



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

Email: [washingtonco4hshootingports@gmail.com](mailto:washingtonco4hshootingports@gmail.com)  
Website: <http://fyi.uwex.edu/whewpi4h/>  
Email: [nbyogerst@gmail.com](mailto:nbyogerst@gmail.com)



### “TRACKS” – February 2021

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

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

Ice fishing makes up 1/4 the annual catch in Wisconsin. Bluegill and perch are the species most commonly caught in winter. To catch bluegill try fishing in shallow bays where the water is about four to eight feet deep. For bait, try a teardrop lure tipped with live insect larvae. Gently jig the lure up and down. Jig for perch at 35 feet. For bait, try small, live minnows or weighted ice flies and insect larvae. Because the temperatures are so cold the fish are moving slower making them easier to catch.

To get started ice fishing you will need an auger to bore a hole in the ice, an ice fishing pole, a tip up and a few jigs (type of lure). You can use a power or manual auger. Most pan fish will fit easily through a 6" hole while larger fish such as muskies will require a 10" hole. Ice fishing poles are generally much shorter than standard fishing poles. A tip up is a hands-free device that allows you to fish hands free. When a fish strikes the bait a submerged spool spins and trips a flag above the ice.

**(Be sure to check ice conditions. A good rule of thumb is that ice should be at least 4" thick to walk on it, but ice thickness can vary so be sure to check more than one spot. And don't forget your fishing license!)**

Speaking of fishing... The Winnebago system is home to one of the largest lake sturgeon populations in North America and hosts a unique winter spear fishery. It is one of only two locations where lake sturgeon can be harvested with a spear. The lake's sturgeon population is one of the most-dense in the world. The first season on Lake Winnebago dates back to 1932; this year's season starts on Feb. 13 and will last 16 days - or until harvest caps are reached. Most fish are smoked or fried - or mounted. The largest sturgeon recorded to date was 7' long and weighed 143 pounds.

Spearers must purchase a license and the minimum age is 12 years old. The equipment is fairly specialized. Most spears are about 5-10' long, weigh 20-40 pounds and have five prongs on a head 9-12" wide. The spearhead is attached to a rope which is essential for pulling the fish out of the lake. A large hole is cut in the ice and decoy is used to lure the sturgeon up from the bottom of the lake.

A female sturgeon will not spawn until they are 20-34 years of age and a male begins spawning between 14 and 31 years. It takes a female 3-5 years to develop a set of eggs.

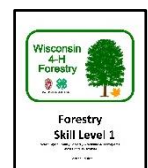
Sources: [Flag up! Ice fishing in Wisconsin | Wisconsin DNR](#)  
[EEK! Environmental Education for Kids in Wisconsin \(eekwi.org\)](#)  
[Winnebago System Sturgeon Spearing | Wisconsin DNR](#)

**Share with your “Friends” - The Winter Wildlife WHEP & Forestry 4-H Art Contest is right around the corner.** Check out the 18 different classes and find your favorite three entries. You will compete in your own grade division. Attached is a copy of the registration form. Mail in your registration form with fees and you will receive a contest submission form. After receiving the submission form by email, follow the instructions and email the completed form to us. Good Luck.



#### Wildlife WHEP & Forestry Skill Level Booklets are available:

Check out the Wildlife & Forestry Skill Level Booklets.  
They are fun and fillable. (Approx. 10 pages each)  
Request a copy of Skill Level 1 by email. Answers will be sent upon request.  
Share these booklets with your friends – except eventually for the answers.  
Skill Level 2 (more advanced) is coming around the corner



#### “Backyard & Back 40” Wildlife & Forestry Activities – We have topic suggestions for you.

1.) Purple Loosetrife 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, 9.) Trees for Wildlife, Recreation, & A Renewable Resource, 10.) Maps, Topography, Compass, & GPS, 11.) And more.

#### Kerri, “TRACKS” Editor

**Special Thanks are extended to the following for making the “Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H” & “Wisconsin 4-H Forestry” programs possible:** Northern Kettle Moraine Chapter of Whitetails Unlimited, Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H & Forestry – Washington County; Safari Club International (SCI) Wisconsin Chapter; Wisconsin Chapter of National Wild Turkey Federation; Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H & Wisconsin 4-H Forestry Friends; Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H & Wisconsin 4-H Forestry State Committee Members. Advisor: Carlea Liermann



Extension  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

# Winter Wildlife WHEP & Forestry 4-H Art Contest

## 2021 Registration Form – Extended Deadline



Registration is required by mailing this form & payment by **February 28, 2021**. We will email you a photo submission form upon receipt of your registration & payment. Your completed submission form must be emailed by **March 15, 2021**.

**This 4-H activity open to all Wisconsin 4-H Club members. You may be enrolled in any 4-H project to participate. See additional guidelines and wildlife/forestry art contest rules for all classes.**

**“Brief Description Required” – All items must have completed the “story telling” description area (counts 30% toward award) explaining your item and its wildlife or forestry connection. Items must be made in the current 4-H project year and after September 1<sup>st</sup> of the previous year. No commercial craft kits or similar are allowed. Judges will use their own discretion and no challenges are allowed.**

**Limit - THREE ITEMS.**

### **Separate Classes & Current Grade (January 2021): K5, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13**

**1-Nesting Structure or Feeder for Bird, Bee, Butterfly, or Bat House, etc.** – The structure meets specific requirements for the named critter. Include - overall size, shape, and hole diameter or opening, etc.. (Ornamental bird houses, etc. must be entered in crafts.) Include your story telling description.

**2-Craft** – Craft item has wildlife or forestry connection. Examples: leather craft, stitchery, clothing, sculpture, wildlife folk art, plaster tracks, quiver, etc. Craft items must be made by exhibitor during the current 4-H year. (Do not use “put together craft kits” or similar items.)

**3-Drawing** – Drawing can be any size and does not need to be mounted that has a wildlife, forestry, or wildlife habitat connection. Drawing can be pencil, ink, charcoal, chalk, pastel, colored pencil or similar on any surface. Drawing will be judged on “story telling ability”, neatness, and your description.

**4-Invasive Plant or Weed** – Poster, display, or dried example of an invasive plant or weed (immature and mature if possible). Include item name, your description, and control measures. Also, include date & location where found for each item for actual collections. This entry may include items from the entire preceding calendar year. Examples: purple loosestrife, ragweed, etc. Include your story telling description.

**5-Orienteering & Geocaching** – Poster or display on Compass, GPS, or Topographic Map Use. Items will be judged on their relationship to wildlife or forestry applications. Poster or display related to geocaching. Include your story telling description.

**6-Painting** – Your painting can be any size and does not need to be mounted that has a wildlife or forestry connection. Painting can be acrylic, watercolor, oil, or similar on any surface. Painting will be judged on “story telling ability”, neatness and your description.

**7-Photo Black & White** – Your black & white photo or silhouette photo (one photo only) can be any size and does not need to be mounted that has a wildlife or forestry connection. Photo will be judged on “story telling ability”, neatness, and your description. No people allowed.

**8-Photo Color** – Your color photo (one only), any size, and does not need to be mounted that has a wildlife or forestry connection. Photo will be judged on “story telling ability”, neatness, and your brief description. No people allowed.

**9-Recycle** – Any item related to wildlife, forestry, or for wildlife use. Example – bird nesting material. Item will be judged on “story telling ability”, practical usefulness, neatness, and your brief description.

**10-Taxidermy** – Item or display made 4-H member during the current 4-H year. Include date, location, and county where critter was obtained. Also, include a description of the critter and of your taxidermy work.

**11-Trail Camera Photo – Large / Small Mammal** – Photo from a trail camera can be any size and does not need to be mounted. Include animal name, date, location (county), and brief description of the picture. Also include the relationship of the camera’s owner. Picture must have been taken with your immediate family or grandparents trail camera after September 1<sup>st</sup> of the previous year. Photos will be judged on “story telling ability”, neatness, and your description.

**12-Trail Camera Photo – Upland Bird, Backyard Bird, Waterfowl, or Raptor** – Photo from a trail camera can be any size and does not need to be mounted. Include animal name, date, location (county), and brief description of the picture. Also include the relationship of the camera’s owner. Picture must have been taken with your immediate family or grandparents trail camera after September 1<sup>st</sup> of the previous year. Photos will be judged on “story telling ability”, neatness, and your description.

**13-Tree or Shrub** – Item, poster or display of a tree or shrub, parts, measurements, related insects or diseases, etc. Include the tree/shrub name and description. Also, can be with an animal, insect, bird, or critter that makes their home in, on, or near a particular tree or shrub species. This entry may include items from the entire preceding calendar year.

**14-WHEP or Forestry Concept** – Item, diorama, poster, or display of a WHEP or forestry Concept (or part of a concept) from the current national manuals. Include the concept name and a description. Examples: habitat requirements, stages, food chain, etc.

**15-WHEP Foods** – Item, diorama, poster, or display of a WHEP foods (or part of a food group) from the current national WHEP manual. Include the food group name and a description. Examples: aquatic plants, grains, soft mast, hard mast, etc.

**16-WHEP or Forestry Management Practice** – Item, diorama, poster, or display of a WHEP Management Practice (or part of a management practice) from the current national WHEP Manual. Include management practice name and your. description Examples: planting trees, fish or wildlife survey, create snags, wildlife damage management, recreational uses, products, tools used, etc.

**17-Wildflower** – Dried or pressed wildflowers, poster or display of wildflowers or parts of a wildflower. Include name, date, location (county) where found and your description. This entry may include items from the entire preceding calendar year.

**18-Wildlife/Forestry Game** – Individual or group game or learning activity related to wildlife or forestry. Include name of game, supplies, rules, and ages for participation. Also, briefly describe what will be learned by the participants. Include a picture of the game being used if possible. Your item can be a 4-H youth leader activity from the entire preceding year.

## **Winter Wildlife WHEP & Forestry 4-H Art Contest Entry Form:**

**My current (January 2021) grade is \_\_\_\_\_**

1 <sup>st</sup> Item _____	Class # _____	Grade _____	Class Item _____	\$3.00
2nd Item _____	Class # _____	Grade _____	Class Item _____	\$3.00
3rd Item _____	Class # _____	Grade _____	Class Item _____	\$3.00

EXAMPLE: Class # 2 Grade 5 Class Item \_\_\_\_\_ Craft \_\_\_\_\_

**\$3.00 registration fee for each item is required.**

**Total \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_**

**Make check out to:** Washington County 4-H Shooting Sports

**Remember to mail your registration & payment by February 28, 2021.**

We will email you a photo submission form upon receipt of your registration & payment. Your submission form will be emailed to you and it must be emailed back by **March 15, 2021.**

### **Washington County 4-H Wildlife WHEP & Forestry Art Contest Rules**

- All entries are the property of Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H and Wisconsin 4-H Forestry and may be used for promotional purposes.
- No people are permitted in photos of all entries in this contest. Such entries will be rejected.
- Only North American wildlife (including migratory critters), plants, habitat, etc., especially those found in Wisconsin can be used in this contest.
- Items must be made in the current 4-H project year and after September 1<sup>st</sup> of the previous year. (See listed exceptions.)
- All 4-H wildlife artwork must be done by the participant and not previously exhibited at a Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H & Wisconsin 4-H Forestry Art Contest.
- Mountings or frames on photos, drawings, paintings, etc. for the submission photo is not required.
- No composed or altered pictures are permitted. Judges will use their own discretion and no challenges are allowed.
- No commercial craft kits or similar are allowed. Judges will use their own discretion and no challenges are allowed.
- **Your Wildlife or Forestry Description is Required and counts 30% toward an award” - 75 words maximum.**  
**Your description includes the correct critter name or names. You can include habitat information (diet, water & cover), and other interesting comments that tells the story about your item.**
- Youth are limited to one entry in a class for your grade and three entries total.
- Your division is determined by your current (January 2021) grade.
- Judges will award: blue, red, white, or green ribbon certificates in each class and in each age division.
- Any entry not meeting all contest requirements and rules will not be eligible for an award.
- Check your email for award listings after March 31, 2021.
- +++ An incomplete registration form will not be accepted. +++

**Mail in REGISTRATION DEADLINE: February 28, 2021**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

4-H Club \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ (print clearly)

**Program support is provided by:** Northern Kettle Moraine Whitetails Unlimited, Friends of Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H, Friends of Wisconsin 4-H Forestry, Wisconsin Wild Turkey Federation Chapters, Washington County 4-H Shooting Sports, Washington County 4-H Wildlife WHEP & Forestry Volunteers, THANK YOU.

**Permission Statement:** I grant permission for my child to participate in the Winter Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H & Wisconsin 4-H Forestry Art Contest. I release the hosting facility, their employees, UW Extension employees, volunteers, and donors from any financial responsibility. I authorize the use of my name and photographs at this event for educational or media purposes. I have read and understand the contest rules regarding participation.

**Signature: Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Participant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_**

Mail registration form & payment to: Barb/Norb Yogerst, 2401 Western Avenue, Jackson, WI 53037 PH: 262-677-2379