



Important Dates:

- Feb. 6 Beef Weigh-in--tentative (Snow date: Feb. 13)
- Feb. 10 Discover 4-H Project Series Curbside Kit Pick-up, 5-6 p.m. by registration
- Feb. 11-12 Discover 4-H Project Series Kit Pick-up, Extension Office, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Feb. 16 Monthly Interactive Meeting: 4-H Bingo/Game Night, 6:30 p.m. via Zoom; Register [HERE](#).
- Feb. 17 Cloverbuds at Home Zoom activity: Fruit Batteries
- Feb. 18 Discover 4-H Project Series begins: grades 3-5 @ 6 p.m., "Brownies;" grades 6-8 @ 7:15 p.m., "Yeast Breads"
- Feb. 22 Senior Leaders' Association Meeting, 7 p.m. via Zoom, Connection info TBA
- Feb. 25 Discover 4-H Project Series: grades 3-5 @ 6 p.m., "Recycled Art;" grades 6-8, @ 7:15 p.m., "Barn Quilts"

Current COVID-19 Related 4-H Meeting Guidance

Walworth County 4-H is required to abide by UW-Madison Division of Extension and Wisconsin 4-H COVID-19 meeting guidance. Guidance changes due to the fluidity of the health situation in the state. Thank you for your continued patience and support as we all navigate these unprecedented times. Complete current guidance is available at this link: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-fags-related-to-covid-19/>.

4-H Family Challenge Updates

Please remind 4-H families who are completing 4-H Family Challenges to...

- 1) Upload their selfies to social media using #WalCo4HFamilyChallenge and #4HRoadTripChallenge OR email their pic to Walco4h@gmail.com.
- 2) Complete the corresponding participation reports.
 - [4-H Road Trip Challenge](#)
 - [4-H Geocaching Challenge](#)
 - [4-H Service Project Challenge](#)
 - [4-H Monthly Interactive Meeting Challenge](#)
 - [4-H Holiday Greeting Challenge](#)

They have to do both of these steps to earn entries into the 4-H Family Challenge Prize Drawings. Second drawing is March 15th. Last day to complete Participation Reports for entry is March 4. Congrats to these first drawing winners: Thomas Family (1st Place), Giorno Family (2nd Place), and Leedle Family (3rd Place).

While our 4-H staff remains hopeful that COVID-19 meeting restrictions will be gradually decreasing in the months ahead, we are planning for programming that will meet current guidance through August. In the event that restrictions are lifted, we can easily shift back into a combination of virtual and face-to-face opportunities. To keep things fresh, we will be offering new and different challenges beginning in March. Families may continue to participate in and report on past challenges, but no new data opportunities will be added to them. Plans are still in the works, but here is what is known thus far...

- A **Science Sleuths Challenge** will be offered monthly.
- A **4-H Video Challenge** will be offered over multiple months' time. Though not limited to older members, this challenge will target families with 4-Hers in grades 7-13.
- A unique challenge targeting families with 4-Hers in grades 5K-6 will be offered monthly.
- The county-wide Monthly Interactive Meetings will shift to monthly **project-based meetings**. Some will have required advanced sign-ups and others will be open for anyone.
- With Association support, two prize drawings will be held with all families who complete "participation reports" for their challenge activities earning entries. Expected drawing dates will be: June 15 and September 15.

Our last county-wide Monthly Interactive Meeting is set for Feb. 16 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. It will be a BINGO Game Night.

Writing Train

In January's mailing Club leaders received information about starting a club writing train. If you have not started your writing train, please do so as soon as possible. If you have questions about how to get started or how the train works please reach out to Janel Heidelmeier at janel.heidelmeier@wisc.edu.

Record Book, Bankers' Night & T-Shirt Pick Up!

Since the curbside pickup in December for record books, bankers' night ribbons & t-shirts, I have sent two different emails to families that still need to pick up record books, bankers' night and t-shirts in the Extension Office for the 2019-2020 4-H Program year! One last email will be sent this week with the option of coming to the office or coming for curbside pick-up from 5-6 p.m. on February 10 in the Court Street Parking Lot of the County Government Center, Elkhorn.

Any item(s) remaining in the Extension office after **February 15th** will be discarded. (Bankers' Night ribbons will be returned to the Bankers Association, record books will be discarded and t-shirt will be put back in stock and used for prizes & giveaways)

4-H ONLINE Member Approvals

All youth and leader membership has been approved and will continue to be approved as they enroll. Once enrollment closes and BEFORE MAY 15, you will receive a list of all of the members who enrolled in your club. You will have until May 24 to identify any members on your list who were not active and did not pay dues. Then, shortly after, you will be billed for that reconciled membership listing. If you do NOT respond with your reconciled total by May 24, you will be billed for/responsible for paying for the entire list.

4-H ONLINE 2.0 Leader Access

Leader Access has been snail mailed to the Primary general Leader. If other General Leaders would like access an email from the Primary General Leader needs to be sent to Susan Clark at sclark@co.walworth.wi.us. The access pin that was sent in the letter is for your club, so all leaders with access will use the same pin. Whom you choose to share this with will be up to you. The access code was generated by 4-H Online and is your permanent code; it is case sensitive. At this time, when you log in as a leader, you will only be able to see the members and leaders that have signed up and are approved, along with their contact information. You will not be able to see the projects that they have signed up for. If you have any questions please reach out to Susan Clark at sclark@co.walworth.wi.us or 262-741-4954.

4-H ONLINE Project List Access

Historically Club Leaders had access to the different project lists based on club member's projects. Currently 4honline 2.0 does not have that feature built into it. If you have club project leaders that would like to set up project meetings for your club members lists are available by contacting Susan Clark at sclark@co.walworth.wi.us or 262-741-4954. As the club leader we ask that you request these lists on behalf of the club project leader.

VIP Training

It is that time of year when new leaders start asking about VIP training. VIP dates are TBD! As of now no in person trainings will occur. Once training dates have been set volunteers in need of the training will receive an email from our office.

Discover 4-H Project Series

The multi-county project series, *Discover 4-H*, is happening Thursday evenings between February 18th and March 11. Several Walworth County youth are participating. Please ask if anyone is participating during club check-in meetings, and encourage anyone who is to share what they are learning and doing during the sessions.

Beef Weigh-in '21

Beef weigh-in is scheduled for Saturday, February 6th, at the fairgrounds beginning at 9 a.m. The event is differently than in

past years to comply with current COVID-19 meeting guidance. Families are asked to closely read the guidelines document they were emailed and plan to attend weigh-in according to the schedule outlined (by last name). They are also asked to complete paperwork in advance (being mailed via USPS the week of January 25) and bring it to weigh-in with them. Questions should be directed to Jr. Beef Superintendent Doc Sterken at 262-949-5890.

4-H Camp

Counselor applications for summer 2021 will be distributed soon with a late February/early March application deadline. Counselors will complete them to serve as resident camp counselors at Upham Woods, June 14-17, should that be permitted AND to serve as Walworth County 4-H Day Camp Counselors if resident camp cannot occur. If the day camp option is pursued, we anticipate it being held on one or two of the resident camp dates. More info on this will be coming soon.

YQCA Training '21

Our Walworth County YQCA guidelines are not yet set for 2021. They will be coming soon, appearing in the 4-H News Blog, on the 4-H website, and being directly emailed to youth in the Beef, Sheep, and Swine projects.