



FAMILY GUIDE

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Welcome to Kenosha County 4-H! We hope this guide will give you some insight into our program. It is intended as a general guideline only. Your individual clubs and project areas may have their own guidelines that are not spelled out in this booklet. If you have any questions about the 4-H program, please contact the UW-Extension Office and/or your club or project leaders.

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What is 4-H



4-H is a youth organization that belongs to the members, their families, and other interested adults who serve as volunteer leaders. Professional leadership is given by Cooperative Extension of the University of Wisconsin. Support for 4-H programs is a joint effort of local government, the University of Wisconsin, and the United States Department of Agriculture.

In 4-H, young people share, grow, and learn together from various projects, events, and activities in informal situations under the guidance of their families and other volunteer adult leaders. Members can choose projects that fit them and the places where they live. Group activities and events such as trips, camps, fairs, shows, and conferences provide additional learning experiences and opportunities.

4-H is open to all youth and adults regardless of their ethnic background, race, creed, or disability. Most 4-H clubs have meetings for the entire membership once a month. During these meetings, decisions are made about group-sponsored activities such as community service efforts, project opportunities, and fund-raising efforts.

Regardless of the structure, a 4-H group may involve families, neighbors, relatives, and others. Participants have fun learning, working, and succeeding together in the home, neighborhood, and community.

Purpose of 4-H

The purpose of 4-H is two-fold:

- To provide opportunity for parents and other interested adults to work with youth in their development.
- To provide real life experiences for youth through a fun, action-oriented, and practical program.



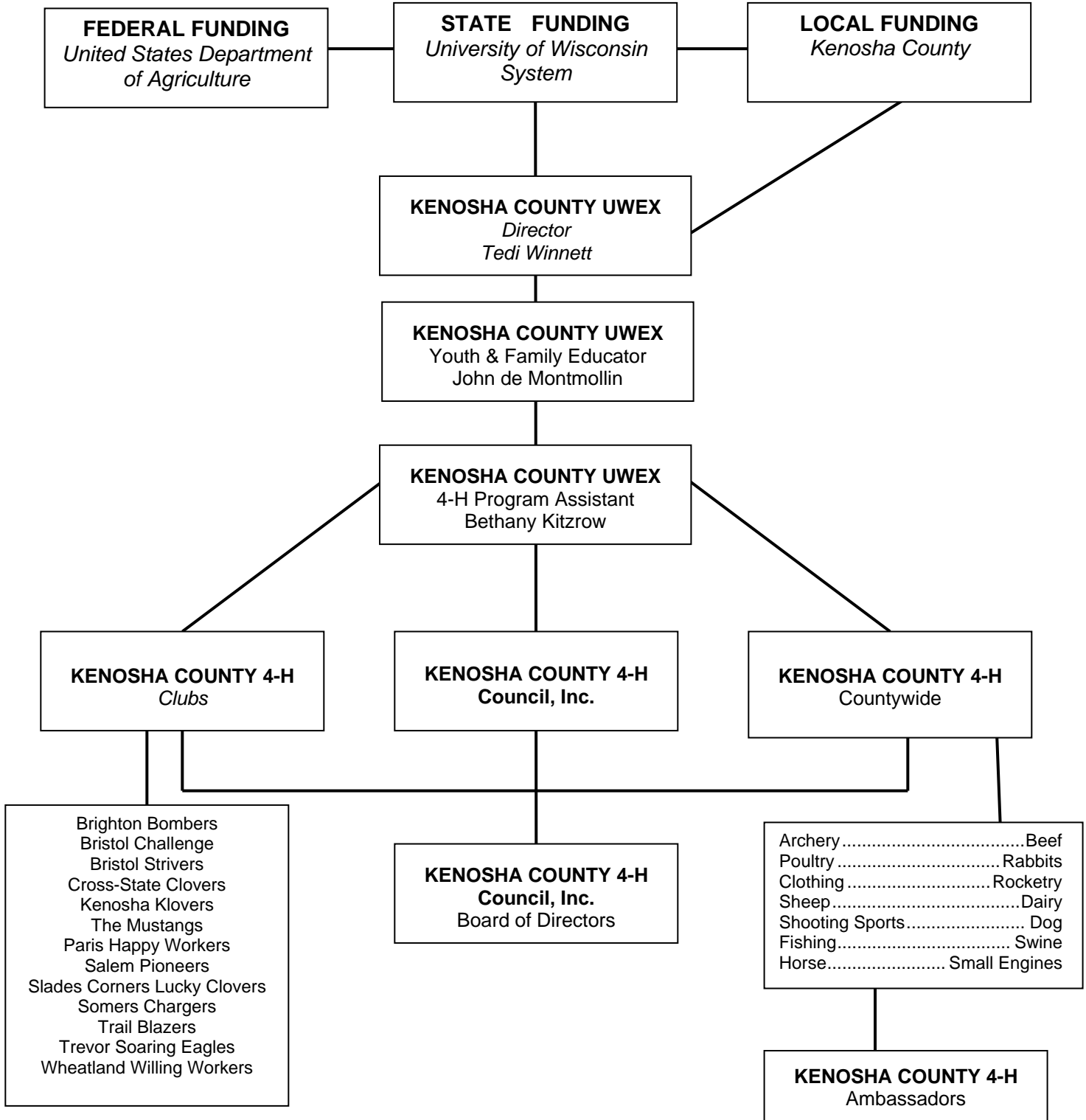
The major focus of 4-H is on activities of the local 4-H club. Volunteers serve as 4-H leaders who plan and carry out organized learning experiences with youths. The many county and state activities are considered secondary. Their purpose is one of supplementing and supporting local club programs. The Kenosha County UW-Extension staff is a resource for parents and other adults in the 4-H program.



KENOSHA COUNTY 4-H



Organizational Chart



How 4-H Will Benefit Your Children

4-H members will:

- Learn, make, and do things that are meaningful and appeal to them.
- Make friends, belong to a group, and give and receive acceptance and affection.
- Have a good time thereby making learning fun and enjoyable.
- Earn recognition and awards.
- Have the opportunity to take trips to other parts of Wisconsin, the US, and even the world.

4-H members develop and practice important life skills:

- Develop an inquiring mind and desire to learn.
- Make decisions and solve problems.
- Relate to and work with other people.
- Develop a concern for their community and the people in it.
- Build their youngster's self-confidence.
- Accept responsibility.
- Obtain leadership experiences.





4-H Emblems and Symbols

Emblem:

The national 4-H emblem is a four-leaf clover with the letter “H” on each leaf.



The Four H’s:

The four H’s stand for **Head, Heart, Hands, and Health**. These four H’s represent the four-fold training and development in which members participate. This meaning of the four H’s is clearly given in the pledge below.

Pledge:

4-H members should learn the national 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.
----------	--

The Colors:

Green and White are the 4-H colors. The white background of the flag symbolizes purity. The green 4-H emblem is nature’s most common color in the great outdoors, and green is also the color of springtime, life, and youth.

Slogan:

“Learning By Doing”

Motto:

The national 4-H motto is: *“To Make the Best Better.”* It should be the objective of every member and leader.

Wisconsin 4-H website: <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/4h>

National 4-H Council website: www.fourhcouncil.org



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4-H Terms

Cloverbud

Youth in first and second grade enroll as either Cloverbud 1 or 2. This 4-H project is intended to introduce the members to 4-H. Clover buds do not enroll in any other projects.

Club Rules/Bylaws

Most 4-H clubs have a set of written rules for the operation of the club. Each member should become familiar with the club's rules early in the year.

Dues

Countywide dues are \$9 per member plus \$1 per member for insurance, \$2 insurance for horse members. Additional costs may apply depending on the club and/or projects a member enrolls in.

Enrollment Forms

A computer form each member fills out at the beginning of the 4-H year to join a 4-H club. The individual 4-H projects the member selects for the year are listed on this form.

Exploring Project

An individual 4-H project recommended as a beginning 4-H project for members in third grade. This project is aimed primarily at youth in grade three. Learn new things about yourself, your club, your community, and your world. Sample a variety of projects and activities offered in 4-H. Members in third grade may take a total of three projects, one of which *may* be Exploring.

Fair Entry Blank

The Fair Entry Blank are a form where the member lists their entries in the specific classes for display of projects at the Kenosha County Fair. Entry blanks are usually due to club's leader(s) in the month of June.

Fair Book

The book published annually that lists the Kenosha County Fair entry classes and rules.

Graduation from 4-H

Graduating from 4-H signifies that a member has successfully completed their career as a 4-H member. Some 4-Her's graduate following high school graduation. There is the option to extend membership one year beyond high school graduation.

Home Lite

The monthly Kenosha County 4-H newsletter mailed to every 4-H family and available on the web. The *Home Lite* gives information about county level 4-H meetings, opportunities, and activities offered to 4-H members, leaders, and parents. For several events, this will be the only source of information.



KCC

This abbreviation stands for the Kenosha County Center located on the northeast corner of Highways 45 and 50 in Bristol. The street address is 19600 – 75th Street. The county facility is home of the Kenosha County UW-Extension office and serves as the meeting place for several 4-H events and activities.

Kenosha County 4-H Council, Inc.

The term for the entire community of 4-H members, leaders and volunteers. All enrolled 4-H leaders, volunteers and members in 9th grade and older are member of the 4-H Council. The 4-H Council Board of Directors serves as the governing body.

Kenosha County 4-H Member Code of Conduct

The Kenosha County 4-H Council, Inc., has established a **Code of Conduct** for Kenosha County 4-H members. This **Code of Conduct** sets forth guidelines by which 4-H members should conduct themselves when representing Kenosha County 4-H.

Leader Certification

All adult volunteers must attend the leader certification session and undergo a background check before they are allowed to work with youth.

4-H Membership

Young people in first grade through high school are eligible to join 4-H. Some events require grade limits. Members in first and second grade enroll as Cloverbuds and third graders enroll as Explorers.

Project

The unit of study for the 4-H member. Projects include things like Cats, Foods, Citizenship, and Horses. The member enrolls in a project area and then studies that area and completes items for that project.

Project Literature

Guides for members and leaders written by University Specialists to serve as suggestion for areas of study in 4-H projects.

Record Books

The record book is a complete record of the member's activities for the current 4-H year. All 4-H activities should be entered in the Record Book. Each member will hand in their record book to their club's general leader(s) at the end of the year according to the club's policy.

UWEX

This abbreviation is used to refer to the University of Wisconsin-Extension. 4-H is a youth education program of UW-Extension.



4-H Year

The new 4-H year starts on October 1st and ends on September 30th the following year. An individual 4-H club's year may vary slightly.





Who's Who in 4-H



Local Club Level

Activity Leader

A volunteer who is responsible for organizing and conducting special activities. (Examples: Music & Drama, community service activities, softball coach, etc.)

Cloverbud

Any youth in first or second grade who participates in a local 4-H group or activity. Cloverbuds are invited to participate in most county level 4-H events and activities.

Explorer

Any youth in third grade who participates in a local 4-H group or activity.

4-H Member

Any youth in first grade through high school who participates in a local 4-H group or activity. These members are invited to participate in all county level 4-H events and activities.

General Leader

A volunteer who is responsible for the organizational part of the club. Some clubs have assistant and/or co-general leaders.

Parents

Parents and/or guardians are very important to the success a child will have in the 4-H program. Parents are encouraged to attend their 4-H Club meetings and project meetings with their child. All countywide events are open and parents are encouraged to attend them with their children.

The parents' key roles are supporting the child's commitments, helping the child think through decisions, and seeing the child reach his/her goal.

There are several ways for parents to help:

- Attending 4-H meetings and other special events.
- Guiding your child's project work and encouraging completion without doing the work for the 4-Her.
- Supporting the local 4-H club leader by offering your services.
- Making it possible for your child to participate in a variety of 4-H activities such as camps, fairs, and contests.
- Being an example of a good sport so your child will learn to appreciate the successes of others.



Project Leader

A volunteer who helps 4-H members as they learn, make or create something. This person can be a 4-H parent who agrees to help with a project, a Youth Leader, or a person from the community who has knowledge in a particular subject matter area.

Youth Leader

A 4-H member of any age who is enrolled in the Youth Leadership project. They take an active part in helping the younger members in the club. By doing this they grow, mature, and learn leadership skills.

County Level

4-H Ambassadors

A team of 4-H adults and youth in grades eight and above who promotes the 4-H program. Members must complete applications. The Ambassadors also host the countywide Cloverbud project meetings.

4-H Board of Directors

This is an organization of elected 4-H members and leaders in Kenosha County that meets ten times per year. The 4-H Board of Directors are the policymaking group, as well as the private funding source for a number of county-level 4-H programs.

4-H Program Assistant

This is the professional who guides, teaches, and administers the 4-H program. The 4-H Community Club Advisor is employed by the University of Wisconsin-Extension.

4-H Project Team/Committees

There are approximately 20 county-level volunteer program teams or committees such as Beef, Fishing, Small Engines, and Dog. These groups meet educational needs in the project or activity area and plan and conduct county level activities and meetings.

Resource / Project Leader

A volunteer who is willing to answer project or activity questions for other volunteer leaders or 4-H members. Leaders must complete the required leader certification program.





4-H Projects

A 4-H project is what a 4-Her learns, makes or does; for example: Learn to grow a vegetable garden, sew a dress, or train a dog. Projects vary from aerospace to woodworking, birds to rabbits, and clothing to small engines. For a complete list of projects, please see the Kenosha County 4-H Enrollment Guide.

4-H members should take at least one project each year and complete the records for that project. Members in first and second grade may only enroll as Cloverbuds. Members in third grade may enroll in two projects plus the recommended Exploring project. The recommended maximum number of projects for members in fourth grade and above varies from two to eight.

Each 4-H club will try to locate a Project Leader when there are three or more members enrolled in a project. The Project Leader will notify members when and where the project meetings will be held. Most projects will require at least three project meetings and often more are held. When there is no Project Leader, the member will be expected to work individually. As a family, you can use the 4-H project literature to guide your learning.

Some 4-H projects hold countywide meetings in addition to individual club meetings. Some examples include: Archery, Beef, Dog, Horse, Photography, Poultry, Rabbits, Scrap booking, Sheep, and Swine. There are countywide meeting requirements for these projects.

The family of a 4-Her should take an active interest in the 4-Her's project. Assist, encourage, offer advice, but remember, *the 4-Her Learns By Doing*.





4-H Record Books

The primary purpose of Record Books is to help the 4-Her and the family measure progress.

At the beginning of the first year, members will receive a green 4-H Record Book cover which will be kept as long as the member is in 4-H. Members will receive the project record sheets from the club's leader(s). 4-Her's are encouraged to include photographs and any newspaper articles with their record books.

The basic sections of a Record Book are:

♣ **My 4-H Year**

Serves as a log of local, county, state, and national 4-H activities and events.

♣ **Permanent Record and Stars & Bars Awards**

This form is kept with the Record Book throughout the member's 4-H career. It provides space for leadership responsibility, and it provides space for trips, awards, and contests above the club level. Members receive points for participation in activities and projects. They may accumulate points from one year to the next and earn stars and bars to wear.

♣ **Project Record(s)**

A Project Record should be completed for each individual project enrolled in. A new record should be prepared for each year.

♣ **Supplemental 4-H Forms**

Animal projects require financial records. The Dairy project also has a lifetime dairy record.

4-H Record Books should be filled out completely and accurately. Parents may oversee the member's work, but it is best if the member does their own writing. Parents should encourage each 4-H member to work on the Record Book throughout the year. 4-H Record Books will be due to the member's local 4-H club shortly after the Kenosha County Fair. The books will be evaluated and returned to the member.

General leaders submit record books from their clubs for a countywide competition held in conjunction with the annual 4-H Awards Night to recognize exemplary record books. These record books receive recognition at the celebration.





4-H Activities and Events

Each club will have special activities throughout the year. In addition there are countywide activities and events that 4-H members may participate in. The listing below is only a partial listing. Many other project-related activities and events are held annually. All events are listed in the *Home Lite*.

- **County 4-H Day Camp**

The Kenosha 4-H day camp is held in the summer. Campers are members in grades one through three. 4-H members sixth grade and above serve as counselors for the classes and activities. Camp staff and 4-H Youth Development Staff supervise the camps. This camp is held in conjunction with Racine County.

- **Bi-County 4-H Camp**

Kenosha and Racine county 4-H members attend Summer Camp at Camp Upham Woods, in the Wisconsin Dells, WI in August. It is open to youth entering 3rd through 5th grades. A variety of activities and learning experiences await summer campers including crafts, swimming, campfires, evening programs and more. Outpost camp will be held for youth in 6th through 8th grades. Camp counselors are youth 9th grade and above.

- **Kenosha County Fair**

The Kenosha County Fair is held annually in August. The County Fair is a great opportunity for 4-Hers to display things they made and/or to exhibit project animals. This is a major event where many people see what 4-Hers can do.

All exhibits (except large animals) are judged by the “face-to-face” judging system at the Kenosha County Fair. With this system, for every project exhibited each 4-H member talks directly with the judge. The member’s age and experience are taken into consideration in the final placing.

Placings include: Blue – 1st, Red – 2nd, White – 3rd, and Pink - 4th. Green “Merit Award” ribbons are presented to a selected number of outstanding exhibits.

- **National 4-H Week**

The first full week in October is set aside each year to recognize and promote 4-H across the country. Each year a theme highlights the week. Many clubs have window displays or a special promotion of 4-H in their community.

- **Officer Training**

This is held annually for club officers to provide them with ideas and helpful hints about their jobs and responsibilities.

- **Public Presentation Festival**

4-H members can participate in the festival by reading a story or a poem, giving a speech, performing a musical number, giving a demonstration or putting on a play. Ribbons are awarded and a judge gives evaluative comments. Results are then forwarded to the Kenosha County Fair where participants receive fair premiums.





4-H Awards and Trips

4-H Alumni Award

An award given to 4-H alumni who have gone on to distinguish themselves as adults through continued support of the Kenosha County 4-H program.

Citizenship-Washington Focus

A week long citizenship and educational experience held at the National 4-H Center, Washington, D.C. Open to 4-H members in grades 10 - 12.



Clover Award

Countywide awards given to 4-H members who have shown exceptional leadership, citizenship, or achievement. General Leaders annually nominate members.

Cloverbuds Reward Record

A points based award. Cloverbuds can earn points by attending and participating in 4-H events.

4-H Key Award

The 4-H Key Award is the highest award available to members in 4-H.

Friend of 4-H

An award given to an adult or organization that has made a contribution to the Kenosha County 4-H program on a county-wide basis. In addition, the individual should have meaningful involvement in 4-H and be committed to the philosophy of 4-H.

Scholarships

The Kenosha County 4-H Board of Directors annually awards scholarships for educational experiences beyond high school.

Stars and Bars

A countywide, points-based award. Members accumulate points by attending and participating in 4-H activities. There are eight levels of achievement:

- 1st Star—25 points
- 2nd Star—100 points
- 3rd Star—225 points
- 4th Star—425 points
- Bronze Bar—550 points
- Silver Bar—700 points
- Gold Bar—850 points
- Gold Star High Honor—1000+ Points

Wisconsin 4-H Youth Conference

A four-day 4-H conference held annually on the UW-Madison campus for members in grades 7–10.



Why and When Did 4-H Originate



4-H, as we know it, began around 1900 as a means of reaching parents with improved farm and home practices. American farmers had experienced poor economic times for 30 years. It was risky business for them to try a newly recommended farm practice. In 1902, a few Midwestern school teachers developed some crop demonstrations with their students who in turn shared their successes with their parents.

These school projects developed small groups covering a single topic such as beef, corn, gardening, or canning. By 1909 some of these groups were called 3-H clubs, and in 1911 the name of 4-H was finally adopted.

There were corn clubs in Wisconsin as early as 1904. The first county agents (educators) were hired about 1915 and the first Wisconsin State 4-H Leader was hired in 1914.

A plan of organizing boys' and girls' agricultural clubs in Wisconsin was later adopted. This plan called for definite organization with the usual club officers, an adult leader, regular meetings, and a series of projects. Clubs were organized in schools and rural communities under the direction of the local teachers.

Have 4-H objectives changed since its early days?

Yes! Today the objective is the development of young people by providing a wide variety of learning opportunities in which all youth can participate. 4-H is for all youth, whether they live in the city or in the country.

Some Facts & Figures

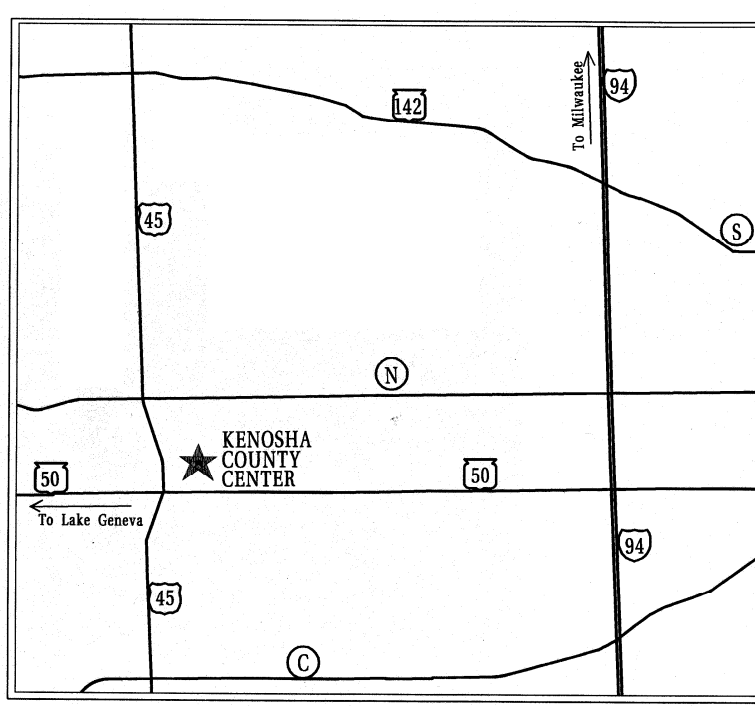
- Nearly one of every five Wisconsin youth is involved in 4-H, making it the largest youth organization in the state. Every county in Wisconsin is involved.
- Wisconsin 4-H reaches 155,000 youth from 50,000 families each year; there are 25,000 adult volunteers in Wisconsin.
- Nationally, SIX million youth participate in 4-H.
- The first organized club in Kenosha County was the Bristol Challenge 4-H Club established December 1919.



Kenosha County's UW-Extension Office



The Kenosha County UW-Extension Office is located at:



Kenosha County Center
19600 - 75th Street
Bristol, WI 53104

Office Hours

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