



Barron County 4-H *Family Guide*

 **SERVE**  **GROW**  **THRIVE**  **MAKE** 



UW Madison Extension - Barron County

UW EC Barron County
1800 College Drive
Rice Lake WI 54868

Barron County 4-H
barron.extension.wisc.edu

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wi4h.org

Facebook & Instagram
[@BarronCounty4H](https://www.facebook.com/BarronCounty4H)



WELCOME!

Welcome to **Barron County 4-H**! We are so excited to have you as part of our 4-H family.

4-H has something for everyone! Here in Barron County, hundreds of youth, ages 5-19, participate in 4-H through clubs, special interest programs, and community enrichment activities. As a 4-Her, you are joining something truly special!

4-H is all about hands-on learning and fun. Members explore projects in many areas including the arts, animal science, shooting sports, photography, the outdoors and more; while also gaining leadership skills and getting involved in their communities. While many things start at the club and county level, 4-H also offers events and programs at area, regional, state, national, and even international levels. There are a LOT of ways to be involved, but there is no pressure to do everything, your level of involvement (big or small) is up to you.

Club leaders and volunteers are here to guide you, with support from the Barron County Extension staff. If you have any questions, reach out to your club leader or the Barron County Extension Office.

Don't forget to watch your inbox or social media, as a lot of information comes out electronically and you can also visit barron.extension.wisc.edu/4h for updates and resources.

We're looking forward to a fantastic year and can't wait to see all that you accomplish.



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Resources



- **Barron County 4-H Office (Extension Barron County)**
 - Located at UW Eau Claire Barron County Campus
1800 College Drive, Rice Lake WI 54868
 - Phone: (715) 788-6240
 - Email: 4h@co.barron.wi.us
 - Website: <https://barron.extension.wisc.edu>
- **4-H Program Educator (Main Contact for 4-H)**
 - **Sara Waldron**
 - Phone: (715) 788-6219
 - Email: sara.waldron@wisc.edu
- **4-H Program Assistant**
 - **Kelly Drake**
 - Email: kelly.drake@wisc.edu
- **4-H Club Leaders**
 - Contact info can be found through the county office or specific club communications.
You can ask the Extension Office for the leader of the club you're interested in.
- **General 4-H Volunteer Inquiries**
 - Phone: (715) 788-6240
 - Email: 4h@co.barron.wi.us
- **Barron County 4-H Calendar of Events**
 - <https://barron.extension.wisc.edu/4h>
- **Event Registration and Enrollment (4-H Online)**
 - wi.4honline.com
- **Barron County Fairgrounds (For Fair Related Questions)**
 - Phone: (715) 736-FAIR
 - Website: <https://barroncountyfair.com>





What is 4-H?

What is 4-H? It's Fun for the Whole Family!

4-H is all about learning by doing—and having a blast while you're at it! It's a place where kids, teens, and adults come together to:

- **Try new things**—like leadership, teamwork, and problem-solving
- **Make awesome friends**
- **Dive into cool projects**—think photography, STEM, horses, arts & crafts, poultry, and much more!

At its heart, 4-H is about having fun, exploring, and discovering new passions. Ready to join the adventure?



4-H Pledge

All 4-H members should learn the 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.

The 4-H Emblem

The 4-H emblem is a four-leaf clover with an “H” on each leaf. It is protected by the U.S. government, meaning it has special rules for how it can be used. The numbers 18 USC 707 must always be shown with the emblem. For details on how to use the emblem correctly, contact the Extension Office.

What Do the Four “H”s Mean?

The four H's stand for Head, Heart, Hands, and Health. They represent the skills and values 4-H members learn and grow through their experiences.



Head



Heart



Hand



Health

4-H Motto

To Make the Best Better

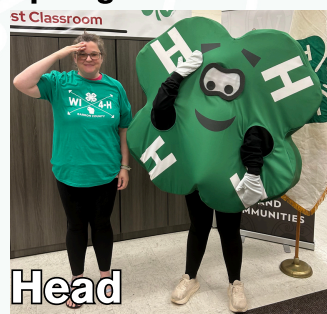
4-H Slogan

Learn by Doing

4-H Colors

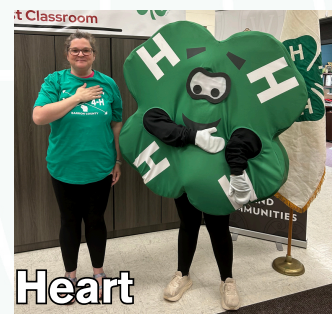
Green and White

I pledge



Head

to clearer thinking



Heart

to greater loyalty



Hands

to larger service



Health

to better living

for my club, my community, my country, and my world.



What is 4-H?

Who is 4-H for?

4-H Members

4-H is for youth in grades 5K-13 (kindergarten through one year after high school)

- 3rd-13th grade pick your own projects
- K-2nd grade explore all the fun 4-H has to offer through the Cloverbud project

***Youth must be 5 years old as of September 1 AND in 5 year kindergarten to join.

Here's what 4-H members can do:

- Join club or project meetings
- Get involved in club/county activities
- Participate in state events
- Work on projects all year long
- Set goals and complete a project record book
- Do a club demonstration
- Prepare exhibits for the fair
- Take on leadership roles

Families

4-H is all about family fun! Parents and supportive adults can get involved by helping with projects, staying updated on activities, and volunteering to lend a hand when needed.

Adult Volunteers/Leaders

Over 150 awesome volunteers in our local community help guide 4-H kids to success! They serve as:

- Club leaders
- Project leaders
- Resources and mentors

These volunteers team up with the youth, teaching life skills, and sharing their experiences.

Want to learn more? Contact the Barron County Extension Office!



What We Value in Barron County 4-H

In Barron County 4-H, we believe in learning, growing, and having fun together!

Here's what matters most to us:



Being Yourself: Find and share your authentic sparks and interests.



Belonging Together: Recognize, understand, respect, and appreciate each other.



Building Connection: Grow positive relationships with peers and adults.



Discovering Skills: Develop skills through hands-on learning to help you succeed and thrive.



Exploring New Opportunities: Open the door to new experiences, projects, and places.



Giving Back to Your Community: Make meaningful contributions through community service and leadership.

4-H is all about learning, leading, and making memories!





Membership

Youth Enrollment Information

Youth can join 4-H at any time during the year, but re-enrollment starts after September 1 each year. Before signing up for any projects, youth need to:

- Choose a club to join that best fits your needs. It might be one in your neighborhood or a Single Project/Special Interest (SPIN) Club.
- A list of all available clubs in Barron County is on the Barron County website at barron.extension.wisc.edu/4h or in this guide.
- Make sure they meet the grade requirements to enroll in and participate in project activities.

Grade Level

Your grade is based on what grade you're in at the time of enrollment. If you are homeschooled, use your declared grade.* Youth can stay in 4-H until the year after high school graduation. The 4-H year runs from October 1 to September 30.

**Certain projects have certain age requirements (shooting sports). Youth must be 5 years old as of September 1st of the 4-H year to join. Review Wisconsin 4-H Membership policies at 4h.extension.wisc.edu if you have questions, or contact the Barron County Extension Office.*

Enrollment Deadlines

- Youth must enroll in the projects they want to participate in.
- Some projects may have deadlines for fair participation to represent 4-H at the Barron County Fair.
- Projects can be added or removed at any time by the member. Members can enter items related to their projects in the fair.

Membership Options

4-H Community Club Membership

4-H club members join a specific 4-H club, where youth and families meet throughout the year, usually once a month. Each club has a leader who keeps members informed, and many clubs elect youth officers to help lead activities. Barron County has 20 active 4-H clubs. Members can join more than one club or even start a new one! Club sizes range from 5 to 80 members. Along with club meetings, members can participate in organized projects and individual activities.

Why join a Traditional Community Club?

- Strong sense of community.
- Members can choose many projects and activities.
- Regular meetings keep families up to date.
- Great leadership opportunities – Clubs are led by dedicated volunteers and youth leaders.

What's Expected of a Club Member?

Each club has its own rules, so check with your club leader. In general, traditional community club members should:

- Attend meetings and participate in club activities.
- Work on projects and consider completing a record book or showcase.
- Follow club/county guidelines for membership and participation.
- Pay 4-H membership fees (assistance available).

Special Interest (SPIN) Membership/Single Project

Members can choose to join a multi-project special interest club or one of our two specialized (single project) clubs:

- Dog Project Club
- Shooting Sports Club
- SPIN Club

Why join Special Interest/Single Project Clubs?

- Focus on a Specific Project Area – great for people who can't commit to general monthly meetings.
- Targeted Communication-Get information when project is active.
- Flexible-Participation varies.

What's Expected of a SPIN Club Member?

Single project club rules/expectations may vary from the general Special Interest club. Please check with club leader. In general members are encouraged to:

- Participate in individual project related activities/meetings.
- Share/Showcase your learning through participation in competitions, demonstrations, and events.
- Complete a 4-H Project Record or Showcase.
- Pay SPIN membership fees (assistance available).



Membership: How to Join

Joining 4-H is simple, and you can be as involved as you want! Choose one project or many—it's flexible to fit your schedule.

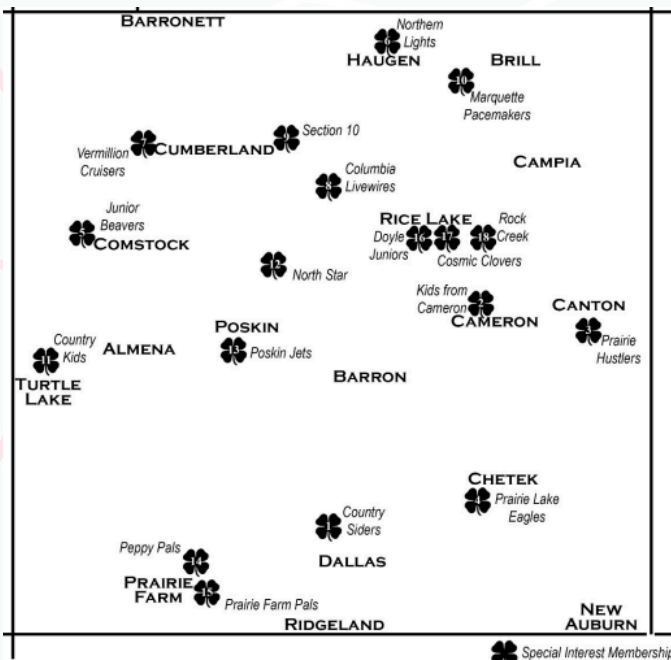
Steps to Join:

1. Choose a Club or SPIN Membership – Decide if you want to join a local club or focus on a specific project as a SPIN member. (See the map of clubs below.)
2. Pick Your Projects – If you're in grades 3-13, select the projects you want to work on.
3. Sign Up Online – Create an account at wi.4honline.com and follow the steps to enroll.
4. Get Involved & Have Fun! – Start attending meetings, working on projects, and making new friends.

Need More Info?

Visit barron.extension.wisc.edu, then click "Join Barron County 4-H" under the 4-H Info menu.

4-H is for everyone! Join today and start your adventure.



How to Join Barron County 4-H -A Visual Guide-



Getting started is easy! **Contact the Barron County Extension Office** to speak with 4-H staff to learn more and find the best way for you to get involved. Call **715-788-6240** or email **4h@co.barron.wi.us**. We are happy to help!



Find the Right 4-H Club for You!

Ask the 4-H staff for recommendations or check out our club map to find a club that interests you.



Visit a 4-H Club!

Reach out to a club leader to find out when and where the next meeting is. You can visit different clubs to see which one feels like the best fit for you!



Enroll in 4-H Online at

<https://wi.4honline.com>. When you sign up, you will create a family profile, add each member, provide contact details to get important 4-H info, choose clubs and projects, and complete necessary forms like waivers and health info for events.



Stay Connected! Follow us on Facebook and Instagram @BarronCounty4H or visit our website for updates. Attend your club meetings and don't hesitate to ask questions—your club leader and 4-H staff are here to help!



4-H Projects

Sign Up for Projects!

4-H projects are fun activities where members can explore their interests! Whether you love animals, science, art, or something else, there's a project for you. Volunteers help guide the learning, making it a great way to try new things and build skills! Barron County 4-H offers many projects that meet throughout the year. You can find details starting on page X.

Some projects have extra requirements or fees. For example, livestock project members must complete Youth Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) to show at the fair. Other groups may require a certain number of meetings. Be sure to check the details for your project!

Showcase Your 4-H Experience!

To complete the 4-H year, members are encouraged to create a Record or Showcase of their work. SPIN members must complete a Project Record Form.

You can choose how to showcase your work:

- A traditional or modern record book
- An digital showcase (slideshow, website, etc)
- A simple record form

Turn in your Record/Showcase to your General Club Leader by the deadline they provide. Awards are given at the County Awards Program in October!

For step-by-step instructions, visit the resource section at barron.extension.wisc.edu/4h and <https://sites.google.com/wisc.edu/bcrecord>.



Picking a Project:

- Think about what interests you and choose a few areas you'd like to explore.
- Learn from different sources like adults, friends, family, online resources, or the library.
- Set goals for what you want to learn and do.

What's Next?

- Some projects have volunteer mentors to help guide you, but not all do.
- Check what resources are available in the county to support your project.
- Use the planning documents at the end of this guide to map out your project.

Keeping Track of Your Progress:

- All 4-H members are encouraged to complete a record book or showcase each year. (More details on the left side of this page.)
- Keep track of what you learn, set goals, and take lots of pictures.

Project vs. Exhibit: What's the Difference?

People often mix up the words "Project" and "Exhibit" in 4-H, but they are not the same!

Project:

- A project is a topic you choose to learn about during the year.
- There are projects on almost anything—animals, art, science, woodworking, and more!
- You pick your projects when you sign up for 4-H.

Exhibit:

- An exhibit is something you create as part of your project to show at the County Fair.
- A judge will review your exhibit and give you feedback.
- You don't choose your exhibit when you sign up for 4-H—you'll register for the fair in June.
 - Check out barroncountyfair.com for a list of exhibits you can enter!



4-H Project Support and Resources

There are three ways to get help with your 4-H project:

1. County-Wide Support

Some projects have volunteers or teams that offer learning opportunities for all 4-H members in Barron County. These are extra resources, not requirements. Some may have specific rules, which you can find online or by calling the Extension Office.

County-wide projects include:

- Dairy Project
- Livestock Project (beef, sheep, swine)
- Dog Project
- Horse Project
- Shooting Sports
- Junior Leaders (grades 6-8 and 9-13)

If your project isn't listed, there may still be volunteers who can help. Call the Extension Office for assistance!

2. Club-Level Support

Each 4-H club has project leaders who can help with specific topics. Check with your club leader to see what projects they support. Availability may change based on volunteer participation.

3. Independent Study

If there aren't volunteers for your project at the county or club level, you can still learn on your own! Use resources like:

- 4-H Curriculum & Books – You can buy guides at shop4-h.org.
- Extension Office Library – Some project books are available to borrow. Contact the office for a list.

No matter what project you choose, there are plenty of ways to get support and learn new skills!



***Questions about Projects
and what they are - check
out the Project Guide!***

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/4h-resources/4-h-project-guide/>



Project Index

Expressive Arts

- Art Appreciation
- Computer Graphic Design
- Creative Writing
- Fiber & Textile Arts
- Fold Arts & Crafts
- *Leathercraft
- Performing Arts
- Photography
- Upcycling
- Videography
- Visual Arts

Leadership and Community

- Civic Engagement
- Cloverbud Youth Leader
- Communications
- Community Service
- Exploring
- Global & Cultural Communication
- History & Heritage
- Intergenerational
- Leadership
- Workforce Readiness

Family, Home and Health

- *Cake Decorating
- Candy Making
- Child Development
- Consumer Savvy
- Entrepreneurship
- Food Decorating
- Food Preservation
- Foods & Nutrition
- Health
- Home Environment
- Personal Finance
- Sewing
- Sports & Fitness

Plant and Soil Science

- Crops
- Horticulture & Gardening
- Indoor Plants
- Landscaping & Design
- Plant Crafts
- Soil Science

Agriculture and Animal Science

- *Beef
- Cats
- Cavies
- *Dairy
- *Dogs
- Exotic Animals
- Goats
- *Horse
- *Horseless Horse
- Llamas/Alpacas
- Pocket Pets
- Poultry
- Rabbits
- *Sheep
- *Swine
- Veterinary Science

Environmental/Outdoor Education

- Astronomy
- Birds
- Conservation
- Entomology (Insects)
- Geology
- Maple Syrup
- Outdoor Recreation
- Safety
- *Shooting Sports
 - Air Pistol, Air Rifle, Archery, Hunting, Muzzleloading, Rifle, and Shotgun
- Taxidermy
- Wildflowers
- Wildlife & Habitat

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math

- Aerospace
- Coding & Computer Science
- Energy & Electricity
- GPS & Mapping
- LEGO
- Mechanical Sciences
- Model Building
- Robotics
- Welding
- *Woodworking

4-H Member (Grades 3-13) 4-H members choose which project(s) they want to enroll in each year. In 4-H, we believe in “learning by doing”. That means project participation involves hands-on learning in the activities that spark your interest. In Barron County, you can sign up for any projects you might be interested in via 4-H online. You can add projects any time throughout the year.

CLOVERBUDS (Grades K-2) Big Fun for Little Learners!

Cloverbuds get to explore the exciting world of 4-H through hands-on activities, teamwork, and community involvement. They'll learn new skills, make friends, and discover different project areas to see what interests them most. Cloverbuds also get the chance to share what they've learned in creative and engaging ways. It's all about having fun, trying new things, and building a strong foundation for future 4-H experiences!

Not all projects have volunteers to lead the project on the county level.

*Projects that are led by county volunteers.



Terminology

4-H Activity – Members can participate in 4-H activities regardless of the projects they are enrolled in. These activities can be individual or team-based, like softball.

4-H Association – The 4-H Association is made up of leaders who raise funds, organize committees, advocate for 4-H, and provide input on opportunities. Voting members include 4-H volunteers and youth leaders.

4-H Club – A 4-H club is a group of members and volunteers who meet regularly to plan activities, community service, and leadership opportunities. Clubs should be led by youth, with adult volunteers supporting the activities.

4-H Council – The 4-H Council is the elected group within the 4-H Association. They make decisions about policies, and provide leadership for financial and legal responsibilities, as well as overall guidance for the organization.

4-H Member – A 4-H member is any youth who participates in a 4-H club. Membership is open to all youth, regardless of their background, race, gender, religion, or beliefs. Youth can join 4-H from kindergarten through one year after high school graduation.

4-H Project – A 4-H member can choose one or more project areas to focus on each year. These projects often involve meetings or workshops led by project leaders to help youth develop skills in their chosen area.

4-H Volunteer – A 4-H volunteer is an adult (over 18) who has completed the Youth Protection Process and is currently enrolled in 4-H.

4-H Year – The 4-H year runs from October 1 to September 30 of the following year.

4-H Youth Program Educator – This is a staff member from the UW Madison Division of Extension who provides leadership and oversees all 4-H programs and groups in the county.

Junior Leaders – Junior Leaders are 4-H members in grades 6-8 and 9-13 who join a county leadership group. They focus on community development, volunteer work, and run a food stand at the County Fair.

Achievement – Each 4-H member must meet certain requirements during the year to achieve including:

- Giving a demonstration at a club meeting
- Exhibiting a project at a community event (does not have to be the county fair)
- Completing and turning in a 4-H Record Book or Showcase to their leader by the deadline
- Being actively involved in 4-H

Members who do not meet these requirements may lose eligibility for funding and other specific program benefits for the next 4-H year as outlined in specific group bylaws.



4-H Terminology, Continued

Charter Application – Every 4-H club, committee, or organization with a bank account must fill out an annual Charter form to use the 4-H Name and Emblem. Official clubs/groups must also fill them out.

Barron County 4-H E-Blast – A newsletter from Extension Barron County that provides 4-H families with updates and information about the 4-H program.

Cloverbud – Cloverbuds are members in kindergarten through second grade. They can't participate in some 4-H projects or events. This age group should enroll in the Cloverbud project when joining 4-H.

Club Officer – A club officer is any member elected to a leadership role in the club, such as President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, or Historian.

Club Rules & By-Laws – These are the written guidelines that each 4-H club follows to ensure they meet required achievement standards.

Enrollment – In September, every 4-H member and volunteer must fill out enrollment forms and choose their project areas for the year. Youth also need to sign a behavioral agreement.

General Club Leader – A general club leader is a volunteer who helps run the club. They recruit members, manage enrollment, and support officers in their duties.

UW-Madison Division of Extension – This organization provides educational programs in collaboration with various fields to meet community challenges, protect natural resources, and support youth through these programs:

- Agriculture
- Community Development
- Human Development and Relationships
- Health & Well-Being
- Natural Resources
- Positive Youth Development





4-H Calendar of Events - First Year Members

For a current Calendar of ongoing events and project meetings, please visit the 4-H website.

SEPTEMBER

4-H Online Registration
Club Meetings Start

THIS MONTH'S TO DO LIST

Enroll in 4-H Online
Attend your club meeting*

OCTOBER

4-H Week - first full week
Taste of 4-H (virtual)
(pre-register in September)

THIS MONTH'S TO DO LIST

Attend your club meeting*
Start planning 4-H Projects

NOVEMBER

4-H Open House
Second Sunday -
pre-registration in October

THIS MONTH'S TO DO LIST

Attend your club meeting*
Work on 4-H Projects
(watch for county project dates)

DECEMBER

Project Discovery Days
Second Sunday - pre-registration

THIS MONTH'S TO DO LIST

Attend your club meeting*

JANUARY

Club/Project Meetings*

THIS MONTH'S TO DO LIST

Attend your club meeting*
Register for County
Projects/Events

FEBRUARY

Club/Project Meetings*
Project Discovery Days
Second Sunday - pre-registration

THIS MONTH'S TO DO LIST

Attend your club meeting*
Register for County
Projects/Events

MARCH

Club/Project Meetings*
Project Discovery Days
Second Sunday - pre-registration

THIS MONTH'S TO DO LIST

Register for County Events
Watch for Camp Registration

APRIL

Talent Expo (Performance Arts)
Foods/Clothing Revue

THIS MONTH'S TO DO LIST

Enroll in 4-H Online
Attend your club meeting*

MAY

THIS MONTH'S TO DO LIST

Register for Fair
Sign-up to volunteer at fair

JUNE

Scholarships Due
4-H Summer Camp
Area Animal Science Days

THIS MONTH'S TO DO LIST

Fair Registration Deadline
Attend your club meeting*

JULY

Cake Revue
Barron County Fair
4-H Graduation

THIS MONTH'S TO DO LIST

Enroll in 4-H Online
Attend your club meeting*

AUGUST

4-H Record Book/Showcase,
Project Reports, Award
Applications Due
Club Year Wrap-up
Cloverbud Camp

THIS MONTH'S TO DO LIST

Enroll in 4-H Online
Attend your club meeting*



4-H Events and Opportunities

Here's a list of exciting activities and events happening locally, across Wisconsin, and beyond! Be sure to keep an eye on newsletters and emails for the latest updates and details.

Local Events & Opportunities

4-H Clubs

4-H members and families choose the club they want to join. While clubs are in specific areas, you don't have to pick the closest one! Each club offers different activities and opportunities. Ask leaders or families for more details about what each club offers.

4-H Camp

Throughout the 4-H year, there are several camp programs available, such as Day Camps for Cloverbuds, Summer Camp for grades 3-8, and Camp Counselor opportunities for grades 9-13.

4-H Projects

Youth can get involved in a variety of project activities throughout the year. Volunteers organize classes and learning events, and members can also plan and lead their own projects. Some countywide projects include livestock, dairy, dogs, leathercraft, horses, and shooting sports.

Awards Program

In October, youth who have excelled in their project areas are chosen to receive awards for their hard work. In addition to project awards, special club awards are also presented during this event.

4-H Graduation

At the end of each year, a graduation event celebrates the accomplishments of graduating members. Select members may also receive scholarships and county awards for their achievements. Scholarship applications are due by June 1, and graduation takes place on the Saturday of fair week (unless stated otherwise).

National 4-H Week

The first full week in October is dedicated to promoting 4-H! Counties across the country use that year's theme to create displays and special events to encourage new members for the upcoming year.

Performance Arts Festival Day/Talent Expo

4-H members from across the county showcase their talents in drama, speech, music, and demonstrations. Participants are judged, and a few are selected for awards and the chance to perform at the Barron County Fair. This is open to youth of all ages. Registration opens in January/February.

Project Discovery Days

Throughout the year, Project Discovery Days give members the chance to explore different 4-H projects. Activities range from crafting to small engines to woodworking. Stay tuned for updates in newsletters!

Virtual Learning

Local virtual learning opportunities are available, including events for National 4-H Week in October. Starting in January, virtual sessions are available for five different project areas. For more details, check the Wisconsin 4-H website.

4-H Softball

During the summer, 4-H clubs form softball teams to compete against each other in a league and championship tournament. It's a great way to get active and have fun! **(3rd grade and older)**



4-H Activities and Opportunities

Local Events Continued

Clothing/Foods/Cake Decorating Revue

Members in the Clothing, Foods, or Cake Decorating projects have their work judged before the Barron County Fair. Exhibitors are asked questions about their projects, and after judging, the projects are displayed for the public to see at the fair. **(all ages)**

Junior Leaders

4-H Junior Leaders are older youth who work together to give back to their communities and clubs. They run the Junior Leader Food Stand during fair week, where they gain leadership experience and have the chance to earn money. By volunteering at the food stand and completing other duties, Junior Leaders get access to exciting opportunities and activities. (grades 6-8 and 9-13)

Barron County Fair

The Barron County Fair takes place every July at the fairgrounds in Rice Lake. While it's hosted by the Barron County Fair board and open to all, 4-H members make up most of the exhibitors. At the fair, 4-H members display and have their projects judged, which is an important part of their Achievement. It's also a fun time to spend with friends and other club members while enjoying various 4-H and fair events. For Junior Leaders, the food stand is a great opportunity to meet new people and volunteer. Be sure to register for the fair by June. For more info, check the Barron County Fair website: barroncountyfair.com

Learn more:

local: barron.extension.wisc.edu/4h

state: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/>

State Events & Opportunities

Explore your Sparks

- 4-H Camps
- Wisconsin Distance Learning
- WI Wildlife & Forestry
- State Shooting Sports
- Agriculture & Animals Sciences
- Dog Project
- Horse Project
- Arts

Youth Leadership

- State Arts Ambassadors
- Wisconsin 4-H Leadership Council
- Youth Partnership & Civic Leadership
- Restorative Justice Summit
- Fall Forum
- Summer Academy

Travel Experiences

- American Spirit East
- Ignite
- Space Camp
- National 4-H Conference
- National 4-H Congress





4-H Events and Opportunities: Adults

Adult Volunteer, Leader, and Parent Involvement

General Information

We're always looking for volunteer project leaders! If there's a project you're interested in or if you think there's a need for a new project in your club or county, we'd love to hear from you. No special experience or education is needed—just a willingness to work with youth.

How to Become a Volunteer:

1. Contact the Extension Office to learn about available opportunities.
2. Fill out the Volunteer Form and decide which role is right for you.
3. Enroll in 4-H as a volunteer.
4. Complete the required background check, mandated reporter training, VIP training, and any other necessary trainings.

Club Leaders & Co-Leaders

Club leaders are essential to providing youth with positive development experiences. They work with both youth and adults to lead the club, serving as the main contact between the club and the county.

Activity Leaders & Event Volunteers

If you enjoy organizing or leading events, this is the role for you! Activity leaders help organize events on the club or county level. You can also volunteer as a committee member to help with planning and execution.

County Resource Leaders

County Resource Leaders support county-wide projects and leadership opportunities. While they aren't required to be in a specific club, they can choose to be. Examples include leading county projects, serving on committees, and creating leadership opportunities.

Project Leaders

Project Leaders are responsible for leading and organizing specific project groups. These groups focus on a particular topic and can be organized at the club or county level.

Chaperones

Chaperones provide adult supervision at events and activities, including overnight trips, to ensure youth safety and well-being.

Committees

As a volunteer or parent, you can join one of these committees:

- Educational Programming: Clothing Revue, Foods Revue, County-wide Trips, Performance Arts Festival, Project Discovery Days
- Awards & Recognition: Awards, Awards Banquet, County Recognition
- Financial Support: Plat Book, Food Stand, Raffle, Scholarships
- Promotion: Recruitment, Marketing

Committees report to the Barron County 4-H Adult Leaders Association and the 4-H Educator. They're responsible for planning and carrying out activities related to their area, including budgeting, setting rules, and regulations. Committees also choose their own chairperson, who reports on committee advisory decisions at Association meetings.

For more details, visit wi4h.org or contact the local Extension office.



4-H Events and Opportunities: Adults

Parents and Guardians – How Your Child Can Be Successful in Barron County 4-H

The Barron County 4-H program values the involvement of parents and guardians, as each brings unique talents and experiences that can support local 4-H clubs. However, it is important to let youth take the lead in their 4-H experience.

4-H club meetings and activities are welcoming spaces for parents and guardians to join in. While not all parents may have the time to participate equally, here are some helpful ways you can support your child's success in Barron County 4-H:

1. **Encourage Fun and Exploration** – Help your child embrace 4-H as a chance to try new things and have fun!
2. **Praise and Support** – Celebrate your child's achievements, and provide encouragement when challenges arise.
3. **Offer Constructive Feedback** – Share ideas and suggestions that support your child's growth and help improve their 4-H experience.
4. **Instill Strong Character** – Teach your child that character matters. Encourage values like fairness, honesty, respect, and trustworthiness.
5. **Get Involved in Fundraisers and Service Projects** – Offer your help with fundraising, community service activities, or educational programs.
6. **Provide Resources** – Help supply refreshments, materials, or other items for your child's 4-H club activities.
7. **Learn Together** – Help your child learn the 4-H Pledge and 4-H songs introduced at meetings.
8. **Support Project Selection** – Help your child choose projects that match their interests and ensure they complete them according to Barron County's deadlines.
9. **Stay Informed** – Keep up with club and county requirements by reading communications from the 4-H club leader or Barron County Extension office.
10. **Encourage Independence** – Offer guidance, but let your child take ownership of their work and projects.
11. **Support Regular Attendance** – If your family joins a 4-H Club, encourage your child to attend 4-H club meetings regularly to stay connected and engaged.

Your involvement helps your child thrive in Barron County 4-H, creating a rewarding experience for them and the community!





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