Green Lake County
4-H Program Guide

2026-2027

Discover your Spark!

UW–MADISON EXTENSION
GREEN LAKE COUNTY

Green Lake County

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Start your 4-H Journey today! Turn the page to get started...

Welcome to 4-H!

We are so excited to see you are taking an interest in Green Lake County 4-H! Joining 4-H is a great first step in helping you prepare for your future and become **Beyond Ready** for all that lies ahead.

4-H is committed to helping youth learn the skills they need to be **Beyond Ready** for furthering their education, their future career, and just life in general. The focus is on project-based learning that provides hands-on experiences.

Have you been to the Green Lake County Fair? Have you seen youth showing their animals, or maybe saw some woodworking, or even some delicious looking cookies. All these are examples of projects that 4-H'ers can learn about and build skills in. Not only that, we also offer various opportunities like Five County 4-H Camp, Wisconsin 4-H Fall Forum, countless other educational experiences across Green Lake County, Wisconsin, and the US. These experiences dig deeper into the life skills that help youth become **Beyond Ready**.

There are 4 main parts of 4-H that make sure our youth are able to **Thrive**. **Sparks**, **Belonging**, **Relationships**, and **Engagement** are all key parts of the 4-H Program. As youth explore their **Sparks**, find a **Belonging** place, develop positive **Relationships** with each other and adult volunteers, and **Engage** in their learning; the youth will start to **Thrive**!

Welcome to the amazing world of 4-H. We are excited to see youth **Thrive** and become **Beyond Ready** for their future!

Green Lake County Extension Office

About 4-H

What is 4-H? 4-His the nation's largest youth development organization serving more than six (6) million youths across 90,000 clubs in the United States. 4-H started because youth are a great tool in implementing new agricultural practices from universities. 4- H has grown and changed to provide programming to prepare youth to be Beyond Ready for their futures.

What do the 4 "H"s stand for? The 4-H's stand for head, heart, hands, and health. The 4-H Pledge, which kicks-off 4-H events says, **"I pledge my head to clearer thinking, my heart to great loyalty, my hands to larger service, and my health to better living for my club, my community, my country, and my world.**

This commitment that 4-H'ers make is to taking their learning beyond just the 4-H program and back into their communities.



Image Text:
4-H'ers are...
Two times more likely to have the goal of being a leader.
Three Times more likely to participate in Community Service.
Two Times more likely to report living life with intentionality and purpose.

Image from Nation 4-H Benefits page!

Learn more about how 4-H'ers Thrive on the next page...

4-H Thrive Model

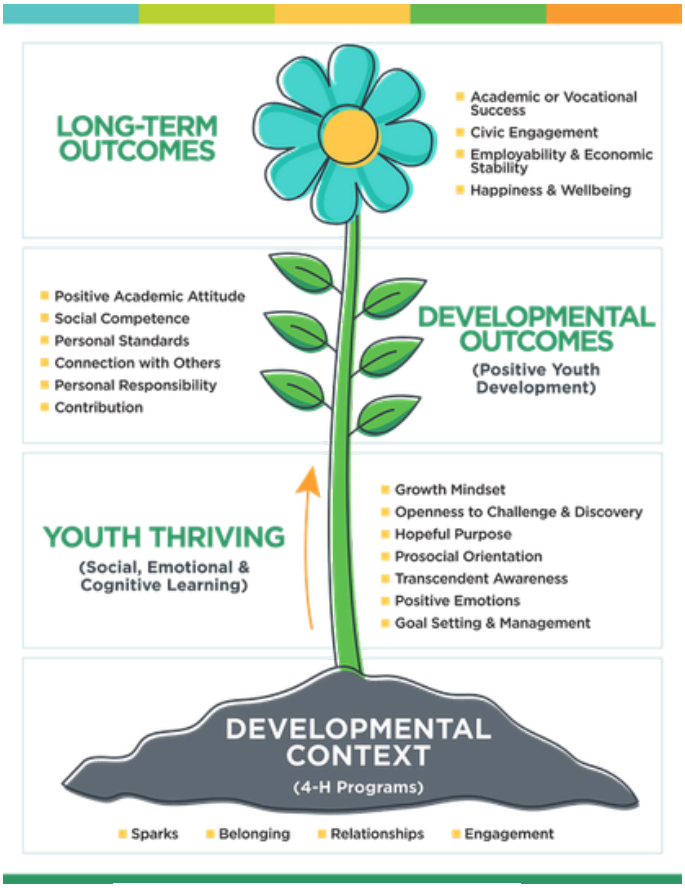
The 4-H Thrive Model is the research-backed model for how 4-H promotes positive youth development. We illustrate this through a flower that represents how youth grow and thrive in 4-H.

What are "Sparks"?

Sparks are interests or passions that youth can explore and grow throughout 4-H. Youth explore their sparks through their club meetings, project learning days (Spark Sessions/Super Saturday), and different 4-H experiences.

What is "Beyond Ready"?

Although not an official part of the thrive model. 4-H has a new intiative to prepare youth to be Beyond Ready for education, jobs, and their life after 4-H. The focus is making sure that youth have the skills and experiences they need to not only be ready, but to be Beyond Ready for all that life has in store.

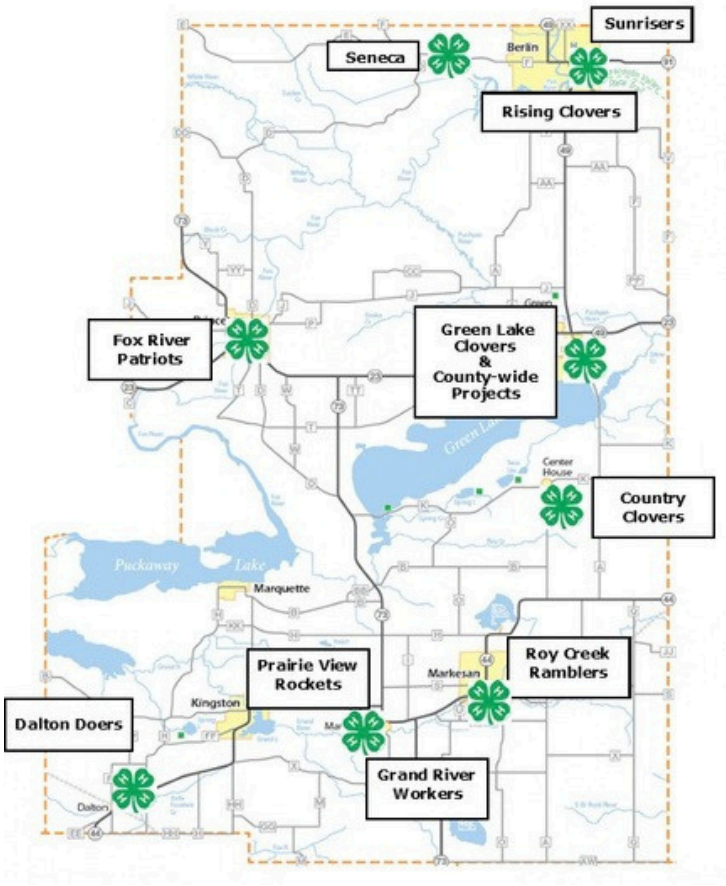


Scan the QR Code to learn more about the 4-H Thrive Model.

4-H Thrive Model - Wisconsin 4-H Website

Learn how to enroll on the next page...

How to join 4-H?



1. **Find a 4-H Club:** 4-H Club meetings are the backbone of 4-H. They meet monthly and are the place where leading, learning, and laughing take place. To learn more about Green Lake County 4-H Clubs, check out the 4-H Club Contact Information Page!
2. **Enroll**: Now that you found a 4-H club for you, the next step is to enroll. Head over to 4H Online and fill out the members information!

4-H Online

Scan the QR Code for the Club Contact Information Website. Link to 4-H Online can be found there!

For questions or issues with Enrolling, contact the Extension Office!

3. **All Set:** Once your enrollment is approved in 4-H Online, you are officially a 4-H member!
4. **News:** Now that you're enrolled, you should receive broadcasts from 4H Online to your email with important information. They appear to come from "Reg Max" which is the company that owns 4-H Online. Sometimes they end up in the "Junk" folder, so watch out!

Picking your Projects:



There are tons of different project areas that you can explore in 4-H! Checkout the Wisconsin 4-H Project Guide to help you discover your spark!

Spark Areas:

All the projects will fall into 6 project spark areas...

1. **Ag & Animal Science:**
   Youth will get the chance to explorethingslike raising healthy animals for fun or food, riding horses, caring for pets, or teaching dogs new tricks.
2. **Environmental/Outdoor Education:** Youth will get to explore riding ATV'sand snowmobiles, learn about insects, hiking, adventure sports, and protecting the environment.
3. **Plant & Soil Science:** Youth will get to explore growing vegetablesorflowers, growing crops, learning about soil,orcreatingfairy gardens.
4. **Leadership and Community:** Youth will explore helping younger members, beingcamp counselors, leading and organizing events, exploring cultures, and working on teams for special projects!
5. **STEM:** Youth will explore building with LEGO®, problem solving, working with engines or electricity, exploring space, coding, robots, and building things.
6. **Expressive Arts:** Youth will explore making scrapbooks,collecting things, drawing or doing crafts, taking pictures, playing with puppets, or acting and singing.

Scan the QR Code for the digital Project Learning Guide or contact the Extension Office for a paper copy!

Learn how to get involved in 4-H on the next page...

Getting Involved in 4-H

There are many ways to get involved in 4-H from the comfort of your own home to traveling across the US.

1. **4-H At Home:** From working on a project to distance 4-H programs to take home kits, there are many ways to bring 4-H into your home. At home is also the time for 4-H'ers to reflect and apply their learning from 4-H programs.
2. **4-H Community Clubs:** Joining a club for monthly meetings gets youth the opportunity to build those important leadership skills. Youth will lead meetings, make decisions, meet new people and more.
3. **Ambassadors:** Once youth get older, they are able to help support Green Lake County 4-H programs by becoming an Ambassador. Gain leadership experience, provide a say in county-wide programming, and meet people from across the county.
4. **GLC 4-H Leaders' Association:** This is a great chance for older youth and adult volunteers to support the county 4-H program. This group is dedicated to support GLC 4-H!
5. **Wisconsin 4-H Leadership Council:** Take leadership to the next level. Meet people from across the state while planning statewide 4-H programs. Attend various events like Fall Forum and Summer Academy as a WLC member!

Check out our 4-H program calendar on the next page...

26-27 4-H Program Calendar

Take a look at some programs you can expect to see throughout the program year!*

September: • Enrollment Opens • Ambassadors Kick-Off	**October:** National 4-H Week! Youth Awards Ceremony	**November:** • Fall Forum • Leaders Banquet Ceremony
December: • 4-H Welcome Night In-Person and Virtual	**January:** • Cloverbud Quarterly • Club Officer Training	**February:** • Spark Session • Club Leader Training
March: • Counselor Connection • Ambassador Service Learning Lock In	**April:** • Cloverbud Quarterly • Volunteer Appreciation Week	**May:** • Super Saturday • Counselor Training
June: •Five County 4-H Camp • GLC Fair Entry	**July:** • Cloverbud Quarterly • Spark Session	**August:** • Green Lake County Fair •Record Book Workshop

*Note: Programs dependent on sign ups, capacity, and support.

Check out where to find upcoming program on the next page...

Following 4-H

There are many ways to find out about the many opportunities available to 4-H'ers in Green Lake County.

GLC 4-H News Blog:

Green Lake County 4-H has a News Blog including a calendar and information on upcoming 4-H events. Book Mark this page for easy access to the most up to date information.

Scan the QR Code for the GLC 4-H News Blog!

Clover Chroncile:

Green Lake County 4-H is in the process of getting a Newsletter, so be on the lookout for that!

Facebook:

Follow"Green Lake County 4-H"

AND "Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development" pages for both local and state opportunities through 4-H.

Scan the QR Code to check out the GLC Facebook page!

GLC Extension Website:

The GLC Extension Website is the ultimate resource for all things GLC 4-H and GLC Extension. From forms to resources to events, this has everything you might need for GLC 4-H.

Scan the QR Code to go to the GLC Extension Website!

Learn about Five County 4-H Summer Camp nextpage...

Five County 4-H Summer Camp

Join Adams, Green Lake, Juneau, Marquette, and Waushara County 4-H for a unforgettable camp experience at Camp Lakotah in Wautoma! Campers will have classic camp experiences like canoeing, sleeping in cabins, campfire AND the unique learning experiences of 4-H all together in one. Older campers will also get the chance to experience Outpost where they can sleep in tents and get to cook over the campfire. We also have the opportunity for youth to become counselors after outpost to build those leadership skills!

Where: Camp Lakotah, Wautoma
When: June 6-9, 2027
Cost: Approx. $280*

Additional Information:
Scan the QR Code for the Five County 4-H Summer Camp website:



*Green Lake County 4-H will provide a scholarship to 4-H members!

Educational Experiences and Awards

There are tons of educational experiences and awards available to youth for participating in 4-H, beyond just gaining life-long skills. Check out some of the opportunities:



Space Camp:
Learn about space and what it takes to be an astronaut



American Spirit:
Learn about American culture while traveling the East Coast

Ignite: Learn all about different career and college pathways.



Summer Academy:
Explore careerand college pathways at UW-Madison



National 4-H Conference:
Strengthen and expand 4-H on the National level.



Key Award:
Recieve the highest honor in WI 4-H for your dedication.

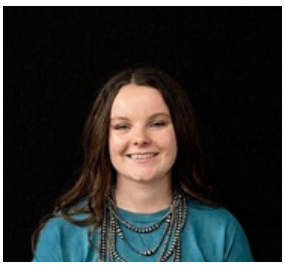
Scan the QR Code for the [Educational Experiences and Awards website]!

GLC Extension Office Contact Information

Interested in learning more about Green Lake County Extension and 4-H? Contact the GLC Extension Office today:



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Scan the QR Code for the Green Lake County Extension Staff Directory page!