

ISU Extension and Outreach - Warren County
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New Member Guide



Make Friends



Have FUN!

Extension programs are available to all without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, or disability.

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IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach



Welcome To Warren County 4-H!

We are excited to welcome you as a new member in the world's largest youth organization—4-H! We invite you to join us in making new friends and having fun!

Like any new adventure, there are always many questions. We hope this guide helps answer those questions and directs you along the way.



4-H is a **community of young people** across America who are learning **leadership, citizenship and life skills.**

*4-H Motto
To Make the Best Better!*

4-H Colors

Green—Symbolizes life, springtime, & youth.

White—Symbolizes purity.

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.



4-H Notes.....

Imagine

Having fun with your friends while exploring new interests...

Finding a place where the possibilities are endless...

Being a leader and making a difference in our world...

Making an impact side-by-side with adults who value your voice and opinion...



4-H Notes.....



4-H Background

Early school teachers O. H. Benson in Wright County, and Jessie Field Shambaugh in Page County, taught farm topics in schools. Both became superintendents in their counties in 1906 and vigorously promoted "club" work.

County Superintendent Cap E. Miller in Keokuk County, Iowa, also pioneered. In 1904 he urged his teachers to promote clubs and teach farm subjects. He sponsored a county organization of boys and girls with officers and educational programs. Miller's plans fostered many of the teaching tools in today's 4-H program including life skills and learning-by-doing through projects, group meetings, and exhibits. Community service projects also provide active learning interaction of youth and adults and encourage youth to set and accomplish goals.

The program for boys was called "Boys' Agricultural Clubs." They had exhibits of corn and garden products, and held livestock judging contests. The programs for girls were called "Girls' Home Culture Clubs." The girls had exhibits of sewing and cooking, and held contests in which they judged "articles of sewing,

handwork, and cooking."

The emblem of the four-Leaf clover started in 1906 at a one-room country school near Clarion, Iowa.

O.H. Benson observed 11 pupils looking for four-Leaf clovers. He used the four Leaves to stand for the school's 4-square Development of: Education, Physical, Moral, and Fellowship. The three-leaf clover was used in 1906-1911 to stand for head, heart and hand. The fourth "H" for health was added in 1911.

County extension staffing patterns established between 1914 and 1919 increased the growth and effectiveness of volunteer leadership. The programs gradually became part of the Extension service and not the public school system.

The Iowa 4-H program is under the direction of Iowa State University Extension and Outreach.



Member Information

What Happens When You Enroll in 4-H?

1. Youth and their families select a 4-H club in Warren County in which to join.
2. Youth select a project in which to enroll. The project literature aids individual learning, and suggests activity and exhibit ideas for fair.
3. After enrolling in a club on-line, a 4-H member (and family) attends monthly club meetings where members plan club events, vote on items, swap ideas and information and do fun educational activities.

Beyond local club participation, 4-H families may participate in a variety of Warren County sponsored events such as project workshops, camps, Warren County fair and more!

The **4-H Horizon** newsletter is published at least bimonthly and is mailed and posted on the family page in 4hOnline and on our website to alert families of upcoming events. **Be sure to read!**

What's Expected of You?

Basic expectations of members, are:

1. Attend club meetings.
2. Do an educational presentation at your club meeting.
3. Participate in a community service project.

Exhibiting at the Warren County fair is a highlight of the year for many 4-H members. Youth are encouraged, not required, to showcase project work at the Warren County Fair. Attendance at *fifty percent of the meetings are Required* in order to exhibit at the County Fair.

Keeping records of project work throughout the year is strongly encouraged. Forms are available on the Warren County 4-H website or on-line through the state 4-H web-page.

Did You Know?

There are 3 Levels in 4-H:

- Grades 4-6 are considered Junior Level 4-Hers
- Grades 7-9 are considered Intermediate Level 4-Hers
- Grades 10-12 are considered Senior Level 4-Hers

Contact Information

Your 4-H Club Information

My 4-H Club Name

My 4-H Leader's Name

My 4-H Leader's Phone Number

My 4-H Co-Leader's Name

My 4-H Co-Leader's Phone Number

Websites

4hOnline:

<https://iowa.4honline.com>

Warren County Home Page:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/warren>

Warren County 4-H Home Page:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/warren/4h/>

Iowa 4-H:

www.extension.iastate.edu/4-H

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How Can Families Help?

The 4-H program encourages parents, grandparents, guardians, and family members to help the 4-H'er with his/her projects. Here are some suggestions:

- Help youth select projects that relate to their interests or hobbies.
- Attend club meetings with your child.
- Give encouragement and supervision, but allow the 4-H'er to do their own work.
- Help youth develop a record-keeping system for their project work. This may mean finding a special place for records and 4-H materials in the home and periodically reviewing that information with them.

- Read the **4-H Horizon** newsletter to help them stay on top of dates, deadlines, rules, etc....
- Be willing to help the club whenever possible as extra adult hands as hostess, driver, chaperone, etc., as needs arise.
- Be positive. Praise them when they succeed and be there to help when they struggle.
- Seek help from your Warren County Extension staff, Club Leaders, fellow 4-H'ers, as well as people with specific expertise in project areas.
- **HAVE FUN!**

Background / Families

What Does a 4-H Club Do?

- Most clubs meet monthly with a year-long plan for their programs.
- Each meeting usually includes presentations by members.
- A 4-H club elects its own officers and conducts its own business.
- Meetings might also include presentations by leaders, parents, or a resource person, recreation/games, a family night, or a field trip.
- Most 4-H clubs do a variety of community service projects. Members should decide the types of projects their club will do.

What Happens at a 4-H Club Meeting?

Here are some things that might occur at a 4-H meeting:

- Call the meeting to order.
- The 4-H pledge and the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Roll call and minutes of the last meeting.
- Treasurer's report.
- Committees tell what they've planned or done.
- "Old business" or things talked about before.
- "New business" or new ideas, activities, and plans.
- Adjourn the business meeting.
- Educational Presentations are given.
- Games or fun activities.
- Refreshments.

Member Information



belonging...generosity...independence...mastery

Did You Know?

A 4-H club usually elects the following officers:

- **President**— conducts meetings and appoints committees.
- **Vice President** — is in charge of program plans.
- **Secretary**— keeps minutes and attendance records.
- **Treasurer**— pays club bills and deposits funds received.
- **Reporter**— writes newspaper stories about club events.
- **Historian**— keeps a lasting record of the club's yearly story.
- **Recreation leader**— helps plan parties and lead games.



4-H Vocabulary

Every organization has a vocabulary that seems familiar only to its members, and 4-H is no different. Here are a few of those terms:

Projects – An area of emphasis in which a 4-H'er enrolls, studies, learns, and keeps records. **Imagine a World of 4-H with You in it** lists 34 broad project areas.

Exhibits – An item resulting from project work the 4-H'er has chosen to take to fair to have evaluated by a judge. For example: a 4-H'er may enroll in the woodworking project area and choose to bring a birdhouse he or she constructed to the fair.

Static Exhibits – This term refers to non-animal exhibits. It includes photography, food & nutrition, child development, woodworking, and more.

Conference Judging – A method of judging used for static exhibits at fair. Their work is discussed with a judge who determines ribbon placement and put on display during the fair.

Enrollment – Completed in 4hOnline. Provides your membership, contact, medical information and publicity releases and includes your name, home and email address, phone and project areas selected; along with your animal identification(s).

Code of Ethics – Members are responsible for doing their own project work in an ethical manner. Signatures, on-line, are requested from 4-Hers and their parents to signify understanding of and agreeing to expectations.

Medical History – Much like the information provided to schools and other youth-serving organizations, 4-H requires medical information in case of a member emergency. All information in 4hOnline is strictly confidential.

Identification of Animals – All animals part of a 4-H project and shown in fairs must be identified in 4hOnline. ID forms are completed by 4-H'ers at weigh-ins. Extension staff then enter Market animals in 4hOnline and the 4-H'er verifies the animal in 4hOnline. 4-H'ers themselves identify all non-market animals in 4hOnline by May 15th of each year. Check with Extension and/or read the **4-H Horizon** newsletter for specific deadlines.

Entry Tags – Each 4-H'er completes Entry Tags for static (non-animal) exhibits for the Warren County and Iowa State Fairs.



4-H Calendar Year

Following is a year-long list of activities that take place in a typical Warren County Extension and Outreach 4-H year. We may not always do the same activities at the same time every year, and some activities are dropped while others are added. Be sure to read our **4-H Horizon** for details, deadlines, and additional information on camps, workshops and events.

September

- 4hOnline Re-enrollment & new Member recruitment
- Prior Year Record Books due
- Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Stock Show

October

- National 4-H Week

November

- 4-H Recognition & Awards Ceremony for Record-Keeping

December

- Market Beef Weigh-In

January

- Area & state 4-H recognition applications available
- 4-H scholarship information available

February

- Scholarship Applications due on 1st

March

- Area & state recognition applications due on 1st
- Food Safety Quality Assurance (FSQA) Training and Testing

April

- Market Sheep/Goat Weigh-In
- Dog & Horse Projects Begin

May

- Livestock ID's due on 15th

June

- Intermediate Trip
- State 4-H/Youth & Animal Science Round-Up Conference in Ames
- Citizenship Washington Focus in Washington DC
- Horse Invitational
- Warren County Fair Entry
- Iowa State Fair Entry

July

- Warren County Fair begins
- State Fair Livestock & Horticulture entries deadline

August

- Ak-Sar-Ben Livestock entries due
- Iowa State Fair
- Complete Records Books for submission in September for Awards Ceremony in November