



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 pest trapping network where I monitored traps during the growing season for economically important insect pests that can create issues in grain and forage crop production. This trapping network informs UW researchers and the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection so research and outreach can be crafted to assist producers in reacting to pest pressures and protecting their crops.
- Planning a session at the Wisconsin Water and Soil Health (WWASH) conference in collaboration with other Extension educators. The goal of the session is to provide insight into opportunities to include diverse cover crop species into dairy forage programs with the end result being additional cover crop acres incorporated into livestock production systems, resulting in improved soil health.
- An ongoing planning effort to prepare for the 2024 Badger Crops and Soils Update at three locations across Wisconsin and one virtual meeting by selecting meeting topics, recruiting speakers, and providing regional crops and soils information. This program is designed to share agronomic updates with sales agronomists and crop consultants to assist with recommendations to their growers to increase farm profitability and natural resource stewardship.



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
WASHINGTON COUNTY

OCTOBER 2024 REPORT

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.

Community Youth Development

Kelly Dione, Community Youth Development Educator

- A leadership retreat for 4th-grade students in collaboration with West Bend Elementary School Counselors. The effort will engage youth in Team building strategies that they will use throughout the year with 'kindness' being a central theme at schools. The West Bend Elementary Schools look to the 4th-grade students to demonstrate leadership within their school community by setting an example of respect and kindness towards others, for one another, and their younger students. The learning targets focus on understanding why and how to make kind choices, how words and actions affect others, and how to resolve differences in respectful ways. These key learning objectives contribute to building a positive school community by emphasizing the importance of kindness, empathy, meaningful communication, connections, and teamwork. The West Bend school counselors have been long-time partners with Extension, specifically with PYD Ed. The leadership retreat focuses on being a kind leader in their family, school and community. The school counselor requests Extension PYD to present on leadership and lead team building activities and introduce Extension/4-H as a future opportunity for their participants to seek out. The leadership retreat is a benefit for Extension to continue to develop partnerships in the school system and promote PYD programming. *(Collaborator - Ron Jakubisin)*
- 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.



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CONTINUED

4-H

Ron Jakubisin, 4-H Program Educator

- A workshop for 4-H Youth officers serving in the next year. This workshop educates youth on Roberts Rules of Order and specific officer roles which enables youth to experience a club officer position by increasing their knowledge, as well as practical skills of organization, leadership and effective communication
- 4-H Educator provides organizational strategies to support the 4-H adult volunteer serving as club leaders in order to effectively run their 4-H Club. This is achieved through one-on-one meetings and club visits. 4-H club leaders will increase their knowledge of 4-H Club policies and increase their skills in effective communicating with youth members, youth officers and adult volunteers.
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