

Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H Wisconsin 4-H Forestry



Website <u>https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/projects/outdoor-education/</u> Email: wi4hwildlifeforestry@gmail.com

"TRACKS" – November 2022

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,

This time of year, I like to reassess my bird feeding stations and restock my bird feeding materials. You can attract birds to your yard by offering a variety of feedstuffs. Birds also need water for drinking and bathing. You can increase your chances of attracting birds by providing water in a bird bath, small pond, or shallow dish. You can purchase a small electric heater at a farm store to keep your birdbath from freezing. Those birds will appreciate your investment.

Here are some different types of feeders and the birds they may attract:

- Ground Feeders: doves, juncos, sparrows, goldfinches and cardinals; Sunflower Seed Tube Feeders: woodpeckers, chickadees, titmice, nuthatches, goldfinches, siskins and Purple and House finches
- Hopper Feeders: attract the same as tube feeders along with larger birds like doves, jays, grackles, and cardinals; Thistle (Nyjer) Feeders: goldfinches, redpolls, and Pine siskins
- Suet Feeders: titmice, chickadees, nuthatches and woodpeckers

Where should you locate your feeder(s)? Think about things like reducing competition among feeding birds and accommodating different feeding styles. Hanging feeders should be at least 5' off the ground.

1) Locate feeders at different levels to avoid crowding and attract the greatest variety of species

2) Locate feeders so they're convenient to refill

3) Protect birds from window collisions by placing feeders within 3' of windows or >10 yards from them

4) Protect birds from predators by placing feeders near natural cover such as trees or shrubs.

Don't forget to clean and maintain your feeding stations and birdbaths.

For more information visit

Home - Wisconsin Society for Ornithology (wsobirds.org)

Attached is your copy of: My Bird Watching Journal. Share it with your friends and start logging those birds right now.

It's a new 4-H year! Did you know you can participate in wildlife and forestry activities without being enrolled in the specific projects? Take advantage of the amazing opportunities in Wildlife WHEP & Forestry activities as well as develop leadership skills by attending or participating in the educational sessions offered, especially at many 4-H Shooting Sports events. There is a connection between wildlife and shooting sports projects.

<u>Preparing for Wildlife & Forestry Competition</u> - Learn how easy it is to prepare and participate in wildlife & forestry contests - local, statewide, & national events. Begin with the wildlife and forestry skill level booklets. Digital copies of the Wildlife & Forestry Skill Level Booklets are available, and you can print your own copies. We'll help you set up mini contests for your county or 4-H club. Find out more by emailing: wi4hwildlifeforestry@gmail.com

<u>We have topic suggestions for you on the "Backyard & Back 40" Wildlife & Forestry Activities</u> – There are topics for every interest and age group.

Kerri, "TRACKS" Editor

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Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H & Wisconsin 4-H Forestry Advisor: Carlea Liermann, Calumet Co. 4-H Program Educator