

**WELCOME
TO...**

**MADISON
COUNTY 4-H**



**A NEW
MEMBER'S
GUIDE**



CONTACT INFORMATION

My 4-H Club

My 4-H Club

Club Meeting Dates

Meeting Location

My 4-H Club Leader's Name

Club Leader's Phone Number

Club Leader's Email

Co-Leader's Name

Co-Leader's Phone Number

Co-Leader's Email

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4-H PROGRAM YEAR



SEPTEMBER

- Sep. 1 - Enrollment opens in 4-H Online
- 4-H Record Books due to the Extension Office

DECEMBER

- Beef Weigh Ins

MARCH

- National Youth Summit Series "Ignite by 4-H"
- Swine Weigh Ins

MAY

- Sheep & Goat Weigh Ins
- May 15 - All livestock must be ID'd in 4-H Online

- May 15 - Exhibitor t-shirt orders due to the Extension Office

JULY

- All static entries due in Fair Entry
- Clothing & Communications day
- J Static Judging Day
- J Madison County Fair
- IFYE for 4-H Alumni
- States 4-H Exchange

ALL YEAR

- Camera Corps
- Career Pathways Academy

NOVEMBER

- Awards Banquet
- 4-H Connect Retreat

JANUARY

- National 4-H Congress Application due
- State 4-H Council Application due
- Iowa 4-H Reporters Application due

APRIL

- National 4-H Conference
- National 4-H Congress, State 4-H Council, & Iowa 4-H Reporters winners announces

JUNE

- Taste of Camp at Wesley Woods
- Jun. 15 - All livestock, communications, & clothing entries due in Fair Entry. YQCA must be complete in order to show.
- Citizenship Washington Focus Trip
- Iowa 4-H Youth Conference

AUGUST

- Iowa State Fair

WEBSITES AND RESOURCES



01

4-H Online: v2.4honline.com

For enrollment, animal identification, event registration, monthly newsletter, and more.

02

Madison County Extension 4-H & Youth

<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/madison/4h>

For the most updated 4-H news, scholarship and award opportunities, resources, record keeping information, etc.

03

Fair Entry: fairentry.com

Enter livestock, static, clothing, and communications projects for the Madison County and Iowa State fairs.

04

YQCA: yqcaprogram.org

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals training is a requirement for all those showing the following species at the fair: swine, cattle (beef & dairy), sheep, goats, market rabbits, & poultry.

05

Social Media Handles

Facebook: [@madisoncounty4HIowa](https://www.facebook.com/madisoncounty4HIowa)

Instagram: [@madison_co_extension_ia](https://www.instagram.com/madison_co_extension_ia)

Did You Know?

4-H is the largest youth development organization in the US and has programs in over 70 countries with almost 7 million members worldwide.



MEMBER

information

"Good Standing"

In order to show at the County Fair, exhibitors must accumulate a minimum of 6 educational "hours". This must be at least 3 club meetings and a mix of community service activities, and other education opportunities. The Extension Office has final approval on whether 4-Hers are in "good standing" and are eligible to show at the Madison County Fair.

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 country, my community, and my world.

Clover Connections

Stay connected and up to date by reading our monthly newsletter "Clover Connections" sent straight to your inbox and available on our website.

The 4-H Motto

To Make
the Best
Better!

4-H Colors

Green: Life,
Springtime, &
Youth
White: Purity

4-H Emphasizes

- Healthy Living
- STEM
- Leadership & Civic Engagement
- Communications & the Arts

Expectations

1. Attend club meetings. These are integral to your 4-H experience! Must attend 3 club meetings to be eligible for the county fair.
2. Demonstrate skills you've learned for the club by giving a presentation during a club meeting.
3. Participate in a community service project.
4. Record what you've done/learned in a record book.
5. Reach out for help from club leaders and Extension staff when needed. We're here to help!

Levels of 4-Hers

Clover Kids: Grades
K-3
Junior: Grades 4-6
Intermediate:
Grades 7-8
Senior: Grades 9-12



Club

Meetings

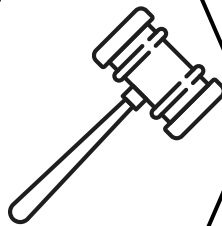


What does a 4-H club do?

- Clubs meet monthly with a year-long plan for their programs. The program year runs from September 1 - August 31.
- A 4-H club elects its own officers and conducts its own business.
- Each meeting usually includes presentations (by members/leaders/parents), recreation/games, a family night, or field trip.
- Most 4-H clubs do a variety of community service projects. Members should decide the types of projects their club will do.
- 4-H clubs should support their members in their various projects.

What happens at a 4-H meeting?

- 4-Hers say the Pledge of Allegiance and the 4-H Pledge.
- Roll call & reading of the minutes by the secretary.
- Treasurer's report of income & expenses.



- Committees tell what they've planned or done.
- "Old business" or things talked about before.
- "New business" or new ideas, activities, and plans.
- Members give presentations.
- Food & fun are at the end!

Club Officers - A 4-H Club elects the following officers:

President - conducts meetings and appoints committees

Vice President - is in charge of the program plans

Secretary - keeps minutes and attendance records

Treasurer - pays clubs bills and deposits funds received

Recreation Leader - helps plan parties and leads games

Reporter - writes newspaper stories about club events

Historian - keeps a lasting record of the club's yearly story

4-H VOCABULARY

Projects - A 4-H project is an area of emphasis in which a 4-H'er studies, learns, and keeps records.

Exhibits - A 4-H exhibit is an item resulting from project work that the 4-H'er has chosen to bring to the fair and have evaluated by a judge.

Static Exhibits - refers to non-animal exhibits displayed in the Jackson Building

Communications - Educational Presentations are talks or demonstrations, given in front of an audience, about some topic that interests the 4-H'er. Working Exhibits are less formal. They involve a one-on-one type of demonstration technique. Share the Fun includes entertainment acts like music, dance, interpretive speech or skits. They can involve any number of youth from one 4-H'er to the whole club.

Clover Connections - Monthly Madison County 4-H newsletter delivered straight to your inbox and available on our website.

4-H Enrollment - Members must re-enroll annually in 4-H Online (online database).

Code of Ethics Form - This form asks members to be responsible for doing their own project work in an ethical manner. Signed in 4-H Online.

Medical Information/Release - Medical information in case of an emergency with a member. All information is kept confidential.

Livestock Identification (ID) - All animals part of a 4-H project must be ID'd in 4-H Online.

Fair Entry - Website used to enter all fair-bound livestock, communications, static, and clothing projects for the state and county fairs.

HOW PARENTS CAN HELP

Help members select the right projects for their interests. Be aware of the child's goals and encourage record keeping.

Give encouragement and supervision, but allow the 4-Hers to do their own work.

Help youth locate financial aid for project work when needed.

Provide a place for records and other 4-H materials in the home.

Help members set standards of honesty, teamwork, and good sportsmanship.

Be willing to help whenever possible with club activities.

Encourage and support the member in attending club meetings.

Help member complete club and county activities for the year.

Give input into the county programs by participating in county meetings and serving on Youth & 4-H Committee.

Read the 4-H newsletter, Clover Connections, and help youth stay on top of deadlines.

4-H exhibits can match the interests your child already has. Do they have a garden, like to draw, want to practice giving a presentation?

Help your child keep records throughout the year so there isn't a rush to complete them before the deadline.

Seek help from Extension Office, Club Leaders, fellow 4-Hers, and experts in specific project areas.

Have fun with youth!