

## 4H Youth Development

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### County Fair Exhibit Stats

This year's Manitowoc County Junior Fair, August 21st through August 25th, features:

382 Junior Fair Exhibitors  
3,305 Junior Fair Exhibits

### Cream Puffs by Camp TaPaWingo

Eating a cream puff at the Manitowoc County Fair has become a tradition! Don't forget to visit the Camp TaPaWingo Cream Puff Booth located in the Merchants' Building. Proceeds from the Cream Puff Booth benefit youth programs at Camp TaPaWingo.



### Great Food at the 4-H Clover Café

If you are looking for lunch or dinner at the Fair, the Clover Café features great food with plenty of seating available to relax while you eat. The food stand is the main fundraiser for the Manitowoc County 4-H Teen Ambassadors. Proceeds from the stand support teen trips and activities.



Trips and activities are an important part of the Manitowoc County 4-H Youth Development Program. Trips include: Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama; American Spirit Trip, which visits Philadelphia, New York, and Boston; Washington Focus in Washington, D.C.; and Youth Conference in Madison, Wisconsin.

The 4-H Clover Café is located in the northwest corner of the Exhibition Building. Please note, most of the food at the 4-H Clover Café is from local sources!

### 4-H Silent Auction

You are invited to stop by the 4-H Silent Auction at the County Fair. Every year our 4-H volunteers put together a nice assortment of "must have" items. Silent auction items are displayed in the Exhibition Building. Proceeds from the silent auction are invested in the 4-H Endowment, which in turn funds college scholarships for 4-H youth.



## Agriculture

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### MANITOWOC COUNTY AGRICULTURE STATISTICS

Once again in 2017, Manitowoc County was a leader in the state of Wisconsin in total milk produced per cow. The 2017 (the latest data available) average production per cow was 27,800 pounds (nearly 14 tons). The state average milk yield per cow in 2017 was 23,725 pounds. In 2017, Manitowoc County dairy producers also sold over one billion pounds of milk for the 11th straight year. Only Fond du Lac and Clark County dairy farmers produced more milk. Total Manitowoc County milk output in 2017 was 1,529,000,000 pounds up from 1,495,800,000 pounds in 2016.

Currently, Manitowoc County has approximately 195 dairy farms with 55,000 cows (about 282 cows per farm). The average number of dairy cows per farm in Wisconsin is about 165. Manitowoc County dairy farms range in size from 20 cows to over 5,000 cows. Virtually all of these dairy farms are family owned and many are multi-family businesses. Currently, Manitowoc County has approximately 115,000 dairy and beef cattle with over 93 percent of the total being dairy cows, heifers, and calves. There are a total of 594 square miles in the county, which means there are about 91 dairy cows per square mile. Manitowoc County routinely ranks in the top three Wisconsin counties in the number of cows per square mile.

In addition to tying for first place with Brown County in milk production per cow, Manitowoc County ranks third out of the 72 Wisconsin counties and routinely ranks in the top 30 counties in the United States in total annual milk production. Furthermore, Manitowoc County is tied with Dane County for fourth place in the state in the number of dairy cows with 55,000.

The following table shows Manitowoc County's rank in Wisconsin in selected dairy production categories.

Manitowoc County's Rank in the Wisconsin Dairy Industry-2017	
Annual Milk Production per Cow	Tied for 1st
Total Annual Milk Production	3rd
Number of Dairy Cows	Tied for 4th
<b>Also, Manitowoc County ranks in the top 30 counties in the United States in total milk production.</b>	

# FoodWise

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Attending the May garden seminar held on site at Painting Pathways are (L-R) Heather Behnke, Laura Apfelbeck, Annette Paul, Caitlyn Shields, Linda Kerscher, and Jessie Grafton.

## Mobile Salad Gardens

Together, Painting Pathways Clubhouse (PPC) and FoodWise submitted and won a \$2,500 Growing Together, WI grant to cover the cost of creating four mobile salad gardens. As a result, PPC is able to offer fresh salad as part of their daily meal and in their on-site food pantry and encourage gardening for fun and exercise.

FoodWise has offered both nutrition education and physical activity for on site for (PPC) members for several years. Painting Pathways Clubhouse, a recovery-based program serving adults with diagnosed mental illness, is a 501c3 organization affiliated with Clubhouse International. Classes are well attended, as all aspects of wellness including spiritual, mental, and physical have long been the premise of the PPC organization. Painting Pathways Clubhouse members cook and eat together every day M-F as a way to socialize, to increase consumption of healthy produce, and to improve culinary skills.

In light of a 2019 building project that will eliminate the current in-ground gardens at PPC, members re-evaluated their garden situation. They decided to focus on greater access for members with dexterity and mobility issues and the building project plans hadn't been finalized, so the idea of mobile salad tables emerged.

Volunteer Halvor Halvorsen guides 4-H Teen Ambassador Milana Meisner.



To generate more interest in gardening, Master Gardeners President Annette Paul and FoodWise Coordinator Laura Apfelbeck taught a series of seminars on-site at PPC on such topics as designing a garden, companion planting, and

controlling pests. 4-H Teen Ambassadors assisted Halvor Halvorsen who volunteered to design and build the first two mobile salad gardens which were delivered in late June. Fleet Farm of Manitowoc donated seedlings.

Painting Pathways Clubhouse members report the prototypes are easy to move and too high for bunnies. After the initial trial, PPC suggested the next two beds be somewhat deeper to better accommodate root vegetables. Members already harvested about ½ lb of salad and herbs. To increase public awareness, the salad tables will be exhibited at the Manitowoc County Fair both as a woodworking project and as a scrapbooking project. Painting Pathways Clubhouse members are weighing produce they harvest, and that data will be included in the state Growing Together, WI website and database.



PPC staff member Linda Kerscher demonstrates the portability of the garden.

This is a successful project that could easily be replicated at food pantries, ADRC meal sites, and other facilities where in-ground gardens are not suitable due to soil conditions, gardeners' mobility concerns, or land use restrictions.



Painting Pathways Clubhouse members Scott Sutton (L) and Jessie Grafton (R) plant the new beds.

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