



## 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.*

### Crops

Liz Gartman, Regional Crops Educator

- A twilight meeting where local forage producers and agriculture professionals learned about opportunities to engage in alfalfa management field trials, keys to managing alfalfa stands for persistence and building consistency in forage programs using crop diversity to improve their ability to harvest high quality forage to support milk production on their farms, improve crop system resilience and improve overall farm profitability. Total Reach: 40 attendees
- An interview with the Wisconsin State Farmer to discuss the local crop growing situation in Fond du Lac, Sheboygan, Ozaukee and Washington counties as crop producers navigate challenges with excessive rainfall across the area. The goal of this outreach is to provide a look into the management decisions that producers face as growing conditions continue to challenge our normal practices, and the issues they need to watch out for as the growing season progresses.
- An Introduction to Crop Scouting presentation for Extension Crops educators across the state. The goal is to provide regional and statewide educators the resources they need to effectively scout for weeds, insects and diseases in crop fields; properly stage and monitor crop quality and health and utilize appropriate tools and sampling methods to diagnose crop growth issues. This professional development will lead to a more effective crops team that can better support crop growers across the state.





## 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

Ron Jakubisin, 4-H Program Educator

- An outreach activity for Washington Co. Youth 5th - 8th (non-4-H) in collaboration with the Volunteer Center of Wash. County's day camp that focuses on volunteerism and community connectedness. The goal is to promote membership in 4-H through a short on the history of 4-H in Wash Co with 'A Taste of 4-H' activities.

The Volunteer Center of Wash. Co. has been a long-time partner with Extension, specifically with PYD/CYD Ed. The day camp that the Volunteer Center runs focuses on introducing their youth participants to volunteerism and youth-oriented agencies in Wash. Co. The staff at the Volunteer Center request Extension/4-H to present and introduce Extension/4-H as a future opportunity for their participants to seek out. Extension/4-H developed a short presentation that included the history of 4-H, Essential Elements, and ways to engage in 4-H as a youth member along with interactive activities that focused on team-building. The Volunteer Center will communicate evaluations of their participants about our presentation in Aug.

- Weekly Club Leader Update email blast. Features 3 (new) priorities, announcements, and/or resources for 4H volunteers serving as Club and Project Leaders to increase the capacity of volunteers to deliver 4-H club and project activities.

The need for this effort was prompted by continual requests for information and resources by the Washington County 4-H Club Leaders, Project leaders, and parents. Additionally, events both local and statewide are shared on a web-based calendar. Weekly Club Leader Update email blast. Features 3 (new) priorities, announcements, and/or resources for 4H volunteers serving as Club and Project Leaders. Volunteers have stated in recent leaders meeting that Weekly Club Leader Updates are valuable and the 4-H Office should continue with this

- A monthly newsletter for all Wash Co 4-H families where information about all club activities, countywide projects, resources and announcements are contributed by and distributed to 4-H families that offer opportunities to increase skills and engage in 4-H activities.

With 16 Clubs and 20 Countywide projects the monthly Cloverline Newsletter brings together current 4-H resources, educational events and announcements which they can take advantage of in one newsletter which is emailed and posted on the 4-H county website. Monthly Cloverline Newsletter to all 4-H families, volunteers and leaders which includes Upcoming Events &



Opportunities; Updates and Reminders; Project News; Attn: Club & Project Leader info; and Submitted News (all clubs/projects invited to submit). Distributed via 4HOnline database and posted on webpage for all to access. Newsletter keeps 4-H members informed of opportunities to learn, grow and engage as a county program. Monthly newsletter is emailed and posted on county 4-H website for easy reference for families and 4-H members.

## **Community Youth Development**

*Kelly Dione, Community Youth Development Educator*

- Developing a needs assessment where a collection of data from one on one meetings with local youth-serving organizations, businesses, and youth focus groups will be conducted, data organized, and analyzed. This effort is designed as the foundation of the programming needs of the communities.

Washington County identified a need to enhance 4-H to address a need for STEM programming related to post-secondary pathways in the Washington County workforce. Development of a list of adult and youth stakeholders that should be contacted and the development of questions to understand where the need is greatest to focus programming. A clear target audience and identified partnerships to foster youth engagement in 4-H Post-Secondary Pathways programming.

Cindy Sarkady  
*Area Extension Director*

Ron Jakubisin  
*4-H Program Educator*

Karen Girard  
*Support Staff*

Liz Gartman  
*Regional Crops Educator*

Kelly Dione  
*Community Youth Development  
Educator*

Cassi Worster  
*Area Marketing Specialist*