



# Cloverline

4-H is a **community** of **young people** across **America** who are learning **leadership**, **citizenship**, and **life skills**.

## December 2020

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## Moving Forward

Finally, we have reached the end of this calendar year. It's time to look back at all the resilience we had! We held about 40 virtual meetings with youth and volunteers, a camp in a box under the stars, we baked bread, made cheese, carved pumpkins and found out who stole the potion at the monster mansion. We threw together scavenger hunts, mystery caches, nature hikes, and song quizzes. We had guest speakers from around the world! And it's not done. Oh no. We will have more. Will ALWAYS have more fun.

I'm working on school gardens, book reading clubs, a windy box kit (who wants to build a kite?!), AND Ambassadors are working fun things for February... more on that soon. But really, I just wanted to say thank you, because all of these fun things would not have been HALF as fun without you. Without the leaders putting them together despite feeling the pandemic pinch, and the youth who showed up even if they didn't feel like it.

I love you all. I consider you my family, so thank you thank you thank you! And be safe these holidays.

With gratitude,

*Emily A Crook*

Emily Crook  
Positive Youth Development Educator  
La Crosse County Extension



# leadership >>>

## Club Officer Workshop

Were you elected into a club officer position? Do you need help navigating your responsibilities?

Register NOW for Virtual Officer Training on Sunday, December 6th from 6:30-8 pm. You'll learn from educators and youth from Dane, La Crosse, Jefferson, and Rock Counties about what it means to be an officer for your club or group. We'll cover...

- Parts of a meeting
- Ways to engage your club virtually
- Officer position descriptions
- SMART goals
- Robert's Rules of Order

The positions of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, Historian, Photographer, and other roles will be covered. Register here today: <https://uwmadison.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAtf-uj4oGNX6WKJ6Aa67eQTUJ3b2Iliv>

Virtual Officer Training will be interactive and FUN! This session will not be recorded so you don't want to miss it! Register today! If you have any questions, please contact your local county educator. We hope to see you at Officer Training

## Ambassador and Youth Leader Meeting

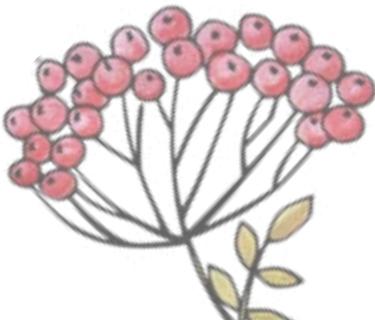
**When:** Sunday, December 20, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

**Where:** Online! Link: <https://tinyurl.com/yyl6ys7o>

**Phone:** 312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 968 5007 2652

**Passcode:** 628057

ALL YOUTH LEADERS WELCOME! We are just gathering to put ornaments together for the local nursing homes. Please register for this meeting by Dec. 11 so I can your ornament kit out to you. This is just a relaxing gathering, will provide music that gives a good Charlie Brown vibe. AND I promise to email out a reminder this time!



## 2020-2021 Annual Leader Training

Club and Project Leaders: Register now to be part of the 2020-2021 Annual Leader Training! This will be a highly interactive VIRTUAL program for 4-H leaders and older youth.

This year, there will be three (3) one hour sessions:

- **one hour focused on 4-H and leading 4-H club meetings and groups,**
- **one hour focused on 4-H and learning in 4-H club meetings and groups, and**
- **one hour focused on 4-H and laughing in 4-H club meetings and groups**

Attend one, two, or all sessions! These sessions are designed to give you, as club youth and adult leaders, tangible and usable strategies, activities and ideas to use during your virtual, hybrid or in person meetings. Registration information is below.

- **Session 2: Learning in Club Meetings (education in 4-H clubs and groups)**
  - December 1, 2020, 7:00-8:00 pm (zoom platform)
  - Register here! <https://bit.ly/3dpsjTU>
- **Session 3: Laughing in Club Meetings (recreation in 4-H clubs and groups)**
  - December 10, 2020, 7:00-8:00 pm (zoom platform)
  - Register here! <https://bit.ly/3jYFpd6>

Attendance will be tracked for the requirement of annual leader training on Wisconsin 4-H Club Charters. In order to meet the requirement, one leader from each chartered club or group MUST attend at least one of the hour long sessions. If it cannot be you, please ensure one of your registered volunteers attends.

Please let me know if you have any questions!

## Leaders Board Meeting

When: Thursday, Dec 10, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Where: Online! Link: <https://tinyurl.com/y36guyvy>

Phone: 312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 962 0649 3830

Passcode: 014435

At this meeting we will be awarding our Friend of 4-H and Honor Leader for the 2020 year! This has not been an easy year, but these award winners have been so helpful to our county program, we want to share the joy. Please join us!

# adaptations >>>

## December Blood Drive - New Location!

Every day, Versiti Blood Center of Wisconsin needs to see at least 800 donors to meet the demands of our hospitals. LOCAL HOSPITALS. Because of the overwhelming need, and that this is something we actually can do to help the situation out there, I'm asking our 4-H family to step up. Give blood if you can. Save some lives.

Everything at the blood donation site will be protected as much as possible, but please wear a mask.

**Date:** December 7, 2020  
**Time:** 9am-2pm  
**Location:** Holmen Library, 121 Legion St W,  
Holmen WI 54636

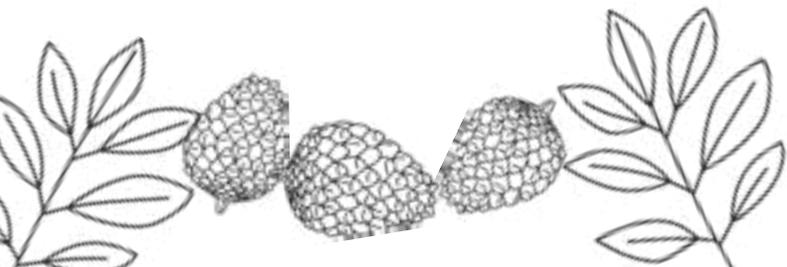
Please sign up for an appointment here: <https://donate.wisconsin.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive/schedule/209323>

We are hoping to fill 24 slots. Please consider a donation. Thank you!



## December Club Contest

We have your club ornament kits in process and will get them to leaders by December 4, 2020. If you need them sooner or not, just let us know!



## coffee corner >>>

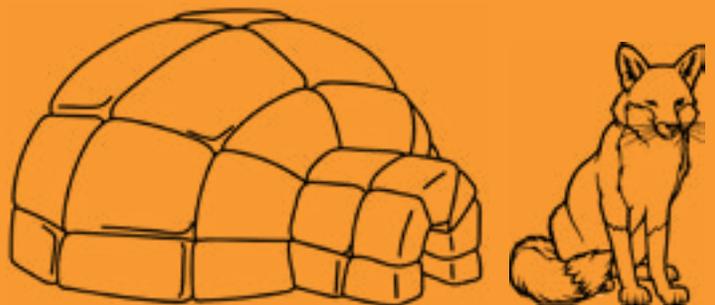
Welcome to a new installment on the newsletter, a coffee with Emily. I can't hang out with you in person, but here's what I'm listening to right now. Things that are helping me to breathe, to forgive myself, to be better. Because 4-H isn't just about youth y'all. It starts with you, parents. YOU need to thrive as much as the youth do.

This month, it's mostly about self-motivation. How can I get myself to do the things I don't want to do? Music and Scents, y'all.

This jazzy music in the background keeps things smooth: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ohky3u9WJ74>

I need seasonal scents, so I'm burning some warm apple pie candles from probably Walmart.

And for gentle parenting advice that still packs a punch, I'm reading Parenting from the Inside Out, by Daniel J. Siegel, M.D., and Mary Hartzell, M.Ed. Link for easy access: <https://tinyurl.com/yx9glzow>



# 4- H'ers During COVID- 19 >>>

## Club Scavengar Hunts



## Great Clover Cook Off



## Achievement Celebration



# 4- H'ers During COVID- 19 >>>

## Gluten Free Bread Baking



## Club Scavenger Hunts



# odds and ends >>>

## Open Foods Superintendent Position

Jr Nature Sciences, Jr Woodworking, Jr Electricity, Jr Mechanical Science, Open Woodworking Superintendent Position

The La Crosse Interstate Fair is looking for individuals to be superintendents/assistants for these departments. If you or anyone you know would be interested please contact Carlie Scriver at 608-317-9168 or [carlie.scriver@yahoo.com](mailto:carlie.scriver@yahoo.com) for questions and a description of the position duties.

## Area 13 4-H Program Kits - Wind, International, STEM, Art

Because we know people are tired of online meetings, each 4-H coordinator of our 5-county group (La Crosse, Monroe, Vernon, Crawford, Richland) has put together themed kits, that can be purchased as a set of 3-5 activities, or individually. We wanted to offer flexible cheaper options for clubs. All kits are available for order, with anticipated pick up date being January 15, 2021. To see what activities are available and to place your order, visit: <https://forms.gle/FDzADWKEQvPgepVF7>

## Virtual Meeting – Fireworks!

Local legend – Charley Weeth, will share with us one of his interesting passions – FIREWORKS! How are they made? When did they start? What different types are there? And What does the future of firework design look like? Join us to get your fill of the big boomers! Link to register: <https://tinyurl.com/y58ld4y4>



# adaptations >>>

## Programming Guidelines Going Forward

There are a few updates to the programming guidelines. Small group programming is still ideal at group sizes of 10, ideally outside, but inside is permissible under short time frames. Please read all the information below and if you plan on holding a gathering please shoot me an email at emily.crook@wisc.edu so I can ensure you have everything you need to keep things safe. Here are some new guidelines and FAQ's related to COVID-19.

### New 4-H COVID-19 Related FAQs posted

#### 12. How does a 4-H Club or 4-H Group conduct elections if they can't meet face to face?

4-H Clubs and 4-H Groups should follow their bylaws regarding elections. Voting could take place using an online platform, email, electronic survey or mail in balloting provided that the bylaws allow for that flexibility. If the bylaws do not provide that flexibility, it is accepted practice that officer terms can be extended until an election can be conducted.

#### 13. What if we can't meet as a 4-H Club or a 4-H Group?

4-H Clubs and 4-H Groups should continue to explore virtual or face to face meeting options, however, we realize that meeting virtually or face to face may not be feasible for all 4-H Clubs and 4-H Groups. For this reason, it is acceptable for 4-H Clubs and 4-H Groups to postpone regular meetings until March 31st, 2021 when this timeline will be reassessed. Flexibility should be considered in individual meeting requirements to allow youth to maintain their membership standing.

#### 14. Should I re-enroll in 4-H if my club is not meeting?

Yes! Wisconsin 4-H is continuing to offer programming at the club county and state level. Youth are encouraged to enroll/re enroll in 4-H as there will be programming options that will be available to Wisconsin 4-H members. The 4-H movement has thrived for over a century and we will get through this together. We are stronger together!!

#### 15. Our club/group has dues, can we suspend or reduce 4-H dues for 2020-21?

If it is financially feasible, 4-H Clubs and 4-H Groups may consider suspending or reducing membership dues for the 2020-21 4-H program year.

#### 16. What if our 4-H Club or 4-H Group has excess funds because of the COVID-19 pandemic?

For the 2020-21 fiscal year, the Division of Extension and Wisconsin 4-H is suspending the Excess Funds policy for all 4-H Clubs and 4-H Groups. We realize that developing a plan to spend down excess funds during this pandemic is not practical. Once Wisconsin 4-H Clubs and 4-H Groups can resume more normal operations, the suspension of this policy will be lifted.

### Simplified Approval Process for 4-H Programs

**For In Person Programming only with Adults** – A Program Approval Checklist still needs to be submitted in SharePoint prior to the event. No approvals are required, but complete documentation and submittal of the form is critical.

**For In Person Programming that includes Youth** – A Program Approval Checklist requires approval before the event by your supervisor/Area Extension Director. We are moving to a one-step approval process. Program and Institute staff are still resources for questions. Checklists will be uploaded to our current SharePoint flow process for approval. Educators will continue to upload the program contact log for youth programs after the event.

Both of these changes rely on Educators understanding our current policy and guidance around programming. Educators will be responsible for ensuring compliance for programming they are leading and that are volunteer led. Current program guidance continues to be posted on our SharePoint COVID-19 site under "Return to Workplace".

## Conservation Challenge 10K!

Upham Woods has created a Conservation Challenge to give back to the land that is so often taken for granted. We aim to put 10,000 hours of conservation service into our lands by the year 2020. We will accomplish this goal through our many conservation program opportunities for both campers and community members. The goal of the challenge is to restore our land while simultaneously giving people the skills and knowledge of land management. These land management principles can then be easily applied to their own communities. Some of these projects include trail building, invasive species management, oak forest restoration, and biodiversity monitoring. Examples of such projects can be seen on our story map.

To get involved in the Conservation Challenge email our Conservation Program Coordinator, Caroline Zimmerman, at [czimmerman6@wisc.edu](mailto:czimmerman6@wisc.edu) or call (608) 254-6461.

For upcoming events, please see our Conservation Community Events page or our calendar.

Running Total (since the beginning of August 2019): 2,140 hours

## COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

United States Department of Agriculture  
University of Wisconsin—Extension  
La Crosse County Offices  
212 6th St. N Suite 2200  
La Crosse, WI 54601

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## important dates>>

December 1st - Leaders Training Session 2  
December 6th - Club Officer Workshop  
December 7th - 4-H Blood Drive  
December 10th - Leaders Board Meeting  
December 10th - Leaders Training Session 3  
December 20th - Ambassador & Youth Leader Meeting  
December 24th & 25th - Extension Office Closed  
December 28th - All about Fireworks Presentation



The Cloverline 4-H Newsletter is produced monthly by the La Crosse County UW-Extension Office, 212 6th St. N. Suite 2200, La Crosse, WI, 54601 in cooperation with the University of Wisconsin-Extension, Madison, WI. Wisconsin Relay—711.

### 4-H Contact Information:

LaCrosseCounty4H@lacrossecounty.org  
608.785.9593  
608.789.4808 (fax)

The Cloverline can be found in color and with hyperlinks online at <http://lacrosse.uwex.edu/4-h-youth-development/cloverline-newsletter/> or 4HOnline.

We thank all who volunteer their time and talents to contribute to this newsletter.