

more fun when done as a group. Others like making a dress or finishing a drawing may be done individually by each member of the group.

Questions about adults in 4-H

What does a 4-H Club Organizational Leader do?

The 4-H Club Organizational Leader is the “go between” for the club and the Extension Office. This is the person who is responsible for making sure the appropriate paper work (enrollment forms, literature request, award forms, etc) is completed for the club. In larger clubs, some of these roles are shared by other leaders beyond the club organizational leader. The Organizational Leader would also work directly with the youth officers in the club to determine the agenda for the meetings and plan the yearly calendar.

What does a 4-H Project Leader do?

4-H project leaders are the adults or older youth in the club who teach members how to do specific project work. They usually have a special interest or skill, such as photography or clothing or gardening. The project leader meets with the members who have enrolled in a particular project and shares their knowledge and skills.

Where would I learn how to be a 4-H leader?

Your main help is the St. Croix County UWEX Office. The 4-H youth development agent will discuss with you your interest in working with youth, your previous experience and the resources available to you as a 4-H leader. All adult 4-H leaders must complete the Wisconsin 4-H Youth Protection Policy which includes:

- a volunteer application with permission to conduct a background check
- 2 hour new leader orientation
- a volunteer expectation behavior form

As a 4-H parent, how can I help my child?

Counsel with your son or daughter to select 4-H projects that are interesting and can be conveniently financed. Show your interest and enthusiasm after the projects have been selected. If your club doesn't have a project leader for your child, you will need to read over the project literature with him or her and help your child understand what to do, when to do it and how to carry out different phases of the project.

Questions about starting a new 4-H club

How do you start a new 4-H Club?

A new 4-H club would require at least 5 youth, from 3 different families and an adult leader who is willing to be the organizational leader for the club.

The 4-H Youth Development Agent would be happy to work with you to get a new club started in your area.

...If you need more information to make a decision about joining 4-H in St. Croix County, contact the St. Croix County UW-Extension Office at 715-684-3301 Ext 5. You can leave a voice mail message anytime, email kimberly.reaman@ces.uwex.edu or check out the web page www.stcroixcounty4-h.org

Commonly Asked Questions About 4-H

Do I have to live on a farm to join 4-H?



Nope. 4-H members live in the city, in the suburbs, in towns, and in the country. They just enroll in different kinds of projects. But everyone can join 4-H and show at the County Fair.

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? Questions about 4-H



What is 4-H?

4-H is a youth development organization that strives to help young people develop skills and characteristics that will be useful for the rest of their lives. At the club level, 4-H is led by adult volunteers. At the county level, there is a University of Wisconsin-Extension faculty member who provides overall guidance for volunteer development as well as program development for youth in 4-H.

Who can join 4-H?

4-H is for boys and girls in the first grade through one year past high school. It is open to everyone, regardless of race, religion, color, disability, gender or place of residence.

Why do young people like 4-H?

They have **fun** with friends at meetings, social activities, camps, fairs and on tours and trips. They **learn** to do interesting things, such as, take care of animals and plants, redecorate their rooms, fix their bikes, take pictures, practice cooking, and collect rocks. And they **help** others to learn more about their 4-H project, provide leadership to younger kids, and learn about themselves.

What do the “H’s” stand for?

Head, heart, hands, and health. This is the 4-H pledge:

I pledge

My head to clearer thinking

My heart to greater loyalty

My hands to larger service

My health to better living

For my club, my community, my country & my world.

What is the 4-H emblem?

A green four-leaf clover with a white “H” on each clover leaf.



? Questions about 4-H clubs



How do you join 4-H?

Your family would join a community 4-H club. These are great clubs because the whole family is encouraged to participate so there are kids from first grade to H.S. seniors, parents and sometimes even grandparents participating in the clubs’ activities. It’s so much fun and it is one of the best intergenerational programs around! The best time to join is when clubs reorganize in the fall between Sept and Nov.

Call the St. Croix County UW-Extension Office at 715-684-3301 Ext 5 to find the 4-H club nearest you. There are clubs located throughout St. Croix County with at least one near every community. You can also call a local 4-H club leader if you know one.

Do community 4-H clubs have dues?

It depends on their need for money. Most club dues are less than \$5 per member. There are no national 4-H dues, though there is a \$3.50 per member annual fee which is collected to support the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation, the St. Croix County 4-H Program and the St. Croix County Fair. Of the \$3.50 due, \$1.50 is paid to the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation, \$1.50 remains with the local 4-H program and \$.50 goes to the St. Croix County Fair. If a club wants money for some activities, it usually charges dues or conducts money-making activities. Dues can not be used as a barrier to keep someone from joining 4-H.

How often do community 4-H clubs meet?

Most community 4-H clubs meet every month year round. It is at this meeting that the business of the club is done. Decisions about what type of community service projects the club wants to do, plans for family social events or other club activities are examples of items that are discussed at the community 4-H club meet-

ing. Often the community 4-H club meeting will include a recreational time and an educational program that may be of interest to all the members.

When do clubs meet and how long do meetings last?

Clubs meet after school, in the evening or the weekend. Generally, it is the same time each month though so that it is easy for members and their families to remember (the first Monday of each month). Most club meetings are an hour or two in length.

? Questions about 4-H projects



What are 4-H projects?

Within the community 4-H club, an individual member enrolls in projects they are interested in. A project is simply a subject matter area. We have 4-H projects in many different subject matters: photography, foods/nutrition, cats, dogs, sewing, cultural arts, large animals, garden, etc. There are more than 50 projects a member could choose from.

If there is a project leader, they will have additional meetings with the members who have signed up for the same project. These meetings are specific to learning a set of skills in that project (sewing, gardening, fishing, etc).

Are 4-H members expected to do their own project work?

YES—with help. 4-H is a “learn by doing” program. Leaders, youth leaders and parents may demonstrate how, but members are expected to learn how to do things themselves. One of the principles of 4-H is that allowing a youth to learn by doing builds self-worth.

Are projects done individually or as a group?

Both. Some projects like fishing or biking are