



Washington County UW-Extension 4-H Youth Development Nature Investigators SPIN Club Guidelines

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Purpose:

4-H Special Interest (SPIN) clubs meet a minimum of 6 times and focus on a specific interest to deliver high impact, hands-on education. The Nature Investigators club uses critical thinking, problem solving, cooperation, and decision making to explore the environment in Washington County through the county parks system.

Membership:

The Nature Investigators SPIN Club is open to youth entering 6th-8th grade in the fall of 2016.

Open to any youth within that grade range, regardless of that person's race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, disability, ancestry, sexual orientation, pregnancy, marital or parental status.

Policies:

This SPIN club must comply with:

- all Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development Policies (<http://4h.uwex.edu/about-4-h/policies/>)
- 4-H National Headquarters policies (<https://nifa.usda.gov/program/4-h-national-headquarters>)
- All federal and state laws

Dues:

- Dues are \$15 per youth. These dues cover the cost of educational materials and activity insurance. Dues can be paid by cash or check. Write checks out to UW-Extension Washington County 4-H.
- If a family is in need of financial assistance, contact Brianna Stapleton Welch at UW-Extension Washington County: 262-335-4478 or brianna.welch@ces.uwex.edu

Meetings:

Date & Time	Location	Meeting Spot	Topic
Thursday June 16, 2016 5:00-6:30 PM	Yahr County Park 7999 Orchard Valley Road Town of Farmington	Shelter #3	Entomology
Thursday, June 23, 2016 5:00-6:30 PM	Glacier Hills County Park 1664 Friess Lake Rd Richfield, WI	Shelter #3	Plant, tree, & animal print ID
Thursday, July 14, 2016 5:00-6:30 PM	Heritage Trails County Park 4668 Cty Hwy E Slinger	Shelter #1 (there's only 1 shelter in the park)	"The Case of the Disappearing Log"
Thursday, August 18, 2016 5:00-6:30 PM	Homestead Hollow County Park N120 W19809 Freistadt Rd Germantown	Shelter #3	Digital Observation Technology Skills (DOTS)
Thursday, August 25, 2016 5:00-6:30 PM	Lizard Mound County Park 2121 Cty Hwy A West Bend	Interpretive Center	Ecotourism
Thursday, September 8, 2016 5:00-6:30 PM	Goeden County Park 6490 Cty Hwy M West Bend	Shelter #1 (there's only 1 shelter in the park)	Water quality investigation

- Members should make an effort to attend all 6 SPIN Club learning experiences to get the most out of the program.
- Parents are welcome and encouraged to be present during the SPIN Club meetings.
- Parents who drop off youth need to be at the designated park meeting spot by 6:00 pm for pick up.
- If there is light rain, the Nature Investigators club will still meet. Dress appropriately for the weather.
- If youth require EpiPen or inhaler, they should bring it to each meeting. Also bring a backpack or bag to keep it with you during hikes.
- In the event of a cancellation (severe weather, etc.) you will be notified by e-mail or phone.

4-H Behavior Guidelines:

As a 4-H participant, youth agree to:

- adhere to program rules, curfews, dress codes, policies, and rules of the facility being used.
- conduct themselves in a courteous, respectful manner, use appropriate language, exhibit good sportsmanship, and provide a positive role model.
- comply with local, state and federal laws.
- abstain from use of alcohol, illicit drugs, and tobacco during 4-H events and activities.

- fully participate in scheduled activities and orientations.
- respect others' property and privacy rights.
- abstain from child abuse (physical, sexual, emotional and neglect), harassment, hazing and bullying.
- accept personal responsibility for behavior including any financial damage.
- adhere to safety rules.

Nature Investigation Guidelines:

- Know Before You Go
 - Be prepared! Remember to wear appropriate clothing for Nature Investigators SPIN Club meetings.
 - Dress code: Secure footwear, such as closed-toe sneakers or closed-toe sandals. No flip flops. Long pants are recommended for when activities are planned in grassy or wooded areas.
 - Bring mosquito repellent and a water bottle to each meeting.
- Trash Your Trash
 - Put litter in garbage bags and dispose of it in appropriate trash cans or carry it home.
- Leave It As You Find It
 - Leave plants, rocks and historical items as you find them so others can enjoy them.
 - Treat living things with respect.
- Keep Wildlife Wild
 - Observe wildlife from a distance and never approach, feed, or follow them.
 - Human food is unhealthy for wildlife and feeding them starts bad habits.

Sources for Guidelines:

Leave No Trace "Outdoor Ethics for Frontcountry" <https://Int.org/teach/outdoor-ethics-frontcountry>
Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development Code of Conduct

Guidelines updated May 2016