4-H Horse and Pony Program Goals

- Provide horseback riding experiences under the guidance of 4-H certified volunteers;
- Develop life skills of our youth with specific achievements in leadership, communication, friendship and responsibility;
- Design activities to improve rider’s confidence in horsemanship, self-esteem, and growth;
- Expand general knowledge, awareness, and interest in care of animals especially horse and stable management; and
- Assist adult volunteers and youth in becoming more aware of each other as individuals with different needs, capabilities, and enjoyments.

4-H Horse and Pony Program Goals

- Provide horseback riding experiences under the guidance of 4-H certified volunteers;
- Develop life skills of our youth with specific achievements in leadership, communication, friendship and responsibility;
- Design activities to improve rider’s confidence in horsemanship, self-esteem, and growth;
- Expand general knowledge, awareness, and interest in care of animals especially horse and stable management; and
- Assist adult volunteers and youth in becoming more aware of each other as individuals with different needs, capabilities, and enjoyments.

4-H is a community of young people across Waupaca County who are learning leadership, citizenship and life skills.

The 4-H Horse and Pony Project is the facilitation of positive youth development through the horse project. This project is designed to develop horse project members with their animals. This is where 4-H members develop many life skills like communication, leadership and responsibility that will be useful throughout their lives.

This project area gathers once a month in the winter and spring to learn about safety procedures and horse management. In the summer project members have the opportunity to bring their horses to weekly work nights.

Waupaca County UW-Extension
Connie Abert
4-H & Youth Development Educator
connie.abert@ces.uwex.edu
Penny Tank
4-H Program Assistant
penny.tank@ces.uwex.edu
Waupaca County Courthouse
811 Harding Street
Waupaca, WI 54981
Phone: (715) 258-6230
FAX: (715) 258-6232

Waupaca County 4-H Horse Project
Key Leader Contact
Mary Beyer
mbeyer@appvion.com
920-851-5897

Website:
http://waupaca.uwex.edu/4-h-youth-development/4-h-program-topics/waupaca-county-4-h-horse-and-pony-project/

Revised 2013

University of Wisconsin, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Wisconsin counties cooperating. UW-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming including Title IX and ADA.
Waupaca County 4-H Horse & Pony Project

**Waupaca County 4-H Horse & Pony Project members will:**
- Learn and practice horseback riding techniques and skills,
- Learn and practice proper safety procedures when working with horses,
- Learn proper care, feeding, and management principles for horses,
- Learn to identify proper equipment and its use.

**Life Skills 4-H emphasizes for horse project members:**
- Increase their ability to cooperate with others,
- Improve leadership, organization and decision-making skills,
- Expand demonstration skills, public speaking and communication skills.

To be a 4-H horse project member and participate in state horse events, youth must be an active member of a Waupaca County 4-H Club. Members of other recognized Waupaca County youth organizations can participate in 4-H horse project activities by following guidelines for involvement.

**Adult & Youth Volunteer Leaders**
- Emphasize the importance of club work as a foundation for project work,
- Attend adult volunteer orientation,
- Attend volunteer project meetings,
- Demonstrate increased awareness, sensitivity, appreciation of the abilities of different individuals,
- Learn to use appropriate safety procedures,
- Learn how to safely and properly assist as leaders,
- Explore career opportunities in therapeutic riding, horse management and care, rehabilitation, veterinary medicine, education and rehabilitation,
- Participate in leadership, public awareness, and community involvement activities,
- Participate in committee activities involving the responsibilities for planning, developing, facilitating, and evaluating the local horse project program.

The Mission of the Waupaca County 4-H Horse and Pony Project is to provide opportunities for 4-H members to develop life skills, to learn about proper horse care and foundational horseback riding techniques and skills.

**Horses are one of many 4-H Projects where youth develop life skills.**

Horse and Pony Project members may want to advance beyond the group assistance of 4-H and its leaders. If members are interested in additional training, the project has a list of trainers that have been used by other 4-H members. The project does not recommend one trainer over another. 4-H members are encouraged to try several trainers to find which fits the member’s learning style and their horse’s learning needs.