

# Clover Connection Newsletter

POLK COUNTY



April 2025



## SUMMER ACADEMY REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

WISCONSIN 4-H

### SUMMER ACADEMY

JUNE 16-19, 2025

OPEN TO YOUTH GRADES 8 - 11

\$600 per youth

Register through [4Honline](#),  
open March 17th!



For more info:  
<https://go.wisc.edu/4hsummeracademy>

#### What is Summer Academy?

Summer Academy is a four day educational experience on the UW-Madison Campus. Youth will have the chance to learn about potential career and college opportunities. They will explore different areas on campus, participate in a bunch of different hands on activities, see an original show from the Drama Company, enter the talent show, meet new friends, and much more!

Summer Academy will take place June 16-19 at the UW-Madison Campus. Youth in grades 8-11 can register to attend this educational experience. Registration is open NOW through April 27th.

**THE POLK COUNTY 4-H LEADERS  
FEDERATION HAS GENEROUSLY  
OFFERED TO COVER ALL BUT \$25 OF  
THE TOTAL FEE.**

For more info. please visit:  
<https://go.wisc.edu/4hsummeracademy>



# Imagine. Immerse. Ignite.

The logo for Ignite by 4H features the word "ignite" in a bold, lowercase, black sans-serif font, with "by 4H" in a smaller font below it. The text is centered within a white circle. Surrounding the circle are numerous thin, colorful sticks in shades of green, yellow, orange, and red, radiating outwards like a sunburst or a fire.

Noah Thomas, Oliver Bauer, Agnes Haase, and Reecelyn Rada proudly represented Polk County and the state of Wisconsin at the Ignite by 4-H Youth Conference held in Washington D.C. from March 12 to 16.







Youth participated in workshops to learn more about promoting agriculture, leadership, and to find their spark through inspiring speakers, hands-on workshops, off-site experiences, career exploration, and connecting with peers.



Ignite is a step forward in the journey of becoming beyond ready. At Ignite, teens collaborate, create and cultivate a passion for expanding their minds and their world—becoming resilient and **READY** for everything life has to offer. The possibilities are endless at Ignite by 4-H.



# April

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
		<b>1</b> ~Sewing Workshop  ~Dog Project Workshop	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>  National Burrito Day!  OFFICE CLOSED, Lindsay gone at JCEP;	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> ~Rabbit Workshop	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> ~Sphero Ball & EV3 Workshop	<b>11</b>  National Pet Day!  	<b>12</b> ~Barron/Polk Talent Show
<b>13</b> ~Camp Counselor Training  International Plant Appreciation Day  	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>  National Pajama Day  	<b>17</b>  National High Five Day  	<b>18</b>  OFFICE CLOSED	<b>19</b> ~Beef Project Clinic
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> ~Sewing Workshop	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  National Take Your Child to Work Day  	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> ~Sheep & Goat Weigh-In
Lindsay Out of the Office						
<b>27</b> ~Dog Project Kick-Off	<b>28</b> National Superhero Day  	<b>29</b> ~Sewing Workshop	<b>30</b>			
Office Closed; Staff at Statewide Institute Meeting						



## April

- 1: SEWING WORKSHOP, 6PM AT FIRST PRESB. CHURCH OF SCF
- 1: DOG PROJECT MEETING, 6-7PM AT THE JUSTICE CENTER
- 6: RABBIT WORKSHOP, 2PM, POLK COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER
- 6: DAIRY JUDGING PRACTICE, HAASE FARM, 2PM
- 10: SPHERO BALL & EV3 WORKSHOP, 6:30PM AT THE FIRST PRESB. CHURCH OF SCF
- 12: BARRON-POLK TALENT EXPO, TURTLE LAKE
- 13: DIARY JUDGING PRACTICE, DADO FARM, 2PM
- 13: CAMP COUNSELOR TRAINING, BARRON COUNTY GOV. CENTER. 1PM-5PM
- 18: OFFICE CLOSED
- 19: THE FINAL COUNTDOWN: NAVIGATING THE LAST 100 DAYS OF YOUR BEEF PROJECT. 1PM AT THE EMERSON FARM (1197 95TH AVE, AMERY)
- 22: SEWING WORKSHOP, 6PM AT THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SCF
- 26: SHEEP AND GOAT WEIGH-IN, 9AM AT THE POLK COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
- 27: DOG PROJECT KICK-OFF, 2PM-4PM AT THE POLK COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
- 28-30: OFFICE CLOSED FOR STATEWIDE TRAINING
- 29: SEWING WORKSHOP, 6PM AT THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SCF

## May

- 6: DOG PROJECT OBEDIENCE CLASSES START
- 8: SPHERO BALL AND EV3 WORKSHOPS, 6:30PM-8PM, FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SCF
- 9: DINO HUNT, 6PM AT THE BALSAM LAKE ROD & GUN CLUB
- 10: CLOVERBUD DAY CAMP, 9AM, CUSHING COMMUNITY CENTER
- 19: AMBASSADOR MEETING, 6PM
- 19: 4-H LEADERS FEDERATION MEETING, 7PM
- 21: HORSE PROJECT, TRAIN THE TRAINERS, 5:30-8:30PM, INSTRUCTOR ZACH HEDBERG, YOUTH LEADERS AND CLINICIAN. LOCATION TBD

## June

- 7: INTERSTATE LIVESTOCK SHOW
- 9: GOLF CLASSIC (MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW)
- 14: PRE-FAIR SHOOT FOR SHOOTING SPORTS, 9AM AT THE BALSAM LAKE ROD & GUN CLUB. ALL AGES, AIR RIFLE, .22 RIFLE, SHOTGUN (TRAP) AND MUZZLELOADING.
- 14: PRE-FAIR SHOOT FOR ARCHERY, EXPLORERS ONLY AT THE BALSAM LAKE ROD & GUN CLUB.
- 16-19: SUMMER ACADEMY, UW-MADISON CAMPUS
- 25-27: 4-H CAMP
- 28: PRE-FAIR SHOOT FOR ARCHERY, JR. AND SR. ONLY WILL BE HELD AT OSCEOLA ROD AND GUN CLUB. 9AM-NOON

# POLK COUNTY LEADERS FEDERATION MEETING

**THE POLK COUNTY 4-H LEADERS FEDERATION BOARD OVERSEES THE 4-H PROGRAM, MAKING KEY DECISIONS ABOUT FINANCIAL RESOURCE ALLOCATION AND EDUCATIONAL DIRECTION. EACH CLUB CAN SEND ONE ADULT AND ONE YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE, ENSURING YOUTH HAVE AN EQUAL VOICE. THE BOARD MEETS SIX TIMES A YEAR.**

**MONDAY, MAY 19  
Polk County Fairgrounds**

**7:00 PM**



## Ambassador Meeting

**Monday, May 19  
at 6pm  
Polk County  
Fairgrounds**



**WANT YOUR CLUB TO SHINE IN THE NEXT CLOVER NEWSLETTER?**

**IT'S A PIECE OF CAKE! JUST WHIP UP A FUN LITTLE ARTICLE ABOUT YOUR CLUB'S LATEST SHINDIG AND DON'T FORGET TO SNAP A PIC WITH ALL THE FABULOUS MEMBERS IN IT!**

**SHARE YOUR CLUB'S COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS BY EMAILING KERRY AT [KERRY.HILL2@WISC.EDU](mailto:kerry.hill2@wisc.edu)!**





# Polk County Fair Sign Contest 2025

The Polk County Fair board is again sponsoring an outdoor sign contest to promote the Polk County Fair. The sign must be at least four feet by eight feet (4x8). You must include the Polk County Fair dates July 24-27, 2025. At St. Croix Falls, and your club's name must appear on the sign. The sign should be up by July 1st, the sign needs to be on private land, not on the road right of way. Get permission from the landowner. Submit a color 8 x 10 photograph of your sign, the location by July 15th to:

*Judy Bainbridge*  
2267 170th St.  
Luck, WI 54853  
Phone 715-553-0801

Judging will be based on creativity and advertisement value. Judging will be done by the Polk County Fair board. Only new signs will be judged for the first-place award of \$200.00 or the second place of \$100.00. All clubs that submit a photo will receive \$50.00 for one sign. Sign should be taken down by August 5th.

The fair theme for this year is:



Picture Yourself at the Polk County Fair

## TEXTILE ARTS WORKSHOPS

ARE YOU EAGER TO DISCOVER THE FUNDAMENTALS OF TEXTILES, SUCH AS SEWING AND KNITTING? YOUR SEARCH ENDS HERE! THE POLK COUNTY 4-H IS EXCITED TO PRESENT A TEXTILE WORKSHOP FOR EXPLORERS AND BEYOND! JOIN US TO LEARN A NEW SKILL WHILE HAVING A GREAT TIME!

**PREREGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!**

>>> Sewing (Basics plus) make a stuffed animal: 4 Sessions = Tuesdays, March 4, April 1st, April 22nd, April 29th from 6 pm to 7:30 at First Presb. of SCF, 719 Nevada St. Cost \$8. Please register by February 24th for all 4 sessions to Shirley at [smillerfrey@gmail.com](mailto:smillerfrey@gmail.com)

**ALL CLASSES ARE FULL! PLEASE REACH OUT TO SHIRLEY IF YOU'D LIKED TO BE PLACED ON THE WAITLIST.**

## robotics project

ALL WORKSHOPS WILL TAKE PLACE AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SCF (719 Nevada St.)

>>> **SPHERO BALL AND EV3 WORKSHOPS:**

EV3 and Sphero Ball Workshop: April 10th, 6:30 - 8pm

EV3 and Sphero Ball Workshop: May 8th, 6:30 - 8pm

EV3 and Sphero Ball Workshop: June 7th, 1pm-3pm



ROBOTICS PRE-FAIR RUNOFF IS TENTATIVELY PLANNED FOR SATURDAY, JULY 12TH FROM 12:30 - 5 PM.

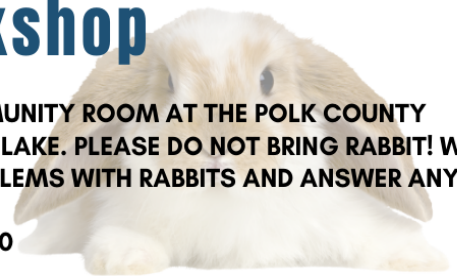
Please contact Shirley for questions, [smillerfrey@gmail.com](mailto:smillerfrey@gmail.com)

## Rabbit Workshop

APRIL 6TH AT 2:00PM

WE WILL MEET IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM AT THE POLK COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER IN BALSAM LAKE. PLEASE DO NOT BRING RABBIT! WE WILL TALK ABOUT ANY PROBLEMS WITH RABBITS AND ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS!

BECKY LARSON- 651-278-2830



## Dog Project!

>>> The 4-H Dog Project will meet on Tuesday, April 1st, 6pm-7pm. We will go over what is changing this year and handing out the paperwork for class registration and vaccinations.

>>> We will have our Kick-off on Sunday, April 27, 2pm - 4pm at the Polk County Fairgrounds. We will be setting up the building for obedience classes, collecting class registration and vaccination forms, have prizes and refreshments. Please do not bring your dog to this event.

>>> Obedience classes will start on Tuesday evening, May 6th. Time TBD

# THE FINAL COUNTDOWN: NAVIGATING THE LAST 100 DAYS OF YOUR BEEF PROJECT

Mark your calendars for the April 19th Beef Project Clinic with Brent Wirth. Brent will walk the group through how to navigate the last 100 days of their beef project before the fair.

April 19th starting at 1pm

Located at the Emerson Farm: 1197 95th Ave, Amery

## 2025 POLK/ST. CROIX COUNTY CLOTHING REVUE

Now is your chance to design and create clothing and have it judged all while having fun! The Clothing Revue is scheduled for Monday, June 23, 6:00 PM at the St. Croix Extension Office in Baldwin, WI.



Members must also enter the Clothing Review on their fair entry form. Exploring Project Members are also eligible for the Clothing Review.

Interested? Please fill out this form! <https://go.wisc.edu/23c49c>

## UPCOMING DAIRY JUDGING SCHEDULE

Sunday, April 6th, 2p,  
Haase Dairy Farm  
2367 45th St. Osceola, WI

Sunday, April 13th, 2pm  
Dado's Four Hands Holsteins  
821 75th St. Amery, WI

Sunday, April 20th  
NO PRACTICE!  
HAPPY EASTER!

## CLOVERBUD DAY CAMP COOKING UP SCIENCE

Get ready for a kitchen escapade where we dive into the wild worlds of biology, chemistry, and physics—all using stuff you've got in your pantry!



SATURDAY, MAY 10TH  
09:00 AM - 1:00 PM

CUSHING COMMUNITY  
CENTER

SIGN UP TODAY



<https://go.wisc.edu/k533qa>

## Horse Project

During the kick-off meeting we will be providing a safety clinic, declaration and project agreement paperwork, horse camp updates, and upcoming clinic schedules will be provided.

REMINDER!

May 21st, Train the Trainers, Instructor Zach Hedberg. Youth Leaders and Clinicians 5:30-8:30pm, Location TBD

## Shooting Sports Dino Hunt

May 9th 6pm-8pm  
Balsam Lake Rod & Gun Club

Because dinosaurs are such a terrible threat to the agriculture industry in Polk County we are offering all Polk County 4-H'ers ages eight (Explorers) to 12, and do not have a Hunter's Safety Certificate, the opportunity to participate in Polk County's 4-H Shooting Sports Dinosaur Hunt.

The 4-H Shooting Sports Program will supply the B.B. guns and ammunition for this event. There will also be an Archery Event. If you have questions about the Dinosaur Hunt, please call Chad & Stacey Lutsey at [chad.lutsey@gmail.com](mailto:chad.lutsey@gmail.com) or by phone at 715-541-4241



# ATTENTION DAIRY PROJECT MEMBERS

The James Crowley Leadership Award provides recognition to youth who have excelled in their dairy project.

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE APRIL 15TH to Lindsay, [lindsay.spindler@wisc.edu](mailto:lindsay.spindler@wisc.edu)

Applications can be found on our website, <https://polk.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development/forms-and-applications/>



## 4-H DOG SPEAKING & DEMONSTRATION CONTEST

4-H dog project members are invited to be part of the statewide 4-H dog speaking and demonstration contest. It is being held in conjunction with the 4-H horse speaking contest on May 4, 2025, at the STEM Innovation Building on the UW Green Bay Campus. Please register through 4HOnline. The registration deadline is April 1st. For more information please email Kerry, [kerry.hill2@wisc.edu](mailto:kerry.hill2@wisc.edu)

## DHIA Polk-Burnett Scholarship

The AgSource DHIA Foundation is offering scholarships for students who are either enrolled in or planning to pursue post-secondary education. Each scholarship recipient will receive a designated amount in financial support. To be eligible, applicants must have a family that resides in Polk or Burnett Counties or must be a current or former member of the Polk-Burnett DHI AgSource.

Preference may be granted to students majoring in agriculture-related fields and those from farming families. Scholarship funds will be disbursed only after the student has successfully completed one semester of post-high school education and has submitted a transcript indicating this completion. Applicants may either be entering or currently enrolled in post-secondary education programs.

Applications must be turned into the Extension office by APRIL 4th

Applications can be found on our website, <https://polk.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development/forms-and-applications/> or by following the QR Code.



Limited Space - Register Early

SAVE THE DATE

Camp Kiwanis  
15987 St Croix Trail N, Marine on St Croix, MN 55047

# SUMMER CAMP

JUNE 25-27

REGISTRATION → Camp Registration opens March 31 at 8AM in 4-H online ([wi.4honline.com](http://wi.4honline.com))

3RD-6TH GRADE (BASE CAMP)  
7TH-8TH GRADE (OUTPOST)

## WI 4-H AREA ANIMAL SCIENCE DAYS

*Save the Dates*

**PIERCE COUNTY  
JUNE 13TH**

**CALUMET COUNTY  
JUNE 30TH**



WATCH INBOXES AND SOCIAL MEDIA FOR FUTURE REGISTRATION INFORMATION



# ANNUAL NORTHWEST 4-H GOLF CLASSIC



## TWO OFFICIAL CONTESTS:

1. CLOVER CART CONTEST  
BEST DECORATED CART
2. DRESSED "TO THE NINES"  
BEST DRESSED TEAM

**09** AT 10:30 AM  
**JUNE** KILKARNEY HILLS GOLF COURSE



Thursday, July 24 - Sunday, July 27

## SAVE THE DATE



June 7, 2025  
Polk County Fairgrounds

**Registration open!**

**Talent Expo** *Barron-Polk County*

musical

piano

video

dance

speaking

instrumental

drama

speech

demonstrations

vocal

interpretive reading

poetry

Location: Turtle Lake HS  
Time: 9AM-1PM

April 12th

Event Information: [barron.extension.wisc.edu/4h/4harts/](http://barron.extension.wisc.edu/4h/4harts/)  
 Registration: [wi.4honline.com](http://wi.4honline.com) (sign in, click events)  
 Registration Deadline: March 15, 2025  
*Registration in multiple categories encouraged (groups (large or small), duets, solos)*

# Earth Day Photo Contest

In celebration of Earth Day, the Polk County Land & Water Resources Department is hosting a youth photo contest showcasing scenes from our beautiful county!

You can find more information located in the back of this newsletter!

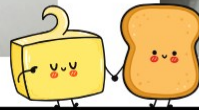


CHECK THIS!

OUT!

## INDIAN CREEK

At the March meeting, the Indian Creek 4-H Club rolled up their sleeves and learned how to make their own butter!



## KNOTTY PINE

The Knotty Pine's 4-H club learned about meat market lambs and beef. They even had a couple of lambs participate in their meeting.



South Milltown 4-H had their annual bowling outing at McKenzie Lanes. Emma Stepnowski earned the travelling trophy for the year.

## SOUTH MILLTOWN

They also made Valentines Day cards for the people who help the community through their jobs - like postal workers, librarian, village office and maintenance, Polk County Sheriff's office, jail employees, workers at the Interstate Vet Clinic, and Sophie's Manor residents and employees. They delivered more than 275 Valentines!





# TUBING PALOOZA!

March was the month for some 4-H tubing!



## BEAVER BROOK BADGERS

The Beaver Brook Badgers 4-H club went to Wild Mountain for a little winter fun!



## CATTAIL CLOVERS



The Cattail Clovers 4-H club had a blast tubing down the slopes at Trollhaugen



## Bone Lake Beavers

The Bone Lake Beavers spent a sunny afternoon hitting the slopes with some fun filled tubing!





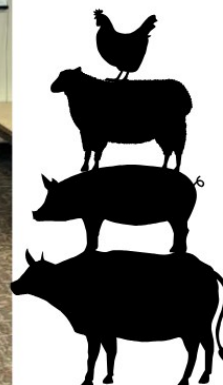
On Tuesday, March 4th, the Horse Project galloped into action with their kick-off meeting! The turnout was fantastic! Their project has grown by 30% in the past year!



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## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LIVESTOCK QUIZ BOWL TEAMS ON ALL THEIR HARD WORK THIS SEASON!

Our senior team are reserve champions and our junior team took 3rd place. Our mixed age team took 5th place. It has been incredible to see this group of young people represent Polk County 4-H! Thank you for all the work coaches Craig Scholz and Tim Swenson have to put in to prepare these youth!





# EARTH DAY PHOTO CONTEST

In celebration of Earth Day, the Polk County Land and Water Resources Department is hosting a youth photo contest showcasing scenes from our beautiful county! The photo contest is open to students in grades K-12 that attend public, private or are home schooled.

## CONTEST RULES

- Create a poster containing 3 to 5 photos from Polk County
- Photos must be taken by the participant
- A minimum of 3 different scenes (**land, water, air, wildlife, or forestry**) must be included on the poster
- Scenes must be clearly represented in each photo
- Photo paper is encouraged but not required
- Posters must be between 11" X 17" and 14" x 22"
- Each photo may not exceed 5" X 7"
- Poster title **"Earth Day Scenes from Polk County"**
- LWRD participation form must be attached to back (provided at drop off)

**Ribbons  
Awarded**  
top 3 in each  
division

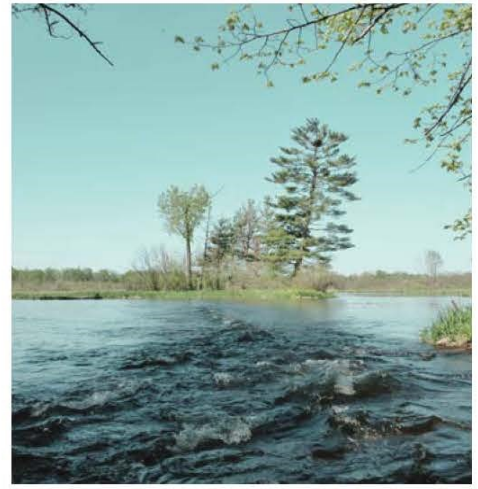


## SUBMISSION

Posters must be submitted to the Land and Water Resources Department by 4:30 PM **Monday April 21st**. Posters will be judged on Earth Day (April 22nd) by Polk County Environmental Services staff.

### More Information

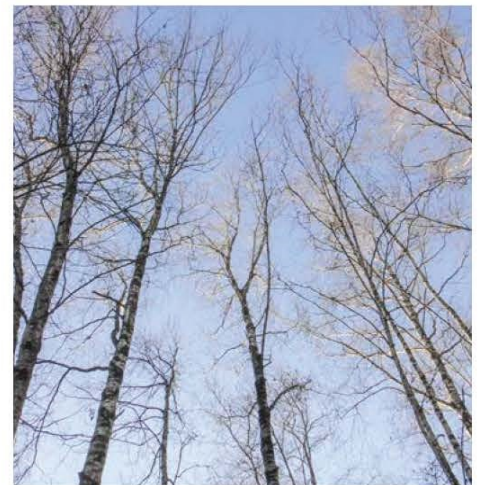
☎ 715-485-8639  
✉ [colton.sorensen@polkcountywi.gov](mailto:colton.sorensen@polkcountywi.gov)



*Water*



*Wildlife*



*Forestry*

### 4 Divisions

**Grades K - 2**

**Grades 3 - 5**

**Grades 6 - 8**

**Grades 9 - 12**

**DUE DATE**

**21**

**APRIL**

**POLK COUNTY LAND & WATER  
RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**

100 POLK COUNTY PLAZA SUITE  
120, BALSAM LAKE WI

MONDAY - FRIDAY 8AM - 4:30PM



# EARTH DAY PHOTO CONTEST

POLK COUNTY LAND & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## DIVISION

Grades K - 2

Grades 3 - 5

Grades 6 - 8

Grades 9 - 12

**\*REQUIRED:** Signature of parent or guardian certifies that the information provided is accurate and allows the Polk County Land and Water Resources Department to utilize the photos for educational or promotional purposes.

Parent/Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# EARTH DAY PHOTO CONTEST

POLK COUNTY LAND & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## DIVISION

Grades K - 2

Grades 3 - 5

Grades 6 - 8

Grades 9 - 12

**\*REQUIRED:** Signature of parent or guardian certifies that the information provided is accurate and allows the Polk County Land and Water Resources Department to utilize the photos for educational or promotional purposes.

Parent/Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

University of Wisconsin - Extension  
Polk County Office  
100 Polk Plaza, Suite G600  
Balsam Lake, WI 54810  
Phone: (715) 485-8600

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# Appt!

NEWSLETTER

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements

UW-MADISON EXTENSION

