



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

MONROE COUNTY 4-H CLOVERLINK

THE NEWSLETTER FOR 4-H FAMILIES & FRIENDS

Monroe County Extension Office, 206 South K St, Sparta, WI 54656

Phone: (608) 269-8722

Website: <https://monroe.extension.wisc.edu>

October 2024

NATIONAL 4-H WEEK

Hello Monroe County 4-H Families,

Autumn is in the air, the 4-H year is in full swing with enrollments and first meetings, and we have much to celebrate with National 4-H Week coming up from October 6th to 12th! **BEYOND READY** is the theme this year and we are beyond ready for a great year of events, projects, and activities. What are you Beyond Ready for this year?

National 4-H Week is the perfect time to wear your 4-H green, share your fun 4-H stories with friends and classmates, or do a random act of kindness in 4-H spirit to help make someone's day a little better. Check out Page 6 for this year's Daily 4-H Week Challenges and your chance to win 4-H prizes!

The theme of "Beyond Ready" is more than just a theme. It represents a state of mind where you are prepared to take on challenges, open-minded to trying new things, and ready to utilize your skills to the best of your ability. We hope that our youth will embrace this mindset through their 4-H experience, being more than ready for whatever lies ahead.

To help our youth prepare for this, we can practice a fundamental principle of 4-H, which states that there is no substitute for "learning by doing." Embrace the learning curve along their journey and encourage them to just go for it! We have a lot of ideas in the works for how we can increase 4-H opportunities countywide for our members this year to try something new, so stay tuned!

We also want to share some exciting news from our September Full Leader's Meeting. This year, it was decided that the Leader's Association will offer members the opportunity to apply for 25% scholarships to help financially assist youth leadership experiences for out-of-county 4-H events!

To qualify for a County Scholarship, they will need to first apply, then will be notified if the scholarship is granted. It will be received in the form of reimbursement upon the completion of a Photo Story Display Board by the applicant, which can also be entered at the Fair. The list of this year's currently available events can be found on page 5, along with additional scholarship details. The number of scholarships available will vary per event.

Thank you, Monroe County 4-H Executive Board and Leader's Association, for your support in making these memorable and formative experiences more accessible for our members and families.

We hope to see you all at our upcoming Family Celebration on Saturday, November 9th for our annual awards ceremony and potluck lunch!

Here's to looking forward,

Jason & Vicki

Monroe County Extension Staff



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FRIENDLY REMINDERS

- Monthly 4-H Newsletter information is due on the **20th**.
- Please keep your mailing and email addresses current in 4-H Online.
- If you plan to un-enroll from 4-H, please contact the office so we can remove you from the system.



If your club or group has events you would like on this calendar, please email information to Jason.hornickel@wisc.edu

Calendar of Events

OCTOBER

Sun., Oct. 1, 2024

4-H Charter Paperwork Due Online

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/4h-resources/wisconsin-4-h-annual-charter-application/>

Oct. 6-12, 2024

National 4-H Week

Fri., Oct. 11, 2024

Officer Training, 6 p.m.

WHERE: Sparta Barney Center

Mon., Oct. 21, 2024

Executive Board Meeting, 7 p.m.

WHERE: Leon Community Center

Tues., Oct. 22, 2024

Photography Project Meeting, 4:30 p.m.

Where: Wilton Village Park

Thurs., Oct. 31, 2024

HALLOWEEN Open House, 4-6 p.m.

WHERE: Extension Office



NOVEMBER

Sat. Nov. 9, 2024

4-H Family Celebration, Noon– 2 p.m.

WHERE: Wilton American Legion

2023 - 2024 District Responsibilities

Northwest: Denim N' Dust; Dragonflies, Way Finders

Clean Food Stand Before Tractor Pull

Southwest: Jolly Joiners; Leon Livewires, Sparta Sprockets

Clean Food Stand After Tractor Pull

Northeast: Clovers & Cranberries; La Grange Tunnel-Lites; Valle Ville

Clean Exhibit Hall Before County Fair

Southeast: Hill-N-Valley; Norwalk Clovers; Stepping Stones

Family Celebration

Clean Food Stand After County Fair



Officer Training

Are you interested in being the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, or Secretary of your club? Then plan on attending the Officer Training on October 11 at the Sparta Barney Center at 6 p.m. Pizza and snacks will be provided. Training will end at 8 p.m.

Let your Club Leader know you are interested in attending. Please sign up so we can have enough materials on hand <https://forms.gle/GgZiDR2CEaJH7VtB9>



2024 Jr. Leaders Schedule

October 11 - Meet at the Sparta Barney Center at 7:45 p.m. and walk over to the House of Shadows. Feel free to come at 6 p.m. and help out with the Officer Training. Please register at <https://forms.gle/9iqMbFUjuw7YCbSq7> if you plan on coming to the haunted house and/or officer training. We need a head count for tickets to the haunted house.

November - Virtual Meeting, Date TBD

December 7 - Meet at Evans Bosshard Park for the 7-9 p.m. shifts to help with Holiday Lights.

If you want to be active with Jr. Leaders this upcoming year, remember to sign up for Jr. Leaders as a secondary club in 4-HOnline to stay informed.

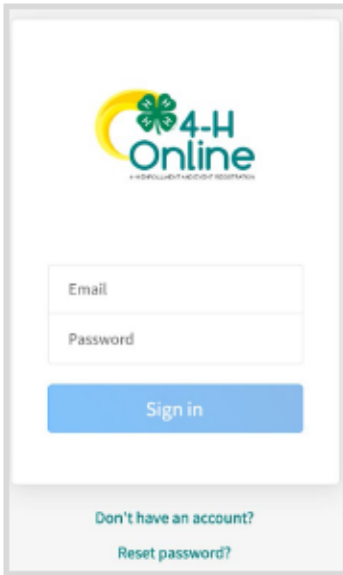
SAVE THESE DATES!!

> **Project Day**, Monday, December 30, at the Leon Community Center

> **Leader's Training**, Monday, December 30, 4 p.m., at the Leon Community Center

2025 4-H Enrollment

Enrollment for the 2024-2025 4-H year begins September 1st. The State will shut down the system on August 31st for updates and it should be back up and running on September 1st. Your membership and profile information will roll over, but your projects will not. Below are instructions on how to log into the system.



1. Go to <https://wi.4honline.com>.
2. Enter your email address and password.
3. Click Sign-In.
4. You will be at the Family Member List Screen.
5. To re-enroll a Youth member, click on Enroll Now, then click member's Grade, and continue through the screens.
6. To re-enroll an Adult member, click on Enroll Now then click Select Volunteer Type to indicate how you are planning to participate. Continue through the screens.

For more detailed information on how to enroll go to: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/start-here/4honline-for-families/> or call the office at 608-269-8722.

DEADLINE TO RE-ENROLL IS NOVEMBER 15, 2024 !



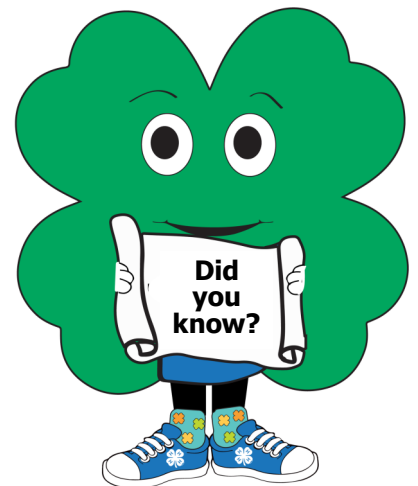
FAQ About 4-H

- Is signing up for 4-H the same as signing up for Fair?
> No. The 4-H program and fair are two separate entities.

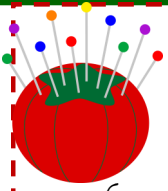
- What's the difference between 4-H and Fair?
> 4-H is an educational youth organization that members need to enroll in every year through a software program called 4HOnline. Projects and activities are done all year long.
> Fair is a yearly, 6-day event, run by the Monroe County Ag Society. Registration is through an online software program called BlueRibbon. To be eligible to enter in the Junior Fair, you must be a member of a youth organization.

- What is the difference between an activity and project?
> An activity is something you participate in, but may not be project specific. Club meetings, super fun days, going to the pumpkin patch with your club, are all activities. A project is focused on learning about one specific area. Dog, Clothing, Beef and Shooting Sports, are all projects.

- When is the last date I can enroll in 4-H to be eligible to exhibit at the Fair?
> **NOVEMBER 15, 2024 - this date is earlier than previous years.**



Project News & Information



ATTENTION Sewing Members!

If you plan on enrolling in the Clothing Project this year, please contact Barb Ornes, Project Leader, at barbornes@gmail.com. Sewing classes will start at the end of October or early November. For members who sewed last year and want to continue, please email Barb and let her know.

Rabbits R Us

Richland County is again hosting this event at the Richland Center Fairgrounds on October 13th. Show starts at 10 a.m. A \$3 entry fee must be included with [registration form](#). Supplies available for purchase and a lunch stand will be available. Questions? Please contact Chris Harpin at 608-649-7412 or email harpio07@umn.edu.



2024-25 Photography Project Meeting Tuesday, October 22nd

4:30 pm, Wilton Village Lower Park. Meet at the parking lot below the swimming pool. Contact Project Leader Elizabeth Carpenter, carpenter.elizabeth@outlook.com to join or with questions.

Photo Contest - Greeting Cards

We are currently working with a printing company on the details for the greeting cards. The cards will make great Christmas presents for anyone! More info in the next newsletter.



HALLOWEEN Open House

Join us for an open house on October 31st at the Extension Office from 4–6 p.m.

Family Celebration

Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 9th at the Wilton American Legion from Noon to 2 p.m. Plan to come celebrate all your 4-H achievements from the 2023-2024 year! This is a potluck, so please sign up using this SignUpGenius link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B49A9AE29AAF4C16-51675244-4hfamily>

A few notes about the sign up:

- If you bring barbeque, you don't need to bring buns. We have buns from the fair to use.
- NO soda can be brought into the facility, but it will be available for purchase for \$1 per can. If you sign up to bring a beverage, please bring milk, chocolate milk, lemonade, or your favorite thing to drink.

Wisconsin State & National Educational Experiences



Fall Forum on November 2-3, 2024 Holiday Inn Conference Center, Stevens Point, WI

Fall Forum is an opportunity for youth (grades 7-13) and adult leaders to attend the statewide training weekend with county and state staff. Planned by a team of youth and adult volunteers from the Wisconsin 4-H Leaders Council with the support of county and state staff. Our hope is that 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. Registration will open after September 3rd on [4HOnline](#).

The purpose of Fall Forum is to:

- Provide an educational opportunity for youth and adult volunteers
- Develop youth and adult partnerships
- Create an engaging and welcoming environment to facilitate discussion between counties and regions
- Encourage diversity of thought, perspective, interests, and people
- Promote strategies for youth and adults to reach underserved and underrepresented groups

For more information on the event, please go to <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/fall-forum/>

*Limited County Scholarships Available for Youth and Adult Volunteer Leaders Chaperones.

Application Link: <https://forms.gle/qQ1uwvhQsLgPMPxz9>



4-H ArtBEAT! - March 14-16, 2025

This is an introductory program for Wisconsin 4-H expressive arts and was created for 4-H members in grades 3-5, their parents and leaders. ArtBEAT provides an opportunity for youth and their parents to experience different art forms in a camping environment at the Upham Woods Outdoor Learning Center in Wisconsin Dells. The event offers a taste of several arts projects including music, visual arts, communication, and more!

Registration is through 4HOnline and will open in early December. Capacity is limited for this experience. The cost is \$120.00. For more details including scholarship information please go to <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/art-beat/>

*Limited County Scholarships Available for Youth.

Application Link: <https://forms.gle/qQ1uwvhQsLgPMPxz9>

American Spirit - June or July, 2025



Experience history & heritage by immersing in a 10-day bus journey to the East Coast and Canada with youth-led content throughout the experience. Increase knowledge of American history while experiencing where it occurred. The program is open to youth in grades 8-10. Registration will open October 1st and will be done through 4HOnline. The cost is @ \$2,200. For more details and scholarship information go to <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/american-spirit-east/> .



Join us in celebrating National 4-H Week, October 6-12, 2024

DAILY CHALLENGES

MEMBER MONDAY

Showcase that you are a 4-H family. Make a 4-H clover and put it in your window at home, add a 4-H profile frame, or contact a business to put a display up in their store window, or make a display for school.

TEACH IT TUESDAY

Share how you have taught others about a 4-H project or activity you have done on social media.

WEAR IT WEDNESDAY

Show your 4-H spirit by wearing your 4-H gear and/or wearing as much green as you can! Share a photo of yourself on social media showing your 4-H spirit.

THANKFUL THURSDAY

Show your appreciation and give a thank you note to your teacher, leader, or parent who has supported or inspired you.

FRIDAY'S FRIEND

Invite three of your friends who are not 4-H members to your next club meeting or special event.

SIGN UP SATURDAY

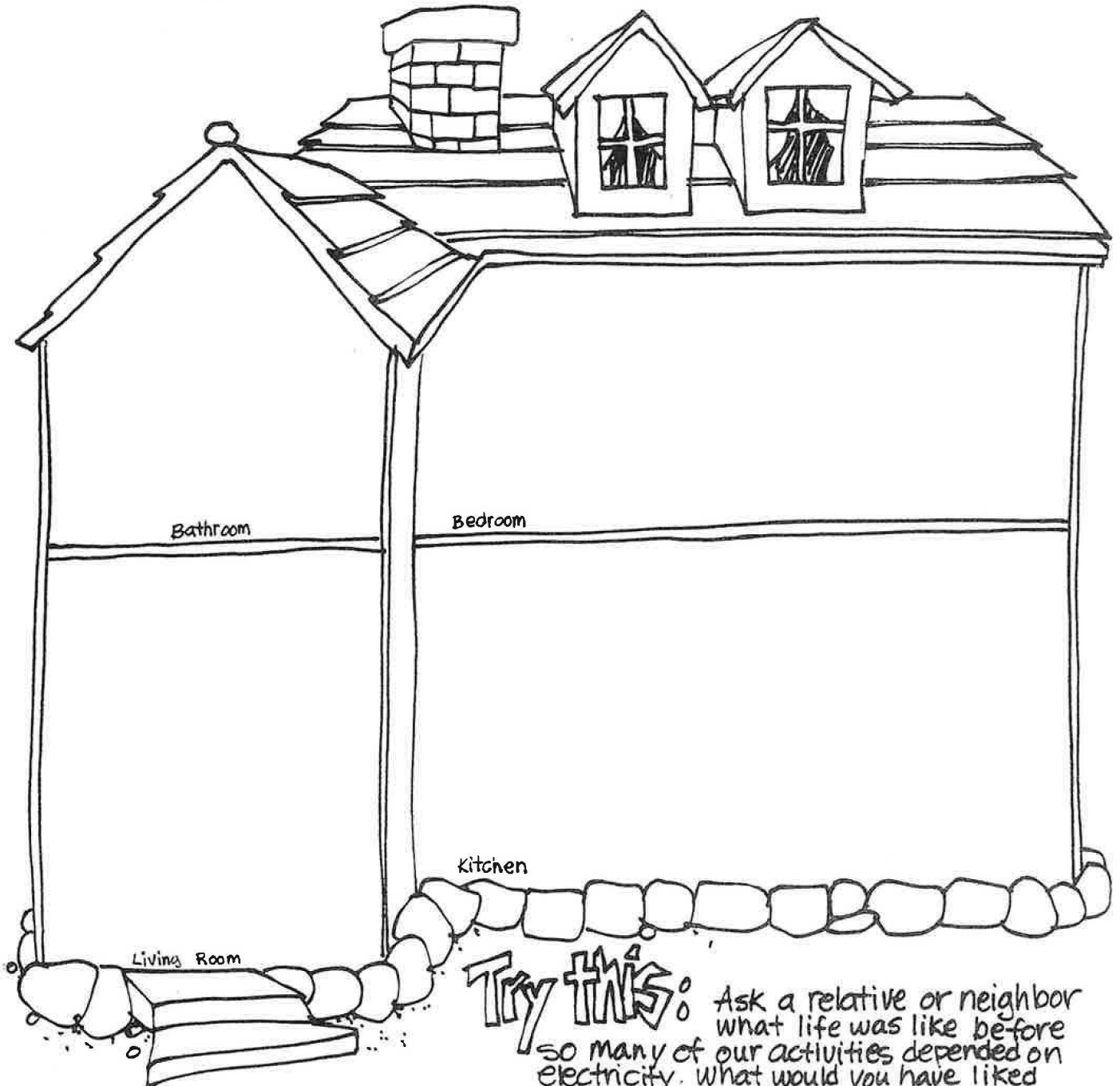
If you haven't signed up for 4-H yet, do so today! Go to 4HOnline at: <http://wi.4honline.com>. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the office at 608-269-8722.

DIRECTIONS

Share a photo of your daily challenge by emailing jason.hornickel@wisc.edu. For each challenge completed & photo shared, you will be put in a drawing for a 4-H prize!

EXPLORING WITH Electricity!

Explore your home. How many of the things you do in each room depend on electricity? Write or draw them in the rooms below.



Try this! Ask a relative or neighbor what life was like before electricity. What would you have liked about those days?

ADVANCED SPACE ACADEMY!
U.S. SPACE & ROCKET CENTER
2025!

REGISTER:
SEPT. 4-30

GRADES:
10-12

TRAVEL DATES: FEB. 15-22

A MINIMUM OF 36 YOUTH ARE REQUIRED FOR THE EXPERIENCE

UW-MADISON EXTENSION

We are excited to offer the Advanced Space Academy next year for youth in grades 10-12. Advanced Space Academy is a weeklong educational experience where youth will travel to Huntsville, AL via coach bus and get the opportunity to train like an astronaut, learn team building skills at the Space Camp Challenge Course, participate in SCUBA diving at the underwater astronaut trainer, and learn a ton more about Space and STEM!

This year, Wisconsin 4-H is traveling to Advanced Space Academy from **February 15-22, 2025**. The total cost for participants is \$2,700 per youth. The cost includes travel, meals, lodging, and programming costs. Some state scholarships are available to help offset costs (see the website below). Youth will travel via coach bus and will stay in the dormitories at Space Camp with the exception of the first and last nights being at a hotel in route to Space Camp. **Registration will be open in 4HOnline from September 4-30th, 2024** for youth in grades 10-12 for the 2024-2025 4-H year. Additionally, there is a **minimum number of youth participants of 36** – if this experience does not reach the minimum number of participants, it will be cancelled.

For more information on Advanced Space Academy, please check out our website here: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/advanced-space-camp/>. Additionally, you can reach out to Seth Harrmann at seth.harrmann@wisc.edu with additional questions.

We hope to see you with us as we blast off for Advanced Space Academy in February!