

EXTENSION FOND DU LAC COUNTY MAY 2023 HIGHLIGHTS



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
FOND DU LAC COUNTY

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.

Dairy

Tina Kohlman, Regional Dairy Educator

- An in-person meeting for agriculture financial professionals, service providers, and agency personnel, where they learned on-farm extension agriculture research impacts, business development and entrepreneurship, cropping budgets, grain markets and risk management opportunities, fitness for transport of pre-weaned calves and market cows, and dairy industry outlook and indicators to assist clientele in improving farm business viability, environmental sustainability, and food safety.
- A dairy production and management newsletter for farmers, managers, employees, and agribusiness professionals where they learned estimating custom rates for field work and footbath management to improve farm business vitality, environmental sustainability, and food safety.
- A presentation for farmers and agri-business professionals, where they learned the importance of fitness for transport of pre-weaned calves and market cows, and best management practices to reduce stress and improve animal welfare and husbandry on these animals during transport. This effort is designed to improve business vitality and food safety.
- An alfalfa quality project for dairy farmers, crop managers, nutritionists, agronomists, and other agribusiness professionals. This effort is designed to teach individuals how to determine the optimal time to harvest first-crop alfalfa haylage based on quality criteria (Relative Feed Value), and not date, to improve farm business vitality and environmental sustainability.
- A bi-weekly radio interview for farmers, agricultural industry persons, youth livestock, and youth dairy where they learned about extension agriculture related resources, information, and timely webinars to help them to be connected and supported, and make better informed decisions regarding their farm business operations or youth large animal project to improve farm business viability, environmental sustainability, and food safety.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



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.

Noah Reif, Community Development Educator

- A presentation for the Quarterly United Way Agency Call where agencies learned about UW Madison Division of Extension resources, educational offerings, and 1:1 learning opportunities. The goal of this presentation is to increase understanding of UW Madison Division of Extension to foster opportunities for deeper, future education with community partners.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



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 after-school programs give young people the hands-on experiences they need to develop an understanding of themselves and the world.

4-H

Tracy Keifenheim, 4-H Program Educator

- A meeting for youth where they learned about LEGO building skills and participated in a LEGO Build Challenge. This effort is designed to encourage engineering, use of technology, and increase knowledge of LEGO building skills.

FOOD SECURITY, HEALTHY EATING, AND HEALTHY LIVING



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.

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

- Partnership with United Healthcare, Fond du Lac farmers market, and Fond du Lac Public Health Department to plan and implement the Small Steps program. The purpose of the Small Steps is to address chronic health conditions, food insecurity, and food access through the distribution of fruit and vegetable prescription vouchers.
- Providing technical assistance to the Fond du Lac County Public Health Department to distribute one-time American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to address health inequities. The purpose of this funding is to address food access and food insecurity in Fond du Lac County.
- Partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of Fond du Lac Teen Center to develop and implement the Teen Cuisine summer cooking series. The cooking series will teach teenagers the important skills needed to cook on their own in the future.

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND RELATIONSHIPS



The Extension Institute of **Human Development & Relationships** provides the tools Wisconsinites need to thrive as well-rounded, capable individuals and families. We support families in caring for each other in ways that promote growth and understanding. Our programs promote aging-friendly communities, coach effective parents and help families put technology, mindfulness and financial awareness to use.

Kimberly Clark, Human Development and Relationships Educator

- Planning and developing an in-person financial course, for young people 15-26 who are currently living or have lived under the foster care system, with essential financial knowledge and skill building opportunities. The goal is for participants to learn how to gain control of their financial future, assess assets and build economic security long term.
- A recorded interview with KFIZ radio in Fond du Lac about “Money Matters” program that is an online 12-module program for adults, where they learn about credit scores and reports, making a spending plan, what to do when you can’t pay your bills, and identifying financial strengths. The goal is for participants to set and achieve their financial goals, save for their future, build good credit and pay off debts, and maintain positive relationships with financial institutions.

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