

FOND DU LAC COUNTY

2021 FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Supporting Agriculture Professionals



- A bi-weekly radio interview for 12,000 Fond du Lac County farmers, agricultural industry persons, youth livestock, and youth dairy where extension agriculture related resources, information, and timely webinars are shared to help them to be connected and supported, and make better-informed decisions regarding their farm business operations or youth large animal project.
- A social media campaign for farmers, agribusiness professionals, and others, where we share resources that assist them in decision-making processes.
- A webinar for farmers, agronomists, and other industry service providers, where they learned season-long options for forage production after alfalfa winterkill and the use and management of BMR sorghum to fill forage niches to improve on-farm forage inventories.
- A webinar for farmers, dairy workers, and agri-business professionals where they learned animal welfare essentials for the cows, the farmers, and the consumer, and how to manage as cull cow as a market cow prior to leaving the dairy herd to improve on-farm animal welfare practices.
- Planning for the 2021 Bi-Annual Midwest Manure Summit Virtual Conference for farmers, consultants, engineers, and other agri-business industry professionals. The goal of this effort is to show innovation, research, and solutions in handling dairy manure in an environmentally and financially sustainable manner so that farmers can protect the environment and community.

Agriculture

If it happens on a farm or in a field, the Extension Institute of Agriculture works with you to achieve better results. Our innovative dairy management programs range from genetics to farm and business management. Extension researchers work hand-in-hand with row crop, forage and fresh produce growers to provide best practices for every aspect of the growing phase. We also advise communities on using sustainable practices to create inviting spaces free from invasive species.



Youth Development



- Planning for an annual project discovery day for youth and adults, where they learn and practice new skills at home through "Take and Learn" kits. The goal of this effort is to provide hands-on learning opportunities to youth during the pandemic.
- A project lesson that was led virtually where youth and adults designed parachutes and then built parachutes based on their designs. The goal of this effort was for youth to learn a new skill and to model how to host a virtual project meeting while engaging youth in a hands-on activity.
- A virtual meeting for 4-H youth members and adult volunteers, where youth and adults began planning and making modifications for annual project day which provides hands on learning opportunities for youth to explore new projects.
- Adult leader board meeting for youth and adult board members, where spring 4-H programming, fundraisers, and 4-H promotion opportunities were all discussed to plan for modified programming needs due to the pandemic.
- Monthly virtual meetings working with youth leaders serving on the Tri-County Visual Arts Festival committee to develop and plan a virtual Tri-County Visual Arts Festival to take place in March of 2021.
- Planning for virtual project lessons for youth and adults in collaboration with other county educators. The objective of this effort is to have youth learn a new skill and for adults will learn how to hold a virtual project meeting.
- Virtual youth state exchange meeting where youth participants got to know youth from different counties in WI and from youth in Kansas. The goal of this effort was to increase youth's connection to 4-H, strengthen their leadership skills, build new friendships, and gain new knowledge.

Positive Youth Development prepares the youth of today to become the effective, empathetic adults of tomorrow. Our research-based youth enrichment programs like teens in governance build youth and adult capacity and partnerships that help both sides grow. 4-H clubs, camps and afterschool programs give young people the hands-on experiences they need to develop an understanding of themselves and the world.

Community Development

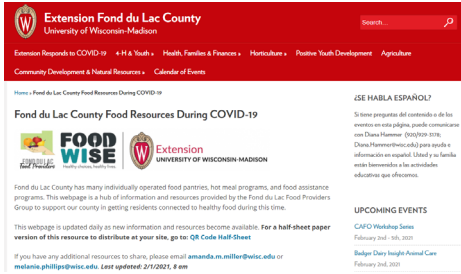


- A promotion and recruitment effort to announce the start of a zoom-based Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Returned Citizens. Previously incarcerated residents of the state will be able to learn new skills and develop a business plan in this partnership with Extension and Defy Ventures.

Community Development provides educational programming to assist leaders, communities, and organizations realize their fullest potential. We work with communities to build the vitality that enhances their quality of life and enriches the lives of their residents. We educate in leadership development, organizational development, food systems, community economic development, local government education and much more. In short, the Community Development Institute plants and cultivates the seeds for thriving communities and organizations.



Supporting Food Security and Healthy Eating



- A series of toolkits for teachers where we help them provide nutrition education to students. The goal of this effort is to encourage eating healthy and trying new foods at an early age, which helps youth maintain a healthy lifestyle.
- Development of a food resource hub for the Fond du Lac Food Providers Group that helps local agencies direct community members to local and state food resources. This effort is designed to support coordination between local agencies in service of those impacted by this emergency.
- Development of a social media site for FoodWise audiences to learn more about health and nutrition.
- Development of Bitmoji Classroom for elementary school students to learn about healthy topics
- Shared COVID-related resources to local public health and hospitals. This effort was intended to help share current information on the COVID vaccination.
- Supported local groups in addressing health insurance literacy barriers during COVID-related hospital treatment. This effort was designed to begin local community conversations about the issue.
- Supported local public health departments in their Community Health Assessment process. This effort was designed to help bring a health equity lens to the process.

FoodWise advances healthy eating habits, active lifestyles and healthy community environments for families with limited incomes through nutrition education at the individual, community and systems levels. FoodWise reaches individuals and families through local community partners by providing nutrition classes in-person and virtually, indirect education (newsletters, etc.), and social media/marketing. FoodWise is an obesity prevention program that addresses policy, system and environmental changes through local and state public health efforts.

FoodWise is federally funded by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education (SNAP-Ed) and the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP).

Health & Well-Being works to catalyze positive change in Wisconsin families through evidence-based programs focused on nutrition, food security and safety, chronic disease prevention, mental health promotion, prevention of substance abuse and health insurance literacy. Local health coalitions efforts are supported by coalition capacity building tools and health equity frameworks. Rooted in both urban and rural communities, we're working together to help solve the state's most pressing well-being needs and to ensure that all Wisconsinites live stronger, healthier lives.

Cindy Sarkady
Area Extension Director

Diana Hammer
Community Development Educator

Ron Jakubisin
Positive Youth Development Educator

Patty Percy
Community Garden Coordinator

Tracy Keifenheim
4-H Program Educator

Tina Kohlman
Dairy & Livestock Agent

Amanda Miller
*FoodWise Coordinator
Health & Well-Being Educator*

Pamela Nelson
FoodWise Educator

Melanie Phillips
FoodWise Educator

Pam Bartoli
Tina Engelhardt
Katie Gindt
Cassi Worster
Support Staff