



UW-MADISON EXTENSION
LA CROSSE COUNTY



Cloverline

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

February 2021

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...and much more!

Moving Forward

This is the time of year gardeners dream. They curl up with their seed catalogs and plan out their flora, and if you like birds, bees, and butterflies, perhaps the fauna, too!

During the past few months, I've taken a back seat to planning during COVID time, and focused instead on dreaming when we reach herd immunity. I want y'all to dream with me, because soon I'm going to send out a survey of what you want your 4-H experience to look like.

Periodically, it's important to me to get the feedback, so I know what's important to you. And what maybe needs more work. Take some time to dream during these sleepy bitter cold days, and then I will send out an email to all families with a link to the survey. Ask your kids their experiences and share your own.

This is your 4H, let's build it.

Emily Crook
Positive Youth Development Educator
La Crosse County Extension

leadership >>>

Ambassador and Youth Leader Meeting

Mark your calendars - we are meeting Sunday, March 21, 2021 at 7:30pm. Will it be in person? We don't know yet! How exciting. But slap it on there and we hope to see your face somehow! Details coming soon :)

Leaders Board Meeting

When: Thursday, Feb 11, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
Where: Online, at <https://tinyurl.com/y2payk9y>
Meeting ID: 994 7463 7656
Phone Number: 1 312 626 6799
Passcode: 558914

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!

2021 Scholarships

Scholarship opportunities for 2021 are now up on the Youth Leadership page, online at <https://lacrosse.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youthdevelopment/youth-leadership/>. Due dates vary, and thousands of dollars are available to you simply for the hard work you do every day in 4-H.

Take a few minutes to check out what scholarships may be applicable to you!

WWBP 2021 Scholarship

This scholarship is available to any graduating high school senior attending or planning to attend a College, Vocational School, Technical School, Agriculture Short Course, or any other institution of higher learning. The applicant must be a (or have an immediate family member that is a) member in good standing** of the Western Wisconsin Beef Producer's cooperative and be pursuing a degree in an agricultural related field.

For more information, and to apply, visit: <https://lacrosse.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development/youth-leadership/>

adaptations >>>

February Ambassador Challenge

The 4H Ambassadors have a challenge for you during the month of February.

Your task, if you choose to accept it, is to show us "What you love about 4-H" by decorating your door.

Each member of every family gets a chance to participate. Choose your door in your house, and decorate it with the theme "What I love about 4-H." Submit your photos **by 4:30pm February 15, 2021 to lacrossecounty4h@lacrossecounty.org**. Entries will be posted in the March Cloverline and we will send them out for a vote via email as well. Winners will receive something special from the Ambassadors!

FSPA Gardening Opportunity

Looking for a new, quiet area to learn about gardening? Join in the fun with the gardens on the FSPA land! See information below:

Hello! My name is Karen Stoltz. I'm the Ecospirituality Project Outreach Coordinator for the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration. My job primarily entails managing and providing educational opportunities in the gardens, orchard, and greenhouse on the FSPA land at St. Joseph's Ridge (Villa St. Joseph). I'd love to offer gardening opportunities to any club interested. Below, you'll find a short list of potential programs.

- Garden Tour
- Sensory Scavenger Hunt
- How To Plant Seeds/Transplant Seedlings
- Seed Saving (fall/early winter)
- Wreath Making Workshop
- Weed Identification
- Volunteering Opportunities (weeding garden, harvesting, etc.)
- Starting Your Own Microgreens Kit
- Build Your Own Salad
- Winter Production
- Patio Pot Planting
- Plant Propagation

Have another great idea to try? Great! I'm excited to try new activities as well. With all events, we will follow Covid-19 safety guidelines. Groups will be limited to nine people per visit while Covid-19 persists. Please contact me with any questions, comments, or to plan an event with me. My phone number is: (608) 475-1633 and email is: kstoltz@fspa.org

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.

It's all about anxiety management for this girl. I feel constantly behind. So here are some of the tips and tricks I use when I'm overwhelmed.

- ASMR: Audio Sensory Meridian Response. It just has started gaining traction in the scientific world, but it is seriously relaxing at times. Check it out.
- Math. I am not a fan of math, but in those moments when I absolutely have to hold it together for professional sake, I will do a slightly complicated math problem in my head. It shuts off any eyeball leakage. (Try it!)
- Weighted Blanket. Don't have one? OH do I love mine. It makes a huge difference in my life.
- But the best advice I've received as of late: let go of the tension. For the longest time I thought I carried my stress in my shoulders. But actually it's in my diaphragm. MAN makes a huge difference when I can instantly check in and release the hold I have on it.

Hoping your lives are a little less tense and more hope filled these days.



Food Pantry Challenge

The club with the most points will receive a gift from La Crosse County 4H (will offer the leaders a choice!) The zoom, though past, is recorded, check with your club leaders if you want to participate!



4-H FOOD PANTRY SCAVENGER HUNT

WHO: 4-H Clubs in Crawford, LaCrosse, Monroe, Richland and Vernon Counties

WHAT: A Food Pantry Scavenger Hunt - a food drive to collect goods for your local pantry

WHY: To help your community, a fun competition with fellow 4-H members, learn more about how food pantries operate and how they serve your community

WHEN: Informational zoom **January 26th at 7p.m.** Learn more about the "hunt" and about food pantries and food budgeting from local experts. Contact Amy Mitchell, Crawford Co. 4-H Educator to register for zoom or scan QR code with your phone's camera. amy.mitchell@wisc.edu, 608-326-0228



It's simple! Collect as many items from the *list of needed items for food pantries*, have a family from each club collect it, tally points from each item collected (higher need items are higher points), donate to your local pantry, turn in your points by March 5th to your 4-H educator. Materials will be sent to each participating club.



clover college >>>

The 2021 Clover College will be done completely virtual and the classes will be done via Zoom.

Creative Captivating Characters

(A three-part series) Are your characters flat and uninteresting? Do you want to create characters for books, games, film, theater, or comic books? Then try triple C, Creating Captivating Characters! Sunday, February 14th, 21st, & 28th at 3:00pm. Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/y4yrteqv>

- Best for grades 5+

Everybody, Let's Rock!

Come have a rockin' good time learning about... rocks! We'll find out the three main types, unearth weird facts, discuss project ideas, do a hands-on craft, and finish with a rock-n-roll dance party. Sunday, March 21st at 3:00pm. Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/y4s4ghhe>

- Bring: a clean, smooth rock; several craft/acrylic paints; and a small paint brush
- For all grades

Mystery Through History

Join me in uncovering popular mysteries in fiction. I'll reveal authors such as Poe, Doyle, Christie, Raskin, and Stewart. You will have the chance to clue the group in on your favorites, and we'll end with some riddles for you to solve. Sunday, March 28th at 3:00pm. [Registration for Mystery Through History.](#)

- Best for grades 3+

Pollinators be Pollinating

With snow on the ground, it's hard to believe spring is right around the corner. With spring comes the return of bees, butterflies, beetles, birds, bats, and much more. What do they all have in common? Why, they are all pollinators of course! Join Kaitlyn Davis the Agriculture Extension Educator, and dive into the world of pollinators. We will discover ways of creating habitats, raising them (butterflies and bees), and why they are so important for our plants. Feel free to contact Kaitlyn if you have any questions. Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/y29sfzdf>

- Wednesdays from 3:30pm-4:30pm starting on February 17th and running through March 24th.

Science Kids In The Kitchen

Are you curious about how things work? I am! Join me in the kitchen and learn some interesting experiments you can do at home. We'll even do a few together and have fun along the way. **RESCHEDULED.** Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/y5klfeoy>

- Bring: a small jar with lid (like a clean jelly jar), a plate, white milk, heavy cream, liquid food coloring, dish soap, and several cotton swabs
- Best for grades 3+

Pie Spin Club

Feast your pies on this. Easy as Pie 4-H SPIN (Special Interest) Club is coming! Each week, bakers gonna bake varieties of pie both savory and sweet and learn the science behind pie making. Butter, lard, shortening - all bake to pie-fection and each has the beauty of the pie of the beholder.

For goodness bakes, get these Tuesdays on your calendar. All sessions will be in the evening at 7:30pm-8:45pm

- Week 1 (Feb. 16)
- Week 2 (Feb. 23)
- Week 3 (March 2)
- Week 4 (March 9)
- Week 5 (March 16)
- Week 6 (March 23)

Registration will open end of January through 4HOnline and be limited to the first 100 youth that register. This is a state-wide program.

Miniature Dollhouse Series

Learn the various themes of decoration, discover how to utilize found objects for creativity, and see what possible careers link all this together, while you tinker with miniature furniture.

Sundays, March 7th and 14th at 4pm on zoom, please register here: <https://tinyurl.com/y5qwsxfq> by Feb. 15 so we can get enough supplies out to you in time. Limit to the first 20 youth, 3rd-5th grade.

clover college calendar

february

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Creating Characters	15	16 Pie Spin Club Week 1	17 Pollinators be Pollinating	18	19	20
21 Creating Characters	22	23 Pie Spin Club Week 2	24 Pollinators be Pollinating	25	26	27
28 Creating Characters						

march

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Pie Spin Club Week 3	3 Pollinators be Pollinating	4	5	6
7 Miniature Dollhouse Week 1	8	9 Pie Spin Club Week 4	10 Pollinators be Pollinating	11	12	13
14 Miniature Dollhouse Week 2	15	16 Pie Spin Club Week 5	17 Pollinators be Pollinating	18	19	20
21 Let's Rock	22	23 Pie Spin Club Week 6	24 Pollinators be Pollinating	25	26	27
28 Mystery through Science	29	30	31			

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 for questions and a description of the position duties.

animal sciences>>>

2020 YQCA Training

For youth exhibitors that wish to participate in the 2020 Wisconsin State Fair, Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) training is required. This training is also required for the 2020 La Crosse Interstate Fair, but for swine exhibitors only.

There are 3 different ways to complete your YQCA training this year (see below).

ONLINE:

YQCA training can be taken online in the form of self-guided modules. The cost for this format is \$12 per youth. To get this off your to-do list - visit <http://yqca.learngrow.io/Account/Login> and enter your 4HOnline profile information. Module content varies based on youth's current school grade. Modules do not have to be completed in a single sitting. Upon completion of training, an online certificate will be generated which will have a certificate number on it which is needed for fair entries. It is recommended that these e-certificates be printed for records.

TEST OUT:

The new "test out" option will be available only for youth ages 12, 15, 19 years old who feel they have sufficient knowledge of the YQCA training content. Youth will only have 1 chance to pass a 50 question exam at 80% or better. Upon passing, certification will be good for 3 years until they age into the next age bracket of material. Since this option is good for 3 year's worth of modules, it costs \$36 per youth. However, you will not be charged if youth do not pass with an 80% or better. Currently there are no study materials for this option.

As always, please contact the Extension Office with any questions - 608-785-9593 or lacrossecounty4h@lacrossecounty.org

La Crosse County Library
Bangor • Campbell • Holmen • Oriskany • West Salem

Transparent Language Online

At the Library
At Home
At School
On the Go

Sign up on our website with your library card.
www.lacrossecountylibrary.org
Need help? Contact our Reference Librarians by calling (608) 781-9568 menu #2 or Email us at: libraryinfo@lacrossecounty.org

100+ Languages
Includes: Hmong, Spanish, French, German, Chinese, Norwegian, English & U.S. Citizenship Prep

New La Crosse County Library Resources

If you have a La Crosse County Library Card (or were thinking about getting one) you now have access to some great new resources! One of these resources is Transparent Language Online, a great new tool to help you learn a new language. This resource teaches you how to read, write, and speak the new language(s) of your choosing. Visit www.lacrossecountylibrary.org for more information.



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?

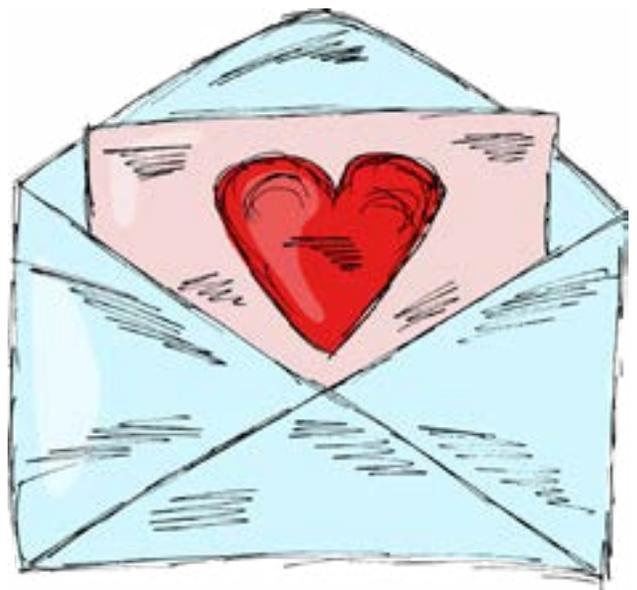
For the 2020-21 fiscal year, the Division of Extension and Wisconsin 4-H is suspending the Excess Funds policy for all 4-H Clubs and 4-H Groups. We realize that developing a plan to spend down excess funds during this pandemic is not practical. Once Wisconsin 4-H Clubs and 4-H Groups can resume more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



COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

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important dates>>

Thursday, Feb 11 - Leaders Board Meeting
Sunday, March 21 - Youth Ambassador Meeting
February 7th - March 28th - Clover College Classes



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.

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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.