



Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H Wisconsin 4-H Forestry

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“TRACKS” – May 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,

Spring is finally here, and many green things are popping up! I recently spotted this unusual seed head at the New Fane Sportsman Club in Campbellsport. A quick Google search confirmed it was “snake grass” also commonly called horsetail.

While some of these spring arrivals are pretty to look at, many can be extremely invasive. Both native and non-native plants can take over fence lines, ditches, even gardens if not controlled. Some can also cause contact dermatitis, rashes, skin burns or other reactions. You can find a list on invasive species at:

<https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Invasives/photos/index.asp>

Other things are happening in May:

Whooping cranes migrate north, Trilliums blooming, River otter pups arrive, & more.

Try your hand at a spring scavenger hunt.

<https://www.eekwi.org/explore/seasonal-observations/spring-scavenger-hunt>



Excerpts from an interview with Shannon Stege, Committee Chair of the “Wildlife & Woods” Virtual Presentations.

What is Wildlife & Woods? *Wildlife & Woods are one hour on-line virtual sessions, where youth get to learn about different wildlife and trees through fun activities and short presentations led by youth.*

Who can attend? *Any 4-H youth, kindergarten to a year past high school, can join on-line to participate in activities through the chat box, annotating and talking.*

What do the youth learn about? *The Wildlife & Woods session themes vary. Some themes have been “Big Game Out West,” “Songbirds & Fruit Trees” and “A Tropical Trip.” The upcoming May session theme is “Wonderful Wetlands.” Youth will learn about different types of wetlands, their value and unique habitat for diverse wildlife. Featured wildlife are river otter, tiger salamander and American bullfrog. The tamarack tree and some wildflowers will also be highlighted. Mark your calendar.*

When and where? *Wednesday, May 26, 7 pm sign up in 4-H Online to receive the Zoom link.*

The Winter Wildlife WHEP & Forestry 4-H Art Contest was a success. 4-H youth entries were received from the following: Calumet, Eau Claire, Green Lake, Iowa, Monroe, Oconto, Oneida, Ozaukee, Pierce, Washington & Waukesha counties. Thank you, 4-H youth, for the wonderful entries and the judges for their valuable comments.

“Backyard & Back 40” Wildlife & Forestry Activities – We have topic suggestions for you. 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 interest and age group in the listings and we have more topics if needed. Need more ideas? Try these. 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

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