Find useful information online at:
http://oneida.uwex.edu

Follow us on Facebook:
https://www.facebook.com/OCWI4H

Enroll for FREE online:
www.4honline.com
Welcome to the Oneida County UW-Extension 4-H Program!

Dear 4-H Family,

Welcome to 4-H! This Oneida County 4-H Handbook is designed to give you fundamental knowledge of 4-H, including the opportunities within 4-H, the purpose of 4-H, and the structure of 4-H.

We acknowledge that no booklet can answer all of your questions, so if questions come to mind after reading this, please call Lynn Feldman, Oneida County 4-H Youth Development Educator, at 715-365-2750 or by email at lynn.feldman@ces.uwex.edu.

The Oneida County 4-H Youth program is run entirely by volunteers; the only exceptions are the 4-H Youth Development Educator, Lynn Feldman, and the part time support-staff person working at the Oneida County UW-Extension Office.

Please keep this in mind as you work with and encounter volunteers in the program, realizing that these are un-paid people who have offered their time and expertise to serve and help develop youth. The 4-H program is supported by the University of Wisconsin-Extension, through the county-based UW-Extension office.

Oneida County 4-H of is part of the UW-Extension office located in the lower level of the Rhinelander/Oneida County Airport, 3375 Airport Road, Rhinelander. UW-Extension office hours are Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Anne Williams, 4-H support staff, can be reached at 715-365-2750 or by email at anne.williams@ces.uwex.edu. Her fax number is 715-365-2760.

Requests for accommodations for disabilities or limitations should be made prior to the date of the program or activity for which it is needed. Please make such requests as early as possible by contacting the Oneida County UW-Extension Office at 715-365-2750 so proper arrangements can be made.

Thank you for your interest in Oneida County 4-H and I look forward to meeting you in person!

Sincerely,

Lynn Feldman
Oneida County 4-H Youth Development Educator
WHAT IS 4-H?

4-H IS NOT JUST FOR FARM KIDS. THERE’S SO MUCH MORE TO 4-H!

4-H is an informal educational program through which parents, other interested adults and youth can help young people develop confidence, social skills and decision-making abilities. These skills, along with learning additional subject matter and project knowledge, will help them to become responsible citizens who live full and rich lives.

The 4-H program and experience begins at the club level. 4-H members, parents and leaders have fun, learn and work together in project groups, club activities, with special interest groups and special events/activities.

4-H is open to youth (KS thru grade 13) and adults regardless of race, ethnicity, creed or disability.

4-H is a youth organization that belongs to the members, their families and other interested adults who serve as volunteer leaders.

Support for 4-H programs is a joint effort of local County government, the University of Wisconsin and the United States Department of Agriculture CSREES (Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service). Professional leadership for 4-H is provided by Extension faculty of the University of Wisconsin.

4-H EMBLEMS AND SYMBOLS

Emblem – The 4-H club emblem is a green four-leaf clover with a white letter “H” on each leaf. The four H’s stand for Head, Heart, Hands and Health.

Pledge – All 4-H members and leaders learn the National 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.
Colors – Green and White are the 4-H colors. The white in the 4-H flag symbolizes purity. The green (nature’s most common color), represents life, growth and youth.

Motto – “To make the best better” is the aim of each member in improving project work and in building better clubs and communities.

Slogan – “Learning by Doing” is the 4-H member’s way of acquiring new skills and learning to get along with others.

ENROLLING

The 4-H club year runs October 1 to September 30, however youth may enroll in Oneida County 4-H at any time during the 4-H year. Youth enrolling in the Oneida County 4-H program after March 1 will not be able to show their projects at that year’s Oneida County Fair.

To enroll in 4-H, members can enroll online at www.4honline.com.
Need internet access?
- Visit the Oneida County 4-H Office, located in the lower level of the Rhinelander/Oneida County Airport, anytime between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri., or by appointment.
- Visit your local library and a librarian can help you enroll in 4-H online.
- Visit the Oneida County Courthouse between 7:45 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

Youth in 3rd grade through one year after high school graduation who enroll in a 4-H Club are 4-H Members.

Cloverbuds: Youth in Kindergarten (K5) through 2nd grade are Cloverbud Members. Cloverbud programs are developmentally appropriate, activity-focused and built on cooperative learning. The primary difference between a 4-H Cloverbud activity and a 4-H Project area is that the member engages in varied activities with focus on developing a specific skill or concept utilized in completing the activity, rather than focusing on a long-term planned course of study in a specific subject area.

In 4-H, “Age” and “Grade” are defined as the age or grade a member is as of January 1 of the current 4-H program year. Years as a member include the years a youth was a Cloverbud member.

For more information about Cloverbuds, visit www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/onlinpro/cloverbuds.cfm

If a family needs financial assistance to attend or join the program, please contact the Oneida County UW-Extension Office.

PROJECTS

Definition: A "project" is a topic that you can explore. Descriptions of what you can do on a wide variety of topics can be found online in the Wisconsin Enrollment Guide (www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/onlinpro/), from art to woodworking, from computers to rabbits, from clothing to small engines. You can choose to take any project listed in the Project Enrollment Guide, however, the amount of leadership provided by 4-H varies by project.
There are three different types of projects:

1) **County-wide projects** are organized by 4-H leaders for the benefit of all 4-H youth in Oneida County. Their meetings are open to everyone. Some examples are 4-H Dog Training, 4-H Drama, and 4-H Legos. Emails with project information and meetings are sent to youth who sign up for a county-wide project when they enroll in 4-H. The meetings are usually published in “The Clover Patch” (http://oneida.uwex.edu/4hyd/information-for-parents/) and listed on the online 4-H Calendar (http://oneida.uwex.edu/4hyd/4-h-forms/)

2) **Keep it in the Northwoods 4-H Club** projects are organized by the club leader for youth in that 4-H club. The meetings for those projects are only promoted within the Keep it in the Northwoods 4-H Club.

3) As no club or even county can possibly offer all the 4-H projects available, most projects can be taken as independent study. The youth would use 4-H literature and other resources to learn about and complete their project without meetings and 4-H leadership.

No matter what type of leadership is provided, each 4-H member must work on and complete his or her own project.

**ENROLLING A PROJECT AT THE FAIR**

If you want to exhibit a project at county fair, it is not enough just to show interest in a project, you must enroll in the project. A basic suggestion for beginners is to only enroll in as many projects as the years you have been in 4-H. Feel free to enroll in as many projects as you want, but it would be smart to stay safe and only enroll in one or two projects your first year. When you enroll in a project, you are strongly encouraged to finish the project for the year by entering at least one exhibit in the fair. The possibility of obtaining future awards, trips, and scholarships is dependent upon finishing all of your projects that you have enrolled. A complete list of projects offered within the county are listed in the fair book, available online and from the 4-H Youth Development Educator.

At minimum, 4-H members must be in 3rd grade to exhibit any animal. In addition, youth and leaders enrolled in the 4-H Horse projects are required to wear safety helmet and footwear while riding, driving, or working with horses.
The cost of a 4-H project varies. A member enrolled in visual arts might use supplies from around the house to practice the skills he or she is learning and have no additional expense. A member who buys and keeps a saddle horse might invest hundreds of dollars. Members should consider cost as they select a project. It should be realistic to the family situation.

**PROJECT LEADERS**

A project leader is a volunteer leader who helps 4-H members as they plan, create, and learn within a project area. He or she holds project meetings, and serves as a guide to youth as they construct and explore their projects.

Your child may have a project leader in your club for any given project. Although this is not always the case, some project leaders are shared between different clubs. Additionally some projects do not have any project leaders within the county. These projects are self-led, and the youth learn and experience the project through their own review of the 4-H literature, additional related resources, and with the assistance of their parents. It is best to contact your own club leader to determine which projects have leaders at the club and county level.

**YOUTH LEADERS**

A youth leader is a 4-H member who is involved in sharing information with other members in a project, activity or special event. As a youth leader, one can be involved at the club, county or the state level.

Youth leaders can also serve in roles as club officers, committee chairpersons, or representatives on the Oneida County Leaders Association.

**PROJECT MATERIALS**

- Science / STEM
- Animal & Agricultural Science
- Business & Citizenship
- Environment & Outdoor Science
- Food & Healthy Living
- Professional Development
- Creative Arts
- Practical Learning
Every fall, project lists are available from the UW Extension Office for all club organizational leaders. Leaders then requests materials and the county will send the appropriate 4-H literature as soon as it is available. Leaders will then send literature to the families. 4-H literature is not mandatory, but rather is supplementary material to the expertise of your project leader. Its purpose is to assist youth and serve as a reference for potential project and county fair exhibit ideas. The time it takes to receive your literature depends on its availability from National 4-H.

The internet is also a great place to search for information and starter guides. You may also want to check with your local library for resources relating to the project.

4-H CLUBS

The Oneida County 4-H program has one 4-H club: the Keep it in the Northwoods 4-H Club.

A 4-H club needs at least five (5) 4-H members from three (3) different families, an adult leadership team of volunteers who have successfully completed Volunteer Orientation Leader Training, and a club calendar or yearly educational program that meets the requirements of the Oneida County 4-H program.

The youth of the club must be involved in leadership & decision making. A new 4-H club may be started at any time.

Updated information about the Keep it in the Northwoods Club, their meeting schedule, and place of meeting can be found on the Oneida County 4-H website: http://oneida.uwex.edu.

MEETINGS

Most 4-H community clubs hold meetings once a month. At meetings, youth learn the process of decision-making, community-service efforts, and project opportunities. The 4-H program helps youth develop life skills to help them become effective citizens and leaders in our community.

OFFICERS

Officers are regular members elected by clubs to serve the club in some aspect for the duration of the 4-H year. Most clubs make use of the following officers: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Historian.

4-H clubs may have officers and whatever committees they need to conduct their business. 4-H has instructional materials available for presidents, vice presidents, secretaries, treasurers, news reporters, recreation leaders, and song leaders. The club may have any number of officers, depending on its needs.
Additionally at the beginning of the 4-H year, there is county level training available for all new and returning officers. The Oneida County Leader’s Association conducts this training.

**FAIR**

The Oneida County Fair is an event to support and celebrate the youth of the 4-H program in their growth, achievements, and endeavors. Along with hosting the 4-H program, the County Fair exhibits various commercial vendors, businesses, family activities, food vendors, and musical shows.

The Oneida County Fair provides an opportunity for 4-H youth to exhibit items that demonstrate the hard work and growth of an individual as it relates to 4-H projects. Members discuss with a judge what they have learned and the process of the creation of their exhibit. The placing of an entry is based not only on the quality of the entry, but also on how much the youth learned in the process.

The Fair is also a place for youth and adults to serve as 4-H volunteers. Help is needed to run the 4-H Exhibit Court, 4-H Information Booth, and the Activity Center. The Fair usually takes place sometime near the end of July.

The Oneida County Fair is run by the Oneida County Fair Committee, any inquires about the fair or fair related activities or complaints should be addressed to the Fair Committee. Fair premium books are available online.

**FAIR EXHIBITS**

A fair exhibit is a singular item that was made by a youth. The 4-H youth create exhibits using the skills and knowledge pertaining to a particular project. Youth may then enter exhibits into the county or state fair. Each project allows numerous exhibits to be entered in the county fair. Each project also has its own rules and regulations’ concerning what constitutes a valid fair exhibit and the number that may be entered.

Fair exhibits made from kits do not receive the same treatment as normal exhibits. Such exhibits will not receive a blue ribbon, and often receive very low ribbons. It is in the youth’s best interest to create an original exhibit, foregoing the use of a kit.

Youth may only exhibit an item if they are currently enrolled in its respective project. For example, you cannot submit a photograph in the fair as an exhibit if you are not currently enrolled in photography.
FAIR PROCESS

- In order to show at the fair, each youth must enroll online at www.4honline.com, before the fair entry deadline. Specific information is available at the Oneida County 4-H Office for the current year. Your 4-H Club Leader or 4-H Youth Development Educator can help you with this.

For Fair Judging:

- Bring all of your exhibits to the fair
- Check in with each department at which you need to be judged
- Wait your turn and have your exhibits judged for that department
- Continue to next department(s) until all exhibits are judged

4-H ACTIVITIES

Oneida County 4-H holds many activities and events for members and their families throughout the year.

The 4-H Club holds activities and events for club families and members to become better acquainted, to develop fellowship, and to strengthen the local community. County-held activities and events are conducted to supplement the local club and offer additional educational training. We encourage you to participate in as many of these activities and events as you can incorporate into your schedule.

The following is not an exhausted list of countywide activities and events, but is a helpful guide to what is offered. For specific times and dates for all events, please read “The Clover Patch” 4-H newsletter online.

4-H Summer Camp
There is an overnight summer camp for 4-H members at Camp Susan located in Langlade County. Junior 4-H Camp is for youth ages 9 – 15. Senior 4-H camp is for youth ages 14 and older. The Senior 4-H Camps location and date change annually. Leadership development is a central element in the mission of our county 4-H camp program.

Art Beat
For grades 3-5 in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Scholarships are available through Oneida County 4-H.

Art Lab
For teens and adults to dive into the arts for a weekend. The program is scheduled for the last weekend in January at Upham Woods in Wisconsin Dells, WI. Common art activities include photography, drama, block printing and spinning. Scholarships are available through Oneida County 4-H.
4-H Cloverbud Activity Days
For youth in grades K-2. Spend one morning a month engaging in fun activities designed specifically for children in grades 5-year old Kindergarten through 2nd grade. 4-H Cloverbud programs are developmentally appropriate, activity-focused and built on cooperative learning. Contact 4-H Youth Development Educator Lynn Feldman at 715-365-2750 or email her at lynn.feldman@ces.uwex.edu to find out when the next Cloverbud Activity Day is in Oneida County.

Space Camp
4-H Missions in Space program is a fun-filled weekend at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center where participants will complete a simulated Space Shuttle mission, experience training simulators, tour the center and learn about becoming an astronaut. 4-H members in grades 6-8 may apply. The time for enrollment is in early January. Scholarships may be available through Oneida County 4-H.

Dog Training
For grades 3-12 enrolled in the 4-H dog project. Practice is typically held at 10 a.m. Sunday mornings at the Oneida County/Rhinelander Airport (3375 Airport Road #10, Rhinelander) throughout the warmer months. For more information, contact Lynn Feldman at 715-365-2750.

4-H Drama
A new 4-H project has started up – 4-H Drama! The project sessions will consist of drama games and skits. This is open to all youth in grades 3 and up. Contact Lynn Feldman at 715-365-2750 for more information.

4-H Legos
For any youth (enrolled in 4-H or not) in grades 3-12. Typically meet once or twice a month from 4:30-5:30 p.m. at the lower level community room in the Rhinelander District Library. Designed to foster critical thinking, creativity and problem-solving skills, youth have the chance to receive guidance from leaders and ideas from other youth. Lego building is educational while fun, and possibilities exist for the project group to participate in “challenges” as well as advance to more engineering skill-based Lego construction packages. Youth are asked to bring their own Legos. There is no charge to attend, and all youth are welcome whether or not they are currently enrolled in the 4-H program. For more information, contact Lynn Feldman at 715-365-2750.

4-H Fishing, Skiing, Bowling and More!
The Keep it in the Northwoods 4-H Club offers lots of recreational days and fun events for youth to participate in! Visit http://oneida.uwex.edu to find out more!

State Youth Conference
For grades 7-10 in Madison, Wisconsin. Click here for more information.
Record keeping is a life skill that can be developed through your 4-H work. Setting project goals, keeping track of the financial records, and recording accomplishments is all part of complete record keeping. Some 4-H clubs require members to keep Record Books, while some clubs do not. If you want to apply for awards or scholarships for higher education, you need to make record keeping one of your life skills. Many 4-H members will attest to the benefit and importance of Record Books and record keeping as they apply for higher education, prepare their resume, and submit applications for jobs.

A 4-H record book is a recording of all activities, skills, and knowledge learned through community life, leadership, and 4-H projects and activities. Specifically, a record book is documentation of all 4-H activities at the club, county, and state level, in which a youth has attended and participated. This also includes community activities and the progress of a youth in each respective 4-H project.

4-H Record Books should be filled out completely and accurately. Parents should oversee the member’s work, but the member must do his or her own writing or typing. Parents and project leaders should encourage each 4-H member to work on his or her Record Book throughout the year. A yearly 4-H Record Book is required in order for a 4-H member to qualify for County Level awards, pins, scholarships, or award trips.

If your club is not involved in awards recognition, please contact the Oneida County UW-Extension Office and the 4-H Awards committee for assistance with award nomination.

Filling out a record book for the first time can be quite confusing, which is why youth should ask their club leader or another senior families for assistance. Leaders may hold workshops at the club and county level to teach the correct way of filling out record books.
Your record book should include the following:

1. We suggest a 3-ring binder. You can insert the record book covers (green) in the front pocket of the binder. Make sure the information on the inside and outside covers is complete.
2. The permanent record section with tally sheets. You build on this section yearly.
3. Tally sheets from the current year and previous years.
4. Project record sheets (and financial record sheet if required in that project) for each year you take the project. Record book sheets are located on the Oneida County 4-H website: http://oneida.uwex.edu.

**4-H Awards**

Please contact the Oneida County 4-H Youth Development Educator for information on what awards are available through Oneida County 4-H.

**Scholarships**

**County Scholarships**
The Oneida County 4-H Leaders Association provides scholarships to youth and adults who attend conferences or workshops. The money must be used to cover registration costs and not toward food, travel, etc.

Oneida County 4-H Leaders Association will pay:

- 25 percent of any 4-H program registration fee for first-year members
- 50 percent of any 4-H program registration fee for second-year members
- 75 percent of any 4-H program registration fee for 4-H youth enrolled three years or more

Specific procedures for application deadlines must be researched and followed through the UW-Extension Oneida County office.

The purpose of scholarships is to provide up reimbursement funds for those who attend conferences and workshops benefiting an individual’s knowledge and performance in the 4-H program. Applications and additional information are available by calling the 4-H Youth Development Educator.

The Oneida County 4-H Leaders Association provides scholarships to qualified and deserving 4-H members. Applications are evaluated by a selection committee based on: Scholastic Achievement, 4-H Club Achievement, 4-H County Achievement, 4-H State & National Achievement, and for Community and non 4-H Achievement. Applicants must be current Oneida County 4-H members.

**Wisconsin 4-H Foundation Scholarships**
The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation has a scholarship program for 4-H graduating high school and alumni members. Scholarships include: Community Service; Agricultural; Dairy; Leadership; Betty Krueger Memorial; Family, Home, & Health; Natural Resources and Environmental Education; Animal Sciences; and Horse. Forms are located on the following website: http://wis4hfoundation.org.