

# Dodge County



## 4-H FAMILY GUIDE

# WELCOME to Dodge County 4-H

***Did you know....*** 4-H is the youth development part of University of Wisconsin Madison-Division of Extension? So, when you participate in 4-H, you are part of the UW System!

Welcome to the largest youth organization in Wisconsin and the nation! You are among the 6 million youth and 612,000 adult volunteers who will grow in life skills through 4-H this year. 4-H is open to anyone regardless of race, color, creed, sex, national origin or disability. 4-H is open to youth and families in rural areas, towns, cities, and farms. Part of the University of Wisconsin-Division of Extension, 4-H is a program where youth learn together in all kinds of projects, events and activities.



For more Dodge County 4-H information:

<https://dodge.extension.wisc.edu>

University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Division of Extension Dodge County  
127 East Oak Street  
Juneau, WI 53039

Phone: (920) 386-3790

Revised 2021 by Ellen Bohn, Dodge County 4-H Program Assistant

# 4-H'S EASY TO USE DICTIONARY

**Achievement** – 4-H Achievement means a member completes all membership requirements of the 4-H club and county 4-H during the year.

**Dodge County 4-H Leader's Association** – A non-profit organization, comprised of 4-H volunteers whose purpose is to promote and support the County 4-H program.

**4-H Leader Executive Board** – Executive governing body of the Leader's Association. Advises the overall 4-H Program by dispersing funds, appointing committees and carrying out the work of the Association.

**Cloverbuds** – Cloverbuds are 5K, first and second grade members.

**Club** – Organization made of a group of youth that have fun together learning and sharing.

**County Committees** – Volunteer (adults and youth) committees that determine project area needs, organize & provide leadership for educational events/workshops and plan a yearly calendar.

**Enrollment Deadline** – RE-enrolling members fill out and/or update enrollment information in 4HOnline in October (*check Newsletter for exact date*). **New** members **MUST** open an account and enroll in 4HOnline by December 31st **to be eligible to exhibit at the Dodge County Junior Fair**.

**Exploring Members** – 4-H members who are in third grade.

**4-H NEWSLETTER ("Focus on 4-H")** – Weekly county newsletter emailed to 4-H families every Friday containing meeting information, project news, educational information and family fun ideas.

**General Club Leader(s)** – Volunteer adult(s) who serve as advisor, friend and main leader.

**Youth Leaders** – 4-H members who help younger members.

**Projects** – Unit of 4-H work (basis of "learning" experiences) which involve learning a skill.

**Project Leader** – Volunteer (adult or youth) that teaches a particular interest/skill to youth or a volunteer who may wish to learn about an unknown project as they teach it to youth.

**Project Literature** – Each project has valuable information written by University specialists for 4-Her's to use in their 4-H Projects.

**Project Meetings** – Project Leaders (either Club or County level) hold meetings for members to come and learn about the project area they have signed up for.

**Record Books** – Booklets that members put together explaining what they do during a 4-H year. These books are turned in to General Leaders at the end of the 4-H year. Members follow the County Record Book Guidelines booklet to complete their Record Books and compete for county awards.

**University of Wisconsin-Madison, Division of Extension** – 4-H is part of the Wisconsin Cooperative Extension Service, the land-grant colleges, and the US Department of Agriculture.

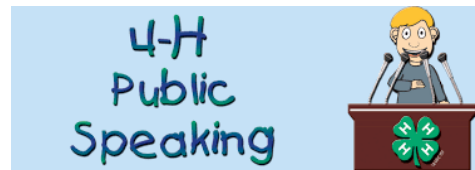
# Dodge County 4-H Activities

Activities help us increase our personal talents and abilities.

- ♣ Some activities (*judging, clothing revue, foods revue, tours, and county workshops*) add new dimensions to member projects.
- ♣ Other activities (*demonstrations and speaking*) develop effective communication abilities.
- ♣ Others (*camping, community service, dairy promotion, exchange trips*) develop citizenship responsibilities. **It should always be remembered that these activities should be enjoyed for their own sake and not be competitive. Current Newsletters provide further information on activities available. Let's have ALL members try and participate in club and county activities. Come and join the fun!**

## **SPEAKING CONTEST**

An opportunity for members to gain experience in speaking before an audience. Categories include Interpretive Reading of Prose/Poetry, Team Reading, Extemporaneous Speaking and Original Speech. Learning how to read well aloud or to deliver a speech from memory, as well as preparing an original speech, are important in developing our speaking and communication skills.



## **DEMONSTRATION and ILLUSTRATED TALK CONTEST**

This event allows members to organize their thoughts & materials to “show and tell” how to make or do a project or activity selection. Demonstrations are showing and doing; Illustrated Talks rely more on charts, pictures and descriptions. Polish up your club presentation and give it at this County event.

## **FAMILY LEARNING DAYS**

Held on two dates in February and March or April each year. Sessions are offered on a variety of project areas, new activities and craft fun. Something for everyone in the family to do together. Watch the 4-H Newsletter for dates.

## **LIVESTOCK JUDGING**

Beef, hogs and sheep judging training clinics are set up on various farms by 4-H leaders and the Dairy Agent for project members. County teams are selected in junior and senior divisions for District Competition.

## **DAIRY JUDGING**

A series of judging Training Clinics set up on various farms by 4-H Dairy leaders for project members. County teams are selected in junior and senior divisions for District Competition.

## **FOODS REVUE**

An opportunity for Foods & Nutrition Project members to “show and tell” about the foods they enjoy preparing. Members are judged on prepared food, menus, table service, cost of meal, time management and nutrition knowledge.

## **CLOTHING REVUE**

An opportunity for Clothing Project members to model garments which they have constructed and/or purchased. Entries are judged on poise, posture, accessories and total outfit appearance. Construction is judged to the extent that it affects general appearance.

## **SUMMER 4-H CAMP**

Summer Camp is exciting for 4-H members. Scheduled days at Upham Woods, Wisconsin Dells or another designated location, enjoying nature, hiking, crafts, recreation, boating, canoeing, swimming and more. Older youth serve as counselors.

***And More...Watch your weekly 4-H Newsletter for Details!***

# WHAT DO THE 4 H's STAND FOR?



**HEAD** – Through exciting “hands-on” learning experiences, 4-H’ers learn about new project areas, try new skills and participate in various activities. 4-H’ers have fun learning from volunteer adults and older youth, who are interested in sharing their knowledge and experience.

**HEART** – Throughout club, county, district and state events/activities, participants are continually developing their sense of identity, particular project skills and characteristics that result is a statement of “Who I am and What I Stand for.”



**HANDS** – A goal is for 4-H members to arrive at a tentative occupational choice. Three essential factors are:

1. Learn about oneself
2. Learn about work and occupational opportunities
3. Learn knowledge of self and occupational opportunities

## **HEALTH** – 4-H

continually strives to teach 4-H members to accept responsibility for their lifestyle choices and to create a personal environment, which encourages choices with positive impact on their well being.



# WHO CAN JOIN 4-H?

## **4-H MEMBERSHIP**

The 4-H year begins on October 1 and ends on September 30. Any youth, 5k through one year beyond high school graduation (grade 13) is eligible to join a 4-H club. New members should contact their General Leaders about enrolling in 4-H through 4HOnline. NEW member enrollments must be submitted by December 31 of the current year to be eligible to exhibit at the county fair, although youth may enroll in 4-H at any time during the year.

## **CLOVERBUDS**

Dodge County Cloverbuds are youth in 5k – 2nd grade as of October 1 of the current year.



## **EXPLORING MEMBERS**

Third graders in Dodge County enroll as Exploring members. Exploring members can sign up for one project along with Exploring.



## **LEADERS**

Any interested person can be a 4-H volunteer leader in Dodge County. Leaders must enjoy working with youth, sharing their knowledge and enthusiasm for learning and having fun. *All leaders are automatically members of the Dodge County 4-H Leaders Association after completing the Volunteers in Preparation Orientation and a background screening.*

## LET'S GET INTRODUCED TO 4-H



*"I like 4-H'ers because they are dedicated to excellence; they want to do things better... Next thing I like about them is their examples to other young people. They lead us to greater dedication to our country. They are, by their work, indeed, making this country a better one... As long as we have young people of these characteristics, devoted with their hearts and their hands and their health, America cannot be anything but successful."*

President Dwight D. Eisenhower  
1959 Dedication of the National 4-H Center

*"4-H has made a difference in my life. I haven't had time to get into trouble with drugs, because my project work keeps me so busy and interested in learning new things."*

- 4H Member

Please, ask a 4-H member or volunteer: *"Why are YOU involved in 4-H?"*

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### 4-H PLEDGE

I pledge my **HEAD** to clearer thinking,  
my **HEART** to greater loyalty,  
my **HANDS** to larger service,  
and my **HEALTH** to better living,  
for my club, my community,  
my country, and my world.



# WHERE DO YOU FIT IN?

Youth and families in Dodge County .....



**Join one of the local clubs:**

**MY 4-H CLUB IS:**

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**Every club has a General Leader:**

**MY GENERAL LEADER IS:**

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...and become part of the Dodge County 4-H community.

**Each county has a 4-H Youth Development Educator**

**OUR COUNTY 4-H EDUCATOR IS:**

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## **If you join a Dodge County 4-H Club, WHAT is EXPECTED of you?**

1. Select a project suited to interests, abilities and age.  
*(There are over 100 projects to choose from.)*
2. Learn about your project according to the best information available.
3. Attend and share in the meetings of the club.
4. Participate in club activities.
5. Serve on committee of your choice.
6. Keep and turn in a record of what you do in 4-H each year.

## **WHAT DOES A 4-H CLUB DO?**

A 4-H Club elects its own officers and conducts its own business. Each club meets monthly with an annual plan for their programs. Each meeting usually includes a kind a special fun educational program. *This can be demonstrations or talks by members, parents or a resource person; recreation or indoor games; family sharing nights; or a field trip.*



EVERYONE is part of the Wisconsin 4-H Program, which is sponsored by University of Wisconsin - Madison, Division of Extension



## HOW ARE PARENT(S) AND GUARDIAN(S) PARTNERS IN 4-H?

1. Help members select the right project(s) for their interests.
2. Give encouragement and supervision, but allow 4-H'ers to do their own work. This means giving *positive* encouragement when problems arise.
3. Help locate or assist youth in finding financial aid for project work.
4. Provide a place for records and other club/county materials at home.
5. Help members set standards of honesty, teamwork and good sportsmanship
6. Be willing to help whenever possible for the club as drivers, chaperones, lunch committee or as need arises.
7. Attend club meetings with the member(s).
8. Help members complete club/county yearly requirements.
9. Give input into the county program by participating in county meetings and serving on committees.
10. **Have fun with your youth!**

## 4-H Parent/Guardian Pledge

### I PLEDGE...

**MY HEAD** to give my child the information I can to help them see things clearly and to make wise decisions;

**MY HEART** to encourage my children no matter whether they have successes or disappointments;

**MY HANDS** to help my child's club; if I cannot be a leader, I can help in many equally important ways;

**MY HEALTH** to keep my child well and strong through 4-H;

For our club, our community, our country and our world.



## HELPFUL INFORMATION FROM 4-H MEMBERS and ADULTS

**“If I had only known...”** *(From a MEMBER)*

- ♣ I can go to ANY county activity that is listed in the 4-H Newsletter Focus on 4-H.
- ♣ I should have read the weekly 4-H newsletter!
- ♣ Keeping records of your involvement in 4-H activities, speeches, demonstrations, school/community/church and other organizations for reference makes it so much easier when applying for educational experiences and awards.
- ♣ ANY of my friends can join 4-H. You do not need to own an animal to be a part of 4-H.

**“If I had only known...”** *(From a ADULT)*

- ♣ I would have sent a calendar with my child(ren) to meetings to mark down club/county 4-H events.
- ♣ I keep a file or box for ALL 4-H correspondence, mailings and Record books for easy access.
- ♣ Parent(s) or guardian(s), grandparents are encouraged to attend and participate in 4-H events with their youth. Everyone’s help is needed to make the program strong.
- ♣ The County Extension office can obtain educational videos, links, materials, etc. for project leaders to use at project meetings.
- ♣ To read my Newsletter and call the Extension Office, club leaders or other 4-H parents with questions...however small I think it might be.

**EXTENSION OFFICE DODGE COUNTY PHONE NUMBER: (920) 386-3790**

**MY GENERAL LEADERS PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_**

**OTHER CLUB PHONE NUMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_**

## 4-H RECORD BOOKS



Record keeping is a life skill that can be developed through your 4-H work. Setting your project goals, keeping track of the financial records, and recording your accomplishments is all part of complete record keeping.

A 4-H member's Record Book is evaluated at the CLUB level. Outstanding Record Books may be selected to receive CLUB awards. Top Overall Club Record Books will be submitted by the club to the Extension Office to compete for county record book awards evaluated by a 4-H Record Book Committee.

Members can find the 4-H Record Book Guidelines on the website:

<https://dodge.extension.wisc.edu>. Cloverbuds have a "special" record book.

***Your Record Book should contain a permanent record of projects and activities as long as the member is in 4-H. FOLLOW these RECORD BOOK GUIDELINES for 4-H record details.***

4-H records should be filled out *completely AND accurately*. Parents may oversee the child's work, but it is best if a child does his/her OWN writing. Encourage your 4-H member to work on the project record sheets THROUGHOUT the year! Pictures and clippings can help you tell your 4-H story.

To achieve in 4-H (*successfully complete a 4-H year*) a member completes achievement requirements set forth by the local club (*meeting attendance, project work, etc.*)

