

Cloverline

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

february 2026

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Ch ch changes!

I've worked REALLY hard on myself ever since the twins arrived in our life. I mean, you can't not once you become a parent, right? From time to time, when some cataclysmic shift happens in the present day, I pause and reflect on how far I've come since then.

How I handle stress, situations, and yes, so very many changes in such a short amount of time:

- 20 years ago me, thrived in change. So exciting, so much potential. I can fix anything!
- 10 years ago me, held down a fort, change was a threat. Why is this happening to me?
- Today me: appreciating its value and understanding its implications. It'll sort out somehow.

Regardless of what's happening, I'm able to sit back and roll with it now, no panic, just accepting what I can't change and working to change what I can, in my own time.

I guess I'm growing up.

Emily A Crook

Emily Crook
Positive Youth Development Educator
La Crosse County Extension



volunteer section

Leaders Board Meeting

Date: Thursday, February 12th, 2026
Time: 6:45 p.m. (Open Forum)
7:00pm (meeting)
Location: Hamilton Town Hall (N5281 State Road 108, West Salem)

We still need 3 representatives to have a full board. If you are interested, please reach out to Emily. Some great ideas came from our last meeting on exciting activities for the board to do!

youth leadership

Ambassador Madison Trip

Date: Thursday, February 19th – Friday, February, 20th, 2026
Time: 7AM

Ambassador Gathering and Meeting

Sledding: February 1st, 4:30 pm – Onalaska

Meeting: March 22nd, 2026

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: County Admin Center Rm 0430 (212 6th St N, La Crosse)

animal sciences

Goat Project Meeting

Date: Sunday, February 22nd, 2026
Time: 3:00-5:00pm
Where: Halfway Creek Lutheran Church, Holmen WI

Horse Project Meeting

Date: Thursday, February 19th, 2026
Time: 6:30pm
Where: Bangor First Responders

2026 YQCA Training

What: Youth for the Quality Care of Animals

Date: Saturday, Feb 7, 2026

Time: 10:45 am-Noon

Location: Bangor Elementary (701 14th Ave S, Bangor)

Cost: \$3 – pay online, or pay through Clover College entry (coupon provided with that route)

RSVP: www.yqcaprogram.com

When you complete your training, YOU need to save a copy of your completion certificate and:

- Email it to lacrosseyouthlivestock@gmail.com to meet your requirement for fair.
- Email it to lacrossecounty4h@lacrossecounty.org for \$3 reimbursement.

Any questions? Please reach out to us at 608-785-9593 or either of the emails above.

upcoming experiences

2026 Summer Camp

Dates: Wed. July 29 -31,2026

Location: Upham Woods, Wisconsin Dells

Campers: Grades 3rd-8th

Counselors: Grades 9+

Chaperones: Ages 21+ (permissions can be granted to ages 18-21)

In need of counselors & chaperones!

Here are all the dates for everything to do with Summer Camp:

• **March 16 – June 1, 2026** Counselor and Chaperone Applications, Camp

Registrations **OPEN** an email will go out to all eligible youth!

• We are taking the first 100 youth that sign up with payment, once June 1st comes and people have not paid the fee, their spot will be given to a youth on the waiting list.

• Chaperones – one child will have their camp fee waived. You still need to register them AND YOU when registration opens. We are capping Chaperones and need everyone interested to apply so we can alert those who are accepted.

• Camp fees will remain steady this year to help offset food costs. Community member fee is \$180, 4-H youth fee is \$90. Chaperones and Counselors are free.

• **Tuesday, June 9, 2026** – Counselor Training In-person – this is when our theme is chosen.

• **Wednesday, July 1, 2026** – Pre-camp zoom for all families, counselors, chaperones, and staff

• July 29, 30, 31 – SUMMER CAMP!

Have questions? Ask Emily – 608.785.9761 or emily.crook@wisc.edu.

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Expressive Arts – Save the Date!

Date: Friday, April 24, 2026

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Olivet Church on French Island (2100 Bainbridge St, La Crosse)

The talent options will be the same, however, it will be on ONE stage, with everyone viewing it, much like a talent show. Plays are still possible, judges will still judge, but we will all be able to support and witness the talent. More information coming soon, and reminder that our office has a membership to PLAYS magazine, which hosts a plethora of scripts. Reach out to us if you want access!

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Still to come:

Watch for these annual experiences soon to appear in 4-HOnline! All of them are eligible for scholarship through the Leaders Board as well.

Summer Academy – for grades 8-11 at UW-Madison, June 14-18, 2026, estimated cost: \$600, Registration opens March 6

Roll Into Leadership with 4-H

Hosted by 4-H Ambassadors

When: Saturday, March 28, 2026

Where: High Roller Skating Rink
3624 East Ave S, La Crosse, WI 54601

Time: 7:30–9:30 PM



Who: Grades 6 and up

Cost: Free

Come skate, meet current 4-H members & Ambassadors, and learn how to get involved in leadership opportunities with 4-H!

Please RSVP By March 20th
<https://forms.gle/swAJPkvqkM3GF2dK6>



La Crosse County 4-H Shooting Sports

LOGO WEAR



Use the link below or scan the QR Code to view all of the clothing designs!



www.4hshootingsports.com

All orders will need to be picked up directly from BB Graphics at 901 4th St. S., La Crosse. They will call you when your order is ready for pick up.

BB GRAPHICS
SCREENPRINTING • EMBROIDERY
901 4th Street S. • La Crosse, WI

Swag!

La Crosse County 4-H Shooting Sports program is offering merchandise once again!

Share it with family and friends – it makes great holiday, graduation and birthday gifts!

[https://4hshootingsports.com](http://4hshootingsports.com)

shooting sports

Spring Archery & Pellet Gun Program

When: Sundays April 12, 19, 26 and May 3, 17, 31 | Time: 9:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., or 11:00 a.m.

Where: Arrows in the Square (N7681 Casberg Coulee Rd, Holmen)

Who: Youth in grades 3+ for Archery, Youth MUST be in grades 4+ for Pellet Gun

Cost: \$10 for 4-H member, \$15 for community member

Supplies are provided, youth are welcome to bring their own bow.

Youth will learn safety and shooting basics with support from trained program leaders. The experienced archer will also have the opportunity to refine their skills, too. Participants will practice in a fun, engaging way with the opportunity to compete in some friendly competitions. In addition, participation in this program will help youth fulfill the safety session requirements needed to compete in the La Crosse Interstate Fair Archery Tournament. Youth do not need to bring their own equipment for the Archery Program. All needed equipment is available for use.

This popular program fills up fast and spots are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. No spots will be held without payment received in full. 4-H members must be enrolled in 4HOnline for the 2025-2026 year at the time of registration for this program to be eligible for the 4-H member prices.

Because extra insurances are provided, proof of hunter's safety certification is not required for pellet gun participation.

IMPORTANT RULES: No sandals or open toed shoes will be allowed, long hair needs to be tied back, and no loose clothing should be worn to the program. Attendance on the first day of pellet gun will be required as the safety session will only be offered on the first day, or your spot and application fee will be forfeited.

Registration is available on our website here: <https://lacrosse.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youthdevelopment/4-h-projects/shooting-sports/> Registrations are due by 4:30 p.m. Thursday, April 2, 2026.

Please direct any questions to the Extension Office at 608-785-9593 or lacrossecounty4h@lacrossecounty.org.

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Mathew's Archery Tour In collaboration with Monroe County 4-H

Come get a tour of a local resource – Mathew's Archery, where they manufacture the bows you love AND get a plethora of outdoor education

Date: Monday, April 6, 2026 (yes some districts have school, sorry)

Time: Tours start at 9:30-10:30 am, and the Outdoor Learning Opportunity* from 11:00 am-1:30 pm.

Cost: Free (lunch is provided)

Location: Mathews Archery, Inc 919 River Rd, Sparta

Who: Grades 3+

*Registration for the tour is open to the first 15 youth and will be joining a group from Monroe County.

*Tours are limited capacity; youth have first priority, outdoor education is not limited.

*The Outdoor Learning Opportunity will be at a different location than Mathews, roughly 15 minutes Southeast of Sparta, and your own transportation will be required.

RSVP by April 1, 2026 here: <https://forms.gle/YvwZc6mLWeB8QjXk8>

opportunities

Want to learn some new community service or engaging, fun activities for your club? Have an idea your club would like to share? Join in the Clover Connect idea sharing zooms this spring! Two engaging, interactive topics are planned:

Hands to Larger Service: Community Service Ideas

Sunday, Feb 22 at 7 p.m. & Monday, Feb 23 at Noon (same content will be repeated)

Making 4-H Meetings Fun: Bringing Laughter and Learning to 4-H Meetings

Sunday, Mar 22 at 7 p.m. & Monday, Mar 23 at Noon (same content will be repeated)

The sessions will include information sharing, hands-on learning, and time to share ideas with other older youth leaders and adult volunteers from across the state!

Register for one or both topics by visiting [We've got the La Crosse 4-H Shop up and running, so you can order apparel with a design from one of our very own 4-H members!](#) You'll have to pick up your order from the shop - shipping is unavailable.

Visit here to order: <https://bbgraphics.net/shop/ols/categories/lax4h>. Both sessions will be recorded, and resources will be shared with those who sign up!

Zoom connection information will be shared closer to each session date.



SAVE THE DATE!

Clover Connect

Idea sharing zooms for 4-H volunteers and older youth

Hands to Larger Service: Community Service Ideas

Sunday, Feb 22 @ 7 p.m.
Monday, Feb 23 @ 12 Noon

Making 4-H Meetings Fun: Bringing Laughter & Learning to 4-H Meetings

Sunday, Mar 22 @ 7 p.m.
Monday, Mar 23 @ 12 Noon



For More Info:



Center for the Study of Upper Midwestern
Cultures, Westby Area Historical Society, Vernon,
La Crosse County 4-H Present

A Free Evening of Nordic Storytelling

With Rose Arrowsmith

February 20th, 6:00 PM

Westby Community Ce

Ages 6+

Scandinavian Sagas

What happens when three billy goats encounter an ugly troll on their way to dinner? Who tricked Björn the bear into losing his tail? How did a stingy old lady learn kindness from a nail? Rose Arrowsmith brings classic and lesser-known tales to life for kids and adults alike in this interactive storytelling program.



Important Dates 2026

01-03, 01-17, 01-31, 02-14, 02-21, 03-07-26:

Archery Program, Omni Center

02-07-26: Clover College, Bangor Elementary

03-14 & 03-15: ArtBEAT!

03-28-26: Roll into Leadership with 4-H, Skate Night

04-12, 04-19, 04-26, 05-03, 05-17, 05-31: Arrows

In The Square Dates

04-24-26: Expressive Arts

06-14 through 06-18: Summer Academy

07-29 to 07-31-25: Summer Camp

Forms Section

Shooting Sports apparel form:

<https://bbgraphics.net/shop/ols/categories/lax4h>

Shooting Sports Form:

<https://lacrosse.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development/4-h-projects/shooting-sports/>

4-H Ambassador Skate Night:

<https://forms.gle/EZfxhQQzgH4vYw2R7>

Matthew's Archery Tour:

<https://forms.gle/YvwZc6mLWeB8QjXk8>

february 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 Clover College
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Winter Archery Program
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Winter Archery Program
22 Goat Project Meeting	23	24	25	26	27	28

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE
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- LaCrosseCounty4H@lacrossecounty.org
- 608.785.9593
- 608.789.4808 (fax)

The Cloverline can be found in color and with hyperlinks online at:

<https://lacrosse.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development/cloverline-newsletter/>

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