

Shawano County 4-H Information Sheet

Welcome to Shawano County 4-H!

Some quick facts about the program--

- ◆ 626 enrolled members
- ◆ 333 4-H leaders
- ◆ 27 4-H clubs
- ◆ 2 Special Interest Clubs
 - ◆ Shawano 4-H Skate Team
 - ◆ Shawano Afterschool 4-H
- ◆ 1539 youth in other UW-Extension-sponsored programs or activities

UW-Extension Youth Development Staff

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4-H Dictionary

Achievement - means fulfilling a club's membership requirements, like exhibiting project work and turning in a 4-H record book at the end of the 4-H year.

Clover Line - the monthly family newsletter that keeps you up-to-date on current 4-H activities.

Wisline or Teleconferencing - Shawano Co. is linked to Extension offices in the state via teleconferencing equipment. You can listen and ask questions. Meetings and trainings are often held over the Wisline system, located at the courthouse. You can also connect to this system from your own home, simply by contacting the Shawano Co. Extension Office for access numbers.

General Leader - Adult volunteers who guide the overall organization of the club.

Key Committee - Volunteers (adults and young people) who determine project area needs on a county-wide basis. They may plan workshops or events, suggest improvements for fair entries, and are resources for others.

Older Youth Group (OYG)- All teens are invited to join this countywide youth group. The group schedules fun & community service activities all year.

Projects - A unit of 4-H work, which is the basis of "learning" experiences. You can select up to five project areas each year plus the youth leadership project. Some clubs have project leaders who hold meetings for members. Most projects have valuable booklets, written by university specialists for families to work in together.

Record Books - 4-H members summarize their 4-H work each year. A cover and record book sheets are provided, but you can add project stories, photos, and news clippings. Record books are turned in to club leaders at the end of the 4-H year, and may be sent to the county for project award competition.

Shawano Co. 4-H Leaders Inc. - the non-profit organization of 4-H volunteers who directs and promotes the county 4-H program. Meetings are held on the 4th Monday of odd months. The Executive Board is the governing body and manages the overall 4-H program by dispersing funds, appointing committees, and carrying out the work of the organization.

Tips for New 4-Hers

Adopt a Family

New families often have many questions about how the 4-H program works. Having an experienced family to sit next to at meetings or to call when questions arise (and they will!) really helps. If you haven't been "adopted" yet, ask your general leaders to recommend a family.

Record Books

Record books give you a way to set goals for the year, keep track of what you have done in 4-H, and express your feelings.

It is important to start filling out your "Goals/Achievement" record sheets at the beginning of the year. Then, try to take a few photos as you participate in a project or activity, to show progress and help document your work. Your Welcome folder contains a sample record book that shows you the order to put your pages in and gives some tips for doing a neat job.

At the end of the 4-H year, fill in the fair placings you received, tell what you've learned, add newspaper clippings or other support material, and write a short story about each of your projects. You can earn awards in project areas for doing a good job communicating what you've done in 4-H through your record books.

Achieving

Clubs strive to have all of their members "achieve." They know that the strongest clubs have active, involved members. Achieving members receive a pin designating their year of membership.



Fair time!

Last year's fair book, which may be included with your packet, can give you some ideas for project work. Remember that you can only enter items for projects in which you are enrolled. You will be given a *new* fair book and entry sheet in late spring. Read your fair book carefully and if you have questions, don't be afraid to ask!

Insurance

All enrolled 4-H members are covered by insurance for 4-H sponsored activities, when not covered by your own medical insurance, with these exceptions:

- ◆ eye glass replacement
- ◆ illness
- ◆ suicide
- ◆ denture replacement/repair
- ◆ hernia
- ◆ air travel
- ◆ injuries sustained in rodeo events
- ◆ injuries sustained while skiing, tobogganing, bobsledding or tubing.

4-H leaders who are certified through the Youth Protection Program have liability insurance coverage.

Where to go for help

Still got questions? Try asking. . .

- ◆ Another 4-H family
 - ◆ Your club's general leader(s)
 - ◆ Youth leaders in your club (experienced teens - often had the same questions when they were new)
 - ◆ Your project literature
 - ◆ County Key leaders (refer to the Key Committee Reference Guide given to each family in the spring)
 - ◆ County 4-H workshops
 - ◆ UW-Extension Office staff
- Phone: 715-526-6136