Major 4-H Event Guide

This guide contains a list of most major county, state, and national 4-H events that members and their families can participate in. Watch for current details about each of them in the Newsclip as the year progresses.

4-H Bowling Tournament: Provides an opportunity for members to learn more about bowling while interacting and having fun with others. This event is sponsored by the Junior Leaders’ Association and is usually held in January or February.

4-H Camp: Held at Upham Woods, in the heart of the Wisconsin Dells, this four-day residential camping experience provides opportunities for 4-H members in 3rd-8th grades to interact with others, develop independent living skills, and have fun in the outdoors. Trained 4-H teens serve as counselors. Campers live in cabins and participate in a variety of activities. Seventh and eighth graders can have the opportunity to participate in more of an adventure camp experience at Outpost Camp, when available. Walworth County youth travel to camp in a bus. Costs of the camping program are partially offset by the Junior and Senior Leaders’ Associations. Usually held in June or July.

Area Animal Science Day: An event in which 4-H and FFA youth can participate to increase their knowledge of animals through workshops and contests. Usually held in June, and rotates locations throughout the state.

Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF): An award trip to Washington, D.C. for members in 10th grade or higher that offers citizenship development for teens. Selection is based on 4-H Teen Portfolios, which are due in the fall each year. The weeklong event takes place in the summer. Scholarships are available from the Walworth County 4-H Jr. and Sr. Leaders’ Associations to offset trip costs.

Communication Arts Festival & Real World Fair: A county event that provides youth opportunities to participate in public speaking, creative writing, photography, and art; along with consumer education, workforce development, and entrepreneurship contests. A judge gives evaluative comments. Held in the spring each year. This is a pre-fair activity for members enrolled in the Creative Writing, Public Speaking, Communications, Consumer Savvy, Workforce Readiness, and Entrepreneurship projects.

County Project Meetings: Held periodically to provide information and assist members in successfully completing their projects. Not all project areas hold countywide meetings. Check the 4-H Newsclip for more information. Some county projects REQUIRE participation in a certain number of meetings in order for youth to show at the fair. These required meetings are called “mandatory meetings.”

County Shoot-Off: A shooting competition, coordinated by the Environmental Sciences Project area and Shooting Sports Committee. Offers competitions in shotgun, .22 rifle, air rifle, black powder, air pistol, and archery. Usually held in July.

Dairy Window Display Contest: 4-H clubs create a dairy promotion display in a local business window. This contest is Sponsored by the Walworth County Farm Bureau Women. Held in June.

Drama Fest: 4-H clubs from throughout the county present adapted and/or original plays. Humor and good times are always present in this activity. A judge awards ribbons to honor participants for their performances.

Explorers' Day Camp: A one-day event for members in the Exploring 4-H project and for 2nd grade Cloverbud members. Designed to give participants a "taste" of camp. 4-H teens serve as counselors for the day.

Farm Bureau Dairy Breakfast: A dairy promotion, which is open to the public. Sponsored and coordinated by the Walworth County Farm Bureau. Now held at the Walworth County Fairgrounds, the event annually recognizes a Walworth County dairy family.
Fur & Feather Sale: An opportunity for goat, poultry, and rabbit exhibitors at the Walworth County Fair to sell their blue ribbon exhibits. This is an annual sale conducted and promoted by a 4-H partner organization, the Fur and Feather Committee.

Horse & Pony Show: An annual qualifying show for members to exhibit their horse or pony. This show is held in August prior to the Walworth County Fair. This is a qualifying show for the Wisconsin State Horse Expo that takes place in September.

House of Pork: A familiar sight at the fair and flea markets at the fairgrounds, this food booth is the 4-H program's primary fundraiser. All clubs are expected to help in the House of Pork during the fair and at other events as needed. The funds raised by the House of Pork help both the Junior and Senior Leaders' Associations meet their financial commitments to the county's 4-H members and programs.

Junior Leaders' Association: This association is open to 4-H members in 8th grade or higher. Members elect officers, help with annual fundraisers such as the House of Pork, sponsor a variety of Walworth County 4-H events and opportunities for 4-H teens, and provide funding in support of teen participation in out-of-county events and opportunities. The group meets the 4th Monday of every month (except August and December).

Junior/Senior Leaders Banquet: Held annually to recognize the outstanding achievements of youth and adult leaders. County 4-H officers are installed at this event. Held in November.

Kid's College: A day of workshops, held in late winter, which offers a variety of hands-on classes and activities. Open to all 4-H members. An opportunity for teen members to teach.

Meat Animal Sale: This is an opportunity for Walworth County Fair beef, sheep, and swine exhibitors to sell their project animals. Sponsored by a 4-H partner organization, the Walworth County Meat Animal Sale Committee.

Music Fest: An annual countywide event in which clubs present 5-10 minute musical performances before an audience and receive valuable feedback from a judge. Ribbons are awarded.

National 4-H Week: The first full week in October when clubs recognize, promote, and encourage 4-H enrollment for the upcoming year.

Officers' Training: An opportunity for club officers to receive county training designed to help them more effectively complete their roles.

Out-of-State Exchange: An opportunity for members in 9th grade or higher to spend a week with a family in another state. The member's family then hosts a youth from that state the following year. This is a two-year commitment. Usually conducted during the summer.

Pizza Sale: An annual countywide fundraiser that provides operating funds for 4-H clubs. Members sell pizza, pies, and candy. Held in December and January.

Pre-Fair Judging: Sometimes referred to as “pre-fair week,” this is Walworth County Fair judging that is done prior to the beginning of the Fair so youth can be present and receive valuable feedback from judges to improve their project work. Pre-fair week is typically TWO WEEKS PRIOR to the start of the actual fair. After judging, exhibits are left for display throughout Fair week.

Senior Leaders' Association: All enrolled 4-H adult volunteers are members of this group which meets on the 4th Monday of the month (except August and December). Members elect officers, help with annual fundraisers such as the House of Pork, sponsor a
variety of Walworth County 4-H events and opportunities, and provide funding in support of member participation in out-of-county events and opportunities.

**Softball Program:**
Club softball teams compete within a 4-H county league. Youth have the opportunity to participate in season, tournament, and All Star games. The County 4-H Softball Commission coordinates this early summer program.

**State 4-H Conference:**
An opportunity for members in 8th grade and higher to participate in educational/cultural events and exchange ideas with 4-H members from around the state. Held in Madison each June.

**State Art Team:**
Application is made through the UW-Extension office by members in 9th grade and higher. If selected, the member will participate in State Conference and State Fair Art Shows.

**State Dog Show:**
An opportunity for project members to show their dogs at a statewide event.

**State Drama Company:**
Application is made through the UW-Extension Office by members in 9th grade and higher. Application and tryouts take place in mid-winter every year. Once selected, the county 4-H member will participate in performances held at State 4-H Conference in June and at the Wisconsin State Fair.

**State Fair:**
Provides opportunities for youth throughout the state to participate in activities and exhibit in many project areas. The state fair is held in Milwaukee for 10 days in early August.

**State Photography Team:**
Application is made through the UW-Extension Office by members in 9th grade and higher. If selected, the member will be responsible for taking photos and assisting in a slide presentation at State 4-H Conference.

**State Showcase Singers:**
Application is made through the UW-Extension office by members in 9th grade and higher. Application and tryouts are held in mid-winter every year. If selected, the member will participate in State 4-H Conference, State Fair, and other musical performances across the state.

**Style Revue:**
An opportunity for members enrolled in the Clothing projects to model their projects and have them judged. Held in June. Members must also model their garments at the Style Revue held during the Walworth County Fair. The June Style Revue is a pre-fair activity for Clothing project members.

**Walworth County Fair:**
An annual countywide event of the Walworth County Agricultural Society. 4-H members can elect to exhibit their project work at this event. Participating members receive feedback from judges, premium money, and opportunities to have their accomplishments recognized. Members should refer to the Walworth County Fair Junior Department Premium List for entry requirements and judging details. Participating members must meet fair eligibility requirements and respect fair entry deadlines and rules. Entry to the fair must be made on the fair entry forms, which are submitted to the fair office by club general leaders.

Note: to be eligible to participate in the Junior Department of the Walworth County Fair, 4-H members must be enrolled by March 1 in the project for which they seek to enter an exhibit. Other deadlines or requirements may apply. Where possible, these are indicated in the project description section of this guide.