:00am - 4:00pm

Closed Fridays

For all 4-H related items
contact Jerry directly

Jerry Wilcenski

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

After Hours Doors

If you have a meeting at Extension in the evening, the doors will unlock 15 minutes before the meeting's start time and will relock after one hour. If you need into the building for a meeting after that one hour mark, please phone a friend to let you in.

HOUSTON LIVESTOCK SHOW TRIP

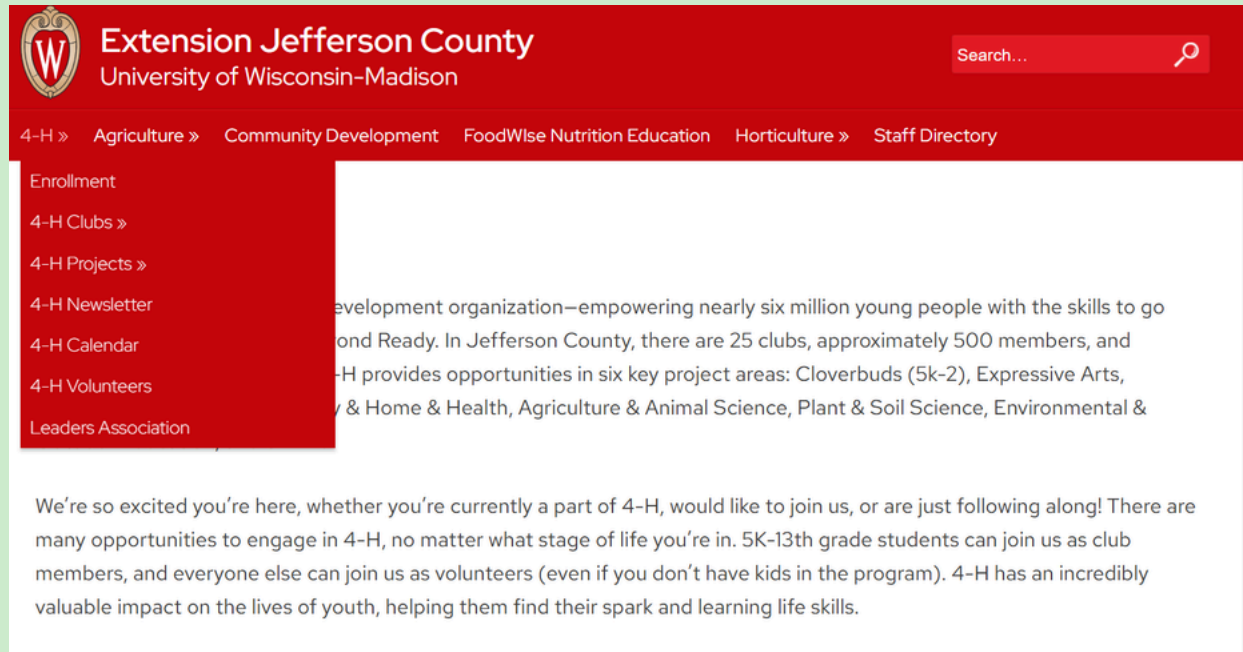


Five 4-H members had the opportunity to attend the Houston Livestock Show last month, due to their exemplary work in the Livestock Project. During this three-day trip, they learned more about agriculture, animals, and professional careers in this field. They also had an opportunity to connect with people from around the world, and to experience a new place.

Throughout the trip, these 4-H members attended several rodeos, horse shows, sheep, goat, cattle, horse, and rabbit exhibitions, an “Adventure” exhibit, and even a Luke Bryan concert for the grand finale.



WEBSITE UPDATE & SOCIAL MEDIA



The Jefferson County 4-H webpage is being updated! All pages are now accessible from the 4-H homepage or by following the menu at the top. Key pages that are being updated are Clubs, Volunteers, Projects, and Enrollment. Each of these pages will soon contain the most recent information, answers to common questions, and links to resources.

The Clubs, Enrollment, and Projects pages will combine several other pages that were previously scattered across the site. If you are looking for an older page and don't see it--check under Clubs, Enrollment or Projects! The menu organization has also changed, but all of the same information is available on the site.

The Volunteer page update now gives volunteers easy access to free curriculum libraries, personal development materials, and volunteer policies. This page also contains information for new volunteers--if you know anyone who would like to join us as a volunteer, they can be directed to this page for more information!



We have also launched a new Instagram account as we work to make our communications and resources more accessible! If there is anything you would like to see on this page, or if your club has anything they would like to post, please share it with me at cadance.hawk@wisc.edu. Follow along [@jeffersoncountyi.4h](https://www.instagram.com/jeffersoncountyi.4h)

LIVESTOCK PROJECT LEARNING DAY



This form is for our 2026 Project Learning Days. This year we will be incorporating Dairy as well!

****Fill out this form per child. So, one form for each child you have attending!**

Date: April 18th, 2026

Time: 9:00AM - 1:00PM

Where: Jefferson County Fair Park

Entry: each youth and/or parent that is eating lunch will need to pay \$5, the committee is covering the remainder costs for everyone!

Prizes:

- There will be randomly drawn raffles that will consist of one bucket per species with some show day essentials!
- There will be "Outstanding Species Camper" banners!

****Important to Note:** unfortunately, there will be no chickens, rabbits, or goats for this date. It will be too cold for the chickens and rabbits, so they will be hosting their learning days on May 17th (the original date). Goats will not be rescheduled at this moment in time, unless further noted. For people seeking more knowledge or a camp for goats, please look into the Junior Meat Goat Association as they will be hosting something similar solely geared towards goats.

[LINK TO FORM](#)

NEW PROJECT INTEREST

Would you be interested in joining a new project? Art? Cats? Something else? We want to hear about it! Whether it's upcycling, drama, cats, or anything in between, we want to support your interests. Fill out the form if you are interested, and we will reach out soon to let you know the results!

[New Project Interest Form](#)

COMMUNICATIONS PROJECT

Calling 4-H members who are interested in communications and graphic design! We have a new opportunity to gain experience in marketing and public relations. The launch of our Instagram provides a valuable chance for students to learn these skills in a safe environment with the guidance of a 4-H Educator (Cadance Hawk). Students will discover the art of creating both static and video content using Canva, learn how to measure engagement logistics, and experiment with strategies to increase content impact. These skills are high-demand in the current job market and are valuable in all types of careers. They also support the 4-H mission as they help expand our connection to the community and make our work more visible!

Members of all ages are invited to participate. However, members must be 13+ to use social media during this project, due to legal restrictions on platforms. Members will be asked to bring a tablet or computer to workshops if possible, but you can also participate without one--just let us know in advance. Please reach out to cadance.hawk@wisc.edu if you have any questions, concerns, or would like to participate in this project!

ROSENDALE/MILKSOURCE DAIRY TOUR

Jefferson Co. Dairy Committee invites you to be a part of a farm tour of Rosendale/Milksource Dairy on April 4th. This is chance to tour the largest dairy in Wisconsin at ~9,000 cows milking on two rotary parlors. Milksource is a industry leader in genetics and modern sustainable dairy farming.

[Sign Up Here](#)

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION

Jefferson County is partnering with Dane County to offer our youth a 4-H Camp experience this summer. Please refer to their website for more details. Below is a brief description of camp as well as dates.

It's time to register for Dane County 4-H Camp! We are planning a fantastic activities for youth in Grades 3-8. [Register Today!](#)

Not sure what 4-H Camp is all about? [Check out this fun Dane County video!](#)

All the details and the registration portal can be found on the [Dane County 4-H Camp page](#).

Camp takes place at Upham Woods Outdoor Learning Center in the WI Dells. Youth will experience 3 nights/4 days of fun camp activities, crafts, field games, campfire, swimming, nature walks, games and more. They will connect with the outdoors, try new activities, and make new friends.

Invite your friends to come to camp. Not in 4-H? No problem, we welcome all youth!

- Grades 3-5 – July 22-25, 2026
- Grades 6-8 – July 25-28, 2026

Dane County 4-H Member - \$240, General Camp Rate - \$290

Deadline is June 3, 2026 or when camp fills.

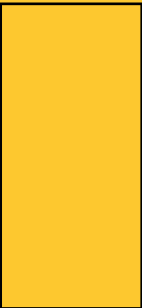
[Registration Link](#)

CLUB NEWS

If you need help with a project or want to lead a countywide project, please contact the Extension Office.

Ixonia Victory: The meeting was called to order on Monday March 2nd, 2026. Pledges were led, and secretary and treasurer's reports were read and posted. We discussed our program "adopt a grandparent" --in the main points were past grandparents and future. We also spoke about past meetings such as sheep, goat, rabbit, poultry, cloverbud, archery, dogs, horse, and dairy. We also touched on the livestock meat raffle. Some upcoming events that were brought up were the Gosling Nest Sock Drive, the Ixonia Easter Egg Hunt, and Volteris. While talking about events, we also discussed that Leader Kitchen volunteers are needed for the rabbit show. In our next meeting, we will discuss spirit swap and a project tour through farms.

Kinsley Strobel --- Club Reporter



Newsletter submissions for clubs and projects are due on the 15th of every month. Please send them to cadance.hawk@wisc.edu.

EVENTS CALENDAR

Date	Time	Meeting	Location
April 1	7:00 pm	Horse Committee Meeting	Extension
April 7	6:00 pm	Rabbit Meeting	Extension
April 7	7:00 pm	Poultry Meeting	Extension
April 11	8:30 am	Food Stand Volunteering	Fair Park
April 14	6:00 pm	Goat & Sheep Carcass Meeting	Extension
April 14	6:00 pm	Record Book Training	Extension
April 14	7:00 pm	Livestock Committee Meeting	Extension
April 16	6:30 pm	Leaders Association Meeting	Extension
April 21	7:00 pm	Horse & Pony Countywide Project Meeting	Fair Park
April 27	6:00 pm	Dairy Educational Meeting	Extension
April 27	7:00 pm	Dairy Committee	Extension
April 28	6:00 pm	Lego Project Meeting	Extension
April 28	7:00 pm	Junior Leaders	Extension
April 30	1:00 pm	Natural Sciences: Arbor Day	Johnson Creek

[LINK TO CALENDAR](#)

FAIR NEWS

Fair yard signs now available for pickup in the AC lobby (while supplies last)

April 1st: Fair Fun Five Packs now available premier banks

April 14th & 17th @ 5pm: Optional info meeting for FairEntry tutorial AND to answer questions. In person (Activity Center) or online (link on the website homepage or in March inFAIRmation).

May 1st: Fair Earlybird Camping (\$199) now available on FairEntry

May 9th 9-11am: Sheep/Goat weigh-in MAP

May 11th by 5pm: All swine, sheep, goat DNA due. Can drop off in office from 8am-4:30pm weekdays OR leave in drop-box to the left of the office doors anytime before the gates close at 8pm (most days).

May 31st: Mandatory auction form due (JCoFair.com/auction). 1 form submission per exhibitor. Includes YQCA cert. upload.

May 31st: New buyer registration due (JCoFair.com/auction)

May 31: Exhibit Registration Close (JCoFair.FairEntry.com)

June 1st: Youth Grant Applications close (JCoFair.com – Programs – Youth Grant)

June 1st: Hall of Fame Applications close (JCoFair.com – Programs – Hall of Fame)

June 1st: Fair Late Camping (\$228) opens on FairEntry

June 15th: Last Year Exhibitor Form due (JCoFair.com/auction)

July 8th - 12th: Fair

Fair Coordinator Contact:

Samantha Garvey
sgarvey@jeffersoncountywi.gov
920-674-7139

503 N. Jackson Ave.
Jefferson, WI 53549



PROJECT NEWS

If you need help with a project or want to lead a countywide project, please contact the Extension Office.

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.

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.

Upcoming:
Monday, May 18 - 6:00pm

Dairy Project: The next Dairy Committee meeting will be held on Monday, April 27th at 7pm at the Extension Office.

Dog Project: Obedience Started in February. If you have any questions about the dog project, contact Kate Anderson at (920) 723-3614 or 2mtmanderson@gmail.com.

Horse Project: Horse & Pony Countywide Project Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm at the Extension Office.

Lego Project: Lego Project Meeting are held the last Tuesday of the month at the Extension Office. If you have questions about the Lego project, contact Charles Johnson crjohnson.51510@gmail.com or 920-342-9783.

Natural Sciences: This month's Natural Sciences project news is attached to this email. It covers garden preparation, seed buying, and requirements for entering plants in the fair. There will be an Earth/Arbor Day Tree Planting Event on April 30th @ 1:00 pm (location: 111 South Street, Johnson Creek). For questions, help, comments, suggestions, or to have a project meeting at your club, contact Sharon Schweitzer (920-650-7110 or rwses@idcnet.com)

PROJECT NEWS

If you need help with a project or want to lead a countywide project, please contact the Extension Office.

Shooting Sports: Shooting sports is a great life skill to learn at a young age. With 4-H shooting sports the kids will learn the basic fundamentals of safety, awareness, posture, eye dominance, accuracy vs consistent grouping and much more. We want the kids to enjoy shooting sports along with knowing the responsibilities there is to shooting this type of equipment.

We have 3 age groups with shooting sports;
Junior is 3rd-5th grade(8-11 yrs).
Intermediate is 6th-8th grade(12-15 yrs).
Senior is 9th-1 year after high school graduation(16-19 yrs).

We split our shooting sports season into 2 groups; Indoor and outdoor. Indoor we do only archery and outdoor we do 3D archery, air pistol, air rifle, .22lr pistol, .22lr rifle, shotgun (trap), and muzzleloader. Each discipline is \$5 for the season. Safety Meetings are required to have before shooting per 4-H nationally. Safety meetings and first practices can not be on the same day. But they will still be able to shoot if wanted. Each archer is required to have 3 practices to be eligible to participate in the County Competition.

Outdoor dates: Outdoor shooting will start in April. Sundays; air rifle/ pistol, shotgun, .22lr rifle. Mondays; 3D archery, .22lr pistol, muzzleloader.

Sundays: Oconomowoc Sportsmans Club
Mill Rd, Sullivan, WI 53178

Tuesdays: Watertown Archers
212 Market St, Watertown, WI 53094
Times might change depending on attendance.

If you have questions about the shooting sports project, contact David Saxby at jeffersonwi4hshootingsports@gmail.com

COMMUNICATIONS

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!

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 notifications for ANY 4-H activities.

Jefferson County Fair Park Communications: We’re excited to introduce the Fair Member Hub—a new, easy-to-access space where exhibitors and club leaders can stay up to date. Since monthly newsletters don’t always make it to your inbox, the Hub gathers important announcements, deadlines, and updates all in one convenient location.

To find the Fair Member Hub, go to JCoFair.com, hover over “Exhibit Info,” and select “Fair Member Hub.” There you’ll find a list of all monthly newsletters along with key reminders and upcoming dates

Please note that the Fair Member Hub will show the exact same information that is in inFAIRmations. If you prefer to get your information in email rather than on a website, don’t worry because you’ll still receive this monthly!

4-H Educators Contacts:

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Connect With Us

