



# Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H Wisconsin 4-H Forestry

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## "TRACKS" – December 2018

*Participation in Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H & Wisconsin 4-H Forestry activities are open to all enrolled Wisconsin 4-H club members interested in wildlife and forestry. You can be enrolled in any 4-H project and participate in the Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H and Wisconsin 4-H Forestry activities.*

### Wildlife WHEP & Forestry 4-H Friends,

This fall's crazy weather has me thinking a lot about things my grandfather used to say; "Wind from the East, the weather is a beast" and "Clear moon, frost soon." When I was young, I used to laugh at him. As I have aged, I've come to recognize that there is some validity in such "old timer" sayings. Before we had smart phones to tell us the 10-day forecast, people had to listen to Mother Nature very carefully to predict the next day's temperature and precipitation. Of course, I had to Google it and I discovered:

"Wind from the west, fish bite the best; wind from the east, fish bite the least; wind from the north, do not go forth."

"Counting cricket chirps is said to foretell the days until first frost. As the temperature drops cricket chirping slows."

"Squirrel nest location is said to indicate type of winter. If nests are located high in the trees, the winter weather will be exceptionally harsh."

I do not know if all these beliefs are true or accurate, but it's fun to think about them as a diversion to this early cold weather. For more information, you can visit the following site or many others: <https://www.almanac.com/content/weather-sayings-and-their-meanings#>

**Are you looking for wildlife & forestry class topics and activities?** Just let us know and we'll email you: Wildlife/Forestry Activities - Anytime or Anywhere, along Wildlife WHEP Class Topics and Forestry Class Topics. There are topics for every age group in the listings.

**Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H & Wisconsin 4-H Forestry** encourages youth leadership participation and career exploration through many different 4-H projects and related activities. Thank you to all the participants doing the 4-H Wildlife WHEP and Forestry hands-on activities at the 2018 Fall Leaders Forum at Green Lake.

**Wildlife WHEP and FORESTRY Contests - April 5 & 6, 2019** - Participation is open to all enrolled Wisconsin 4-H club members: Junior – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and 8 years old, Intermediate – 11-14, and Senior – 15-19. Let us know and we'll show you how easy it is to prepare for the contests. You can start reviewing the basics right now. Just ask lots of questions. Get a friend to join you. This contest is an opportunity for you to become familiar with the wildlife habitat education program (WHEP) competition and the forestry program competition. The ecoregion for the wildlife contest will be announced later. The forestry contest is on Forestry Basic Information and Management. The contest questions will be multiple choices. It's a great way to test your knowledge.

**Wildlife WHEP Contest - (5 topics):** Wildlife Management Practices; Concepts & Terms; Wildlife ID; Foods ID; & Management Plan.

**Forestry Contest - (5 topics):** Compass & Topo Maps; Tree Identification; Tree Health - Insects/Diseases; Tree Measurement; & Forest Evaluation. Request registration forms by email. The registration deadline is March 16th.

**Older youth can qualify for National 4-H Competition by participating in the contests.** Participation in 2019 can qualify you for the 2020 team. Wisconsin plans to send a team of four 4-H youth to the National 4-H WHEP Contest in late July. Another 4-H team will be going to the National 4-H FORESTRY Contest at the same time. **Need more information on Wildlife?** Check out <http://fyi.uwex.edu/whepwi4h/> and [whep.org](http://whep.org) to see wildlife curriculum. **Need more information on Forestry?** Check out <http://4hforestryinvitational.org/> to see forestry curriculum and [forestinfo.org](http://forestinfo.org) for interesting topics on forestry.

**Wildlife WHEP and Forestry Art Contest - April 5 & 6, 2019** - Participation is open to all enrolled Wisconsin 4-H club members. There are 18 different categories in 3 age divisions. Can't attend - follow the instructions on the registration form. Request the forms by email.

### Wildlife & Forestry Activities about your "Backyard & Back 40" Why not try these topics?

1.) Purple Loosestrife Beetle Growing Program, 2.) Building Bat Houses, 3.) Improving Habitat for Pollinators, 4.) Building Butterfly/Rain Gardens & Project Milkweed, 5.) Improving Habitat for Migrating Land Birds, 6.) Improving Upland Bird Habitats, 7.) Water & Riparian Areas Improvements, 8.) Forestry Fundamentals & Management Practices. Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H & Wisconsin 4-H Forestry committee members and youth leaders can do age specific hands-on activities in your county. We'll train your youth and adult leaders at the same time. Parents, youth, and adult leaders are encouraged to participate to find out how easy it is to lead these hands-on activities. Contact us anytime and reserve your dates.

**Kerri, "TRACKS" Editor**

**Special Thanks** are extended to the following for making the "Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H" & "Wisconsin 4-H Forestry" programs possible:

Wisconsin Chapter of National Wild Turkey Federation; Mad City Gobblers; Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H Friends; Wisconsin 4-H Forestry Friends; Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H & Forestry - Washington County; Washington County (Hartford Chapter) Whitetails Unlimited; Northern Kettle Moraine Chapter of Whitetails Unlimited; Safari Club International-Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter; Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H & Wisconsin 4-H Forestry State Committee Members.



**UW  
Extension**  
University of Wisconsin-Extension

### DATES TO REMEMBER

**April 5 & 6, 2019**  
ART CONTEST  
Wildlife WHEP WI  
4-H & Wisconsin 4-H  
Forestry  
West Bend, WI

**April 5 & 6, 2019**  
Wildlife WHEP WI 4-H  
Contest (NQE)  
West Bend, WI

**April 5 & 6, 2019**  
Wisconsin 4-H Forestry  
Contest (NQE)  
West Bend, WI

**April 5 & 6, 2019**  
20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
4-H Wildlife Contest  
and Tri-County 4-H  
Archery & Air Rifle  
Tournament  
West Bend, WI