

Your county  
extension office



**UW**  
**Extension**  
Cooperative Extension  
Taylor County



## Mission of the Taylor County 4-H Program

Taylor County 4-H Program Will  
Provide Many Learning Experiences  
Through the Cooperation and  
Leadership of Both the Youth  
Members and Adult Leaders

### 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.

### What do the 4-H's stand for?

**Head:** 4-Her's learn about new  
project areas, try new skills, and  
gain new knowledge and experi-  
ence.

**Heart:** 4-Her's learn about who  
they are and what they stand for,  
along with gaining many new  
friends.

**Hands:** 4-Her's learn about helping  
their community and are involved in  
a wide variety of service projects.

**Health:** 4-Her's learn about healthy  
lifestyles and to make choices that  
will have a positive impact in their  
lives.

### Taylor County Website:

<http://taylor.uwex.edu>

### UW-Extension Office Phone

**Number:**

715-748-3327

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## Taylor County 4-H Project Guide

### What is 4-H?

4-H is a volunteer-led organization that reaches boys and girls through small groups called clubs and sometimes in classrooms. 4-H members decide for themselves which projects they want to learn more about. Most projects used hands-on learning experiences to teach subject matter and life skills.

4-H is the youth component of the Cooperative Extension System in the United States. It serves young people in grades K-13 (one year out of high school). These youth participate in individual and group learning opportunities in a safe environment that teach skills through an experiential process.

Cloverbuds: Youth in grades K-2. Cloverbuds are enrolled solely in Cloverbud projects.

Explorers: Youth in grade 3. It is meant to allow kids to try a variety of project areas and to exhibit a variety of projects at the fair. Youth are not required to take Exploring as a project.

Members: Youth in grades 3-13. Can take up to 6 projects. Enrolling beyond 6 projects is left up to the discretion of the adult leader and parent. Members are expected to participate in all projects in which they are enrolled.

*Grade is determined by registration into the school district during the 4-H enrollment period. When a child exhibits at the fair, they are enrolled under the grade that they just completed, not the grade they will be entering in Fall after the fair.*

### 4-H Club Charter

University of Wisconsin-Extension grants 4-H Charters, which formally recognize a group's affiliation with 4-H and grant that group permission to use the 4-H name and emblem. To be a chartered 4-H Club in Wisconsin, the following requirements need to be met and maintained:

- Club name.
- Five or more youth from at least three families.
- Adult leadership that has been approved through the Youth Protection process.
- Educational plan which meets the purposes of the 4-H program.
- Youth involvement in leadership and decision-making.
- Meet on a continuing basis.
- Have written operating guidelines, bylaws or constitution approved by members to govern the club.
- Open to any youth eligible for 4-H membership, regardless of race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, disability, ancestry, sexual orientation, pregnancy, and marital or parental status.

## Enrollment Guidelines

To enroll in 4-H in Taylor County you need to join a club. We recommend that you join a club that is a good fit for your family. You may join a 4-H club as a new member any time during the year. All enrollment forms to join a 4-H club must be turned into the General Leader of the club you are joining. The General Leader turns the forms into the 4-H Office. New enrollments are due by March 1 to be able to show at the fair within the same year. Re-enrollments are due to the 4-H Office from the General Leader the third week in November. A schedule will be listed in the Taylor County 4-H Newsletter.

Please use the Taylor County 4-H Project Guide packet when completing the enrollment form. If choosing a Supplemental Project from insert provide, enroll in Project 10901 or Self Determined Project.

## What Paperwork is Due to the UWEX Office to be in 4-H?

Members (new and returning members) need to turn in the following paperwork to the UWEX Office, Wisconsin 4-H Member Enrollment Form along with the Expectation Statement for Youth (two forms/one sheet of 11x17 green paper).

New Leaders need to turn in the following paperwork to the UWEX Office, Wisconsin 4-H Leader Enrollment Form and the Volunteer Application. New leaders need to fulfill the following requirements to become a leader—schedule an approximate one-hour Leader Orientation Class with the 4-H Youth Development Agent and have a DOJ (Department of Justice) background check done on them.

Returning Leaders need to turn in the following paperwork to the UWEX Office, Wisconsin 4-H Leader Enrollment Form.

Organizational Leaders need to turn in the following paperwork to the UWEX Office:

1. Wisconsin 4-H Leader Enrollment Form
2. Enrollment forms for the entire club. Please review all forms for signatures and accuracy.
3. Wisconsin 4-H Annual Charter Renewal (Publication No. CR01)
4. Please note that assessments will be mailed to the Organizational Leaders after the March 1 deadline.

## Expectations of Members

- Complete the projects chosen.
- Repeat 4-H Pledge from memory, also know 4-H Motto and Emblem.
- Show respect for other members and adult leaders.
- Be a good sport.
- Assist with community service projects.
- Participate in any club or county fundraising.
- Adhere to club Constitution and By-laws.
- Support the club of your choice and attend club meeting and actively participate.
- Remember that you are always representing 4-H and act accordingly.

## Four Essential Elements of Positive Youth Development

### Belonging

#### *A Positive Relationship with a Caring Adult*

A caring adults acts as an advisor, guide and mentor. The adult helps set boundaries and expectations for young people.

#### *An Inclusive Environment*

An inclusive environment is one that creates a sense of belonging, encourages and supports its members with positive and specific feedback.

### Mastery

#### *Opportunity for Mastery*

Mastery is the building of knowledge, skills, and attitudes and then demonstrating the competent use of this knowledge and skills in the manner of a proficient practitioner. The development of mastery is a process over time.

#### *Engagement in Learning*

An engaged youth is one who is mindful of the subject area, building relationships and connections in order to develop understanding. The engaged learner has a higher degree of self-motivation and an inexhaustible capacity to create.

### Independence

#### *Opportunity to See Oneself as an Active Participant in the Future*

The ability to see oneself in the future is to have hope and optimism to shape life choices to facilitate the transition into participating in the future.

#### *Opportunity for Self-Determination*

Youth must exercise a sense of influence over their lives, exercising their potential to become self-directing, autonomous adults.

### Generosity

#### *Opportunity to Value and Practice Service to Others*

Finding one's self begins with losing yourself in the service of others. Service is a way for members to gain exposure to the larger community, indeed the world itself.